

### VISION

To end the sex trafficking of children.

## **MISSION**

To combat Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking by bringing restoration to those who are rescued and prevention to those we reach with our message.

### **PROGRESS**

We are very encouraged with the partnerships below that have been developed to help make this campus a reality:

- Land donor nearly 100 acres.
- \$2.9 million appropriated from the State of Florida to develop the property and provide therapeutic services.
- Pro-bono project and construction management of the site development and homes
- Pro bono architect for home design and site plan for county approvals.
- Donated use of professional offices in the Tampa Bay area to expedite work and to engage volunteers.
- Bridging Freedom professional advisors help us to navigate the licensing process, clinical direction, outcome studies and measurements.
- Professional board members and partners covering such areas as law, finance, communications, and community advocacy.
- Best practices program was identified and mentorship granted with Wellspring Living. Wellspring Living has one of the highest success rates in the nation in the rehabilitation of child sex trafficking victims.
- The 2013 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award was presented to our founder appreciating the efforts of Bridging Freedom.

## /////// BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laura Hamilton, MPH	President of Bridging Freedom	President
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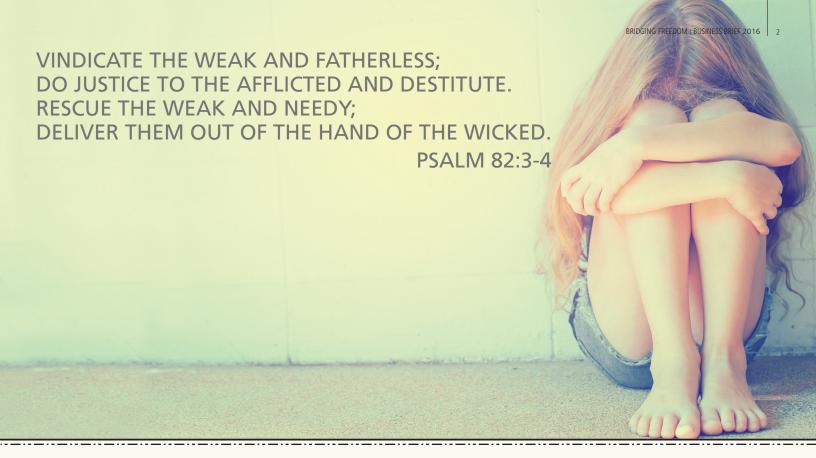
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on-campus individualized, holistic, therapeutic safe home campus community for children traumatized by commercial sexual exploitation. This non-profit home is committed to providing placement solutions for the FBI, Department of Justice Human Trafficking Task Forces within the U.S., and Florida state law enforcement that rescue youth who have been manipulated, kidnapped, or have run away from troubled homes and find themselves preyed upon by traffickers and the adult industry and who cannot escape.

Bridging Freedom is committed to providing an

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Child sex-trafficking is a horrific crime that robs the innocence of its victims causing significant physical, mental and emotional trauma. In the United States each year, approximately 300,000 children – at the average age of 12 – are prostituted against their will, forced to provide sexual acts for an average of 15-30 men a night\*.

Commissioned by the Department of Justice in 2006, the Clearwater/Tampa Bay Area Task Force on Human Trafficking gained grass-roots momentum in rescuing children, providing awareness and trainings, providing short-term victim services, and establishing collaborations between law enforcement, prosecutors, governmental agencies, non-profits, service providers, and faith-based communities. It takes an entire community to combat this hidden crime that is deeply seeded by both organized and unorganized criminals. It is a multi-billion dollar industry and Florida is rated third in the number of tips received for this criminal activity.

One of the greatest needs within Florida is a successful long-term therapeutic safe home campus for rescued children to break the cycle of trauma bonding. Local and Federal law enforcement, combined, rescued approximately 50 girls in the Tampa Bay area in 2015. As more funding for more full-time officers are dedicated to search for our children, more rescues will occur.

An urgent problem is there are very few programs in the entire country, to rehabilitate children from the trauma of being forced to provide services for 15-30 buyers a night, 7 days a week. These children develop severe mental and physical issues requiring specialized care and therapy. Doing nothing for these children creates a multitude of sociological problems costing our State millions of dollars. Our Special Agents, Judges, and DCF need long-term therapeutic homes to place these children. Just as important, our children need these campus communities to heal, find hope and to find purpose.

To help provide placement and rehabilitative solutions for our rescued young girls, Bridging Freedom identified and began developing a proven and successful model for the Tampa Bay area. Bridging Freedom works in collaboration with local law enforcement and undercovers, FBI's Innocence Lost Initiative, and Department of Children and Families.

# /////// PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Bridging Freedom's rehabilitation program will be located on a nearly 100-acre, safe and secure campus with traditional homes and space for outdoor therapeutic activities, with equine therapy, music therapy, art therapy, organic gardening, and a butterfly garden. It will be a holistic environment where children will live in homes with their own bedrooms and bathrooms with nurturing residential counselors and health professionals who will create a positive, healthy, and stable environment conducive to healing.

Bridging Freedom received a grant funded mentorship from one of the most successful child-sex trafficking rehabilitative programs in the country; Wellspring Living in Atlanta, Georgia. They are one of the few successful programs for children with Stockholm Syndrome/Trauma Bonding. With this mentorship, Bridging Freedom is bringing the same successful program to Tampa Bay.

At the therapeutic safe home, survivors will receive a holistic continuum of care:

- Trauma-Informed Care therapy administered by clinical therapists.
- Medical care from licensed nurses.
- Drug rehabilitation from licensed medical professionals.
- Therapeutic recreation, such as equine therapy, art therapy, music therapy, and garden therapy.
- Education from teachers board-certified through the Florida Department of Education.
- Life skills to help survivors adjust to life outside of the home.
- Career development and shadowing to prepare teen survivors to be independent adults.
- Transitions into trained homes to provide continued success for survivors after their rehabilitation.

Equine-Assisted Therapy will be an important part of the holistic healing program at Bridging Freedom's therapeutic safe home as it helps reestablish the personal power that was stripped by the trauma. Certified trainers, knowledgeable in the various programs of Equine Psychotherapy, will work with the young girls. Many positive benefits come through working with horses and Sensory Regulating activities. Troubled youth who manifest depression, dissociative disorders, anxiety, and conduct disorders find many positive benefits in working with therapists, horses, music, and art with renewed confidence, trust, selfconcept, impulse control, boundaries and many more. Through the program, which can last from one to two years depending on the level of traumatization, we will help children with oppportunities to trust, heal emotionally and physically adjust to being kids again, and to find their dreams.







## **CAMPUS MODEL**

We are honored to serve the children who will reside at Bridging Freedom. It is our passion that they find health, hope and a new beginning. We can only imagine the horrors they have endured in their young lives and believe this beautiful, healing campus will help restore their emotional, physical, and spiritual wellbeing. Together we can restore their childhoods.



Budget is calculated to care for approximately 52 children when completely built.

### **CAMPUS FUNDING**

Land - Nearly 100 Acres Donated by Local Family

7 8-Bedroom/Bath Houses (Seeking Community Partners) \$3,150,000

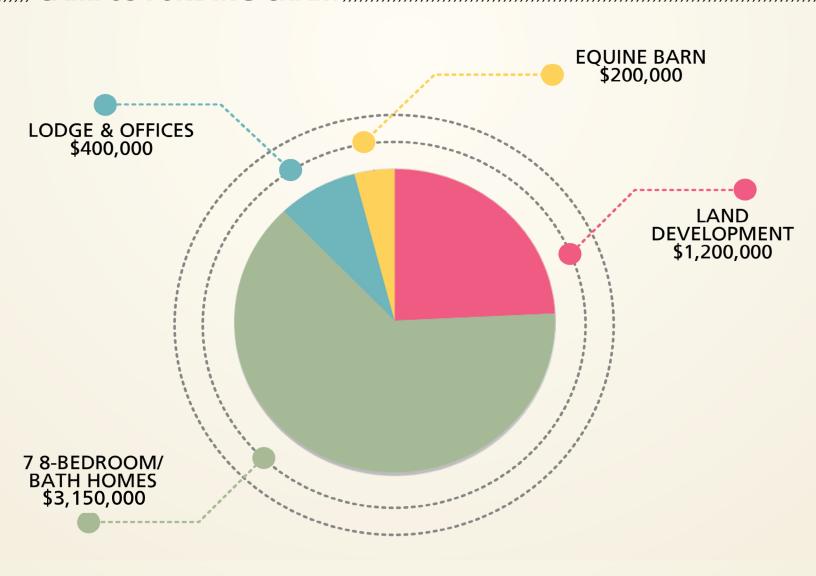
Land Development \$1,200,000

Lodge & Offices \$ 400,000 (Seeking Community Partners)

Equine Barn \$ 200,000 (Seeking Community Partners)

\$4,950,000

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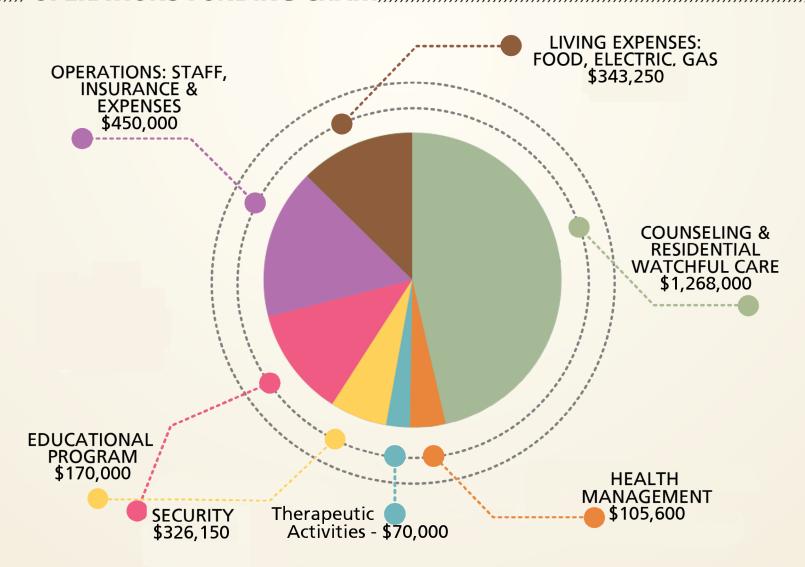


Budget is calculated to care for approximately 12 children

## **OPERATIONS FUNDING**

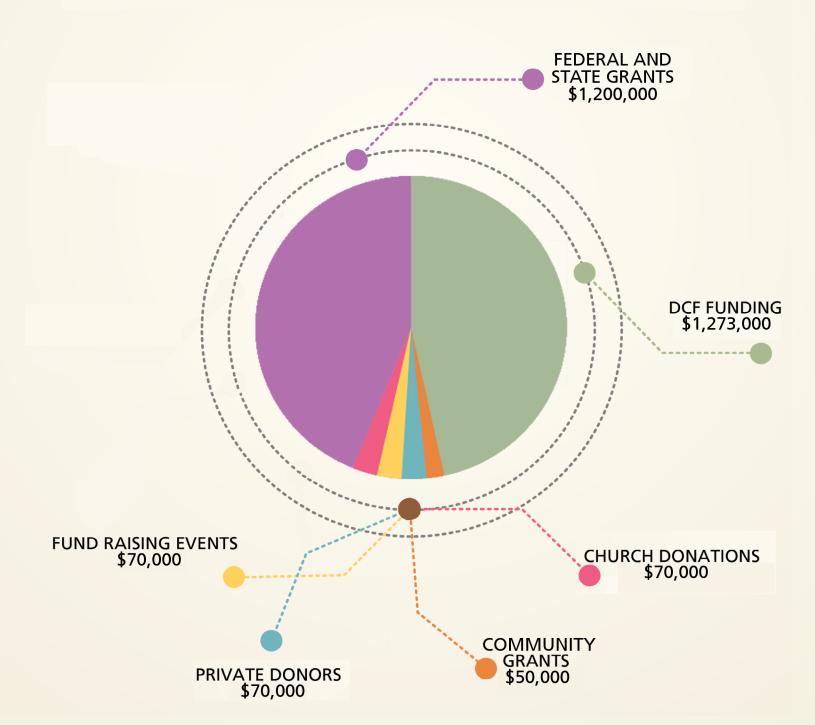
	Therapeutic Activities	\$ 70,000
Counseling & Residential Watchful Care		\$ 1,268,000
	Health Managment	\$ 105,600
	Educational Program	\$ 170,000
	Security	\$ 326,150
Operations: Staff, Insurances & Expenses Living Expenses: Food, Electric, Gas		\$ 450,000
		\$ 343,250
		\$ 2 733 000

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#### **EXPECTED STATE FUNDING**

Revenue is expected to be braided funding, meaning, a Private-Public partnership between the State and the community. Partnerships within the community are needed to provide services that are not covered by State Grants and the Department of Children and Families. The community can partner through private donations, grants, churches, clubs, fundraising events, and support of the thrift store.



The sidewalks connecting the Freedom Homes, Central Freedom Fountain, Equine Activities, Gardening Activities, Chapel, Lodge, and Offices will be made out of Paver Bricks. These bricks will be engraved with donors' messages and/or their name in their honor.

As the girls walk among these paths, they will be reminded by the many names and messages of how important and loved they truly are. It is a therapy of love, an ever-present statement that the community cares about their health and restoration.



#### FREEDOM BRIDGE \$500

- Paver brick placed in your honor
- Your church or business logo placed in our annual report and website

#### **WOODEN BRIDGE \$1,000**

- Receive 1 entry to a 5K run or Golf Tournament
- Previous Bridge Benefits

#### **ARCH BRIDGE \$2,500**

- Receive 2 entries to a 5K run or Golf Tournament
- Previous Bridges Benefits

#### **TRUSS BRIDGE \$5,000**

- 2 VIP Seatings at the Annual Event and name within the program brochure
- Previous Bridges Benefits

#### **DRAW BRIDGE \$10,000**

- 4 VIP Seatings at the Annual Event and name in the Program Brochure and on the Presentation Screen
- Previous Bridges Benefits

#### **CABLE BRIDGE \$50,000**

- Honorarium Brick dedicated at the "Freedom Fountain" in the middle of the campus dedicated to your message and/or name
- Previous Bridges Benefits

#### **SUSPENSION BRIDGE \$100,000**

- Honorarioum Plaque in a Freedom Home
- Christmas luncheon to help hand out presents during the girl's Christmas Celebration
- Previous Bridges Benefits

#### **TOWER BRIDGE \$500,000**

- Honorarium Plaque in the Lodge, Chapel and Equine Barn
- Previous Bridges Benefits

THIS LEAGUE **ESTABLISHES** A FUND FOR THE **SUSTAINABILITY** OF THE **ON-GOING** that commit Bridging FREEDOM **MINISTRY** AT THE COMPLETION //

OF STATE// **GRANTS** 

THE FREEDOM LEAGUE // A Freedom League commitment of \$7,000 provides for the CONSISTS OF:

churches

individuals businesses -

#fundamental quality of the #development and implementation of effective programming for rescued young girls. It also provides for the development of awareness and prevention to the community to keep our children safe

from predators. The Freedom League is a league of dedicated champions that secure the sustainability of care for rescued young girls

Freedom leaguers enjoy all the benefits of the Cable Bridge as well as participation in the Annual Freedom League Summit

The Freedom League Summit is an opportunity to experience the power of like-minded, committed people sharing ideas, visions, and special updates on the program.



Bridging Freedom has partnered with individuals and groups who have blessed the program with fundraising events. We are firmly committed to working with the community to bring healing to these young girls. The love and effort that is given by the community to help in this way will make a difference in their lives.

Please consider helping with one of the ideas below, or be creative and let your passion lead your efforts. A representative from Bridging Freedom will plan to be at your event to be supportive. Our combined energies and resources will bring healing to young girls and will bind us together as we stand for them.

#### **BECOME A CHAMPION FOR HER:**

#### **FACILITATE INTRODUCTIONS TO PROSPECTIVE DONORS**

If you know individuals or organizations that may be interested in donating to Bridging Freedom, please contact us to facilitate an introduction. We are eager to share our mission and how their donation can help child sex-trafficking victims regain lost childhoods. Many businesses and churches are adopting human trafficking as an initiative and we would be honored to share our vision and healing program.

#### **ORGANIZE OR HOST A FUNDRAISER**

Organize or host a fundraising event at your establishment or home.

#### **ORGANIZE OR HOST A PRESENTATION**

Organize or host a presentation at your establishment or home.

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA HELP**

Help with Facebook, You Tube, Twitter, and LinkedIn

#### **OFFICE HELP**

Various Short-term projects.

#### **GRANTS SEARCH**

Be on a team to search for philanthropic and community grants.

#### **TABLE HOST**

Share informational materials at community events.

#### **PRAYER TEAM**

We ask for prayers for the victims of child sextrafficking and Bridging Freedom's success in helping to prevent this crime and rehabilitate survivors. Form a prayer team at your church or home.

For specific volunteer and fundraising opportunities, please contact: forher@bridgingfreedom.org



Bridging Freedom was founded to fill a sad void in our community – restoring stolen childhoods. Bridging Freedom is firmly committed to fulfilling this need.

Bridging Freedom stands ready to partner with its donors with a promise of dedication, faithful hard work, moral and financial integrity, and undying passion to restore a healthly life to the victimized children of Tampa Bay. Our combined investment and promise will produce a productive and healing return.

This promise is evident in the best practices research of our founder. In 2010, there were only a handful of long-term, therapeutic safe homes in the United States for children victimized by child sex trafficking. Wellspring Living had the highest success rate in restoring stolen childhoods in the United States. Their program is so successful and promising that they received grants to mentor four other organizations throughout the country. Bridging Freedom has applied for and received one of those mentorships to replicate their successful program. Proven success is a solid investment for our children's rehabilitation.

We also fulfill our promise by aligning with strong leaders within this issue; established partnerships indicate community strength. These partnerships support Bridging Freedom's vision, mission and commitment to continued excellence. Collaborations have been built with the judicial, law enforcement, service provider and faith-based communities. With balanced input from key community leaders, we promise program excellence.

The strategic goals of 2012 through 2016 were successful in raising awareness, partnerships, and collaborations. The first phase was successful in raising seed funds to build Bridging Freedom's business tools providing a platform to begin a successful fundraising campaign. The second phase was accomplished as we worked to secure a donation of the needed acreage on which to build the campus. Additionally, DeBartolo Development and ARC3 Architecture partnered to begin the preliminary and conceptual building plans. We worked hard with our legislators to receive \$2.9 million in appropiations from the State of Florida to develop the land and provide program services for our initial opening of 12 girls in late spring of 2018. This is encouraging news!

For our next phase, we need your help to finish building the homes on the campus. Two of the seven homes have been sponsored by Sykes Enterprise and Lazydays Employee Foundation. Five additional home sponsors are needed along with Freedom League commitments to provide sustainable therapeutic programming for the many children being rescued in our communities. Please let us know if you would like to review the floor plans to consider donating a room or a structure in your company or family member's name. We need your partnership! With each one of us committing a portion to this project, we can make this healing campus a reality for our children.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about this partnership and how you can help community.

Thank you for your partnership!

BRIDGING Restoring Stolen Childhoods

Laura H. Hamilton, MPH President

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