

Comfort

A friend referred me to Lifestages at Good Samaritan and suggested that I see a midwife. Even though I live about 30 minutes south of Good Sam – and closer to several other hospitals – I decided to give Lifestages a try.

From the minute I walked in the door, everyone greeted me as if they'd known me all my life. I wanted to see a health care provider who would listen to me, educate me and be in tune with me as a person. That's what a midwife does. Whenever I see her, I feel like I am the only patient she has that day. If I need any lab tests or imaging, everything is right there in the office or the hospital.

My husband and I hope to start a family soon. I feel comfortable bringing up my concerns to my midwife. Coming to Lifestages to see her is actually a pleasant experience. How many people can say that about getting their OB/GYN care!
Michelle Stark
Springboro, Ohio



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Time

After more than 15 years as the patient of a Lifestages midwife, I can't imagine going anywhere else. My midwife helped me give birth to my third child. It was like having my baby's favorite aunt or godmother in the room at my side. When the baby's heart rate dropped a bit, my midwife immediately consulted the Lifestages physician on call in the hospital. Everyone was ready to change gears to a C-section. Fortunately, it wasn't necessary.

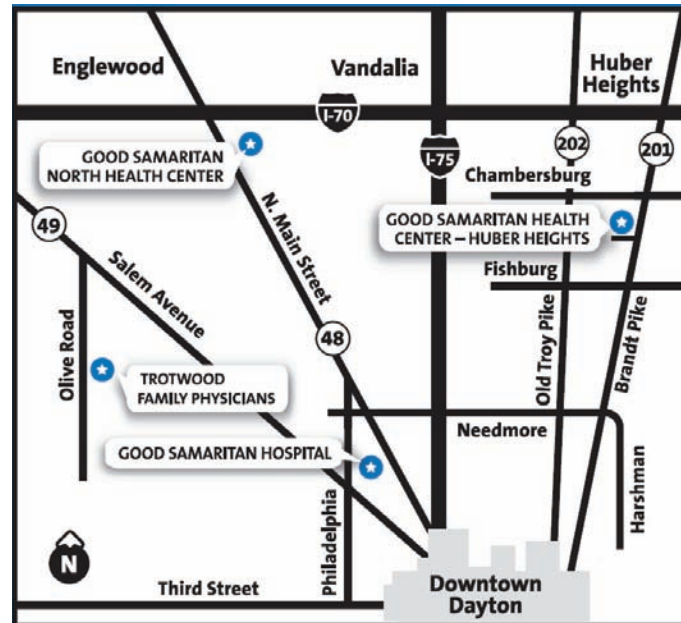
And it looks like Lifestages is becoming a tradition in our family. Last year, my older daughter gave birth to a baby boy. She, too, was assisted by a Lifestages midwife. Both my daughter and I also see our midwives for basic medical care. I think the Lifestages doctors are great, but going to a midwife has a sisterly feel. My midwife gives me all the time I need, and I am comfortable talking with her about things that would be difficult to share with a doctor.

I often recommend Lifestages to other women for lots of reasons – one of them being the breadth and quality of care provided by Lifestages midwives. I am confident I will still be seeing my midwife long after the "baby years."
—LaDonna Turpin
Trotwood, Ohio

My midwife gives me all the time I need.



www.lifestagescenters.com
937-277-8988 or toll-free 888-808-1016



Dayton Center
2200 Philadelphia Dr Ste 101
Dayton, OH 45406

Englewood Center
9000 North Main St Ste 232
Dayton, OH 45415

Huber Heights Center
6251 Good Samaritan Way
Ste 130
Huber Heights, OH 45424

Trotwood Satellite
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Good Samaritan Hospital
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Do You Know What a Midwife Does?

Asked this question, most people reply, "Sure, I know. A midwife helps women give birth." And while this response is accurate, it's far from complete.

While midwifery is traditionally associated with care during pregnancy and birth, Lifestages certified nurse midwives, like our physicians, also offer routine care for women throughout their lifetime – from young adulthood to menopause and beyond. We also provide education, counseling and support to meet our patients' physical and emotional needs and enhance their overall well being.

We believe that a woman's choice to see a midwife is a very personal decision based on shared values. Midwives guide the birthing experience while empowering women to develop their own birthing plan and make their own decisions along the way in critical areas such as pain management.

Many women choose to receive gynecologic care from their midwife after delivery because of the close relationship established during the birthing process. Some patients, however, begin seeing a midwife long before they become pregnant, and others begin after their childbearing years. Because of our time-intensive approach to overall care, these women can also develop a close and supportive relationship with their Lifestages midwife.

Defining Professional Practice

All Lifestages midwives are advance practice registered nurses with a master's degree. They have completed an accredited midwifery program and have been certified by the American College of Nurse-Midwives. This certification must be renewed every two years.

Although Lifestages midwives may ask a physician to step in when they feel it is necessary, patients are never "turned over" to another health care provider. Lifestages midwives continue their relationship with the patient, even when another caregiver is involved for consultation or treatment.

You Can See a Lifestages Midwife for . . .

Annual exams
Routine care
Family planning
Prenatal care
Delivery & postnatal care
Midlife care



Lifestages Midwives, left to right: Pamela M. Madden, CNM, MS; Kimberly J. Breneman, CNM, MSN; Susan L. Kloth, CNM, MS and Jalana Lazar, RN, CNM, WHNP, MPH

Meet the Lifestages Midwives

Midwives have played an important role at Lifestages since its inception more than a decade ago. Over that time, our certified nurse midwives have established themselves as key members of the medical team and have raised the professional profile of midwifery among patients, physicians and other nurses.

Lifestages midwives have also raised the bar on practice standards in the community. For example, Lifestages midwives are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a **week**.

Time and time again, patients tell us that their close and trusting relationship with a Lifestages midwife has given them a new perspective on what women's health care can and should be. Working with a midwife has helped them reach deep and discover what is truly important to them.

When you seek care from a Lifestages midwife – whether for pregnancy or general care – we promise you:

- Time to express what is important to you – and be heard
- Trust in your wisdom and power to make personal health care decisions
- Comfort in a supportive relationship with a health care provider whose only focus is you.

Good Samaritan Hospital's Family Birthing Center

At Good Samaritan's Family Birthing Center, physicians, nurses and midwives work as a team – each contributing expertise and experience that combine to create excellence in patient care.

The center's labor rooms are large and comfortable; some feature whirlpool tubs. Highly trained physicians and nurses work in the Special Care Nursery, an intensive care unit for babies with challenging health needs.



Trust

I felt comfortable the very first time I came to Lifestages at age 18 – nine years ago. I began to see a midwife right away for my general medical needs. She took the time to really get to know me. By the time I became pregnant with my first child, I was living about two hours away. With my second child, I was even farther away. But both times, I still came to Lifestages at Good Samaritan Hospital.

I have a close relationship with my midwife. Most important, I trust her. I have gotten to know the Lifestages staff, too, and I appreciate that they remember me as more than a patient – they remember me as a person.

Every woman knows that giving birth is a deeply personal experience. My midwife helps me do it the way I want to. She understands and is right there in the moment with me. If there are complications, I know that a physician and Good Sam's advanced technology are close by.

I don't care if I am living in Alaska, if I have another child, I will come back to my midwife at Lifestages and to Good Samaritan Hospital.

Brittany Otto
Zanesville, Ohio

Every woman knows that giving birth is a deeply personal experience.

