



HOPE

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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About Amirah

Amirah is a multifaceted aftercare organization for women who have survived the commercial sex trade, providing residential, outreach, and educational services. Our mission is to provide refuge for those seeking to break free from exploitation and heal in community on their journey toward lasting hope.

Our goal is to give each survivor we serve the time and space she needs to reach liberation.



REFLECTING ON 2021

2021 – what a year of celebration!

Together, we celebrated 10-years of Amirah being an organization that has supported women as they exited the commercial sex trade.

We want to take a moment to reflect on the growth we have seen over these 10 years. Let's start first with the mission of Amirah: we exist to provide a refuge for those seeking to break free from exploitation and heal in community on their journey toward lasting hope.

We began this mission a single safe home providing an intensive, trauma-informed wrap around care. We have now grown our programs to include two safe homes, a Community Resource Center in Lynn, MA, resiliency support groups in the community, and thousands of individuals educated and trained on this issue. We have provided more than 10,000 nights of freedom provided through our programs.

Our programs are designed around each woman's goals, not a time frame dictated by insurance costs. Your support has made this unique approach possible. At the end of 2021, we surpassed 75,000 trauma-recovery hours through our program. In this report, you will read why this approach truly changes lives as we hear from graduates of our Residential Program and from a participant of our Community Resource Center.

This incredible growth has only been possible because of your amazing support. We cannot thank you enough for all that has happened over the past ten years and are looking forward to what will happen in the next ten.

Greg Smith
Chair, Board of Directors



Stephanie Clark
Chief Executive Officer



MORE THAN SERVICE: JUSTICE



Mary Speta
Chief Impact Officer

When we look at the landscape of prostitution and sex trafficking, we see very common themes: women and girls impacted by poverty, abuse, homelessness, and trauma who are victimized in a system that exploits the vulnerable. The work we do at Amirah goes beyond just offering services - we're providing the things women need to rise up out of oppressive circumstances and thrive in liberation. And that is a work of justice.

In 2021 we provided:

- 1,500** Nights of Freedom
- 6,504** Hours of Social, Emotional & Spiritual Recovery
- 9,315** Hours of Vocational, Mental & Physical Recovery
- 111** Women Served

No person should be bought and sold. No one should be forced to use their body as a product just to survive - to make it to the next day, find the next meal, get to a safe place to sleep. The pandemic saw an increased number of reports of sex trafficking throughout the U.S. and we saw more women being exploited out of dire circumstances.

The thing about justice work is that it is ultimately hopeful. When I look back on the work we did together in 2021 - the work we did alongside the women in our programs - I see hope. I see hope for *Celeste, as she pursues her degree. I see hope for *Kierra, as she begins looking for an apartment. I see hope for *Clarice, as she meets her 6 month sobriety milestone.

By stepping in to fill the gap with services, we are doing justice by women who have been unjustly harmed. When someone steps up for you in this way, it's hopeful. It's hopeful because you think to yourself, "maybe I am worth fighting for. Maybe I'm worth more than this." And eventually - you believe it. I'm so grateful for this community, as we continue to build and serve women in need.

**Names changed for privacy.*

I first learned about the Community Resource Center when attending a Waffle Wednesday at The Mansion. I met the Amirah staff and immediately started attending groups and one-on-one life skills meetings. As hard as it is to go back to the trauma, the team has helped me to understand that by avoiding and denying it, I am not going to heal. They have helped me realize that I need to finally heal, I want to heal, and I deserve to heal. I finally feel seen and heard; not just by them but I have finally acknowledged myself and have started my journey of healing.

I am so grateful for Amirah and I recommend them to women I come in contact with who have a history of sex trafficking. I believe in these ladies and in Amirah because I am a testimony of how it works. I am so grateful to everyone involved and I look forward to continuing my journey of healing with Amirah.

By Stevie

CRC Participant

WHAT AMIRAH MEANS TO ME



By Katie
Graduate

Amirah was and still is to this day the biggest steppingstone of my recovery and adult life. The things that I learned about myself and the healing (physical, spiritual, and emotional) that took place in that house was one of the most beautiful experiences of my life!

Don't get me wrong, going into a situation and not knowing what is going to happen next is extremely scary, and being able to trust that there is something better ahead is very hard for anyone. But from the day I walked through the doors of Amirah, I was loved and, most of all, valued - far more than anything money can buy - by women that you read about in books or watch in movies. The women that

“From the day I walked through the doors of Amirah, I was loved and, most of all, valued - far more than anything money can buy.”

volunteered and worked at Amirah never judged us, rushed us, got upset with us, disrespected us - they just loved us and were role models to every one of us. Never in my life had I experienced love and kindness like I did while staying there and after leaving there. It gave me a whole new outlook on life and especially people!

Not every day was sunshine and rainbows, because healing is messy and brutal. But no matter what, I could count on the other girls with me. We were more like sisters, and most of all, we understood each other's pain and trauma. There never had to be an explanation between us because it was our unspoken bond.

So, if you were to ask me what Amirah meant to me, I would have to say the words that come to mind are love, strength, forgiveness, and perseverance. I went through a lot of horrible things in my life before I had the opportunity to walk through those doors, but I wouldn't change my life for anything.

Unfortunately, bad things happen to amazing people, and it's okay to not understand the "why's" surrounding the situation. What matters most is how you come back from it. I can look in the mirror today and not be disgusted by my own reflection, or feel dirty, and that is because of the whole person care I received at Amirah. I will never think of myself as a victim, because I am here today, stronger than ever, and today I can help other women in recovery who've been through the same things as me. I can show up for them like the women at Amirah did for me and that's a gift from God that will forever be irreplaceable for myself and so many others.

Where I am today? All I can say is what a long, strange trip it's been, that is for sure. When I say it hasn't been easy or perfect these last few years, I definitely mean it. However, my worst days today are what a lot of people consider luxury problems.

I have my own apartment and am currently saving money to buy a house. I have a fiancé that has been through the best and the worst with me and he pushes me to be the best version of myself that I can be.

I have had the opportunity to serve as an assistant director for a sober house, and I sponsor other women in recovery. I just started my own business/LLC, selling sneakers and clothes, and am patiently waiting to find the right commercial real estate so I can move from selling online to a retail store. I have economic stability, good credit, and a reliable vehicle that I am very proud of because I did it myself and no one can take it away from me or use it against me! I continue going to therapy and meetings. I truly can say that I have seen the promises unfold in my life in so many ways and have built a life that I love. I have worked very hard to get to where I am today and it hasn't been easy, but it has definitely been worth it.

Without Amirah being a part of my life, I can honestly say I probably wouldn't be here today. And if I wasn't at Amirah, I can't imagine what my life would have looked like!

GROWING AWARENESS IN OUR COMMUNITY

In 2021, we educated 9,428 community members and peer service providers on the commercial sex trade and how to respond to women coming forward, asking for help.

Education is immensely important to creating the necessary level of awareness in our communities on sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. It is only when we have a collective awareness of this issue that we are able to respond with a unified voice to this injustice.



WHAT AMIRAH MEANS TO ME

By Anonymous

Graduate

My first day at Amirah was April 2nd, 2018. It feels like a million years ago and yesterday at the same time.

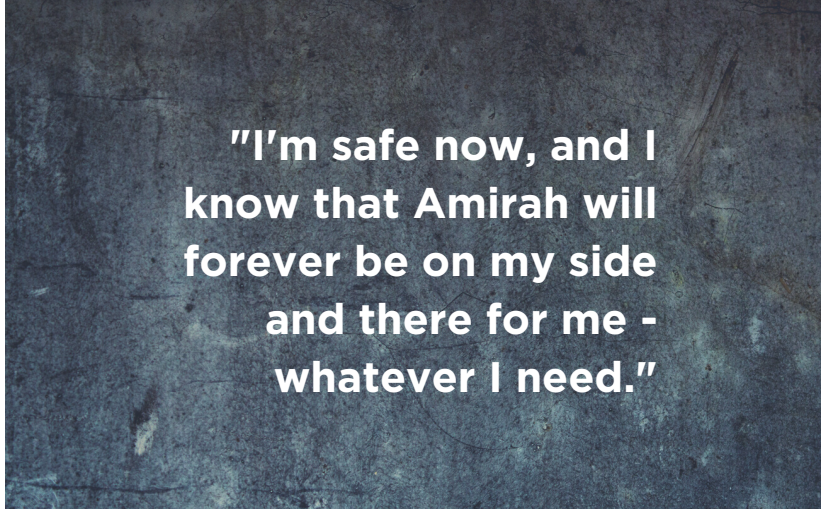
I remember thinking to myself that first night in my new room at Amirah about how nervous I was, but also how utterly determined I was to start my life over, stay clean, and better myself and my life for me and my two girls and my family. There were only about two times in 3 ½ years at Amirah that I doubted things.

Staff and volunteers loved me and gave me grace and NEVER judged me or put me down. NEVER!!

I honestly believe still to this day that if I had not found this unique, amazing, completely different from

the rest program, I wouldn't be where I am today. Or I might not be here on this earth at all.

So many groups and meetings and talks and conversations with my housemates and staff. I am very grateful for it all now, not annoyed or frustrated or angry or sad. All of which I was feeling and more in the start of my long journey at Amirah.



"I'm safe now, and I know that Amirah will forever be on my side and there for me - whatever I need."

There really are not words in our language that do justice to the way I feel about Amirah, but I will try. It's an awesome thing that all the Amirah staff and volunteers have been doing. I'm safe now, and I know that Amirah will forever be on my side and there for me - whatever I need.

THANK YOU

We are only able to do all this incredibly work because of the support of our donors, church partners, volunteers, and community. Thank you for making the stories written in these pages possible with your gifts, talents, and support.



Financials

Revenue

Contributions Unrestricted	\$1,001,440
Contributions Temp Restricted	\$101,083
Special Events Unrestricted	\$38,215
Special Events Temp Restricted	\$10,048
Other Types of Revenue	\$4,936
Total Revenue	\$1,155,722

Expenses

Program Costs	\$806,608
Administrative Costs	\$173,617
Development Costs	\$164,523
Depreciation	\$24,920
Total Expenses*	\$1,144,748
Total Amount in in-Kind Donations	\$28,705.68

"I'm here. I'm alive.
Some days I can't
believe it. But I have to
believe it, because this
is good. This place is
good. This life is good.
I'm hopeful for my
future. Stay tuned. It's
going to be amazing."

Anonymous

Residential Program Participant

