

UNBOUNDNOW

# Annual Report

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## 2022

End Human Trafficking.  
Ignite Hope.

@unboundnow

unboundnow.org

info@unboundnow.org

# Launching forward.

Hello friend,

Unbound Now was birthed 11 years ago when a group of ordinary people encountered human trafficking around the world and asked the question, "what can we do to see an end to this evil?"

11 years later we have accomplished more than we would have ever asked, thought, or imagined possible.

It is with joy that I share that we have **now served over 2,000 survivors of human trafficking!**

In 2022 as we celebrated our ten year anniversary, we took the opportunity to assess our organization's structure with world-class business and nonprofit consultants. With the support of our amazing board of directors and staff we strengthened our systems and structures needed to carry us into the next ten years.

We believe the hard work that was done in 2022 will pay dividends in the future, for the communities and survivors we have the honor of serving. My heart is filled with gratitude as I think about the exponential growth experienced not only over the last year but for what is to come.

With great hope,

*Susan Peters*



**Pictured right: Unbound Now Founder & CEO, Susan Peters, Recipient of the Baylor University Pro Texana Medal of Service Award 2022.**

# About Us

Welcome to our 2022 impact report! Here you'll learn all about the work our organization has been dedicated to over the last year ...

Unbound Now is a global non-profit supporting survivors and resourcing communities to fight human trafficking in the United States and 4 countries around the world.

We envision a future where every community is free from human trafficking.



With 90+ employees around the world, Unbound Now team members work diligently to see a future free of trafficking. Our team lives out our values of being hope driven, service oriented, and excellence focused in a variety of contexts, working directly with survivors of human trafficking and the most vulnerable. Our team is made up of experts in social work, education, and law, as well as survivors of human trafficking, whose lived experience brings invaluable direction to our organization.



Hope driven.  
Service oriented.  
Excellence focused.





# A Year in Review

## Restoration, protection, and hope.

Those are the metrics that matter most to us, that have guided us for the last eleven years and will light our way forward.

The numbers below represent lives forever changed because of the critical safety, education, and resources provided by Unbound Now staff, volunteers, and donors.

The number of **survivors served** represents lives impacted by the attentive care of our advocates, who walk with survivors of trafficking on their journey to healing by providing crisis response and relational case management. The number of **youth empowered** represents children who received the critical information needed to keep themselves and

peers safe from traffickers by our prevention staff. And the number of **professionals trained** represents community members, school personnel, and medical professionals equipped with the information needed to prevent, identify, and respond to human trafficking.

**576** Survivors Served

**14,468** Youth Empowered

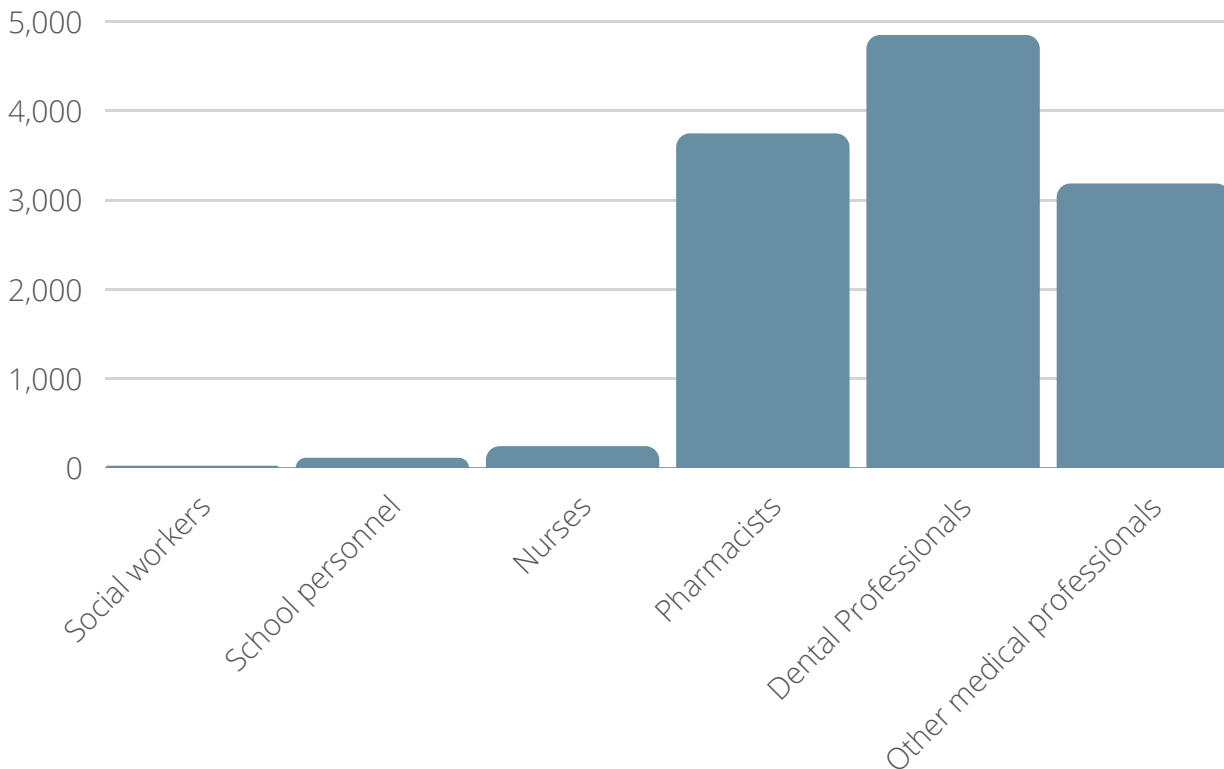
**23,253** Individuals Trained

# A trained community saves lives.

In 2022 Unbound Now continued to set a new standard for excellence in anti-human trafficking training.

Our offices across the world facilitated crucial education and prevention training for law enforcement, medical professionals, parents, students, educators, hospitality industry leaders, faith communities, and more. **These groups learned how to spot, identify, and rightly respond to signs of exploitation** when they see it in their line of work or community.

We also continued to offer free on-demand online training, reaching thousands! **These numbers do not include groups like parents or foundations.**





# Our three lanes of effort

The work of each Unbound Now office is unique, to meet the needs of its community. We have three main lines of effort that tackle the issue of human trafficking holistically. Our services are survivor-centered, trauma-informed, and data-driven.

## **SURVIVOR SERVICES**

**1**

We provide 24/7 crisis response and ongoing case management and support for survivors of human trafficking through our advocacy program. Our Underground drop-in center and The Reagan home provide specialized services for trafficked and exploited youth.

## **YOUTH PREVENTION**

**2**

We empower youth through prevention education in schools, juvenile detention centers, and local service providers. We offer early intervention services for youth at risk of trafficking.

## **OUTREACH & TRAINING**

**3**

We lead local coalitions and task forces to promote community outreach and equip professionals to identify and respond to victims of human trafficking.



# Local focus. Global impact.

**2022 was a year of expansion for Unbound Now.** Our mission was taken to new corners of the Earth as we:

- Opened an office in Austin, TX, serving Austin's surrounding area.
- Provided crisis response & anti-trafficking education to refugees fleeing war in Ukraine.
- Opened our first European office, in Warsaw, Poland.



# A story of hope.

Behind every number you see in this impact report is a real story, a real person, and real hope. We know that no survivor's story is the same just as no path to healing and restoration is the same. Oftentimes these paths are winding and circular as survivors bravely work through complex trauma with the support of advocates. To honor these precious stories we de-personalize information and combine elements from several stories to protect the safety of the people we serve.

Maria, an 8th grade student was recovered from her trafficker by law enforcement in Houston. Initially upon recovery she was understandably hesitant to receive help and services from the Unbound Now advocate she was paired with, a very common response among youth who have been abused and exploited by adults they formerly trusted.

Over time and because of the consistency of her advocate's care and pursuit to help her determine the next right steps to take in finding healing, she began to trust her advocate and is now receiving therapy, progressing in school, and setting and achieving her own goals for her life!

## About our advocacy program

Unbound Now's advocacy program serves children, youth, and adults who have experienced sexual or labor exploitation. Our advocates provide 24/7 and ongoing crisis response, emotional support and assist in connecting with a wide-range of resources for as long as the survivor benefits from services.





# A dream realized.



In 2022 we saw a major dream realized in opening our first residential home, The Reagan in Waco, Texas.

The Reagan is a short term, specialized, residential placement for girls ages 12-17 who have been sexually exploited. The home provides an evidence-based, trauma-informed place where **every girl can experience safety and nurturing care while accessing resources for recovery.**



Unbound Now built a diverse team of social work and child care experts who work with youth to build coping skills, life skills, and healthy relationships.

The Reagan partners with the Waco community to offer a variety of services to meet the specialized needs of sexually exploited youth, including Trust Based Relational Interventions Trauma Informed Cognitive Behavioral therapy, EMDR therapy, and other trauma informed interventions.



# A safe place to land.

In 2022, the Underground, Unbound Now's Drop-In Center in Fort Worth, Texas touched more lives than ever with vital resources and messages of hope.

With open doors 24/7, the Underground was Tarrant County's first ever drop-in center for youth, providing a place to rest, meals, shower facilities, safety, counseling resources, and referral for services for youth up through age 22.

The drop-in center serves as a needed short-term resting place for survivors recovered from trafficking as staff help facilitate next steps.

This last year, the Underground celebrated its **two year anniversary** and a milestone moment of **2,000 visits from youth** experiencing a multitude of challenges. This number is significant as it represents 2,000 times Unbound Now staff were able to provide a safe place for youth in crisis seeking refuge.

We are so proud of this team!



THE UNDERGROUND

drop-in center by UNBOUNDNOW

# Responding to crisis.

**3,405+** volunteer hours

**12+** short-term teams deployed

**1,000+** flyers handed out

**98+** community leaders trained

**200+** women supported



March 15 of 2022, Unbound Now sent the first of more than 12 short term teams to assess and respond to trafficking vulnerabilities in Ukraine, Poland, and Moldova. **Our teams came face to face with great need to protect those fleeing war, whose vulnerabilities traffickers seek to exploit.** After 3 months of crisis response, we launched Unbound Now Europe, making a 10 year commitment to the region.



In 2022  
we also  
celebrated

Through a dedication to excellence and implementation of our proven three lanes of effort, Unbound Now offices around the world experienced the multiplication of their impact in their communities.

### **BORDER MONITORING IN MONGOLIA**

1

In June of 2022, Unbound Now Mongolia launched a border monitoring project at the Chinggis Khaan International Airport to identify potential victims and at-risk minors at a crucial point of contact.

### **EXPONENTIAL GROWTH IN COLLEGE STATION**

2

Unbound Now BCS served 57 survivors (a 43% increase from 2021) and doubled staff to meet increasing need for services. They received the 2022 Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force grant from the Dept. of Justice for the Brazos Valley Human Trafficking Task Force.

### **TRAINING TAKEOFF IN INDONESIA**

3

Unbound Now Indonesia trained more than 10 times the number of professionals they did in 2021, equipping law enforcement, medical, and education professionals with vital information to prevent and respond to human trafficking.

More to be  
thankful  
for!

There are more stories of hope than we could fit into one impact report but we hope the few below provide continued inspiration to stay in the fight to end human trafficking!

#### **NFL PARTNERSHIP IN HOUSTON**

**4**

Through an exciting partnership, an Unbound Now Houston advocate has been present at every Texans NFL football game to provide crisis response when law enforcement recovers a victim at a game.

#### **EXPANSION IN CENTRAL TEXAS**

**5**

Unbound Now Waco was approved to provide CSEY advocacy services in Bell and Smith County, Texas, having served 70 survivors of trafficking in 2022!

#### **CONVERSATION ON CAPITOL HILL**

**6**

Unbound Now team members were honored to visit with U.S. congressional staff in Washington, D.C. on the current state of human trafficking in the United States and abroad.

# End human trafficking. Ignite hope.







Phone Number

**855-450-2344**

Email Address

**info@unboundnow.org**

Website

**www.unboundnow.org**



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