

# The Center for Hope and Healing (CHH)



**FOUNDED:** 1976

**CURRENT ORGANIZATION BUDGET:** \$1,697,652

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Every 73 seconds a person in the US is sexually assaulted. 70% of these assaults happen to children under the age of 17. A disproportionate number of victims are people of color.

In Lowell, MA, The Center for Hope and Healing, Inc. (CHH) envisions a world free from sexual violence. CHH acts to end the systems of oppression that use sexual violence as a weapon.

CHH intentionally delivers anti-racist, innovative, culturally relevant programming designed for BIPOC – Black, Indigenous and other People of Color – survivors of sexual violence and communities which include immigrants, non-English speakers, Black girls, and LGBTQ/T – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer/Transgender people – youth, men, boys, and others who have historically been unserved or underserved.

The Center for Hope and Healing provides trauma- and resilience-informed support and safe spaces for survivors to heal through its free and confidential counseling, legal and medical advocacy, and 24-hour crisis hotline.

CHH uses a social justice framework to prevent sexual violence, advance equity, educate, raise awareness, and organize in the communities it serves and beyond.

## Investment Opportunity

CHH is at an exciting inflection point, with the acquisition of a new 11,000 sq. ft. building, the success of its DrivingHope! mobile outreach program, and the opportunity to expand its best practices and innovative programs. CHH seeks \$930K in new funding over the next two years to increase its organizational capacity-building, optimize and expand five programs in the new building, and expand its reach in the 15 communities served.

## Two-Year Goals

- Add three FTE in development, marketing, communications, and data and evaluation to increase sustainability and performance measurement
- Fund the new 11,000 sq. ft. building to increase program capacity by 25%
- Increase the number of community members reached by DrivingHope! by 40%
- Increase the number of participants in prevention programs by 25+%
- Serve 2,000+ more people annually

## Ways to Invest

### FINANCIAL

- \$450,000 funds four program centers in the new building
- \$160,000 funds two FTE in the development, communications, marketing team for one year
- \$80,000 funds a data manager, program evaluator for one year
- \$10,000 funds website redesign for accessibility in four languages

### IN-KIND

- Join CHH's "HealingCorps" volunteer program
- Join CHH's Board of Directors
- Participate in a CHH community event
- Wear teal in April to acknowledge Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- Become a community partner

## Leadership & Governance

2022 marks Isa Woldegiorguis' 10th year as Executive Director. As a survivor of childhood sexual abuse, poverty, racism, and homophobia, lived experience has fueled Isa's commitment to social justice and anti-violence work for over 25 years. Her local, state, and national leadership and activism in domestic/sexual violence, child abuse, race, and equity are assets she brings to her role. Isa leads CHH's passionate, multicultural team who represent and reflect the communities and people CHH serves.

CHH's nine member Board brings legal, nonprofit, and business experience, and is committed to equity practices and ending systemic oppressions that use sexual violence as a weapon.

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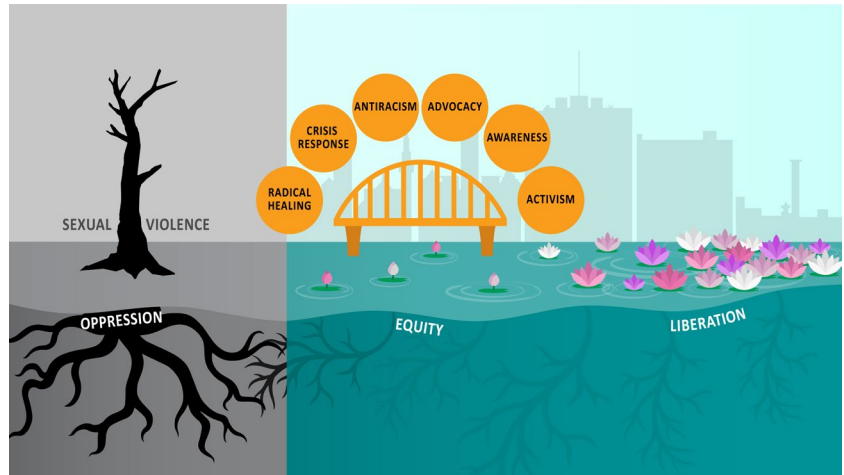
**No one gets it. And then I walk in here and you get it. This is my second home.**

YOUTH SURVIVOR

”



## CHH'S MODEL



### ADVOCACY – REMOVING BARRIERS FOR SURVIVORS

CHH advocates for survivors of sexual violence who have been disenfranchised by helping them navigate systems to get appropriate help. CHH's services are free, confidential, and culturally relevant, and include:

- Trauma-informed and resilience-based counseling for survivors and their loved ones. Individual/group counseling, legal/medical advocacy, gender specific and non-gendered Healing Circles, web chat, and a 24/7 crisis hotline. Services are available regardless of insurance, income, or citizenship
- Survivor-centered support for youth of color and LGBTQ/T youth survivors of sex trafficking through Lowell Ending Trafficking of Youth
- Victim-centered, trauma-informed, linguistically-specific services for Khmer-speaking victims of sexual violence

### AWARENESS – SHIFTING PARADIGMS FOR PREVENTION

CHH's Hope Prevents programs break through barriers to resources by providing historically underserved communities with culturally- and community-specific education, self-care strategies, and opportunities for change. Programs include:

- DrivingHope!: mobile health/outreach program for neighborhoods
- Brotherhood of Strength: healthy masculinity for men and boys
- Youth Leadership Corps: support for youth 14-19 years old
- GLADLY: safe space for High school aged LGBTQ/T folx
- Black Girls Rock! Black Girls Lead!: empowerment and education



**Commercial sex trafficking...is happening...right here in Lowell.... CHH has made a concerted effort with community providers in the Greater Lowell area to bring this issue to the forefront and we are proud to join them in their fight to end trafficking.**



**LYDIA TODD,**

**Executive Director, NFI  
Massachusetts**

## ACTIVISM – MAKING CHANGE HAPPEN

CHH’s grassroots history of community organizing informs its deep commitment to social justice and, ultimately, to liberation from oppression.

**Partnerships:** CHH intentionally partners with POC-led and culturally-specific community organizations to foster relationships and work to end oppression. CHH’s partnerships increase access to its survivor services and prevention programs and provide multi-organizational aid to underserved communities. CHH intentionally amplifies its partners through subcontracting, grant and resource sharing, and power sharing. CHH currently partners with over 50 organizations across 15 Greater Lowell communities and others across the state.

**Outreach:** Community events, workshops, campus and school programs, and community-driven activities, including Take Back the Night, help break the normalization of the rape culture. Having a safe platform for survivors to have their voices and stories be heard empowers them to rise above the shame and stigma of sexual violence. Centering the voices of survivors uplifts communities, develops leadership from within, and amplifies the efforts to end the racism, genderism, sexism, and inequities that perpetuate oppression.

### Key Investors

- CUMMINGS FOUNDATION
- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
- GREATER LOWELL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
- MA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
- MA OFFICE FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE (MOVA)
- PARKER FOUNDATION

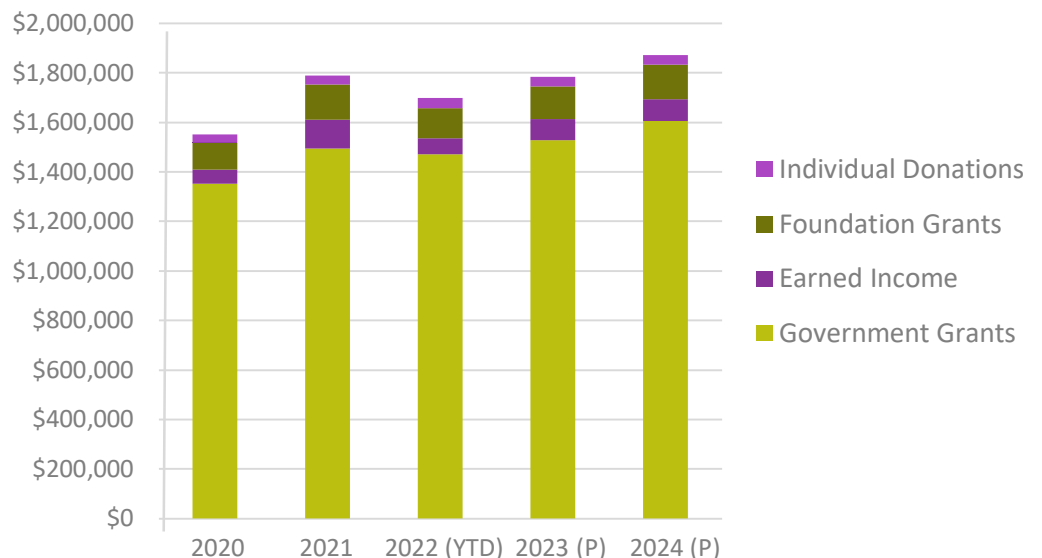
### Partners

- CAMBODIAN MUTUAL ASSISTANCE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER LOWELL
- LATINX COMMUNITY CENTER FOR EMPOWERMENT
- LOWELL COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
- MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- NFI FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER OF GREATER LOWELL

## FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

CHH has experienced an annual 30-50% increase in revenue over the last five years. With 84% of funding coming from government sources, CHH seeks to diversify its income streams by increasing individual giving and unrestricted grants, particularly from progressive foundations and donors. CHH seeks to build capacity in development, marketing/communications, and data evaluation.

**Revenue by Source**



### Success Story: Hope

Mrs. Santiago is a senior undocumented dark-skinned Latinx woman with health challenges who was living with an abusive husband. Her abusive landlord had shut her heat off, invaded her privacy, removed property, and threatened to evict her. She was living in constant fear with no place to go. On top of this trauma, Mrs. S. was further isolated by a lack of access to technology and no one in her community who spoke her language. She had not been able to find anyone to help her. CHH's advocate, Olga, helped Mrs. S. access the technology needed to get her email, set her up with legal advocacy, and began working with her to find new housing, all while tending to Mrs. S.'s trauma. Olga's skillful advocacy, love, and acceptance have given Mrs. S. hope for a better future and the invaluable knowledge and experience that she is not alone.



## PROGRAM PERFORMANCE AND ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH

Below is a summary of the key measures CHH tracks to demonstrate progress, create internal accountability, capture lessons learned, and adjust strategy as necessary.

	FY 2022	FY 2023 (P)	FY 2024 (P)
<b>PROGRAM PERFORMANCE</b>			
Number of clients served	515	550	650
Number of communities served	15	15	17
Number of community members reached	2,200	2,500	4,000
Number of programs/program events	10/100	15/150	20/200
<b>ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH/CAPACITY-BUILDING</b>			
Number of staff members	20	25	30
Number of Board members	9	12	15
Develop/implement data management system	Hire	Pilot	Implement
Total revenue	\$1,697,652	\$1,782,535	\$1,871,661

## SOCIAL IMPACT

CHH envisions a world free from sexual violence, where relationships are equitable and respectful; one where all people are safe, thriving, and joyful. In this vision, CHH centers the voices of survivors, particularly Black, Indigenous and other people of color and communities, as its foundation to organize, increase equity, and continue to dismantle oppressive systems.

*Below is the summary of the social impact that CHH aspires to have on historically marginalized communities in the next two years.*

INDICATOR	2022	2024
Increased access to CHH services in Khmer, African, Latinx and other marginalized communities through staff representation, social media, and DrivingHope!	N/A	150 new people or organizations
Increased presence through relationship-building with smaller, linguistically- and culturally- specific community organizations to create awareness-raising opportunities.	50 PARTNERS	60 PARTNERS
Influence of CHH on the field through broadening its reach and the number of organizations that follow CHH on social media.	50-66 organizations follow CHH	125
Increase in utilization of CHH information, knowledge, and practices by other organizations.		
CHH new community center is thriving with programs, events, and a safe space for people to drop into.	N/A	300+ community members drop in annually