



ANNUAL REPORT - 2020





TRAUMA AND HARDSHIP CHANGES FAMILIES

Research demonstrates that trauma and consistent hardship through medical, physical, and/or emotional needs has a significant impact on individual family members, their relationships with each other, and overall family functioning.

Between 40% and 85% of caregivers develop burnout, compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma, and/or secondary traumatic stress. This leaves families disempowered, overwhelmed, anxious, and hopeless.

WE BELIEVE THERE CAN BE HOPE.





WHO WE ARE

We are a faith-based, family-centered support and advocacy organization that provides rest, support, connection, healing, and hope to foster, adoptive, and special needs families. 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.

We believe lack of support, resources or education should never be the reason a family can't stay together.





MISSION

To empower foster, adoptive, and special needs families to thrive.

VISION

To create a safe environment where families can heal through hardship.

VALUES

Resilience, Empathy, Inclusion, Growth, Advocacy



2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: THRIVE

20 SUPPORT GROUPS HELD

675 MEALS SERVED
through local partnerships with
Keevil and Keevil, MACAA, and
Legacieats

25 IEP CONSULTATIONS

12 CHILDREN WHO
ATTENDED CAMP HOPE

35 FOSTER/ADOPTIVE
FAMILIES SUPPORTED

15 SPECIAL NEEDS
FAMILIES SUPPORTED





2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

20 VOLUNTEERS UTILIZED

15 CAREGIVERS TRAINED

6 LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS
CREATED

3 NEW PROGRAMS LAUNCHED
to help with the financial and mental
health stress due to COVID-19

\$15,000

raised from
25 DONORS

100%

of our
DONATIONS
WENT TO
PROGRAMMING
COSTS





HOPE REALIZED

Reclaimed Hope Initiative has opened a door for me into a warm, caring community modeling hope in the midst of life's messiness.

I no longer feel isolated or alone in my struggles with being a single mom to Phoebe!

The personal encouragement and dinners together have changed my understanding of community and hopefully their spirit of giving, advocacy, and problem-solving will spread throughout our community and change others as much as it has changed me this year!

– Taryn Spence & Phoebe





HOPE IN ACTION

Reclaimed Hope Initiative has given me an extended support that I was severely missing during this past year.

When I started fostering my daughter, life with my son was so tough. He had major adjustment and anxiety issues moving into Kindergarten, and my happy go lucky little boy became angry, aggressive, oppositional, and avoidant. Having to care for an infant and manage my son's needs as a single parent became totally overwhelming and exhausting. I would walk into a new room in my house and not remember why I was there. And not just once in a while--every day, multiple times a day. I would be driving somewhere and go the wrong way or miss my turn because my mind was going in a million different directions. I missed appointments regularly. I wasn't getting out with friends. Life had felt so out of control since she had come into our lives, and I worried about managing two kids on my own. One of the most important things I realized was that I needed to

expand my community of support. I started attending the group Bettina had invited me to a year earlier, and it has given me more than I imagined. I've found a reason to get out of the house on Sunday afternoons. I've found a wonderful little break from my kids every 2 weeks, spending time with other adults! And ones who know how difficult this foster/adoption path can be. It's given me time to connect and realize I'm not alone and I can get help. It's given me the permission I needed to look beyond the immediate needs of my kids and think about my own needs. Reclaimed Hope Initiative has helped me feel less alone in having chosen this often difficult path. And best of all, it's given me the opportunity to enjoy something other than macaroni and cheese or chicken nuggets at least twice a month.

- a grateful mom



SHIFTING GEARS FOR COVID-19

With the financial and emotional burden caused by Covid-19, we felt compelled to make respite care and basic needs a priority to help keep families moving forward.

While these programs were not in our current plan (or budget!) for this year, we knew we had to act fast to alleviate the decline in mental health this year has brought about for so many.



SINCE MARCH WE LAUNCHED...

- A THERAPEUTIC COUNSELING PROGRAM FOR PARENTS
- MEAL DELIVERIES TWICE A WEEK with the help of 3 local partnerships (Keevil & Keevil, MACAA, and Legacieats) and some amazing volunteers
- CAMP HOPE
a day camp for foster and adoptive children with a trauma-competent-care program

Additionally, we focused heavily on pairing families with one on one caregivers to give parents a break from the rigors of caregiving during this unprecedented time. We intend to keep these programs running for as long as our families need them.





HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Reclaimed Hope Initiative began with a bold promise: 100% of public donations would bring rest and support to foster, adoptive and special needs families.

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.

And after our first two years of operation 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 empathy 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. As an organization, we vow to keep showing up for our families, but we can't do it without the kindness and generosity of our community.

FOR **\$25** /MONTH

you can provide weekly meals to a family of five

FOR **\$50** /MONTH

you can provide racial mentorship for a child who has been adopted into a transracial family

FOR **\$75** /MONTH

you can provide therapeutic counseling for a parent walking through hardship

FOR **\$100** /MONTH

you can provide attendance to Camp Hope for a child with a traumatic past

FOR **\$200** /MONTH

you can provide respite care for a family walking through mental or physical health crisis with their child



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BETTINA STEVENS

Founder and Executive Director

KERRI HEILMAN

Secretary, Co-Founder of Rock Star Therapy

PAUL STEVENS

Co-founder and President

BROOKE LEHMANN

Director of Advocacy, Founding Partner of Capitolworks, LLC.

MARNIE ALLEN

Vice President, Resource Family Regional Consultant with VA-DSS

BEN ALLEN

Director of Educational Initiatives, Executive Director of The Equity Center at UVA

