

## Friends in HOPE

*Friends in HOPE* is the newest free program at HOPE. We started the program in August with the aim of partnering our client moms, who are often vulnerable and lonely, with a donor or volunteer mom who meets with them once a month for six months to offer encouragement and support. We interviewed one set of our partnered moms, Sarith, a donor to HOPE, and T, a client, to talk to them about their experience so far with the program.

### Sarith, what made you interested in the program?

I love and truly, with all my heart, support the work HOPE is doing to help mothers and their babies. Moms need all of our support and children need their unconditional and constant love. While I can't always provide monetary support, I can offer some time and energy which is why I chose to be a mentor. I want to be a resource, a helping hand, a listener and supporter to the moms who chose life. I want help these women be stronger, more confident and secure in their role as a mother.

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*Our first four Friends in HOPE!*



*Some of our Friends in HOPE at the second program orientation*

## This Newsletter is Dedicated to the Memory of Linda Reyes

This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of our very own beautiful volunteer, Linda Reyes, who passed away in spring of 2017.

Her infectious laughter, angelic smile and persistent work ethic are missed daily. For over two years, Linda stocked HOPE's diaper closet on a weekly basis, sized and labeled all of our baby shoes, and humbly served us all by ensuring that our refuse bins were set outside on a weekly basis. We pray that her spirit of love and kindness will forever fill the walls of the HOPE house. Her memory will live on in our hearts until we see her again after this life.

# Dear friends of HOPE,



Merry Christmas! May you and your family experience the warmth of human kindness during the holiday season. In many ways I believe HOPE brings the spirit of Christmas to mothers and their families throughout the year.

When I think of Christmas, I think of unexpected gifts. Virtually, every time my wife told me she was pregnant, I was surprised. Not that I should have been, but the increasing responsibilities and financial implications seemed overwhelming. These eight unexpected "gifts" are treasured now, but every time I heard the words "we're expecting" I didn't immediately appreciate God's form of gift giving.

Fortunately we had a support system of grandparents, siblings and close friends, providing us with furniture, clothing, and their time. These unexpected gifts helped us when we couldn't help ourselves. You provide the furniture, clothing and time our families need. You are their support system, you are the unexpected gift. On behalf of our families and volunteers, thank you. You continually make the difference in lives of mothers.

Merry Christmas,  
Michael Bergeron  
*HOPE Board President*

MERRY CHRISTMAS

## Friends in HOPE (cont.)

**T, what has this program meant to you?**

Through Friends in HOPE, I've been able to meet a superb mom who's been encouraging and uplifting through a difficult time. Being part of this program has given me courage and optimism to face any obstacle with my head held high. I'm extremely grateful for every single individual I've met through HOPE and can't wait for the day that I'm able to give back to the center.

If you are interested in receiving more information or joining the program, please visit [www.hopehousenova.org/Volunteer](http://www.hopehousenova.org/Volunteer) or e-mail us at [hopeinnova@gmail.com](mailto:hopeinnova@gmail.com).

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## Give HOPE

Donations can be made online to support HOPE. Contributions directly support service to our clients, including pregnancy support, adoption support, material needs (i.e. cribs and diapers), housing references, and parenting classes.

Give HOPE online at:  
[hopehousenova.org](http://hopehousenova.org)

Help us share  
HOPE with others



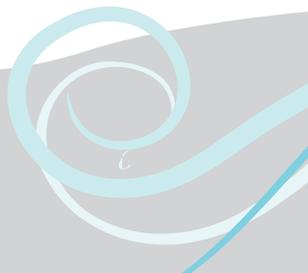
HOPE Nova



@hopeinnova610



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## HOPE Highlights



Heartbeat Adventures: HOPE President, Mike Bergeron, and Ama at the Heartbeat International Conference in Chicago, in April 2017.



HOPE friends: Ama, Amy and Molly show off their fun and colorful HOPE tank tops!



Justin, Emily and Valerie rock their bright new HOPE T-shirts. These colorful shirts and tanks were created for HOPE's Fall t-shirt fundraiser—stay tuned for our next one in 2018!



Volunteer Picnic: Members of the HOPE family at our Spring Picnic.

## Dining for Dollars Fundraiser

When you dine at any Glory Days Grill between November 1, 2017 and January 31, 2018, they will contribute 10% of the total food and beverages purchased to HOPE. Bring your friends, family and neighbors! Simply ask your server for the itemized copy of your guest check (not the charge card receipt), and mail this original receipt to HOPE for credit. [www.GloryDaysGrill.com](http://www.GloryDaysGrill.com)

## Volunteer Spotlight



Mary and Melissa have been friends for over a decade, business partners for over two years, and now enjoy volunteering together at HOPE. Mary is a massage therapist with a teenage daughter and two furry babies. In her spare time, she enjoys card making, traveling, and scrapbooking. Melissa is a former teacher, and mom of 3 kids and a sweet puppy. She enjoys cooking, traveling, and yoga. Melissa heard of HOPE through St. James, down the street, and shared the opportunity with Mary. Regular duties usually consist of sorting clothes, Mary typically in the girl's section, and Melissa in the boy's. Melissa recently took the plunge to become a Friend in Hope and will start that in early September. So grateful to be part of this organization, and Ama has been incredible!

## Amazon Wishlist

Turn shopping into giving! Kindly consider helping us re-stock for our new mamas. An Amazon Wishlist for HOPE can be accessed at: [a.co/bLYtkNR](http://a.co/bLYtkNR). All items can be shipped directly to HOPE and we will continue to update the list as our needs ebb and flow. We continue to welcome gently used donations, but this list contains items we frequently run out of at HOPE. Thank you for your kindness and consideration, dear friends!

