

# RECOVER HOPE ANNUAL REPORT 2024

EMPOWERED

## **Letter from the CEO**

### **Impact!** Impact! Impact!

In 2024, Recover Hope focused intensely on impact. We expanded our reach significantly, serving 4,000 people compared to 1,000 in 2023.

### **Location! Location!**

Building on the success of our District Focus Groups launched in 2023, we continued to bring together key leaders. In Petersburg, we united city and state law enforcement, District 19 Mental Health representatives, The James House, Petersburg's Commonwealth Attorney, and Delegate Taylor with her Legislative Assistant. These discussions highlighted a common theme—the urgent need for education on human trafficking prevention and its effects on families. As always, funding remains critical to sustain and expand our programs.

In December, we expanded collaboration in Prince George and Hopewell, thanks to Chief Keith Early and the Prince George Police Department for hosting. Representatives from school administration, the Commonwealth Attorney's Office, law enforcement, fire and EMS, and state police joined Recover Hope to engage in meaningful discussions. These conversations were productive, and we are committed to taking actions that will benefit these communities.

### **Expanding Awareness**

We were honored to participate in four Ignite podcasts with the Central Virginia Better Business Bureau, promoting our gala. Additionally, we joined Virginia State University Radio and the Virginia Department of Health for two separate podcast sessions on women's health with Dr. Hart.

A collaborative team of Chesterfield County Police, Peer Support, the Commonwealth Attorney, and Recover Hope educated Virginia State University Campus Police on the risks of Sugar Dating and the latest human trafficking laws in Virginia.

### **Internships & Mentorship**

December marked the completion of our internship with Austyn as she concludes her studies at George Mason University. We are grateful for her contributions in raising awareness about Sugar Dating and Fair Trade, and we wish her the best as she embarks on her next journey.

Our mentorship with Wellspring Living in Atlanta is thriving. We are in phase two of four, preparing to launch Restoration Station. Every document, exercise, and webinar brings us closer to realizing this vision. Visiting their operation was a profound affirmation—it perfectly aligned with our prayers and aspirations, even before we knew about Wellspring.

### **Looking Ahead**

The momentum of 2024 has been incredible, and we remain dedicated to our mission. With the progress of the Wellspring Mentorship, 2025 is focused on opening our 2-year free residence for survivors of Human Trafficking. We look forward to meeting with new people and bringing more awareness through our project Protect Our Community with schools and the community at large.

We look forward to partnering with you, our community, as we moving forward. Stay tuned. The best is yet to come.

With Blessings,

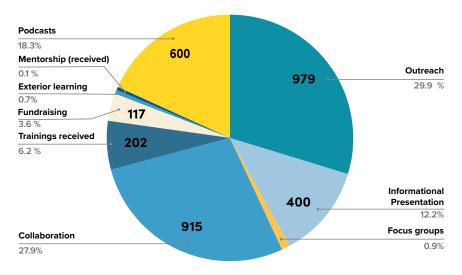
Linda Hawkins, RN BSN

President/CEO

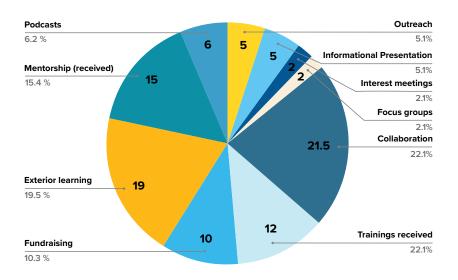
Linda Hawking

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# **Persons Engaged**



# **Annual Report 2024 Events**



# **Total Reach**



Recover Hope Team Trained



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# **Recover Hope Community Impact**



Governor Youngkin signing the first Labor Trafficking Law in Virginia



No Excuse for Abuse Walk with our Vice Chair



**Focus Group Petersburg** 





**National Night Out Chesterfield Police** 

There are no boundaries involving Human Trafficking and it can ensure anyone, anywhere. Recover Hope stands at the ready of this fight, dedicated to educating communities and providing vital services to victims of labor and sex trafficking.

It's time to firmly say NO to those who prey upon and exploit the vulnerable. Together, we can make a difference and stop this injustice.

Human trafficking is a harrowing reality that often goes unnoticed in communities we think are immune. In Southside Virginia, for instance, Chesterfield County has witnessed 12 operations resulting in 21 arrests last year, with a staggering 123 charges in 2024 alone. This issue isn't confined to distant places; it happens right here, in our neighborhoods. The Colonial Heights Police, in collaboration with the Virginia State Police, are actively conducting operations to combat this scourge.

By working together, we have the power to end this injustice and create a safer, more compassionate world.



(804) 251-0141 www.recoverhope.org