



DES MOINES OFFICE

3605 SE 14th Street
(515) 285-5700

ANKENY OFFICE

114 SW State Street
(515) 965-7885

WE HAVE NEW DIRECTORS!

*Alpha is excited to introduce **Shelene Billups** as the new Executive Director, and **Alne Hartog** as the new Assistant Director. We are so grateful God provided women who have a strong passion for the Gospel and for life. They will officially step into their roles at the beginning of October. Thank you for keeping us in your prayers as the search has come to an end.*



Alne Hartog

Shelene Billups

Hello! I'm Shelene, the new Executive Director. I'm a wife and homeschool mom to our son, now a senior. Last year, I stepped down from serving as a CC community classroom leader and director. I've been asking God what is next as I approach a new chapter. He answered with Alpha! As someone who faced an unplanned pregnancy in college, this ministry is dear to my heart. During my vulnerable time of need, I received compassionate support from others, and my family is now a testimony of God's loving mercy and grace. Every woman and child deserves to know this hope we have! I'm excited to be a part of sharing God's love with those we serve. It's the heartbeat of Christ, and it's making an eternal impact. I consider it a great privilege to serve the Lord in His work alongside our team! Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Hello! I'm Alne Hartog, the new Assistant Director. I am a wife to my sweetheart of 327 months, a mom to our 3 blessings, a member at Maranatha Baptist Church in Grimes, a 4th grade teacher at Two Rivers Classical Academy, and (until recently) a board member for Alpha Women's Center! The greatest joy, and foundation of my life is my relationship with Jesus Christ, whom I came to know as my personal Lord and Savior when I was a young teen. I'm continually amazed at God's goodness and faithfulness to me, though I fail Him often! It has been such a wonderful experience being a part of the board at AWC for 5 years. I've had a front row seat to how God works through this ministry on a regular basis. It is an honor to step into an Assistant Director role at AWC as I have a passion for being a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves, and for reaching women. My desire is to be used by God in whatever capacity that may be!

Volunteer Spotlight

Praise the Lord for faithful volunteers! **Kathy Burkhart** has been volunteering at Alpha since November of 2005 - almost 18 years! She spends much of her time with her husband and her grandkids; going to the library and teaching them games. She's been attending Anchor Baptist Church since she was a college student, and loves to reach the women there and in her neighborhood. She's involved in three different Bible studies that happen on a weekly basis, where she's had opportunities to present the Gospel. Kathy has been volunteering at Alpha for so long because it's something she believes God wants her to do. He's shown her the joy of sharing the Gospel with women, but also the joy of helping them with physical needs. It's a mission field for her. She loves to share with the women that God has a plan and a purpose for their lives. We are incredibly grateful for Kathy's servant heart and her faith in God here at Alpha!



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know you can give to AWC through your workplace via UNITED WAY. You can also give through PAYPAL using the "Donate Now" button on our website: www.awcdesmoines.org

OFFERING HELP FOR TODAY & HOPE FOR TOMORROW.

DONATIONS

Though all donations are welcome, the following items are particularly needed!

Please consider adding one or more of these items to your list for your next shopping or garage sale trip!

- DIAPERS - SIZES 3, 4, 5, & 6
- NEW BABY CLOTHES 12 MONTHS & UNDER FOR BABY BASKETS
- GALLON ZIP-LOCK BAGS
- BABY WIPES

FULL-SIZE WOMEN'S PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS:

- BODY WASH
- SHAMPOO / CONDITIONER
- DEODORANT
- TOOTHPASTE

Drop-offs accepted at either location.

"Amanda"

Last year Amanda came in for a pregnancy test. She started shaking with fear when she read it was positive. She was pregnant. Her boyfriend had told her to have an abortion or he would leave, which would break up the family they had together. She lived with and cared for her 5 year old son, her boyfriend, and his 10 year old son. She loved all of them very much. We talked, hugged, and cried. And she came back. Week after week she returned. Each time we had meaningful conversations about her life and the baby. We were able to support her and direct her to Christ as she was walking through this hard time. One week she said her boyfriend was coming around to the idea. She kept saying that for a while. Later she shared he had smiled at the ultrasound appointment. That was huge for her! Yesterday, she



came in with her baby girl (pictured above) AND her boyfriend. Finally, we got to meet the man we had prayed for and spoken so much about, and he was happy! That is a success story! We may not be able to change the laws or people's minds, but we can make a difference in hearts and lives, one mama at a time.



PARKING LOT UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who gave to help us update our parking lot. Doesn't it look so much better?!

BABY BOTTLE UPDATE

Praise the Lord for how he provides! We have reached over \$40,000 in Baby Bottle donations! Thank you!



"Bethany"

A woman visited a few months ago who has been visiting the center for 2 years, has 2 children, and was pregnant. She had just had an apartment fire, so we gave her some extra items to help. One of our volunteers shared her testimony and gave her a new Bible. We didn't see her for a while, but the other day she returned. We asked her how she was doing and she began to cry. She shared how days earlier, she found out her pregnancy was ectopic. She felt hopeless and defeated. Her boyfriend had left, her job wasn't going well, and she was still recovering from the fire. But she had been reading the Bible we'd given her, because she "might as well, what could it hurt?" We were so excited! She enjoyed reading it because it had good explanations of what the passages meant, and it talked about how to find passages relevant to her. It was so encouraging to see God work in her suffering.



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AWC1DSM@GMAIL.COM ■ WWW.AWCDESMOINES.ORG ■ FIND US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM