# THE HOPE

SUPPORT, HOPE & HEALING for VICTIMS of PASTORAL SEXUAL ABUSE

## 2010 Annual Report

www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com

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### **Contact Information**

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Web: www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com Email: Arlagene@TheHopeOfSurvivors.org (Counseling) Email: Coralie@TheHopeOfSurvivors.org (Administration)

### The Hope of Survivors-Canada

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### **Necessity of The Hope of Survivors**

Pastoral sexual abuse happens to people of all ages, backgrounds, gender and race. It is a global problem—existing in every denomination around the world. It is a human problem—a sin problem. The Hope of Survivors focuses primarily on assisting adult victims of pastoral sexual abuse, but we also receive requests for help from teens and young people who have been abused by a youth pastor or someone in the role of spiritual authority. Perpetrators are most commonly male and victims generally tend to be female, but that is not always the case. At The Hope of Survivors, we have also counseled male victims of both male and female offenders, and female victims of female offenders. Abuse knows no restriction!

Pastoral sexual abuse is damaging in every way—no matter what age one is when the abuse takes place. The destruction in the victim's life cannot be underestimated. The potential for health problems, suicide risk, breaking up of marriages and families is just the beginning. One of the worst "side effects" of pastoral sexual abuse is the loss of faith, trust and relationship with God. Many victims find it impossible to return to their church—or any church. Yet, that's not the worst of it. Too often, there are some who never recover from the abuse and remain away from God forever. The responsibility for that victim's life lies in the hands of the pastor or spiritual leader who committed the abuse.

The Hope of Survivors strives to facilitate healing in victim's lives by imparting hope, uncovering truth and sharing the love of Jesus Christ. Truly, the healing and hope all victims need comes from the One who created them in His image and desires to make them whole. The prayer of each victim can be found in Jeremiah 17:14, *"Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise."* 

May the Church—the Body of Believers—learn to recognize its responsibility to those who have been harmed by clergy. God is not mocked, and He has given us ample warnings in His Word for situations just like this. 1 Samuel 2:22 states, "*Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto all Israel; and how they lay with the women that assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.*" As Eli speaks to his sons, the priests of the House of God, he makes it clear to them that they are the ones causing the Lord's people to transgress (verse 24). The pastor (or any spiritual leader) is the one with the responsibility to maintain healthy and appropriate boundaries—at *all* times.

"Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them. For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out."–Ezekiel 34:10-11

### The History of The Hope of Survivors

The year 2010 marked the eight-year anniversary of The Hope of Survivors, which was born one evening in December 2002, as Steve and Samantha were reflecting upon their own experience of pastoral sexual abuse and the lack of resources that were available to help them understand and heal at that time. They felt compelled to develop a web site that would provide information and encouragement to anyone who may be searching for answers. Steve and Samantha felt if "just one person" could be helped by the web site, then it would be well worth the effort and pain they had gone through. While Steve and Samantha's vision was limited in thinking "just one," the Lord knew how many hurting people there were—suffering all alone and living without hope. As you will see in the remainder of this report, there are many "ones" out there who have been touched and blessed by the ministry of The Hope of Survivors. Truly, God does work all things together for good to those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28)

The Hope of Survivors has grown rapidly in its services since it began. It has an active and growing Board of Directors, Officers and Volunteer staff. It often serves as the only available, unbiased liaison between victims and appropriate civil, public or religious assistance. Its documents, including a series of informational brochures (in Spanish and English) and DVDs, are circulated worldwide. The Hope of Survivors is unique, as a multitude of national web sites now exist on the subject, but most either provide angry denunciation of various religious organizations, or they are associated with a particular religious sect and require that affiliation from their clients, or they address the problem from a purely humanistic psychological approach—leaving God and His power to heal entirely out of the equation. Many charge for their services, yet The Hope of Survivors' unique services and approach is evident. To God be the glory, what great things He has done!

"Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you." (1 Samuel 12:24)

### **About The Hope of Survivors**

The Hope of Survivors is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting victims of pastoral sexual abuse and misconduct of all denominations, as well as providing educational and informational materials and seminars to pastors and churches worldwide. Pastoral care is provided through The Hope of Survivors' separate pastoral division, *Protecting Morality*.

The Hope of Survivors is a registered California nonprofit corporation and is authorized to conduct business in the states of Illinois, Texas and Ohio as a foreign corporation under the same name. *La Esperanza de los Sobrevivientes*, the Latino Division of The Hope of Survivors, is registered in the state of Texas. The Hope of Survivors also maintains official offices with volunteer staff in Australia, Canada and Romania.

Professional memberships include: American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC), Outpost Centers International (OCI); Adventist Association of Family Life Professionals (AAFLP), and Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI). The Hope of Survivors has also been recognized as a Valued Partner by GuideStar Exchange.



### **Description of Mission, Services & Programs**

The organization's purpose is to provide hope and healing in Christ through encouragement, Biblical counseling, support, referral, assistance, educational programs and information to victims of pastoral sexual abuse and misconduct. The organization, and its Officers, Directors, Volunteers and Employees, use the Bible as the standard of their beliefs and philosophies in all areas. The ministry seeks to:

(a) Educate the victims, the clergy, the church body and the general public about pastoral sexual abuse and misconduct, the frequency of occurrences, the moral and social implications involved and the devastating consequences through national media, by disseminating brochures and other related materials, conducting educational and informational seminars, and by maintaining an up-to-date web site;

(b) Conduct retreats and seminars specifically for the victims of pastoral sexual abuse and provide one-on-one counsel and support for the purpose of facilitating their healing and recovery, and helping them to gain a greater understanding of what has happened to them, giving them hope and encouragement, and restoring their faith in their Creator;

(c) Work closely with churches that are dealing with the after-effects of an abuse situation for the purpose of helping them to understand the importance of providing a safe environment for all and for understanding the dynamics of pastoral sexual abuse so that the church and the victim are not further damaged in the after-math;

(d) Provide pastoral training/educational seminars for the purpose of providing prevention information and encouragement, and to work closely with those who have violated their sacred trust and encourage them to make amends to their victims and to receive counseling.

In short, the mission of The Hope of Survivors may be summed up in the motto:

**Reaching the Hurting...** Ministering to those who have suffered abuse at the hands of clergy.

*Calling the Faithful...* Providing resources and support to church leadership to help them remain true to their high calling.

Bridging the Gap...Leading the hurting to hope through a healing relationship with Christ.

### **Organization Funding**

The Hope of Survivors is funded by individuals who support the mission and goals of the organization; survivors of pastoral sexual abuse who desire to use their means to help others; and by grants from private individuals and foundations whose values are similar to those of The Hope of Survivors. Contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Your support is greatly appreciated. The Hope of Survivors does not receive any denominational subsidies.

### **Statement of Financial Position**

### As of December 31, 2010

ASSETS	<u>Dec. 31, 2010</u>
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings 1035 — Cash — Fifth Third Bank	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$1,000.00
Other Current Assets 1078 — Hold for brochure printing	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Other Current Assets Total Current Assets	<u>\$0.00</u> \$1,000.00
Fixed Assets 1600 — Equipment 1690 — Accumulated Depreciation Total Fixed Assets	\$14,176.07 <u>(\$9.697.00)</u> <u>\$4,479.07</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$5,479.07</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities Current Liabilities Credit Cards 2300 – Credit Card Liability 2310 – Company Credit Card–Capital One <u>\$7.404</u> Total 2300 – Credit Card Liability	<u>4.07</u> <u>\$7.404.07</u>
Total Credit Cards	<u>\$7,404.07</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$7,404.07</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$7,404.07</u>
Equity 3010 — Unrestrict (retained earnings) Net Income	(\$655.34) <u>(\$1,269.66)</u>
Total Equity	<u>(\$1,925.00)</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>\$5,479.07</u>

## **Statement of Activities**

<u>January through December 2010</u> Ordinary Income/Expense Income		<u>Jan – Dec 2010</u>
4000 – Contributions 4001 – Grants 4050 – Fundraising Income 4100 – Sales 4400 – Miscellaneous Income Total Income		\$22,092.52 \$7,500.00 \$1,205.63 \$797.11 <u>\$103.00</u> \$31,698.26
Expense		
6000 — Salaries 6010 — Payroll Taxes 6050 — Professional Fees 6052 — Accounting	<u>\$165.58</u>	\$2,884.60 \$220.66
Total 6050 — Professional Fees 6060 — Books & Education 6070 — Bank Charges 6075 — Finance Charges 6080 — Contract Services 6090 — Donations 6110 — Equipment Repairs 6120 — Telephone & Internet Services 6130 — Dues & Publications 6150 — Licenses & Fees 6160 — Insurance 6200 — Office Supplies 6230 — Postage 6240 — Printing & Publishing 6245 — Software 6300 — Sales Tax Paid		\$165.58 \$523.94 \$113.76 \$2,018.04 \$700.00 \$103.00 \$375.42 \$1,235.44 \$688.00 \$751.00 \$2,506.50 \$2,399.58 \$1,498.31 \$525.97 \$305.00 \$27.00
6400 – Advertising 6410 – Domain Registration 6420 – Travel		\$8,027.33 \$633.21
6421 — Lodging 6423 — Car Rental & Other Auto Expense 6424 — Fuel	\$2,756.76 \$167.00 \$488.38	
Total 6420 — Travel		\$3,412.14
6430 — Meals & Entertainment 6450 — Fundraising Costs 6500 — Victim Assistance 6510 — Gifts 6700 — Depreciation Expense Total Expense		\$698.68 \$377.83 (\$52.62) \$32.55 <u>\$2,689.00</u> <u>\$32,859.92</u>
Net Ordinary Income		<u>(\$1,161.66)</u>
Other Income Other Income 6850 — Gain (Loss) on Assets Disposals		(\$108.00)
Total Other Income Net Other Income		(\$108.00) (\$108.00) <u>(\$108.00)</u>
Net Income		<u>(\$1,269.66)</u>

### **Demographic Information By Denomination**

The chart below reveals the 2010 demographics based on reported denominational affiliation.

<u>#</u>	Denominational Demographics	<u>%</u>
2	Anglican	2%
1	Apostolic Church of Pentecost Canada, Inc.	1%
3	Assembly of God	3%
8	Baptist, First Baptist, Am. Baptist or Southern Baptist Conv.	8%
1	Buddhist	1%
3	Catholic, Roman Catholic	3%
1	Christian Missionary Alliance	1%
3	Church of God	3%
1	Church of Scotland	1%
1	Foursquare Church	1%
1	Grace Gospel Church/Evangelical	1%
1	Islam	1%
1	Lutheran Church; LCMS; ELCA	1%
5	Methodist/Methodist Episcopal/UMCI	5%
17	Non-Denominational/Christian/Interdenominational	17%
2	Pentecostal Church; United Pentecostal Church; PAC	2%
1	Presbyterian	1%
1	Salvation Army	1%
18	Seventh-day Adventist	18%
26	Undisclosed Denomination	26%
2	Wesleyan	2%
	Adjustment for fraction of percentages	<u>1%</u>
	Total from 1/1/10 to 12/31/10	100%

### Notes:

- (1) These demographics do **not** include clients from previous years.
- (2) These demographics do **not** include secondary victims such as spouses, children, friends or relatives of the affected individual who contacted The Hope of Survivors, or the other victims of the same pastor of which the client was aware and made known to The Hope of Survivors.
- (3) These figures also do **not** include known cases where The Hope of Survivors has been consulted but has had no direct contact with the client.
- (4) The year 2010 averaged 2 new clients per week (99 total).
- (5) Same notes apply as stated above on following page.

**Demographic Information By State/Country** The chart below reveals the 2010 demographics based on the state/country where the client resides. Throughout just 2010 there were **29** known states and **9** known countries (other than U.S.) represented as of 12/31/10.

Stata	#	<u>%</u>
<u>State</u> Alabama	<u>#</u>	<u>⁄0</u> 2%
Arizona	2	2% 1%
Australia	1	1% 2%
California	2	
Canada	6	6%
Colorado	5	5%
	1	1%
District of Columbia (DC)	1	1%
England (UK)	6	6%
Florida	5	5%
Georgia	3	3%
Hawaii	1	1%
Hong Kong	1	1%
Illinois	2	2%
India	1	1%
Indiana	1	1%
Iowa	1	1%
Kentucky	2	2%
Kenya	1	1%
Malaysia	1	1%
Maryland	3	3%
Massachusetts	2	2%
Michigan	4	4%
Minnesota	1	1%
Mississippi	1	1%
New Jersey	1	1%
New York	10	10%
North Carolina	1	1%
Ohio	4	4%
Oklahoma	1	1%
Pennsylvania	2	2%
Russia	1	1%
South Carolina	2	2%
South Africa (Zambia)	1	1%
Tennessee	2	2%
Texas	4	4%
Undisclosed State/Country	7	7%
Virginia	5	5%
Washington	2	2%
Wisconsin	2	2%
Adjustment for fraction of percentages		<u>1%</u>
Total from 1/1/10 to 12/31/10	99	100%

### The Hope of Survivors' Officers, Directors & Staff

The Lord is the Ultimate Founder, Director and Provider for the ministry of The Hope of Survivors. Without Him, none of the work would have lasting effect or eternal results. We give all the glory and honor to our Heavenly Father, yet we recognize He uses individuals as instruments in His service. We wish to acknowledge them and give them our heartfelt gratitude for their sacrificial service. Our year-end 2010 Board of Directors consisted of the following individuals:

Steve Nelson, BCBC, CBT (since 12/02)—Co-Founder, President Samantha Nelson, BCBC, CBT (since 12/02)—Co-Founder, V.P. & CEO Martin Weber, D.Min. (since 4/08)—Board Chairman Steven Grabiner (since 2/07) Jennifer Jill Schwirzer, MS, NCC (since 9/07) James L. Marcum, M.D. (since 9/07) Ray Hartwell (since 4/08) Herb Douglass, Th.D. (since 9/08) Ardis D. Stenbakken (since 8/10) Tom Lemon (2004-2009)—Board Chairman Emeritus

The Hope of Survivors could not have accomplished as much during 2010 without the assistance of the many volunteers who gave freely of their time and abilities to assist where needed. We are deeply grateful for those who help to make The Hope of Survivors what it is. The Volunteer staff during 2010 included:

Robert & Debbie Withrow (since 2/04)-Accounting Peggy & Dave Mahrt (since 5/05)–PR/Marketing Coralie Roll (since 1/06)—Australia Division/Victim Support Services Sandy Kirkham (since 8/06)—Member Advisory Panel/Victim Support Services Arlagene Groves (since 4/07)—Australia Division/Victim Support Services Shyleene Rosado (since 4/07)-Latino Division Vice President/Victim Support Services Karen Danka (since 9/07)–Design Assistant Buffy Halvorsen (since 5/08)–Victim Support Services Josephine Mweu (since 5/09)–Victim Support Services Heather & Brad Brown (since 9/09)–Victim Support Services Heather Brockett (since 12/09)-Executive Assistant Wendy Schwitzer (since 6/10)—Victim Support Services Kashae Ferguson (since 7/10)–Victim Support Services Gail W. & Elgin Jenkins (since 8/10)–Victim Support Services Annette Anderson (since 8/10)-PR/Marketing Romulus Chelbegean, Ph.D., MS, MA, MFT, RN (since 11/10)-Romanian Division Vice President

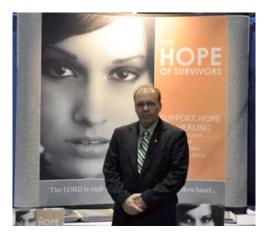
Day-to-day operations are primarily the responsibility of the Vice President and CEO; however, each Director and Volunteer played a vital role in the ongoing development and advancement of the ministry and its goals. Directors were actively involved in Board meetings, major decisionmaking, literature review, accounting, prayer, travel for meetings and many other activities. Volunteers offered support to hundreds of victims throughout the year, as well as assisted with raising awareness of the issue of clergy sexual abuse, conducting conferences, converting paper files to electronic records, exhibiting at conventions, and many other tasks too numerous to mention. The Hope of Survivors is indeed indebted and greatly blessed by the involvement of each Director and Volunteer. The following chart shows the breakdown of volunteer hours:

Volunteer	Hou	r <u>s (Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2010)</u>
Samantha Nelson (paid hours not included)	1,645	(counseling, administration, etc.)
Steve Nelson	350	(counseling, design, conferences)
Shyleene Rosado	385	(counseling, seminars, conf., etc.)
Karen Danka	100	(design, promotion, etc.)
Tom Lemon	5	(board meetings, conf., material review)
Bob & Debbie Withrow	20	(accounting, meetings, reports)
Jim Marcum	25	(board meetings, material review, etc.)
Sandy Kirkham	75	(exhibits, conferences)
Bill Kirkham	6	(legal advice, document review)
Jennifer Schwirzer	10	(board meetings, counseling, materials)
Peggy & Dave Mahrt	52	(exhibits, conferences, $P/R$ )
Steven Grabiner	5	(board meetings, material review)
Herb Douglass	12	(board meetings, material review)
Martin Weber	330	(board mtgs., counseling, conf., etc.)
Heather Brockett	550	(administrative assistance)
Coralie Roll	20	(Australia Division)
Ray Hartwell	5	(board meetings, material review)
Ardis Stenbakken	3	(board meetings, material review)
Buffy Halvorsen	5	(counseling, meetings, etc.)
Annette Anderson	80	(public relations, blog, etc.)
Arlagene Groves	10	(Australia Division)
Josephine Mweu	10	(victim support)
Wendy Schwitzer	200	(victim support, convention exhibit, etc.)
Gail & Elgin Jenkins	34	(victim support, convention exhibit, etc.)
Romulus Chelbegean	20	(Romania Division)
Heather Brown	36	(victim support)
Total Volunteer Hours for 2010	2 002	*

### **Total Volunteer Hours for 2010**

3,993\*

\*Estimates based on tasks undertaken by individual volunteers. Not all volunteers reported hours, even though they performed work on behalf of The Hope of Survivors. The total hours represents a **low** estimate of the number of volunteer hours required during 2010. Additional hours from project-based volunteers, such as the individuals who offered to translate the website into various languages, are not included in this estimate.





Left: President, Steve Nelson. Above: V.P. & CEO, Samantha Nelson with Board Chairman, Dr. Martin Weber.

### **Exposure Information**

### Advertising

- Google AdWords (key words for search results monthly)
- Advertisement for *Call It Anything But Love!* DVD in *Outlook* Magazine and the *Lake Union Herald*

### **Editorial / Media**

Articles and interviews with/and/or about The Hope of Survivors appeared in the following publications/broadcasts:

- *Evangelicals for Social Action* epistle, Compassion and Hope for Abused and Abuser by Al Tizon, April 22, 2010
- Article about The Hope of Survivors published in Inside ASI
- *3ABN Today* rebroadcast
- Speranta TV Romania interview about Puterea de a Mangaia (Romanian version of Reaching the Hurting—A Biblical Guide for Helping Abuse Victims, a book written by Samantha Nelson)

### **Distribution of Brochures/DVDs/Educational Materials**

The Hope of Survivors continued to distribute materials through various avenues, including online orders, direct requests that came to the ministry, conventions, conferences, etc.

### Newsletter

The Hope of Survivors continued to publish and distribute its quarterly newsletter, *HopeSpeak*, to over 1,200 individuals.

### **Conferences / Programs / Projects**

The Hope of Survivors conducted the following conferences and programs during 2010:

- General Conference Session exhibit (Atlanta, GA)
- Benefit Concert and Abuse Prevention Emphasis Program (Thompsonville, IL)
- Abuse Prevention Emphasis Programs (Mattoon, Stewardson, Noble & Fairfield, IL)
- La Esperanza de los Sobrevivientes Abuse Prevention Emphasis Program (Burleson, TX)
- Spanish Women's Retreat (San Marcos, TX)
- West Point Evangelism Convention exhibit (Agoura, CA)
- GYC Convention exhibit (Baltimore, MD)
- *Trust & Truth* Conferences (Spring & Fall semesters) at Cincinnati Christian University (Cincinnati, OH)
- Launched The Hope of Survivors website in four new languages: French, Italian, Turkish and Romanian

The Hope of Survivors also conducted several in-house and on-site counseling sessions at various times throughout 2010.

### Special Thanks...

The Hope of Survivors is especially thankful to its Directors, Officers and Volunteers (listed on page 10) who served and supported the ministry in 2010. It is difficult to list the names of every individual or organization that has had a part in supporting or assisting the ministry in some way. There are many individuals who faithfully support this ministry in some way, and we are very grateful for you. Thank you all for your support and prayers!

We'd also like to say "Thank You" to our donors and to those who have donated their time, talents and services to help The Hope of Survivors conduct its programs and day-to-day operations. The Hope of Survivors would not be able to continue its operations and services for victims and churches if it were not for you.





Left: Volunteers, Wendy Schwitzer (Canada) and Sandy Kirkham. Above: Exec. Asst., Heather Brockett.

With humblest gratitude to our donors, volunteers, directors and officers for their selfless service and generosity... Thank you!