



# Amirah

*From exploitation to liberation.*



**2018  
Annual Report**

# About Amirah

Amirah is a multifaceted aftercare organization for survivors of sex trafficking, 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.

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# One Big Year

Dear Amirah Community:

2018 was a BIG year. The flagship North Shore safe home grew to capacity, and women graduated and successfully moved on in their lives. We launched our Outreach Group Programs with Survivor-Leader Cheri Crider in the fall of 2018, connecting with a dozen victims helping them to realize the exploitation that happened in their lives. When our first group kicked off in January of 2019, 17 women showed up to hear what Cheri had to say. The impact she made in that hour will be with these women for the rest of their lives.

Not only are we doing something about the need, but we are being recognized as a leader in this movement. In 2018, I was invited to the United Nations to be a part of a discussion on “Practical Solutions to Eradicate Human Trafficking.” Those discussions have now led Amirah to become a part of the Sheltered Alliance, bringing the discussion of best practices in this field to the forefront. We recognize that we will not be able to help every victim that is out there, but we hope that the victims who have a chance to do so will do it in the best way possible.

Lastly, we solidified our partnership in Connecticut and announced our plan to duplicate there our long-term, recovery safe home model. As we are already in 2019, I am thrilled to say that this is coming together beautifully and I hope, with great surety, that we will be opening the doors of this home in 2019!

2018 was a BIG year. Thank you for growing with us. Thank you for believing in this work, and thank you for making the Amirah Community the most amazing support we could ever ask for!



With Hope.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Clark".

Stephanie Clark  
Executive Director  
Amirah, Inc.



# Beyond the Headlines

When Florida law enforcement officials raided a human trafficking ring at several spas in February 2019, Patriots CEO Robert Kraft was only part of the story. The greater tragedy belonged to the women who were prevented from leaving, forced to sleep in the spa and required to perform sex acts against their will. Closer to home, a similar raid in Beverly, MA, uncovered women kept against their will and forced to perform unspeakable acts. These headlines represent individual tragedies but are bringing to light how widespread the problem of human sex trafficking is. The release of these women is always a cause for celebration, but often these women are left alone and homeless with deep emotional and physical scars. This is why Amirah exists.

Equally important to why Amirah exists is how we exist—how we perform the work we are called to do. These women's deep scars require special care, and standard support systems are often inadequate to address the unique trauma they have experienced. At Amirah, we believe in whole person care, which encompasses physical, emotional, and spiritual healing and comes only through time and proper care. The work can be heartbreaking, exhausting, and emotionally draining yet so gratifying. *Thank you to our wonderful staff and thank you for being our partner as we do this work.*

The recent headlines have not only brought new awareness to the problem of trafficking but also to the work of Amirah. We are being recognized and consulted nationally. 2019 is shaping up to be a year of expansion for Amirah as we extend our *Ending the Game* support group services, continue to be a voice for the voiceless, release a guidebook on how to run a safe home, and open a new home in Connecticut.

We appreciate your partnership with us.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Smith".

Greg Smith  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Amirah, Inc.

# Whole Person Care

“

*Because trauma is a body, mind, and soul experience, recovery needs to be a body, mind, and soul experience. We believe that a trauma-informed program can only be effective when the whole person is invited into the*

**HEALING  
PROCESS.**

*- Heather Thornburg, Program Director*



# HOPE LIVES HERE

*when she is given  
her own key and  
welcomed home.*



## Physical

**1,615**

Total Number of Appointments, Meetings, and Groups

“

After a long, rainy, cold day, she walked home soaked and wet because she forgot her umbrella. But once she saw her home, her face lit up because she realized that for the first time she had a warm bed to call her own and somewhere to come in out of the rain.

# HOPE LIVES HERE

*when she is  
able to live life  
out of the fog.*



## Psychological

### 679

Total Number of Appointments, Meetings, and Groups

“

It's been amazing to watch one woman take college courses covering addiction recovery work. Not only is she learning how to help others, but she is discovering new things about herself each class and finding freedom in the future.

# HOPE LIVES HERE

*when tears of fear  
turn into tears of  
freedom.*



## Emotional

### 905

Total Number of Appointments, Meetings, and Groups

“

After a self-defense class, she was able to restore confidence in herself when the instructor looked at her and remarked about how strong she was.

# HOPE LIVES HERE

*when laughter  
fills the air.*



## Social

# 1,902

Total Number of Groups, Meetings, Meals, and Outings



Stepping out of all comfort zones, each night the community of women sits down together for a meal around a table, restoring brokenness and having a family meal.

# HOPE LIVES HERE

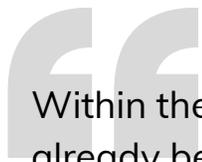
*when dollar  
bills mean  
empowerment.*



## Vocational

**4,016**

Total Hours of Vocational Trauma Recovery



Within the first four weeks on her new job, she was already being promoted, because the manager saw how dedicated she was.

# HOPE LIVES HERE

*when she sees  
the woman she  
was created to  
be.*



## Spiritual

### 638

Total Number of Meetings, Groups, and Outings

“

I’m finally able to be with myself and look at my reflection in the mirror.”

- Survivor, Residential Program Participant



“

I am enjoying this group a lot. The facilitators are really nice and compassionate. They make me feel like they really care.

- Survivor Outreach Group Participant

## Outreach

In 2018, we launched our Survivor-Led Outreach Groups. Over the past three years, we have seen too many victims enter back into the cycle of exploitation before they are even given a chance at freedom at Amirah or another safe home. Our hope is that by leading these groups in places where we know there are victims, we might help them to break that cycle of exploitation sooner in their lives.

At our very first group, we saw this truth lived out when Cheri, our Survivor-Leader, met a woman named “Maureen.” Maureen was like most victims, she had a wall of protection around her and mistrusted Cheri from the start. But through her own story and perseverance, Cheri watched Maureen’s walls break down. Week after week, Maureen began to open up and eventually she was able to realize that what Cheri was offering was exactly what she needed.

Maureen applied to the North Shore safe home program and was accepted in 2018. We are thrilled that she is now in her long-term recovery program, working to restore her life and cease the cycle of exploitation.



# Education

In 2018, we launched outside our walls with the hope of educating the community about the issue of sex trafficking.

We trained over 900 individuals at 28 events in 2018 on how to provide trauma-informed care, what the best practices are in providing aftercare, and why the whole-person care model is what is needed for a victim of sex trafficking.

At 33 different events, we raised awareness about this issue to over 3,600 individuals. That's 3,600 people who now know that sex trafficking happens here and that Amirah is providing the best possible solution to help these victims become survivors and thrive in life.



**3,600**

Awareness Training  
Participants



**900**

Trauma-Informed Care  
Training Participants



I had no idea that sex trafficking even happened in the U.S., let alone down the street from my house. I am so grateful to have learned so much about this issue and discover ways that I can help. Amirah has opened my eyes to so much.

- Education Program Participant

# Volunteers



# 3,272

Total Volunteer Hours

We are so grateful for all of our volunteers who give their time and talent every day to help these women restore their lives. You are the reason that #HopeLivesHere.

**2018 Volunteers of the Year:**  
Rebecca Cherry and Mary DeVito



I have had the most incredible experience volunteering at Amirah. The things I have learned from these women have changed me.

- Direct Care Volunteer

# Financials

## Revenue

Contributions Unrestricted	\$224,823
Special Events	\$195,094
Contributions Temp Restricted	\$136,044
Other Types of Revenue	\$6,125
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$562,086</b>

## Expenses

Program Costs	\$291,060
Administrative Costs	\$122,372
Development Costs	\$103,081
Depreciation	\$6,537
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$516,513</b>

Increase in Net Assets \$45,593

Total Amount in In-Kind Donations \$30,047

# Community

We could not do the amazing, life-changing work that we do at Amirah without our community of supporters. It is because of our partners that we can honestly say, **Hope Lives Here.**



Each year, a huge group of our community of supporters gathers in one place to celebrate the power of Hope. We raised more than \$60,000 at 2018's Voices of Hope and took a deep dive into the work of trauma recovery with guest speaker Dr. Naomi Azar.

The Hike for Hope is an amazing adventure up Mount Washington, a 6,288-foot-high trek taken by hikers supporting survivors in our residential program. More than 40 hikers raised \$20,000 for the women in recovery in our safe home!



Our virtual 5K, Walk in Her Shoes, raised \$80,000 for the opening of our new safe home in Connecticut, expected 2019. We had nearly 200 people from Boston, MA, to Venice, Italy, take the Walk in Her Shoes.

“

Hope today means not giving  
up on everyone around me,  
but most importantly

**MYSELF.**

- Survivor, Residential Program Participant



**Hope Lives Here**