

Prayer Points

We are extremely grateful for your prayers that are essential to the work we do every day. To subscribe to our weekly prayer emails, visit firststeptolife.com/pray.

Please pray for the following:

- that Nebraskans will take a stand for life this November at the ballot box by voting to advance protections for women and preborn children.
- that the women most at risk for abortion in our community will find Assure, come in for appointments, and ultimately choose life for their babies.
- that our efforts to launch the Life Matters podcast will positively impact hearts and minds across our state and help more people come to an understanding of the sanctity of human life from conception to final breath.
- for wisdom, unity, and smooth transitions as Assure seeks to hire and train several new staff members this Fall.

Christmas Adopt-A-Family

Every Christmas, Assure Women's Center extends the opportunity to bless the families we serve. If you are looking for a way to show the love of Christ in a tangible manner, please consider Assure's Adopt-A-Family this Christmas!

Adopting a family is simple! Just go to firststeptolife.com/adopt-a-family and submit your information by **November 1**. We will match you with a small, medium, or large family—your choice! You will be contacted at your provided email address with detailed information about your assigned family by **Monday, November 25**.

The suggested shopping budget is \$55-\$65 per family member. You will receive a list of suggested items and details about your matched family. **Your responsibility will be to purchase and wrap at least one toy and one clothing item for each child and at least one item for each adult.** Non-perishable household items are welcome as well.

Once your shopping and wrapping are complete, you can drop off gifts by appointment at Assure Women's Center—North Office (6510 Sorensen Parkway Omaha, NE) between **Wednesday, December 11 and Friday, December 13**. When you receive the email matching you with a family, it will include instructions on how to choose a drop-off time.

If you cannot shop for a family but would still like to contribute, we welcome monetary donations of any amount. We will use the funds to purchase any remaining items for the Adopt-A-Family gifts. Excess funds, if any, will go to Assure's general operating costs.

This is a great opportunity for individual families, Bible study groups, church groups, and even neighborhoods to make a significant difference this Christmas. Your contribution will bring joy and hope to these families.

If you have any questions, please contact **Emily** at **(531) 233-5708** or via email at emily@assureomaha.com.



Paula's Stories

At Assure, it **matters** to us that we create a comforting place and compassionate presence for every woman who walks in our doors, giving her time and space to process her unplanned pregnancy, equipping her with all the information she needs to make a decision for life.

When Paula came to us, she was a busy mother of a one and two year old already and had suffered the trauma of a stillbirth. She was overwhelmed at the thought of another baby and scared that, even if she carried the pregnancy, it would end in another heartbreaking stillbirth. Our advocate listened with patience and compassion, sharing in Paula's grief and helping her see the uniqueness that was this new baby. Paula returned to Assure Women's Center for all of her follow-up appointments and came to embrace her new pregnancy as a gift, stating at the end of her final appointment, "We are having another baby!"

All of the services we provide at Assure help women facing unplanned pregnancies see that all of **life matters** to God – theirs and their babies! We show compassion and strength in a non-judgmental environment, enabling women to take a deep breath, slow down, and see their pregnancy as a gift. When they have all the information they need and time and space to process, they are encouraged to step towards life for themselves and their babies!



About Us

Mission Statement

To be the first step for women facing an unplanned pregnancy, transforming their fear into confidence by addressing their physical, spiritual and emotional needs, and equipping them to make healthy, life-affirming decisions.

Partner Website!

Keep abreast of the latest Assure happenings by visiting our partner website at firststeptolife.com. This website serves as a resource for you. It features photos, videos, upcoming events and much more.

Check in to view the amazing results made possible by your support of Assure Women's Center, subscribe to our newsletter, view past newsletters, and request urgent prayer emails.



October 28 Tour Invitation

We invite you to tour our North Omaha location on Monday, **October 28th**, at 6 p.m. Come learn more about our mission and how we serve women and preborn babies. Please RSVP by calling the Development Office at **402-390-9700** and asking for Michelle Scollard, or sign up online at firststeptolife.com/tour.

Patient Statistics

January – August 2024

Appointments Scheduled • 1,366

Appointments Kept • 1,112

Positive Tests • 945

Negative Tests • 157

Women at Risk for Abortion who Chose Life • 703

Percentage of Women at Risk for Abortion Choosing Life • 78%

Patients Rated Abortion Determined • 39 %

Patients Rated Abortion Minded • 32%

Clients Attending Parenting 101 Classes • 75

Clients Attending Advanced Classes • 34

Clients Attending Life Basics Classes • 38

Baby Boutique Visits • 576

WholeHeartEd

January – August 2024

Total Video Views • 1,414,882

Total Social Media Reach • 18,587,399

Social Media Engagement • 2,031,867

Leadership

Brian Finley, MD
NEBRASKA MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Douglas Bauer, MD
IOWA MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Toni Clarke
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Val Bokowski
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Chris Schlesiger
PATIENT RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Amanda Temoshek
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Board of Directors

Christine Clausen-Cannon
PRESIDENT

Mike Lechtenberger
VICE PRESIDENT

Janet Osborn, CPA
TREASURER

David Rosacker
SECRETARY

Senator John Arch

LaShawn Young, JD

Martin Cannon, JD

David Meyer, CFM, AIF, LIC, CMA

Jack Swanda

Dennis Weisenburger, MD

Ross Polking

Advisory Council

Fred Baker

Marie Belin, MD

Jonathan Davidson

Tammy Day

John H Kellogg Jr, Esq.

Ken Pohlman

Linda Pohlman

Larry Roland, Esq.

Rhonda Sisson

Kelsey Stupfell

Erika Volker

Senator Brad von Gillern

Precious Watson-Murphy



Life Matters

by Toni Clarke • Executive Director

As a mom of two beautiful Gen-Z women, I have spent many hours over the years talking to them about life in general. Those discussions have spanned topics from nutrition, to identity, to religion and beyond. Of course, by virtue of my position at Assure, we have discussed pro-life issues as well. We tackle tough issues. In those conversations, I always try to bring us back to what God's word says about a particular subject. It's through those conversations that their belief systems are formed.

One thing they have heard on many occasions is that not everyone has the opportunities we have to discuss and work through issues in the way that they do. I believe that is one of the reasons our culture is so divided. We have stopped having conversations. You can clearly see it in the discussion of life. For those pushing abortion, a baby's life matters only when it is convenient for the mom.

At Assure Women's Center, we believe that every **life matters**. For that reason, I'm thrilled to announce the launch of our new weekly half-hour radio program, "**Life Matters**," airing every Saturday at 8:30 am CST on Bott Radio. The program will allow open dialogue on complex and important life issues, equipping Christians to discuss life issues and get involved in the pro-life movement.

To find your local Bott radio station, visit bottradiationetwork.com. Can't catch the live broadcast? No problem! The podcast version is available on our website, FirstStepToLife.com, so you can listen anytime and anywhere.

One of the first topics we will tackle is Life on the Ballot. As Nebraskans, we have a crucial opportunity to make our voices heard on life issues this November. Two significant ballot initiatives will be put to a vote:

- **Initiative 434** (Pro-Life)
- **Initiative 439** (Pro-Abortion)

These initiatives have far-reaching implications for protecting life in our state. While our "**Life Matters**" radio program will feature episodes discussing these initiatives, I recommend visiting the Nebraska Family Alliance website at nebraskafamilyalliance.org for detailed, up-to-date information on these ballot initiatives.

Our new radio program and the **Protect Women & Children** ballot initiative center around a crucial truth: **life matters**. We invite you to tune in to "**Life Matters**," stay informed about the ballot initiatives, and join us in affirming the value of every life. Together, we can create a culture that truly cherishes and protects life at all stages. Stay engaged, stay informed, and let's work together to uphold the sanctity of life in our communities and our state.

Toni

Staff and Volunteer Opportunities

Assure Women’s Center is currently looking to fill several staff and volunteer openings. If you are interesting in working at Assure, visit firststeptolife.com/careers for more information. If you would like more information on volunteer opportunities, visit firststeptolife.com/volunteer.

Volunteer Spotlight

Catherine Stein has been a warm and welcoming presence at Assure Women’s Center’s West Omaha location for nearly a decade. As a volunteer receptionist, she greets patients and guests, collects their information, and ensures a smooth transition to their volunteer advocate.

Reflecting on her time at Assure, Catherine shares how the experience has profoundly impacted her. “I’ve always been pro-life, but volunteering here has opened my eyes in a new way. It’s not just about saving the babies—it’s about serving both the women and their babies.” She explains that seeing women of all races, ages, and backgrounds facing unsupported or unplanned pregnancies has given her a deeper understanding of the issue and the lives that Assure touches.

Catherine is also grateful for the people she has worked alongside. She describes the staff, managers, and fellow volunteers as a wonderful group of dedicated, compassionate women. “Working with such quality women has been a very positive experience,” she says. Catherine’s heart for the women and babies Assure serves continues to impact the lives of those who walk through the doors.



Catherine Stein

Year-End Fundraising Challenge Your Gift will Save Lives!

As 2024 draws to a close, we are thrilled to share an exciting opportunity for our supporters: we are having our biggest year-end challenge ever!

Several generous anonymous donors have issued a **\$125,000 challenge** to inspire bold and courageous giving. The clock is ticking - if we raise \$500,000 in new gifts and pledges by **midnight on December 31**, these donors will contribute an additional \$125,000! But if we fall short, that \$125,000 may be lost.

Your participation in this Year-End Challenge is not just a donation, it’s a lifeline. Every donation, no matter the size, will bring us closer to our goal, ensuring that Assure Women’s Center can continue providing life-affirming services, free of charge, to women and families in our community. Together, we can meet this challenge and show that **LIFE truly matters**.

To contribute to the Year-End Challenge, visit firststeptolife.com to make an online donation or mail your gift to Assure Women’s Center, P.O. Box 34638, Omaha, NE, 68134, by December 31. Donations are 100% tax-deductible. Let’s unite and make a difference this year-end season and show that **every life matters!**

Michelle Scollard Introduction

We are thrilled to introduce Michelle Scollard, who joined Assure’s Development Team this August as our Donor & Community Engagement Coordinator. Michelle previously served as our Mobile Medical Unit Supervisor and will now be spearheading Assure’s community outreach tasks including speaking engagements, tours, and other communications. You can reach Michelle via email at michelle@assureomaha.com or via phone at (531) 233-5890. She is eager to meet and work alongside you all!

Scollard Family



Allie Beth Stuckey

Assure Women’s Center’s annual Imagine banquet will be held **Thursday, April 24th, 2025** at the CHI Health Center, Exhibit Hall C, located at 455 N. 10th St, downtown Omaha. The 2025 Imagine Banquet will feature keynote speaker **Allie Beth Stuckey**.

Allie is a wife and a mom of three. She hosts a podcast called **Relatable**, where she analyzes news, culture, theology and politics from a Christian, conservative perspective. She is the author of two books: You’re Not Enough (& That’s Okay) and Toxic Empathy. Allie speaks regularly to organizations, churches, and students about the importance of Christian political engagement, defending the Biblical worldview, championing the pro-life cause, and combating the lies of progressivism.

Dinner tickets are \$45 with a range of sponsorship opportunities available. Tickets will be available for purchase on January 7th.



2025 Imagine Banquet

Save the Date!
**April 24
2025**

Church Spotlight WESTSIDE CHURCH

This fall, we want to honor Westside Church’s commitment to the truth that **LIFE MATTERS**.

Westside Church has a long-standing partnership with Assure, linking arms with us since 2017 to reach women facing unplanned pregnancies and who find themselves lacking resources.

This past summer, Assure was the spotlighted “Missions Moment” during Westside’s large VBX program (“X” for eXtreme fun and hands-on eXperience learning God’s Word). Their VBX program is a high energy week, filled with engaging worship, Bible stories, crafts, and games, with over 1,000 children in attendance. Throughout the week, Westside challenged the children to raise \$10,000 toward Assure’s Support Services program, making it a fun “Boys vs. Girls” competition. The children met – and almost doubled! – the challenge, raising over \$18,000!

At the end of the week, our Support Services Supervisor, Emily Pedersen, spoke to the children about the services she and her team of volunteers provide to families in the Omaha area, all because of generous donations from people like them.

It’s never too early to begin teaching children to value **LIFE**, because it **MATTERS** to the Creator! What a blessing to see these children rise to meet the challenge and support Assure Women’s Center so enthusiastically!



New Donor Dashboard

We’re pleased to announce a new feature that makes supporting Assure Women’s Center even more convenient. When you donate online at **FirstStepToLife.com**, you can now create a personal account to manage your giving. This new system allows you to easily update your payment methods, manage your recurring gifts, view your online gift history (starting from the time you set up your account), and access additional features to streamline your donation experience. From the donation form, click **Sign In** and create an account to get started.

Business Spotlight



At Assure Women’s Center, we are blessed to have the unwavering support of our community partners. For the past three years, A. Raymond Plumbing has been a corporate sponsor of our annual Imagine banquet, demonstrating a strong commitment to Assure’s pro-life mission and the women and children we serve. Their generosity helps us continue to provide critical services 100% free of charge, and we’re honored to spotlight them in this month’s newsletter.

Andy Raymond, owner of A. Raymond Plumbing shared his passion for giving back: “We believe in supporting local organizations, and Assure Women’s Center aligns with our values of caring for the vulnerable and promoting life. We are proud to be a part of their mission.”

A. Raymond Plumbing, based in Council Bluffs, is known for its high-quality residential and commercial plumbing services. Whether repairing leaks, installing water heaters, or providing emergency services, their expert team is dedicated to keeping homes and businesses running smoothly. We’re grateful for their partnership and the lasting impact they’re helping create in our community. To learn more, visit www.araymondplumbing.com.

Tributes

Honorary and Memorial gifts are ways to honor and remember someone while also furthering the mission of Assure Women’s Center.

To learn more about Assure’s Honorary and Memorial Gifts Program, please call our Development Office at **(402) 390-9700**.

HONORARY

- For Allison’s Birthday**
Ralph & Allison Brown
- For Kathy Larsen**
Chuck Larsen III
- For Prescott boys, wives, & grandchildren**
Stephen & Dawn Prescott

MEMORIAL

- For All Aborted Babies**
Edward & Theresa Watson
- For Leota Brown**
Mary Andrews
- For Annabelle Faith Buttermore**
Daniel & Kristin Buttermore
- For Lexie Eley**
Elizabeth Fowlkes
- For Sunny Everett**
Anonymous
Grant Everett
- For Mary Ann Graeve**
Randal & Bonnie Smith
- For Virgil Halweg**
Mara Halweg
- For Adline Jackson**
Toni Clarke
- For Peggy King**
Jennifer Carlson
- For Ormund, Nancy, & Paul Meyer**
David & Lou Ann Meyer
- For Shirley Rosacker**
David & Melissa Rosacker



Including Assure in your will is a way to bring dignity, meaning and purpose to a life well lived. It also communicates your values, beliefs and ethics to your family and loved ones.

Through our partnership with **GiftWise**, you now have access to an online platform where you can designate an estate gift to Assure Women’s Center in a legally binding will, quickly and for free. Scan the QR code below to get started.

