

Prayer Points

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

Please pray for the following:

- that women most at risk for abortion in our community will find Assure, come in for appointments, and ultimately choose life for themselves and their babies.

- that our Life Matters radio broadcast and podcast will positively impact hearts and minds across our state and that more people will be inspired by what they hear to fight the spiritual battle and evil that is abortion.

- for grace, wisdom, and a spirit of togetherness for the staff and volunteers who wage war against the enemy of life.

- **PRAISE THE LORD** that he heard the prayers of his people and Nebraskans voted for LIFE in the last election!

Abigail's Story

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.



Abigail came to Assure, already mother to a 3 year old and in a "complicated situation," as she and the father of the baby had just ended their relationship. She felt the heavy darkness as he was pressuring Abigail to abort. As her advocate walked her through her appointment, sharing information compassionately and without judgement, Abigail's heart began to soften. She returned for her repeat appointments and was always met with the same compassion and care. At her last appointment, she told her advocate that the father never saw things the way she did, but she decided that the darkness would not overcome. Abigail is going to parent!

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!

Calling All Churches

Ephesians 6:12 reminds us "we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places." The Apostle Paul goes on to call us to "put on the whole armor of God" including "praying at all times, with all prayer and supplication" (verses 13, 18).

Assure Women's Center stands in the center of that battle as we push back on the darkness and call women to life for themselves and their babies. The enemy of life wants to kill and destroy; we recognize that we cannot fight this battle day in and day out without our supporters fighting on their knees. **We are looking for pastors, church staff, small groups, and other prayer warriors to visit Assure and pray with us.**

Would you consider putting together a prayer team to pray over our facilities and our staff? We have locations in North Omaha and West Omaha; you can choose a time and location that is most convenient for your team!

Mondays, 9 am – 1 pm (West office)
Tuesdays, 9 am – 1 pm (North office)
Wednesdays, 9 am – 1 pm (West office)
Thursdays, 9 am – 1 pm (North office)
Saturdays, 8 am (West office)

When you come, a staff member will guide you through the office space. We have prayer cards with suggested prayer points for each space. At the end of the prayer tour, we will gather the staff and volunteers in the office, and you will have an opportunity to pray over them.

As Oswald Chambers reminds us, "Prayer does not fit us for the greater works; prayer is the greater work." Will you stand in that greater work on behalf of Assure Women's Center?

Contact **Michelle Scollard** to schedule a prayer walkthrough: michelle@assureomaha.com or **531-233-5890**.

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.

Let this website serve 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 or use the site to RSVP for a ministry briefing and tour, subscribe to our newsletter, view past newsletters, and request urgent prayer emails.

Tour Schedule

Quarterly tours of our newly remodeled Hartford Office, located at 6510 Sorensen Parkway, are open to the public on the following dates and times. Please RSVP your attendance by calling the Development Office at **402-390-9700** and asking for **Michelle Scollard** or sign up online at firststeptolife.com/tour.

Tour Opportunities

May 5 6pm | Aug 26 12pm | Oct 27 6pm

Patient Statistics

January – December 2024

Appointments Scheduled • 2,077
Appointments Kept • 1,687
Positive Tests • 1,449
Negative Tests • 228

Women at Risk for Abortion Choosing Life for their Baby • 1,071

Percentage of Women at Risk for Abortion Choosing Life • 76%

Patients Rated Abortion Determined • 40%

Patients Rated Abortion Minded • 30%

Clients Attending Parenting Class • 94

Clients in Advanced Classes • 70

Clients in Life Basics Classes • 71

Baby Boutique Visits • 904

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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 Temoshok
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

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Assure

WOMEN'S CENTER



Demolishing Strongholds

by Toni Clarke - Executive Director

In our work at Assure Women's Center, we are continuously reminded of the strength and courage it takes for women to choose life for their preborn babies. We know that many face significant barriers - emotional, financial, and even spiritual. These barriers can often feel like insurmountable **strongholds**. However, as believers in Christ, we are called to confront these obstacles with faith, unity, and action. Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 10:4, "The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to **demolish strongholds**."

The challenges our patients face are varied and complex. Fear of financial instability, lack of support from partners or family, and misinformation about their options are just a few examples. These barriers can create a sense of hopelessness, leading women to believe they have no other choice but to terminate their pregnancies.

Additionally, cultural narratives and political policies often reinforce these strongholds. Messaging that devalues the sanctity of life or fails to provide real support for mothers in crisis can deepen the sense of isolation many women feel. Recognizing these strongholds is the first step in tearing them down.

At Assure, we believe that **demolishing these strongholds** requires both spiritual and practical tools. **Prayer** is a powerful weapon in this fight. When we intercede for women facing these challenges, we invite God's power into their lives and our work.

But prayer alone is not enough. We must also **take action**. This means providing tangible resources - such as pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, options counseling, parenting classes, and material support - that empower women to choose life. It means creating a community of support where mothers feel valued and cared for, both during pregnancy and beyond.

The battle to demolish strongholds is political as well. When people of faith come together to advocate for pro-life policies, we can create systemic change that supports women and families. We experienced this recently when Nebraskans came together to defeat LB 439. Praise God! Through policies, we can challenge cultural narratives that devalue life. By promoting a message of hope and compassion, we can shift the conversation and inspire others to see the beauty and worth of every preborn child and their mother.

As we reflect on 2 Corinthians 10:4, let us remember that the divine power we have been given is found in the collective efforts of a community united in purpose. Together, we can **demolish the strongholds** that stand in the way of life and offer women the hope and support they need to choose life for their preborn babies.

We invite churches to partner with us in this mission. One powerful way to get involved is by organizing prayer walks at our office. These prayer walks allow congregations to come together in faith, interceding for the women and families we serve, and asking God to break down the barriers they face. By surrounding this work, as well as our staff and volunteers, with prayer, we can strengthen our efforts and bring hope to those who need it most. See the **"Calling All Churches"** article inside for more information.

Thank you for being part of this mission. Your prayers and support make a difference every day. Let us continue to stand together, armed with faith, love, and action, as we work to tear down strongholds and build a culture of life.

Joni

Volunteer Spotlight

Romans 8:1 says, "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." On January 22, 1995 – the 22nd anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision – Jeannie Pittam cried out to the Lord, "Change me!" The Lord met her and saved her and she has never been the same. She now uses her calling as a P.A.T.H. Class teacher at Assure Women's Center and through online P.A.T.H. Classes globally to share the good news with hundreds of other post-abortive women that there is redemption and healing in Christ.



Jeannie Pittam

Jeannie began volunteering at Assure Women's Center in October of 2023 as a Post Abortion Trauma Healing (P.A.T.H.) Class teacher, along with her co-teacher, Darlene Schacht. The P.A.T.H. Class is a 10-week Bible study that walks post-abortive women through the healing process, using God's Word to provide truth, light, and a path forward.

Jeannie is one of millions of women who has experienced abortion in her past. For decades, she kept her abortion secret, hidden in the darkest places. Through Christ, Jeannie has experienced the grace of forgiveness and redemption. It is her God-given mission to reach other post-abortive women with the truth of God's Word, which demolishes the lies and bitterness that hold their hearts captive.

What Jeannie appreciates about volunteering with Assure is that, "You speak TRUTH, and TRUTH is the only thing powerful enough to overcome darkness and spiritual strongholds." She wants women everywhere to know, "Their pregnancy isn't the crisis; it's their circumstances. And circumstances change."

The Lord is using Jeannie and her P.A.T.H. Classes – and indeed, her own story – to demolish strongholds and lies of the enemy. She desires that all post-abortive women know that the gospel of Jesus Christ frees them from shame and secrecy. She sees so many women who are afraid to even say the word "abortion." Teaching in-person, small group P.A.T.H. Classes with Darlene and other post-abortive women at Assure gives them a safe place to bring their past into the light and find healing and hope in Jesus. "We fight fear with TRUTH," she boldly proclaims.

The P.A.T.H. Class is just one of the many services offered to women in the Omaha and surrounding area free of charge through Assure's Support Services. If you or someone you know is suffering from post-abortion trauma, please reach out to our Support Services Supervisor, **Emily Pedersen**, at emily@assureomaha.com for more information.

Business Spotlight



At Assure, we're privileged to have the support of businesses that share our pro-life stance. This month, we spotlight **Sparrow Logistics**, an Omaha-based freight transportation brokerage and faithful monthly donor to our organization.

Sparrow Logistics excels in the freight industry by placing customer needs at the forefront of its operations. Known for their expertise in freight logistics, they specialize in solving complex logistics challenges with a customer-first approach. With a reputation for innovative solutions and outstanding flexibility, Sparrow Logistics skillfully addresses even the most complex transportation requirements. From securing specialized equipment to orchestrating last-minute expedited shipping solutions, they ensure every aspect is managed with precision, ensuring flawless delivery every time.

Like Assure, Sparrow Logistics is committed to excellence and problem-solving. We are both **demolishing strongholds** - whether it's the logistical barriers Sparrow faces daily or the emotional and practical challenges women encounter when facing unexpected pregnancies. Sparrow's generosity as a monthly donor fuels our ability to provide compassionate care, practical resources, and life-affirming options.

Would your business like to join Sparrow Logistics in making a difference for life? By becoming a monthly donor, you'll help us continue breaking down barriers and building a future where every life is cherished. Your consistent support enables us to focus on what matters most: offering hope and changing lives.

Thank you, Sparrow Logistics, for driving change in the lives of women facing unexpected, unsupported, or unwanted pregnancies. To learn more, visit www.sparrowlogistics.co.

Leadership Updates

We're excited to announce two key leadership changes that strengthen our team and future impact.



Chris Schlesiger Named Research and Innovation Director

Chris, formerly our Programs Director, moves into the newly created role of Research and Innovation Director. Chris is one of the founding members of Assure and in this new position she will focus on advancing our mission and demolishing strongholds through cutting-edge research and innovative strategies.

Lisa Holke Promoted to Programs Director

Lisa, previously our Patient Resources Administrator, steps into the role of Programs Director. Her dedication and expertise will drive the success of our programs and services. Lisa began at Assure in 2011 as a volunteer Patient Advocate. Her education includes degrees in Psychology and Radiation Sciences and has 13 years of experience dedicated to patient care in the hospital Radiology Department. At Assure, Lisa oversees the departments that implement our 15-Step Patient Process: Patient Engagement, Patient Process, and Medical Services. She brings a passion to serve each patient with excellence.

These transitions reflect our commitment to continuous improvement, innovation, and building a strong, mission-driven team. Join us in congratulating Chris and Lisa as they take on these new roles!



2025 *Imagine* BANQUET

Buy Your Seats NOW!

We are excited to announce our 2025 Imagine Banquet presented by Lorelee Hunt Byrd, will take place on Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 6:30 PM at the CHI Health Center in downtown Omaha! **Rich Bott**, president of Bott Radio Network, will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Dinner Chair for the event will be **U.S. Senator Pete Ricketts**. This year's banquet will feature an inspiring keynote address from **Allie Beth Stuckey**, renowned author, speaker, and podcast host. Known for her bold advocacy for faith and life, Allie Beth will bring an impactful message you won't want to miss.

Tickets are \$45 per person, and sponsorship opportunities are available for those who want to further support our pro-life mission. Visit firststeptolife.com/imagine to secure your spot today. Seating is limited, so don't delay!

Event Details

Date: Thursday, April 24, 2025

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: CHI Health Center - Exhibit Hall C, 455 N 10th St, Omaha, NE

Join us for an unforgettable evening as we come together to celebrate life, share hope, and make a difference in the lives of those facing unexpected, unsupported, or unwanted pregnancies.

If you have any questions, contact development@assureomaha.com.

Allie Beth Stuckey

Rich Bott

Lorelee Hunt Byrd

U.S. Senator Pete Ricketts

Demolishing Strongholds: Secure Your Legacy, Protect Life

"The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to **demolish strongholds.**" 2 Corinthians 10:4

Have you ever considered how your legacy could be a powerful weapon in the fight to protect life and support women in need? By including Assure Women's Center in your will, you can help demolish the strongholds of fear, despair, and uncertainty for women facing unexpected and unsupported pregnancies, ensuring that hope and life prevail for generations to come.

Many think estate planning is something to consider later in life, but creating a will is a proactive act of love and stewardship. It's a way to ensure that your values and resources continue to make an eternal impact.

To make this process simple, we've partnered with GiftWise, a trusted online platform that allows you to create a legally binding will in less than 20 minutes—free of charge. This easy tool enables you to:

- Reflect your values in your estate plan,
- Designate Assure Women's Center as a beneficiary, leaving a legacy gift of any size, and
- Provide for your loved ones while advancing the cause of life.

Your legacy gift is more than a financial contribution; it's a way to empower our mission to continue providing compassionate care, practical resources, and life-affirming support for women and their preborn children. Together, we can break the strongholds that threaten the sanctity of life and build a future where every life is cherished.

Don't wait to secure your legacy! Visit firststeptolife.com/bequest today to create your will and leave a lasting mark of faith, hope, and love in the fight for life!



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 Abby Beasley & Family
ReRUNS R Fun Inc

For Brian & Emily Brummund
Barbara Stevens

For Kyle Droescher
US Bank National Association

For Teresa Frazier
Barbara Stevens

For Grace
Cecilia Guerra

For Chavon E. Hodges
Maxine Hodges

For Chuck Larsen III
Dr Charles and Kathy Larsen

For Carieneal Mitchum
Carol Clough

For Our Baby who has given us a new best life
Paul and Melody Powell

For Our precious granddaughter
Jeff and Kari Bro

For Prescott boys, wives, and grandchildren
Stephen and Dawn Prescott

For Jacob Rupp
Lloyd and Susan Rupp

For Dan and Jennifer Shrader
Barbara Stevens

For Jadyann Spier
Teresa Mardesen

For Joe and Amy Stevens
Barbara Stevens

For John and Laura Stevens
Barbara Stevens

For Bob and Sheryl Suddick
Barbara Stevens

For Denise Wurgler
Chastain-Otis Insurance

For Meghan Yates
Jim and Lea Ogborn

For Brian Yentes
SE Nebraska Land Surveyors Assoc

MEMORIAL

For Frank & Marian Coyne
Don and Catherine Stein

For Marlene Fager
Darwin Fager

For Adline Jackson
Toni Clarke

For Jerry Mailloux
Cindy Mailloux

For Jessica Manna
Daniel and Suzanne Gornell

For Gail McGovern
John McGovern

For Heather Norvig
John and Kim Norvig

For Ormund, Nancy, & Paul Meyer

David and Lou Ann Meyer

For Our Aborted Grandson
Ken and Karen Schnepf

For Roger Palmer
Johnny Kurtzuba

For Glennis M Peterson
Martin and Joy Gunderson

For Carolyn Placzek
Daniel and Kris Placzek

For Ken Pohlman
Todd Anderson

Dale and Nancy Engskog
David Hilger

For JoElla Randolph
Mary Andrews

For Dian Rizzo
Darren and Amanda Temoshek

For Annie Robb
Sherry Buhrmann

For Kelley Johnson Rodriguez
Matthew and Terra Rodriguez

For Shirley Rosacker
David and Melissa Rosacker

For Ruth Irene Strong
Jacqueline Strong

For Lindsey Stark
Jon and Beth Hansen

For Larry Walling
Jon and Beth Hansen

For Kayla Wilkins
Craig and Shelly Wilkins

For John Winchester
Marcia Winchester



Listen to Toni Clarke on our **Life Matters** radio program on Bott Radio Network, 8:30 a.m. on Saturday mornings. To learn more, visit firststeptolife.com/lifematters