

A Shelter for Hope and Healing

Service Highlights

- To date, have provided emergency shelter and services to 105 women (25 repeats) and 4 small children.
- Received and responded to 491 calls since opening.
- Provided aftercare services to 54 residents upon exiting the shelter program.
- Supported 13 women who felt safe enough to work with law enforcement to report crimes against them.
- 52 women have participated in Employment Readiness, 10 have completed this year.
- 17 residents have attended drug treatment.
- 18 residents received legal advocacy.
- 100% of residents received an assessment from our Registered Nurse and had access to medical care and mental health services.
- 100% of residents received education and support to discuss health concerns and medication regimens.
- 100% of residents had opportunities to grow in their faith and spiritual lives.





80 Women have called the Safe House their Home

Hello, Dear Friends and Supporters of Terebinth Refuge,

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving in our home, we remember all the things we are thankful for this year. Our gratitude overflows.

When I reflect on all that God has done for Terebinth Refuge, I am in awe! Yet, this is the nature of our God. He is awesome! From the beginning, Terebinth Refuge has been His plan, so of course He would do a wonderous and good work.

God calls for unity amongst his children and I am impressed with how much is accomplished when we work together toward the same goal of offering hope, healing, and freedom to sexually exploited and trafficked women. I experience that unity every day as I encounter staff, volunteers, donors, collaborative partners, service providers, businesses, churches—all working together to provide healing in the lives of the women we serve. When we work together, we greatly multiply our results. That is why I am so thankful for each of you!

I am truly grateful that Terebinth Refuge has finally put down roots—and so appreciative to our community partners who made that happen. The City of Waite Park provided temporary housing rent free for over two years. They went on to facilitate a partnership with Martin Marietta who purchased the house and is now leasing it back to us at no charge! We have gone from 'house' to home and don't have to add anxiety or trauma to the lives of our residents by moving.

We are blessed by the thoughtful gifting of a small home business from our volunteer/supporter, Kim Gregoire, to help Terebinth Refuge expand our Employment Readiness program with a social enterprise. By working in this venture, women will have the opportunity to develop transferrable job skills while still in the safety of Terebinth Refuge. This will better prepare them for future employment with local business.

We are grateful for these things and many more. The staff and I at Terebinth Refuge look to the future with much hope as we work with you to provide excellence in service for the many women we will serve. We anticipate God's good plans in the years to come! Thank you ALL for joining us in this important work.

Together in Love, Purpose & Unity,

Cynthia (CeCe) Terlouw Founder and Executive Director

Kayla's Story



Women come to Terebinth Refuge with a common bond as victims of trafficking and exploitation. While their experiences are often similar, their journey to healing and freedom is completely their own.

'Kayla' (name changed) was referred to Terebinth Refuge by her Stearns County Officer in August of 2019. It was hard for her at first, and she struggled. Especially after completing the Elevate program, a curriculum designed to help sex trafficked victims heal. She began to seek truth, her own identity and self-worth, and battled with depression during the process. She made a commitment to weekly therapy and loved attending her therapist meetings! Kayla spent a year at Terebinth Refuge. Throughout her stay, she was honest with herself and those around her. She learned to express her cravings and triggers and was able to ask staff for help when she needed it—all of which helped her develop new skills and take daily steps toward healing. She completed the Employment Readiness Program, got her very first job and began saving money for the future.

Eventually, Kayla became a role model at the house. Other women looked up to her and gravitated towards the encouragement she often provided. She wrote positive notes and put them up around the house, something still maintained today. After a year of classes, therapy, and support, she was ready to start a new life on her own. While we celebrate her healing journey and her independence, in the words of a staff member, "I miss her smile and her honesty". Kayla still visits the shelter, keeps staff informed about her progress, and encourages other residents while she is there!

Social Enterprise



The goal of the Employment Readiness & Education program is for each woman to find a permanent job making a livable wage so they can maintain independence after breaking free from sex trafficking/exploitation.

Because every woman we work with has a slightly different background, different skills and experiences, and different dreams for their future, this program is tailored for individual

learning opportunities. Additionally, the women we serve may also have a criminal background due to their abuse and exploitation. This can make it difficult to find an employer who will give them a chance and will require that our staff work with each woman to develop and find leadership and employment opportunities.

Due to the success of this program and the feedback we have heard from participants, we now want to expand options for employment and skill building through the creation of a social enterprise—we are adding *Terebinth Refuge Hope & Healing Store*, an in-house opportunity where women will produce, package, and help sell/distribute health and wellness products through an online store.

We plan to utilize the products and experience of existing Basic Care, LLC natural care product line, and hire consultants to help set up the business and sales aspect of the social enterprise. Additionally, it is important to us that we engage survivors, residents, and graduates of our programs in all aspects of this business from the ground level of planning to management of the business. Our plan is to begin producing and selling products in November.

This project will provide job readiness and advancement skills, income for survivors, and additional revenue opportunities for our organization!

This project is partially funded by the Benton Telecommunications Foundation and Zonta Club of St. Cloud.

Lily is HOME!





We are so happy to have Lily join our home as part of our dog therapy program. Animal assisted therapy can support improvements in mental health, including reduced

anxiety, depression, and alleviating symptoms for those with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). She is already having a great impact with the women as they play and spend time with her! Lily comes from Housman Farms Great Pyrenees.

A huge Thank You to Mike Housman (Board Chair) and his family for bringing her to us. We love her so much!

Give to the Max Day



It's a great time to make a difference! You can double the impact of your Give to the Max Day donations through a generous \$10,000 Matching Gift from Eric and Amy Dearking. Any gift you make will be matched up to the challenge total! Early giving is available now.

https://www.givemn.org/organization/Terebinth-Refuge

This is what your partnership makes possible:

- Women and their small children can be free from their abusers with access to safe shelter and supportive services.
- Women will receive on-site services needed to support physical, mental, spiritual, and emotional health and are connected to additional community resources.
- Women gain the skills and tools needed to become employable.
- Women develop skills to identify healthy/unhealthy relationships and avoid future exploitative and abusive relationships.

Circle of Hope



Our Circle of Hope members stand strong against trafficking and exploitation and have united together to help women rebuild their lives with hope and dignity. Members sign up to give a gift of \$100 or more monthly for a 3-year period. This partnership provides women a safe community, trauma-informed therapy, education, and vocational support so that survivors can live a healthy, purpose-filled life.



Thank you to all our founding and ongoing Circle of Hope members:

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous Donors Tom and Valerie Amberg Iohn and Allison Cheesebrow Ryan and Erin Gohl Bonnie Hall Joel and Robin Hasslen Mike and Mindy Housman Robert and Corrine Jacobs Dennis Lindor and Dawn Bjorge Scott and Sara Olson Mick and Kathy Mayhew Michael Milbauer and Roxanne Hamilton Tim and Cherie Miller Laura Nordman Robert Postels Becky Pressgrove Bill and Merrlyn Seefeldt Steve and Wendy Shaler Mark and Ann Thelen Tim and Carrie Tripp Brandon and Emily Urke Larry and Darcy Winkelman Todd and Kyoko Zaun

BUSINESS

Atlas Family Chiropractic, Kate and Jonathan Dobowey Laser Dentistry, Ltd., Michael Contardo and Marilyn Olsen

If you would like to join the Circle of Hope, or simply want more information, please call 320.828.7192 or email development@terebinthrefuge.org.

Thank you!

Thank You to our 2020 Funders, Donors, and Community Impact Partners

This Thanksgiving we are grateful for YOU, our Funders, Donors, and Community Impact Partners.

Thank you to the many individuals, businesses and churches that make the ministry of Terebinth Refuge possible. Your partnership and support are making an impact on our local community and changing the lives of the women and children we serve forever.

2020 CHURCH MONTHLY GIVING CIRCLE PARTNERS:

Bridgeview Assembly of God Cornerstone Church – South Haven Discovery Church Harvest Church – Freeport Shalom Community Lutheran Church Solid Rock Family Church The Waters Church Westwood Community Church

And the many other churches, individuals, and businesses we are not able to list here. Thank you!

COMMUNITY IMPACT PARTNERS:







Ways to Help

Pray for our residents, and our leadership.

Give a financial donation securely online or by check.

Join or enroll in our Circle Of Hope commit to making an annual gift of \$1,200 (\$100/month) or more for a period of three years.

Sponsor our annual RISE Breakfast or another fundraiser to support our ministry.

Volunteer with us! See our website for details.

Donate household items for our residents. Find a list of suggested items on our website.

Invite us to speak at your business, church or group.

Share our mission and website with others.

Contact us with opportunities for employment and affordable housing for women in our home.

Provide space for gatherings and special events.

Subscribe to our newsletter on the website to get updates and important news.

Like us and share posts on Facebook and follow us on Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.



On behalf of our Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support and interest in this ministry!

Terebinth Refuge Board of Directors: Mike Housman, Board Chair, Todd Zaun, Board Vice Chair, Michael Contardo, DDS, Board Secretary, Les Engel, Carol Lund, Kathy Mayhew, Mick Mayhew, Michael Milbauer, Cherie Miller (not pictured), Waite Park Chief of Police, David Bentrud



A Shelter for Hope and Healing

110 2nd Street South, Suite 231 Waite Park, Minnesota 56387

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