

TRANSFORMING HER VALLEY
OF TROUBLE INTO A
GATEWAY OF HOPE...

HOSEA 2:15 NLT



hope
haven
OF EAST TEXAS

Home for Abused Girls

The VISION



Imagine scared and confused girls who have been abruptly ripped from their homes by Child Protective Services due to neglect, abuse or abandonment and placed in institutionalized, state regulated facilities. Now imagine the same girls residing in a safe, loving environment filled with hope. The vision of Hope Haven of East Texas is to provide a faith-based, fully staffed facility to equip these innocent and wounded wards of the State for successful adult living.

With your help, this vision will soon become a reality for girls from East Texas who have been placed in the foster care system. Hope Haven of East Texas plans to provide a secure, nurturing home environment so these girls may have a greater chance to live productive lives in spite of their obstacles.

The facility, called a Residential Treatment Center (RTC) by the State of Texas, is a place where 13 or more children or young adults reside and receive treatment services for emotional disorders. Hope Haven will be an RTC and will focus on girls from ages 13 to 17. They will be allowed to stay until they turn 18.

“Our vision for Hope Haven is to provide an encouraging, stable, long-term environment for hurting girls that emphasizes knowing and experiencing God, His Word, and their identity in Christ. We also envision the girls obtaining basic life skills, respect for others, and an education which will enable them to become contributing members of society.”

—Volunteer



They are shuffled around with little to no control over anything. They are a face, a name, just some girl. God sees them differently. They are His chosen, they are beautiful beyond measure, and they deserve the opportunity to claim the lives that they have only dreamed of.

The BEGINNING

Hope Haven of East Texas was conceived by a woman from an abusive childhood who has a compassionate heart for abused girls. She understood their pressing needs. With the assistance of few friends she began to visit a local emergency shelter for girls in crisis. The volunteers were overwhelmed by the need for God's love in the lives of these girls.

Initially, the volunteers took the girls to parks for outside recreation. Soon a weekly Bible study evolved. Later, volunteers from several churches joined God's call to minister to the girls. Currently, volunteers coordinate and oversee weekly activities at the shelter, such as Bible study, crafts and games, as well as weekend outings twice a month.

The volunteers soon realized that the biggest obstacle to breaking abusive cycles was lack of time. Children in an emergency shelter are allowed to stay a maximum of 90 days; some girls stay only a couple of days. In order to impact and reinforce the message of God's love, it became apparent that more time was needed to make a lasting impact. A faith-based RTC will allow the girls an opportunity for stability in a nurturing environment over an extended period of time.

“True ministry is serving out of the overflow of the love of God from your heart.”

— Beth Moore, Living Proof Ministries

Statistics are from the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book 2012

EVERY GIRL
DESERVES AN
OPPORTUNITY
TO LIVE A
PRODUCTIVE
LIFE

TEXAS ABUSE
INVESTIGATIONS
225,961

CONFIRMED
ABUSE
97,688

CHILDREN REMOVED
STATEWIDE
16,972

CHILDREN REMOVED
IN EAST TEXAS
1,065

THE REALITY



“I liked Morgan from the start. She was 14 and quirky and loved to laugh and talk. She was funny, sassy and hungry for love.. Her smile is forever etched in my heart.

“Later I learned that the smile was forced and the image, fake. She was broken, beaten, rejected and dreamed of tbeing adopted into a loving home.

Her earliest memories were of a mom who liked men, a lot of men. These men liked Morgan as well. She learned to be afraid of men by the age of five.

Morgan’s mom left a few years later and she lived with her dad where she cooked and cleaned and fed her little brother. When her dad died they were sent to live with their grandmother. Years of raising a little brother by herself resulted in a motherly, protective instinct. When her grandmother reached out to slap her brother, Morgan intervened.

“...she dreamed of the day she could just be 14”

“Anger issues” was the label she was given when she was sent away to juvenile detention. Morgan moved from foster home to foster home. While at the shelter Morgan loved to talk about her youth groups from church and how she was getting to know God.

She listened intently in Bible study and was hungry to know God. At times she would open up about her past. She started to trust the volunteers.’Then she left.

I’m not sure where she is today. Statistics say a 14 year-old will likely never be adopted. I hope she finds a stable family so she can come in from the storm.

I want Hope Haven to be a place where she and other wounded girls like Morgan can find healing.”

— Volunteer

- About 30% of abused and neglected children will later abuse their own children, continuing the cycle of abuse.
- The cost of child abuse and neglect in the United States is \$220 million a year. (*Prevent Child Abuse America*)
- 36% of all women in prison were abused as children.
- Children who experience child abuse and neglect are 59% more likely to be arrested as a juvenile; 28% are more likely to be arrested as an adult and 30% more likely to commit violent crimes.
- About 80% of 21 year-olds that were abused as children met criteria for at least one psychological disorder.

(National Child Abuse Statistics at www.childhelp.org)

One girl's story is
representative
of hundreds



Another Girl's Story...

“One girl's story represents hundreds of girls. This is what the volunteer ministry has witnessed.

Her name was Britni, a beautiful, blue-eyed, blonde with a gorgeous smile. Almost 18 at the time, the details of her heartbreaking journey began to unfold. She was born to parents addicted to drugs. At age 5, her father was imprisoned so CPS removed her from her home. Britni's grandparents received custody for a short period of time, but her mother brought her back home. By age 6, Britni's mother dressed her up, placed her on the living room couch and allowed men to “visit” her for income. Britni paused in the middle of her story to apologize for speaking badly of her mother and emphasized how much she loved her.

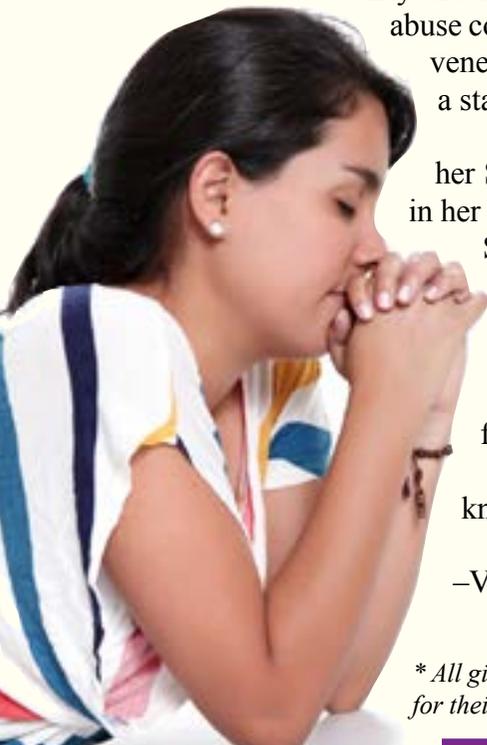
When Britni's father was released from prison, CPS placed her in his care. Her father returned to gang life, and she was then abused in a different way. This situation forced her to have numerous “moms” by whom she was jealously mistreated. The men in the gang passed her around like they did their drugs. The cycle of abuse continued until CPS intervened, and she was placed in a state facility.

Britni accepted Jesus as her Savior. For the first time in her young life she had hope. She planned to live on her own, determined not to return to her former lifestyle, but she didn't know how to care for herself.

Britni left and we don't know where she is today.”

—Volunteer

** All girl's names have been changed for their protection.*



Mariana's testimony

“the ladies (volunteers) really listened to me and truly saved my life. I am so thankful...”

Carrie's testimony

“I wasn't treated like a foster kid. I was actually treated like a normal kid, like I was one of their own. Being somewhere you are loved is really healthy. You didn't have to worry about whether or not they loved you.”

Excerpt from a letter of thanks to the volunteers from Kate, 15:

“'Thank you' are the only words I can say. Thank you for your love, your prayers, your time, a shoulder to cry on in times of pain. All the times I wanted to give up and throw my life away you put a rope of hope around me, letting me know you cared too much to let me walk away. I pray that God blesses you. God brought you into my life to show me I have a second chance and can live by faith.”

THE PLAN

The mission of **Hope Haven** is to provide a safe place to equip girls and young women in crisis for successful adult living.

Hope Haven is a faith-based organization with Christ at the forefront.

As Christ followers we believe we are called through the Scriptures to care for orphans in their distress (James 1:27). Christ is our hope Who empowers us to aid in transforming lives.

The founders of this effort believe that there are five essential elements that form the road map to accomplish the mission.

PEOPLE

An Executive Director is essential to providing the leadership necessary for **Hope Haven** to establish a facility, meet State regulations and identify supporting staff. This is our first priority. We are actively seeking individuals to fill this position. Several candidates have already been identified.

HOUSE

Secondly, **Hope Haven** will open a home that replaces the “institutional” facility with a place of security and stability; it will meet all regulatory living requirements, incorporating a place to belong, trust and be nurtured.

STATE REQUIREMENTS

After hiring staff and establishing a facility, **Hope Haven** will then be eligible for licensing and contractual commitment with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. Once the contract is finalized, girls will be placed in **Hope Haven** and State funds will become available.

The estimated monetary requirements to reach this point are \$350,000. This need may be attained in the form of cash, services or property donations. This amount is sufficient for **Hope Haven** to begin operations until funds from State contracts are received.

PARTNERS

Hope Haven will be building and expanding our relationship with local churches, organizations, schools, ministries, and individuals. These relationships are essential to our long-term success, providing a level of expertise and resources that can greatly enhance the girls’ potential for successful, adult living.

EQUIPPING THE GIRLS

The goals of **Hope Haven** are to provide a safe environment for the girls, as well as equip them for adulthood with life skills training and career guidance. Although many of the girls are interested, few successfully complete any level of advanced education or vocational certification. While numerous reasons for this failure exist, lack of capability is not usually one of them.

Hope Haven is committed to providing the ongoing support necessary for a young woman to complete advanced education, including college or vocational training.

The State of Texas, through the Department of Family and Protective Services, provides all children in the foster care system the opportunity for advanced education through various tuition-free programs at Texas colleges, universities and vocational schools.



“It is very important to have a good home because that means you don’t have to worry about anything but to do good at that home so you won’t have to keep moving.”

Nadine,
— a CPS teenager



A plea...

My husband and I are advocates for girls in the State foster care system, especially those who are moved from homes, to shelters, and RTCs every few weeks. This system is only able to meet minimum standards of care for these vulnerable and underserved girls. They typically need extraordinary levels of care.

By the time a child in CPS is 10 years old, the government labels him or her “unadoptable”. Unless exceptional foster care homes are found, children are moved around endlessly until “aging-out” at 18 years of age.

As devoted believers in Jesus Christ, we are charged with caring for orphans.

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. (Proverbs 31:8,9 NIV)

Even with the emergency shelter constraints, we have witnessed profound and positive responses to the sharing of God’s unconditional love. Our current realm of influence, though severely limited, is impacting girls’ lives for eternity. We realize we can’t change family circumstances, but we are prayerfully hopeful that we can equip girls in crisis to successfully manage their lives as they enter adulthood. Our heartfelt desire is to train these girls to be independent, healed of abusive patterns, and to be contributing citizens in our communities. We believe this is possible by having an authentic relationship with God through His abounding power.

— Brian and Wendy Johnson, Foster Care Advocates

We plan to:

- ♥ demolish destructive cycles of hurt and abuse
- ♥ restore fractured identities
- ♥ infuse hope
- ♥ build futures of health and productivity for generations to come

BREAKING
THE CYCLE
OF ABUSE

How you can HELP

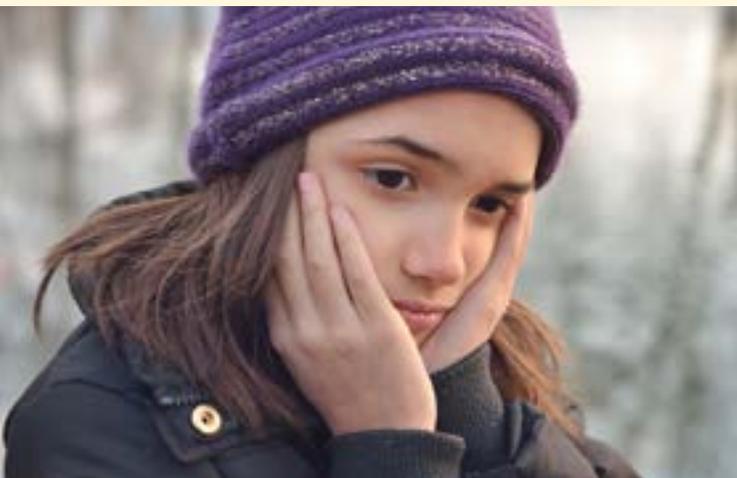


Call to Action

Initial Resources Required to Fund the Need

(the State of Texas advises all new facilities to have a minimum of four months operating expenses available prior to receipt of contractual funds):

- Personnel requirements call for a qualified Executive Director, care staff, case worker, and housekeeper. We currently project hiring one full-time Director who will immediately aid in the licensing process for the facility. The Director will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the facility and staff and will ensure that Hope Haven meets all State and government regulations, as well as maintaining operational costs. This administrator will regularly engage with the girls and apprise their needs while communicating expectations to them. The Director will provide leadership for Hope Haven into the future.
- A minimum of nine full-time personnel are anticipated for direct supervision and service to the girls at the home, including 7 care staff, 1 case worker, and 1 housekeeper.
- In addition to annual personnel salary requirements, we anticipate staff compensation and expenses such as health benefits, ongoing training, and taxes.
- We will need either a new or renovated facility with space for up to 14 girls to call “home”. We envision a facility that transforms an institutional treatment facility into a secure and loving home. Multiple bedrooms are a fundamental need for the girls and care staff. In addition, the facility needs a kitchen and living areas that meet all practical and State regulatory living requirements.
- Other monthly expenses include food, transportation, utilities, insurance, and miscellaneous home needs.



“The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’

Matt 25:34-40 (NIV)

“When you make the commitment to partner with us, you will help break the cycle of abuse and neglect for young girls for future generations.”

—Martha Meador, Board Member

Partner With Us

A collaborative effort is essential to helping girls in crisis. This means combining the unique experiences and abilities of our staff, volunteers, donors and other nonprofit organizations. Our partners allow **Hope Haven** to provide our residents with exceptional faith-based care. Monetary donations supply **Hope Haven** with the ability to quickly respond to the ever-present needs of the girls we serve. Whether giving a recurring monthly gift, or a one-time donation, every gift matters.

Hope Haven is a non-profit organization with §501(c)(3) status. All donations are tax deductible.

Below are multiple ways for you to join with us:

- Support us through our prayer ministry
- Commit to our “First Steps” pledge drive
- Give securely with either one-time or recurring monthly donations through PayPal on our website
- Mail checks made payable to **Hope Haven of East Texas**
- Donate corporately by sponsoring or hosting a community event or fundraising drive
- Contribute professional services such as carpentry, electrical, etc.
- Honor an individual or organization through endowments

Details may be found on our website at www.hhofet.org.

We invite you to co-labor with us by becoming a link in our growing chain of faith partners.

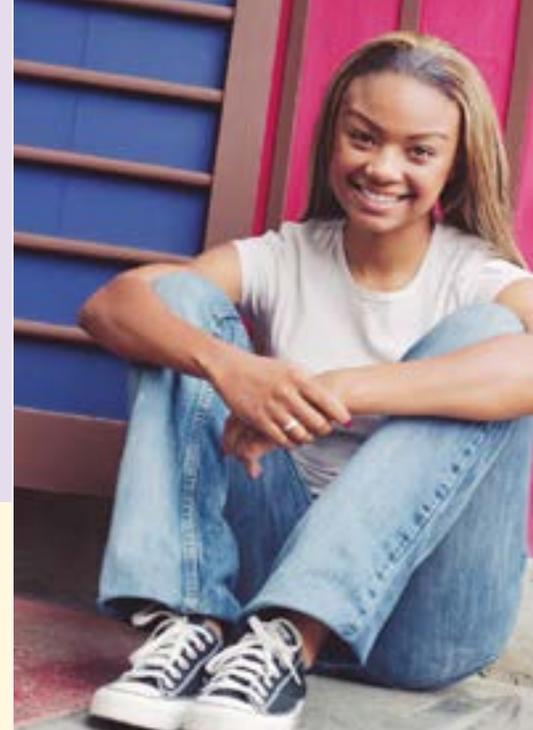
Can we establish a safe place to make a difference in the lives of at-risk girls who have little or no alternatives?

*Can **Hope Haven** provide more than food, shelter and safety?*

Can we equip young girls for successful adult living?

We are confident we can, through the power and blessings of Him who has called us.

Would you be willing to join us for the journey?



“I was tired of moving around. I was moved to Tyler for the second time in Jan. 2011 and I still was not straightening up. I knew a lady, Lisa, from the shelter and we had a strong bond. I felt loved and normal. Everyone, not only the kids in CPS, needs to know someone is going to pick them up when they fall down. I am thankful. I chose not to be a victim.

Chantel
— CPS Teenager

TO WALK A
DIFFERENT
PATH

Frequently Asked QUESTIONS



Why RTC? Doesn't the State of Texas do that?

The State only licenses and regulates RTCs. It does not operate them. The government was not designed to take on this task. The church handed over control of orphanages to the government around the turn of the 20th century. The result is what we're dealing with today, a secular-centered system-putting Band-Aids on huge gaping wounds. Government employees do the best they can with what they're given, but the State CANNOT effectively accomplish what we, as the body of Christ, are commanded to do.

Hope Haven will operate an RTC for girls 13-17 years of age that are under the care and supervision of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. ***Hope Haven*** will be required to meet or exceed the regulatory and contractual requirements of the Department. These requirements will control all aspects of our operation including staff qualifications, physical facilities, operational procedures and financial management. ***Hope Haven*** will be distinctive as a faith-based environment.

What difference will faith make to the girls in foster care?

Faith gives us hope, identity and security. God uses these three byproducts to transform us into the likeness of His Son. When we hope in Him and know who we are in Him, we can be secure no matter what our circumstances. We know that He has a purpose for our future here on earth as well as a future with Him in Heaven. Knowing that can make all the difference in the life of a young girl who feels hopeless.

What happens to the girls when they turn 18 and leave the foster care system?

Typically, a girl who has "aged-out" of foster care returns to the lifestyle she was removed from, or she is on the streets without adequate tools to succeed in life. Our long-range vision includes a transitional home for young women to complete high school diplomas, vocational schooling and/or college.

Why is our focus on girls only?

A shortage of long-term care facilities exists in the State of Texas for teenage girls. That shortage has been described as a "crisis" situation by CPS. Several facilities for boys operate across the state. However, girls are characterized as having more difficult issues. Most people would prefer not to deal with these difficulties. Many of the emotional issues diminish when the girls are shown the love of Christ. These girls have never been taught true love; they relate love with sex, manipulation and abuse. We have witnessed many come to Christ. Their lives have been forever changed. 97% of welfare recipients in Texas are women. It is our hope that this number decreases with the efforts of ***Hope Haven*** and other similar faith-based facilities.

Board of Directors



Paul Christman

Chairman of the Board of Directors

Paul has been married to Donna for 43 years and has two daughters and three grandchildren. He is a retired business executive from the field of health care insurance where he worked in Houston and Tyler. He graduated from Hardin Simmons University and attended Texas Tech Law School. He has been a Bible study teacher for 35+ years.

Board Members



Lori Alexander

Child Sponsorship Coordinator

Lori works as the Child Sponsorship Coordinator for Parental Care Ministries. She is an active member of Green Acres Baptist Church where she has served on the Children's Committee as well the Military Ministry. She also assists Five Stones Ministries with different projects throughout the year. She has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration/Marketing from East Texas Baptist University. She has been married for 14 years and has four children:



Lisa Ferguson

Nurse

Lisa has been working with the girls at the emergency shelter since August 2010. Lisa has been in nursing since 1991. Lisa has a BSN degree. She has worked in Trauma ICU for 17 years as staff RN, Charge RN and Assistant Head Nurse. She has worked at Texas Spine and Joint for 6 years and is currently finishing up Nurse Practitioner School.



Martha Meador

Real Estate loan originator,
Altra Federal Credit Union

Martha has been involved with Humble Hearts Ministry since its inception Sept. 2010. She's been in banking for 25 years and works for Altra Federal Credit Union. She is a single mother of two sons, Hunter and Harrison, and a daughter, Ashlyn. She is a graduate of Jacksonville High School and Southwestern Graduate school of Banking at SMU Dallas 1998.



Emily Weesner

Nurse, Hospice of East Texas

Emily is a volunteer at the girl's emergency shelter and serves on Hope Haven of ET Board of Directors. She has been employed by Hospice of East Texas as a hospice nurse since 2007 and has been in nursing for 11 years. Emily has her bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Texas at Tyler. She is married to Brad and they have two daughters.



Galen Morrison

Self employed State Certified
General Real Estate Appraiser

Galen F. Morrison and his wife, Tina, have been married for 10 years and have two adult children. A State Certified General Real Estate Appraiser, Galen provides right of way and real estate appraisal consulting services. He is a 1985 graduate of The University of Texas at Tyler, where his focus was in Industrial Technology. Throughout his life Galen has been involved in church service and non-profit volunteering.



Calvin Sims

Business Development Manager

Calvin and his wife Karen have been involved with the local girls emergency shelter since August 2011. Cal has been involved in sales, marketing and management for 20 years. He currently oversees a four state area as a Business Development Manager and he also manages multiple websites and email marketing databases. He holds a BBA from LeTourneau University and an Associates Degree from Kilgore College.

How may I contribute?

One-time gifts and monthly pledges are welcome!

Checks may be mailed to:

Hope Haven of East Texas, 713 WSW Loop 323, Suite H142, Tyler, TX 75701.

Secure online payments are accepted at www.hhofet.org.

Hope Haven is a non-profit organization with §501(c)(3) status. All donations are tax deductible.



**For more
information, contact**

***Hope Haven
of East Texas***

**713 WSW Loop 323,
Suite H 142
Tyler, TX 75701**

www.hhofet.org