

MEET SOMEONE YOU HAVE HELPED

Community Partner: Hope Harbour

Amy, a 29 year old woman, grew up in a home with domestic violence. She was determined to have a better life for herself. After graduating from high school, Amy entered college. She is a beautiful woman who dreamed of finding the right man.

When Amy met Ken, he treated her like a queen, and “their relationship was perfect”. She was excited when he proposed to her. Soon after she accepted his proposal, he slapped her. Amy took the blame for his action and thought things would get better when they married.

Amy was married to Ken for three years and the abuse continually got worse. She was held hostage, threatened with guns and knives, had property destroyed and was beaten more times than she can count. She finally left Ken at one point, but went back. After she went back to the relationship the abuse escalated.

The last time he beat her she went to the hospital with bruises and bites all over her face. She had escaped from Ken by tricking him into thinking the police were coming and he needed to get into the shower to wash her blood off of him. While Amy was at the hospital her father asked her what she would do if she had to witness her child being treated as she was. Seeing the pain in her father convinced her she could not go back.

When Amy came to Hope Harbour, she reported thoughts of suicide and admitted to past attempts. She had not been eating, could not sleep, cried uncontrollably, and felt that her life was not worth living. In an effort to boost her morale, staff took her for a haircut. The beautician told of the bite marks and scars on her scalp.

Two weeks after she entered Hope Harbour, Amy reported feeling like a new person. She is now able to sleep, eat and live a healthy lifestyle. She is back on medications that were withheld from her by her abuser, and is thinking about what she would like to do with her life – maybe even return to college. She is hopeful about her future and is committed to staying at Hope Harbour long enough to get the resources she will need.



Amy, Hope Harbour Client