



Amirah  
**2015**  
Annual Report





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## From Exploitation to Liberation.

Amirgh is a faith-based non-profit here in the North Shore of Boston that seeks to provide a refuge for women who want to break free from sexual exploitation.

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# A NOTE FROM THE E.D.

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Dear Amirah Community:

I love that word community. It conveys a sense of holding something together in common, the idea of being a part of a larger whole, of grasping another's hand as we hold the hand of another in turn strengthening the work that is being done.

In April 2015, I became a part of this Amirah community. I heard from a number of people that I was crazy to take this step and risk, that there was nothing that could be done, and that there was no way to get what was broken restored. I am so glad that I am sitting here in 2016 looking back at a year where this was completely proven wrong.

I saw a community come together and support the mission and vision of Amirah **to provide a refuge for women who have been sex trafficked**. This community supported the mission to purchase the safe home that had been restored for years and in June 2015, we were able to take the keys and claim this property as ours.

The community of Amirah grew in support and we saw in 2015 our monthly donors double in size letting us show our sustainability for this work **to help women break free from exploitation on their journey to liberation**. There is so much that we are able to provide to each woman as we offer whole-person care because of this ongoing support. Each woman is able to receive the services she needs so that she can begin her road of recovery and liberation.

Our community saw the doors of the safe home reopen in October, and we welcomed our first woman into this home and program. She and the other women who are now in our home have made incredible strides in their journey. As a community, we are giving them time, space and love – something they have not received in a long time, if ever.

There is so much that has been done in 2015 and even now as we look ahead to 2016 and beyond, we know that Amirah is here to stay because of this committed community that has come together to stand and say that we will no longer let this world be hopeless when it comes to sex trafficked women. We stand together giving hope to those who had none – giving them the chance to become everything that they were created to be and no longer what they were forced to be.

As you read through this report, you will see the work of this incredible community. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for making this all possible. We truly would not be here today without you.

With Hope –

Stephanie Clark  
Executive Director  
#HopeLivesHere





# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

To Amirah's many friends and supporters:

It is a true delight to write to you today, since it is so easy to show the great progress that's been made over the past year. This time last year the safe home was still closed and the board was just living in hope that our newly hired Executive Director would make the needed difference for Amirah to be able to re-open the home and begin again to provide individualized healing and care to women survivors of sex trafficking.

From her first moment as Amirah ED, Stephanie Clark has been all and more than we could have asked or imagined. The safe home is already half full, with three women participants. In addition to Stephanie, Heather Thornburg serves as full-time Program Director; we have an Office Manager, a Volunteer Coordinator, two Resident Advisors and two Clinical Coordinator Interns. That strong staff is completed by scores of volunteers. Furthermore, it is 100% true to say that without our supporters, there would be no Amirah. You have made this happen.

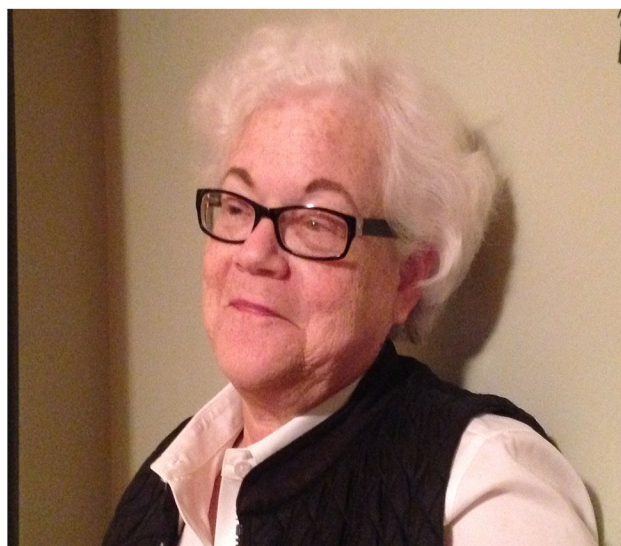
After-care programs for survivors, like Amirah, that help restore traumatized, devalued lives are truly beneficial and necessary—but still not nearly enough to stem the tide of people being caught up into trafficking or trying to break free from its hold. Recent statistics show that the incidence of trafficking worldwide is increasing! Because of that, Amirah is eager to keep growing, to serve more women through more programs and places. We hope that journey is as appealing and exciting to you as it is to us.

For now, our focus remains on maintaining the strongest possible program for our current participants and for others who will join them. Amirah participants are getting the counseling, medical, dental, and physical help needed, which is so important. Along with this, they are beginning to discover vocational and academic goals as they work their way through their individualized program.

Maybe more important for full transformation is the infusion of hope that Amirah also gives each woman. One program participant said, "I no longer want to die, I want to live and love and be loved for who I am, not for what I can offer them. I've got hope today!!" It is hope—finding it, clinging to it—that makes the difference. Amirah is in the Hope business.

We are more grateful than we can say for your partnership with us.

Nancy Mering,  
*Chair of the Board*



"We became involved with Amirah a number of years ago, and it wasn't hard to see quickly the importance of Amirah and its mission. At the same time, I often wondered if the problem was as real as the organization said it was. Were women from our own communities really being taken against their own free will? Were they really being trafficked? And was it really happening here in plain sight? But one day at the Amirah home, the reality of not only the problem, but the importance of Amirah hit hard. I was talking with a 19 year old girl who had been rescued from a life of trafficking. During the conversation, I learned that she was from the very town where we had lived for 18 years. Not only that, but she was close in age to one of my daughters. I realized in that moment that yes, this problem is right in front of us. Any notions of the problem belonging to someone else evaporated that day.

It is real, and it is happening here; teenagers and women from our communities are being trafficked every day.

**Places like Amirah are their greatest hope for recovery once they are free from the life."**

-Greg Smith, Vice Chair of the Board



Nancy Mering, Chair of the Board,  
*Retired Administrator, Gordon College*

Greg Smith, Vice Chair of the Board,  
*VP of Sales & Marketing, Security Innovation*

Laurie Truschel, Secretary of the Board,  
*Director of Young Alumni & Student  
Engagement, Gordon College*

Megan Burnett  
*Senior Associate for Grants Office, Biogen*

Carter Crockett  
*Founding Director of the Center for  
Entrepreneurial Leadership, Gordon College*

Jim Dalton  
*Director of Global Accounts, Infor*

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*CFO/Controller, Strata Pathology Services, Inc.*

Greg Hood  
*Physician Assistant, Lynn Community Health Center*

Jodi Hyer  
*Communications Coordinator, WomenCraft Social  
Enterprise*

Priscilla Masterson  
*Clinical Nurse Specialist, Element Care & Private  
Practice*

# STAFF



**Stephanie Clark**  
Executive Director



**Heather Thornburg**  
Program Director



**Andrea Huber**  
Office Manager



**Maria Theo**  
Volunteer Coordinator



**Sarah Moscho**  
Clinical Coordinator Intern



**Christine Schryver**  
Clinical Coordinator Intern



# VOLUNTEERS

With 60+ volunteers who help in a variety of ways from administrative help to direct care, Amirah is run by people just like you! Here's what they're saying:



"Volunteering at Amirah has been incredibly rewarding. The staff at Amirah were extremely successful in preparing me for the types of tasks I was expected to perform. I look forward to seeing the girls every week and do my best to help them along their journey. More importantly, **I think the girls may be changing my life more than I am changing theirs and I am thankful for the opportunity to be in their presence as often as I can.**"

- Karissa, Volunteer



"I am grateful to have been so naturally welcomed into the community here at Amirah. These are real women dealing with very real experiences, and I have witnessed immense growth in these vibrant humans whom I have come to know and love. The true benefit for me is **being able to stand alongside them as they continue to celebrate their successes in the home as well as in their lives.**"

- Taylor, Volunteer



"The participants inspire me with their determination of doing the hard work of recovery, truly moving from exploitation towards liberation. The staff and volunteers inspire me with their love, compassion and empathy. **I have grown as a woman and as a Christian through volunteering at Amirah.**"

- Susan, Volunteer

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# THE PROBLEM

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Human Trafficking is defined by the US State Department as commercial acts or services induced by force, fraud or coercion. This can include: Forced Labor, Bonded Labor, Debt Bondage, Sex Trafficking, Involuntary Domestic Servitude, Child Soldiers or Organ Trafficking.

Human trafficking is the 2nd largest and fastest growing criminal industry in the world. (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2008)



11,000-20,000

People enslaved by human trafficking in the Greater Boston and New England region.



17

Beds designated for trafficking survivors in New England. Trafficking survivors are underserved!



\$32 Billion

The total global market value of the human trafficking industry.



80%

● trafficking victims are women



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# OUR SOLUTION

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At Amirah, we offer each woman that comes into our safe home an individualized, trauma-informed, whole-person care program. This means that we treat each woman as an individual, recognizing that her needs may look different than other women in our home. Our program works through the six avenues of whole-person care to address the physical, mental, emotional, social, vocational, and spiritual trauma of each woman as she journeys toward liberation and complete healing.

Each woman works her way through the three phases of Amirah's program, which can last 1-2 years. During this time, she will address her physical needs and addiction recovery. She will connect with a counselor on a weekly basis to work through her mental and emotional trauma. We partner with local gyms and equine therapy to offer social engagement. Each woman will address their vocational needs by getting a part-time job and pursuing academic avenues to further their specific life goals. Throughout this time, we give them the time and space to explore the spiritual questions they have as they have endured years of abuse and trauma.



1

**We reopened and purchased our first safe home.**



5

**We have admitted five women into our program since opening in October.**



60

**Volunteers**

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Since October, our women have made huge strides on their way to freedom. Here's a snapshot of what they've accomplished so far:



48

Addiction Recovery Meetings



27

Medical and Dental Appointments



46

Therapeutic Appointments



37

Social Engagements



50

Spiritual Engagements

infogr.am

# 2015 FINANCIALS

Our financial statements for 2015 are featured in the following pages. Amirah offers these statements as part of a commitment to steward our resources well while simultaneously offering a level of transparency our organization has never before attained. To understand the figures presented, it should be noted that our safe home was closed for much of 2015 while fundraising efforts were accelerated in order to hire key staff and open the home with enough resources in reserve to weather potential crises and follow best practice for a non profit of our type. We believe 2016 statements will offer a very different picture, as it will illustrate a full year of expenses associated with a full staff team, serving a full house of survivors, and the program costs associated with the whole-person care required to serve these survivors well.

				Jan - Dec 15
			<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
			<b>Income</b>	
			40000 · Fundraising	11,551.93
			41000 · Contributions - Unrestricted	264,319.10
			42000 · Contributions - Temp Restricted	25,071.00
			46400 · Other Types of Income	2,064.00
			<b>Total Income</b>	<b>303,006.03</b>
			<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>303,006.03</b>
			<b>Expense</b>	
			99999 · Uncategorized	0.00
			70000 · Online Donation Database	2,718.82
			70100 · Accounting Fees	2,167.90
			70200 · Administrative costs	5,949.36
			70300 · Development Costs	10,450.81
			70400 · Insurance	5,721.55
			70700 · Payroll Expenses	74,862.76
			70800 · Program	47,158.93
			<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>149,030.13</b>
			<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>153,975.90</b>
		<b>Net Income</b>		<b>153,975.90</b>

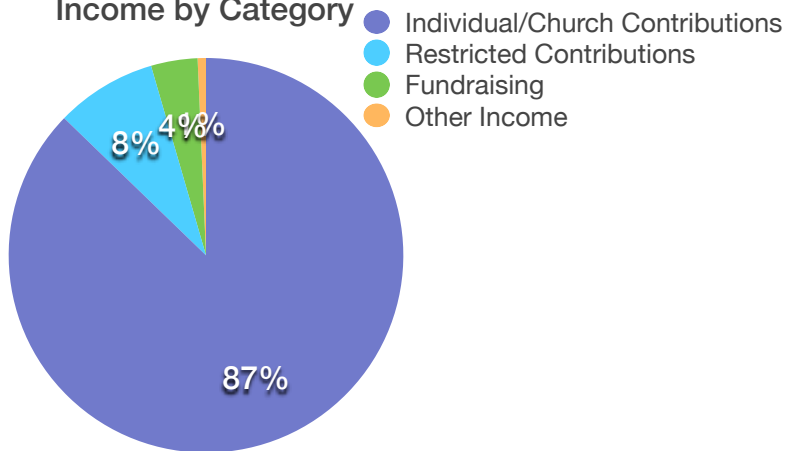


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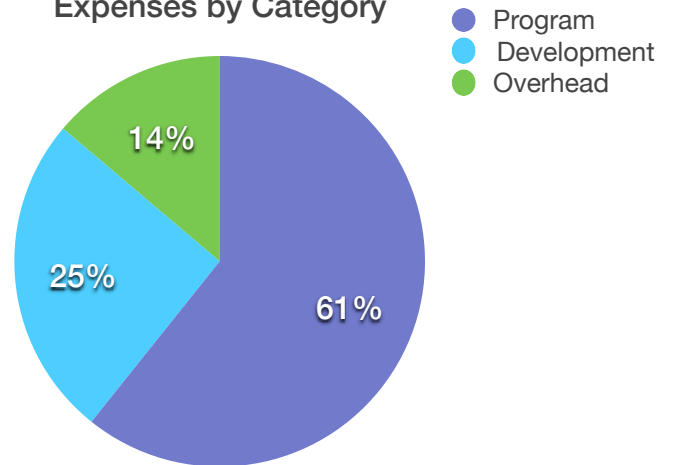
# 2015 FINANCIALS (CONT.)

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Income by Category



Expenses by Category



In 2015 we are grateful to say that we *doubled* our monthly donors. Would you consider helping us double it again in 2016?



# Amirah

*From exploitation to liberation.*

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