



UNITED AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

2021 STATEMENT OF IMPACT



A LETTER FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

My Dear Friend,

2021 was a year of momentous change and profound victory—for UAHT, for the anti-trafficking movement, and for survivors. The journey from January to December brought many challenges, but our clear vision and the tireless efforts of the Board, staff, clients, and **friends like you** ensured we made great strides towards fulfilling our mission.

But we still have much work to do in the anti-human trafficking movement, especially surrounding the urgent need for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). UAHT has been an advocate for the principles of DEI for years, and the tragic events of 2020 served to highlight the discussion. **We strive to be an example for the entire anti-trafficking movement of what DEI in action truly means.** In 2021, together with our dear partners, we continued amplifying marginalized voices through initiatives such as the Justice Series: a blend of performance art and panel discussion that explores how human trafficking disproportionately affects Black and Brown communities. We plan to continue this important venture for years to come.

While we fight exploitation, we must keep DEI at the heart of all we do. As a licensed social worker, I was trained—and try to live every day—in recognition of the **inherent worth and dignity of every human being.** That's also why UAHT exemplifies the importance of this value in all that we do. It informs our local presence and, most importantly, the way we collaborate with survivors of human trafficking.

2021 was UAHT's first full calendar year of delivering case management services to individuals who have been trafficked. We've learned so much over the years, but we've learned the most from those we serve: **Human trafficking survivors. Overcomers. Thrivers.** They teach us every day what perseverance looks like. We understand deeply that we aren't experts, and we aren't the ones deciding what's best for them.

They decide. They lead. We follow. Survivors of human trafficking and UAHT walk the pathway of recovery together.

We can't discuss 2021 without mentioning The Pathway Referral Network. The Pathway is the ultimate expression of our commitment to unity and collaboration. It helps UAHT and our regional partners connect with each other and with survivors on a single, secure online platform. **I am so thankful for all the incredible service agencies who have joined us to elevate the care provided to our community.** The data collected from The Pathway will help shine a light on local human trafficking as never before.

“We've learned so much over the years, but we've learned the most from those we serve: Human trafficking survivors. Overcomers. Thrivers. They teach us every day what perseverance looks like.”



I am endlessly optimistic about the future of UAHT. Because I know how much of an impact we make on our clients, our partners, and the community. I am delighted to tell you that UAHT has begun visiting other areas of the country. We plan to expand operations, spreading our vital message of unity and respect.

Our great work must continue. **It is crucial that we come together as a community and strive towards a future that respects the dignity and worth of all people.** Because we can't hope to combat exploitation without loving every human being as we work tirelessly to end human trafficking.

With the deepest love and respect, I ask:
Will you join me?



Timeka Walker
Chief Executive Officer

WHO WE ARE



OUR MISSION

To end human trafficking through preventing exploitation, educating the community, and empowering survivors.



OUR VISION

We fight so all may live free.

A LOOK AT 2021



At the end of 2020, we had no idea what 2021 would bring: a persistent pandemic and a statewide freeze.

But we did know one thing—we would never stop serving our clients and fighting for a world where all live free.

The global hardships of the past two years solidified three crucial truths necessary to end human trafficking:

1. We must center the voices and stories of human trafficking survivors in all we do;
2. We must meet individual community members, professionals, buyers, and survivors where they are through building relationships; and
3. We must create widespread culture change to end human trafficking for good.

64

*survivors
received case
management
services*

57

*members
enrolled in the
Houston Rescue
and Restore
Coalition*

3,632

*youths
trained to
stay safe*



2021 brought 3 survivors to UAHT with the desire to lead awareness campaigns, share stories, consult on programs, and even help other survivors.

It brought countless hope-filled moments of reunion with our donors, volunteers, community, and clients.

It brought new remote connection opportunities through our podcast, which has reached 6 continents.

It brought an unconventional support group for men who want to stop buying sex, revealing demand reduction as the future of the anti-trafficking movement.

And, most excitingly, it brought the celebration of our case management program's first anniversary. In just one year, we provided wraparound care for over 60 survivors of human trafficking.

20,885

community members trained to respond to human trafficking

9,942

vulnerable people received pamphlets with ways to access help



WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST

Why

Human trafficking is the business of exploiting people, and like all businesses, it is ruled by the laws of supply and demand. We can prevent human trafficking by curbing both.

Demand

Simply put, labor and sex trafficking exist because our society demands it.

In a fast-paced world, we need everything quick and easy. We can order designer looks with the touch of a button for irresistible prices and delivery to our doorsteps within two days. We need coffee and produce to get through the day, but we don't think about who picked the fruit or how it got to the store.

Similarly, pornography consumption and strip club visits have been normalized and fuel the demand for sex trafficking. Men and boys especially are expected to participate in these activities, most are introduced to pornography before even reaching puberty. Their cravings escalate, so they buy sex. It becomes compulsive, and they feel stuck—70% of men who buy sex want to stop. They need a way out.

To lower the demand for exploitation, we educate the community about conscious consumerism and fair-trade options, and we equip men to stop buying sex.

Supply

Traffickers recognize that they can make money by exploiting people. They target individuals who need something to survive—a place to sleep, a full belly, or a sense of belonging, among other things. By offering to fulfill a need, traffickers hook their victims, exploit them, and turn a huge profit.

It's a harsh reality that these victims often belong to marginalized groups, such as the homeless, immigrants/refugees, LGBTQ+, the substance-dependent, the mentally ill, and survivors of domestic or sexual violence. These populations already face enormous struggles. What's more, trafficking victims are all too often hidden in plain sight due to stigma, ignorance, and fear.

We go out into these overlooked communities, connect them with safe, basic need resources, and equip them with the tools they need to stay safe and avoid ever being exploited.





Overcoming Trauma

Survivors face countless obstacles to achieving safety and freedom, even after they escape their traffickers. Trauma physically changes the brain, impacting every aspect of a person's life. It leaves trafficking survivors requiring support in many ways to build a life of freedom once more. Telling their story, reconciling relationships, making a home, finding a job, and seeking legal justice are just a few of the hurdles that trafficking survivors must overcome to reclaim their lives.

We empower survivors through every barrier they meet. Our case management program serves all adult trafficking survivors, regardless of victimization type, sexual orientation, or gender identity.



Changing Culture

Misconceptions about human trafficking flood our news-feed and put our community in danger. False information and partial truths harm survivors and anti-trafficking work. The myth of "stranger danger" leaves teens terrified but doesn't prepare them to watch out for common red flags of harmful relationships. Most traffickers trick and defraud their victims through a romantic relationship or job offer to obtain control. The misinformation that most trafficking victims are little girls leaves boys and adults vulnerable. In reality, 75% of human trafficking victims are adults, and more than 37% are male*. Misguided information can lead well-meaning organizations and donors to believe that they should direct all resources to protect young girls. But doing so leaves millions of victims behind.

We arm the community with accurate and actionable human trafficking education. We collaborate with non-profits, companies, government entities, and individuals to prevent trafficking and offer services for all kinds of victims.



*Source: International Labour Organization, 2017, "Global Estimates of Modern Slavery"

STOPPING EXPLOITATION BEFORE IT HAPPENS

PREVENTING EXPLOITATION

Why

The best way to end human trafficking is to stop it before it happens. Youths who feel disconnected from their families and peers can fall into the arms of a trafficker. Kids need to know the warning signs of grooming so they can stay safe. Men and boys especially are expected to participate in pornography and strip clubs, fueling a desire to buy sex. Men need a space to get vulnerable and a group that equips them to stop buying sex.



Meet Elijah

When the country entered lockdown at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, jails and juvenile justice facilities stopped allowing visitors and program partners inside. For a full year, our hearts ached for all those incarcerated who needed life-changing programs but lost access. We longed to see them again.

In June of 2021, we finally met Elijah at the first Real Talk program in a Juvenile Justice Center since the onset of COVID-19.

This discussion-based group helps incarcerated youths break free from the narrative that they will always be “bad kids.” It allows them to acknowledge their trauma in a way that helps them build self-confidence and a better life.

Before the day was over, 15-year-old Elijah told our Programs Coordinator, “I have more potential than I ever realized, and I only learned that because of your group.”

Despite countless hardships in the past year, trafficking prevention programs and client services are still essential in our community.

Thanks to our supporters, we were able to reach 88 youths with our Real Talk groups and prevention workshops in 2021.

Stopping Sexual Exploitation

Sex buyers are overwhelmingly male, but most men who buy sex want to stop. Our culture teaches men to dominate, crave sex, and suppress their emotions. Oftentimes, men feel stuck in a cycle of depression and sex addiction that leads to buying sex with no way out. Stopping Sexual Exploitation (SSE): A Program for Men provides a space for men to talk about their experiences and equips them to fight sex trafficking by decreasing demand.



Meet Damon

Our Education and Outreach Coordinator facilitated our first SSE group, in which three men participated. During the first class, the participants shared similar sentiments about women and prostitution: these women want to sell sex and carry all the power, while the men who buy sex from them are the sole victims.

As the discussion continued, our team explained power dynamics and the many vulnerabilities that sex trafficking victims face. The participants' perspectives slowly started to change.

At the second class, Damon returned with a question for the group. He told us that some of his cousins were coming into town and were looking for entertainment. His cousins wanted to go to a strip club, and Damon asked the class if he should go and whether it was acceptable to visit strip clubs. The class discussed and reflected on the grooming process that many sex trafficking survivors are forced into, including pornography and strip clubs. By the end of the class, Damon resolved that he would not go to the strip club, opting to go to a regular bar instead.

Within just seven days, Damon changed his mind and his actions. The man who once believed women were expendable realized women are autonomous individuals with hopes, dreams, and rich inner lives that he needed to respect. He didn't just keep this revelation to himself, either—he shared what he learned with his family and encouraged them to change their minds, too. By investing in meaningful relationships with our clients, we see a powerful ripple effect that will lead to a cultural shift.

IN 2021

WE REUNITED WITH YOUTHS IN-PERSON
AT TWO JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTERS
AND THREE HIGH SCHOOLS.

3 new training programs created:
*Social Media Safety Training for
Parents and Youth, Working with
Commercially Exploited Youth, and
Foster and Juvenile Justice Involved
Youth Professionals Training.*

24 adult trafficking survivors in
the Harris County Jail partic-
ipated in Real Talk peer sup-
port groups.

*Stopping Sexual Exploitation (SSE):
A Program for Men Launched*

EQUIPPING TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS TO RECLAIM THEIR LIVES

EMPOWERING SURVIVORS



Celebrating 1 Year of Case Management!

We celebrated the first anniversary of our case management program in 2021! We're thankful for the generosity of our supporters, who make it possible for our clients to have a reliable and trustworthy guide as they emotionally, spiritually, and physically heal. In just one year, over 60 survivors of sex and labor trafficking received personalized care and embarked on their journey to freedom.

Why People who experienced abuse in the past are more likely to be trafficked again. For someone who overcame human trafficking, healing from trauma and starting life over again are incredibly difficult. It is so difficult that most survivors return to trafficking many times

before breaking free for good. What makes the difference between getting stuck in a cycle of exploitation versus breaking free? A support system.

Trafficking survivors need a strong network of people they can trust so that they don't fall for traffickers'

tricks. Without a guide, too many survivors fall through the cracks of services meant to help them. Our trained case managers help trafficking survivors navigate the healing process; from finding tonight's shelter to remembering support group meetings to launching a new career path.

Meet Maggie

Maggie was the very first sex trafficking survivor to enroll in our case management program. The mental and emotional pain she experienced from sex trafficking was overpowering, and she used drugs as her only coping mechanism. Abuse was a constant in her life, coming from both her trafficker and her ex-husband.

One day, Maggie's ex-husband assaulted her and knocked out some of her teeth.

Her trafficker, ex-husband, and drug dependence posed an immense danger to Maggie's parents and two children, who all exited Maggie's life for their safety.

When Maggie joined our program after escaping sex trafficking, she saw things begin to turn around.

Maggie worked tirelessly to become sober and to confront her trauma with healthy coping skills. She has come incredibly far in this journey. The next step was finding a stable job and building economic independence. But she hit another roadblock—her missing teeth.



Anxiety-filled questions raced through her mind:

“What would employers think of me? Would they ask me why my teeth are gone? Would I have to tell them my history? Who would want to hire someone like that?”

But then, something happened.

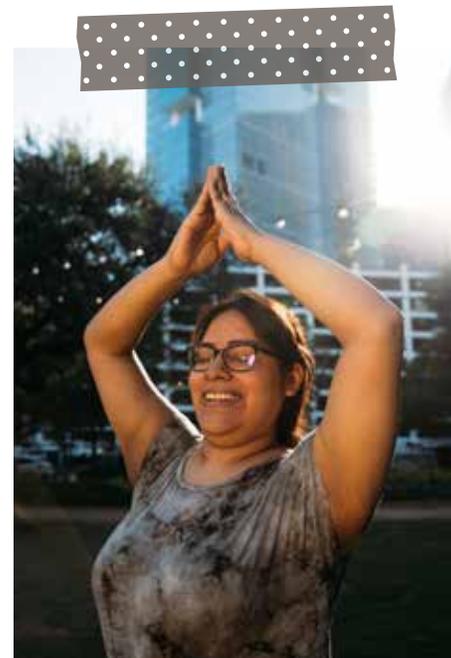
With Maggie's newfound sobriety and safe distance from her abusers, she reunited with her children and her parents. Her dad was so proud of her progress that he agreed to bring Maggie onto his dental care plan and paid to fix her teeth!

Maggie sent us a beautiful picture of her new smile. She felt ready to take on the world—starting with a few job interviews.

In the summer of 2021, Maggie started a job with one of our amazing partners. As we've gotten to know Maggie more, we learned she has a strong interest in sewing and fashion.

Our Case Manager helped Maggie create her resume and apply for a paid training program that teaches her sewing basics and lifelong skills for employment.

We are proud of Maggie and are thankful to our supporters for making this happen. With your help, we have a case management program to help labor and sex trafficking survivors like her become safe, sober, and reunited with their families. Congratulations to Maggie for embarking on a new life journey!



IN 2021
64 TRAFFICKING
SURVIVORS RECEIVED
WRAPAROUND CASE
MANAGEMENT.

EQUIPPING TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS TO RECLAIM THEIR LIVES

EMPOWERING SURVIVORS

Why

Telling their story, reconciling relationships, making a home, finding a job, and seeking legal justice are just a few of the hurdles that trafficking survivors need to overcome to reclaim freedom. Through programs like support groups, economic empowerment, counseling, and anti-trafficking work, survivors gain the skills they need to overcome every barrier they meet.



“When I think about my future, I know it will be bright.”

- Linh, Overcomer

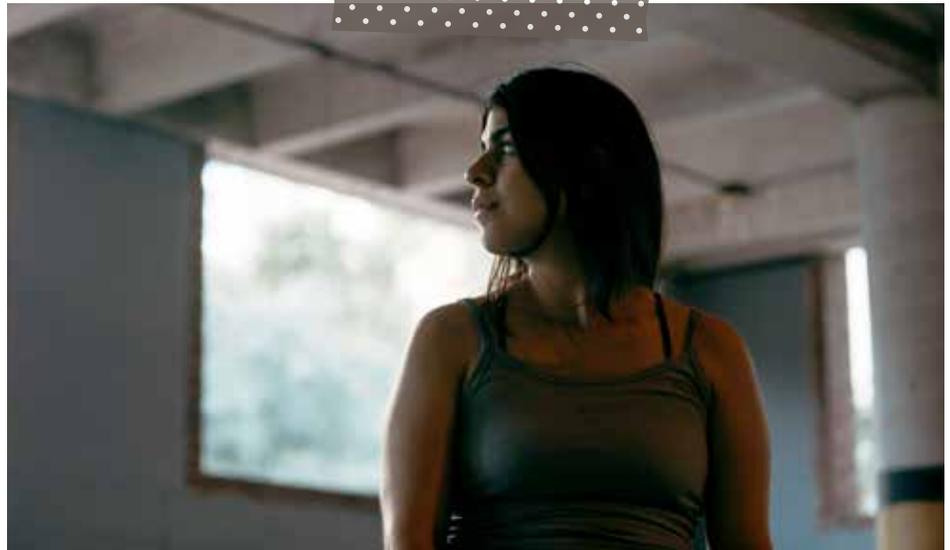
Meet Daisy

Daisy already overcame sex trafficking, but memories of exploitation and mistreatment fueled a desire to use her freedom to help other women like her—women with lived experiences of human trafficking.

Daisy discovered what our coalition is doing in Houston and contacted UAHT. Over a secure Zoom video chat, Daisy shared her dreams with our Education Coordinator. She wanted to help train law enforcement, support outreach in the community, and speak publicly about her experiences.

With a law enforcement training on the calendar for the following week, the timing could not have been more perfect. Just one week later, Daisy inhaled shakily but prepared to share her story with a room full of police officers.

Daisy recalled her experiences with law enforcement from the time she was being trafficked. She was arrested for soliciting sex and waited at the police station for hours. When an officer walked by, she stood up and tried to explain the situation. She needed help but was met with only a tart response: "Sit down and shut up. I don't want to hear anything you have to say!"



This critical moment could have been the one that led to Daisy's freedom. But it didn't.

Thankfully, the day came when Daisy left her trafficker, but her interactions with police instilled a passion to equip officers with the knowledge and empathy to recognize exploitation and intervene.

Daisy pointed out moments in her own story where red flags were visible but went unnoticed. She shared what to look for and how to build trust with suspected victims. She remind-

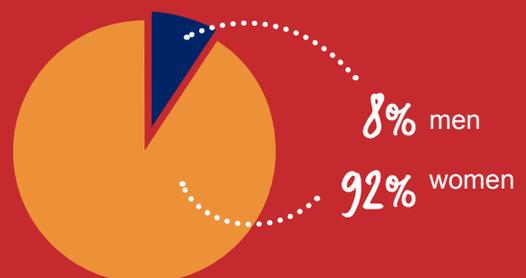
ed the officers of their power—to arrest or to help.

In these moments, it felt like Daisy came full circle—her story transformed from one of exploitation to one of empowerment, restoration, and leadership. More individuals who experienced human trafficking contacted us in 2021, wanting to lead through speaking engagements and consultation. They are the experts in the anti-trafficking movement and their voices are critical to ensure the effectiveness of UAHT programs. In doing so, they find healing.

IN 2021 ALTERNATIVE THERAPY ART OF LIFE CLASS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS LAUNCHED.

8 new partnerships established with Manna Food Pantry, Rescue Us Mission, Baytown PD, Project Kids Lives Matter, Baylor Teen Clinic, Work Faith Connections, the Houston Food Bank, and San Jose Clinic.

Case management clients



EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY



Why

Our mission to end human trafficking is daring. The buying and selling of human life is a multi-billion-dollar industry that spans local, regional, and global communities. There are millions of trafficking victims, millions of traffickers, and millions of buyers. Human trafficking surrounds us in Houston. It not only exists worldwide, but in our own stomping grounds. Communities must be ready to act. Professionals must be equipped to respond.

PODCAST

In 2021, we launched our podcast “I Dare You”, which empowers individuals with practical, actionable ways to combat trafficking starting in their own neighborhoods. We lean into tough topics like childhood trauma, harmful conspiracies, and why men buy sex. By intersecting data-driven facts, inspiring stories, and practical applications, our podcast equips community members to be effective anti-trafficking activists.

Scan the QR code to check out our most downloaded episode “Conspiracies, Social Media, and Human Trafficking” with guest Christa Mayfield of Unbound Houston.



Meet Chamberlain University Medical Students

After a series of training workshops with UAHT's Education Coordinator, 83 Chamberlain University medical students transformed knowledge into action. The students split into three groups and presented on a topic that intersects with human trafficking: social determinants of health, public health, and upstream prevention.

Each participant showcased their new abilities to ask trauma-informed questions that help identify victims and provide care that's sensitive to survivors' experiences. They also proved their understanding of social vulnerabilities surrounding health. Without these critical skills, victims go unnoticed. 80% of sex trafficking survivors connect with healthcare services while being exploited but are never identified as victims. That's why we're thrilled to have trained 3,386 frontline professionals to recognize and respond to human trafficking in 2021.

Learning about human trafficking never stops with the individuals we train. Information leads to action and has a rippling impact. One student thought of her family

during the series, telling us "I have five daughters. And now I feel like I can protect them better. I know what to say to them and how to keep them safe." Another student reflected on her newfound desire to create sustainable anti-trafficking infrastructure, "As I'm training to be a nurse, I feel like I can take a leadership role in responding to human trafficking in the most effective way at my future workplace."

Through cutting-edge education training, nurses, doctors, physician assistants, and technicians are equipped to care for patients who have experienced extreme trauma. Our trainees know how to prevent exploitation and help trafficking survivors break free from their exploiters. In 2021, our training for healthcare providers became certified to represent one hour of Continuing Education Units! Providing CEU credits incentivizes busy healthcare providers and institutions to prioritize learning about human trafficking.



Education Programs

- Human Trafficking 101
- Racial Justice & Human Trafficking
- How Human Trafficking Impacts the LGBTQ+ Community
- Hospitality Training
- First Responder Training
- Health Professionals Training (One hour of Continuing Education Units)
- Educator Training (1.5 hours of Continuing Professional Education)
- Social Service Training (One hour of Continuing Education Units)
- Law Enforcement Training (TCOLE 3270 and TCOLE 3271)
- Trauma-Informed Care (1.5 hours of Continuing Education Units)
- Trauma-Informed Lawyering (One hour of Continuing Legal Education)

IN 2021 NEW TRAUMA INFORMED LAWYERING WORKSHOP LAUNCHED.

All professional training workshops accredited for respective Continuing Education Units, Continuing Medical Education, Continuing Nursing Education, Continuing Legal Education, and Continuing Professional Education.

3 *new partnerships developed with Baylor University, Texas Children's Hospital, and HCA Healthcare.*

UNITING THE FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING

Coalition

To face the magnitude of human trafficking's horrific wake, we unleash the power of collective action through our Houston Rescue and Restore Coalition (HRRC). Local nonprofits, businesses, law enforcement, hospitals, individuals, survivors, and more collaborate strategically and effectively to end human trafficking.

List of Coalition Members

- A 2nd Cup
- A Survivor's Voice of Victory
- Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (AVDA)
- Alliance of Leadership & Innovation for Victims of Exploitation (ALIVE)
- Ambassadors for Christ Youth Ministries
- Arrow Child & Family Ministries
- Bay Area Turning Point, Inc
- Break the Chains
- Change Happens
- Children at Risk
- Covenant House Texas
- Creativity Shell
- Crime Stoppers of Houston
- Dominican Sisters of Houston
- Elevate 61 International
- Elijah Rising
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- Freedom Church Alliance
- Girls Empowerment Network
- Houston Area Women's Center
- Houston Legal Aid Center
- Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance
- Juvenile and Children's Advocacy Project
- Love146
- MasterWord Services, Inc
- Office of the Attorney General, Human Trafficking and Transnational/Organized Crime Division
- Project Protect Our Children
- Redeemed Ministries
- Refuge for Women Texas Gulf Coast
- Refugee Services of Texas
- Rescue Us Inc
- San Jose Clinic
- Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, Houston
- St. Luke's United Methodist Church
- Street Grace
- Texas Advocacy Project
- Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission
- Texas Center for the Missing
- Texas Children's Hospital
- The Landing
- The Montrose Center
- Twelve 11 Partners
- Unbound Houston

The Pathway: A Survivor Referral Database

Why Many of our partners specialize in one issue: homelessness, substance use, therapy, or legal aid. Each maintains necessary and lifesaving programs in our city, but trafficking survivors often need care from multiple specialists.

Houston lacks the infrastructure to connect these separate care centers, causing a series of unnecessary roadblocks: countless hours of phone tag between agencies, inaccurate data collection, and worst of all, survivors referred to inappropriate programs or denied services.

Our solution is The Pathway Referral Network, a secure, online referral platform that unites services available in the Greater Houston Area. By enhancing efficiency, accountability, and survivor experience, a road to freedom is possible through The Pathway.

Meet Paloma

Paloma started her healing journey with our partner Rescue Us Mission. She worked tirelessly to overcome the long-lasting harm of trauma, but she still struggled to take care of her own daily needs—let alone her daughter's. Paloma loves her daughter in the deep, selfless kind of way only a parent can. Heartbroken but confident in her decision, Paloma knew she needed to give up parental rights and allow her daughter to be cared for by a family member better equipped to do so.

Paloma's daughter moved to the East Coast. But Paloma didn't want to lose contact. She still wanted to be part of her daughter's life. Still, there was one problem—Paloma had no way of moving states.

She didn't have the money for a plane ticket or a reliable car.

Paloma's case manager at Rescue Us Mission turned to The Pathway, where they saw UAHT offered relocation aid. They zipped through the referral process, and in under 24 hours, Paloma had a one-way plane ticket to reunite with her daughter.



“Through The Pathway, Unbound advocates introduce new and trustworthy organizations to our clients to empower them, achieve their goals, and meet their needs. The Pathway creates a sense of unity among agencies to work together to bring freedom and healing to survivors.”

- Unbound Houston

IN 2021

THE LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE INCREASED.

21

new agencies enrolled in The Pathway system

126

programs available to clients

A SPECIAL THANKS TO

OUR DONORS

We are grateful for the love and support our incredible donors poured on us over the past year. Thanks to your generosity, the community is tearing down systems that fuel trafficking, middle and high school students have learned how to stay safe, and survivors have somewhere to turn and the means to reclaim their future.

From the bottom of our hearts,

THANK YOU!

The Elkins Foundation, The William Stamps Farish Fund, May Jeanne and Garland Slaughter Foundation, Harvey R Houck Jr and Patricia W Houck Foundation, Inc., The George Foundation, Offshore Technology Conference, The Brown Foundation, The Charles D. and Mary A. Bauer Foundation, Lululemon, Valero, Joanne Bartholomay Jelke Foundation, Slave 2 Nothing Foundation, Dominican Sisters of Houston, Houston Health Foundation, Strake Foundation, Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation, Sisters of Charity, The Hibbler Foundation and Southwest Airlines.

Our Pledge

Your donations fuel our mission to end human trafficking by preventing exploitation, educating the community, and empowering survivors. We pledge excellent stewardship of every donation we receive. According to best practices, we underwent a financial audit in 2021. We are transparent with our financial annual reports and Internal Revenue Service disclosure forms.



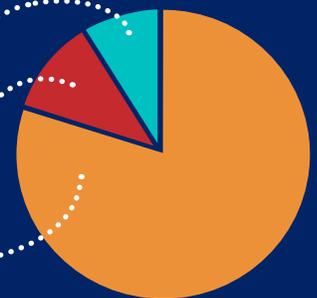
When You Give to UAHT, You Fuel Life-Saving Programs

EXPENSES

9% Fundraising

12% Operations and Administration

79% Programs



SUPPORT COMES FROM

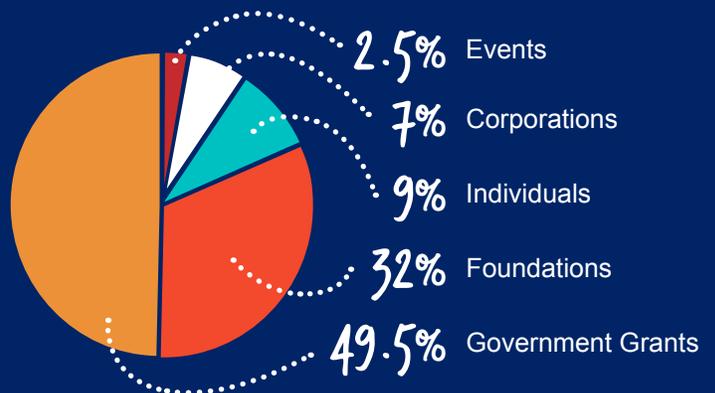
2.5% Events

7% Corporations

9% Individuals

32% Foundations

49.5% Government Grants



A SPECIAL THANKS TO

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thank You!

We are delighted to celebrate our extraordinary volunteers this year. We gratefully recognize their awe-inspiring commitment to donating almost 600 hours—more than DOUBLE the amount in 2020.

Thank you to each volunteer who shared our posts on social media, attended 21 New Volunteer and Outreach Orientations, participated in more than 20 community events. Thank you for filling sandbags, hauling furniture, painting offices, translating critical documents, organizing donations, teaching art to clients, and for simply being incredible human beings!

We are so thankful for the heart and passion that our volunteers bring to the anti-trafficking movement. Thanks to these amazing individuals, more community members can identify the signs of trafficking, more business owners recognize UAHT as a social service resource, and there are more opportunities for trafficking victims to encounter the National Human Trafficking hotline. UAHT and the Houston community would not be the same without your kindness and generosity—THANK YOU!



IN 2021

576 VOLUNTEER
HOURS DONATED

*“I want to be in
this fight for
others as if my
family members
were victims!”*

Meet Michael

Searching for a place to direct his passion to end human trafficking, Michael Lightner found UAHT online during the pandemic lockdown. Since then, he has become a vital leader in our volunteer program.

Fueled by a desire to protect his wife, three children, and their community, Michael volunteers because, “simply put, I have members in my family who I’d consider part of the vulnerable community. I want to be in this fight for others as if my family members were victims!”

For his first project, Michael championed our 11-post social media “Freedom Campaign” with his friends and family, which sparked critical conversations about harmful myths and how to stay safe. He couldn’t stop thinking about what he learned and wanted to do more.

As UAHT prepared to launch our first males-only support group called Stopping Sexual Exploitation (SSE), Michael stepped up to test-run the program for UAHT. Because of Michael, UAHT’s Education Team improved the SSE program for its official 2021 launch.

But Michael didn’t stop there. He joined our Volunteer Outreach Team and visited local businesses to spark vital conversations, seek partnerships, and request permission to post flyers with the National Human Trafficking Hotline in local businesses. He became a Team Leader and trains outreach volunteers with an easy smile and empathetic presence.

Thanks to dedicated volunteers like Michael, UAHT’s reach in our community grows exponentially! Our Volunteer Outreach team reached 76 businesses by distributing the human trafficking hotline and raising awareness of UAHT’s free resources. Michael, thank you for helping lead the way and for being an indispensable volunteer!



ACT NOW

Protect your community by volunteering with us.

Educate your team by enrolling in our training workshops.

Amplify our work by giving a gift.

THANKS

Our incredible supporters made these accomplishments possible in 2021. When you give to UAHT, you:

- Stop exploitation before it starts •
- Train the community to end human trafficking •
- Equip trafficking survivors to reclaim their lives •

STAY CONNECTED



UNITED AGAINST
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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UAHT.ORG

