

Hope Growth

Article two of a four-part series

As we reported in our April newsletter, Hope is growing in every way imaginable. Everything keeps increasing — patients, ultrasound exams, parenting classes, employees, volunteers, income and expenses. It's a lot!

By far, the most important area of growth is our patient load.

Our patients are at the very core of our mission. Over the past three years, the number of patient visits per year has increased from 983 to 1,729. Serving them with excellence is what drives everything we do at Hope.

Many women come to Hope thinking abortion is their only option. We're amazed and blessed that they come here first for their information. We get to fill their hearts with truth seasoned with love and grace. Hope staff and volunteers excel at being non-biased listeners, and we promise to stand alongside each and every woman. Every one of them is significant and worthy of respect and acceptance.

It is remarkable how widely different our patients are. Some hope they are pregnant and are joy-filled upon seeing their baby on the ultrasound screen. Some are living very difficult lives and have little hope or joy for anything.

Here is a short sample of some recent Hope patients:

- has an appointment with an abortion provider to abort and is rethinking it
- has a positive pregnancy test, DHS has taken two previous babies, and is still addicted and homeless
- thinks we're an abortion clinic and is upset we won't refer her to one
- comes in so high on drugs that it's impossible to communicate with her
- a 40-year-old woman who has grown children and doesn't want to "start over"

Whether a hard or simple case, we will support her unconditionally. Whether she leans toward life or abortion, she receives full respect and love. We can be of help to every one of them. It might be a referral and phone call to a drug clinic, a vocational center or a doctor. It might be getting her started with a mentor in our Parenting Initiative. It's sometimes introducing her to Christ the Lord.

As Hope continues to grow our services, we'll continue to lean on the body of Christ in Salem for prayer and support. We'll continue to train and utilize strong women of Christ to help us give His best. And we'll keep on seeing where God's footsteps lead us.

The Hope Run 2023

Registration for the 2023 Hope Run is now open! This year's event will take place on **Saturday, August 5th at Minto Brown Island Park**. We hope you will join us.

By registering and raising funds, **you help women** experience our excellent medical services, compassionate care and parenting support. Bring your friends and family for a great morning in the park.

To register, or for more information, scan the QR code or visit hopeforsalem.org. Early-bird pricing ends on July 16th.



Welcome Our New Staff



Rebecca Steel is the first ever Services Assistant at Hope.



Berna Mendez is Hope's new part-time Bilingual Receptionist.



Roni Rasmussen joins Hope as our first Staff Advocate.

We are thankful for each of our new employees. As our patient numbers increase, additional staff are required to continue to provide our excellent, compassionate services.

Photo credit to: P.a.M. Photography and More

Cheering for Paige

Many Hope partners know about Paige. She is the patient to whom we gave a virtual baby shower. Her registry was completely filled by you within just a few days. Paige's situation is unusual, thus, our unusual step of helping her this way.

For those who missed it, here are some pieces of her story. She's a first-time mom whose little baby boy is due in July. Paige is a domestic violence survivor. She had to move away from that situation, and that meant leaving behind her friends and support network. She lives in the Salem area with her mother and is otherwise alone.

Paige has had severe hyperemesis gravidarum (HG) throughout her pregnancy. This is a rare pregnancy illness that causes severe malnourishment for both the mother and baby, and can even cause death for the mother. She is at high risk for premature birth and has been on hospital bed rest throughout her pregnancy. This, of course, has created great physical and financial hardships.

Paige tried to complete Hope's parenting classes and mentoring remotely but even that became too challenging. Maria Simili, Hope's Parenting Initiative Coordinator, has kept close tabs on Paige and will continue to reach out to her when and after her baby comes.

Thank you all for your love for Hope and your response to Paige's need. She is one woman among hundreds who have their own unique situations, too. Thank you for loving them all. And thank you for continuing to cheer for Paige!



A Big Thank You

The **Windermere Foundation** has supported Hope Pregnancy Clinic since 2003! Lately their support has helped purchase car seats for the Parenting Initiative program. Brand new car seats are available for mentees who complete a full six-week course. This year, Windermere presented Hope with a generous gift of \$3,000! What a wonderful way to support women and babies.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Save the Date
Fall Dessert
Saturday, October 21



@hopeforsalem