

Helping Hand

We Reconcile Families

By Dr. Bob Whiddon Jr.

For 72 years, Hope Harbor has been a beacon of Hope for children and families. Hope Harbor was founded in 1947 as the church of Christ Children's Home, later known as Turley Children's Home, in response to the children left fatherless by World War II.

Most of the children were large sibling groups, placed in residential care until a more permanent home could be discovered—this included a wide variety of options including reconciliation with parents, relatives, or friends of the family; foster care/adoption if no family or friends were available; or living in our homes through High School graduation. Facilities, faces, and names have changed over the decades but we have remained committed to serving children and families experiencing disruption and difficulty with the love of Jesus. The need we have identified in our time is for a program that is comprehensive, clinically sophisticated, and aimed at family reconciliation in an intensive way.

At Hope Harbor, the universal goal is Family Reconciliation. This is the goal for every family who enters our program, and we do not admit families who are not interested in working hard toward reconciliation. Intention-



al Hope is the parent/guardian portion of the program, and all financial aid is dependent on active participation in the Intentional Hope Program. The focus of Intentional Hope is to facilitate the maintenance of the parent/guardian as the primary caregiver, rebuild relationships, and establish or reestablish healthy attachments while increasing skills, knowledge, and felt confidence. The nine steps of Intentional Hope mirror the resident program and provide opportunities to learn new skills, clarify family rules and goals, develop a family vision, and intentionally rebuild positive relationships. Parents who participate actively in Intentional Hope approach graduation with a hopeful optimism that they and their home are prepared for a successful reconciliation.

Reconciliation IS possible, because of you. Thank you for being part of the Hope Harbor story!

Meet our Staff



DR. BOB WHIDDON JR.,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Responsibilities:

I spend most of my time split between daily operations and fund raising. We do not receive any funds from government entities. We are con-

stantly looking for new donors and new streams of income. We have a fantastic base of churches and individual Christians who give to us on a regular basis. As for daily operations, we have a great family atmosphere within our employees here. It is a great place to work.

Why do you love Hope Harbor?: Working for Hope Harbor is the best job I have ever had. It's like I've been working toward this position all my life. I have years of experience working with churches which helps me in church relations. I have years of experience also in nonprofit management which helps me recognize and deal with issues quickly. For me, this is not a job, it is an adventure. And I give all the glory to God.



LINDA GARY,
BOOKKEEPER

Responsibilities:

I take care of income and expenses for Hope Harbor, as well as our three thrift stores. I record donations and send out receipt letters. I process payroll and

monitor the employee benefits as well as answer phones and greet guests.

Why do you love Hope Harbor?: It is a blessing to work with wonderful Christian people who are all striving for the same goal: to help the children and families we serve find healing and hope. Some of us don't get to work directly with the kids every day, but we all do our part to make the mission of Hope Harbor a success. My co-workers pour their hearts and souls into this ministry, and it is a blessing to see the changes that come about in our residents and their families because of the dedicated service of the people at Hope Harbor.



DEBBIE WHIDDON,
OFFICE MANAGER

Responsibilities:

I spend my time doing daily mail-outs, keeping track of memorial and honor gifts, entering into our database, notary services, answering the phones, supplying inventory needs, pro-

viding support for the phone campaign and overseeing large scale mailings. I also contact the churches for grocery route pickup each month.

Why do you love Hope Harbor?: Working in an environment that fosters the love of Christ with each child and their family and working with the staff at Hope Harbor is such a blessing in my life. I have always been involved in ministry in one way or another and this ministry is one that impacts others and myself in a positive way when so much in life is negative right now. The daily contact with other Christians is so uplifting and brings a desire to spread that love to the children here and others around us.

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Journey to SUCCESS

ONE HOPE HARBOR GRADUATE'S STORY



Hope Harbor is a place where transformations happen. We see the hard work and dedication our residents and their families put into rebuilding and reuniting their family. We always look forward to the moment when one of our residents is able to complete our program and return to their family, stronger and able to successfully face whatever happens in their future.

Catherine is a Hope Harbor graduate. After completing our program, Catherine returned home to her loving family. She and her family say they have maintained the changes they were able to make at Hope Harbor. She was also able to graduate high school and earn her Certified Nursing Assistant certificate through NTC.

"I got my dream job at a hospital, got into a very healthy and happy relationship, and have become best friends with my mom!" Catherine says.

However, she is not finished yet! Catherine is in school to get her

Registered Nursing degree even while working full time. She is making good grades and is thriving. She is involved in Church and does volunteer work. She strongly believes Hope Harbor was helpful to her.

She says, ***"It helped me learn who I was, and not the lies I thought about myself. It helped me to understand where my parents were coming from and that they did not, in fact, hate me."***

Overall, Catherine is a huge success story. She is living the life she chose for herself and is able to use the skills she has learned throughout her stay at Hope Harbor. Our program is not easy; we have high expectations and we work hard to help our residents succeed. When asked about her experience at Hope Harbor, Catherine said, ***"Though at the time I felt like the world was coming to an end, I see now that it made me into the strong, loving, caring and independent woman I am today."***

We wish Catherine all the best in her career and future endeavors. We know she will go far and we are so proud of the work she and her family have done.

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8:00am Start
Lunch to Follow
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918.343.0003
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to Register

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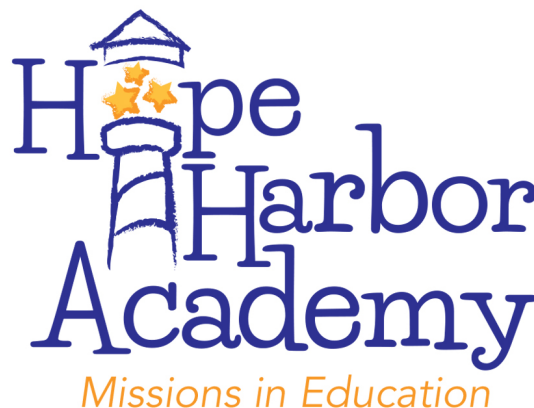
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TONETTE THORNTON,
SCHOOL COOK

Responsibilities:

I prepare the daily lunches for our Hope Harbor Academy and the Hope Harbor Staff. I also clean the kitchen and dining area daily as well as all the shopping for the school lunches. I help with all the

events and I also substitute for the academy when needed.

Why do you love Hope Harbor and HHA?: I love to cook and with this job, I am able to come to school with my son. I enjoy the kids and the staff. Hope Harbor has a great Christian environment. I am happy to be part of the family here.



STEPHANIE STEWARD,
MARKETING DIRECTOR

Responsibilities: My biggest responsibility is showing what a tremendous blessing Hope Harbor is to the community. I get to meet many people for the sole purpose of telling our story, we have a great story! I love seeing

the amazing things our kids can do with their lives. I believe in our program and I have seen it work with my own eyes. We do operate on donations so I am tasked with the great privilege of persuading others to join us in helping transform lives.

Why do you love Hope Harbor?: When we first came to Hope Harbor, my husband and I were hired as Residential Life Specialists. We loved seeing the teens and their families grow and thrive. It is hard to put into words what Hope Harbor means to me, I just know I see Jesus in every aspect of this place.

When children and families spend all their time trying to survive, they can't dream and often lose hope.

We provide a place where

Families can *Dream*
and *Hope* again.

Hope Harbor is a residential family reconciliation program in Claremore, Ok. We empower our teens & their families to forgive, heal and thrive. Join our HOPE 365 Club and invite your friends. Together, we can make a difference.



HOPE 365

A dollar a day for a Hope(Harbor)ful tomorrow.

Make Your Donation Pledge Today.

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