

## GUIDELINES for the USE of PRO-LIFE MISSOURI TAX CREDITS

Pro-Life Tax Credits are valuable to Missouri tax-payers as well as to the qualified Pregnancy Resource Centers within the State. These Tax Credits ("Credits") come in two versions and the Department of Social Services provides a link with a list of Frequently Asked Questions:

1) **Pregnancy Resource Center Tax Credits** - <http://www.dss.mo.gov/dfas/taxcredit/pregnancy.htm>

2) **Maternity Home Tax Credits** - <http://www.dss.mo.gov/dfas/taxcredit/maternity.htm>

The total amount of these Credits available – during the current authorized period from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 – is \$4,000,000 (or a total of \$2 million each). The key element of the Brigade/Thrive Tax Credit strategy is maximizing their benefits to our Pro-Life contributors by using both of these Credits.

Additionally, donors – to either Pro-Life program - can claim up to a \$50,000 credit per tax year.

The Baby Bottle Campaign ("Campaign") should advise donors that **applications - properly completed and signed by Thrive or the Brigade - are not approved until signed by the Missouri Department of Social Services ("DSS")**.

The Brigade suggests each Baby Bottle Campaign follow understand the following guidelines:

1) Contributions from Campaign donors **made directly to Thrive** (with attribution to the applicable Campaign noted on the check memo line) will receive Maternity Home Tax Credits. These Credits cannot be transferred (i.e. sold) to a third-party.

2) Contributions from Campaigns - via the Brigade - to Thrive will receive Pregnancy Resource Center Tax Credits. These Credits can be transferred (i.e. sold) for at least 75% of the face value if the credit application is approved by DSS. This strategy earns additional revenue for the Brigade.

3) Appoint a member of your Campaign committee as the Credit Contact. All the Campaign donor questions should be referred to this Contact. **If the Contact has questions he should call either Stan Mengwasser (a CPA and IW Knight) with the Brigade (314-576- 5670 x-312) or Kim Chiodini with Thrive (314-783-3040 x-222).**

4) Donors interested in applying for a Credit should be instructed: a) to make **Thrive of St. Louis** the payee on the check, b) on the memo line, attribute it to a specific Campaign, for example - "credit to MSHE- BBC", c) either (1) direct the donor to the state DSS web site (and have the donor fill-out the form on-line (see link below) and print it, sign it and send it (with the check to: **Thrive of St. Louis** - 4331 Lindell Blvd – St. Louis, MO 63108), or (2) have the Campaign Contact print copies of the DSS documents and provide them to Campaign contributors, help them fill them out and submit them to Thrive (in bulk) with the donor's check attached.

**DSS web site instructions for the Maternity Home Tax Credit:**

<http://www.dss.mo.gov/dfas/taxcredit/maternity.htm>

**Application for Maternity Home Tax Credit:**

<http://www.dss.mo.gov/dfas/taxcredit/pdf/mate-hometax-credit-app.pdf>

5) The Thrive representative will review the application, have it signed (if it is properly completed) and then mail it to DSS in Jefferson City. **NOTE:** it may take a month or two to hear whether the application is approved. Also, make certain the donor recognizes the Credit is for the 2012 tax year.

6) Keep a copy of all checks of donations of \$100 or more. You will find that some donors may change their minds about not wanting to apply for the Credit and then you need to refund their donation and instruct them to follow paragraph #2 (above). It's so much easier to have copies of the checks if you need to jump through these refund hoops.

7) Once your Campaign is complete you will send balance of your funds in the Campaign account to the Baby Bottle Brigade (c/o IW Knights of Columbus, 13416 Olive Blvd., Chesterfield, MO 63017). Make the check payable to: **KofC Baby Bottle Brigade of Greater StL.**

8) The Baby Bottle Brigade will then donate the funds to Thrive.

9) In the event Missouri Tax Credits are still available, the Baby Bottle Brigade will make application for a Credit (using the same process as described above in paragraph #4 – except the Credit application will be made for the Pregnancy Resource Center).

10) Since the Brigade cannot use the Tax Credits it intends to take advantage of the "transfer" provision in the PRC legislation. In effect, this provision allows the Brigade to sell the Credit to a third-party - if the sale price is equal or greater than 75% of the Credit or more. (NOTE: using this process, the Brigade sold the \$18,000 (applied for at year-end 2011) for 85% or \$15,300). Of course, these funds become additional proceeds to the Brigade if DSS approve the application.

11) Information regarding the Credits – along with copies of all applications – is available at the following link. They can be completed and printed on-line:

<http://www.dss.mo.gov/dfas/taxcredit/pregnancy.htm>

or

<http://www.dss.mo.gov/dfas/taxcredit/maternity.htm>