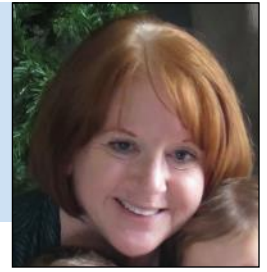


I'm a Kansan for Life!

Teri Seeger, Ottawa, Kansas



How I became involved in the pro-life movement:

I came from a family that valued life at all stages. The first time I ever saw my Dad cry was when he told us that our mom had miscarried and we would not have the baby we were expecting. That impacted me so much that even as a young child, I had an understanding that life begins at conception and that all life is sacred. We mourned the loss as a family. In high school our youth group took a stand and started showing *The Silent Scream* to other church groups in the area. It showed that babies *do* feel pain and abortion is not only wrong, it is cruel.



Teri stands in front of LifeCare Center, where she has served in several different roles over 23 years.

After graduating from Ottawa University and getting married, my husband (Al) and I settled in Ottawa, Kansas, and raised our four children. We were KFL members, but we didn't have a local chapter. We invited David Gittrich to come and speak and a new chapter was born in Ottawa. There was a committed group of people who worked hard at educating others about pro-life issues. In 1992 we discovered that the leading abortionist in a nearby county was setting up a clinic in our local hospital. This group of pro-lifers became active and protested outside the hospital hoping to discourage the doctor from any kind of presence in our town. He left, but there was a gap. Critics pointed to the high teen pregnancy rate in our county and demanded to know what we would do about that.

Within a few months the community rallied to raise \$10,000 to open a crisis pregnancy center to address the need. Twenty-three years later, LifeCare Center for Women has grown from a 400 square foot office space offering free pregnancy tests and limited material needs with 145 visits the first year, to owning a 2,500 square foot office building with 2,280 visits last year. LifeCare now provides 3-D ultrasound, parenting classes with the Earn While You Learn curriculum and a fully stocked store, childbirth classes and lay counseling. As one of the founders of the center it feels good to see that the "baby" has grown up!

What I do for the pro-life movement:

With Kansans for Life I have worked my share of fairs, spoken in churches, and participated in Life Chains, but most of my pro-life work has centered around our local pregnancy resource center. I was the Assistant Director at LifeCare for three years, and served as Director for another seven years. I have been on the board since the ministry began, holding several different offices over the years.

My other activities, outside the pro-life movement:

My family is everything to me, and my favorite thing is to spend time with my husband, our four children, and six (plus one on the way!) grandchildren, extended family and friends (who are like family). I love taking in the many landscapes of God's creation. I am a newly retired preschool teacher (after 20 years) so I am redefining my time and what I can do with it now. I love to write poetry, plays, lyrics for songs and children's stories. We are active members of Ottawa Bible Church and I enjoy serving in the children's ministry there.



Teri and Al Seeger with their grandchildren.