



2021

IMPACT REPORT



EMPOWERING SURVIVORS
FOSTERING CHANGE





“CCAHT has completely changed my entire life. I’ve been trafficked twice. I’m 43 and I’m just learning what a real hug feels like. This is the first time I’ve experienced inner happiness.”

Letter from the Executive Director



In some form, each day, we are faced with the question, "how do you measure success?" Whether it is from potential donors, the media, grant funders, or even now, internally, as we are reviewing data and metrics from last fiscal year.

Early on, we understood that tracking bed nights, clothing provided, meals served, and hotline calls answered - particularly in this line of work - only tells a small part of the story. Indeed, those are metrics that help us understand the scope of trafficking in East Tennessee and the spectrum of support survivors need, but does that data illustrate the complete picture of our agency's depth and breadth of work? Does that data show the tears shared while we hold space for clients to release pain and fear? Or the cheers that fill the air when a survivor scores a big success?

Measuring love and connection isn't a quick data point on a chart. It is created through phone calls, laughs, hugs, second chances, tears, patience, and trust. Many (many, many) small and big moments. **None of those moments would be possible without the support and generosity of our donors, volunteers, board members, community partners, and cheerleaders. And I am humbled and inspired by all the ways our team leverages your support to put love into action and bring our mission and values to life.** Because ultimately, our goal isn't to just provide hot meals or a clean bed to rest in; our goal is to build resiliency, foster relationships, and love unconditionally.

2021 was a year like no other. A year full of perseverance during a continued global pandemic, flexibility and creativity while navigating quarantines and remote work, resiliency during staffing changes and new program launches, and relentless commitment to one another and the survivors we serve. **All of it was possible because of you.**

2021 was also a year of record-breaking referrals, with 300 survivors reaching out for support - over half of which were children and youth. With your help, we maintained staffing and resources to meet the demand for our services without turning any survivor away or operating on a waitlist. Our exceptional staff facilitated almost 100 specialized trainings and provided nearly 6,000 individual services to survivors across 28 counties.

I vividly remember the first survivor referral the CCAHT ever received in 2015. I am in awe of how this agency has grown and am so proud of our board and team for committing to excellent work and relational, trauma-responsive care. I am excited to share our 2021 Impact Report and give you an in-depth snapshot of both our agency's successes and milestones and - most importantly - the resiliency and determination of the survivors we serve.

**None of this would be possible without you.
From the bottom of my heart, thank you.**

Kata Studdell

MISSION AND WORK

1 | PREVENTION

This year, we trained **3,250** community members to recognize and respond to potential trafficking cases.



2 | INTERVENTION

Through our working groups FREE Knox Kids and 423 Unsilenced, we fostered community collaboration to fill gaps in human trafficking response and services for kids.



3 | AFTERCARE

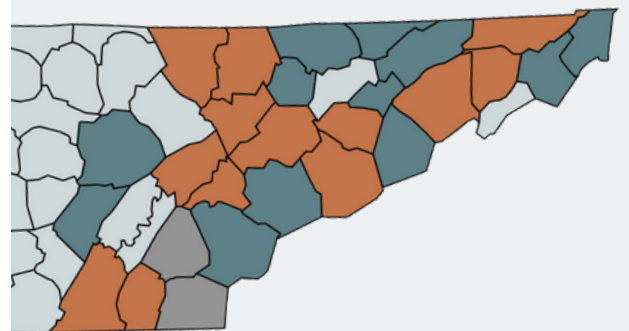
Our direct services program, Grow Free TN, received **300** referrals of human trafficking and actively served **212** survivors of all ages and genders.



“It’s crazy how much can happen in one year. I was in and out of hotels, and now I have my own apartment.”
 -Jordan-

CCAHT unites and equips our community - Knoxville and the 33 counties of East Tennessee - to end human trafficking through prevention and intervention while providing survivors with trauma-informed, comprehensive aftercare services.

This Tennessee map shows the counties we served and impacted in 2021.



- Provided Direct Services
- Provided Specialized Training
- Provided Both

Story of Hope

**With
Grow Free TN
by her side,
Natasha now
calls herself a
survivor**



At CCAHT, we are committed to upholding and protecting client safety and confidentiality. To this end, names and some details have been changed or omitted.

At age 14 Natasha was tricked and deceived by her 20-year-old boyfriend. He used promises of love and the enticement of belonging to convince her to run away with him. She conceded after weeks of manipulation. Once she ran away with him her boyfriend began bringing "friends" to spend time with her. These friends were abusive and forced Natasha to engage in unwanted sexual acts. Over time the pain of abuse was too much to bear and Natasha was introduced to substances that could numb the pain. Anytime Natasha asked her boyfriend to go home he would threaten her family and blackmail her.

After months of abuse, Natasha decided to take her own life. Luckily, she was unsuccessful and was treated at a mental health hospital. Within 6 weeks of being home, she attempted to take her own life again. It was clear that Natasha was in pain. After her second suicide attempt, Grow Free TN was called to meet with Natasha in partnership with a residential trafficking recovery program.

Fast forward and you'll find that Natasha is now 16 years old. She has been sober for over a year, has been reunited with her biological family, and now calls herself a survivor.

Though the journey of healing is not yet complete for Natasha she has come a long way in her recovery. We count it a joy that we've been able to walk alongside Natasha as she learns how to grow free.

Measuring Progress

I started working with Ali in February of 2021 because she frequently left home without permission and older individuals formed inappropriate relationships with her. Ali was sent to a residential treatment facility for traumatized youth and spent a total of 9 months away from her family. I met with her every single week and helped her process every hardship she came across along the way.

In February of 2022, Ali finally graduated from her many programs. In that year, I saw a kid who was broken, lonely, and struggling to trust adults turn into a strong and ambitious teen. She has completed every requirement asked of her, mended relationships with caring family members, returned to school, and worked tirelessly to better herself. To say I'm proud of her would be an understatement.

All this to say, working with at-risk youth is TOUGH, but every time I feel like I'm running in place, I remember this teen and how consistent support and advocacy changed her life. Success stories like hers help me get through the hardest days.

-CCAHT Employee-



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YOUR PARTNERSHIP SPARKS CHANGE

Because people like you took action to make our community a better place, the CCAHT trained 3,250 individuals across East Tennessee and beyond last year.

These trainings included specialized sessions specifically catered to medical providers, legal professionals, law enforcement, DCS employees, educators, parents, youth service workers, dentists, hospitality workers and more.



“The presentation provided tangible and applicable skills in identifying those being trafficked and how to overcome potential barriers with these patients.”



3,250 PEOPLE TRAINED



84 TRAININGS FACILITATED



13 DIFFERENT CURRICULA

Grow Free TN

In 2017, the Coalition launched its trauma-responsive direct services program Grow Free TN (GFTN). Among the services we provide through GFTN are safe shelter, 24/7 crisis hotline, trauma-responsive case management, basic needs, traditional and alternative therapies, intervention support, transportation assistance, relational case management for youth, legal advocacy, foster parent/caregiver support and training, access to medical care, safety planning, and more.

2021 was Grow Free's busiest year yet, and we could not have served each survivor that walked through our doors without you.

How We Serve



Emergency Receiving Center (ERC)

The Grow Free TN ERC is a low-barrier, crisis shelter that provides a safe place for survivors to rest and access services. The ERC also operates our 24/7 crisis hotline.



Phoenix House

Phoenix House is a supportive transitional housing program that offers space for survivors to build self-sufficiency while also receiving individualized, trauma-responsive therapy and case management.



As You Are Program

The As You Are program is a partnership between CCAHT and the TN Department of Corrections to provide educational classes to incarcerated women with a history of trafficking or exploitation in an effort to support healing and reduce recidivism.



Youth Services

We provide trauma-responsive case management, in-home therapy, advocacy, and psycho-education for children and youth who have experienced trafficking.

GFTN 2021 Overview

300

referrals received

143 adults

157 youth

212

survivors actively served

108 adults

104 youth

16 Days

Average length of stay at ERC

44 youth

completed the Empower Youth Program

1,821 bed nights

Across ERC and Phoenix House

5,768

Unique services provided to survivors

We serve individuals of all ages, and in 2021, we supported survivors ages **3 to 60 years old**.

Story of Hope

At 44 years old Marvin was living in Uganda as a missionary from the United States. As a natural born US citizen, he thought he would have no trouble getting back and getting on his feet now that he was ready to return. Unfortunately, he was deceived by a religious organization who promised to help him get housing and a job upon his return to the US. Once he arrived, he was forced to beg for money at intersections in order to have a place to stay. The leader would drop him off and stay nearby to ensure that he was following their rules. The leader also took all of the money Marvin obtained in an effort to keep him reliant on the organization. Marvin felt as though he was stuck because he did not have any resources or other local supports.

But Marvin did find a way out. He was able to ask for help and escape the situation. He reached out to a different religious organization who helped him contact TBI. Once TBI was made aware of his situation they connected him with Grow Free. Though he is still working toward independent housing and stable income, Marvin is currently in safe shelter and is thriving - he is growing vegetables, woodworking, and enjoying the outdoors.

**With
Grow Free TN
in his corner,
Marvin is able
to build self-
sufficiency and
hope for his
future.**



2021 FINANCIALS

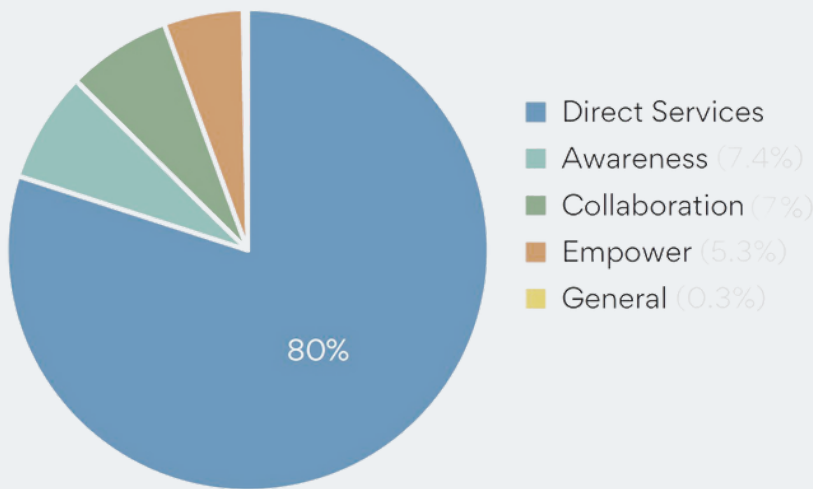
Through your generous support, you have provided new opportunities for the CCAHT to bring our mission to life, put love into action, and serve our community in 2021.

Your partnership enabled CCAHT to facilitate more trainings, foster deeper collaboration, and serve more survivors of trafficking in East Tennessee than ever before. Thank you for allowing us to be good stewards of your financial investments, time, and passion for this mission in 2021.

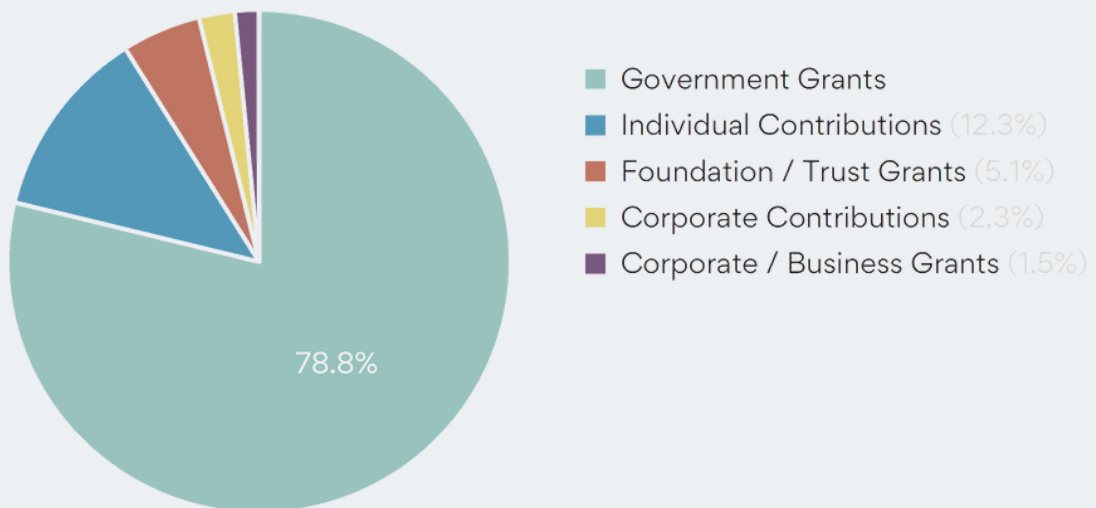


Annual Budget: \$1,365,000

EXPENSES



REVENUE



2021 Partners for Change

Funding Partners

Pilot Company	East Tennessee Foundation
Haslam Family Foundation	State of Tennessee
Alan and Dianna Brizzolara	OCJP
United Way of Greater Knoxville	

Funding Ambassadors

A-1 Certified Service	Kristin and Scot Braun
Abacus Hive	Kylie Harmon
Agneesh Banerjee	Laura Eastham
Ann Bailey	Michele Thomas
Barry Walsh	Mike and Karen Rodgers
Bill and Crissy Haslam Foundation	Mitzi Crouse
Bill Kistner	Patrick Stobb
Brad and Laurie Jenkins	Paul and Sheramie Shore
Brooklyn Sawyers Belk	Paul Duncan
Caledonia Presbyterian Church	Pilot Company
Cynthia Deitle, Esq.	Richard and Kasey Issac
David and Annie Colquitt	RT Lodge
Doddy Creek Farms	Sherry Barrett
Eden Crest Vacation Rentals	The Point Knoxville
Edward and Janan Kash	The Swag
Farragut Presbyterian Church	Thomas M. Garrott III Foundation
First Baptist Church Maynardville	Victoria Konar
First Horizon Foundation	Volunteer Pharmacy
Joe and Emily Butler	William Knox West
Josh Birdwell	

Board of Directors

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Chris Rush, PhD	Joe Childs, M.D., <i>Immediate Past President</i>

Community Partners

Our counter-trafficking task force is comprised of multi-disciplinary teams, including FREE Knox Kids and 423 Unsilenced – through which we bring service providers and community agencies together to address the needs of trafficked individuals in our community by collaborating on active cases, sharing intelligence and resources, and ensuring that victims are connected to services. Below are just a few of our community partners.

- 7th Well
- Branch House Family Justice Center
- CASA Of East TN
- CHAMPS
- Child Protective Services
- Department of Children’s Services
- East Tennessee Children's Hospital
- ETSU College of Social Work
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Florence Crittenton Agency
- Frontier Health Juvenile Justice Reform Program
- Gateway Residential Treatment Center
- H.O.P.E. Center CAC
- Katie Miller Residential Treatment Center
- KCDC
- Knox County District Attorney
- Knox County Health Department
- Knox County Juvenile Detention
- Knoxville Police Department
- Knox County Probation
- Link House
- Mark Black
- NHTHL/Polaris Project
- Omni Visions
- Rest Stop Ministries
- Rhea County Juvenile Detention
- Safe Harbor CAC
- Safe House
- Street Hope TN
- Tennessee Bureau of Investigation
- Tennessee Counter-Trafficking Alliance
- The McNabb Center
- The Sexual Assault Center of East TN
- TN Voices
- UT College of Social Work
- Vanderbilt Center of Excellence
- Volunteer Ministry Center
- Washington County Family Justice Center
- Youth Villages
- YWCA Knoxville & the Tennessee Valley

Behind the Scenes Supporters

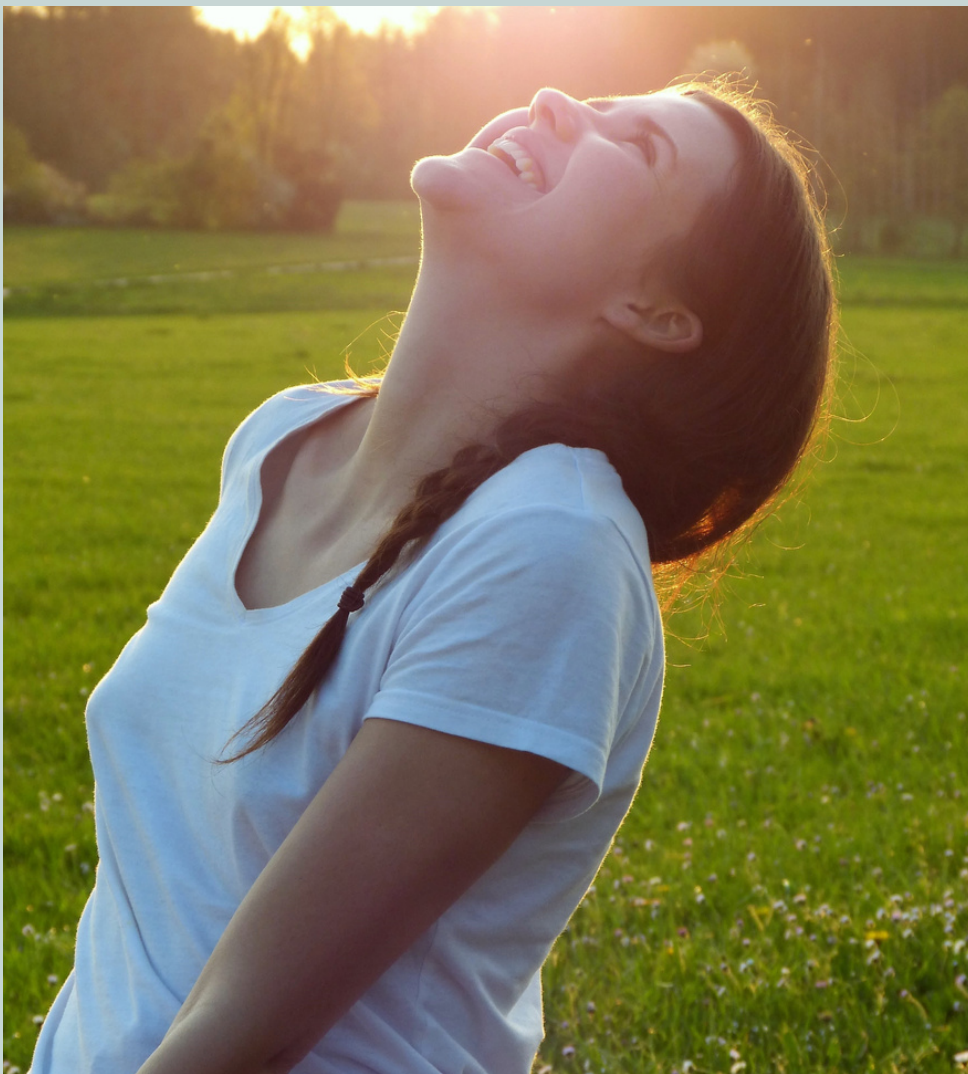
- Caron Tennant
- Carol O’Farrell
- Heather Deyton
- Lea Mantoath,
- Michele Thomas
- Teresa Miller
- The Junior League of Knoxville
- Rosilyn and Phil Flanagan



Thank you!

The CCAHT would like to thank all our community partners, volunteers, and community members who have provided support this year while navigating the world of a global pandemic. Your support, donations, and contributions helped provide service and support to men, women, and children who experienced trafficking in East Tennessee.

We know your support will continue to help us change lives and make East Tennessee a safer, better place for us all.



*GrowFree—
Phoenix
House—the
whole
organization
saved my life
and gave me
a new start
in life and
also believed
in me when
no one else
did!*

Chloe

