



hope lives here ▶



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

“

“Since being at Naomi’s House, I have grown in ways I never imagined possible. I was angry and filled with hatred. [They] taught me about grace and compassion...the thing I’m most grateful for is that [NH] taught me about Jesus. I wouldn’t be where I am now in my faith if it weren’t for Naomi’s House.”

NAOMI’S HOUSE GRADUATE

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I’m thrilled to share our report with you this year. We have seen and experienced amazing life change this past year, and we want to celebrate with you. So many of us are looking forward to the new year and putting 2020 behind us—but we want to pause to thank God that even through a global pandemic, Naomi’s House continued to thrive and serve more women than we ever have before.

We started the year sharing our 2020 theme, *Hesed*. This Hebrew word has such rich meaning that it was fitting for us all year long. *Hesed* is one word that describes the layers of God’s favor, His kindness, His sacrificial love. We experienced God’s *hesed* each and every day of this past year, and I believe you’ll be able to see His favor and faithfulness over NH throughout this report. I hope you enjoy reading it and celebrating with us as much as we enjoyed putting it together for you.

You’ll see two stories that are full of inspiration and hope. And you’ll read about our plans to expand. I’d like to invite you to consider a year-end gift that will help us do two things in 2021:

1. Your gift will help us continue to provide our comprehensive, trauma-informed, and life-giving program to women who have been commercially exploited. In our home, residents have the opportunity to overcome the obstacles they’ve faced and are met with opportunity. Most importantly, women hear the good news of Jesus and are given pathways and space to connect with God.
2. Your gift will also help us expand. We have a five-year vision that we’re preparing to implement in 2021. Our budget has increased by \$200,000 in order to begin programming in two other communities. A gift this month will go directly into our operating budget, which includes a launch plan to serve four times as many women next year!

As we continue to navigate the impact of COVID-19, we are well aware that this pandemic has hit us all in different ways. We do not take your partnership lightly. And we also acknowledge that because of the pandemic, the need for Naomi’s House and additionally programming for trafficking victims is on the rise. Together, we can fulfill the vision God placed on our heart years ago: that every woman who has been commercially sexually exploited deserves a new start. You’ll read about how your partnership has accomplished that this year, and you always have the opportunity to continue your good work with a financial gift today.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



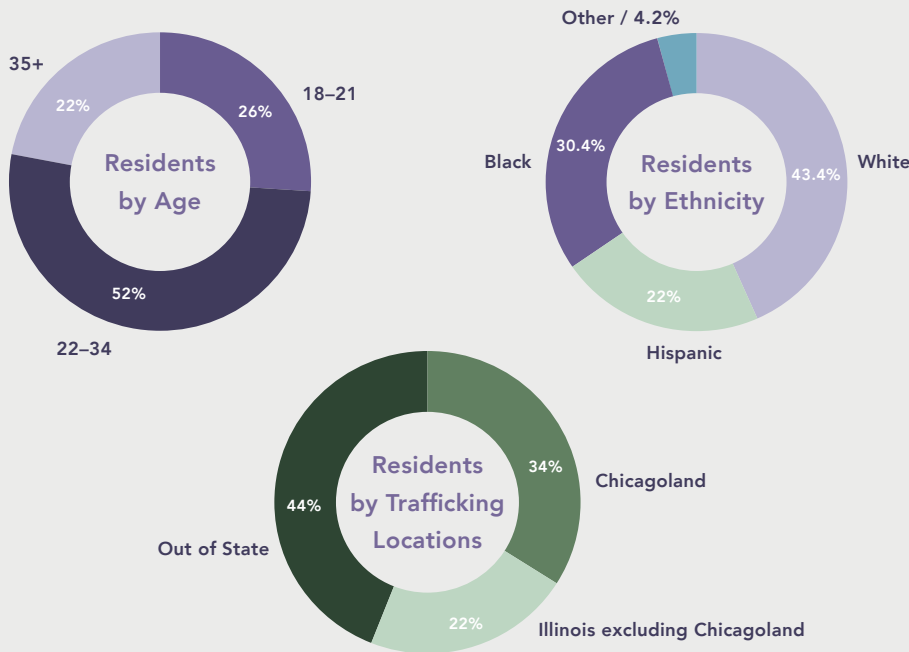
Simone Halpin
Co-Founder and Executive Director

Ministry Highlights

In four years of serving survivors of human trafficking:

Naomi's House has interacted with **309** survivors of sexual exploitation.

23 women have lived at Naomi's House and experienced our Residential Program.



In the last 12 months:

- There have been **146** referrals.
- We served **10** women at Naomi's House.
- **Five** women have started either their GED process or college classes.
- **Six** women have been hired for jobs in the community.
- We provided over **800** hours of trauma-informed therapy, group therapy, and life-skills training.
- We launched NH4, our Independent Living Program for NH Graduates. **Five** women are utilizing this program and living on their own in our community!
- Within NH4, we provided an additional **50+** hours of therapy and life-skills and leadership training.
- **52** volunteers served our women directly, and **28** groups served NH in various capacities.
- We trained **hundreds** of people throughout the community on *Human Trafficking 101* and *Life After Trafficking: What it Takes to Heal* through various awareness events.
- **Three** women graduated from the NH Residential Program, and all three are living independently in NH4!

172 goals were achieved by NH women in FY19

The NH Staff help women achieve hundreds of self-identified goals every year—including housing, employment, education, health, reuniting with family, spiritual development, substance abuse recovery, emotional and mental health wellness, and many other goals that lead to self-sufficiency, healing, and identity repair.

Every single one of the women we have served at Naomi's House has identified multiple forms of abuse from their trafficker—including physical violence, sexual assault, and other forms of coercion (like drug use, threats of harm toward their families, isolation, and physical branding by tattooing marks of authority on their bodies).

These abusive tactics create a web of emotional, physical, and spiritual barriers that require a life-long journey of healing. Trauma bonds are prevalent in survivors of sex trafficking and can be especially difficult to overcome.

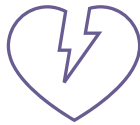
Trauma bonding is when a trafficker uses rewards and punishments within cycles of abuse to foster a powerful emotional connection with the victim. Traffickers may take on a role of protector to maintain control of the victim, create confusion, and develop a connection or attachment, which may include the victim feeling a sense of loyalty to or love for the trafficker. This connection, or traumatic bond, becomes especially intense when fear of the trafficker is paired with gratitude for any kindness shown.

— 2020 TIP Report

Obstacles vs. Opportunities

Women come to Naomi's House facing obstacles to their healing from a lifetime of struggles and abuse. While these difficulties may have been due to circumstances beyond their control, Naomi's House provides opportunities that empower women to overcome such obstacles. Each and every opportunity is a stepping stone to help a woman gain hope, restoration, and a firm foundation for her life.

Physical & Emotional Abuse



Safe environment
Life skill groups
Weekly church & worship services

Interruption of Education



Completion of GED
College enrollment
Technical school certifications

Health Care Neglect



Medical insurance enrollment
Regular primary care visits
Dental care

Substance Abuse Addiction



Substance abuse therapy groups
Access to sponsors
Recovery community support

Trauma Bonds



Trauma-informed therapy
Restorative relationship building
Bible study and mentors

PTSD



Professional staff & 24-hour care
Psychiatric services
Grounding techniques

CHRISTINA AND LYNETTE



Christina is a wise, hilarious, and determined woman. She's the kind of woman who thinks about what she wants to say and is deliberate about her thoughts. These strengths were a paradox to her while she was in and out of the life of exploitation. She knew she wanted help and a different life, but she couldn't break free from the control of her pimp, her addiction, and her broken spirit.

When she first moved in, I sensed she questioned whether or not she deserved to be there. The lies she'd been told—that she was unworthy and hopeless—had sunk in and become her truth. But she slowly allowed God to untangle those lies in her heart, and she began to believe about herself everything we could have hoped for her: that she is worthy, brilliant, and full of hope.

After graduating from NH, Christina was reunited with her 12-year-old daughter, Lynette. First the time ever,

the two of them are living on their own. While Lynette does e-learning during the school days, Christina is working hard to finish her degree in cosmetology. Their relationship is one that makes you want to hold your own daughter tightly. You can see in Christina's face that she is fighting to give Lynette a different life than Christina experienced at that age. Because of Christina's hard work and bravery, she is laying out a new path for both herself and her daughter. Christina is blazing a new trail for Lynette, one that is filled with hope and unlimited potential for both of them!

When asked what she wished she could tell her younger self, Christina said

“

You are not what people told you were.

BECKY AND CHRIS



The first time I met Becky was at the graduation of another resident. She was meek, a bit shy, and clearly overwhelmed. The event was a huge celebration, with the graduate's large family filling up a local church. Cheering and high-fiving filled the sanctuary, and there sat Becky trying to imagine if that would ever be her. In her 30s, she had missed every major milestone in her life up to that point. No high school graduation, no prom, no showers or celebrations of any sort. Like so many women who come to Naomi's House, Becky struggled to process emotions that had been suppressed for many years. Joy, celebration, a sense of accomplishment, and confidence...all emotions that Becky couldn't feel because of the 10+ years of living as a victim of sex trafficking.



While at NH, Becky was brave and worked hard to accomplish her goals. She consistently met with her therapist and slowly walked the journey to begin healing from her trauma. She worked in our community, she enrolled and took classes at College of DuPage, she started a Recovery Coach Certificate (and completed in NH4), and she engaged in all our life-skills groups including gardening, exercise, self-care, horse therapy, budgeting, and my favorite, identifying her strengths. She also got her driver's license, saved money to pay for car insurance and maintained her sobriety, overcoming addiction.

Becky and her mom, Chris, began to do therapy together to mend their wounded relationship. Chris emailed me when Becky first moved in to say she'd been praying for years for a place like Naomi's House. She was so excited about what our program offered, and was so filled with hope that Becky would embrace our services, that she became a monthly Hero Partner. It was this mother's faithfulness that moved me to a new level of understanding that we are walking alongside someone's daughter as she journeys at NH. I always thought of Chris when Becky hit a milestone. Chris is no longer waiting by the phone to hear from her daughter, wondering if she's still alive. Instead they are the family celebrating at Becky's graduation, crying tears of joy that Becky completed our program.

After fifteen months of living at NH and working incredibly hard to graduate from our program, Becky had her day. Her mom and grandmother were there enjoying and taking in every minute. We made a photobooth to create an opportunity for memories that would allow Becky and her family to make up for lost time.

Becky is now living in her own apartment because of NH4. She and her mom continue to heal their relationship and laugh about how far they've come. Becky continues to be a role model and influence on the other women at NH. And just recently, Becky shared this stunning revelation with the NH4 Leadership group:

“ If I had a room full of people where I could choose the audience and say to them whatever I wanted, I would fill the room with women who struggle with addiction. I would tell them that they don't have to live that way, dependent on traffickers for their addiction, and living a life they're ashamed of. I would tell them that if I can make it from homelessness to living on my own, they can too.

Our Hope

Vision

Naomi's House exists because every woman who has suffered from commercial sexual exploitation deserves a new start.

Mission

Naomi's House is comprehensive programming offering hope and healing. Our programs offer a safe place that foster healing and faith in Christ, leading to life-transformation.

What makes us distinct:

- We are faith-based, rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ
- We are trauma-informed, integrated with expert therapists and staff
- We are committed to her full healing, believing she is the best advocate for her own care

Our Future

With four years of programming behind us, we are more excited than ever to grow. We've strategically developed a three-tier model that we believe is needed in order to reach the most women who have suffered from sexual exploitation. This model will allow us to reach more women than we ever have before, while keeping our vision and mission the same.

THE NH MODEL

Residential Programming

A 15-month program, customized for each woman, that includes 24-hour care and support.

NH4

Independent living that includes continued education, spiritual discipleship, and career development.

INTRODUCING

The Gathering Place

A comprehensive, highly-resourced Day Program that reduces a woman's vulnerability to exploitation through education, trauma-informed therapy, spiritual discipleship, and job placement. The Gathering Place is modeled on our Residential Program, offering a victim of commercial sexual exploitation a start to a new life.

Your Partnership

Healing takes place in community. And when someone is able to piece their life back together after abuse and trauma, we all are better because of it. When you give to Naomi's House, you are giving to someone's healing journey. You are telling her "yes" when for so long she has been told "no." The partnership we have with generous people like you plays a significant role in a woman's experience at NH.

- A gift of \$50 will pay for one session of professional, trauma-informed therapy. Total sessions in one year: over 1,000.
- A gift of \$500 will pay for groceries and toiletries for a month. Total grocery bill (including toiletries and other household items) for one year: nearly \$10,000
- A gift of \$5,000 will sponsor a woman and her complete programming for one month. Total annual operating budget for all women we serve in NH Residential Programming and NH4: \$612,000

“

I never thought it was possible for me to get where I am today but because of the help of NH I can. I am so thankful for the volunteers and people who have donated to make this a reality for me. It literally brings me to tears knowing that they believe in us although they'll never meet us.

NH RESIDENT

Operating Budget

\$612,000 NH Residential Programming + NH4 Independent Living

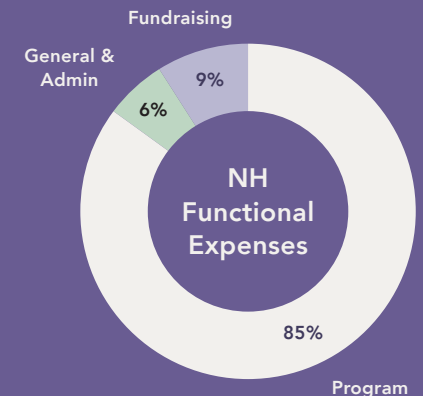
\$43,000 General and Administration

\$65,000 Fundraising

Total 2020–2021

Budget: \$720,000*

*Fiscal year is Sept 1 – Aug 31





HOW YOU CAN HELP

Together, we can offer hope and healing to survivors and bring an end to human trafficking. There are many ways you can join this fight on behalf of women who deserve a chance to start a new life.

Volunteer

Partner with Naomi's House as a program volunteer or an advocate

Give

Make a financial donation that will help provide care

Partner

Join our prayer team and receive monthly newsletters and prayer requests

To get involved, please visit naomishouse.org

hero campaign

Our **hero campaign** is for donors who commit to monthly giving. We believe it takes a hero to embrace her past and work through it to gain a new life, and it takes a hero to stand with her every step of the way while she does so.

When you commit to monthly giving, you are telling each woman that you believe in her, honor her, and have hope for her future.

“

I am so blessed to be at Naomi's House. Because of Naomi's House I look forward to a future where I feel so confident, a future filled with love and no more pain, a future with abundant choices—a future that I now see, whereas before I didn't.

NAOMI'S HOUSE RESIDENT



A ministry of The Moody Church
naomishouse.org | info@naomishouse.org