

Women's Life Center Launches Free Ultrasound Services



Women's Life Center is excited to announce the official launch of our free ultrasound services, expanding the compassionate pregnancy support available to women and families throughout Brunswick County and surrounding communities.

Earlier this month, we began providing ultrasound appointments after receiving a generous grant through Life Link of North Carolina. The grant provided a new 3D/4D ultrasound imaging system, an exam table, and professional ultrasound training, making it possible to bring this important service to our community. Training took place June 29 through July 2, 2026, marking the beginning of an exciting new chapter for Women's Life Center. Ultrasounds offer much more than medical images.



They provide valuable information about pregnancy while creating an opportunity for women to ask questions, receive education, and experience compassionate support in a welcoming environment. Having these services available locally means women no longer have to travel outside the area to access this important resource.

We're also proud to have our Women's Life Center nursing medical team, Kathleen Brandenburg and Alyson Kreitzman, leading this new service. Their compassion, professionalism, and commitment to caring for women help make every appointment a welcoming and supportive experience. You'll have the opportunity to learn more about Kathleen and Alyson in this month's Volunteer Spotlight.

This new service reflects our ongoing commitment to meeting women where they are by providing free pregnancy testing, options education, parenting support, material assistance, and now ultrasound services, all in one place.

We are deeply grateful to Life Link of North Carolina and to the many churches, community partners, volunteers, and donors whose generosity continues to expand the care available through Women's Life Center. Together, we are helping ensure women throughout southeastern North Carolina have access to support, information, and hope close to home.

Pregnancy testing and ultrasound appointments are available by appointment only.

To schedule an appointment, visit www.womenslifecenter.org and click "Make An Appointment," or call 910-512-5361.

Volunteers Spotlight

Alyson Kreitzman, MSN, RN
Kathleen M. Brandenburg, PhD, MSN, FNP-BC

When Alyson Kreitzman, MSN, RN first heard Women's Life Center team members Alisa Newber and Angela Dooley speak at her church, Generations, she immediately felt that God was answering a prayer she had been praying for.

"I had been praying fervently for a volunteer opportunity where I could use my nursing skills while serving the Lord," Alyson shared.

Initially drawn to the ministry's work supporting individuals affected by human trafficking, Alyson quickly realized that the entire mission of Women's Life Center aligned with both her professional experience and her heart for serving others.

Having spent much of her nursing career in pediatrics and women's health, she is now part of Women's Life Center's nursing medical team, helping provide compassionate care through the center's new ultrasound services.



As one of the five founding women of Women's Life Center, Kathleen M. Brandenburg, PhD, MSN, FNP-BC, has been part of the ministry since its very beginning. As an original Board member, Vice Chair, Medical Coordinator, and member of the center's nursing medical team, she has helped turn a shared vision into a place of hope for women and families.

"For years I had a passion for women's health and wanted to create a center that supported women and their unique needs," Kathleen shares.

Looking back, she believes the greatest lesson has been the power of working together. "Anything is possible when you surround yourself with like-minded people. Five women had a shared vision, and slowly it developed into a reality."

We are grateful for Kathleen's vision, leadership, and faithful service, which continue to inspire the mission of Women's Life Center today.

**Would You Like
to Volunteer?**

Inquire here <https://womenslifecenter.org/volunteer/>
or via email: info@womenslifecenter.org



ASHLEY IDOL: HELPING LAUNCH ULTRASOUND SERVICES

Client Story

When Women's Life Center prepared to launch ultrasound services, we needed volunteer pregnancy models to help train our nursing team on our new ultrasound equipment. Ashley Idol graciously stepped forward, knowing her participation would help ensure future clients receive compassionate, high-quality care from day one.

"I wanted to support a program that serves women and families in our community," Ashley shared. "Knowing that my participation could help nurses gain valuable hands-on experience and confidence with the new ultrasound equipment seemed like an easy way to support an amazing organization and give back in a meaningful way."

From the moment she arrived, Ashley said she felt welcomed and cared for by the Women's Life Center team.

"My experience was wonderful from beginning to end," she said. "The team was welcoming, professional, and incredibly kind. They made me feel comfortable, respected, and cared for throughout the entire visit. It was clear that everyone was committed to learning and providing excellent care, which created a very positive environment."

For Ashley, participating in the training represented more than simply volunteering. It was an opportunity to invest in the care future mothers will receive.

"Pregnancy can be an exciting but sometimes overwhelming journey," Ashley explained. "Having well-trained nurses can make a tremendous difference in helping mothers feel reassured and confident throughout their pregnancy. Knowing that my participation may help future moms receive compassionate, high-quality care gives me a real sense of fulfillment."

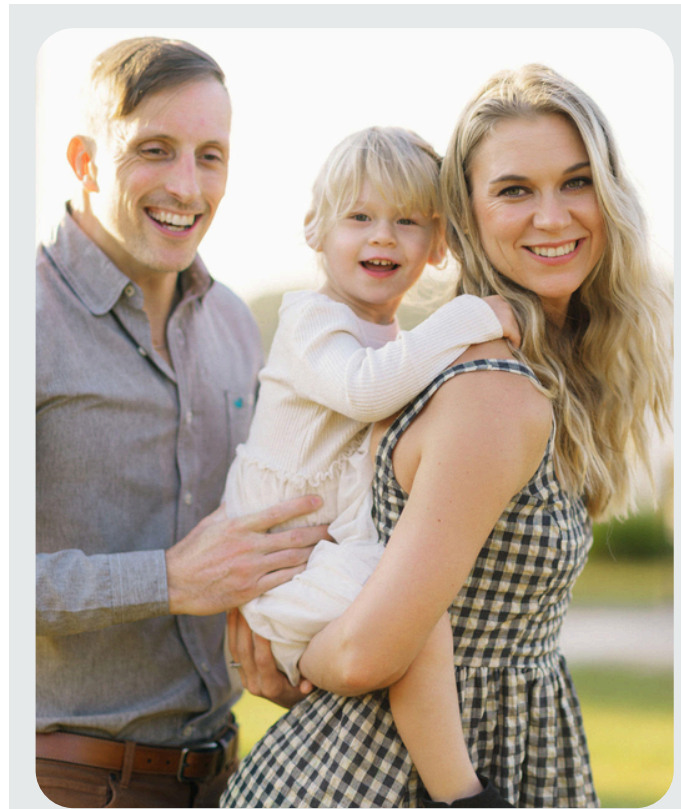
Ashley is especially excited that Women's Life Center can now offer ultrasound services to women in our community.

"I'm excited that women will have greater access to an important service that provides reassurance, information, and support during pregnancy," she said. "Offering ultrasound services allows Women's Life Center to meet women where they are and provide even more comprehensive care. It's wonderful to see the organization expanding its resources to better serve local families."

When asked what she would say to a woman considering visiting Women's Life Center, Ashley's message was simple and heartfelt.

"You will be welcomed with kindness, respect, and genuine care. The team truly wants to support women and families in a compassionate and nonjudgmental way. Their compassion makes you feel valued, appreciated, and cared for as an individual."

We are deeply grateful to Ashley and all of our volunteer pregnancy models who made this training possible. Because of their generosity, our nursing team gained valuable experience before serving clients. Their willingness to give their time is helping lay the foundation for compassionate, life-affirming care for countless women and families in our community.



Southeastern NC Human Trafficking Coalition Update



The Southeastern NC Human Trafficking Coalition continues to grow as organizations, community leaders, and advocates work together to prevent human trafficking through education, awareness, and collaboration.

We are excited to announce the formation of the Coalition's Steering Committee, which will provide strategic leadership, strengthen community partnerships, and help guide anti-trafficking initiatives throughout Brunswick County.

The Coalition's first initiative is the Youth Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention Education Initiative, made possible through an \$8,000 grant from the St. James Service Club. This program will bring a nationally recognized prevention curriculum to youth and youth-serving organizations across Brunswick County, helping equip young people and the trusted adults in their lives with the knowledge to recognize warning signs and stay safe.

Human Trafficking Prevention Begins with Awareness

Today's traffickers often use social media, online gaming platforms, and other everyday interactions to build trust and exploit vulnerable youth. Prevention starts with education.

When young people understand how traffickers manipulate relationships and recognize unhealthy behaviors, they are better prepared to protect themselves and seek help when something doesn't feel right. Parents, caregivers, educators, coaches, youth leaders, and faith communities also play an important role by creating safe environments where young people feel supported, heard, and empowered to speak up.

Schools, churches, youth organizations, and community groups all have the opportunity to strengthen prevention efforts by encouraging conversations about online safety, healthy relationships, personal boundaries, and available local resources.

Every presentation, parent workshop, classroom discussion, and community partnership helps build a stronger network of protection for children and families throughout our region. By investing in prevention today, we are helping create safer communities for future generations.

Coalition Meetings

The Southeastern NC Human Trafficking Coalition meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at Women's Life Center, 4741 Main Street, Shallotte, NC 28470. Please park at Eastside Fellowship Church, located two doors down on the same side of the street.

Those who would like to attend virtually may request the Zoom link by contacting Allysa McKenzie at allysa@statusa.org.

Training Opportunities

STATUSA offers training to help professionals and community members identify and respond to trafficking.

For more information, contact Allysa McKenzie at allysa@statusa.org.

Free Ultrasound Services Now Available:

Women's Life Center now offers free pregnancy testing and limited ultrasound services by appointment.

Thanks to a generous grant from Life Link of North Carolina, women can receive compassionate care and pregnancy support close to home.



Our Services



Pregnancy
Testing



Training
and Education



Pregnancy
Options



Resources
& Referrals



Support the Work

Your financial support helps provide free pregnancy services, client advocacy, material assistance, and prevention education across southeastern North Carolina.

Give securely at:
womenslifecenter.org/donate

