FISCAL YEAR TWENTY TWENTY

Impact Report



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Letter from the Executive Director

Dear friends,

What a year it has been!

We recognize that this is a challenging time for everyone. Like you, we have grappled with unexpected and rapidly changing circumstances and have learned to pivot, finding new ways to protect the health of our staff and those we serve.

Despite the onset of a pandemic and resulting economic crisis, Unbound has experienced significant growth in fiscal year 2020. The need for prevention efforts and support for survivors is as great as ever, and we are grateful for the opportunities we have had to expand our services for greater impact.

Our advocacy team now consists of five full-time, specially trained staff and is led by our new Director of Survivor Advocacy, who is a licensed counselor and TBRI practitioner. Our advocacy program for trafficked youth has been endorsed by the Governor's Child Sex Trafficking Team and serves on the Tarrant and Denton County Child Sex Trafficking Protocol Development and Multidisciplinary Teams. We are serving more survivors than ever before. Our advocates have served nearly 250 survivors since we began providing 24/7 crisis-response two years ago.

Thanks to a prevention grant through the Governor's Child Sex Trafficking Team, we were able to dedicate full-time staff to Keeping Students Safe, our youth prevention program. In coordination with our other offices across the state, we trained thousands of staff and students to recognize the signs of trafficking, empowering them to stay safe and assist others.

We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming youth to The Underground, our new drop-in center for trafficked and exploited youth. Construction is nearly complete, and we are on track to open as planned this fall. Wilber, our emotional support golden-doodle, is in training and will be joining our Underground team soon.

We are so thankful for your faithful support. We realize the sacrifice you are making by giving so generously during this time. Please know that we are allocating resources carefully and that your support is making a difference in the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

Because of you, we are able to keep running into places of pain and shining a light in the darkness. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Byd

Stephanie Byrd Executive Director

ADVISORY BOARD (CONT.):

Jenny and Mike Sharpe

Yancy Smith, PhD

Cathy Wilson Presenter & Mentor, Unbound

Sharen Wilson Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney

Karen Wiseman, CTP Vice President, Cash Operations, First American

Shannon Wolf, LPC-S

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Stephanie Byrd, JD Executive Director, Unbound Fort Worth

Jamey Miller Lead Pastor, Antioch Community Church - Fort Worth

Susan Peters Executive Director, Unbound Global

Micah Scharchburg Executive Pastor, Antioch Community Church - Fort Worth

Impact at a Glance

158 survivors served

> 5,115 youth educated

2,403 professionals trained

952 community members equipped

3,894 total volunteer hours

350+ individual donors



Pictured: (from left) Fort Worth Police Chief Ed Kraus, Unbound Executive Director Stephanie Byrd, Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price Unbound's 2020 Restoring Innocence Luncheon

We envision a community free from human trafficking.

Thank you to the following foundations for their support:

Amon G. Carter Foundation The Junior League of Fort Worth **JES Edwards Foundation** The Ryan Foundation Sid W. Richardson Foundation **Rotary Club of Fort Worth South**

Thanks to the Office of the Governor, Greg Abbott for supporting our **Advocacy and Prevention programs**



Andrea Sparks, Director of the Governor's Child Sex Trafficking Team, as keynote speaker at Unbound's 2020 Restoring Innocence Luncheon



Unbound Fort Worth is grateful to receive Guidestar's Platinum Seal of Transparency

Cover:

Unbound Advocate, Cristina Aguilera, stands proudly over the thoroughfares of Texas, which serve as channels for trafficking throughout our state. Thanks to supporters like you, heroes & heroines like Cristina are defeating darkness. Photo: Larinda Smith Editing: Brad Walcher

Impact Report Design: Design inspired by our friend and supporter Hailey Bickham, who donated her designs for the production of this impact report.

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Meet the Team





Stephanie Byrd Executive Director

Sonya Brooks



Tiffani Schmidt Director of Survivor Advocacy

CSEY Advocate



Nicole Chaffee CSEY Advocate

Elise Gill Adult Advocate





Director of Youth Prevention



Larinda Smith Director of Community Outreach



Lydia Carlock



Rundee Smith CSEY Advocate





Cristina Aguilera Adult Advocate

Survivor Advocacy

"The reason why the trauma caused by Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is so deep and difficult to overcome is because it corrupts one of the primary methods humans have to stay healthy and heal from hurts - intimate, trusting relationship."

~Dr. David Cross, Director, Karen Purvis Institute for Child Development at Texas Christian University

"The Unbound Advocacy program has worked diligently with both youth and adults who have survived CSE to help them build internal resilience by fostering hope, nurturing physical, mental, and emotional health through compassionate meaningful relationships...Relational advocacy provides the single most important factor to help an individual find new options to step out of a life of exploitation. Unbound advocates find new and creative ways to meet the needs of their clients and empower them through the stages of change using motivational interviewing techniques and strengthening relationships to identify new options for the clients' future.

~Andrea Sparks, Director, Office of Governor Greg Abbott, Child Sex Trafficking Team

Services Provided

Crisis Response

- 24/7 on-call crisis response
- Accompaniment for emergency medical treatment and SANE
- Food, clothing, and arrangement of emergency shelter
- Continued response to urgent needs as they arise

Ongoing Support & Case Management

- Regular face-to-face meetings
- Safety-planning
- Harm & run-away prevention
- Goal-setting
- Court and interview accompaniment
- Transportation to needed services
- Wraparound services and support
- Crime Victims' Compensation assistance





Our new Advocacy Director brings a wealth of clinical knowledge and experience

This year, the Office of the Governor's Child commitment to a specific goal by eliciting Sex Trafficking Team (CSTT) implemented and exploring the person's own reasons for minimum standards for advocacy agencies change within an atmosphere of acceptance serving trafficking victims. It's an honor and compassion. Oftentimes, survivors to announce that we meet all of these find it difficult to motivate themselves as minimum standards and exceed these a direct result of their trauma. Utilizing MI with trafficking survivors allows us to begin standards in many areas, achieving what with empathy and work with the survivor the CSTT considers best practices. on their own personal goals. It allows us Trust-Based Relational Intervention to communicate with the survivor in a way (TBRI) is a holistic, attachment-based. that builds motivation for change.

and trauma-informed intervention methodology that is designed to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children and is at the forefront of Unbound Fort Worth's programs. We use Empowering Principles to address physical needs, Connecting Principles for attachment needs, and Correcting Principles to disarm fear-based behaviors, which are often common coping mechanisms for survivors of trauma. TBRI allows us to relate to victims in a way that recognizes their trauma for what it is. It gives us a lens through which to understand their restoration.

behavior, allowing us to provide traumainformed care that will foster healing and Motivational Interviewing (MI) is a collaborative, goal-oriented style of communication with particular attention to the language of change. It is designed to strengthen personal motivation for and

Director of Survivor Advocacy Tiffani Schmidt, LPC, MA **TBRI Practitioner**



This past year, we have partnered with agencies in Tarrant and Denton Counties to draft and implement protocol ensuring wraparound services for survivors of child sex trafficking. This provides survivors the benefit of a multitude of supportive touch points as they proceed on their journeys toward healing. Serving on the Tarrant and Denton Counties' Child Sex Trafficking Multi-Disciplinary Teams and participating in monthly case staffings enhances our ability to provide survivors with the best possible care.



CSEY Advocacy

Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth (CSEY) Advocates provide long-term, trust-based relational support and case management to youth up through age 21. They have been trained in trauma-informed care and CSEYAdvocacy minimum standards and best practices.



Lydia C., MS

Education: Master of Psychology Experience with at-risk populations: **10 years** Tenure: Since April 2018 "The one thing I most appreciate about my job is being allowed to help someone."



Rundee S., MS

Education: Master of Child & Adolescent Psychology Experience with at-risk populations: **13 years** Tenure: Since April 2018 "My favorite part of this job is being able to follow the clients throughout the stages of change."



Nicole C., MSW Education: Master of Social Work Experience with at-risk populations: 8 years Tenure: Since May 2018 "My favorite part of this job is getting to witness and be a part of when a Survivor we've been walking alongside sees and realizes their worth."

"Unbound means not to be confined. It means I'm free. The chains are no longer...I'm free. In the middle of my storm, in the middle of my trials, when I'm in the middle of the road and I don't know which way to go, God gives me Unbound."

~Survivor served by Unbound

Adult Advocates provide long-term trust-based relational support and case management for adult survivors 22 years and older. They also utilize techniques such as TBRI and MI and provide a variety of services in support of the survivors' specialized needs, such as court accompaniment, transportation, and safety planning, among many others.

Elise has a passion for serving people, helping them stay positive and faithful through adversity. She is pursuing a Psychology degree and has been an integral part of Unbound since November 2019. "This job is a rare opportunity to love people well, while watching transformation from those we serve and ourselves."

Cristina served as a volunteer before coming on staff. Her bilingual skills have helped us connect with Spanish-speaking survivors. She has been an integral part of Unbound since October 2018. "My favorite part of the job is learning to celebrate the victories, even when they seem small or short lived. They are still a testimony of God's mercy."

Adult Advocacy

Elise G.

Cristina A.



"POWERFUL. It's the only word I can use to describe this journey to a New Life. I would have never been able to make it alone. My angel has stood brave by my side."

> ~Survivor served by Unbound 11

Keeping Students Safe

During 3rd period at a local high school, we started to discuss "risky behaviors" and how those behaviors can lead to students being trafficked. A young man with piercing brown eyes kept his gaze on me with laser-like focus.

He asked, "what do you do, when you are the man of your family and they need money to eat, but your dream is a diploma? How do you help them, but stay in school, too? He went on, "Miss, I understand what you are telling us. But you have to understand, sometimes the choice to say 'no' isn't that simple."

Being trafficked was a secret he could keep, if it meant his little sisters wouldn't go to bed hungry.

His exploitation would put food on the table and keep him from being another high school drop-out.

I could feel my eyes begin to mist, as this child looked at me, desperately seeking an answer. I wanted to hug him and never let go, but I knew I had to be strong for him. Already, at his tender age, this child was having to be strong for an entire family...

I wanted to tell him that his family would never go hungry again. But I couldn't. I equipped him with empowering truth about how he could keep himself and his family safe and discussed a follow up plan with his school administration to ensure he stayed safe.

I learned a lesson that day. This young man's question filled me with a tenacity to be better for our students. A drive to train as many students as I can, so they know that the heart of a child should never have to make such grown-up choices. Director of Youth Prevention, Sonya Brooks, oversees Unbound's Keeping Students Safe initiative: a multi-layered program that provides human trafficking prevention education for students and training for parents and school staff. Keeping Students Safe was supported this year by a grant from the Office of the Governor of Texas.

Many of the students who are equipped by Unbound are not just receiving a one-time assembly presentation, but often a five-session series with hands-on exercises, safety planning, personal evaluation of risk factors, and multiple case studies, all of which enhance their ability to stay safe from trafficking and exploitation.

students educated **5,040**

school/youth personnel

parents/caregivers **117**

"Our partnership with Unbound provides unique opportunities to delve into ways we can prevent youth susceptibility to the luring offers and lies of traffickers."

> ~ Kathryn Everest Director of Counseling Services, Fort Worth ISD



The Underground Drop-In Center

The Underground, Unbound's dropin center for trafficked and exploited youth, will be the first of its kind in Tarrant County. Housed in One Safe Place, Fort Worth's family justice center, the drop-in center will provide a place to rest, light meals, shower facilities, safety, and referral for services for youth, up through age 22. Open 24/7 and with a street reputation such that youth on the street will take a chance on visiting, the drop-in center will provide an open door for a population that has historically been difficult to reach. It will also be available as a much-needed short-term resting place for survivors recovered from trafficking. Assured of their safety, youth can sleep, get a meal, unwind through recreational activity, and have an opportunity to receive services as they plan their next steps, whether that is returning home, rehab, shelter, or other longterm residential option.



of trafficked youth are exploited for two or more years before being recovered or identified as a victim

of these youth were age 14 or under when the exploitation started

Thank you to the following for their support of The Underground

Amon G. Carter Foundation Office of the Governor, Greg Abbott The Junior League of Fort Worth VLK Architects JES Edwards Foundation Christ Chapel Bible Church Domeo Construction Baird, Hampton & Brown, Inc. The Ryan Foundation Marilyn Brachman Hoffman Foundation

Winston Services, Bradley Environmental Services, Climate Control Insulation, Inc., Cain Electrical Services, Kerry Lewis Plumbing, Matrix Interior Construction, Ennis Glass, Kites Commercial Interiors, Business Flooring Services, Antler Mechanical, APS FireCo, Firetrol Protection Systems, McSweeney Commercial Painting, Demo Specialties, Paramo Plastering, Nix Doors, Wilson Art, Maharam, Shaw Contract, Armstrong Ceilings, Crossville Inc., Bonnie Anderson with BDA Accessibility Services, Roppe / Professional Flooring Supply, Southwest Solutions Group, Inc. do not view themselves as victims *WestCoast Children's Clinic, 2012





If we wait for these vulnerable and broken youth to ask for help, they may never receive the services they deserve. We must take action now to intervene earlier in the process, and to prevent this from happening in the first place.

The Underground provides a new entry point for services, allowing us to identify victims and intervene earlier, sparing these youth years of pain and trauma.





The Underground Groundbreaking

The Underground drop-in center officially started construction on June 22, 2020, as we gathered with many friends and partners to celebrate with a groundbreaking ceremony. City, county, and state leaders showed their support and we heard from a few key members of the community.

Special thanks to Kelley Willis for volunteering her services as Project Manager for The Underground. Kelley's engineering degree, years of project management experience, and community connections brought The Underground to life!

"Today is a groundbreaking not just for this project but for our community and for what Unbound is doing in Fort Worth for our youth." ~Kelley Willis



"This is an opportunity where Fort Worth and Tarrant County can stand up and say...We don't forget our children."

~Tarrant County Sheriff, Bill Waybourn





"There are no throwaway kids in this society. It is up to all of us as a community to provide refuge." ~Tarrant County Commissioner, Roy C. Brooks

"This will be a safe place for them to seek refuge, a safe place to have protection."

~Lindy Borchardt, Tarrant County Assistant Criminal District Attorney, Human Trafficking



Meet Wilber, The Underground's new comfort dog!

There's nothing like a little golden-doodle love to welcome youth and make them feel at home. We hope our law enforcement and CPS partners enjoy him, too! Follow @unboundfortworth on Instagram #wilberwednesday to watch him grow!

Community Impact

Unbound's mission, to support survivors and resource our community to fight human trafficking, would not be achievable without the generosity and commitment of our community. This community is at the center of our mission and it's with the devotion of our friends in North Texas, that we have the privilege to serve the most vulnerable in our community. It is dedicated individuals and organizations rallying together that make healing and restoration for survivors possible.

The Junior League of Fort Worth Thank you to our friends at The Junior League of Fort Worth who presented us with a check for \$70,000 to support survivors through our advocacy program and The Underground drop-in center.

Restoring Innocence Luncheon Thank you to our community for showing up and coming through. You raised over \$125,000 that is currently being used to support survivors and prevent future trafficking situations. You make this work possible!

Light Up The Dark 5K Thank you to all of our friends who shined their light into the night, raising awareness to prevent trafficking and funds to support survivors.

This year, volunteers donated almost 4,000 hours supporting our youth prevention, survivor advocacy, and training programs. Their gift of time and talent greatly enhances our impact. We are grateful for each and every one of you!

Churches & Schools From making blankets for survivors to collecting and donating items for crisis recovery bags, church members and students have made a tremendous impact. Survivors are deeply moved when we present them with clothing and essentials that have been collected and created just for them.

Volunteers











Trainings for Healthcare Providers

Healthcare providers are on the front line in the fight against human trafficking. Most survivors seek healthcare at some point while being trafficked, but they are rarely recognized as victims. This is why our team of medical trainers equips healthcare providers to identify and respond to victims of human trafficking in the clinical setting.

Unbound co-hosted a seminar for healthcare providers at TCU's Brown-Lupton University Union ballroom in November 2019 entitled: Identifying and Responding to Human Trafficking & Intimate Partner Violence in a Clinical Setting. Over 200 medical professionals attended (shown below).



o Unbound was able to successfully transition from inperson training to live online training for medical and social service professionals during the Covid19 pandemic, allowing us to continue reaching these frontline providers while social distancing.

UNBOUND

- **o** In September 2019, Unbound presented at the Emergency Nurses Association Conference in Austin. Thank you to Texas Health Resources HEB for sponsoring our booth!
- Unbound's trainings offer CNE for nurses and CEUs for medical social workers.

Mission & Values

Unbound supports survivors and resources our community to fight human trafficking

Unbound Fort Worth was started in 2012 as part of a multi-national network of Unbound offices working to end human trafficking in communities around the world. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that raises its own funds for local anti-trafficking work, including direct survivor support.

Our Values

Hope Driven: In the dark world of human trafficking, we believe there is hope. Our hope comes from three main sources: our faith, our community, and the survivors we serve. We believe in a God of justice and restoration, who has called us to respond to this need. We are encouraged by a community ready to take action in the fight.





- And we are inspired by the strength, resilience and courage of the men, women, and children we serve.
- Service Oriented: We actively seek to fill the needs and gaps in service in our community. As we serve survivors, we are also eager to serve our partners in law enforcement, hospitals, schools, and more.
- **Excellence Focused:** Unbound is committed to maintaining excellence in the service we provide. By following best practices, staying up-to-date on research, training our teams, and providing evidence-based programs, we seek to offer the best service to our community.

Financials

Revenues



Revenues Breakdown



"The service Unbound provides is unique. They do the slow and difficult work of building trust with survivors and vulnerable youth. Unbound advocates meet survivors wherever they are, any time - day or night. They answer their phones 24/7. This is how they are able to help survivors experience healing and restoration." ~Brian Byrd, Fort Worth City Council

Expenses



Expenses Breakdown





New Executive Director

Thanks to your support, we have experienced tremendous growth over the last few years. Our advocacy team now includes 5 fulltime, specially-trained advocates led by our Survivor Advocacy Director, a licensed counselor and TBRI practitioner. We are renovating the lower level of One Safe Place to open The Underground, our dropin center for trafficked youth. This fall we will grow into a team of 17!

This growth, along with our commitment to ensuring sustainability and high service



quality standards, makes it perfect timing to hire a long-term executive director. We are grateful that Stephanie will remain actively engaged as a board member, supporting our new executive director, Sandy Hennip, as she transitions into this role.

Sandy has her Master's degree in Social Work and has many years of experience working with vulnerable populations as well as equipping others through Team Development. She spent the last 8 years with an international nonprofit overseeing the team development system for 82 teams. Prior to that, she served as the program lead for Catholic Charities' Refugee Resettlement Program. She served as a trainer for Unbound in its early days, and worked with the Unbound Global team during her time overseas.

Sandy is kind, compassionate, and competent. We are so blessed to have her leading our team forward! Follow @unboundfortworth on Instagram or Facebook to stav informed about new developments.

~Unbound Fort Worth Board of Directors

Sandy Hennip is joining the Unbound Fort Worth team as **Executive Director!**

Our Ask

Every service Unbound provides is offered at no cost. Our programs are completely dependent on the generosity of people like you.

Unbound is fighting the atrocities of human trafficking by supporting and serving survivors, equipping youth to protect themselves, preventing future trafficking situations, and training professionals in healthcare and education to identify victims while in their care.

We need your partnership to keep these programs going. Your generosity will enable us to continue the fight against the fastest growing criminal industry in the world.

To date, we have raised \$700,000 in federal grants. We are fortunate to have so much money invested in our community.

We are seeking \$500,000 for operational support for all of Unbound's programs, including The Underground, Unbound's new drop-in center for trafficked and exploited youth.

Join in the fight today and let's End Human Trafficking and Ignite Hope for the vulnerable people in our community we are so privileged to serve. Thank you so much for considering!

To give online, please hover your phone's camera over the QR code, go to unboundfortworth.org/give, or text "GIVE" to (817) 769-7753.

To give by check, please use the enclosed giving envelope.

Unbound Fort Worth is a registered 501(c)(3). EIN 83-1628641

Our FY2021 projected operating budget is \$1,200,000.







IGN TETEAM

become a valued Ignite Team member by setting up a recurring monthly donation



unboundfortworth.org/give



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