



DECEMBER 2020

24 Hr Crisis Line · 1-888-721-4340 · 402-727-7777  
Email: info@bridgefromviolence.com

FREMONT · 141 South Union · 402-721-4340  
BLAIR · 810 N. 22nd Street · 402-533-4411  
WEST POINT · 500 E. Decatur Street · 402-372-2204

## Thank You for Supporting The Bridge in 2020

In the midst of such struggle and uncertainty this year, we are comforted by your support. The impact of the pandemic on all of our services and the community has been huge and wide spread. We are thankful we are turning the corner, but this crisis is far from over for the families we serve. The need continues.

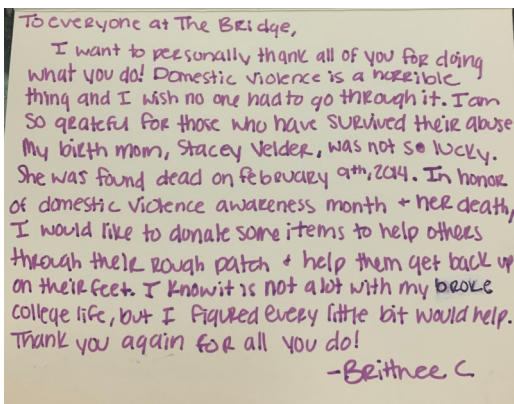
In the last year The Bridge has responded to **3403** calls for help on our 24 hour Crisis Line. **729** individuals with **661** children received direct safety and support services. We had a **26%** increase in new clients and a **30%** increase in the number of victims/survivors of sexual assault served.

Although we had to provide our services a little differently, we remained available 24/7. **77%** of the families sheltered were able to leave shelter and move into permanent housing free from violence. **98%** of our clients surveyed said they felt they had a plan to keep themselves safe after receiving services.

We were grateful to be able to continue to partner with our schools this year. Our Community Prevention/Education Coordinator worked with **5779** individuals through **539** presentations. She was able to work with **119** different classrooms in **12** different schools working with youth throughout the year on violence and bullying, giving the students the tools and information they need to support healthy attitudes and healthy behaviors. This year we especially addressed taking care of ourselves, coping and kindness.

It was a busy and challenging year. We are so thankful for our incredible staff, strong Board of Directors, our 35 volunteers, our community partners and our generous donors. We are proud of the amazing support throughout this community. Together we are making a difference.

**We look forward to 2021 bringing hope for good health and healing. As always, thank you for your support.**



### A Special Thank You

Back in October during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, The Bridge received a very touching donation and thank you note from Brittnee C. Her birth mom had tragically lost her life due to domestic violence in 2014.

She wanted to give back and help others get through their rough times, and her generosity did not go unnoticed. The Bridge and everyone she has helped so far are extremely grateful for her donation.

## Inside This Issue

# Festival of Hope

This year's Festival of Hope was a success. Thank you to everyone who donated and participated in our online silent auction. We couldn't have done it without all the support. We pledge to continue the fight to keep our friends and neighbors safe from violence and to offer hope, strength and support.

**A huge thank you to this year's sponsors—** Methodist Fremont Health, Washington County Bank, Sid Dillon, Pop-n-Doc's Decatur Marina, Wholystone Farms, MCH Health Systems, and Franciscan Healthcare.

**Thank you to all the businesses, and people who donated the items for the auction. It wouldn't have been possible without all of you—** Wheaten Greetin' Room & Groom, Oakland Golf Club, Chatterbox Brews, Bohemian Duck, Fremont Golf Club, Elkhorn Valley Golf Club, Cordes Customs, Z's Bar & Grill, Valley View Golf Course, Pizza Hut, Jason Harnisch, Lauritzen Gardens, Durham Museum, Omaha's Children Museum, Max Design, Kay McGill, Debbie Riley, Dj's Hair Design, Hilltop Country Club, Bare Beauty Hair Salon, Good Friend's Café, It's A Great Day, Kiwanis Builders Club, Sarah & Adam Monke, Mary & Tom Coday, Lincoln Federal Savings Bank, Fremont Area Retired Personnel, Creighton Athletics, Alli's Flower Shoppe, Gladys Wagner, Stacey Lichtenberg, Delta Kappa Gamma Sorority, Masters Hand, Prairie Hearth, Jean Gemar, Fremont Golf Club Ladies Association, Joy Ludvigson, Jayme Bieker, and Fremont Education Association.



## Christmas Adoptions

A huge thank you to our amazing supporters in the community. We were able to have **21 women with 46 kids all get adopted** this Christmas season. We have also received 25 gift bags, as well as a variety of food, clothes, and toys.

The families that are receiving these gifts are extremely grateful. One family shared their gratitude with us.

**“To whomever is adopting families God bless them. This truly is an amazing act of kindness and I couldn't be more appreciative of the help.”**

2020 has been a very challenging year for our community and our families. Thank you for your continued support.

## The Bridge Staff

**Suzanne Smith**, Executive Director

**Jody Bykerk**, Shelter Program Manger

**Stacey Lichtenberg**, Community Education Coordinator

**Jody Koziol**, Washington Outreach Coordinator

**Jennifer Thomason**, Criminal Justice Advocate

**Kylie Kampschneider**, Sexual Assault/Criminal Justice Advocate

**Mattiah Keenan**, Office Outreach Coordinator

## Board of Directors

Kiley Cordes, President  
Jason Harnisch, Past President  
Vickie Cameron, Vice President  
Marcey Darmento, Treasurer  
Kylee Stanley M.D., Secretary  
Alisa Brunsing  
Cindy Hermansen  
Becky Novacek  
Pam Thomsen  
Becky Von Seggern

# Incredible Donations

The following names are of those who donated to The Bridge between the dates of November 23 – December 18 . We regret the accidental omission of any donor. Thank you for your donation and continued support; we could not do it without you!

David & Leatta Millie– In Memory of Tony Zrust	Dr. F. & Carol Waring	LeAnne Gaughen	St. Timothy Evangel Lutheran Church
David & Sheila Monke– In Honor of the Amazing Staff	Duane & Elaine Brand	Lee & Del Meyer	St. Timothy Lutheran Bank
Dr. Earl & Laura Underwood- In Honor of Pastor Jon Ashley & Family	Eldon Thompson	Lenore Peatrowsky	Steve & Julie Navarrette
First Northeast Bank of Nebraska- In Memory of Megan Cameron	Elizabeth & Kevin Hulett	Leroy & Joyce Pendley	Susan & Dirk Allen
Janet & Lawrence Beran– In Memory of Gene Steffensmeier	Emily & Steve Fink	Linda & Lewis Verner	The 5th Season
Joan Hannan- In Honor of Margie Nelson's Birthday	Faith Perry	Lisa Leatherbury	Tracie & Daniel Zahourek
Jon & Jean Katt– In Memory of Megan Cameron	First Congregational Church	Malcom & Margaret Peters	William & Catherine Saeger
Kay McGill– In Memory of Dan McGill & Sherri Bonifas	First State Bank	Marvin & Peggy Iverson	William & Jane Dugan
Kelly Ryan Equipment Company– In Memory of Kelly & Mardelle Ryan	Fremont Altrusa Club	Mary Haskins	Woodcliff Lyons Club
Layne & Jami Hubbell– In Memory of Megan Cameron	Gertrude Hutton	Maxine Turner	
Merlin & Betty Oswald– In Memory of Tessie Jo	Glenn Mueller	Michael & Cindy Coffman	
Nan & Dan Cunningham- In Memory of Sue Rhiley Jensen	Harold & Judith Ruwe	Monty & Lynnette Sellon	
Robert & Joyce Kindschuh– In Memory of Sharon Jacobsen	Harvest Moon	Myron & Jean Andrews	
Sara & Steve Cameron– In Memory of Megan Cameron	Holly Rasmussen	Nancy Pollack	
The Lynn & Jeannine Moeller Family Fund	Jan Jordan	Nick & Cheryl Lamme	
The Thomas & Evelyn McKnight Family Fund	Jane Martin–Hoffman	Pamela Draemel	
Adolph & Rosanne Placek	Janice Havranek	Pamela England	
Alan & Elizabeth Brewer	Janis Brown	Pamela Murphy	
Alecia Limbach	Jean Gemar	Paul & Maren Reppert	
Allen & Janet Pawling	Jeff Lackey	Randall & Ramona Sanders	
Allen & Kathaleen Prosch	Jerry Hodgins	Randy & Darcy Mendlik	
Ann & George Wimmer	Joanne Thietje	Richard & Ruth Brown	
Barbara Bloemker	Jodean Bridges	Robert & Cynthia Parks	
Byron & Bonnie LaMont	Jodi & Jason McLaughlin	Robert & Diane Hillis	
Charles & Eleanor Kubin	John Konecky	Robert & Evla Saalfeld	
Cindi & Mike Brass	Karen Burns	Ronald & Carolyn Kranz	
Cindy Pallas	Kathleen Mueller	Ronald & Judith Sawyer	
Dan & Marilee Braesch	Katie Roberts	Ryan & Christy Fiala	
Darlene Saeger	Kay & Fred Brown	Sandra Cone	
Debra Williamson	Keith Lallman	Sandy Roemer	
Don & Alisa Brunsing	Kenneth & Alice McElhose	Sarah & Adam Monke	
Don & Jan Hinds	Kiwanis	Sherie Ebers	
Don Peterson & Associates	Kristi Storm	St. Johns Ridgeley WELCA	
Donald & Gloria Wegman	Lamond & Rosella Knoell	St. Johns Rigley Church	

## Needs List

Microwavable meals (Mac 'n' Cheese, Ravioli, etc)  
 Individual wrapped snacks  
 Fast Food gift cards  
 Peanut Butter  
 Jelly  
 Granola Bars  
 Copy Paper  
 Laundry Soap  
 Lysol Spray

## CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE STORE?

We have a digital wish list where you can shop straight from your phone or computer. It will ship straight to our office when you order.

Shop our digital wish list at:

[https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/ls/28TCUE15T9I19/?ref=smi\\_ext\\_lnk\\_lcl\\_cl](https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/ls/28TCUE15T9I19/?ref=smi_ext_lnk_lcl_cl)



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to see what else we're up to!



Find us online @  
[www.BridgeFromViolence.com](http://www.BridgeFromViolence.com)

### **The Bridge Services**

24-Hr Crisis Line: 1-888-721-4340 or 1-402-727-7777, Crisis Intervention, Emergency/Temporary Shelter, Support Groups for Women and Children, Medical and Legal Referrals, Criminal Justice Advocacy, Public Education and Awareness.

**Victim services are free, confidential, and available in Spanish.**

### **Women's Support Group**

**Fremont** - Women's Support Group in English will be starting back up on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. It will be a virtual support group.

Women's Support Group in Spanish, and Children's Rainbow Days Group are still currently not active.

## Volunteer at The Bridge

The volunteer rate remained steady as over 77 million Americans volunteered hours last year. Those who volunteer enrich our community and keep our nation strong. Volunteering goes beyond helping other people. Studies have shown that the volunteers themselves benefit, whether through increased job prospects, better health, or even better overall well-being. Nebraska rates 7th highest in volunteer rate, with 34.6% of Nebraskans volunteering their time.

**We respond to nearly 4,000 crisis calls each year. If you or someone you know would like to get more involved with The Bridge, please encourage them to contact us (402-721-4340 or email: [info@bridgefromviolence.com](mailto:info@bridgefromviolence.com)) to learn more about volunteer opportunities.**

### **LEAVING A LEGACY**

A thoughtful planned gift can become a beautiful legacy you leave to The Bridge and to the victims of abuse who come through our doors for years to come. Bequests, Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Remainder Trusts and Charitable Lead Trusts are a few of the many avenues you may consider for continual support. An attorney can help you decide which option best fits your personal needs and financial circumstances.

Funded in part by:

