

## 2020 Service Highlights

- ✓ 177 crisis calls from women seeking support, shelter, and resources.
- ✓ 43 women entered our shelter seeking safety and services.
- ✓ 12 women completed our Employment Readiness program.
- ✓ 2 women worked with law enforcement with our support to report crimes against them.
- ✓ 5 women attended drug treatment.
- ✓ 34 residents participated in horse/dog therapeutic programming.
- ✓ 33 residents developed a Safety Plan & Case Plan.
- ✓ 34 residents engaged in learning various household Independent Living Skills.
- ✓ 18 residents received legal advocacy support services.
- ✓ 13 residents received aftercare services upon exiting the shelter program.
- ✓ 40 residents received an assessment from our Registered Nurse and had access to medical care and mental health services.
- ✓ 40 residents received education on health concerns & options, medication regimens.
- ✓ 33 residents had opportunities to grow in their faith and spiritual lives.

*Note: Due to initial COVID-19 shutdown we were not able to bring in new clients for approximately 6 weeks.*



## Giving a Voice to Survivors of Trafficking and Exploitation

*Dear Friends,*

*Galatians 6:9 reads: "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap a harvest, if we do not give up."* This scripture reminds me of the importance of the work we are doing at Terebinth Refuge, that if we persevere and be steadfast, God will bring the "harvest". And at Terebinth it is the harvest of transformed lives; victims becoming survivors! I am so pleased to share with you all the amazing things God is continuing to do as we persevere at Terebinth Refuge! Here we are fast approaching the end of our 5th year as a non-profit (August 2016) and 3 years of operating our shelter and transition home. In the past 6 months God has added to our many blessings! He has provided us with further opportunity to bring holistic transformative healing to the women we serve.



We are on the cusp of opening our second home which will bring a separation to our shelter and transition programming. This is a vital change to support further success to both programs as the needs are different in these separate phases. Along with this home comes the space and an opportunity to expand our Employment Readiness program with a social enterprise, The Hope & Healing Store! Both opportunities will bring avenues of growth and success for the women we serve.

I would like to share with you another exciting development that is currently in progress—the development of a Survivor Advisory Board. This board will be facilitated by past residents of Terebinth Refuge and will include current residents who apply for this important position. The purpose of this board is to advise staff, and the Terebinth Refuge board members on best trauma informed practices and ways Terebinth Refuge can improve in our services. This board will also be responsible to develop a viable aftercare program for women we have served. We believe that survivor's knowledge & voices are vital in the work we do to provide the best care possible to the residents of Terebinth Refuge. I am beyond grateful to God for His goodness to us! I am also beyond grateful to all of you who have supported Terebinth Refuge in SO many ways to allow this growth to happen. Thank you, dear ones, for persevering with us, to be a catalyst of lifesaving change in the women we serve!

**With Love & Thankfulness,  
Cynthia (CeCe) Terlouw  
Founder and Executive Director**

## A Mother's Heart!



There have been many changes in Lisa's life since her arrival at Terebinth Refuge. For starters, she set several new life goals with the help of staff and takes steps forward daily to achieve them. None is more important to her than reuniting permanently with her young son!

Lisa says that "programming at Terebinth actually helped when it came to reunification with my son—no other program has helped me in this way!"

In addition to looking forward to having her son at the house full time by mid-April, Lisa is diving into her spiritual life as she attends church and bible studies, learns and uses coping skills productively, and seeks resources to improve her parenting skills.

Lisa recently expressed that she is so thankful to be at Terebinth Refuge, and we are so grateful to all of YOU for making that possible!

*Name changed for confidentiality purposes.*



## Hope & Healing Store Opens for Business

*Handcrafted Skincare Products Support Women in Their Recovery*



You can treat your skin well and support women escaping sexual exploitation and trafficking with the purchase of handcrafted products from Terebinth Refuge's new social enterprise. The Hope & Healing Store provides a way for survivors to expand their work skills as they prepare to transition into community living. The store is survivor-led, and women can feel safe and understood while growing professionally. Throughout the process, survivors are producing, packaging, selling, and distributing the various items.

Some of the many handcrafted items include:

- Natural goat milk soap crafted with pure essential oils, goat milk, botanicals, and a natural lard base.
- Angel ice, a salve combining aloe vera gel with anti-inflammatory botanicals to relieve sunburn, rash, skin irritations, hot flashes, hives, bug bites, and minor cuts and bites.
- Natural cream deodorant that controls under arm odors while allowing your skin to breathe and detoxify.



*Key displaying Hope & Healing soaps*

The business gives women an opportunity to develop employment habits and skills, learn about running a business, build their resume, and earn money for their personal needs, all while remaining safely within our transition home. When they are ready to seek outside employment, they will have the experience and skills to help them succeed in the community.

"Working in the Hope and Healing store, talking about God, and praying before every batch of soap we make, opened me up to talk about the spiritual experiences I've encountered in my life," said Key, a Terebinth Refuge graduate and supervisor at the store.

As the women have been in production since mid-September, many survivors can already testify to the self-growth benefits the store provides. The business gives survivors an opportunity to feel productive and proud of themselves.

Hope & Healing natural skin care products are available to order online. You can also find the products at local craft sales, farmers' markets and community events in Avon, St. Joseph, St. Cloud and other surrounding communities.

Proceeds from each purchase support the work of Terebinth Refuge, including wages for the survivors. Each purchase you make will bring hope and healing to the women of Terebinth Refuge.

**Visit our website on April 20th as we launch our online store. There you will be able to discover your favorite items and schedule a sale at your community or church event.**

*Thank you to the Benton Telecommunications Foundation and Zonta International, Saint Cloud Chapter for your generous funding contributions!*

## Stronger Together



Women can thrive when they have the resources and support network to heal and rebuild their lives. We invite you to join us for a night of connecting, shopping, stories of encouragement, and more to support survivors of sexual exploitation.

**Tuesday, April 20th, 2021**  
Open House & Shopping from 5pm-7pm  
Harvest Fellowship Church  
400 2nd Avenue North  
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379

This is a FREE event but registration is required. Please register online at [www.terebinthrefuge.org/stronger-together-event](http://www.terebinthrefuge.org/stronger-together-event).

## Transitional Home

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped to transform our Transitional Home!

**From this:**



**To a beautiful room for a resident:**



The work we accomplish at Terebinth would not be possible without our volunteers. That is especially true in the transformation of our new house into a home: a home for women to become strong and independent. We are so grateful for the dedication of our volunteers. We look forward to seeing our women grow in employment skills so they can share their gifts and talents with the world!



## Thank You, Women's Fund!



The Women's Fund of the Central Minnesota Community Foundation is established to create and support programs that enhance the lives of all women and children, involving women as leaders and donors in the process. Over the years they have invested more than \$1.65 million into our community!

Terebinth Refuge is grateful to be among the many organizations receiving grants to support the women we serve. We thank the Women's Fund for their ongoing partnership and for the special invitation to participate in the 2021 Dancing With Our Stars event!

Find out more and Vote with your Dollars for Terebinth Refuge at: [www.communitygiving.org/wfp21](http://www.communitygiving.org/wfp21)

**Thank you to our many community funders, volunteers, and partners!**

Together, you have provided prayer, volunteer hours, funding, and other resources to help ensure that women begin a path to healing and independence.

We truly are **stronger** when we work **together**.



Thank you to Sarah from Reflective Perspective Photography for providing the beautiful photographs shown in this newsletter.

COMMUNITY IMPACT PARTNERS:



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## 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  
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