ANNUAL REPORT

NORTHSTARINITIATIVE.ORG NORTH

WHO WE ARE

North Star Initiative (NSI) is a 501(c)3 organization located in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. NSI owns and operates The Harbor, a 24/7 restoration home and program for domestic sex-trafficking survivors. Our goal is for every survivor to leave The Harbor fully restored so she can return to the community and enjoy a life of sustained independence.

MISSION

North Star Initiative advocates for and supports survivors of sex trafficking by providing physical, psychological, emotional, educational, and spiritual development through a Christ-centered focus.

VISION

Advocating for the Restoration of women from sex trafficking – FOR FREEDOM. FOR LIFE. FOREVER.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



JOHN BOMBERGER



CLAIRE CHIVINGTON



TERRY ESBENSHADE



KELLY GOOCH



DOUG HARRIS



JOY HUNGERFORD

North Star Initiative saw God work in significant ways in 2022 to further mature and grow the ministry, most notably with the completion of the Survivor Center, an endeavor that was years in the planning! NSI engaged the services of The North Group to guide and direct the NSI Board through a vital forward-looking strategic planning process, along with a regional search for a new Executive Director that culminated in a successful hiring in late 2022. We are indeed grateful that, through the ups and downs of 2022, we witnessed God's faithfulness and abundance with new financial and prayer partners, increased giving, new employees and the opening of the Survivor Center. Finally, we are grateful for the women who came through the doors of NSI in 2022 and pray for God's rich blessing and protection on each of their lives.

DOUG HARRIS, on behalf of the Board



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2022 was a year of transitions for North Star, in which Janelle Esbenshade stepped up to serve as our interim executive director as the Board did the slow, good work of strengthening our roots to encourage healthy growth. Transitions always bring challenges, and we certainly had those in the past year. But the transitions also uncovered opportunities to hone in on our mission and discern how and where God is calling us to grow.

Providing a safe place for survivors of trafficking to flourish has been and will continue to be our passion. As we took time to strengthen our internal structures, we continued to invest in residents. Some graduated and others joined the Harbor. A network of team members, Board members, and community partners made the dream of a new Survivor Center a reality, and we moved into the new office and programming space with grateful hearts.

2022 brought joys and pains, and I see the Father's faithfulness throughout the season. At the tail end of these initiatives, the Board invited me to serve our team, survivors, and community as North Star's new Executive Director. I feel deeply privileged to care for this organization and steward our extraordinary mission. I am also grateful to you, our friends. Your care and generosity have shaped every stage of North Star's journey. Because of you, survivors are walking in greater freedom. Students learned how to stay safe online. More of the community is engaged in the battle. Thank you! I am eager to see what we will do together next!

Kindly,

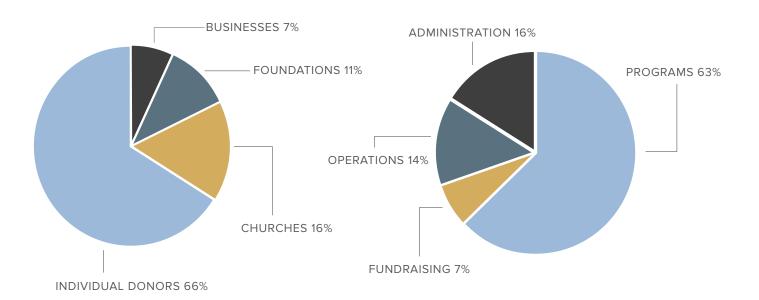
MELINDA CLARK
Executive Director



FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME | TOTAL \$995,877

EXPENSES | TOTAL \$771,930



Platinum Transparency 2023 Candid. "Everyone should be free but through force, fraud and coercion many lose this most basic right. I feel the need to stand up for the truth of what is actually happening and defend vulnerable victims."

DONOR TESTIMONY

SURVIVOR CENTER UPDATE

JANELLE ESBENSHADE
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT



When I think of 2022 I see it as a year of development through administrative changes, programming updates, and of course, the building of the new Survivor Center. We broke ground on construction in January 2022, and by December our administrative team started moving in. I was and still am amazed at the overwhelming support of our community; from individuals to businesses to churches, everyone pitched in to bring the vision to life.

With your support we completed this project in just under a year, and you gave all the funds to completely cover the cost; praise the Lord for His provision! Yet, He didn't stop there. While we thought we were simply building a new structure on our property, all along God was truly building up a new community around us. Throughout this process, we had the opportunity to meet with local churches, businesses, and foundations; cultivating both current and new relationships. We had a plethora of subcontractors who, once learning about the mission of NSI, provided generous gifts in kind towards the project. This season has given us the opportunity to share our story and our hearts on a new platform with a variety of community members.

As we enter 2023, we are excited for all the ways The Survivor Center will allow us to continue building up this community committed to seeing our survivors flourish. With this facility we welcome new members to our team to walk alongside our survivors in reaching their educational goals, working through therapy to overcome trauma, and creating healthy life skills. Already this space has become home to new exercise class initiatives and creative art opportunities facilitated by you. We praise God for how He continues to bless NSI through our generous supporters and partners, often in the most unexpected ways. This project is a testament of His goodness!

A SURVIVOR'S JOURNEY

GETTING TO THE HARBOR AND BEYOND

Learn how a survivor arrives at the Harbor and receives supportive programming on their path to restoration, healing and hope. This framework is tailored to every survivor's individual needs as they learn practical life skills and develop healthy habits to lead fulfilling lives.



"I am a completely different person since coming to the Harbor. Being here has changed my life."

REFERRAL

Referred through local law enforcement, social workers, similar care programs or organizations, and NTSA (National Trafficking Shelter Alliance)

PHASE 1

HARBOR RESTORATION PROGRAM initial 90 days Acclimation Assessing needs Goal setting

PHASE 2

PREPARATION months 3-6

Structured programming Life skills training

PHASE 3

TRANSITIONAL months 6-9

Implementing life skills Working part time

PHASE 4

EXIT months 9-12

Working full time Saving for independent living



HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

There are a variety of ways to be part of the work at NSI. When you apply to become a volunteer, the possibilities are endless.

- Seasonal yard work
- Inside cleaning & organizing
- Meal prep & cooking with residents
- Transportation for residents

If you have a different creative idea for getting involved, please reach out! At the Harbor, we have a place for you to invest the skills and talents with which God has blessed you.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

In 2022 our amazing volunteers put in 1,457 hours of work; that's 60 days of the year that our operation wouldn't have functioned if not for them.

NOMITSE

This experience and these women are teaching me more than I could ever teach them." -Volunteer



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