



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

3A

Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: April 8, 2025

Title of Item: HOPE presentation

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA	Action Requested: <input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Only
Submitted by: April Kellerman		Department: Administration
Presenter (Name and Title): Megan Cummings, HOPE Executive Director		Estimated Time Needed: 30 min.
Summary of Issue: Megan Cummings, HOPE Executive Director, providing HOPE presentation to the Board.		
Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:		
Recommended Action/Motion: Information Only.		
Financial Impact: Is there a cost associated with this request? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$ Is this budgeted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Please Explain:		

2024

ANNUAL REPORT

117 2nd St NW
Aitkin, MN 56431
PO Box 153
24/7 Crisis Line
218-927-2327
help@aitkinhope.org
www.aitkinhope.org

HOPE

Healing Opportunity
Provided Equally



SALT C-I HS Walk
165 Attendees

526

Community referrals
for additional
resources

65

Support Group
Participants

15

Families assisted with
relocation

5,150

Contacts with Clients
for victims services

239 7,021

Volunteers dedicated
Hours to HOPE

510

Individuals served
(237 adults, 273 kids)

79

Clients assisted w/ family
law issues(custody,
visitation, support)

52

Crisis Line Calls
After Office Hours

41

Families received
transportation
assistance

Mission

HOPE (Healing Opportunity Provided Equally) works to end violence and provide safety through direct services, education and advocacy to all people experiencing domestic violence.

Vision

The local Community partnering to meet the needs of all people experiencing domestic violence.



Advocates Against Domestic Abuse dba
HOPE-Healing Opportunity Provided Equally



Client Resource Room

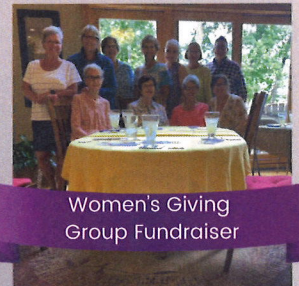


Volunteers creating ribbons for DV Awareness month

Winter wear supply drive
Grand CasinoChristmas Gift sorting
volunteers, Gerri & JoAnnAitkin Women of
Today Donation

2024 Grants

Child Abuse Prevention Council
 Crow Wing Power Impact
 Crow Wing Power Operation Round Up
 Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation
 Emergency Food and Shelter Program
 Grand Rapids Community Foundation
 Great River Energy
 Great River Energy Grant Match
 Hallett Charitable Trusts
 Lake Country Power
 Lakes Area United Way
 Libby Township-ARPA
 Mardag Foundation
 Mille Lacs Energy ORU
 Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures
 Northland Foundation
 Office of Justice Programs
 OJP ARPA COVID-Additional Funds
 Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless

1st Annual March
Quilt BingoWomen's Giving
Group FundraiserNatalie, Aitkin HS volunteer
Toy Drive

thank you

For all the support this year!



Follow us on social media

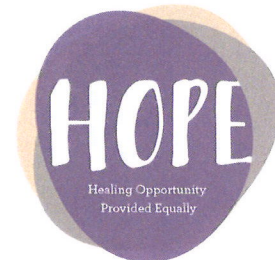
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TURNING POINTS PROGRAM

The Turning Points curriculum focuses on helping women understand the connections between the violence they experience and the violence they use. Its overall goal is to help them end both.



- 16 week program
- Two groups offered per year
 - March-June
 - September-December
- Thursdays 8am-10am
- In person only
- No charge
- Childcare not provided

**FIRST
SESSION KICKS OFF
MARCH 13, 2025!**

**REGISTRATION:
218-927-2327**

Please call Monday- Thursday
9am-4pm



**THIS CAN BE REFERRAL BASED FROM CPS, PROBATION OR
VOLUNTARY ENROLLMENT. CERTIFICATE UPON COMPLETION.**

117 2ND ST NW AITKIN, MN 56431

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior in **any relationship** that is used to gain or maintain power and control over another person.

This abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic and/or psychological.

Anyone can be a victim of domestic violence regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, faith or class.

Threats or Coercion

Threatening to leave you, to commit suicide, to report you to welfare, making you do illegal actions

Economic

Making you ask for money, giving you an allowance, not letting you know about family income

Privilege

Treating you like a servant, making all decisions, acting as master of the castle

Children

Making you feel guilty about the children, using children to relay messages, threats to take away the children

POWER & CONTROL

Denying or blaming

Making light of abuse, saying the abuse didn't happen, saying you caused it

Intimidation

Making you feel afraid by using looks, actions, and gestures

Emotional

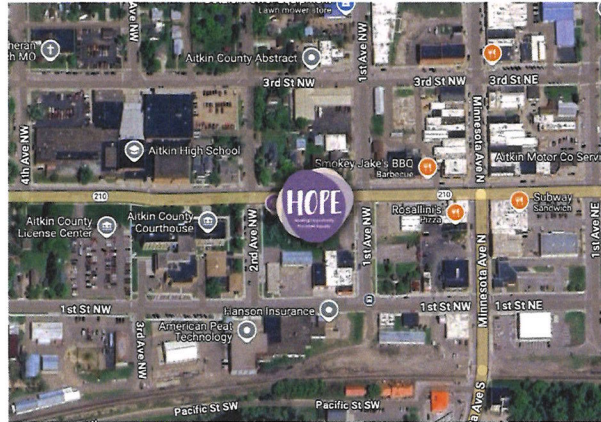
Putting you down, making you feel bad about yourself, humiliation, name calling, mind games

Isolation

Controlling who you see and talk to. Limiting outside involvement with friends and family

We believe every person has value and should be treated with dignity and respect.

Advocacy Office Hours
(as of March 1st, 2025)
Monday - Thursday 9am - 4pm
Located at
117 2nd St. NW, Aitkin, MN 56431



HOPE has new hours starting March 1, 2025
Monday - Thursday 9am - 4pm
Fri-Sun Closed (crisis line available)



24-Hour Crisis Line
888-276-1720
Local
218-927-2327

PO Box 153 • Aitkin, MN 56431
Ph: 218-927-2327 • Fax: 218-927-2048

Find us on Facebook

AitkinHope.org

HOPE

Healing Opportunity
Provided Equally

Working to **end violence** and provide **safety** for all through:

FREE & CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EDUCATION
LEGAL ADVOCACY

24-Hour Crisis Line
218-927-2327
888-276-1720
AitkinHope.org

Spot the Red Flags

DOES YOUR PARTNER...

- ▲ Embarrass or make fun of you in front of friends or family?
- ▲ Put down your accomplishments?
- ▲ Make you feel you are unable to make decisions?
- ▲ Use intimidation or threats to gain compliance?
- ▲ Tell you that you are nothing without them?
- ▲ Treat you roughly – grab, push, shove or hit you?
- ▲ Call you several times a night or show up to make sure you are where you said you'd be?
- ▲ Use drugs or alcohol as an excuse for saying hurtful things or abusing you?
- ▲ Blame you for how they feel or act?
- ▲ Pressure you sexually for things you aren't ready for?
- ▲ Make you feel like there is "no way out" of the relationship?
- ▲ Prevent you from doing things you want, spending time with friends or family?
- ▲ Try to keep you from leaving after a fight or leave you somewhere after a fight to "teach you a lesson"?

DO YOU...

- ▲ Sometimes feel scared of how your partner may behave or react?
- ▲ Constantly make excuses to other people for your partner's behavior?
- ▲ Believe that you can help your partner change if only you changed something about yourself?
- ▲ Try not to do anything that would cause conflict or make your partner angry?
- ▲ Always do what your partner wants you to do instead of what you want?
- ▲ Stay with your partner because you are afraid of what your partner would do if you broke up?



Free & Confidential Help

A legal advocate will help with...

- Filing an Order for Protection
- Filing a Harassment Restraining Order
- Attending & Supporting you through both civil and criminal court proceedings
- Assisting and accompanying you to file a police report

Our team is here to assist by...

- Listening & Support
- Developing a safety plan
- Resources for housing
- Safe/emergency housing
- Emergency financial assistance
- Transportation assistance
- Child Care assistance
- Support groups
- Explain options and choices
- Community education for multiple age levels

24 Hour Crisis Line **888-276-1720 or 218-927-2327**

Volunteer & Donate

Your time, talents or donations help support seamless services to meet the needs of those suffering from domestic violence, provide community education and promote awareness. Together we can promote one voice to end domestic violence in our community.

VOLUNTEER

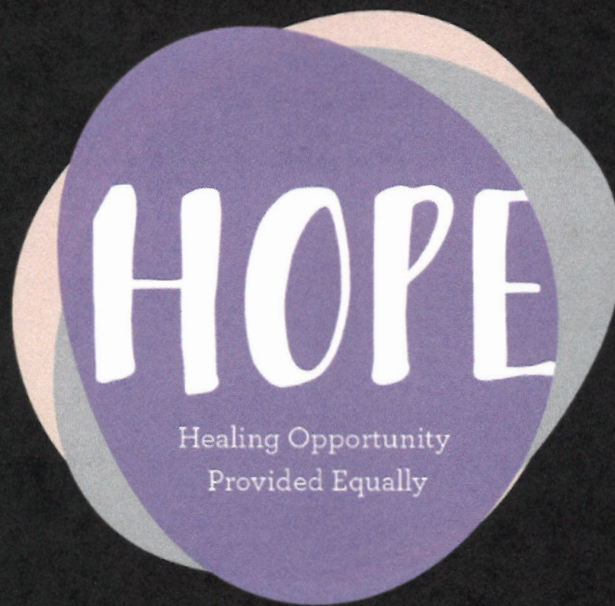
- ☐ Crisis Line advocates
- ☐ Repair Services
- ☐ Office Cleaning
- ☐ Lawn care
- ☐ Special Projects

DONATE

- ☐ Retail Gift Cards
- ☐ Gas & Grocery Gift Cards
- ☐ Cleaning Supplies
- ☐ Laundry Detergent
- ☐ Shampoo & Conditioner
- ☐ Personal Care Products
- ☐ Feminine Hygiene Products
- ☐ Toilet Paper & Paper Towels

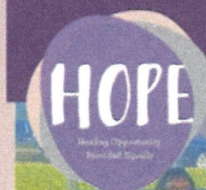
Donated items must be new and unopened.





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Client Resource Room



Volunteers creating ribbons for DV Awareness month



Winter wear supply drive Grand Casino



Aikin Women of Today Donation

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Office of Justice Programs
OJP ARPA COVID-Additional Funds
Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless



Women's Giving Group Fundraiser



Natalie, Aikin HS volunteer Toy Drive

Thank you
For all the support this year!



Follow us on social media



Advocates Against Domestic Abuse dba
HOPE-Healing Opportunity Provided Equally

HOPE STAFF



SHANNA
Operations
Specialist

JAIME
Advocate

MEGAN
Executive
Director

DARLA
Legal
Advocate

5,150

CONTACTS WITH CLIENTS FOR
VICTIM'S SERVICES IN 2024

510

INDIVIDUALS HELPED DURING
THE 2024 GRANT PERIOD

(237 ADULTS AND 273 CHILDREN)

65

WOMEN ATTENDED SUPPORT GROUP

- HELD HYBRID IN PERSON AND/OR ZOOM AT HOPE OFFICES ON WEDNESDAYS
- IN PERSON AT AITKIN COUNTY JAIL WEEKLY



C-I SALT(SERVICE ACTION
LEADERSHIP TEAM)
HOSTED THE FUNDRAISER
WALK TO HOPE-MAY 2024

THIS YEAR'S
WALK WILL BE
HELD ON MAY
7TH.



Walk to HOPE

Walk to HOPE is a charity walk put on by the Crosby-Ironton SALT group. The money raised by participants will go to benefit Healing Opportunity Provided Equally (HOPE), a local non-profit organization that helps individuals and families escape domestic violence and get back on their feet after a difficult period.

Date: May 7th

Location: Crosby-Ironton High school track

Time: registration at 5:00, walk starts at 6:00

Cost: \$20

*If you do not pre register, you will NOT get a t-shirt
Every individual participating should fill
out a registration form.

January-December 2024 Grants

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Grand Rapids Community Foundation
Great River Energy
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Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless





Donations from different organizations filled our resource room this year!

Pints for a Purpose 2024



Pints for a Purpose 2024





Pints for a Purpose 2024





Donations from some very generous community members and organizations.

TURNING POINTS PROGRAM

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Thank you, Hilltop Chapel for having our HOPE advocates, Jamie & Darla come and presented. We appreciate all you taking the time to learn more HOPE.



Natalie Crowther from Aitkin High School who held an incredible Toy Drive who not only collected an incredible amount of toys but also personal care items and monetary donations.

Generous hearts of the Aitkin County Community



Thank you, Grand Casino MN for delivering Christmas early!!
Huge assortment of hats, gloves, socks & warm wear for
winter





Thank you, Grand Casino MN for your generous donation and to all your guest who donated food!



Women's Giving Group Selects one local charity to learn more about and donate to each month. This month, HOPE was honored to be the charity that was nominated by, Dorothy Casey.

HOPE staff, Jaime & Megan enjoyed a wonderful lunch sharing more about what HOPE does in our community. Thanks, Women's Giving Group!

Have you noticed the purple ribbons around town in October? They were made possible by the members of St. John Lutheran Church of Cedarbrook. This month, they also assisted us in sending out our annual appeal letters. We are incredibly thankful for their support and for raising awareness about domestic violence



Generous hearts of the Aitkin County Community





Thank you, Pastor Steve Teff, Karen Teff, and Bethel Lutheran Church for getting us more personal care items! These have been so helpful to have on hand!

2024 Quilt Bingo



Thanks to Men
of the Pines
Club! They
donated
Thanksgiving
meals last week
that fed 12
people! Thank
you so much for
making this
possible!



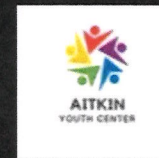


Many organizations contributed to help HOPE provide gifts to 52 individuals!

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month-February 2025



Youth & School groups we work with.





HOPE Facilities

HOPE Resource Room

Personal care items, household cleaning items, baby essentials & clothing HOPE is fully stocked thanks to so many donations from community members and organizations.





HOPE Waiting Room

HOPE Laundry Facilities



Clients have access to laundry facilities and supplies for no cost.