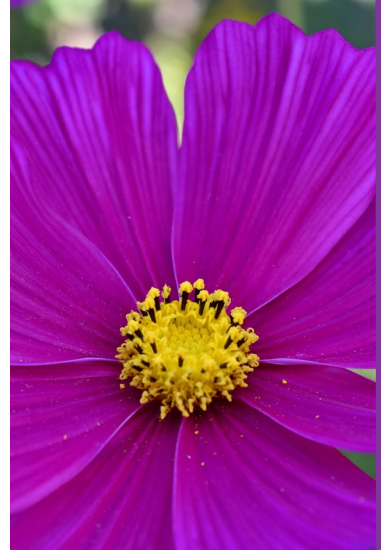


THE ALLY

IMPACT STORY - Jimmie Gabel - Vice President Client Services
NAMES OF CLIENTS AND COUNSELORS ARE WITHHELD FOR CONFIDENTIALITY PURPOSES.



All her life Marta struggled to find a place that felt like home. At a young age, she and her sister were removed from the care of her parents, who struggled with addiction. The state placed the girls in a group home for children, where she experienced abuse by the staff. Throughout her life, Marta was betrayed by the individuals who were supposed to protect her, surviving the best way she knew how, but never arriving at true safety. She placed her trust in individuals who told her they loved her, but who only turned around and dominated and controlled her with violence. Marta learned that the best way to survive was by constantly staying on guard, trusting no one, and expecting the worst in people.

Marta found Hope Alliance after being sexually assaulted in a romantic relationship that had turned abusive. She reported the assault to the police, and found Hope Alliance, but she continued to experience

extensive victim-blaming by her abuser, her family, but also by the authorities who were supposed to protect her. Marta feared retaliation by her abuser, so, she isolated herself in her home and grew distant from her support system.

Even though she had been failed by so many, she took the very courageous step in asking for help from

Hope Alliance’s counselors and legal advocates.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

IMPACT STORY ... 1-2

IMPACT DATA 3

ALLY OF HOPE 4

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT 5

FUNDRAISING NEWS 6

PREVENTION EDUCATION 7

HOPE SPEAKS STAFF SPOTLIGHT . 8

FROM THE CEO . . 9-10

IMPACT STORY CONTINUED

The support she found at Hope Alliance allowed her to access funds through Crimes Victim's Compensation, enabling her and her beloved pets to move into a new apartment in a different city where her abuser could not easily find her. In the counseling program, Marta built a trusting relationship with her counselor and finally explored how her life of abuse resulted in mis-guided core beliefs about herself that prevented her from reaching her goals.



After a lifetime of being told that she would never amount to anything, and being blamed for the actions of others, she was able to change the story she told about her own life, no longer believing that the abuse made her broken or unworthy of love.

Marta found ways to cope with her disturbing memories, and channeled her pain into her art. She shared her paintings with her counselor via virtual therapy, and she was finally able to express herself and open up about what she had been through with someone who really cared and who understood the dynamics of domestic violence. Marta worked with her counselor to create a transition plan so that she could continue her healing work with a long-term trauma therapist.

The accessible services and support offered by Hope Alliance allowed Marta to begin to establish true safety in her life for the first time, changing the narrative imposed upon her by others and giving her human relationships from which to draw strength. Getting out of survival mode gave Marta the emotional security she needed to think about the future, rather than just surviving the day.



**To respect this client's confidentiality and privacy, her name for this article was changed to Marta.*

IMPACT DATA

Hope Alliance collects every piece of data we can. We believe in reporting on all our Direct Services in a straightforward, transparent way. At the same time, Hope Alliance is equally dedicated to spending a donor's contribution as effectively and efficiently as possible. Hope Alliance provided the following services So far this year to date as of end of September 2024:

Total number of clients served = 3,695



Total number of service sessions provided = 21,331

Total Sheltered Nights of Safety provided = 6,698

Total number of sheltered clients served = 381

Total number of Hotline calls answered = 3,235

Total web-based Crisis Chats answered = 327

Total sexual assault accompaniments = 141

We keep track of more data than shown above. By doing so, we attempt to let our donors know what we accomplish with their financial support. However, the point is that donors ought to know that Hope Alliance is dedicated to helping clients break the cycles of abuse in which they live.

“ I did not know that as a 58-year-old woman the things that happened to me caused me to react in survival mode. I am truly happy that the help here opened my eyes and made me aware of my trauma response. I hope this will help guide me in the future to a more fulfilling happy life.”

MORE IMPACT DATA

Continuously evaluating and refining our programs based on insights gained from our clients' exit surveys demonstrates a commitment to evidence-based practice and ongoing improvement. It also underscores our organization's dedication to meeting the evolving needs of our clients and maximizing the impact of our services.

Clients exiting our care in August 2024 told us the following:

- **83% FEEL SAFER,**
- **93% FEEL LESS ALONE,**
- **87% FEEL MORE HOPEFUL,**
- **93% FEEL POSITIVE OF GOAL PROCESS**
- **80% LEARNED MORE ABOUT FAMILY & SEXUAL VIOLENCE, AND**
- **96% WAS THE OVERALL SATISFACTION RATING.**



When our clients tell us we helped them save their lives, the survey results above support their claim.

ALLY OF HOPE SPOTLIGHT

THE TOPFER FAMILY FOUNDATION



Founded in 2000 by Mort and Angela Topfer, the Topfer Family Foundation is dedicated to giving back to the community through grants. Their mission is to connect individuals with the tools and resources needed to build self-sufficient and fulfilling lives. The foundation focuses on five key areas: child abuse prevention and treatment, job training and support services, children’s health, and aging in place. Since 2000, the foundation has made a significant impact on communities in Austin, Chicago, Denver, and Broward County, Florida, awarding over \$83 million in grants as of March 2024.

The Topfer Family Foundation has been a supporter of Hope Alliance since 2022. Through their generous grants totaling \$15,000, they have empowered our Children's Program, helping children at our shelter through life-saving services like child advocacy and play therapy for those aged 3 and up.

Hope Alliance is grateful for the Topfer Family Foundation's continued support. To learn more about their impactful work, visit [Topfer Family Foundation](https://www.topferfamilyfoundation.org).



The Topfer Family Foundation is one of our Allies of Hope. If you know an entity that can become an Ally of Hope, then please let us know!

The Topfer Family Foundation is committed to helping people connect to the tools and resources needed to build self-sufficient and fulfilling lives.

HOPE ALLIANCE VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Maria Del Carmen Saldana

My name is Maria aka, Carmen. I have 3 adult children and 9 grandchildren; I love to cook and hang out with my family. I work from home, so volunteering for Hope Alliance is great for me to be able to meet and help people at the same time. I've volunteered at the Gattis School office, the Emergency Shelters in both Round Rock, and Hutto, the 18th Annual Women Fore Hope Golf Tournament and the Leander Groundbreaking Ceremony. I was a client with Hope Alliance some years back and with the help of the Hope Alliance Counselors, I was able to heal and move forward with my life. Now its my chance to give back what they gave me, my life. Thank you Sandra; I really appreciate you and the staff.

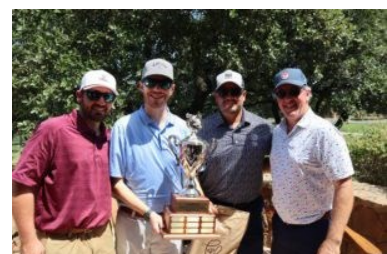
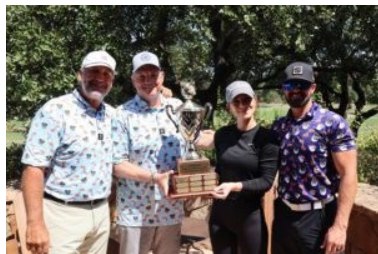
Do you have a little extra time on your hands? Hope Alliance can always use your help. If you are Interested in becoming a volunteer, then click [Here](#) to go to the volunteer page on our website. Check out how to get involved and the different opportunities we have.

Sandra Zamora Guerrero
Resource Development & Volunteer Coordinator



HOPE ALLIANCE FUNDRAISING EVENT NEWS

The **18th Annual Women Fore Hope Golf Tournament** was a success. We raised \$75,000 for Hope Alliance this year. There were 27 teams that supported the golf tournament, silent auction and a raffle drawing as well.



A HUGE thank you to the sponsors for our 6th Annual Survive. Thrive. Prevent 5k!



HOPE Ally Sponsors



HOPE Champion Sponsor



HOPE Defender Sponsor



HOPE Preserver Sponsors



HOPE ALLIANCE PREVENTION EDUCATION

Over the last three months, we've been happy to continue our partnership with The NEST and are excited to continue the partnership into the next school year.



We have been in talks with both The Georgetown Public Library and Southwestern University about partnering together starting next school year.



Earlier in the year, Greg Norwood, our Prevention Education Coordinator was interviewed for a podcast called The Mariposa Method. Greg spoke about Hope Alliance, Prevention Education, and the other services we offer. That episode was released the third weekend of June.

Hope Alliance's Prevention Education Program utilizes four core components in our community work:



RPE organizations use the following core components of community-level work:

Image Courtesy: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- **Know your community** – through an active, ongoing process to identify community dynamics and readiness.
- **Cultivate relationships** – intentionally cultivate inclusive and mutually respectful relationships within the community.
- **Involve Youth and allow them to guide programming** – promote opportunities for youth and young adults to inform, plan, and lead community-level work.
- **Foster a supportive environment** – encourage communication that values everyone's opinions and enhances their ability to affect change.
- **Foster cross-collaboration** – understand the causes of violence and factors that can protect people. Violence can include sexual violence, intimate partner violence, and bullying. These forms of violence often share similar root causes. Identify and foster partnerships that align with sexual violence risk and protective factors. Support mutual collaboration and collective action while honoring the group's capacity.
- **Be action-oriented** – cultivate and support the progressions of community-based initiatives based on readiness.
- **Promote community ownership and leadership** – foster shared decision-making to strengthen leadership and sustainability. Highlight, enhance, respect, and celebrate progress.

HOPE SPEAKS - STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Name : *Erin Kirby*

Job Title: *Case Manager*

Length of time employed at Hope Alliance: *1.5 years*

Hometown: *Manchester, NH*

Fun fact about me: *I used to be a competitive figure skater*

During time away from work I enjoy: *singing, writing, exploring Texas, hanging out with my cats*

The most rewarding thing about working at Hope Alliance: *Being part of a client's journey from the day they arrive to the day they leave. Sharing in the joy of their accomplishments and walking with them on a path that leads away from abuse.*

Fast Favorites

Food: *Fiddleheads*

Activity: *Concerts*

Color: *Green*

Movie/TV Show: *Russian Doll*



Supervisor Comments:

Erin has been an advocate at Hope Alliance for over a year and has made a remarkable impact. She is a passionate advocate for residents, a champion of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and is deeply committed to the vision and mission of Hope Alliance.

WE'RE MAKING PROGRESS!

Hope Center Update

If you've heard anything about Hope Alliance lately, then you're probably aware that we're working to expand our services and relocate to Leander, TX. We conducted a ceremonial groundbreaking event on June 28, 2024. On August 7, 2024, we received our Site Development Plan Permit from Leander's Planning and Zoning Commission. A few days later, we broke ground FOR REAL, and we started the 12 to 15 month building process. To stay up to date with our progress, please go to our website at www.hopealliancetxt.org where you will see a tab labeled "Hope Center." Click on the Hope Center tab and you'll see pictures, a progress chart, and soon, you'll see still photos and time-lapsed video from the EarthCam we installed at the building site at 1161 West San Gabriel Parkway, Leander, TX 78941.

As of this writing, the "Pad Site" (picture to the right) is complete. The "Pad Site" is the location on which the concrete slab for the Hope Center will be poured. Installation of utilities, including water, sewage, electricity, gas and internet are in various stages of completion. The city required a concrete wall on our north property line to buffer the residential subdivision to the north. The concrete wall is complete. The construction fence is installed, and water detention pond construction is ongoing.



In the near future, underbrush and "trash trees" will be cleared from underneath the oak trees which will not be disturbed in the building process. We're calling this area of our project "The Forest." Soon we'll have a certified arborist on site to lift oak tree canopies and to trim deadwood. In a future project, The Forest will be a location for clients and staff to have a peaceful place for relaxation and contemplation. The forest will have pathways, park benches, perhaps bird feeders, etc. If you know of a corporate entity, civic group, or faith community that would make our "Forest" a beautiful, peaceful, relaxing place to be, then please let us know!



The Hope Center is designed to include community partners that will be able to provide clients with all the services available to people who experience trauma from their abuse. Hope Alliance still has a bit of work to finish in terms of finalizing official partnerships, but we can report the following entities will help provide services from the new Hope Center:

1. Asian Family Support Services of Austin
2. Children's Advocacy Center
3. County Attorney's Office
4. District Attorney's Office
5. Goodwill Industries
6. Williamson County Sheriff's Department
7. Unbound Now (Anti-Human Trafficking Agency)

We intend to finalize partnerships with one more entity, and we'll report accordingly as it occurs. There will be an update in each newsletter published until we occupy the new Hope Center. For more immediate updates, don't forget to go to our website: <https://www.hopealliancetxt.org/hope-center/>.

