

“I was going through depression, but through HOPE ACADEMY, I began reading my Bible and getting close to God. I feel amazing! GOD IS REAL AND NOT A JOKE!”

-Angelina



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He is

STRONG



HEART OF HOPE
A SANCTUARY FOR WOMEN
Annual Report 2023

A Note from the Executive Director

My Dear Friends,

As I reflect on 2023, I can't help but be grateful that God knows the end from the beginning. God has shown me if we will walk with our hands open, those unexpected events that catch us off guard may easily come but also are easily released...to Him. With unclenched hands, we are positioned before the Lord, indicating to Him, "These things are not mine to carry. You said Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light. So, here You go, Lord. Thank you for being already here, with answers and a way forward."

Such a thing happened this year. Our housemom, Leah, experienced an unexpected event in her health. After two surgeries in one week, Leah courageously accepted the temporary inconveniences that were necessary for her ultimate recovery surgery this past October. Without compromising confidentiality, suffice to say, no one would sign up for what she had to endure. This unexpected event, while traumatic and a shock to Leah and Tony, **did not catch God unaware!**

We were witnesses of God's goodness to Leah and Tony. As world missionaries, rather than being in a third world country, God safely planted Tony and Leah here, a sanctuary where God's peace is present and physical needs met. In God's wisdom, and with the support of our board and staff, Leah and Tony were surrounded by lovers of God whose ministry is to care for those who are in "unexpected" situations. Thank you!

It is a comfort knowing God knows the end from the beginning and He knows what we need before we do! Oh, what a good, good Father.

While we cared for our house family, we expanded and strengthened our non-residential program, Hope Academy. This year, we served 5 young women, all expecting their babies in October – February. We saw three babies born, and graduated these moms after witnessing their growth emotionally, physically, and spiritually. They learned important newborn care, mom/baby bonding, parenting skills, and participated in devotions and learning God's Word with scripture memorization. Because they met regularly at Heart of Hope with our Care Managers, Joy and Jenny, and staff, they formed bonds with one another and continue to support each other to this day. Thank you!

Also, this year, we expanded our Transitional Living Program in our Koinonia Cottages. We now have **TWO** cottages, enabling us to serve 3 additional families! Our first cottage was renovated in 2016 and is now

serving our 6th mom/child. Jordane and Braylin will successfully transition into independent living this summer. Koinonia Cottage II renovation is completed, furnished, and waiting for the septic system to be installed at the printing of this update. One of our Hope Academy moms/babies will be Koinonia Cottage II's first residents. With our three homes, we can care for 14 lives at any given time. Thank you!

This year has been a year of collaboration! We started meeting with nonprofit ministries who are serving in the prolife ministry as well as housing ministries. Kim Banks, the North LA Right to Life Director, invited the Executive Directors of pregnancy centers in Shreveport and Minden and House of Grace to meet monthly to share challenges, updates on events, trends, and to pray together. In addition, Christie, founder of Faith and Fostering, initiated quarterly meetings with other housing ministries who serve young women. Our goal in meeting is similarly expressed above. In 2023, during our lack of capacity to serve in the maternity home program, House of Hope answered the residential need of a young pregnant woman. Amy, the founder, met this precious young woman in the hospital and moved her into their ministry home immediately, where Miss D and her baby girl are still residents. "It takes a village" has never been truer, and God has shown us in so many ways, we are better together. Thank you!

We begin this new year with such thankfulness in our heart. We are thankful for Leah's continued healing, our community who answered the call to serve when it was not convenient, our board of directors who leads from God's presence and not with their own understanding, and each of you who support and trust God's ministry through Heart of Hope with resources to expand our residential programs. We especially are thankful for the young women and families God will call us to love and whom will call Heart of Hope Home in 2024.

With Open Hands,

Jodi

Jodi Burns, Executive Director



The LORD is my STRENGTH and SHIELD.
I trust him with all my heart. HE HELPS ME,
and MY HEART IS FILLED with joy.
I burst out in songs of THANKSGIVING.

PSALM 28:7



Moms & Children Services

ALL FREE OF CHARGE

- Koinonia Cottage I – 1 mom/child
- Koinonia Cottage II – Opened January 2024 – 1 mom/infant
- Hope Academy – 6 Young Women, 3 babies provided with pregnancy and parenting education, HiSET enrollment, prayer support, devotions, online and face-to-face community support
- Provided 730 nights of care
- Provided 1087 hours of Life Skill classes, counseling, coaching, self-care, adoption, parenting, family healing, newborn care, anger management, healthy relationships, breastfeeding, nutrition, mentorship, and more

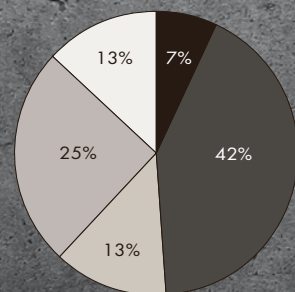
Community Volunteers

- Individual Volunteer Hours – 615
- Groups/Churches – 530

What would your YES look like?

- Be a Church Liaison – Be the connect person for us when there are involvement opportunities
- Be a Business Partner – Do you have entry level employment opportunities for our adult moms?
- Transportation – Assist our adult moms for their scheduled transportation needs.
- Book us – Invite us to share with your Church, SS class or community group
- House Support – We are hiring! Contact Jodi Burns at jodib@heartofhopeministry.com for more information.

2023 Finances



- Public Support
- Monthly Support
- Church Support
- Fundraising – NET
- Foundations

Income \$540,800

Expenses \$445,000



A Member since 2013, Heart of Hope upholds ECFA's Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship™ – Doctrinal Issues, Governance, Financial Oversight, Use of Resources and Compliance with Laws, Transparency, Compensation-Setting and Related-Party Transactions, and Stewardship of Charitable Gifts

