Believing in Tomorrow

There are many opportunities to support crime victims and become involved in supporting their recovery. Between volunteer opportunities and donations, you are investing in our youth and communities and not just creating hope, but building a path of hope!

To get involved or donate, please contact Blake Nakamura, Chief Deputy, at: bnakamura@slco.org.

Empowering Youth with Hope

Camp Hope America Utah is the vision of District Attorney Sim Gill who long felt that crime victims were not receiving adequate support to recover from their victimization, particularly the children.

Traditionally, prosecutors have not provided therapeutic service to crime victims, instead relying on community-based services. After leading the efforts to start the first Family Justice Center in Utah in 2010, and upon being elected as the District Attorney, Sim Gill began plans to bring Camp Hope America to the Salt Lake County District Attorney’s Office. In 2018, after several years organizing and building support for the program, the DA’s Office began to formally develop Camp Hope America Utah.

In 2019, Camp Hope America Utah was awarded initial grant funds to cover operations for 2020 and 2021 and then, a renewal of the grant to cover operational expenses for 2022!

Camp Hope America Utah also is generously supported locally by a non-profit, Friends of the CJC.

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Our Vision

A future where:

- All are seen
- Voices are heard
- Choices will matter
- Collaboration is a must
- New paths are explored
- Wrong things are made right
- A generational cycle is broken
- HOPE is given

100% of donations will be used exclusively to support Camp Hope America Utah.
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Camp HOPE America is the leading year-round camping and mentoring program in the country for children and teens impacted by domestic violence and other violent crimes. Organized around a week of camping and year-round activities at no cost to the families, the program focuses on creating collaborative, trauma-informed, as well as hope-centered and healing-centered pathways for trauma-exposed youth to believe in themselves, in others, and in their dreams.

Established in the early 2000s, our organization now has 43 Camp Hope America affiliations throughout the country. In addition to Camp Hope America and the Family Justice Center, the Alliance for Hope maintains several programs supporting victims of crime as well as hosting trainings on diverse topics for law enforcement, prosecutors, counselors and other professionals who regularly work with crime victims.

“I didn’t realize how strongly this would impact each one of my kids. It’s been a great resource and experience for each of them and I’m blown away by how much it seemed to improve all of their emotional well-being. Thank you.”

—NALD, PARENT

Every year following a week of Camp Hope, the Alliance for Hope studies the data from the camps to measure their success and to provide consideration for future programming. Working with the University of Oklahoma and their research team, led by Dr. Chan Hellman, the Alliance uses the Science of Hope to gauge the success of our program. Hope reflects an individual’s capacity to develop pathways and dedicate agency toward desirable goals. Hope is assessed using the Children’s Hope Scale, which examines the extent to which children believe they can establish pathways to their goals as well as develop and maintain the drive to follow through. Each year, we see a significant increase of hope in each of our campers, thereby affirming our vision at Camp HOPE America.


“Most of all, it brings hope. Hope that we can achieve our goals. Hope that we can trust and thrive, and hope that we are not alone. I absolutely loved camp.”

—JASIME

RESULTS FROM ADVERSE CHILDHOOD TRAUMA studies show children exposed to trauma are at risk of becoming involved in the criminal justice system as adults. By directly supporting and promoting their recovery in a calm, supportive and reaffirming natural environment, we strive to empower children and break cycles of abuse and violence.
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