

## A Deeper Dive Into Being "Pro-life"

by Mike Reid

I vividly remember the day a Hope partner asked me if we do anything to help our patients after they choose life and have their babies. It was awkward because my answer, in short, was "not really." That brief conversation stirred my heart and created a seismic shift at Hope. We've grasped that we are more than just pro-birth, we are pro-life, as in "pro-the-whole-Life!"

**A lot has changed since then.** As always, Hope continues to provide our excellent pregnancy counseling and medical services. *This is still our core mission.* But now we offer to every patient, from the very first conversation, the promise of deeper support for her as a parent. Caring for a newborn is not easy, and most of our patients are woefully unprepared. We're figuring out how to walk alongside her with this new life she is bringing into the world!

That's why we started the **Parenting Initiative**. It's why we now have trained mentors who meet weekly with our patients to guide them into parenthood. It's why we purchased our new building, the **Hope Annex**, and why we have the current campaign to pay off the loan

balance. It's why we are peering ahead to see if there is even more we can do to help our patients.

Many Hope partners have cheered for and encouraged us in this new adventure. Thank you for your love for our patients and for sharing our desire to come alongside them to the greatest degree possible!

If you would like more information about the Parenting Initiative or the new Hope Annex, please visit our website, [hopeforsalem.org](http://hopeforsalem.org)



The Hope Annex: God's provision for the Parenting Initiative!

## The Hope Run Will Be Here Soon!

Break out your party hats and running shoes! We finally get to be together in the park to celebrate Hope, enjoy friendships, and run (or walk) our hearts out. Whether you run one of our chip-timed courses or walk the 5k or 1k course, your steps and fundraising efforts will help us provide our free medical services to women facing unplanned pregnancies.

Please plan to join us the morning of **August 14th at Minto Brown Park**. There are two steps to participate:



First, **REGISTER** as a runner or walker by going to our website, [hopeforsalem.org](http://hopeforsalem.org). You can increase the fun and community by creating a team and participating together. There is no limit to the number of people on a team. Sign up as a team leader or team member on the registration page.

Second, **ASK** your friends and family to sponsor you. You can create a personal fundraising page and share what you love about Hope with your friends. Every donation helps to provide support and services to a woman who needs Hope.

We hope to see **YOU** at the 2021 Hope Run!

August 14, 2021

Minto Brown Island Park

Check-in opens at 8 a.m. Run begins at 9 a.m.

**Visit [hopeforsalem.org](http://hopeforsalem.org) to register, fundraise and for FAQ's**

## Patient Vignettes

The bullseye of Hope's mission is to engage with women who think they need an abortion, and "empower them to make healthy, life-affirming decisions." We see women with a wide range of feelings about their pregnancies, and have recently had a LOT of abortion-minded patients. Here is a brief picture of a few of them.

- **S has mental health issues** and takes medication so she can focus at work. She is concerned this could affect the baby. S and her boyfriend want to keep the baby but are afraid.

- **B's mother made the appointment for her** and told us B is planning to abort. However, B never mentioned that when she was here so we were not able to discuss it with her. She left saying she planned to carry, and we hope it's true.

- **L had just broken up with the father of the baby**, was emotionally distressed and very abortion-minded. However, she came back for an ultrasound appointment and said she had decided to parent.

So many difficult stories walk into Hope every week. We appreciate your prayers for our patients to make "healthy, life-affirming decisions."

## Introducing Maria

Hope is delighted to introduce our new Parenting Initiative Coordinator, **Maria Simili**. Maria is bright, energetic, creative and kind. We're pretty excited to have her on board. Hope also gives our heartfelt thanks to Celeste Guptill for her incomparable skills and knowledge to help launch the Parenting Initiative and guide it through its opening year.



## Volunteer Opportunities

Hope is always looking to add volunteer advocates and mentors to help serve our patients, however, we are also looking to fill a few new volunteer positions.

**Handyman** – someone to provide light carpentry and fix-it help as needed.

**Groundskeeping** – someone to prune plants and bushes, fertilize and weed. This would be for both the Clinic and Annex grounds. We anticipate this happening once a month.

**Custodial** – someone to clean the Annex once a week.

To request an application or for any questions, please contact Beth at [beth@hopeforsalem.org](mailto:beth@hopeforsalem.org) or visit the 'Get Involved' page on our website [hopeforsalem.org](http://hopeforsalem.org).



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*See inside for details  
about event updates!*



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