

## 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](http://firststeptolife.com/pray).

Please pray for the following:

- Pray for women who are considering abortion, that God would meet them in their fear, give them clarity, and move their hearts toward choosing life for their babies.
- Pray for the 40 Days of Prayer initiative coming up in 2026, that many would be stirred to join, uniting in intercession for mothers, babies, and families.
- Pray for Spanish-speaking volunteers and staff, that God would bring the right people quickly and equip them with wisdom, compassion, and readiness for the work.
- Pray for our open staff positions, that the Lord would call and provide the right people to serve faithfully in each role.

## Adopt-A-Family This Christmas

This Christmas, you can share the love of Christ in a powerful way by adopting a family in need! It's simple:

- Sign up by **Nov 12** at [firststeptolife.com/adopt-a-family](http://firststeptolife.com/adopt-a-family)
- Choose a small, medium, or large family
- By **Nov 15**, you'll receive family details and gift suggestions. Our suggested budget is **\$65 - \$75** per person

You'll shop for at least one toy and one clothing item per child, plus at least one gift for each adult. Non-perishable household items are welcome too! Gifts are wrapped and dropped off at **Assure's North Office** the first week of **December** (a SignUp Genius link with drop off dates and times will be provided).

Not able to shop? You can still bless a family with a donation of any amount, every gift makes a difference! 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 wonderful opportunity for families, Bible studies, church groups, and neighborhoods to spread joy and hope this Christmas.

Questions? Contact **Rachel** at **402.390.9700 x2002** or email [rooted@assureomaha.com](mailto:rooted@assureomaha.com).



## Victoria's Story

When Victoria first found Assure Women's Center, she was searching for one thing: the abortion pill. Afraid, overwhelmed, and facing her very first pregnancy, she simply wanted the fear to go away.

But in that moment of uncertainty, something remarkable happened. Our scheduler invited her to schedule a pre-abortion screening with us, an appointment that opened the door for honest conversation, compassionate listening, and space to breathe. Victoria walked in seeking only information. She walked out carrying ultrasound images of the little life growing inside her.

One week later, she returned with a completely different spirit. Smiling and confident, Victoria shared her decision: "I'm going to parent." With the steady support of her long-term boyfriend and the reassurance she found through our team, she embraced peace in the midst of what once felt like chaos. At her final follow-up, Victoria's confidence had only grown. Her baby was healthy. Her choice was made. Her heart was sure.

Victoria's story is just one of many women arriving in fear and facing their own **wilderness**, finding hope, and leaving with clarity.



## 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](http://firststeptolife.com). This website serves as a resource for you. It features photos, videos, upcoming events and 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.

### Tour Schedule

Tours of our Hartford Office, located at 6510 Sorensen Parkway, are open to the public on the following dates and times. Please RSVP by calling the Advancement Office at **402-390-9700** and asking for Michelle Scollard, or sign up online at [firststeptolife.com/tour](http://firststeptolife.com/tour).

#### Tour Opportunities:

Oct 27 6pm | Feb 10 12pm | May 4 6pm

### Patient Statistics

June – August 2025

Appointments Scheduled · 591  
Appointments Kept · 475  
Positive Tests · 403  
Negative Tests · 68  
Women at Risk for Abortion who Chose Life · 284  
Percentage of Women at Risk for Abortion Choosing Life · 72%  
Patients Rated Most at Risk · 152  
Patients Rated High Risk · 118  
Patients Rated Low Risk · 124  
Patients Rated Likely to Carry · 9  
Parenting 101 Attendance · 83  
Advanced Class Attendance · 34  
Bible Study Attendance · 55  
Baby Boutique Visits · 157

### Follows Us on Facebook

at [facebook.com/firststeptolifeomaha](http://facebook.com/firststeptolifeomaha)



### Leadership

**Brian Finley, MD**  
NEBRASKA MEDICAL DIRECTOR

**Doug Bauer, MD**  
IOWA MEDICAL DIRECTOR

**Toni Clarke**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Val Bokowski**  
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

**Chris Schlesiger**  
RESEARCH & INNOVATION DIRECTOR

**Amanda Temoshak**  
ADVANCEMENT DIRECTOR

**Lisa Holke**  
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# Assure First Step TO LIFE

## A Way in the Wilderness

by **Toni Clarke** · Executive Director

### Isaiah 43:19

**"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."**

Every day, women walk through our doors feeling lost and wrapped in a wilderness of fear, uncertainty, and isolation. In those moments, the path ahead feels hidden, and hope seems out of reach.

But God has promised to "make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." And through your prayers, generosity, and partnership, we see that promise fulfilled daily.

At Assure Women's Center, we strive to be that river in the desert for women facing unexpected and unsupported pregnancies by offering:

- Truth and clarity about all their options

- Medical services by licensed professionals, including pregnancy testing, ultrasound, and STD testing and treatment
- A safe, professional, and non-judgmental environment where women feel valued

We do not profit from their decisions. Instead, we create an oasis of compassion and truth, a space to pause, reflect, and consider a future filled with hope.

Recently, a young woman we'll call Emily came to us terrified and alone. She had just discovered she was pregnant, and her life felt like a wilderness with no way out. Abortion seemed like her only option.

With gentle care, our patient advocate and medical staff walked her through our patient process. She received a pregnancy test, an ultrasound, and accurate information about all her options. For the first time, Emily saw her baby's heartbeat.

Tears filled her eyes as she realized she had another choice besides abortion.

In that sacred moment, surrounded by truth and compassion, Emily discovered a new path forward. She left knowing she wasn't alone and that **God had made a way through her wilderness.**

This is the "new thing" God is doing at Assure: transforming fear into confidence, despair into hope, and loneliness into community.

Thank you for helping us be His hands and feet. Because of you, women like Emily are finding courage, clarity, and the gift of new life. Together, we look forward with anticipation to the new things God will continue to do through Assure in our community.

*Toni*



Volunteer Spotlight

When Dee Sorenson first stepped onto our campus, she noticed something right away: while the work happening inside was life-changing, the grounds outside looked tired and overgrown. “Everyone inside is doing such important work,” she thought. “I want to help make the outside reflect that.”

Dee had already served in other roles, but her love for gardening kept tugging at her heart. She’s always found joy in being outdoors, cultivating beauty from soil and seed. So, she traded her receptionist desk for a pair of garden gloves, determined to **bring life to what was then a weed-filled wilderness.**

Over the years, Dee has faithfully transformed that wilderness into a vibrant, welcoming garden. For her, it’s more than pulling weeds or planting flowers, it’s a way of serving women who walk through our doors carrying heavy decisions. “I think about the women,” Dee says. “They’re facing life-and-death choices, and if I can help create a peaceful, inviting place, that’s really special.”

Tending the grounds has also deepened her faith. She admits she can’t do it all herself and has learned to lean on God and His people. As she works, she often prays and thinks of the song “Graves Into Gardens,” believing that beauty and peace in creation reflect God’s love.

What was once a patch of weeds is now a flourishing garden, much like the women whose lives are changed here. And for Dee, the work is pure joy: “I love gardening. Cultivating beauty from wilderness is what fills me.”

When asked what she would say to someone considering volunteering, her advice is simple: “Just do it!”

Dee Sorenson

Year-End Fundraising Challenge  
Your Gift will Save Lives!

As 2025 comes to a close, we are trusting God to do a new thing through Assure Women’s Center and you can be part of it!

Some generous friends of Assure Women’s Center have issued a **\$75,000 challenge** to inspire bold and courageous giving. Here’s how it works:

- If we raise **\$500,000 or more in new gifts and pledges** between **October 13 and December 31**, these donors will contribute an additional **\$75,000**.
- But if we fall short, that \$75,000 challenge gift may be lost.

This is more than a fundraising goal, it’s a lifeline. Every donation, no matter the size, helps us reach women and families with free, life-affirming services. When you give, you are directly helping mothers choose life and protecting precious children.

Your gift **before December 31** will:

- Help us meet this challenge and unlock the \$75,000 match.
- Ensure Assure Women’s Center can continue to stand strong in the new year.
- Show our community that **LIFE truly matters.**

Donations are **100% tax-deductible**. You can give online today at **firststeptolife.com** or mail your gift to Assure Women’s Center, P.O. Box 34638, Omaha, NE, 68134, by December 31.

Together, let’s trust God to make **“a way in the wilderness”** as we rise to this challenge, meet the goal, and save more lives than ever before!

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Rooted  
EQUIPPING PARENTS  
FROM THE GROUND UP

Support Services is now “Rooted!”

We’re excited to re-introduce our support services, now called **Rooted!** Through Rooted, moms and families can grow in confidence and faith while receiving practical support. From parenting classes and Bible studies to our Baby Boutique and more, Rooted is **springing forth** to equip and encourage families every step of the way.





*Imagine*  
**Banquet**

**40 Years Forward: Remembering Yesterday, Transforming Tomorrow**

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make **a way in the wilderness** and rivers in the desert.”

Isaiah 43:19 (ESV)

**You’re Invited: Assure’s 40th Birthday Bash!**

It’s time to celebrate! On **Thursday, April 2, 2026**, we’re throwing the biggest birthday party in Assure’s history at the CHI Health Center in downtown Omaha and you’re on the guest list!

This special Imagine Banquet will feature keynote speaker **Tim Tebow**, along with other honored guests, inspiring stories, and some exciting surprises about the future of Assure. Just like any great birthday party, there will be joy, gratitude, and plenty of reasons to celebrate what God has done over the past 40 years, and anticipation for all He has in store for the future.

But this isn’t just Assure’s birthday. It’s a celebration of the **thousands of babies who have been given the chance to celebrate their own birthdays over the past 40 years** because of the generosity of our donors and the dedication of our volunteers.

Mark your calendars to join the party! Let’s give thanks for God’s faithfulness, share the vision for the next chapter, and celebrate LIFE together. Sponsorships are limited and available now; don’t miss your chance to be part of this unforgettable night. Visit **firststeptolife.com/imagine** to learn more.

**Tim Tebow**

Church Spotlight



Assure is thankful for the ongoing partnership with Coram Deo Church in Omaha. Their faithful support has blessed the ministry in many ways: through financial giving, sending teams to complete service projects, helping with the annual banquet, and through the dedication of their members who serve at Assure. Several Coram Deo members are part of the staff and volunteer team, bringing their gifts and passion directly into the mission.

“We love the work that Assure does to support women in our community facing difficult situations,” said Justin Curtis, Executive Pastor. “It is our joy to partner with Assure to further their outreach and continue their commitment to guiding, serving, and loving women in need.”

Coram Deo’s investment has made a lasting impact, not only by strengthening the work at Assure but also by demonstrating what it looks like when a church family comes alongside a life-affirming mission.

40 Days of Prayer

Prayer is and always has been the foundation of Assure’s ministry. In fact, it was during **40 Days of Prayer** years ago that God led Assure to adopt our transformational patient process, an approach that continues to change lives and futures every day.

To kick off 2026, Assure’s 40th Anniversary, we are inviting our friends and partners to join us again in 40 days of focused prayer.

From **February 18 (Ash Wednesday) through March 29 (Palm Sunday), 2026**, we will unite in daily prayer for the women and babies we serve, for God’s wisdom and guidance as we prepare to launch exciting new initiatives, and that He will make a way in the wilderness and shine His light into the darkness of the culture of death surrounding abortion.

Be watching your email inbox for more information and a link to sign up!



Seven Weeks  
Coffee Partnership



SEVEN WEEKS  
COFFEE

We are delighted to announce our partnership with Seven Weeks Coffee and a new way for you to support the pro-life cause.

Seven Weeks Coffee exists to fund the pro-life movement one cup of coffee at a time with the world’s best specialty coffee. How do they do this? By donating a portion of all sales to local pregnancy care centers and pro-life organizations around the country. This now includes us!

As a member of the Seven Weeks Coffee partnership program, Assure Women’s Center is now eligible to receive 15% of every sale that comes through our affiliate link.

So how can you help? If you’re already a coffee-drinker, we hope you’ll consider switching your preferred coffee brand to Seven Weeks Coffee. This is a great way to enjoy premium coffee and support a life-saving cause.

Simply use this link to place your order: **sevenweekscoffee.com/?ref=AssureWC**

As always, we are exceedingly grateful for your support of Assure and look forward to partnering with you through your morning cup of coffee!

- Regeneratively farmed
- Expertly roasted to be non-oily
- Mold-free
- Directly sourced from farmers
- USDA Organic

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 Advancement Office at **(402) 390-9700**.

Nebraska Tax  
Credit for Donors

The Nebraska Pregnancy Help Act offers a non-refundable state income tax credit for cash contributions to approved pregnancy help organizations, including Assure Women’s Center.

How it works:

- **November 1, 2025:** Assure’s application opens. Donors on our interest list will receive the application by email in October.
- **January 1, 2026:** We will submit applications to the Nebraska Department of Revenue in the order received.
- If credits are available and your application is verified, you’ll have 60 days to make your donation.

Plan ahead: In 2025, \$500,000 in credits were available statewide. In 2026, that amount will double to \$1 million. The credits will go quickly!

Scan the QR code below to join the interest list and get the application in October 2025.



**Credits are first-come, first-served. Please consult your tax advisor.**

HONORARY

**For Grace**  
Cecilia Guerra

**For Denise Johnson**  
Foster Group Inc

**For Daisy Marquez**  
Freddy & Ashley Marquez

**For Our Children & Grandchildren**  
Dave & Chris Schlesiger

MEMORIAL

**For Linda Aldrich**  
Denny & Claire Hartford

**For Doris Eversden**  
Jerry & Renae Magill

**For Alvin Glasshoff**  
Jerry & Renae Magill

**For Evy Kumm**  
Lawrence & Rachel Allen  
Randy Kumm  
Steven & Linda Tripp

**For Lucas Timothy McElroy**  
Amber McElroy

**For Gail McGovern**  
John McGovern

**For Rudy Nabel**  
Marian Schiemann

**For Our Baby**  
Sierra Stinnette

**For Tami Pesek**  
Jerry & Renae Magill

**For Carolyn Placzek**  
Daniel & Kris Placzek

**For Paul Preston**  
Richard & Jean Preston

**For Annie Robb**  
Sherry Buhrmann

**For Rebekah Rose**  
Brenton & Christina Pyle

**For Scott Stangl**  
Patricia Barber  
Christopher & Laurie Berggren  
Gerard & Pamela Bogus  
Lenissa Buseinitz  
Keith & Norma Colton  
Hattie S Conradson  
William & Joy Curry  
Kay Dickinson  
Hansen Chiropractic Wellness Center  
Stephen & Gail Henderson  
Brian Hire  
John & Claudia Ivester  
Melvin & Diane Jelkin  
Benjamin Kopsa  
Chieko Krembs  
Dorothy M Krogh  
Mark Louis  
Jay & Cindy Miller  
Nebraska Families for Homeschooling  
Marlene Otte  
George & Pamela Otte  
George & Pamela Roush  
Briana Ruhl  
Perly & Sandra Schoville  
Ed & Pamela Schroeder  
Thomas & Lila Shorman  
Stephen & Doris Smith  
Carol Storm  
Phyllis Titus  
Paul & Patricia Wiedemeier  
Bruce & Lynda Will

**For Corinne A Stastny**  
Cindy Petrocchi

**For Cindy Vakoc**  
Cindy Petrocchi

**For Donna Vonderharr**  
Jerry & Renae Magill

**For Jane Welty**  
Doug & Jody Pedersen

**For John Winchester**  
Marcia Winchester

**For Lily Jo Ziebell**  
Corey & Val Bokowski