

HOPE HARBOR

March 5, 2024

There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens:

*a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.*



Regardless of one's age, the rhythm of seasons resonates with us all. Just as it is written in Ecclesiastes chapter 3, **"There is a time for everything"** – a truth that applies to both the individual and organizations.

In the organizational realm, we sometimes overlook this universal fact; each entity breathes and evolves through its distinct seasons. Currently, **Hope Harbor is navigating through a transitional phase, one that comes with changes and reflections.** As you may have noticed, key team members have felt the call to pursue new ventures, charting paths beyond our blessed community over the past four months.

With these transitions at hand, the board and I have made the conscious decision to temporarily suspend our intake of new teens, ensuring a focused and responsible return of our current students to their family homes by the end of March 2024. This choice was not made lightly. I have **engaged in heartfelt discussions** with each family, sharing the reasons behind this accelerated transition and the new timelines set before their teens and ours.

Now, a "season of searching" (Eccl 3:6) unfolds before us.

We embark on a quest for a fresh Program Director and Academy Lead Teacher – roles that are essential and instrumental in shaping the transformative experiences of our teens and their families.

In April, my energies will be solely invested in this mission. I'll be traversing various foundations of our community — churches, colleges, business circles — seeking referrals for candidates who carry the light of Christ, a calling for youth and family enrichment and an aspiration to cultivate a community dedicated to teenage welfare.

Your engagement during this season is crucial.

This is a call to participation in our "season of searching". I invite you to unite with me through prayer, holding space for the individuals I will engage with and softening hearts toward the needs of distressed teens and their families. **Moreover, please send your prayers ahead for my safety during these travels.**

During this time of seeking a qualified candidate, our website will serve as a beacon of hope and interaction. Here, you can actively share your support by noting your prayers and scribing words of encouragement. During this period, our website will also detail the tangible needs of our campus – comprehensive maintenance long overdue. Projects such as flooring replacements, interior refinements and electrical enhancements beckon your attention. If you feel moved to serve these needs through your congregation or personal resources, please connect with us online.

Scan to visit our website



Let's join together on a "Time to Build" (Eccl 3:3), reasserting our commitment as the stewards of this mission.

Throughout this chapter, expect monthly updates from us and invitations for you to join a wider circle of supporters in prayer for the incoming candidates.

Lastly, amid these transformations, I can't help but reflect on the enduring legacy that you have helped forge – **a heritage begun in Tulsa over 75 years ago** and continued by Christ's devout followers in NE Oklahoma and beyond. While at times, the stones of our foundation may shift, they await our collective hands to be restacked with purpose and resolve (Eccl 3:5).

Your steadfastness to God and dedication to His precious youthful creation instill **HOPE** and optimism that Hope Harbor will emerge from this season fortified and renewed. By continuing the work of those who walked before us, **your involvement today ensures the continued legacy that has weathered many seasons.**

Your financial gifts and heartfelt prayers will enable strength during this season of search for the next Program Director and Academy Lead Teacher.

Moreover, your calls, emails and heartfelt messages will bolster the spirits of our team as we eagerly anticipate the return of our teens and the life-changing transformations that will happen because you allowed God to do his work through you.

We await your profound impact through giving, praying and engaging with our vision for the future. You are laying stones and building a legacy that stands the test of every season.

Dirk O'Donnell, Executive Director



HOPE
HARBOR



TRANSFORMING TRAUMA INTO TRIUMPH

GIVE TODAY!

