

*If we say we have fellowship with Him yet walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.*

*1 John 1:6*

We, the concerned staff, out of a deep love for Thrive and the ministry serving the women and families in our community, due to the fear of retaliation as whistleblowers, submit this anonymously, but in unity, seeking the glory of God and His truth above all. This does not come from a place of malice, but out of a righteous anger for what we have witnessed first-hand, tempered with the love of Christ for our fellow brothers and sisters, with fervent prayers for repentance and restoration, so that we can continue to operate above reproach.

In light of the recent, serious allegations leveled against Thrive leadership, which many here can corroborate aspects of, and the egregious and dismissive manner in which they were mishandled, namely to be ignored and not addressed at all, we the concerned staff call for the immediate removal of Bridget and a review of the Board of Directors.

Their gross negligence and use of cease & desist letters as legal threats against any dissent has irrefutably damaged not only Thrive's reputation and ministry, but has brought a bad name to the pro-life movement, Christians, the church, and our Lord and Savior. This un-Biblical behavior and refusal to an outside, independent third-party investigation, as well as the secrecy and actions of leadership to hide and suppress information, proves beyond a doubt the truth of those accusations, and the cover up by leadership displays that they are unfit to continue serving the company in any capacity. These actions are wholly unsuitable for a Christian organization, and the blatant disregard for any responsibility and the accountability the local church has tried to bring has not only compromised our trust in their leadership, but also the trust of our partners and churches, who are pulling support at a rapid pace, sending Thrive into a financial free-fall and jeopardizing our jobs and our ability to care for our community.

If this is taken to court, which appears to be Bridget's desire, to use Thrive's attorney and resources to defend accusations against her person (not Thrive), there are some who endorse this letter that would corroborate many of the accusations under oath. The attempted "independent investigation" by Thrive's (Bridget's) attorney is not only a conflict of interests, but is borderline on further abuse to the victims, as well as a blatant show of power. Why would the abused trust to confide in their abuser's attorney? No current or former employees, apart from the Leus, with actual concerns were ever approached or asked any questions, so why is this lie being peddled? If the Board truly desired to seek the truth, they should have talked with the staff they are supposed to support rather than taking Bridget's word and out-of-context staff quotes to show fake staff morale. Quite the opposite, two of our leaders sought a confidential meeting with the Board, which was denied. We are not "hopping on a bandwagon"; we each have our own stories to share, but Bridget has created a culture that does not allow for dissenting opinions to

be voiced. Two things can be true at once: Thrive has accomplished great things, and has a leader that has participated in abuse. Instead, we desire leadership that promotes, exhibits and builds a culture around the fruit of the spirit from Galatians 5, leading with humility. Can you look at this situation and say confidently that love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control is the culture that Bridget has fostered?

Many of us feel that we will not be able to work here much longer under current conditions. Unless immediate action is taken, Thrive will no longer be able to serve the women, children, and families in our region, and Thrive will close its doors for the last time.

Therefore, in light of the facts and actions taken by Bridget and the Board, we call for the immediate removal of Bridget as president, and a review of the Board of Directors, so that Thrive can continue being the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. There are several former board members, pastors, and partners that will gladly step in and serve. We will not stay silent and let the mistakes of one destroy the amazing, Kingdom-building ministry of Thrive. If we do not hear a response by End of Business Friday, 9/13, we will be submitting this and more to major media outlets.

**Anonymously signed by 27 of 38 current Thrive St. Louis employees**

*When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.*

*Proverbs 11:2*

*God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.*

*James 4:6*

PS: We would like to remind Bridget that upon her resignation— all passwords, security codes, and keys must be immediately surrendered, and that it is illegal to remove or delete any files related to Thrive.