

The HOPE Organization 2009 Annual Report

The HOPE Organization is a non-profit group dedicated to assisting survivors of abuse within polygamous relationships on their courageous journey to personal freedom.

In 2009, HOPE assisted 85 victims through the General Assistance Fund, 1 victim through the Education Fund, 4 victims through the Transportation Fund, and 26 children through the Jump Start Life Skills for Kids project.

Other Special Activities accomplished in 2009 were:

January 2009

Elaine Tyler participated in the Multi-disciplinary Team Meetings throughout the year to help find solutions and resources for victims of polygamy. These bi-monthly meetings are sponsored by Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard.

February 2009

On February 27th, Elaine Tyler and Brenda Jensen met with producers from Hoggard Films, which was making a documentary for *National Geographic* about polygamy practiced by the FLDS community based in Hildale, Utah and Colorado City, Arizona. This documentary aired on television on the *National Geographic Channel* starting February 10, 2010.

March 2009

On March 2nd, Elaine Tyler and Brenda Jensen met with a French producer with *CANAL+* who was making a documentary about polygamy practiced by the FLDS community based in Hildale, Utah and Colorado City, Arizona. This documentary is to be shown in France.

Marla Gledhill participated in United Way Dixie's "Mini Indy Race" fundraiser sponsored by SkyWest Airlines on March 14th.

April 2009

On April 22nd, Elaine Tyler made a presentation to the Red Rock Rotary Club about The HOPE Organization. HOPE was awarded a funding grant during this meeting.

On April 29th, Brenda Jensen was the guest speaker on the Monda Williams radio talk show.

Also on April 29th, Elaine Tyler and Brenda Jensen were interviewed by Rick Sallinger with the CBS affiliate KCNC TV Channel 4 in Denver, Colorado for a special television series he was making about polygamy practiced by the FLDS community based in Hildale, Utah. This 3-part television series aired May 13-15.

May 2009

Elaine Tyler participated in the United Way Dixie Partner Agency meeting on May 27th.

August 2009

Elaine Tyler met with the students and instructors with Hairitage Hair Academy in St. George on August 21st seeking support to donate their services for a “Day of HOPE” beauty makeovers for our victims during the annual United Way Dixie Day of Caring project held each September.

Elaine Tyler, Carolyn Jentzer (Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in St. George, Utah) and Jeanne Adams (Jump Start facilitator) were interviewed by FOX 13’s Ben Winslow to announce HOPE’s receipt of a grant to provide life skills classes for children in Hildale, Utah for a 2-year period. This one-time (nonrenewable) \$40,000 grant was provided by the Creative Ministries of Presbyterian Women Thank Offering through the National Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky. This FOX 13 story about HOPE and the Jump Start project aired on August 23rd.

Jennifer Dobner, with The Associated Press, interviewed Elaine Tyler on August 24th about the Jump Start Life Skills for Kids project. This newspaper article was published in the Deseret News on August 29th.

The local newspaper, The Spectrum, wrote an article about HOPE’s Jump Start project and it was also published on August 29th.

September 2009

On September 10th, Hairitage Hair Academy in St. George donated services for 12 of our victims to receive free hair cuts, styles, facials, manicures and makeup applications during our “Day of HOPE” beauty makeovers for the annual United Way Dixie Day of Caring project. Afterwards, a volunteer photographer with Wal-Mart took fabulous pictures of each of the beautiful ladies in our program who got to enjoy a day of pampering and building up their self-esteem.

Also on September 10th, Elaine Tyler participated in a book reading, signing and open discussion at the Book Cellar for Susanna Barlow to talk about her wonderful memoir “What Peace There May Be”. Elaine had coordinated this public event after reading Susanna’s book about the abuse she endured as a child growing up in a polygamous family from the Centennial Park group.

Elaine Tyler was invited to meet with representatives from the Arizona Attorney General’s Office, their lawyer, investigator and law enforcement officers on September 30th to meet some of the new members of their staff.

October 2009

Brenda Jensen was the guest speaker at the monthly meeting of the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) on October 13th. The DAR had contacted HOPE because the ladies wanted to learn more about our organization and how we assist victims of polygamy.

Elaine Tyler made a presentation to representatives of the Wal-Mart Distribution Center’s Transportation Department employees on October 23rd and HOPE was awarded a grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation.

On October 31st, Elaine Tyler and Jeanne Adams were invited to share with the Presbyterian Women of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church how the first 8-week session of the Jump Start project had successfully improved the lives of the children who had participated.

The HOPE Organization Board of Directors

The 4-member Board of Directors is demographically representative of the people we serve; three of our members were born and raised in polygamous families. Each member of our team conforms to a "Code of Ethics Policy", "Confidentiality Policy" and "Conflict of Interest Policy", in addition to providing two character references and agreeing to a background check. Corporate Bylaws stipulate that no salary or other benefits are to be provided for the Board of Directors.

Elaine Tyler, President -- Elaine is a native of Atlanta, Georgia. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Georgia and 2 Associate Degrees in Computer Science from Arapahoe Community College. After working in the Pharmaceutical industry for 22 years, she moved to St. George, Utah and became a volunteer with The HOPE Organization. Other non-profit volunteer activities in which she has participated includes Treasurer for Quota Club International (an organization helping the deaf and hard-of-hearing), Girl Scout Leader, Big Sister and a member of the Big Sisters' Activity Committee, Junior League of Denver, D.O.V.E. Center Victim Advocate, and a current CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate for abused and neglected children) Volunteer and Washington County Historical Society board member.

Brenda Jensen, Vice President/Treasurer – Brenda was born in Lister, British Columbia, Canada to Harold Blackmore and his second wife, Florence, whose sister was Harold's first wife. Their family farm later became what is known today as the Canadian FLDS polygamous community, Bountiful. Brenda's father was directed by the Priesthood Council leaders to move his family from Canada to Colorado City, Arizona in the 1960s to help build houses and develop farming in that community. At the age of 15, she was to be placed in marriage with one of the Priesthood leaders, Marion Hammon (Sara's father). Brenda had an older sister who was already his 11th plural wife and she did not want to become, at 15-years-old, another one of the many plural wives of this man who was in his 60's. Fortunately, Brenda's father honored her wishes and they moved from Colorado City to LaVerkin, Utah. Brenda later married a young man who had grown up in the LeBaron polygamous group in Mexico and today they have 3 daughters. Brenda is a strong advocate for Human Rights and protecting women and children from abuses that occur in polygamy.

Marla Gledhill, Secretary – Marla was also born in the small polygamous town of Lister, B.C., Canada and lived there until she turned eight, when her family moved to Hildale, Utah. Marla was home schooled in Canada, but started public school in Hildale in the 3rd grade. Due to a disagreement with the leaders of the community, her family moved away from Hildale when she was twelve. After graduating from high school, she attended Dixie College and received an Associates Degree in Secretarial Studies. Marla then attended Southern Utah State College (SUU) in Cedar City and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education with Minors in P.E. and Fine Arts. She currently works in shipping and receiving at the Boulevard Home Furnishings in St. George. Marla's family is very important to her and she enjoys spending time with her 20 grandchildren and one great granddaughter. Marla and her husband recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. She loves to read, travel, play the piano and sing, garden, create scrapbooks, and research her family history and genealogy. Marla finds her involvement with The HOPE Organization to be very rewarding, as many of the victims coming to HOPE for help are related to her.

Sara Hammon (Non-voting member) – Sara was born in Hildale, Utah and raised in Colorado City, Arizona. With more than 90 people in her immediate family - 19 mothers, 74 siblings and one father - she comes from one of the largest families in America. She is the 62nd child and her

mother was the 10th wife. Growing up in an isolated polygamous culture proved to be unbearable for Sara. She watched her mother emotionally disintegrate under the pressure of being a polygamous wife, unable to grasp her own self-worth and unable to protect her children from rampant abuse. Her mother suffered nearly two dozen nervous breakdowns during Sara's childhood. Sara's father, Marion Hammon, could never remember her name or which wife had given birth to her, due to his vast number of children. While growing up, Sara witnessed arranged marriages of underage girls to adult men who were as much as three times older than these child brides. She became terrified that staying in this group would lead to a fate identical to that of her mother's and she dreamed of a different way of life. Today, after years of recovery and re-education, Sara volunteers with The HOPE Organization to raise awareness about the polygamous cult she was raised in and to help people who have left this group integrate into mainstream society.

2009 Financial Data

Total Revenue (cash, in-kind donations and sale of books and DVD's) - \$75,592.17

Total Expenses - \$40,396.91

Victim Assistance - \$34,507.08

 General Assistance Fund - \$26,583.00 (85 victims)

 Education Fund - \$149.88 (1 victim)

 Transportation Fund - \$2,014.54 (4 victims)

 Jump Start Life Skills Project - \$5,759.66 (26 children)

Office rent - \$4,020

Printing - \$67.54

Postage - \$66.32

Bank service fees - \$39

Education and training - \$142.46

Office supplies - \$303.49

Corporate licenses - \$24

Telephone - \$740.59

Meetings and travel - \$12.51

Post Office Box - \$42

Fundraising - \$431.92

Change in Net Assets - \$35,195.26

Assets on hand at end of year - \$75,652

 Cash, savings and investments - \$72,830

 Other Assets at end of year - \$3,515

 Inventory (books and DVD's for sale) - \$3,240

 Notes and loans receivable - \$275

Liabilities - \$692

 Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses - \$692