

NEWSLETTER



October 2025 *First Step Domestic Violence Services*

2025 FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR - STATISTICS

Our Shelter Served:

17 Adults
17 Children

With a Total of:

1,734 Nights of Care

We Answered:

283 Hotline Calls

We Served:

15 Outreach Clients

We've Turned Away:

86 Clients for Safe
Shelter



FIRST STEP
Domestic Violence Services

Since 1980, First Step has provided victims of domestic violence and their children with shelter, a 24-hour support line, advocacy and outreach and support programs. We serve men, women, and children across Wood, Wyandot, Seneca and Sandusky counties in Northwest Ohio

This month, we join communities across the nation in honoring survivors, remembering those lost, and raising awareness about domestic violence. Throughout October, our shelter will be hosting events and initiatives to educate, empower, and stand united in the fight to end domestic violence. Together, we can create hope and change.

SHELTER MOMENTS



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Megan is a proud mom of six and grandmother of two grandsons. She has spent over a decade working in the field of developmental disabilities and now continues her passion for helping others through her work in domestic violence services. Outside of her career, Megan is an avid reader and enthusiastic fisherwoman who loves both casting a line and getting lost in a good book. With a natural curiosity, she's always eager to learn new things and explore new places

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Contact Us

First Step Domestic
Violence Services

1099 Columbus Ave.
Fostoria, OH 44830

419-435-7300

Email:
info@firststepfostoria.org

Website:
www.firststepfostoria.org



Denise and Steve Wells have been volunteers for First Step since 1992. They have both retired; Denise from Excello and Steve from Honeywell and as an EMT for Bascom and Risingsun Fire Department.

Denise states that when they began volunteering for FS it was more of an advocate role, helping the police while the survivors would gather their things and taking pictures of their injuries. Their role for the past twenty-plus years has been to gather and store household items and clothing for survivors and transport those items to the survivor's new home. Denise states that they have helped over 400 families move!

We are so very thankful for Denise and Steve and their loyalty and service to the agency and the community.

SHELTER NEEDS LIST

Donations to:

First Step Domestic
Violence Services

1099 Columbus Ave.
Fostoria, OH 44830

419-435-7300

Email:
info@firststepfostoria.org

Website:
www.firststepfostoria.org

***Ask how your donations
can go twice as far with the
In-Kind Donations form!**

Our shelter is able to continue serving survivors thanks to the generosity and support of our community. Donations play a vital role in helping us provide a safe, comfortable, and healing environment for those in need. Every contribution makes a meaningful difference in the lives of the individuals and families we serve. Below is a list of items our shelter can always use to help our daily operations run more smoothly

Adult Tylenol	Mattress Protectors -
Bird Seed	Twin
Baby Body Wash	Paper Towels
Baby Lotion	Plastic Cups, Bowls,
Baby Powder	Plates
Bath Towels	Pillows
Brooms & Dust	Pillowcases
Pans	Shampoo
Cereal	Sheets - Twin Size
Canned Food	Stamps
Conditioner	Swifter Wet Jet Solution
Dishwasher Soap	Swifter Wet Pads
Disinfectant	Toddler Booster Seat
Wipes	Toddler Potty Seat
Fabuloso	Toilet Paper
Fabric Softener	Trash Bags (13 or 30 GAL)
Laundry	
Detergent	

OUR “WHY”

“...you helped me feel safe and loved as a stranger, helping me see that it is possible to stand on my own because I am truly never alone. I realized immediately why you call yourself First Step, because you provide refuge for those who don't have the means to find the way to life or even feel they deserve to live...”



“...you guys helped me to understand why I need to keep fighting, and fought with me.”

-Survivor from First Step

Take a picture of what freedom looks like to you

UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact Us

First Step Domestic
Violence Services

1099 Columbus Ave.
Fostoria, OH 44830

419-435-7300

Email:
info@firststepfostoria.org

Website:
www.firststepfostoria.org

In recognition of **Domestic Violence Awareness Month this October**, First Step invites community members to attend a series of events designed to raise awareness, provide resources, and connect with those committed to supporting survivors. Stop by to meet our team and learn more about domestic violence prevention and support services

Wednesday, October 1, 2025 |

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Kaubisch Library

Thursday, October 2, 2025 | Walk A Mile

6:00 p.m.

Heidelberg University Campus

Wednesday, October 8, 2025 |

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tiffin-Seneca Public Library

Saturday, October 18, 2025 |

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Java's Enchanted Bean, Fostoria

Wednesday, October 22, 2025 |

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Birchard Public Library of Sandusky County

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 |

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Upper Sandusky Community Library