



A LIFEBRIDGE HEALTH GROUP

CENTER FOR HOPE

2025 IMPACT REPORT

Building Hope



Dear Hope Builder,

Hope is a positive mechanism for change. We see the impact of hope every day in the individuals and communities we serve, and in the steadfastness of your support. Your time, resources and encouragement have fueled our mission to bring healing to thousands of individuals and families. Thank you.

Last May, we had the privilege of hosting representatives from the White House at our fourth annual Red Desk Call to Action Day to build awareness of child fatalities in Baltimore and throughout Maryland due to gun violence and child abuse. They noted that Center for Hope and LifeBridge Health are demonstrating leadership in ways to prevent violence that no one else in the nation is doing. I couldn't agree more. Our team members consistently rise to meet the challenges our community faces with energy, compassion and innovation.

Included in this report are just a few of the many stories of how we are improving thousands of lives at Center for Hope and even around the world. The daily small gestures of our team members going above and beyond to support the individuals and families they work with; our willingness to lead in national conversations on violence intervention; the transformative global reach of our exceptional forensic interview training team—all profoundly impactful and full of hope.

Whether it's preventing gun violence, protecting children from abuse or addressing trauma with compassion and care, now and in the future, we remain committed to expanding our reach and deepening our impact.

With gratitude and hope,

Neil M. Meltzer
President and CEO,
LifeBridge Health

Adam Rosenberg
Executive Director,
Center for Hope
VP LifeBridge Health,
Violence Intervention and Prevention

OUR MISSION

Center for Hope advances hope, healing and resilience for those impacted by trauma, abuse and violence through comprehensive response, treatment, education and prevention.



FY24 Highlights

CENTER FOR HOPE **23,500** CLIENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

0
Led **4 Safe Streets**
neighborhoods to **365 days**
with **0 homicides**.

2,940
Conducted over
2,940 mental health
therapy sessions
for **147 clients**.

556
Conducted **556 forensic**
interviews, **206 forensic**
medical exams and
422 foster care exams.

4,069
Provided **4,069 advocacy**
sessions for **619 clients**.

210
Supported **210 victims**
of trafficking and exploitation
and missing youth.

2,329
Assisted **2,329 domestic**
violence survivors with
162 nights in shelter and
1,323 counseling sessions;
1,381 were new referrals.

753
Cared for **753 survivors**
of violence bedside at
Sinai Hospital and
Grace Medical Center.

876
Mediated **876 high risk**
conflicts across
Baltimore City.

285
Hosted **34 events** and
provided **285 referrals**
for families whose loved ones
were lost to homicide.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Center for Hope leaders recognized nationally, including selection for the Community Violence Leadership Academy (University of Chicago Crime Lab) and the Leadership Exchange for CAC Directors (Northeast Regional Child Advocacy Center), enhancing expertise in violence prevention and child advocacy.
- Received widespread recognition for its impact, with leaders honored as Health Care Heroes (The Daily Record) and GameChangers (Baltimore Magazine), as well as panelists at The Baltimore Banner's Impact event and recipients of a City of Baltimore commendation for work with child survivors of homicide.
- Expanded its capacity to provide forensic interviews for adult survivors of child sexual abuse and elder abuse victims.
- Launched the Kuji Youth Radio program providing an outlet of creativity and a way to have voices heard to children aged 11-17 in Park Heights who were interested in filmmaking, podcasting, music and media.

Based on 474 client satisfaction surveys in FY24:

100% of individuals feel safer
because of the services received.

99% are satisfied with the services
provided by Center for Hope.

93% feel more self-sufficient and
aware of their victim rights.

**"What I found most helpful about
the services I received is how
they went above and beyond to
get me and my family back to
feeling safe and happy again."**

– Hospital Violence
Response Team client

**"I have healed so much and
learned so many healthy
skills and coping strategies.
I am forever grateful
for this program!"**

– Domestic violence survivor





IMPACT

Supporting Children and Families

Family advocates are there every step of the way for children and families who come through the doors of Center for Hope. Trauma and violence impact so many aspects of life, and our family advocates become a familiar, friendly face, helping families navigate their way through finding whatever support they need on their healing journey. A single parent whose seven-year-old child was seen at Center for Hope for allegations of sexual abuse got help from her family advocate to connect her with resources she needed—therapy, job search assistance, furniture and information on food pantries.

In another case, a family advocate arranged transportation for a mother so that she could come to Center for Hope to pick up clothing and hygiene items for herself and her son, including warm coats, hats and scarves for the upcoming winter. As they were checking in, it came to light that a previous issue they had discussed around the mother's therapy had not been resolved; the family advocate was able to connect with our mental health team to resolve the issue that very day. Another family needed new bed frames, box springs and mattresses. After the family advocate helped find these resources and ensured that everything was delivered to the correct address, she received this note from the family:

“Thank you for helping and caring. What you have done for us will always hold a special place in our hearts. No one has ever helped us like this. You represent hope.”

IMPACT

Creating a Path Toward Healing

The Pathways to Advocacy Against Violence Every Day (PAAVE) team provides supportive case management, outreach, family engagement and advocacy services to families who have experienced homicide and shootings. After experiencing such a traumatic life event, finding the support PAAVE provides can be a profound step on the path toward healing. One participant shared,

“My husband was murdered in 2023. He was the breadwinner of the household. After his passing, I was afraid to leave the house. I couldn't even walk to the corner store. Once I got into the PAAVE program, they provided so much encouragement and assistance. I have been able to get therapy, land a job (first job ever!) and I have felt so much more comfortable leaving the house.”



When some survivors expressed a desire for a space where they could come together at least once a month, the PAAVE team not only made it happen, but they also made sure that it was easy for families to attend, providing transportation assistance and a light meal and also partnering with the mental health team to host a group for children. After participating in this monthly group for survivors of homicide, some members also decided to receive individual case management support. One member said,

“I love the group. It really gives me some peace and it is helping with the healing process. I lost my son 12 years ago and since coming here, this group has been helping me heal more and more.”



IMPACT

Training Across the Globe

The Forensic Interview Research and Education (FIRE) program continues to expand its reach, conducting trainings across the globe, including in Mongolia, South Korea, Guyana and Puerto Rico. In March 2024, the FIRE program traveled to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia to train 40 professionals, including police officers and social workers, in trauma-informed forensic interviewing skills and advanced instruction on responding to sex trafficking. After this week-long training, attendees had the skill set to train other professionals in their locales on best practices, creating a sustainable foundation for trauma-informed practices in Mongolia. The FIRE team also provided ongoing virtual follow-up sessions for continued mentorship, review and feedback as participants integrated new techniques into their daily practice.

For Casa Albizu in Puerto Rico, their connection with Center for Hope started during the pandemic with a need to set up tele-forensic interviewing. “We met with their team who helped us get our Tele FI operation up and running,” said Ángel Rodríguez, Casa Albizu Legal Counsel. “We would not have been able to continue our forensic interview services at that time, if not for their help.” Since then, their full interviewer team has been trained on the Forensic Interview Toolbox and working with multidisciplinary teams, aided by bilingual Spanish speaking FIRE trainer Cathy Pajaro. For the center’s 25th anniversary symposium, Casa Albizu invited Crimson Barocca, manager of education and research, as their main speaker. Rodríguez said

“Crimson’s presentation, with prosecutors, law enforcement and legislators in attendance, helped kick off new efforts in establishing the investigation of child abuse through multidisciplinary teams in Puerto Rico.”

IMPACT

Honoring Loss, Celebrating Resilience

Every October, Center for Hope’s domestic violence programs host a candlelight vigil in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The event honors lives lost to domestic violence. Community members and survivors came together at the Northwest Hospital Healing Garden to share their stories and promote a future without violence. When those who have survived violence share their stories with those who are still struggling, something very moving and powerful happens. One such impactful moment occurred when a vigil participant shared these words from a poem she wrote:

“I never had it easy in life and I never knew why / because, most of my life I was living a lie / Too many lows and not enough highs / through it all I finally realize / It was all because I was born to rise / I was born to rise above what I’d been told / to keep me and my mind under control / I had to go through the heartache and pain / to realize that there is great power and strength I can gain.”



IMPACT

Advocating for Change

Center for Hope’s Red Desk Project was created in 2021 as a public art campaign designed to build awareness of child fatalities in Baltimore and throughout Maryland due to gun violence and child abuse. With each desk, we remember the loss of these children’s lives, and we renew our commitment to reducing these tragedies. In May 2024, Center for Hope held its fourth annual Red Desk Call to Action Day. The event featured a roundtable discussion to address gun violence throughout Maryland and included Rob Wilcox, deputy director of the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention, among others in local and state leadership. Over 70 invited guests listened to our panel of experts discuss meaningful solutions to keep our communities safe, increase awareness, stimulate self-mobilization and action, contribute to policy change and ultimately achieve long-term lasting behavioral changes. **During the event, Director Wilcox pronounced Baltimore’s 34% drop in homicide rate, which Center for Hope and our partners worked towards, among the nation’s great success stories.**

Advisory Council, Leadership and Partners

Advisory Council

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Hope Builders: Annual Honor Roll of Donors

The Center for Hope annual contributor listing recognizes donors who have made new gifts and pledges (excluding pledge payments) between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. This encompasses support to all Center for Hope programs.

Your generous financial support allows us to change the lives of the individuals and communities we serve through compassionate, high-quality care, community outreach and opportunities for innovation. We are honored that you trust us with your gifts. When you GIVE BRAVELY, you inspire us to CARE BRAVELY.

Visionary

\$100,000 OR MORE

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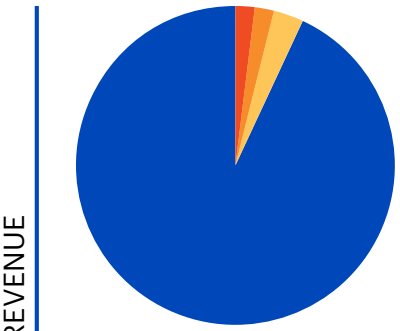
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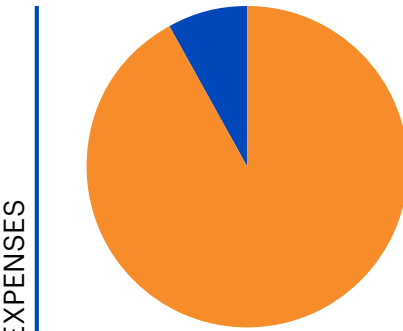
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of donors:



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Individual	2%	\$296,095
Foundations	2%	\$434,125
Fee for Service	3%	\$584,503
Government Grants	93%	\$16,388,296



FY2024
Operating Expenses 92%
Program Expenses 8%

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