

the post

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Executive Director: Stef Tropf

What a year 2021 has been for myself and my family! So much change, transition, and excitement has been thrown our way...with a little fear of the unknown mixed in there too! From taking the position as Executive Director of the Post, to learning we'd be welcoming our first sweet Baby Tropf in December, our recent days have surely kept us on our toes and brought new waves of joy to our hearts!

Last week I was speaking with one of our staff at the Post about how even though our world may seem in turmoil, and our teens are battling many things, we wouldn't want to be anywhere else serving! Since coming to the Post as executive director, I have seen and walked alongside a small piece of the lives of our teens who are truly remarkable humans. They've faced more than I could ever imagine in their few years of life. Whether that's loneliness, issues at school, adequate nutrition/meals, mental health, conflicts with family or parents, homelessness, basic hygiene needs, relationships broken, these teens need a place to gather and be themselves. To walk in and know that Jacqueline is going to say, "Hey, Hey" to them and ask how their day was, or to know that the café is stocked with goodies to purchase or yesterday's leftovers we feast on together, this place is transformed into a tight-knit family-like home for our teens. Our teens know that when they come here, they're going to experience consistent care and support in whatever they're dealing with. I've also gotten to see our teens make memories and laugh and smile when playing basketball, painting at our art table or attending I Am Second. This is where we gather to speak the name of Jesus as a group. It's in these nights that our teens can ask for prayer or get vulnerable with our staff in sharing their struggles. None of us have it all together, but when we are able to share our life with each other, it makes things just a little bit easier. Our last few gatherings have reminded me of the verse from Matthew 11:30, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light." We hope our teens know that the Post is the place for them no matter where they've been or where they're headed.



As we look to wrap up another year, I want to put an ask out to each of you who have faithfully loved and supported the Post for many years or just a few months. Would you commit to be praying for our ministry as we serve the teens of our community? We have many areas you can serve or donate to throughout the course of the year and I would love to share more with you about how we can partner together! Our programs and outings couldn't happen without your generous donations and if you'd be willing to check out our new website, the-post.org, we have a "wishlist" of items and needs that would help us move the ministry forward and reach more teens! In addition to this, you can make purchases on Amazon using the Smile donation button where a portion of the purchase comes back to the Post! If you have any questions or would like to donate to the Post please feel free to contact me whenever is convenient!

The mission of the Post can only be carried out in our community because of the generous time, treasures, and talents you've shared with us! 20 years in the community is not something to ignore and that's because of your help! Blessings to you and yours over this holiday season!

Stef Tropf



A Letter From Our President...

Happy Holidays! I can't believe I am entering my 5th year on The Post board. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time. Since day one, I have dove "all-in" and have developed a personal relationship with our Executive Directors, Staff and most importantly, our teens. I walked in the other day and was just in awe of all the various teenagers we help here at The Post daily.

I saw one teen playing video games by himself wearing the same clothes he wore the day before. I saw a group of girls giggling and playing uno at the table. I saw a young man shooting free throws in the gym by himself, something he has unfortunately always had to do because his father is in jail. I saw our staff and Executive Director getting ready to run their program for the night and were preparing a meal for the teens. After seeing all of this in my 5 minutes of walking into the building, do you think we are making a difference for these teens in the heart of Goshen? I think the answer here is obvious.

This year, as was last year, was a year of adjustment at The Post. It started in March when our annual pancake fundraiser was moved from indoors to drive-thru. While this was a change, the generous donations and support from you and the community stayed the same! The change continued in the summer when we welcomed our new Executive Director, Stef Tropf! If you have not yet met Stef, I strongly recommend you reach out! She is full of energy and has been a great asset to us at The Post! Stef loves programs and events. She continues to help lead "I Am Second" and also conducts therapeutic painting programs, table talk programs along with the various outings she regularly takes the teens to such as (SB Cubs, Niles Haunted House, etc.) The final change was the opportunity we were given to purchase the building this year. There will be lots of information on this to come soon. Be on the look out for it!

The one thing though that hasn't changed is I-365. I-365 is where you donate a dollar a day to The Post. I remember last year I mentioned one can't buy gas station coffee for less than a dollar! This year, we have 10 individuals who will match dollar for dollar any new I-365 donations we receive. For those bad with math, this means if you donate 365.00 to The Post this year, it will be 730.00! This amount of 730.00 would cover programs for Stef and her staff for an entire month! If 365.00 is not in your budget, we would be very appreciative for any amount you can give in your year-end giving. Your gifts help contribute to group activities, field trips, fine arts programming, community events, meals and much more! On behalf of the board of directors, staff and all teens, thanks for all you do for The Post. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

-Sean Behensky



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THE POST

Important Dates

Dec 10th- Baby Tropf Due!

Dec 16th- Christmas Dinner

December 20-24th
& December 29-31st:
CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK

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