






Welcome to the



Stories of Hope

Founder's Gala and 25th Anniversary Party



A Word From Our Founder



It is with immense gratitude and a heart full of hope that I welcome you to the 2024 Stories of Hope Founder's Gala and 25 Year Celebration. Every day at Shared Hope, we pursue three critical goals: prevent the conditions that foster sex trafficking, restore victims of sexual slavery, and bring justice to vulnerable women and children. At times it can seem like a daunting task, but from the very beginning, I felt God urging me to "just show up." And that's what I've strived to do—just show up and help change **one life at a time**.

By God's grace, many friends have had the courage to look squarely at the awful reality of sex trafficking and to step up and help. Thousands have gone through our training. Multitudes have volunteered their time. Many have donated generously. We've made progress. Laws have been passed or rewritten. Workers in the field — from law enforcement to legislators and judges, from social service workers to youth pastors — have changed the way they interact with children. Children's lives have been saved and restored.

If only one child had been rescued, it would all be worth it. But I'm grateful to say that we've had the privilege of helping many. The bottom line: there is hope because there are good people like you, willing to see what's wrong and to do something about it.

For 25 years, we have been on this journey together, working to prevent trafficking, restore lives, and seek justice. I am deeply grateful for every person who has joined us along the way, and I am especially grateful for your presence here today. Thank you for standing with us, for believing in the potential of every child, and for your unwavering support. Together, we are making a difference, and together, we will continue writing stories of hope for victims of sex trafficking across America and around the world.

With heartfelt thanks,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Evening Details

Welcome Reception 5:00 PM

- Silent auction
- Cocktails
- Hors d'Oeuvres
- Tell us you story
- Take pictures
- Meet our community partners
- Live music
- Talk with staff

Dinner and Program 6:30 PM

Welcome..... Elizabeth Freisinger
Prayer..... Jay Barber
A word from our Founder and President..... Linda Smith

Stories of Hope

Hosted By..... Yvonne Fryar
and Kim Figueroa

Guest speakers..... Kay Vail, Samantha Vardaman,
and Christine Raino

Music and Dancing 8:15 PM

**Music from
Nehemiah Brown**



Our Speakers

YVONNE

Grants, Foundations, and Donor Relations Specialist
at Shared Hope International

Overcomer

Leader of the Girls Like Me Movement



KIM

Overcomer
Leader of the Girls Like Me Movement



KAY VAIL

Probation Officer
Co-Founder of Clark County Human Trafficking
Task Force



SAMANTHA VARDAMAN

Strategy Advisor at Shared Hope International



CHRISTINE RAINO

Senior Director of Public Policy at Shared Hope
International



Themes of the Evening



**Separation of
mother and child**



Lack of choice for victims



Labels that hurt



**Importance of systems
and services that
protect, not harm**

Our Board of Directors

This event has been generously supported by our wonderful Board of Directors



Dr. Charrita Ernewein

Chair of the Board of Directors | Valrico, FL

Dr. Charrita Ernewein, PhD, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, SANE-A, FAANP, is an Assistant Professor of Nursing at The University of Tampa and works at the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay. With over 34 years of nursing experience, including 11 years as an APRN and 26 years as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner, she also serves as Community

Education Director for the Free Network. Her research focuses on healthcare providers' roles in supporting human trafficking survivors. Dr. Ernewein has delivered over 100 trainings on human trafficking to thousands globally and has published extensively on the topic. Passionate about advocacy, she aims to promote culturally sensitive, trauma-informed care and integrate survivors' voices into training programs. Married to retired Air Force pilot Ken, she is a proud mother of four. Dr. Ernewein joined Shared Hope's Board of Directors in 2023 and was sworn in as the Chair of the Board of Directors today. Congratulations Dr. Ernewein!

Dr. Jason Curtis

Vice Chair of the Board of Directors | Portland, OR

Jason has nearly 30 years of experience in the church and nonprofit sectors, focusing on teaching, coaching, and leadership development. He now applies these skills at Ignite Engagement Consulting, helping people understand themselves and work better together. Jason also serves as Transitional Pastor for Intown Church



in Portland, OR. His background includes roles as a pastor, professor, and executive director, along with advanced theology degrees from the U.S. and Edinburgh, Scotland. Throughout his career, Jason has been dedicated to unlocking personal potential and fostering growth through deep connections and innovative problem-solving. He joined Shared Hope's Board of Directors in 2023 and now serves as Vice Chair.

Our Board of Directors



Linda Smith

Shared Hope Founder and President | Vancouver, WA

Our founder, Linda Smith, is a global leader in ending sex trafficking. She served as a WA state legislator from 1983-1993 and was later elected to Congress in 1994. While in Congress, Linda became aware of trafficking in Mumbai, India. In 1998, she left Congress to establish Shared Hope International, focusing on combatting child and youth trafficking. Linda has authored key works on trafficking and testified before Congress. She resides in Washington, spearheading global efforts to combat child and youth trafficking.

Jennifer Cox

Board of Directors | Eagle, ID

Jennifer Cox is the System Director for CommonSpirit Health's Physician Enterprise, Medical Safe Haven program. With over 25 years in healthcare, she has held roles as an Executive Director for a nonprofit clinic and a Health Educator, and served as a women's and community outreach minister. Jennifer co-developed the



Medical Safe Haven model in 2015, which trains physicians to provide trauma-informed care for human trafficking survivors and is now replicated in six clinics across California. She has presented on this model at many of our JuST Conferences with the American Academy of Family Practice! A lead developer for trauma-informed training, Jennifer has educated over 15,000 individuals nationwide. She has served on multiple nonprofit boards, led humanitarian efforts in Kosovo and Brazil, and holds degrees in Business Leadership and Communications. Jennifer is proud to have raised three children. Jennifer has served on Shared Hope's Board of Directors since May of 2023.

Our Board of Directors



Bill Dunning **Board of Directors | Olympia, WA**

Bill Dunning brings over 30 years of business leadership to the Board. After earning a civil engineering degree from Old Dominion University, he co-founded a Seattle-based civil engineering firm in 1994, expanding it to 8 offices across 3 states. Bill has collaborated with NGOs in 18 countries, supporting community care programs, church establishments, child welfare, and anti-exploitation efforts. He has worked with Shared Hope as a professional volunteer, traveling to our Homes of Hope in Fiji, Jamaica, and Nepal to help with construction and structural integrity of our various homes. Specializing in facility planning and mobilizing ministry and construction teams, he has served on both nonprofit and for-profit boards. Bill and his wife Kathi have six adult children and a grandson. Bill has served on Shared Hope's Board of Directors since 2022.

Dr. Christine Harmon **Immediate Past Chair | Burien, WA**



Dr. Christine Harmon has had a long medical career, beginning as a Physician's Assistant in Pediatric/Adolescent Medicine, earning her MD from the University of Colorado, and completing a Family Medicine Residency at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

She practiced Family and Urgent Care Medicine for over 30 years in Tacoma, WA, focusing on Pediatric/Adolescent Medicine, Women's Health, and Mental Health, and enjoyed mentoring young medical professionals. Currently a Medical Consultant to the Social Security Administration, she has also been involved with Shared Hope International since 2010, serving on the Board of Directors since 2015 and as Chair since 2018. Today, Dr. Harmon passed the torch to Dr. Charrita Ernewein as the new Chair of the Board of Directors. Thank you for your years of service to the Board, Dr. Harmon!

Our Board of Directors



Donna Lancaster

Secretary of Board of Directors | Clearwater, FL

Donna Lancaster, an Emory University graduate, co-founded Johnson-Lancaster and Associates, a nationally recognized food service equipment dealer in Clearwater, FL, now generating over \$100 million in revenue. Before joining our Board of Directors, Donna was very involved in the movement, working with local groups to train law enforcement and developing billboards to discourage buyers like the “This man wants to buy your daughter” billboard in 2016. Still active in Johnson-Lancaster and Associates financial and accounting work, Donna also serves on the boards of the International Association of Human Trafficking Investigators, Zonta Club of Pinellas, and the FREE Network. She participates in various community activities and enjoys spending time with her five grandchildren. Donna has served on Shared Hope’s Board of Directors since 2016.

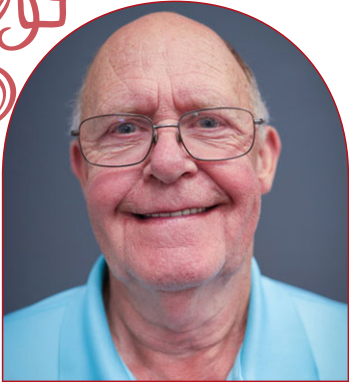
Donna O’Bryant

Board of Directors | Colorado Springs, CO

Donna O’Bryant began her career as a financial advisor with Edward Jones in 1983, retiring from her Colorado Springs practice in 2019. She served as Regional Leader for Southeast Colorado, expanding the firm's branches from 21 to nearly 70, and transitioned her practice to her children, Shaun O’Bryant and Kelli Phifer. Donna and her husband, Dan, are longtime supporters of Shared Hope International and the National Center on Sexual Exploitation. They also support various local organizations, including Springs Rescue Mission and the Pikes Peak Community Foundation. Parents of three USAF Academy grads, they enjoy traveling, skiing, and spending time with their eight grandchildren. Donna has served on Shared Hope’s Board of Directors since 2022.



Our Board of Directors



Lenard "Butch" Yarnell Treasurer of Board of Directors | Spokane, WA

Butch Yarnell retired after over fifty years in the Construction Industry, specializing in the Wood Component Industry. Starting as a saw operator in 1967, he progressed to managing truss plants on the West Coast and later worked as a Software Product Manager for the world's largest truss plate supplier. He enjoyed roles as a trainer, teacher, and presenter. Guided by his strong Christian faith, Butch values helping others reach their potential. Recently, he has become more actively involved with Shared Hope International, serving on the board since 2019, volunteering, and participating in prevention education as an Ambassador of Hope and leading Shared Hope's Defender program. Butch stays active in his Spokane community, spreading awareness and educating people on how they can help stop sex trafficking.

Jay Barber

Advisor to the Board of Directors | Seaside, OR

Dr. Jay A. Barber, Jr. is President Emeritus of Warner Pacific College in Portland, Oregon, where he served as president for twelve years, leading the college to financial stability and significant growth. He holds degrees from Warner Pacific College, the University of San Francisco, and Anderson University. Dr. Barber's career includes roles as a senior pastor, mayor of Red Bluff, California, and Director of the Oregon Health Sciences University Foundation. He has been actively involved in community service, including leadership roles with Mercy Corps and the Responder Life Board of Directors. Jay also served as the mayor of Seaside, OR from 2016-2023. Now, he provides consultation services to nonprofits in the Northwest, focusing on strategic planning, fundraising, and leadership coaching.



**Thank you to our incredible Board of
Directors!**

Emeritus Board Members

Shared Hope continues to receive strong wisdom and support from several of our Emeritus Board Members. We are honored to have some of them with us tonight, including...

- **Marjorie Austen**
- **David Austen**
- **Julie Scheel**
- **Dan O'Bryant**
- **Dale Larson**
- **Phyllis Larson**
- **Carolyn Schultz Rathbun**
- **Fernando Proano**



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Easy Ways to Give



ONLINE

Visit www.sharedhope.org use the donate button or scan the QR code on the back of the giving form at your seat.

USING ENVELOPE

Fill out the form at your seat. Place it in the envelope, then place the envelope in the larger red envelope on the table. Staff will collect.

LEGACY GIVING

If you have questions, please call the office at (360)693-8100 during office hours.

**Thank you for
joining us**

