



A Note from the Founder & Vision Steward of Blueprint HOPE

Blueprint HOPE is rooted in the belief that we learn from one another through both shared knowledge and lived experience, and that each of us carries perspectives and insights shaped by the unique path we have walked. With that in mind, I'd like to share a little about myself and some of the experiences that have helped shape—and continue to shape—the vision, values, and perspective behind Blueprint HOPE.

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Hi, my name is Brenda Jean Bullis.

I was born overseas at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines and spent most of my childhood moving between countries in South America, Africa, and Europe. Those experiences exposed me to diverse cultures, languages, perspectives, and ways of living from an early age and helped cultivate a lifelong curiosity about people, the systems we create, and what helps individuals and communities we create truly thrive.

As an adult, I built a lengthy career in accounting, finance, and systems implementation, primarily within the federal government contracting industry, including support for NASA programs and organizations connected to national security, defense, and intelligence missions, as well as public health and scientific research agencies. Although my work centered on finance and operations, I found myself equally fascinated by how people, processes, and systems interact—and how thoughtful stewardship behind the scenes helps organizations thrive.

Along the way, I lived and worked in Kuwait for a couple of years while supporting U.S. military operations at Camp Arifjan, traveled extensively, and developed a deep

appreciation for both the diversity of human experience and the patterns that connect us. Those experiences continued reinforcing a simple observation: while cultures, languages, and circumstances may differ, many of the hopes, struggles, and aspirations that shape our lives are remarkably universal.

While overall I've lived a good life, like many, my journey has included trauma, loss, grief, disruption, and periods of rebuilding. Additionally, it has included opportunities for adventure, exploration, and discovery that have profoundly shaped how I see people, communities, and the world around me. From helping gauchos on horseback bring in cattle in South America as a child, through watching penguins rush ashore to nest in Australia as a young adult, to volunteering with Habitat for Humanity International to help build a community of houses in Zambia in my 40s, and beyond, I developed a deeper sense of wonder about both the diversity of life and the threads that connect us all.

At the same time, some of the moments that have shaped me most have been much simpler: watching a backyard come alive with birds, sitting beneath a sky full of stars, observing animals going about their daily lives, sharing a meaningful conversation with someone whose path I might never have crossed otherwise, or simply noticing something unexpected and wondering where curiosity might lead next. Together, these experiences cultivated a deep appreciation for curiosity, the living world, and the small moments that often reveal life's greatest lessons.

One of the more difficult seasons of my life included major health challenges that resulted in a decade-long period of disability. During that time, I experienced firsthand the realities of single handedly navigating medical, pharmaceutical, insurance, and disability systems while focused on restoring my health and reclaiming my life.

Although that chapter was extremely challenging, it became a season of profound learning, healing, wisdom, and growth. Over time, I was able to return to work, resume my career, and eventually support NASA programs through government contracting roles while continuing to build the foundation for Blueprint HOPE, a vision I had first begun exploring in 2020, during the tail end of my years on disability. In many ways, life was looking brighter than it had for quite some time, and I found myself deeply grateful for the opportunity to move forward after a decade away from the workforce and sidelined from life. Looking back, that period reinforced my belief that even after significant setbacks, restoration and renewal are possible.

Then, a year ago today, just as I was getting my groove back, life threw me another curveball. While traveling across the country on I-80 West while on leave, I experienced a truly extraordinary and entirely unforeseen disruption that not only nearly cost me my life but left me stranded far from home after an extremely traumatic and unimaginable event. Days later, I walked out of a hospital wearing a hospital-issued T-shirt and sweatpants and my shoes, and carrying my phone, my travel wallet, and a plastic bag containing the clothes I had been traveling in—cut from my body by first responders in the days before. Days earlier, I had been traveling across the country in my Jeep with Felix and Chloe. Now, all I had left was what I carried out of that hospital. Everything else was gone.

I then caught a public transit bus to a nearby hotel and began the lengthy process of trying to make sense of what had just happened, healing from its physical, emotional, and spiritual impact, and deciding what to do next.

The ripple effects of that disruption ultimately resulted in the loss of virtually everything I owned and led, for the first time in my life, to checking into a local homeless shelter, where I spent several months beginning the lengthy process of rebuilding. It was not a circumstance I could have imagined, predicted, or prepared for. Even so, I remain deeply grateful for the shelter and for the role it played in helping me begin rebuilding my life.

Since then, I've found myself steadily rebuilding after the loss of my home, vehicle, employment, documents, digital data, personal belongings, Felix and Chloe, and most of the continuity structures people often rely upon when recovering from an extraordinary disruption, disaster, or loss. As I learned firsthand, rebuilding is a step-by-step process, with each milestone needed to make the next one possible.

While I have recently been able to secure stable housing and replace some essential tools, many other critical aspects of that rebuilding journey are still unfolding today.

Looking back, of everything I lost, the three things I miss the most and truly wish I could have back now are: my cherished cats, Felix and Chloe, who were my family and can never be replaced, and my school bus yellow Jeep Wrangler that safely carried me through a chapter of freedom, independence, and exploration—one I never foresaw coming to an end.

Living through these experiences, especially this latest one, has deepened my understanding of resilience, restoration, human dignity, and the often-unseen barriers people face when navigating complex systems during difficult seasons of life. These experiences also reinforced something I have seen repeatedly throughout my life: people are often far more capable, resilient, and resourceful than they realize, especially if given the conditions and support needed to regain their footing.

One of the unexpected lessons of this latest chapter has been discovering that when everything I had built around my life fell away, what remained was the part of me that mattered most. My faith remained intact. My curiosity remained intact. My values remained intact. My ability to learn, adapt, and begin again remained intact.

My sense of humor remained intact as well. It turns out laughter can be remarkably therapeutic when life insists on being absolutely absurd. There were simply too many "you can't make this stuff up" moments not to laugh. Truth be told, I engaged in more than a few conversations with Source—perplexingly questioning the allocation of my time, energy, and talents.

While this latest experience was often challenging, time-consuming, and at times disorienting—and continues to be in some respects—it also revealed humane gaps in many of the systems we rely upon, gaps that continue to inform both my perspective and the vision behind Blueprint HOPE.

Blueprint HOPE itself has continued to move forward throughout this period. While navigating shelter life, temporary housing, the public library, the small-town public transit system, the emotional and practical realities of rebuilding after trauma, and the many other challenges of creating a new foundation, I continued refining the vision and building what would eventually become BlueprintHOPE.com.

In many ways, the launch of BlueprintHOPE.com in January 2026 became a visible reminder that purpose can continue moving forward even after everything you've spent a lifetime building abruptly falls away—and that the work itself has become even more deeply grounded in lived experience.

This chapter has also become a living lesson in what I now think of as *Remembering & Rising*—remembering what was always present beneath circumstances, roles, possessions, and expectations, and rising into a fuller expression of it. That

realization continues to shape both my life and my vision for Blueprint HOPE, while the journey itself is still ongoing.

Perhaps most significantly, and one of the greatest gifts, has been the realization that wonder, joy, gratitude, humor, and love can still be found even when the foundations of life are suddenly stripped away.

Much of that has been nurtured through my connection with Source, my unwavering faith, time spent in nature and around animals, meaningful conversations, my childlike curiosity, and a lifelong appreciation for the small moments that remind us of what it means to be human.

Today, I continue exploring, learning, observing, building, and welcoming aligned people, resources, and possibilities that can help bring more of the Blueprint HOPE vision into reality.

If any part of this vision resonates with you, I invite you to explore further.

Whether your path has been marked by curiosity, challenge, rebuilding, wonder, questions, or simply a desire to better understand yourself and the world around you, you are welcome here.

With gratitude,

Brenda

Brenda Jean Bullis

Founder & Vision Steward

Blueprint HOPE

<https://BlueprintHOPE.com>

A Note on the Years Between 2020 and 2025:

For those who have followed parts of my journey over the years—or who may encounter writings from that period and wonder about their context—I'd like to offer a brief note.

Between 2020 and 2025, I experienced a period of intense questioning, reflection, repressed memory integration, trauma, targeting, loss, grief, personal healing, and exploration. It was also a season marked by deeply mystical experiences—at times even otherworldly in nature—that continue to resist easy explanation or language. They remain among the most meaningful and transformative experiences of my life. Some of my writings from those years may therefore appear unusual, symbolic, or difficult to place in context. Looking back, I understand that season as part of a larger process of remembering, healing, and seeking a deeper understanding of myself, the world around me, and the nature of reality itself.

While occasionally disorienting, that season strengthened my commitment to authenticity, curiosity, and the belief that growth often begins with questions rather than answers. It also taught me that healing journeys and the search for deeper truth are rarely linear or tidy. Navigating much of that chapter on my own also reinforced for me the importance of community, meaningful connection, and supportive spaces where people can explore, heal, grow, and make sense of life's complexities, and do so without fear of judgment.

Retrospectively, I can also see that some of the conclusions, interpretations, or assumptions I made along the way do not fully reflect how I understand those experiences today. Growth often involves testing ideas, revising perspectives, and course-correcting as new information and additional perspectives emerge. I also recognize that discernment itself deepens over time as experience, understanding, and perspective grow. Rather than a straight path toward certainty, this period reinforced for me the value of humility and staying open to continued learning. More than anything, those years deepened my compassion for people navigating loss, trauma, uncertainty, healing, growth, and the ongoing search for meaning and belonging. They also reinforced my belief that people heal, grow, and thrive best when they have compassionate community and space to explore without fear of judgment.

Most remarkably reinforced for me though was the realization that being human is often far messier, more mysterious, and more interconnected than we realize.