



ANNUAL REPORT 2022





TRAUMA AND HARDSHIP CHANGES FAMILIES.

From the beginning of our organization, the mission was and continues to be - **helping families stay and heal together.** Our execution has grown and evolved, but the goal has always been to bring wrap-around services to every member of the family, allowing hope, healing, and family support. Which in turn will limit burnout and secondary traumatic stress in caregivers, while also decreasing the use of hospitals, residential facilities, and group homes for youth with a traumatic past.

Together we can turn hopeless into hope.





WHO WE ARE

We are a faith-based, family-centered support and advocacy organization that provides rest, support, connection, healing, and hope to families navigating foster care, adoption, and children with disabilities. Reclaimed Hope Initiative is a place for all families walking through trauma, crisis, and hardship offering a safe haven to be seen, heard, and cared for through the darkest moments.

Our goal has never been to reinvent the wheel, but to see the gaps in this community and meet people where they are. To show up vulnerably and authentically; reminding families they are validated in all the beauty and brokenness this journey brings.

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

1) Lack of Support: Families and caregivers of children in foster care, adopted, or with disabilities experience significant emotional, mental, and physical stress when they do not have proper support.

2) Burnout: In a recent survey of over 1,400 parents of children with complex needs, 91% said caregiving has affected their mental health, and 87% said caregiving has affected their physical health.

3) Loss of Family Relationships: 70% of marriages end in divorce for those parenting children with complex care needs.





MISSION

To strengthen and empower families navigating foster care, adoption, and children with disabilities.



VISION

To provide a safe environment where families can heal through hardship together.



VALUES

Resilience, Empathy,
Inclusion, Growth,
Advocacy



30 volunteers utilized

30 caregivers utilized

10 New Local Partnerships



Received the **United Way Caring for the Community Award for Above and Beyond Nonprofit!**

2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

\$120,000 raised at our Makers for Hope Fundraiser

\$100,000 in grants received for our programming

100% of our donations went to programming costs



Welcomed **3 new board members:**

Dr. Kenneth Norwood, Allison Spillman, and Skip White!

Hired our **second employee:**

welcome Olivia Moody!





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: **THRIVE**

55 SUPPORT GROUPS HELD

40 FOSTER/ADOPTIVE
FAMILIES SUPPORTED

40 SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILIES
SUPPORTED

5 FOSTER CARE PREVENTION
FAMILIES SERVED

8 PARENT'S NIGHT OUT
RESPITE NIGHTS

30 IEP CONSULTATIONS

5 FAMILY SUPPORT PARTNERS
UTILIZED

3 THRIVE MOM'S RETREATS



“The Thrive support group was my entry point into RHI and I can’t accurately capture for you how life-changing it was for me. It felt like finding a group of people who spoke my language, and who understood my struggles even when theirs might be different. The end of a CS Lewis quote states, “And instantly they stand together in an immense solitude.” That is what the Thrive group has represented for me. I have brought both my challenges and my joys to the people in the group knowing that they will be recognized and understood. They have empathized with me through fights with insurance, and when new medications didn’t work out as we hoped. And after a 3 week therapy intensive when Kate learned to say a new word, there was no other group that I knew would understand and celebrate that victory with me like they would. I feel

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comfortable saying that our family is not alone in feeling like RHI has been a game changer for us and impacted our lives significantly and for the better. Though the organization has been part of our lives for only a fraction of Kate’s 6 years, I can hardly fathom what we ever did without it. The tools, opportunities, and community created by the organization are integral to our ability to show up as the best parents and partners we can be.” - Kelly Altizer





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: **CAMP HOPE**

55 CHILDREN SERVED

1:2 STAFF TO CAMPER
RATIO

6 WEEKS OF CAMP

6 LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS
WITH THERAPEUTIC
PROVIDERS

\$65,000
RECEIVED IN GRANTS

Partnered with
Charlottesville Waldorf School

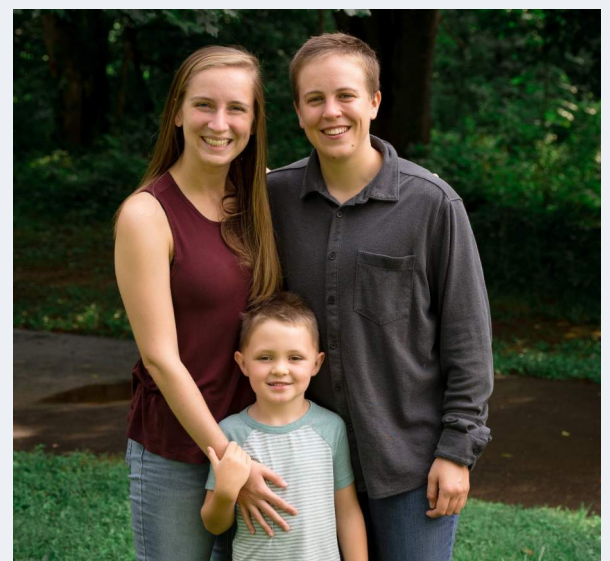


"Camp Hope was absolutely amazing for our daughter. She has never had the opportunity to participate in camp for more than a few days before this experience. She was excited each and every day to see her friends, join in activities, and see the amazing counselors. We have seen incredible growth in her development and confidence during the past five weeks at Camp Hope. She has met other children that she can relate to, and she feels that they support or understand her better. It has truly been an incredible experience for which our family is so thankful for the opportunity. She is already asking to have a countdown until next year's camp. Thank you, thank you, thank you." - Meghan Mattos





“Knowing RHI through the support group we attend, our family already knew how well-run this camp would be and how well-trained the staff would be. As a parent of a child with trauma, we have to take extra care when selecting our child care providers to make sure they treat our children not only with love and respect, but in a trauma-informed way. When these needs are not met, C is an entirely different child and his time at a camp or daycare program can be met with angry outbursts, physical aggression towards peers, as well as dysregulation at home. This past summer was C's first time at Camp Hope (he spent 5 weeks there) and it was everything we hoped it would be. C loved it as well! He got the wonderful pleasure of being in a well-run, fun-packed summer camp with neurodiverse peers. He was the happy little boy he should be. Dropping him off every day was stress-free and we knew he was in excellent hands. We are endlessly grateful to Camp Hope for the service they provide our community.” - Anna Long





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: RACIAL ADVOCACY AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAM (RAMP)

8 MENTEES CONTINUE TO BENEFIT FROM LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH **LOVE NO EGO FOUNDATION** AND **INTEGRITY MENTORING**.

BROUGHT A BROADER SCOPE OF MENTORING TO CAMP HOPE!

EDUCATIONAL SERIES FOR PARENTS TO COME SOON!



“We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have a mentor for our son. As a two-mom household, it was essential for us to have positive male role models in our sons' lives. We appreciate the positive impact Freddy Jackson has had on our son's confidence and courage. He lights up when it is a "Freddy Day" and looks forward to their visits. He is on Cloud 9 when he returns from hiking, kayaking, talking, or other adventures. It is important for him to have a trusted mentor to confide in when needed. We also appreciate the foundational pillars that are complementing what we teach at home. We are so thankful this opportunity came along for our oldest and can't wait for our youngest to also build a strong relationship with a mentor. It takes a village to raise children, and we are incredibly grateful that Freddy Jackson and RHI are in our village. We can count on them to encourage, mentor, and guide our son during the trials and tribulations of childhood.” - Kara & Laura Kavanagh



HOPE IN ACTION

"Thrive meets every other week, but its positive reach stretches into our daily lives. Our youngest adopted daughter, now in fifth grade, could not read, despite the best tutoring and special needs programs available. Private schools in Atlanta turned her away. Her behaviors were not welcome - and her abilities too low to show growth for their standards.

Then we moved to Crozet and learned about Thrive. Change began for our youngest.

Thrive enables local professionals to share their offerings in an intimate setting, and what they share is applicable to the challenges Thrive families face. One day, a brain training program was presented. Weeks later, our daughter began learning and attaining skills in reading and attention - skills others said would be impossible for her to acquire. We see growth as the days go on, and she goes to school each day with more confidence.



Shortly after we moved to Virginia, our adopted son became more physically aggressive, harming his family and himself. Thrive helped us understand more about residential care, group homes, and other therapeutic options. During one of the darkest and most challenging times in our lives, our Thrive family supported us while sharing their personal experiences and wealth of knowledge. Now our son is in a safe place, and our family can work on healing, with the goal of him returning home.

Our children, biological and adopted, look forward to every Thrive day. They feel welcome to be themselves and be surrounded by others who have shared experiences.

My husband and I are uplifted by Thrive. We see our Thrive families throughout the month and have therapeutic "walk and talk"s each week, sharing, learning, and questioning how to best take care of ourselves, our children, and each other.

Before-Thrive life felt isolating, unnerving, and lost.

Life with Thrive is supportive, informative, and...seen. The deep understanding and knowledge shared at Thrive shows us there are options even in the toughest situations."

- The Goodman Family



HOLD ON TO HOPE

RECLAIMED HOPE INITIATIVE: ANNUAL REPORT - 2022



Our name, Reclaimed Hope Initiative, came from a series of conversations where I kept hearing families say that everything felt so hopeless. That they were not enough for the needs of their child. That they lacked the resilience to keep showing up. That they felt alone with each new difficulty. I had been there myself, and as I pondered these comments, I understood just how powerful hope can be.

That even if life feels difficult and overwhelming, if you can hold on to hope, you can make it to the next day. And so began our initiative to bring people together through shared hope. To build each other up when things are hard, and celebrate the wins when we see progress.

When we have hope, we have life.

However, the burden should not just be on one family or one organization. It should be on us as a community. We, as a beautiful, diverse,

and resourced community, should be willing to not only contribute to the cause, but to be willing to listen and sit with those in this place.

So my question is, when you're faced with the heartbreak of humanity what will you do?

Will you listen?

Will you show up with open hands and an open heart, seeking to understand?

Will you affirm the dignity and humanity of others, even if it's messy and inconvenient?

When crisis strikes, when heartbreak overcomes, when the questions far outweigh the answers, we need to learn to say "I'm not scared of your story."

We need to learn to see life from a different perspective -

That people matter.

That listening is active.

That kindness makes a difference.

That healing takes time.

That seeds still grow in the dark.

The circumstances may be out of our control, but our response isn't.

And so, as I think about this and reflect on my role in the world, I'm asking you to help me turn hopeless into hope. That together we would be willing to listen and then give.

One of the brightest outcomes of healing individual trauma is a whole, vibrant community--a condition that benefits every member of that community. By supporting Reclaimed Hope Initiative, you both contribute to and benefit from this healing process. Because not a single one of us should have to walk alone.

With Hope,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bettina Stevens".

Bettina Stevens

Founder & Executive Director

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Reclaimed Hope Initiative began with a bold promise: 100% of public donations would bring rest and support to families navigating foster care, adoption, and children with disabilities. From day one, we've relied on generous donors to fund our operating expenses. It hasn't been easy, but it's an approach we believe in deeply. We hope our commitment to keeping that original promise inspires support from passionate donors, enthusiastic fundraisers, long-standing partners, and loyal volunteers—a community that believes, as we do, that hope changes everything.

With that said, we need your help! Families walking through trauma and hardship desperately need others to link arms with them and offer support - both financially and through tangible support.

First and foremost, we are always looking for volunteers to join our ranks! If you're interested in assisting with support group needs, food preparation, family support services, event assistance and much more! Please email us at info@reclaimedhopeinitiative.org if you'd like to learn more!

Second, your contributions can go a long way! Donations can provide -

\$25

A respite night for 1 child

\$50

Mentorship session for 1 child

\$75

Background check and training for a new therapeutic caregiver

\$100

Therapeutic counseling for a parent walking through mental health hardship

\$250

Weekly in-home respite care to help preserve a family unit

\$500

Attendance to Camp Hope for a child with mental/behavioral health needs or intellectual disability

\$1,000

Cover accessibility costs to create fully inclusive spaces

\$2,500

Cover therapeutic interventions for Camp Hope

\$5,000

Fund expansion for our Thrive respite program to increase number of families served per month

\$7,500

Cover support group costs for one year

\$10,000

Fund a vital, new RHI program

WAYS TO GIVE

Online:
www.reclaimedhopeinitiative.org

Check:
mail to
P.O. Box 2432,
Charlottesville, VA
22902





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RECLAIMED HOPE INITIATIVE: ANNUAL REPORT - 2022



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Thank you so much for your continued support. We look forward to more impact and family care in 2023!



