Dear Friends,

It's a busy time of year and I know your time is valuable, so let me be brief.

This is the time of year The Hope of Survivors, like every other charity, makes a final annual appeal for contributions to sustain its cause. In order to continue to provide the unique and life-changing services we offer victims of clergy sexual abuse, and the educational seminars and materials for pastors and church leaders, we need to get a head start on the 2012 budget.

Your donation, small or large, will be of benefit to a victim searching for truth and help; to a pastor trying to be a good shepherd of his flock and maintain healthy boundaries; to a congregation reeling from the aftermath of a devastating event. Your help is vital to The Hope of Survivors success but, more importantly, your help is critical for victims in need.

Please consider making a last-minute, one-time donation for 2011 or, better yet, set up recurring payments that will last for as long as you'd like. You can do either at http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/donate.asp.

Some of the goals we hope to accomplish, with your generous assistance, in 2012 include:

* Conducting Hope & Healing conferences for victims in Omaha, NE; Long Island, NY and other locations
* Training for volunteers in Romania, Australia & Canada
* Creation of contact management system (we have outgrown our current one)
* Producing training DVDs for pastors and church leaders
* Exhibiting at the ASI Convention in Cincinnati, OH
* Production of an online video support library

Is it necessary to conduct these programs and provide resources and services? Maybe these comments will help confirm the significance of The Hope of Survivors ministry:

"We have referred many survivors to The Hope of Survivors over the years. They do a great job educating and reaching out to those who are deeply hurting from the horrific clergy sexual abuse they have experienced. They also play an extremely important role in educating the general public on what clergy sexual abuse really is and encouraging the media to cover this very important subject."--Survivor
"There is a great lack of resources in the area of clergy sexual abuse and misconduct. I was fortunate to find THOS by searching the internet, and was personally helped by the caring concern and biblical counsel available. There is truly no other organization to my knowledge that provides this personal counseling approach to such a specific and poorly understood area of abuse, and it certainly was a breakthrough moment in my healing from being abused by my pastor. The written materials and information on the web site were also very useful."--Survivor

"The seminar [for pastors] was presented with tact and diplomacy, but did attack the problem head on. The presentation was well received by the pastors, but drove the point home that sexual misconduct is never a win-win, or a win-lose, but always a lose-lose situation. Today we see more and more pastors getting caught up in this temptation. I believe The Hope of Survivors seminar has impact and would highly recommend it for every Conference across North America."--Ministerial Director

"...Our church and deacons used your materials to identify the pastor's actions as abuse, and explained it to the rest of the congregation in that light, NOT as a "mistake by two consenting individuals." Your website has helped us all see it for what it is, and get through the confusion. Thank you."--Congregant

I hope by now you recognize the need The Hope of Survivors is meeting for victims, pastors and congregations around the world. I pray you will want to be a part of meeting that need.

May God bless you abundantly in the New Year ahead!
Samantha Nelson
Vice President & CEO

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