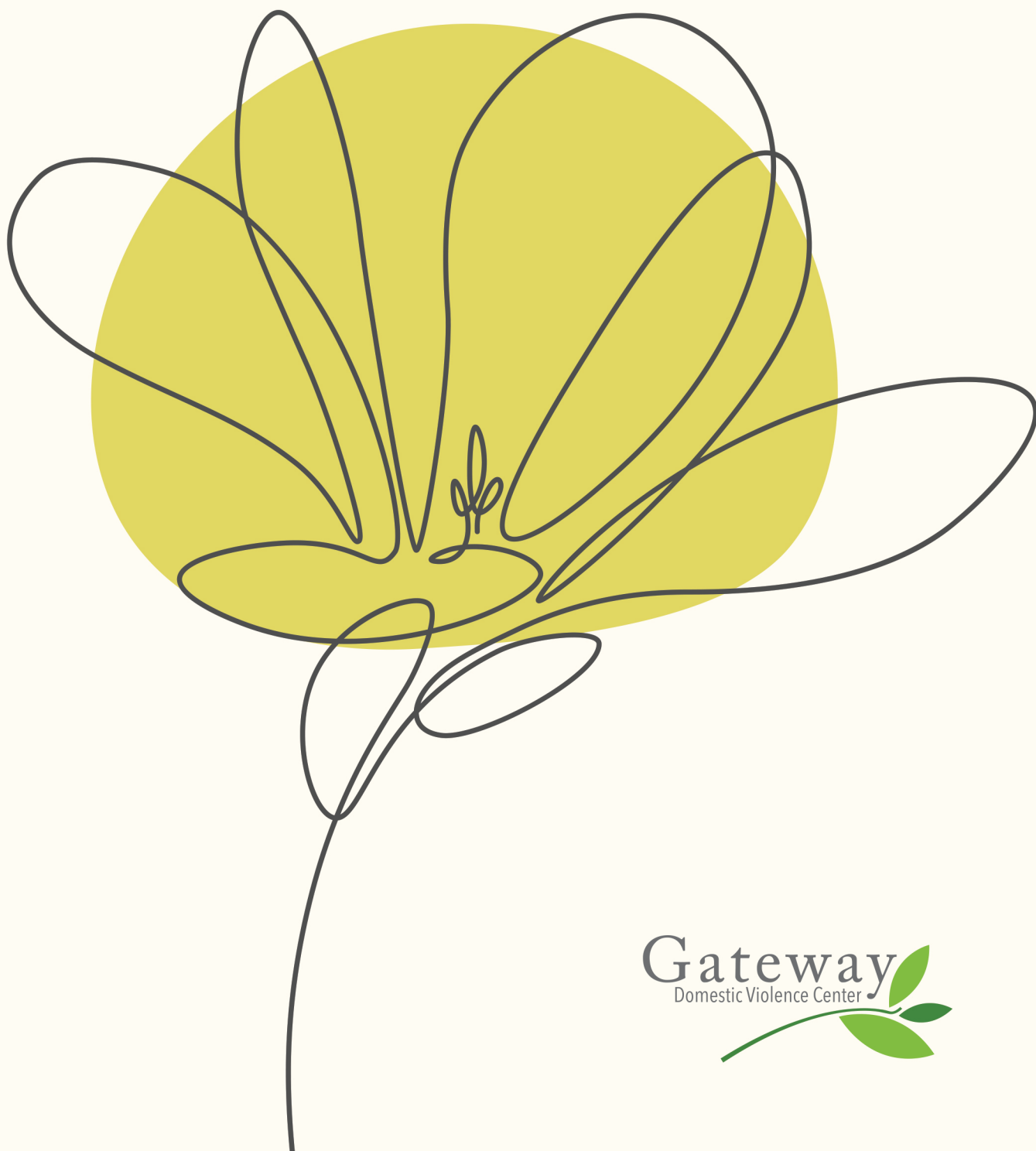


ANNUAL REPORT



Gateway
Domestic Violence Center

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



"WHETHER IT WAS SUPPORTING OUR GATEWAY TO HOPE RAFFLE, PROVIDING SUPPLY KITS FOR NEW CLIENTS OR PURCHASING ITEMS FROM OUR AMAZON WISH LIST, YOU STEPPED UP. YOU PROVIDED A SHINING LIGHT IN DARK AND UNCERTAIN TIMES."

After proudly serving on the Gateway Domestic Violence Center Board of Directors for four years, including as treasurer and member of the finance committee, it has been an honor to continue my service in the role of president as our nonprofit entered the homestretch of our capital campaign to build a new shelter.

If best laid plans often go awry even in "normal" times, a global pandemic will really throw a wrench into things! While our campaign endured some challenges and changes, you can read an exciting update on the next page.

The effects of the pandemic really began to show in Gateway's day-to-day operations in the latter half of 2020 and into 2021, especially when it came to the need for services. During the early days of the pandemic, our dedicated team didn't receive as many crisis calls as we perhaps would've expected. It seemed as if some didn't know how to reach out or find needed services.

But in the months after stay-at-home orders lifted, as more people began to reemerge into daily life, it became clear that the problem of domestic violence in our community had not disappeared. It was just laying low, out of sight. Calls to our crisis line began to spike again, rising at a faster percentage than in previous years. Terrible, violent domestic-related injuries and deaths made headlines in our community. At Gateway – we kept adjusting and working.

As a trusted nonprofit in this community, we pride ourselves on ensuring the generosity of our supporters is put to wise and prudent use. And as both a CPA and board member, I've been so proud of this organization for how we managed and navigated an unprecedented and unpredictable situation.

Our biggest fundraiser of the year is the annual Gateway to Hope celebration each March. In 2020, the event was planned and set, but like most events in 2020, it was postponed and eventually canceled. Our generous sponsors stuck around anyway, enabling us to stay on sound financial footing while meeting the needs of survivors.

In 2021 with hope on the horizon but cases still high, we were forced to plan a virtual Gateway to Hope. Once again, the community stepped up through sponsorships and raffle ticket purchases. Our online program featured a concert from the talented singer-songwriter Julie Gribble and a panel discussion about the pandemic's impact on domestic violence.

The panelists discussed how the pandemic created all kinds of stressors on the family environment, from financial hardships due to lost employment to the realities of online schooling. Stay home orders intended to protect the public left abuse victims in a perilous, isolated situation.

While the existence of domestic violence will always be grim, we couldn't help but be heartened by the dedicated support of our community. Whether it was supporting our Gateway to Hope raffle, providing supply kits for new clients or purchasing items from our Amazon Wish List, you stepped up. You provided a shining light in dark and uncertain times. And for that, we say "Thank you!"

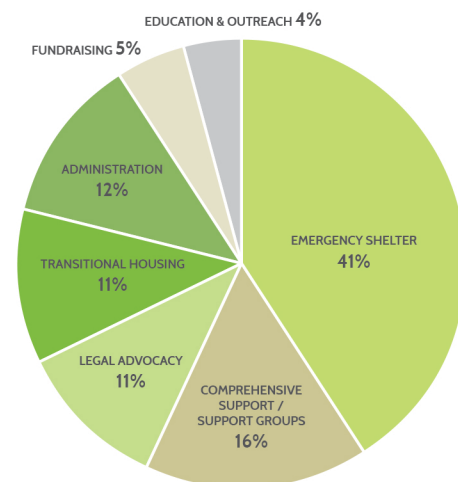
Anna Moore

Anna Moore

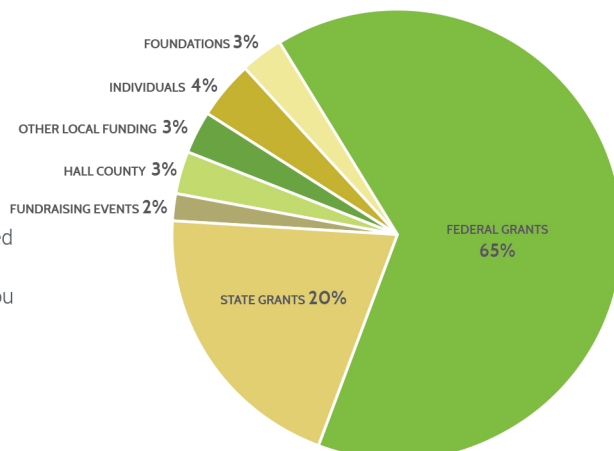


Our virtual Gateway to Hope fundraising event featured a concert by singer-songwriter Julie Gribble.

OPERATING EXPENSES \$1,149,817



OPERATING INCOME \$1,198,926



Gateway to 2020 campaign donations were also received during this 12-month period. Source: 2020 Board-Approved Operating Financial Report

BUILDING ON A VISION

When Gateway launched the “Gateway to 2020” campaign to build a new shelter facility, we had our eyes fixed on a promising future – one filled with hope and built upon a solid foundation that would set our course for the next decade and beyond.

**“ALL OF THIS HAS
BEEN MADE POSSIBLE
BECAUSE OF THE
GENEROSITY OF
INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS
AND ORGANIZATIONS IN
OUR COMMUNITY. WE
ARE SO APPRECIATIVE
OF YOUR SUPPORT AND
CAN'T WAIT TO SEE
WHAT THE YEAR
AHEAD BRINGS!”**

Of course we couldn't actually *foresee* what 2020 would bring. In a year that didn't go as any of us planned or imagined, the capital campaign also was forced to make some adjustments. But just as we are basking in the light at the end of a long tunnel, we were able to turn those adjustments into some advantages.

With the price of materials skyrocketing, we worked with local contractors to redesign our floorplans to reduce the cost of construction and site work while still providing the space we need.

Our dedicated Board of Directors, seeking to keep Gateway on sound financial footing, increased the campaign fundraising goal to \$4.5 million to cover those rising costs. We are very pleased with our building plans and feel confident that we will be able to better serve families fleeing abuse in this new space.

And we are oh-so-close to meeting our goal!

It was an exciting day at the end of April 2021 when Gateway quietly held a groundbreaking ceremony. Like most everything we do, we kept things low key so that we would not draw attention to ourselves or our confidential location. Rest assured that it is a peaceful, safe location with access to public transportation so that our residents can build their lives back free from abuse.

Each family will have a private bedroom and bathroom – much like a hotel room. We will have the capacity to meet current and future community needs. And we will have expanded spaces for support groups, classes, children's activities, and special events.

We expect to be substantially finished with construction by December 31, 2021. And we will continue fundraising this year so that we can occupy this new building without taking on any debt.

The owner of our current building is graciously allowing us to stay as we build our new shelter. When complete, we will have a shelter that shows the domestic violence survivors and their children that this community cares so deeply.

All of this has been made possible because of the generosity of individuals, groups and organizations in our community. We are so appreciative of your support and can't wait to see what the year ahead brings!

Breaking ground on our
new shelter in April 2021.



POINTS OF PRIDE



GATEWAY RECOGNIZED FOR TRANSPARENCY

Gateway earned a **GuideStar 2020 Platinum Seal of Transparency**. The Platinum Seal of Transparency is the highest level of recognition offered by GuideStar, the world's largest source of nonprofit information. You can find our complete profile by searching for Gateway House on [guidestar.org](https://www.guidestar.org).

Gateway was also recertified by the Criminal Justice Council of Georgia in 2020. This process involves a review of operational and management policies and procedures.



PLESS BEGINS DOCTORATE

Gateway advocate **Jennie Pless** completed her Master of Social Work and Master of Education degrees from Widener University in 2020. Jennie began her work at Gateway in 2018 as an undergraduate intern, and she now works as a Weekend House Manager while she pursues her Doctorate at the University of Georgia.



WE PERSEVERED

We persevered. In 2020, we quickly moved our support groups onto virtual platforms. We responded to increased incidents of domestic violence in our community by providing safe housing in our emergency shelter and in local hotels. We worked closely with our local judges to offer virtual hearings for Temporary Protective Orders.

"Support groups continue to be a bright spot in my life," is what one client told us. "Check ins from you make me feel loved and important."

above: During a summer 2020 support group, clients talked about how they were coping with world events and personal struggles as they learned to make masks.

GATEWAY BY THE NUMBERS IN 2020...



150 women and children lived in the emergency shelter. Of those residents. . .

58 people were placed in a hotel for some or all of their emergency shelter stay because there was not enough space in the shelter

18 average number of people in the 18-bed emergency shelter

35 average length of stay in the emergency shelter

5,206 guest nights of shelter were provided in the emergency shelter

98% of the emergency shelter residents secured safe housing upon exit

46 women and children lived in Gateway's long-term transitional housing program

23 average number of months residents lived in the transitional housing program

12,236 guest nights were provided in the transitional housing program

\$2,900 average amount of savings clients have accumulated upon exit

\$10.80 average hourly wage of transitional housing residents

100% of transitional housing program residents secured safe housing upon exit

1,024 total number of clients served – both residential and nonresidential

2,073 number of crisis calls Gateway answered on the 24/7 hotline

93% of the adults who participated in Gateway programs said they can better manage their own safety

123 Temporary Protective Orders were secured

91 adult survivors of abuse participated in support groups

112 children participated in support groups and educational programs

THANK YOU!

In a year unlike any other, we relied on the generosity of individuals and organizations to help us meet the needs of domestic violence survivors. We are so grateful to belong to such a generous community!



1. A representative from the Nigerian Nurses Association of Georgia presents a donation to Gateway shelter manager Janet Whittaker. 2. Jimbo Floyd and Trey Wood from Turner, Wood & Smith Insurance present a donation to Gateway executive director Jessica Butler. 3. Employees from Northeast Georgia Physicians Group's Vascular Surgery Department prepared welcome kits for residents of Gateway's emergency shelter. 4. Some of our youngest supporters donated proceeds from a lemonade stand to support our work. 5. A representative from Conectados presents a donation to Gateway advocate Cristina Bennett. 6. Kewal Shah and the team at Moe's Southwest Grill made regular donations of food during the Covid-19 pandemic.



Cash Donations Received January 1 - December 31, 2020

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of Billie Jean Allred
By Jackie Cooley
In Memory of
Ralph W. & Mary R. Cleveland
By John and Cathy Cleveland
Michael and Courtney Cleveland
Scott and Georgie Cleveland
In Memory of
Don and Sarah Cooley
By Jackie Cooley
In Memory of Mary Davies
By Denise Lee
In Memory of
Merle and Lewis Gaines
By David and Gail Chester
In Memory of Bill Galaridi
By Danny and Lynda Askew
Charles Baker
Charles Bassham
Jane and Charles Bradley
Jeanne Buffington
Jessica and Jeff Butler
Patricia Calmes
Joe and Diane Chipman
Bob and Cheryl Christian
Ralph and Mary Cleveland
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Martha Clinkscales
Tom and Rita Cole
Meghan Cook
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Alan and Virginia Crumley
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Elaine Gerke and Cliff Joliff
Catherine Gille
Wendy Glasbrenner and Charlotte Proctor
Julia Greene
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George and Patti Henderson
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John Hilger
David and Shannon Hughs
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David Jones
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Wendy Morgan
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9th Judicial District
Superior Court Judges
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Francis and George Seelke
Letrell Simpson
John H. and Margie Smith

Sammy Smith
Juanita Stedman
Richard and Nancy Story
Roland and Kathryn Stroberg
J. Swartz
Natalie Teston
Pamela Treadwell
Cherry Valentine
Whitmer & Law
Becky and Mike Whitmire
Dancy and Charles Wynne
Kate and Philip Zoercher
In Memory of Marian Hosch
By Anne B. Martin
In Memory of Trinh Huynh
By The UPS Foundation
In Memory of Ted Ivey
By David and Gail Chester
In Memory of Welcomb Lipscomb
By Berlinda Lipscomb
In Memory of Billy Murphy
By John and Loveanne Addison
William Allen
Danny and Lynda Askew
Susan Bagwell
Ben Bridges
David and Cindy Bryant
Bob and Cheryl Christian
Susan Daniell
Jackie Denney
Forum Communications
Kathy Gosselin
Julia Greene
James and Marilyn Hamblen
Julie Henry
Susan Hosford
Dianna Jones
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Lee and Kathy Lovett
Deborah Mack
Brenda Morgan
Wendy Morgan
Mike and Connie Murphy
Van and Jean Peebles
Lorry and Sherrie Schrage
Sammy Smith
Vanessa Sykes
The Times
The Tolhurst and Head Families
Dixie Truelove and Mike Smith
Alice and Everett Volk
Jackie and Jimmy Wallace
Becky and Mike Whitmire
Ronnie and Carol Whitmire
Shawn and Janet Whittaker
In Memory of Steve Sheffield
By Joan and Tommy Sheffield
In Memory of Audrey Tumlin
By Ronald and Penelope Grizzle
In Memory of Sue Weakley
By Rebecca Bolding
David and Cindy Bryant
Jessica Butler
Jackie Denney
Wilma Morgan-Hazelwood
Lisa Kelley
Monica Ramirez

Edwin and Sharon Rugg
Karen Staley
Pamela Treadwell
Phyllis Wintter

Honor Gifts

In Honor of Lisa Anderson
By Ansley Anderson
In Honor of Joy Andrew
By Rodney Andrew
In Honor of Lynda Askew
By J.D. Smith
In Honor of Nicholas Challen
Family
By James Kelly
In Honor of Gail Chester
By Colleene Ivey
In Honor of Abigail Cutchshaw
By Lanier Women's Club
In Honor of Susan Daniell
By Martha Nesbitt
In Honor of Bert Dillon
By Claudine and George Eastburn
In Honor of Anna Eades
By Polly Eades
In Honor of Polly Eades
By Sarah Wilcox
In Honor of Molly Matthews-Ewald
By Laura Ewald
In Honor of Jenny Floyd
By James and Susan Bisson
In Honor of Gateway Staff
By Monica Ramirez
In Honor of Colleene Ivey
By David & Gail Chester
In Honor of Jayne
By Carol and Duncan Niven
In Honor of Pam Mitchell
By Ansley Anderson
In Honor of Anna and Stuart Moore
By Margaret Nesbit
In Honor of Rosemary Munsen
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In Honor of Rosemary Stefanoff
By Lesa Martin
In Honor of Cheryl Tefft
By Amy Spencer
In Honor of Melissa Wiley
By Kimberly Warren

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The Times
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Bethel United Methodist Church
Carpenter Mission Group at FBC
Central Baptist Church
Clark Station Baptist Church
Columbiettes Council 13457 at
Prince of Peace
Comet Sunday School Class GFUMC
First Baptist Church
First Presbyterian Church
Flat Creek Baptist Church
Friendship Class at FBC
Gainesville First United
Methodist Church
Grace Fellowship Sunday
School Class at FBC

Clubs and Organizations

Alpha Chi Omega Tau Chapter
Chattahoochee Country Club
Gainesville Elks Lodge No 1126
Gainesville Wednesday Study Group
Hall County Optimist Club

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Clipper Petroleum Foundation
The John & Lydia Ferguson
Fund at the NGCF
The Robert & Julie Ferguson
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Gainesville Kiwanis Hope Foundation
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The Sunshine Lady Foundation
The UPS Foundation, Inc.
The Wahoo Fund / Norton
Kimbrough Family Fund at the NGCF
The Ware Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

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as of July 1, 2021



Members of our fantastic Gateway team at a recent training.



Gateway's Board of Directors

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 Cindy Bryant, Transitional Advocate and Program Coordinator
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 Cheryl Christian, Development Consultant

Jackie Denney, Bookkeeper
 Maria Gavina, Shelter Advocate
 Alondra Fierro, Legal Advocate
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 Blythe Hammons, Advocacy Supervisor
 Shelby Kinsey, Volunteer Coordinator
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 Janet Whittaker, Shelter Manager
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 Phyllis Wintter, Night and Weekend House Manager

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 Jess Maynard, Support Group Facilitator
 Mariela Pulida, Early Learning Specialist
 Arielle Sabina, Support Group Facilitator
 Sarah Sukumaran, Support Group Facilitator
 Robin Underwood, Occupational Therapist
 Katelynn Warren, Support Group Facilitator

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 Miriam Gregory
 Betty Jo Hatcher
 Sheila Stephens
 Cora Stewart



BAILEE LAUERSDORF
 (November 22, 1991 – March 19, 2021)

We honor the memory of Bailee Lauersdorf. Bailee worked at Gateway as a children's support group facilitator. She was a beloved part of our children's program, and we miss her very much.