ANNUAL HOPE REPORT

2023

A YEAR OF BRINGING
HOPE, FREEDOM, & A FUTURE FREE OF
VICTIMIZATION TO TRAFFICKING
SURVIVORS

SAFE HOUSE
PROJECT

SAFE HOUSE
PROJECT

UNITING COMMUNITIES
ERADICATING TRAFFICKING

Welcome to our Annual Hope Report, a showcase of our achievements, progress, and commitment to excellence throughout the year.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-FOUNDERS	03
THE SAFE HOUSE PROJECT TEAM	04
MILESTONES & ACHIEVEMENTS	05
INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS	08
SURVIVOR EMPOWERMENT	10
SAFE HOUSE DEVELOPMENT	12
TRAFFICKING SURVIVOR EQUITY COALITION	14
FUTURE OUTLOOK	15
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE	16
STRATEGIC GROWTH	17
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	18
EVENTS	19

LEADING WITH VISION
CULTIVATING EXCELLENCE

Dear Friends of Safe House Project,

Trafficking is a scourge in our nation. In 2017, Health & Human Services estimated that 300K American kids are trafficked every year and that this evil was going unchecked, with only 1% identified. Of the few who are identified, 80% were revictimized without access to a safe place to heal.

Today, Safe House Project is leading a national offensive approach. We are refusing to settle for freedom for some, justice for a few, and penalties for a fraction of traffickers. We believe everyone deserves to find hope, freedom, and a future free of victimization.

In 2023, we made substantial strides in increasing survivor identification rates. Through new and continued collaborative partnerships with law enforcement agencies, NGOs, and community organizations, we equip frontline workers, educators, healthcare professionals, and businesses with the tools they need to recognize and report trafficking.

As a result, we have served 534 survivors in 2023, a 345% increase in requests to our Survivor Support team. That's 534 survivors who have reclaimed their lives and are now journeying in freedom toward their dreams. These survivors found refuge in safe houses that we have supported as they increased capacity or decreased barriers to care. Over the past five years, your support has helped launch 478 beds in safe house programs to provide holistic care, providing 174K safe nights annually.

To drive sustainability, we have worked to advance the state and federal response to trafficking through policy. Spearheading a national effort through the Trafficking Survivor Equity Coalition, we saw Congress pass the Trafficking Victim Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022.

Trafficking remains an ever-adapting enemy, and we have an ever-growing belief that we can push back the darkness with light and eradicate child sex trafficking in America. Our audacious belief is not unfounded. It is rooted in the power of unity, compassion, and collective action. Great movements begin with someone believing in the impossible.

The eradication of slavery in America ended with the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation. Still, it started because of people like Charles Adam, a publisher who changed the hearts and minds of the nation with his publications. Richard Allen, a former slave and pastor, elevated the idea that people of all skin colors had dignity, value, and worth as human beings, not as commodities. Levi Coffin used his fortune and status as a covering to help thousands of slaves escape. Lydia Maria Child, a school teacher and author, used her magazine to call for the freedom of slaves. Harriet Tubman found freedom and risked everything to help others. School teachers, pastors, business leaders, survivors, and social influencers dared to push back the darkness to see change for a nation.

Today, we stand in their legacy, recognizing that we can solve complex issues through the power of the collective and the courage of everyone. While we celebrate the progress made in 2023, we realize that the road ahead is long and challenging. As we look ahead to 2030, our commitment to eradicating child sex trafficking remains steadfast. In the coming year, we will expand our survivor support programs, invest in technology to enhance survivor identification, and strengthen our partnerships. Thank you for living courageously and being part of the collective action to end child trafficking.



KRISTI WELLS & BRITTANY DUNN
CO-FOUNDERS

EMPOWERING LEADERS
FOSTERING INNOVATION

KRISTI WELLS
CEO & Co-Founder

BRITTANY DUNN
COO & Co-Founder

KATHLEEN ARNOLD
Senior Director of Programs

BILL WOOLF
Policy Director

LORA TRENT
Survivor Support Services

ALIA DEWEES
Director of Aftercare

ELIZABETH FIELDS
Marketing Communications Coordinator

REBECCA STROBEL
Research & Development Manager

KELLY COX
Survivor Support Specialist

LATIANA APPLEBERRY
Program Coordinator

SARAH BETH EVANS
Training & Certification Specialist

CHRIS HARGIS
Strategic Partnerships

AMBER LOVE
Partnership Coordinator

KARI WOOD
Bookkeeper

SARAH MARTIN
Emergency & Survivor Support Coordinator

KIANA COLLINS
Survivor Support Intern

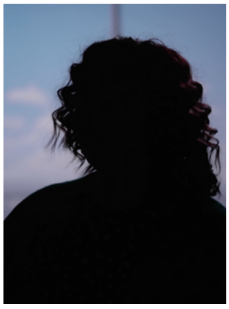

















Meet our dedicated team, whose shared determination, diverse talents, and collaborative spirit are shaping a future defined by unity and success.

HOPE, FREEDOM, FUTURE
UNITING TO ERADICATE



Celebrate our most significant milestones and achievements of 2023, which demonstrate our unwavering commitment to building a world where every survivor is able to heal in safety and find lasting freedom.

CELEBRATING BREAKTHROUGHS
INSPIRING PROGRESS



"Throughout the year, the dedicated SHP team has tirelessly worked to empower communities with the knowledge required to discern the subtle signs of trafficking. This resulted in a remarkable 345% year-over-year surge in identifying and supporting survivors on their journey to freedom. Simultaneously, through strategic allocation of funds and national expansion of safe house certification, we've increased the number of places each survivor can access for hope and the highest quality healing in safe homes. I am proud of the SHP team who acts as a catalyst for transformation, translating awareness into impactful action that advances the national response to trafficking."

KRISTI WELLS
CEO & Co-Founder

2017
Founded Safe House Project in December 2017

300K
People trained to increase the identification rate beyond one percent

788
Survivors served through emergency support services

478
New beds available for survivors to heal in safe house programs across the United States

174K
Safe nights provided every year to survivors exiting trafficking

16.7K
Mentorship hours invested into anti-trafficking industry partners

SURVIVOR IDENTIFICATION
MOVING BEYOND ONE PERCENT

Safe House Project has trained over 300K people across all 50 United States to increase survivor identification. Industry-specific training for essential workers like healthcare professionals, educators, law enforcement, and in-home service providers, as well as general training for the public, empowers people to spot, report, and prevent trafficking in their daily lives.

347

Pregnancy help organizations trained to identify and support pregnant survivors.

9.8K

College freshmen trained to identify and report suspected trafficking.

31K

Healthcare providers trained to identify, report, and resource survivors of trafficking through our HOPE Human Trafficking Training.

477

Law enforcement officers, firefighters, and EMTs were trained on victim-centered approaches to identifying and supporting survivors



In the battle against sex trafficking, identification training shines as a beacon of hope. Empowering communities across the nation to recognize and report signs of exploitation is not a token project; it is a catalyst for change that brings light to the shadows and illuminates a path toward freedom, hope, and future for every survivor.

5.5K

People trained at live training events for corporations, community stakeholders, and advocates.

2

Gathered in D.C. for our 2nd Freedom Requires Action event at the United States Capitol with partners from around the U.S.

2023 TRAINING PARTNERS
EQUIP & EMPOWER PEOPLE









NIGEL "LEGIN" ANDERSON, CHRISTIAN HIP HOP ARTIST
PASTOR ARTHUR MACE, SPRING BRANCH COMMUNITY CHURCH
PASTOR JENNI WONG CLAYVILLE, NATIONAL COMMUNITY CHURCH
DANA CHE WILLIAMS, THRIVE RELATIONSHIPS
JOHN NAPIER, ESQ.
SAMMY HIGGS, HER CAMPAIGN
BRITNEY HIGGS, HER CAMPAIGN

Our newest curriculum, God's Heart to Eradicate Trafficking, mobilizes faith communities to be part of the solution to eradicate trafficking.

"We pray for the lost, the broken, the hurt, and those trapped in a mindset that tells them they are not worthy. We pray for freedom for those who are still being trafficked. We pray repentance for those who sell and abuse others. We pray conviction for those who purchase others for personal satisfaction. We pray for healing over all mental health challenges, sickness, and disease. We pray for Your power over suicide, addiction, death, and destruction. We pray over Your love over shame, guilt, and hopelessness. We pray over our children, our families, and our community."

PRODUCED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH AND AVAILABLE ON

rightnow MEDIA



I work for a resource agency that helps victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking. I, like many other people, thought human trafficking was what I saw in the movie "Taken." As an advocate, I am now better trained to assist survivors after taking OnWatch. I am also better equipped to help my community understand what human trafficking is and that it exists right here at home.

JOY D. INGRAM
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, NEW DIRECTIONS CENTER



It has been a true privilege to participate in the "God's Heart to Eradicate Trafficking" Project with Safe House Project. This project makes information and resources more accessible to the person who is just beginning their journey to join the hard work of ending human trafficking. What an incredible opportunity to help bring more awareness to the parts we can play in fighting against injustice for those who are not free yet.

JENNI WONG CLAYVILLE
NATIONAL COMMUNITY CHURCH

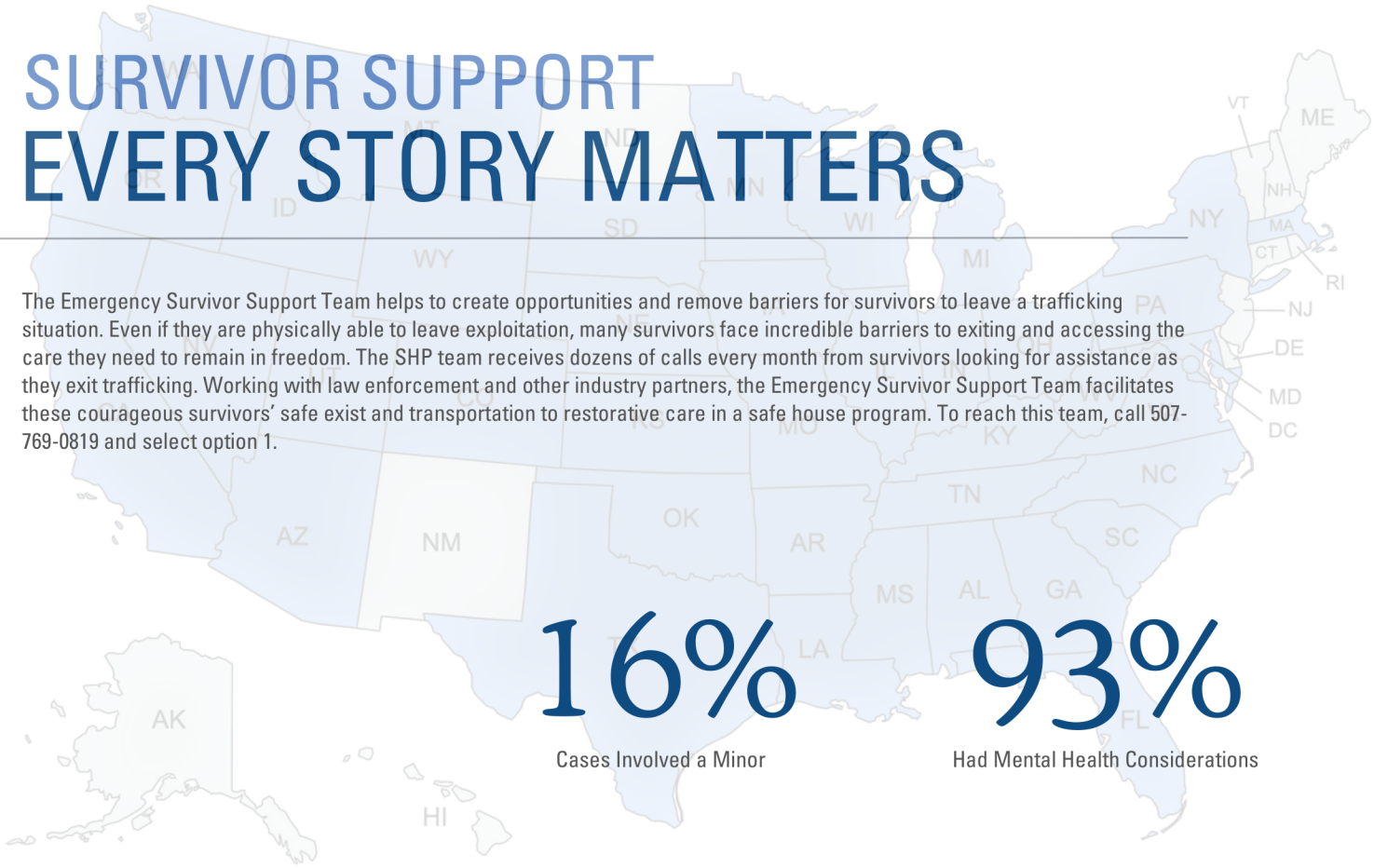


Nurses and doctors suffer from a constant barrage of moral dilemmas. While many don't have easy solutions, the issue of not knowing what to do when caring for a potential victim of human trafficking does. The Safe House Project's H.O.P.E. Human Trafficking training for healthcare professionals is an in-depth, practical training that is desperately needed in hospitals all over the US.

VICTORIA WIGGIN
CRITICAL CARE REGISTERED NURSE, SENTARA HEALTHCARE

SURVIVOR SUPPORT
EVERY STORY MATTERS

The Emergency Survivor Support Team helps to create opportunities and remove barriers for survivors to leave a trafficking situation. Even if they are physically able to leave exploitation, many survivors face incredible barriers to exiting and accessing the care they need to remain in freedom. The SHP team receives dozens of calls every month from survivors looking for assistance as they exit trafficking. Working with law enforcement and other industry partners, the Emergency Survivor Support Team facilitates these courageous survivors' safe exist and transportation to restorative care in a safe house program. To reach this team, call 507-769-0819 and select option 1.



16%
Cases Involved a Minor

93%
Had Mental Health Considerations

534
survivors provided emergency support services in 2023

45
Survivors from 45 states, plus the District of Columbia, have received support services

The primary goal of SHP's Emergency Survivor Support Program is to serve every survivor of sex trafficking with excellence and urgency, understanding that opportunities to find help in exiting can be few and far between. We hope to be a lifeline for survivors, empowering them to reclaim control, rebuild their lives, and find lasting hope and freedom.

66%
of survivors need an urgent placement into a safe house program

4,056
Case management hours spent advocating for placement and care.



Ironically, the ads marketing Maya for sale actually led to her recovery. An undercover police officer found the ads, recognized Maya as far too young to be selling sex, and found her going in and out of rooms at a cheap motel. While it took a while for Maya to understand that her boyfriend was really her trafficker, she now lives in a restorative care program that is helping her rediscover who she is and how she deserves to be treated. She's come a long way from the motel where the police first found her and referred her to the Safe House Project team, and she has finally begun to hope for a better future, one free from exploitation.

SURVIVOR STORY
NAME CHANGED FOR PRIVACY



Ana knew that she needed a lot of help managing her disabilities and that her grandmother wasn't up to the task. She started looking for connection in all the wrong places, staying out for days at a time with older men. They gave her money if she promised not to tell about the men who visited her. She kept their secrets until community members reported seeing a young girl with older men in parks at night. The police contacted the Safe House Project team for help, but finding a safe house able to care for Ana's disabilities was a challenge. After months of waiting, Ana is safely living in a program and receiving the help she needed all along.

SURVIVOR STORY
NAME CHANGED FOR PRIVACY



Safe House Project accelerated our team's ability to find successful placements for patients experiencing trafficking. This organization identifies strong programs with unique attributes and great track records across the nation allowing us to increase access to care. We are very grateful for the difference this partnership made for the patients we serve.

STACY REYNOLDS
MEDICAL DIRECTOR, ATRIUM HEALTH HUMAN TRAFFICKING ADVOCACY TEAM

2023 MEMBERS OF THE CERTIFICATION REVIEW BOARD










"I'm proud of the effectiveness of the Certification Review Board. The Safe House Project has brought together a great team that ensures safe houses are not only secure but also highly effective. I especially admire the critical task of overseeing financial stewardship, which is fundamental to the smooth operation of these safe houses and crucial for the well-being of their residents." - Tawfik

ANDREA HIPWELL
CAROLYN POTTER
KED FRANK
MIRIAM ELIZABETH BOWMAN, PHD, LICSW, LCSW-C
TAWFIK JARJOUR
ASHLEY HODGES, PHD, WHNP-BC, FAANP
MARY FRANCES BOWLEY
DR. MARLENE CARSON

SAFE HOUSE DEVELOPMENT
PATHWAYS TO FREEDOM

The anti-trafficking movement in the United States is at a pivotal moment. As the identification rates for trafficking victims rise across the country because of training and awareness initiatives, more survivors are seeking freedom and healing each year. With this growth, the need for high-quality safe house programs able to care for the complex needs of these survivors is growing as well. Safe House Project addresses the gaps in the continuum of care for trafficking survivors through capacity building efforts and certification programs which work in tandem to ensure that every identified survivor has access to placement in a program able to support their healing journey with excellence.

38

Programs have gone through Safe House Certification

12

Programs are in the process of going through Certification



"SHP certification has immense benefits for REHOPE both internally and externally. As a staff, we know we will be informed and kept up to date with the national trends and best practices in the anti-trafficking movement, and we look forward to training and education from SHP on how to best adjust and respond to those trends. SHP certification gives our donors and supporters the confidence that REHOPE's program is effective and meets the highest standards for long-term, therapeutic recovery."

JASON ALVIS
REHOPE

479

Beds have been launched in safe house programs across the U.S.

174K

Safe nights annually provided to survivors of trafficking

26

Webinars hosted by the Safe House Project team to cultivate collaborative learning in the field.

1.5K

Average monthly viewers for our Safe House Support and Freedom Requires Action webinar series

2023 MEMBERS
TRAFFICKING SURVIVOR EQUITY COALITION

The Trafficking Survivor Equity Coalition (TSEC) brings survivor-informed and anti-trafficking-field-informed policy recommendations to educate lawmakers on how to effectively prevent trafficking, protect trafficking survivors through equitable and inclusive services, and prosecute traffickers through effective legislation. TSEC supports a holistic approach to serving human trafficking survivors and elevating lived experience experts in the United States.

This year the Trafficking Survivor Equity Coalition continued its extraordinary efforts to equip lawmakers to combat trafficking through policy. As a result of their tremendous advocacy, the President signed the Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022 in January. This legislation authorizes more than $1 Billion in funding to mobilize America's domestic and international initiates to prevent trafficking, prosecute traffickers and buyers and protect victims.

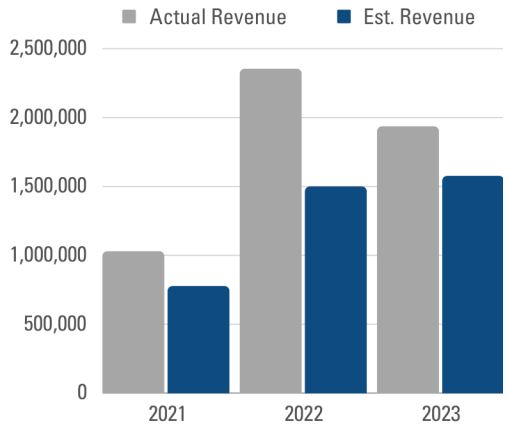
STEWARDING RESOURCES EMBRACING OPPORTUNITIES



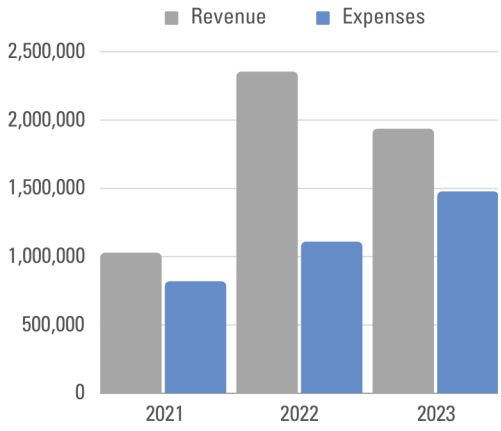
Explore our plans for the future, fueled by our steadfast commitment to creating change based on strategic growth, transformative programming, and tangible impact for survivors of trafficking.

YEAR-OVER-YEAR FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

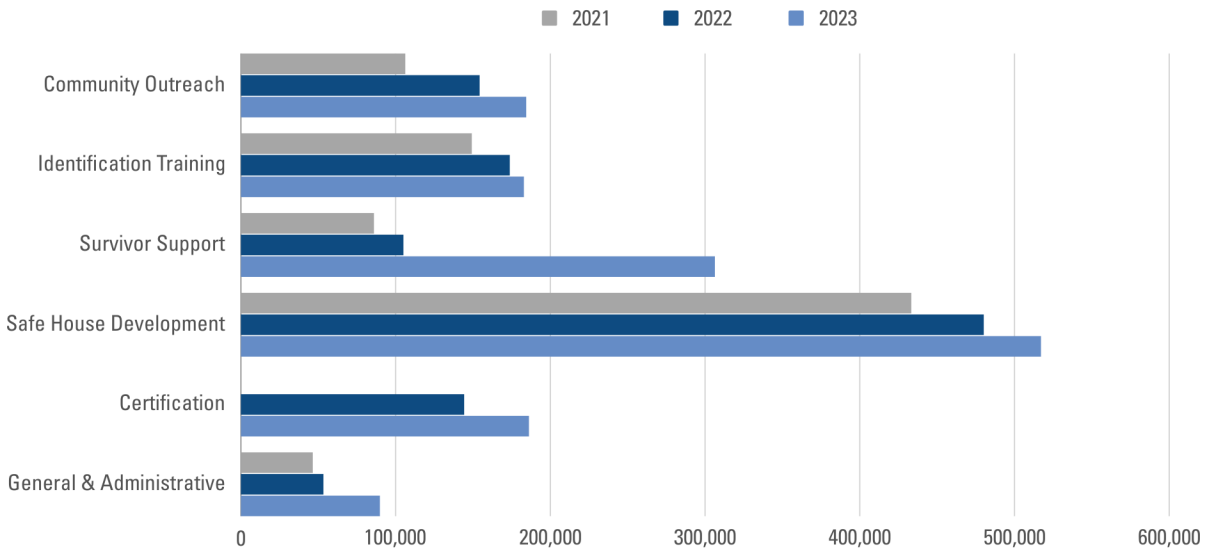
YEAR-OVER-YEAR REVENUE COMPARISON



YEAR-OVER-YEAR REVENUE VERSES EXPENSES



YEAR-OVER-YEAR EXPENSES BREAKDOWN



FUNDING THE FUTURE
STRATEGIC GROWTH & IMPACT

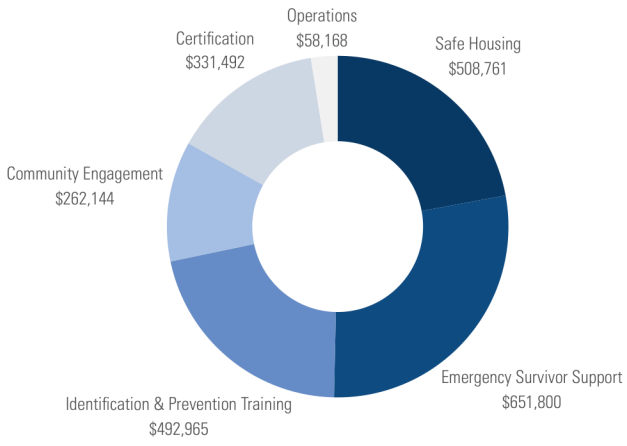
Each year, Safe House Project continues to push the boundaries of possibility, galvanizing communities and driving impact that changes the course of history. Doing this requires integrity, innovation, collaboration, hope, and stewardship.

Our goals and projections for 2024 are guided by the compass of these values:

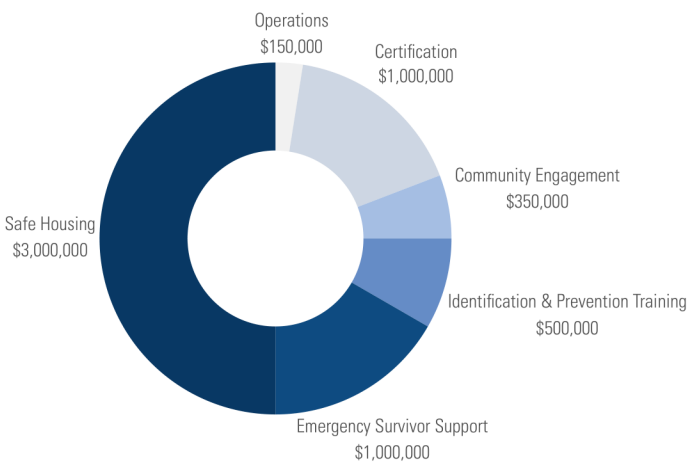
- Serve 1,000 survivors in their exit from a trafficking situation and placement in a restorative safe house program.
- Increase the national capacity of safe house programs by an additional 100 beds.
- Certify 50 safe house programs across the United States.
- Provide mentorship for certified safe house programs to elevate the quality of care to meet the highest level of standards.
- Partner with lawmakers to introduce and advance comprehensive human trafficking legislation in 3 states.
- Advance the deployment of all SHP training solutions to see 50,000 people trained to identify and respond to trafficking.

Our 2024-2026 plan will grow our annual operating budget to $6 million in 2026.

2024 BUDGET | $2,305,329



2026 BUDGET | $6,000,000



SAFE HOUSE PROJECT
2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Where God guides, God provides.

Miracles happen in the mud and the mess. We see the beauty amidst the ashes when we witness the transformative healing of survivors and communities affected by exploitation. It is an honor and privilege for SHP to play a critical role in helping survivors to thrive. Thank you to every person and partner committed to our audacious vision and mission.

RAEANN HANCOCK
BOARD CHAIR
VICE PRESIDENT OF HEALTHCARE CONSULTING FOR NTT DATA SERVICES

JOEL ENGLISH
VICE BOARD CHAIR
VICE PRESIDENT OF CENTURA COLLEGE

ALLISON BOLLINGER, MD, FAAEM
VICE PRESIDENT OF EMERGENCY & URGENT CARE SERVICES AT ASCENSION

KENNETH WALKER
FORMER CHAIRMAN & CEO OF DRIVEN BRANDS, PAST CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION

DARIN ELY
BOARD TREASURER
PRESIDENT OF VIRGINIA ASSET GROUP

SCOTT HASENBALG
EXECUTIVE, LEADER, & SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR

NIGEL ANDERSON
SAFE HOUSE PROJECT CO-FOUNDER
HIP HOP ARTIST

SARAH NAVARRE
THE MARTIN NAVARRE WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP OF WELLS FARGO ADVISORS

JOHN-ALLEN WALDROP
BOARD SECRETARY
FOUNDER OF WALDROP & COLVIN

KRISTI WELLS
CEO & CO-FOUNDER OF SAFE HOUSE PROJECT

DERIK TIMMERMAN
SPARROW NONPROFIT SOLUTIONS

VICKIE WALKER
ANGEL INVESTOR



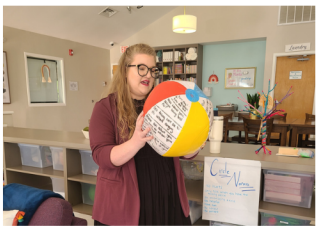

SUMMER
HOMIES









SAFE HOUSE
PROJECT


SAFE HOUSE
PROJECT



What can we do?
1. Online training at www.lamonwatch.org
2. Get Involved with Safe House Project.
3. Build Awareness and Be Alert.
4. Volunteer.
5. Hire a survivor.
6. Bible Study on Right Now Media "God's Heart to Eradicate Human Trafficking".



SAFE HOUSE
PROJECT

www.safehouseproject.org

507-769-0819

info@safehouseproject.org

Charitable ID: 82-3487081

1340 North Great Neck Road
Suite 1272-162
Virginia Beach, VA 23454