

2021 IMPACT REPORT

Ending Abuse. Changing Lives.

Hopeful  Horizons

Hope

Message from the CEO

Ending Abuse, Changing Lives

When CODA and Hope Haven merged on January 1, 2017, we were filled with optimism about what we could achieve together. We aspired to provide more holistic services for families impacted by violence and abuse, to amplify our voice in support of survivors and to enhance awareness and prevention efforts. Five years in, global pandemic notwithstanding, we have had much success bringing these aspirations to fruition.

In 2021 alone, we assisted 1,232 local survivors of child abuse, domestic violence and/or sexual assault to find hope and healing. Additionally, we provided education and training to nearly 2,000 youth, community members and professionals regarding identifying, responding to and preventing violence and abuse.

This report is just a glimpse of what our amazing team of dedicated staff and volunteers accomplished and the many ways in which our clients moved toward healing. Even though our job is far from easy – our clients have the harder job. It takes so much courage to reach out for help and so much strength to move forward. Hopeful Horizons' staff have shared these sentiments that speak to their belief in and commitment to supporting survivors:

"I am grateful to be her advocate."

"I'm honored to be trusted by callers who are taking positive steps into a new part of their lives. No matter how many times one person calls, I'm always proud of their bravery."

"Helping victims of domestic violence realize their value, self-worth and gain their independence back is the most rewarding part of my job. When a survivor of abuse understands that they and their children deserve to be happy, they are empowered for the rest of their lives and they can achieve all of their goals."

Five years in, we have so much to be proud of – and so much to be thankful for. In the midst of this pandemic, we still look for hope on the horizon... for the organization, for our staff, for our volunteers, for our donors and, most importantly, for those we serve. I see that hope and my wish for 2022 is that you do as well.

With deep gratitude,



Kristin Dubrowski, MNM
Chief Executive Officer



Hope on the Horizon

I did not realize the layers of domestic violence. People would tell me to suck it up and deal with it but **counseling at Hopeful Horizons opened my eyes**. It helped me understand behaviors and patterns. They taught me to look for the signs.

—From a domestic violence survivor

The first time I met with my Hopeful Horizons counselor, I was ashamed and afraid to talk. But **she encouraged me and took extra steps** to give me the information that I needed. Leaving an abusive relationship and going to Hopeful Horizons was one of the best decisions I ever made. I was treated with great respect and she gave me hope.

—From a domestic violence survivor

2021 Impact

Hopeful Horizons is the only children's advocacy, domestic violence and rape crisis center serving a four-county area for domestic violence and sexual assault (Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper counties) and adding in Allendale County for children's advocacy services, which is an area of more than 3,200 square miles.

Mission:
Protect, Treat + Prevent

Vision:
A Community without abuse

More than 1,200 victims/survivors assisted in 2021



**417 forensic interviews
for abused kids**



**3,448 therapy sessions
for kids and adults**



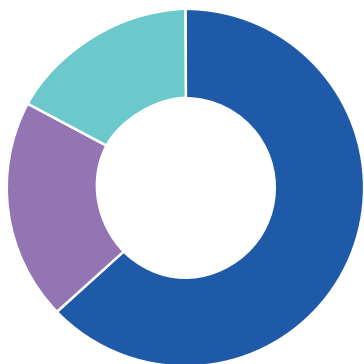
**5,198 nights of emergency
safe shelter**



**\$782,500 worth of free
civil legal services**

REVENUE

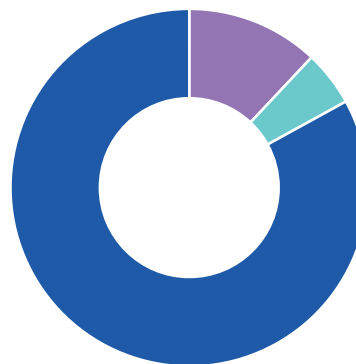
\$3,939,748



64% GOVERNMENT
GRANTS &
CONTRACTS
18% PRIVATE GRANTS
& FOUNDATIONS
18% INDIVIDUAL GIFTS

EXPENSES

\$3,513,785



86% DIRECT SERVICE
PROGRAM EXPENSES
13% ADMINISTRATION &
OPERATIONS
1% FUNDRAISING

*This overview reflects an unaudited financial summary for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2021. A financial audit is currently in progress and can be provided upon request.



1,183 youth educated



**29 families graduated the
Strengthening Families Program**



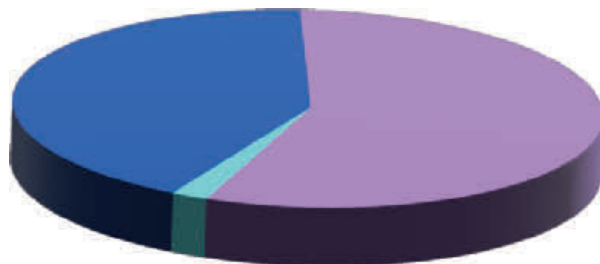
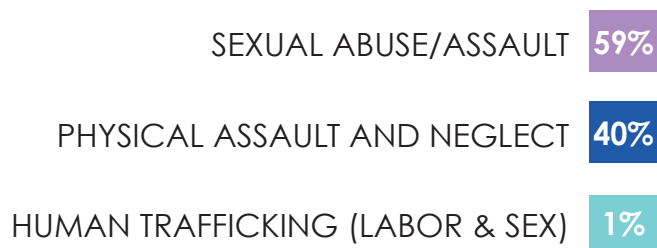
**800 professionals and
community members trained**



**24/7 response to
1,414 support line callers**

Children's Advocacy Center Services

Our nationally accredited Children's Advocacy Center provides forensic interviews and medical evaluations at the request of law enforcement or DSS in cases of alleged child abuse or neglect. Our specially trained and licensed staff conducted 417 forensic interviews last year – **this represents a 62-percent increase over 2020 and is the most forensic interviews we've ever conducted in a single year.** In 2021, our family advocates assisted 196 families. Hopeful Horizons' licensed clinicians provided more than 200 children with evidence-based trauma treatment.



PTSD Symptoms in
Child/Teen Clients

Before Treatment 23
After Treatment 14

PTSD Symptoms
Rated by Parents

Before Treatment 22
After Treatment 3

Hopeful Horizons uses the Child PTSD Symptom Scale (CPSS) to measure symptoms of trauma in children ages 7 to 18. A score of 15 or higher on the CPSS indicates the child is likely experiencing clinically significant symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).



In April of 2021, Hopeful Horizons opened a new office in Walterboro, thanks to a significant investment from the Coastal Community Foundation and their first-ever Catalyst Grant. The South Carolina Network of Children's Advocacy Centers identified Colleton County as a target for expansion because of its high rate of child abuse cases.

This new office provides space for therapy, support groups, forensic interviews and advocacy/case management meetings for victims of child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault. In 2021, 64 forensic interviews were completed at our Walterboro location.

Domestic Violence and Adult Sexual Assault Services

In 2021:

- 40** survivors of sexual assault sought services from Hopeful Horizons in 2021.
- 198** survivors of domestic violence received therapy at Hopeful Horizons in 2021
- 37** referrals for domestic violence victim services were received from DSS
- 83** consultations for parents with DSS involvement provided by our DSS Liaison.

Shelter and Housing

Seeing hope on the horizon, we were able to reopen our emergency domestic violence shelter at 50-percent capacity in July 2021, while continuing to utilize motels to help ensure access to shelter for all those in need. We are grateful to the community for providing food, transportation and other items that were invaluable to our clients.

The need for transitional housing increased dramatically in 2020 and in 2021. With many individuals out of work due to the pandemic and with victims forced to spend more time with abusers, the environment was a perfect storm. But with the help of additional federal and local funding, Hopeful Horizons was able to provide more transitional housing assistance—rent assistance, electricity payments/back payments, etc.

Of the women who stayed at Hopeful Horizons' Emergency Shelter in 2021:

- 36%** said that their abuser threatened to take their children from them
- 36%** reported injuries that required medical treatment by a medical professional
- 52%** said that their abuser discouraged them from having relationships with friends and family
- 25%** said that their abuser threatened to harm an animal or pet
- 39%** reported that their abuser threatened to harm anyone who helped them (family, friends, co-workers)

We helped 78 women and their children move into transitional housing – apartments and rental homes.

13 families moved from transitional housing to permanent housing.

In 2021, we provided 5,198 nights of safety for 169 women and their children. The average length of stay in our emergency shelter was 31 days.

Civil Legal Services

Last year, Hopeful Horizons provided free holistic civil legal services for 309 survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault to include orders of protection, divorce, custody and separate maintenance and support.



Prevention and Outreach

Hopeful Horizons provided Erin's Law training to more than 850 students, more than any previous year! Erin's Law requires that public schools implement a prevention-oriented child sexual abuse program.

Hopeful Horizons provided training and education to nearly 800 professionals and community members on preventing and responding to child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault in 2021 – including school personnel, healthcare professionals, law enforcement and other community members. We also educated an additional 333 youth from age 12 to age 18 on healthy relationships and teen dating violence – this includes the year-long evidence-based primary prevention programs we provide in local middle and high schools.

In September, Hopeful Horizons and the 14th Circuit Solicitor's Office facilitated an all-day training on domestic violence and lethality for members of the law enforcement community in the five counties. Lethality expert Dr. Jackie Campbell of Johns Hopkins University was the trainer.

Our Strengthening Families Program continues to thrive virtually, with 29 families graduating in 2021. This is a 14-session program for families with children between the ages of 6-11 to help them enhance their communication and build their resiliency and family bonds.

Prevention is key to ending abuse.



Hope on the Horizon

A mom of four young children came to us seeking counseling for help with anxiety and depression related to an eight-year marriage to an abusive husband. She felt stuck, hopeless and overwhelmed. Since then she has moved out of her home, started divorce proceedings, applied for and been approved for transitional housing and is beginning a new chapter in life. Together, we have worked on communication and coping skills, set goals, and even developed a resume for her job search. Things are still hard, but **she is feeling more confident** and has a sense of peace that was not present a few months ago. She is now teaching her daughter some of the skills we practiced together in session. The future is bright for this incredible mom, and I am honored to have traveled alongside her on this journey.

—From a Hopeful Horizon Team member

Fund Development

We had to cancel our major fundraising event two years in a row due to the pandemic. We are so grateful to the donors and funders who stepped up to help us – with additional grant funding and unique fundraisers held in backyards and club houses. Plus, a modified Race4Love in 2021 that raised \$14,000 despite limiting the number of participants and scaling back on race day activities.

As a human service organization, our largest expense is the personnel who provide direct services to victims and community members. We employ around 48 staff and have around 30 volunteers who assist with various activities throughout the year. Volunteer efforts were valued at \$168,000 in 2021.

Donors

Thank you to our generous donors, family foundations and private foundations. You helped us protect and treat more than 1,200 survivors of abuse last year, while working to prevent abuse from happening.

\$500+ Donors

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Hope on the Horizon

I learned my self-worth, coping mechanisms and how to set boundaries. I also learned to forgive myself and not be afraid of moving forward. **You have no idea how much I needed help** with these things after being abused.

—From a domestic violence survivor

Please Contact Erin Hall at Halle@hopefulhorizon.org if you see an error.

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Hope on the Horizon

I received a call from a hospital about a victim who was raped. I didn't know any information about the victim; all I knew was **I that I had to get there as soon as possible.** Upon arrival, I found out this woman hardly spoke any English and couldn't communicate with hospital staff very well. I immediately began to facilitate communication to get her the medical assistance she needed. We were able to successfully gather her medical history, a summary of the incident, complete a rape kit and get her the prescriptions she needed for recovery. Since then, I have been in constant communication with this wonderful survivor. We've gone to follow up appointments together and she's been open to therapy. We were able to collaborate with the police department and the assailant was arrested. I am grateful to be her advocate and am more than willing to make the next steps go as smoothly as possible for her.

—From a Hopeful Horizons' advocate

Having another adult help my child navigate negative emotions has helped her to be more expressive and less fearful. **I'm just so grateful for how my girl has blossomed** in her time at Hopeful Horizons, after all we've been through.

—From parent of a child abuse survivor

My **counselor taught me how** to breath when angry.

—From a child abuse survivor

My Hopeful Horizons' counselor opened up to me and **understood my story.** She is filled with positive vibes and has great energy, which is exactly what I needed after all I've been through. I love the sessions me and her had.

—From a domestic violence survivor

2021 Financials and Leadership

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Hope on the Horizon

I am **finally able to open up** about the hard stuff and acknowledge that I was in an abusive relationship.

—From a domestic violence survivor

I learned how to calm down and what to do when I'm sad.

—From a child abuse survivor

I really never realized that I have been in an abusive marriage until I started counseling with Hopeful Horizons. **I have learned so much** about why I was so miserable and why I was always trying to fix myself to keep the peace with my husband. I now want to live my life for myself first, loving my family and friends, but most of all learning about my own needs for peace and happiness and protecting myself from abuse.

—From a domestic violence survivor



You Make Hope Happen.



Hopeful
Horizons

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