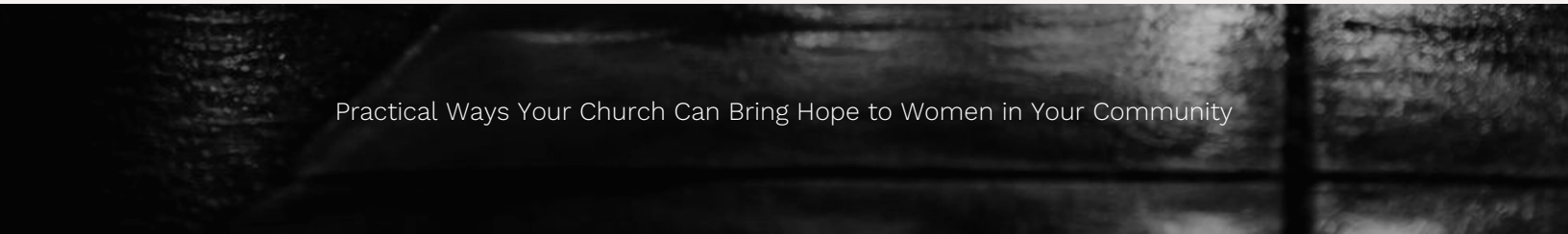




Scarlet Hope®

The Church's Guide

BRINGING THE GOSPEL INTO THE
FIGHT AGAINST EXPLOITATION



Practical Ways Your Church Can Bring Hope to Women in Your Community

A Note to Church Leaders

A FREE RESOURCE FROM SCARLET HOPE

Pastor,

Thank you for being willing to have this conversation.

Sexual exploitation can feel like an overwhelming issue. When we hear words like trafficking, pornography, prostitution, and the adult entertainment industry, it is easy to believe the problem is too complicated or too specialized for the local church to address.

We want to tell you something different.

For nearly two decades Scarlet Hope has been going into places many people overlook to build relationships with women in the adult entertainment industry and share the hope and love of Jesus. We have sat across from women in clubs, in coffee shops, and on the other end of digital conversations. We have shown up week after week in cities across the country. And one thing we have learned again and again is this.

You do not have to have all the answers to show up with hope.

You do not need to start another nonprofit. You do not need to become an expert overnight. You do not need a massive budget or a specialized team. You need people willing to see women the way Jesus sees them and the conviction to keep showing up.

That is something the local church is uniquely positioned to offer.

Our hope is that this guide helps your church take its next faithful step.

Until every woman has heard,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachelle Allen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rachelle" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Allen".

FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT, SCARLET HOPE



Start with the Woman, Not the Issue

SECTION ONE

When we talk about sexual exploitation it is easy to focus on statistics, terminology, legislation, or the sheer scale of the problem. Those things matter. But they can also create distance between us and the person we are actually trying to reach.

Behind every statistic is a woman.

A woman with a name. A story. A family. Dreams. Pain. Dignity. And a God who knows and loves her completely.

Women in the adult entertainment industry are often viewed through one of two lenses. Condemnation or rescue. The church has sometimes defaulted to both without realizing it. Condemnation communicates that she is beyond the reach of grace. Rescue communicates that she is a problem to be solved rather than a person to be known.

The Gospel offers something different entirely.

Relationship. Dignity. Truth. Grace. Hope. The kind that does not disappear when the story gets complicated.

At Scarlet Hope we do not approach women as projects. We build relationships. We listen. We pray. We meet practical needs. We keep showing up. And through those relationships we have the privilege of sharing the hope and love of Jesus with women who have often never encountered it without conditions attached.

A QUESTION FOR YOUR CHURCH

Before asking how can we stop trafficking, consider asking a different question first.

How can our church faithfully love women who are vulnerable to or experiencing exploitation in our community?

That question changes the posture. And posture changes everything.



Understand That Exploitation May Look Different than You Expect

SECTION TWO

When most people picture human trafficking they imagine kidnapping, physical restraints, or someone being held against her will in an obvious way. That picture exists. But it represents a fraction of what exploitation actually looks like in most communities.

The reality is quieter and more complicated.

Women may enter or remain in the sex industry because of financial vulnerability, abusive relationships, coercion, addiction, housing instability, previous trauma, manipulation, or simply the absence of any other perceived option. Many have been groomed gradually, trust exploited slowly, and isolated from the people who might have offered them another way forward.

Some women will not identify themselves as victims of trafficking or exploitation at all. Some will push back if you use that language. Some will tell you they chose this. And the compassionate response is not to argue with her story but to be present within it.

This is why our approach begins with relationship rather than labels.

We do not need a woman to describe her circumstances a certain way before deciding she deserves dignity, compassion, and the opportunity to encounter Jesus. The label does not determine the value. The value was established long before we arrived.

What This Means for Your Church

Your congregation does not need to become experts in trafficking law or survivor psychology before engaging. You need people willing to learn, listen, and love without requiring a woman to explain herself before she is welcomed.

You do not need to know someone's entire story before you can love her well. In fact, showing up before you know the story is often the most powerful thing you can do.



Recognize That the Mission Field Has Moved Online

SECTION THREE

The landscape of the adult entertainment industry has changed dramatically over the past two decades. Women are no longer encountered only in physical locations. Increasingly they are being advertised, connected with, and exploited through online platforms that millions of people use every day.

The apps are ordinary. The platforms are familiar. And the women on them are often invisible to the Christian community because we have not yet learned to look there.

That represents both a challenge and an opportunity the church has never had before.

Scarlet Hope's Digital Outreach model trains volunteers to reach women being advertised online with messages offering encouragement, prayer, and genuine connection. No plane ticket required. No specialized background needed. Just a trained volunteer, a willing heart, and a commitment to show up consistently.

A simple message can open a door.

A door can open a conversation.

A conversation can become the beginning of trust.

And trust can create an opportunity to share the hope of Jesus with a woman who may have never heard it from someone who was not asking for something in return.

Your church does not have to wait for a woman to find her way to a Sunday service. The church can go to her. And today that means showing up online.



Five Ways Your Church Can Begin

SECTION FOUR

You do not need to launch a large ministry tomorrow. Sustainable outreach is built one faithful step at a time. Start where God has placed you and build from there.

1. Pray

Every movement of God begins with prayer and outreach is no different. Before your church takes any practical step we would encourage you to begin here. Not as a placeholder for action but as the foundation of it.

Pray specifically for women experiencing exploitation in your community, women working in the adult entertainment industry, survivors in the process of rebuilding their lives, vulnerable women and families who have not yet been reached, local organizations serving on the front lines, and volunteers who show up week after week in hard places.

Consider dedicating intentional time during a service, a staff meeting, a small group, or a prayer gathering to bring these women before God by name even when you do not know their names yet. Pray as though the women in your city are already known to you. Because they are known to God.

2. Educate Your Church

Awareness matters. But awareness that does not lead somewhere tends to produce either paralysis or compassion fatigue. The goal of education at Scarlet Hope is never fear. It is faithful action rooted in genuine understanding.

Help your congregation understand sexual exploitation without sensationalizing it. Teach your people to see women with compassion rather than judgment. Create conversations around biblical dignity, economic vulnerability, trauma informed care, the realities of the adult entertainment industry, the role of pornography in creating demand, and most importantly the church's responsibility to go rather than wait.

When people understand what women are actually carrying and why it is easier to respond with the kind of care that makes a real difference.

3. Support Trusted Local Ministries

Your church does not need to recreate work that is already happening. One of the most powerful things a congregation can do is come alongside an organization that has already built trusted relationships in your community and ask a simple question.

What do you actually need?

The answer might be meals, volunteers, prayer, financial support, professional services, transportation, employment connections, meeting space, or simply a church community willing to welcome women who show up. The most effective partnerships almost always begin with listening rather than leading.

Find organizations in your community that are doing this work with integrity, consistency, and genuine relationships as the foundation. Ask them how you can serve what they are already building.

4. Equip Your People to Serve

There may already be people sitting in your congregation who are waiting for an invitation to step into this mission. Business owners. Counselors. Teachers. Parents at home. Retirees. Students. Prayer warriors. Hospitality professionals. People with lived experience who understand these realities from the inside. People who simply have a willing heart and do not yet know where to direct it.

Not everyone needs to serve on the front lines of outreach. Healthy ministry requires people serving in many different capacities. The administrative volunteer who keeps the team running, the donor who funds the meals, the prayer team member who covers the outreach every week without ever entering a club, all of these people are essential.

Help your congregation understand that there is a place for them in this mission regardless of background, skill set, or availability. Then help them find it.

5. Go

Jesus called His people to go. Not to wait, invite, or create attractive programs and hope people find their way in. To go.

Sometimes that means crossing an ocean. Sometimes it means crossing your city. And sometimes it means opening a laptop and reaching a woman in your own community who would never walk through your church doors but might respond to a message that says someone cares.

Through Scarlet Hope's Digital Outreach Church Partnership, local congregations can equip trained volunteers to intentionally reach women being advertised online. Scarlet Hope provides the tools, training, technology, coaching, and ongoing support. Your church provides people willing to show up consistently.

Together, the church goes.



Build a Healthy Ministry, Not Just an Emotional Response

SECTION FIVE

When people begin to understand the realities of exploitation they often want to act immediately. That compassion is right and good. But effective ministry requires more than passion. It requires wisdom, preparation, and the kind of honest self assessment that keeps well intentioned people from doing unintentional harm.

Before launching any direct outreach with women, work through the following questions with your leadership team.

Safety

How will you protect both volunteers and the women you are serving? What boundaries need to be in place before anyone enters a new ministry context?

Training

Are volunteers equipped to understand appropriate boundaries, confidentiality, trauma responses, and crisis situations? Good intentions without training can cause real harm. Invest in preparation before deployment.

Leadership

Who is responsible for overseeing the ministry and making difficult decisions when they arise? Every outreach effort needs a clear leader who is accountable, supported, and empowered to act.

Consistency

Can your church sustain what you are beginning? Showing up once can plant a seed. Showing up consistently is what builds the trust that makes everything else possible. Before you start ask honestly whether you can keep going.

Follow Up

What happens when a woman responds? Who continues the relationship? What resources are available when she needs more than your team can provide? The moment she reaches out is not the end of the work. It is often the beginning of the most important part.

Partnership

Who can your church learn from rather than trying to figure everything out alone? The organizations already doing this work have learned things that are not in any book. Seek them out. Ask hard questions. Learn before you lead. Good intentions matter. But good intentions paired with preparation, accountability, and genuine partnership create the kind of ministry that is still standing and still showing up twenty years from now.



Create a Culture Where She Can Walk Through Your Doors

SECTION SIX

Reaching women outside the church is only part of the mission. The other part is asking an honest question about what happens when she arrives.

Would a woman currently working in the adult entertainment industry feel genuinely welcomed in your church?

Would she be treated differently if someone knew what she did for work? Would she encounter conversations that communicate shame before she has had a chance to be known? Would she find people willing to sit beside her before knowing her entire story? Would your church be prepared to walk with her not just for a Sunday but for months or years through a journey that does not follow a neat timeline?

Transformation is rarely quick or linear. It happens in the context of long term relationship with people who do not require a woman to have it together before they show up for her.

The church has an opportunity to become a place where women encounter truth without condemnation, belonging without conditions, and people willing to stay. Not just a destination for the people who have already figured out how to get there but a community that goes out and brings people home.

We do not simply want women to leave something behind. We want them to know Someone worth following.



When a Woman Asks Your Church for Help

SECTION SEVEN

Your church does not need to solve every problem. In fact one of the most honest and loving things you can say to a woman in crisis is this.

We do not have the answer to that yet. But we are going to help you find someone who does. And we are not going anywhere.

Build relationships before a crisis arrives. Identify trusted resources in your community for emergency shelter, long term housing, counseling, substance use treatment, domestic violence services, medical care, legal assistance, employment support, food assistance, transportation, childcare, and trafficking specific services. Keep this information accessible to the right people in your church before you need it.

And hold onto this. Faithfulness does not mean doing everything. It means doing what God has entrusted to you, doing it well, and knowing when to connect someone to people who can do the rest.

Never promise something your church cannot provide. The women we serve have often been let down by promises that did not hold. Being honest about what you can and cannot offer is itself an act of care.



Three Questions to Take Back to Your Leadership Team

SECTION EIGHT

You do not need to leave this guide with a complete ministry strategy. You need a conversation and a next step.

Take these questions back to your team.

Question One

Where is sexual exploitation already intersecting with our community, even if we have not been paying attention to it yet?

Question Two

What people, relationships, resources, and gifts has God already placed within our church that could be part of this mission?

Question Three

What is one faithful next step God may be asking us to take in the next thirty days?

The women in your city are not waiting for your church to have a complete strategy. They are waiting for someone to show up.

Your Church's Next Step

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE

There are several ways your church can join Scarlet Hope in bringing the hope and love of Jesus to women in the adult entertainment industry.

Get Equipped

Share this guide with your staff, elders, missions team, or outreach leaders and begin the conversation about your church's role.

[EXPLORE CHURCH RESOURCES](#)

Go

Bring Digital Outreach to your church and equip your people to reach women in your own community.

[LEARN ABOUT DIGITAL OUTREACH CHURCH PARTNERSHIP](#)

Give

Help Scarlet Hope equip volunteers, strengthen local ministry, develop church partnerships, and reach more women across the country.

[GIVE AS A CHURCH](#)



You Don't Have to Build This Alone

For nearly two decades Scarlet Hope has been learning what it looks like to faithfully enter difficult spaces, build relationships with women, and consistently offer the hope of Jesus. We have made mistakes, learned hard lessons, and developed an outreach model that is still growing and still working.

We would love to share what we have learned with your church.

Whether you are ready to launch Digital Outreach, support the mission financially, or simply have a conversation about where your church might begin, we are ready to talk.

[TALK WITH OUR TEAM](#)

Until Every Woman Has Heard

Scarlet Hope exists to share the hope and love of Jesus with women in the adult entertainment industry.

We believe the local church is one of the most powerful forces available for reaching women who have been overlooked, underserved, and told in a thousand ways that they do not belong.

We believe that changes when the church decides to go.

**See her. Love her. Go to her.
Tell her about Jesus.**

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Scarlet Hope®