

# ANNUAL REPORT

2022



# A Message from the Director

The name "Cherith" comes from 1 Kings when the Prophet Elijah is running for his life from Queen Jezebel. Elijah sat by the brook of Cherith and there the Father met all of his needs – physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual.

That is the goal of House of Cherith. To provide a place of rest for the weary, to provide sustenance for the hungry, to provide reassurance for the timid and fearful. To remind the women God sends our way that they are worth fighting for.

Ladies come to us from all walks of life. They come from jail, from homelessness, from an abuser, from a strip club, and even from their parents' house. These ladies come to us simply needing a drink from the brook of Cherith – a refreshing and safe place where they can stop to catch their breath without fear of what may happen to them next.

As we serve in a difficult environment daily, I am reminded of one of Martin Luther King Jr.'s most famous quotes that states, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that". Our ladies come from some of the darkest places you can imagine. The pain, the trauma, the nightmares.... never ending. Their worlds have been dark for far too long.

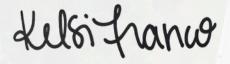
Here at HOC, we have the honor and privilege of shining a little light into their darkness every single day. By showing up, by meeting basic needs, by coaching them through triggers and flashbacks, by sitting with them as they weep, and by celebrating with them as they succeed. And as we shine light in each of these survivors' lives, we get to shine a little light in the immense darkness that is plaguing our city, our nation, and our world – human trafficking.



This year, HOC vows to let our light shine even brighter, to spark light behind the eyes of even more survivors, and to witness the burst of light that comes when these warrior women are finally set free.

Together, we will be a light in this dark world and together, we will continue to fight fiercely for freedom.

Fighting for freedom, Kelsi Franco



# A Message from a Board Member

Kelsi Franco and her team are on the front line fighting for women. It is an honor to be a part of the Board to support and encourage them.

As North Georgia Women's Ministries Director with 250 churches in our fellowship, I've encouraged the women to partner with the House of Cherith's goal to "Reclaim, Renew, and Rekindle" by prayer and giving.

As donors, we've been privileged to feel apart of building the beautiful Mommy & Me home and the House of Cherith Junior home. The homes were designed with beauty and excellence. Even the decor was planned to create a calm and peaceful place of safety and refuge. Their philosophy of helping women "reclaim" dignity and self worth is shown even in the detail to pledge that each new resident receives brand new bedding, nothing used or second-hand.

Several of our women's groups have also been welcomed to the House of Cherith by having Game Night and Refreshments, Craft Events, and Bible Studies with the residents. Everyone involved has expressed the enjoyment of prayers together, laughs, and new friends experience "renewed" faith in humanity.



I am thankful to be on the House of Cherith Board to witness the "rekindled" hope for women that pass through this program.

Charla Madden
North Georgia Church of God
Women's Ministries Director

### **Board of Directors**

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Safe housing and supportive services where ladies can recover from the traumas of sexual exploitation.

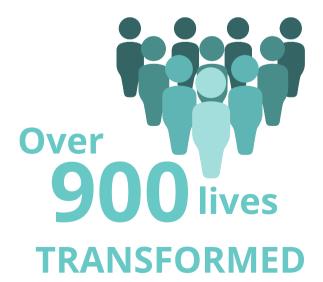
# Reclaim. Renew. Rekindle.

House of Cherith is a trauma-informed care residential recovery program providing a safe place for adult female survivors of sexual trafficking and exploitation and those who have been employed in the sex entertainment industry. Our goal is to provide love and nurturing while preparing them for long-term sobriety and success. We are dedicated to helping provide resources and tools for restoring the heart so life can become whole, wounds are healed, new opportunities become evident, and hope is restored.

Safe Housing

Long-term Housing

Junior Care Family Support Care



# Impact by the Numbers

January - December 2022

\*Group sessions average 27 residents per session.

2,050

Individual Counseling

427

Substance Abuse

Meetings

**412**Group

Group Counseling (HOC)

353

Safehouse Intake Inquiries

44

Mommy and Me Residents 94

Group Counseling (Partners)

37

Graduates/ Transitions

144

Total Residents Served

100 Single Women



# DREAM BOUTIQUE & SALON

# Finding Beauty From The Inside Out

With the help of Van Michael Salon, Aveda, and fabrik', we have given our ladies a space to find their own idea and concept of beauty. Our DREAM Boutique & Salon allow our ladies to be spoiled and pampered while gaining confidence in who the Father created them to be.



# INSTILLING CONFIDENCE & BEAUTY THROUGH THE EYES OF THE CREATOR.



# JUNIOR CARE

### **General Description**

The primary goal of our Junior Care program is to provide support for girls ages 11-18. The average age a child is first exploited through prostitution is 13 years old (Shared Hope International). House of Cherith's goal is to provide a safe place for minors who have experienced sexual trafficking, trauma, or exploitation.

### Strategic Goal

Empower every girl that comes through the doors to successfully reintegrate into society and heal from their past traumas.

**Key Outcomes**Girls who graduate from HOC Junior are:

- Substance and alcohol-free
- Emotionally stable
- Excited for their future goals
- Enrolled in school or holding a steady job
- Are able to be reunified with family (if deemed healthy and safe)
- Have visited the dentist for an annual cleaning
- Have visited the doctor for an annual physical
- Feel safe in their new environment
- Have access to reliable transportation











### A resident at House of Cherith

### **Before House of Cherith**

My life before House of Cherith was filled with abuse, violence, and drugs; my life was completely out of control. I spent most days wishing I was dead for the first 17 years, and the last seven were filled with so much pain and suffering from trying to find love and peace in all the wrong places. I was so desperate to end the pain that I did anything to try to stop it; subconsciously, I ran as hard as I could away from God. I felt like I had to prove to God that I didn't need Him. After all the deaths, trauma, neglect, and abandonment in my youth, I'd developed resentment and hatred for God. Me trying to drive him out of my life completely, ultimately led me right into His grace & mercy.



I was able to heal, which is what I had searched for my whole life. God's love and protection ultimately came as a jail cell. In fact, it was his grace and mercy above all. While I was in jail, facing 20 years on my first incarceration, God made himself very, very clear that I had to do something different or this was going to be my life. I was faced with the decision to either reject God again, despite how real He'd been in my life, or turn to Him and allow Him to work in my life. That was when I made the decision to fully submit my life to God, surrender everything, and walk in His will for my life.

### **Coming to House of Cherith**

Upon coming to HOC, I was willing to do whatever I had to do to heal & reclaim my life. HOC has given me so many resources to have another chance at a successful life. I have been given the support to beat my legal case, gain certification for a career, and support in gaining personal stable housing. I've been able to address emotional pain and traumas that have kept me bound for years! I've been able to notice and face codependent behaviors and learn how to navigate the codependency in my relationships.

HOC has been a place that has loved me to life and has stood by my side and been my biggest advocate, even when it wasn't easy & when I wasn't lovable. They've taught me my worth in Jesus and they push me to live up to my potential and follow the will of God for my life.

My life before House of Cherith was filled with abuse, violence, and drugs; my life was completely out of control.

# **2022 EVENTS**

### **Rewrite Ladies Luncheon**





At our annual Rewrite Ladies Luncheon, we connected with friends and shared how we can get more involved in rewriting the stories of women who are survivors of sexual trauma and exploitation.

Thanks to generous support, we raised \$162,000 towards rewriting and transforming the lives of House of Cherith Residents!

## **Golf Classic**

On March 28, 2022, House of Cherith hosted the second annual Golf Classic at Marietta Country Club. The proceeds from this tournament will benefit House of Cherith in our fight to provide safe housing and supportive services to women recovering from sexual exploitation.

We raised nearly \$60,000 to support survivors as they reclaim, renew, and rekindle their lives.





# **Clay Shoot Tournament**



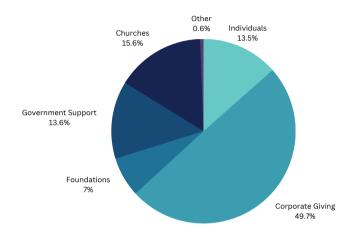


House of Cherith hosted the Sporting Clay Tournament at Foxhall Resort in Douglasville, GA, on November 10th, 2022. We enjoyed a fun day of shooting with friends old and new while competing on Foxhall's station sporting clays course.

We raised over \$40,000 towards empowering survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

### **2022 REVENUE**







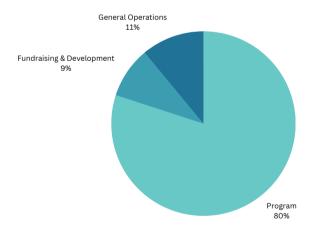


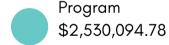


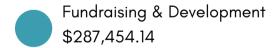


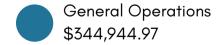


# **2022 EXPENSES**









**2022 NET ASSETS** 

**START** \$4,200,466.82

**CHANGE \$71,516.05** 

**END** \$4,271,982.87



# GET INVOLVED



Our biggest need right now is for sustainable, monthly giving. We are calling you into the fight for freedom with us. When you give monthly, you're welcomed into our FIGHT CLUB, a community of passionate individuals who give monthly to help women recover from the trauma of sexual exploitation. Join our FIGHT CLUB today with a monthly gift of any amount!

HOCATL.ORG/FIGHTCLUB



Volunteering is a great way to get involved and join the Fight for Freedom! We have many different volunteer opportunities available at our House of Cherith locations. Click the button below to select which HOC site you would like to volunteer with.

HOCATL.ORG/VOLUNTEER



Join us as we pray for our current, former, and future residents at House of Cherith. Pray that the ladies and families that walk through our doors will not leave the same. Pray for transformation to take place and lives to be changed. Prayer is powerful!

**HOCATL.ORG** 



Join the #FightForFreedom by becoming a partner. Together we can work together to empower survivors to reclaim their dignity and self-worth, renew their faith in humanity, and rekindle a passion for a lifetime of success.

**HOCATL.ORG/PARTNERS** 

