



## Member's Corner: Featuring Emily Yanish

*The Member's Corner was created for you to become acquainted with a fellow member of the Women's Network. Say "hello" to this issue's featured member...Emily Yanish*

I first became aware of the North Dakota Women's Network by becoming involved with North Dakotans Against Measure 1 in 2014. I attended the rally at the Capitol, and listened to the speakers bravely share their stories and viewpoints. My story had striking similarities with one of the speakers. While I had always been pro-choice, my own experience of a high-risk pregnancy and resulting loss of our twin boys further enlightened me regarding the extremely personal nature of such a choice. Following the rally at the Capitol, I was very motivated to connect with local women who were pushing for women's rights in our very conservative state. As a part of that effort, I pushed myself out of my comfort zone by contacting my representatives, clip boarding at local events, phone banking, and rallying around this issue. I was happy to witness the defeat of Measure 1 and to join NDWN.

I am passionate about assisting with the coordination of the Women's March on Bismarck, a sister march to the March on Washington DC. It was exciting to be a small part of such a significant worldwide movement! Women contribute so very much to our society, and I was thrilled to see women from all corners of the country and around the world take a stand and demand that our voices be heard on all levels of government. This movement is about insisting upon respect, decency, and equal rights for us all. As a mother of two small children, I hope we can begin to bring forward a more civil and respectful discourse to solve the significant issues our country faces so that our children can have a brighter future.

I am looking forward to joining more events offered by the NDWN, as I become increasingly interested in our local politics. When we raise our voices, we really can make a difference!