

CONVERSION PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT: Lighthouse Children's Home in MS
By Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE (<https://www.cope.church>) Dated: 6/16/21

The HEAL Mission of COPE has received 34 complaints from individuals and families alleging severe abuse, physical abuse, mental abuse, emotional abuse, night terrors and traumatic stress resulting from abuse by staff/owners, labor trafficking (coerced/forced to fundraise), held incommunicado (communication blackout periods, censored/monitored communications with outside world), one survivor reported via e-mail to HEAL Mission in 2017 "We were not allowed to talk to anyone for a month, we were not allowed to make eye contact with anyone for a month, and we were not allowed to grab or hand anything to anyone for a month besides your leader (a girl that had been in the program for a lengthy time and would tell on u for anything u did knowingly or unknowingly wrong for brownie points with Maureen," forced to read and memorize the Bible, one survivor reported to the HEAL Mission "The scriptures memorized were used to woo the crowds at the churches. Why else would u need to know the books of the Bible backwards lol?", sleep deprivation, coercive thought reform, sexual abuse, another survivor reported to the HEAL Mission via e-mail in 2016 "Bro.Shelley took my bags when I walked into the door.He said it would be returned when it was checked that day I freaked out went upstairs,I tore up a shirt he called me to his apartment as soon as I walk in he grabbed me around my neck and said I will put your head thru that wall he said I tell you what You have 10 to fix that shirt or your getting a paddling I did try but I couldn't went back down stairs just as he promised he hit me so hard my knees buckled he said get up followed by 6 more licks.He slapped the back of my head You are here a year he said.At the hands of Larry Neff hit me at least 20 licks knocking me over his chair yelling your a wimp like your mama.That was with a board. He sexually abused me he only fondled me,many times I was in the singing group We had a van with a bed in the back he would touch me," another survivor reported via e-mail to the HEAL Mission in 2012 "I was beaten with wooden paddles and slapped. I was worked to the bone in the heat and the cold in disgusting conditions. All the while, I was battling cancer. The house mother/nurse, Maureen Earlenbaugh, took me off all of my medications. The ONLY thing that saved me from these people was my oncologist's order for blood work. She took me to get it done and the doctor ordered me to come home because I was almost dead. I was emotionally abused, as well as physically. I was stuffed with food, making me vomit. I fell into slop pits due to my "chores." I could only talk to my parents once a month for 10 minutes on speaker phone, so that I could not tell them what was happening to me," torture, deceptive marketing, academic fraud, and solitary confinement (children locked alone in closets) at Lighthouse Children's Home. Some of these complaints are referenced online and others remain confidential and on file with the church. With the intention of providing an opportunity for closure, clarification, and potentially peace, on 6/8/21 Rev. Angela Smith invited Lighthouse Children's Home victims (families and survivors) as well as staff whistleblowers to provide a guest sermon. That invitation read thus:

"Dear Lighthouse Children's Home Survivors and Families,

Lighthouse Children's Home (Lighthouse) is on the HEAL Mission watch-list (of

fraudulent and abusive programs) and enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program based on your reports to the HEAL Mission alleging fraud, abuse, and/or other violations. You can learn more or refresh your memory at <https://www.heal-online.org/thelist.htm> and/or <https://www.heal-online.org/lightchild.htm> .

The HEAL Mission and COPE Conversion Program (for Conversion Programs) has updated our protocols to provide entities populating the watch-list and/or enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program three ways off the watch-list or out of the program. Death and/or closure remains one way after which they will be buried at <http://www.beyondbusiness.net/youarenext.htm> with the others who didn't make it off the list or reform in time. Programs enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program/placed on the watch-list are also eligible for graduation if they meet the minimum Honesty In Marketing Standards described and/or provided via hypertext link at <https://www.cope.church/standards.htm> . The third option is merciful release. Merciful releases are determined by date of last directly reported to the HEAL Mission complaint (date of incident(s) of abuse), whether those incidents occurred prior to when by custom or law the requirement to retain such records has expired, and whether Sponsors (you) are actively participating or maintaining interest in holding your program accountable.

The most recent complaint the mission has received occurred in 2013 (if you were abused later than that then you did not include the dates of your enrollment when you contacted the HEAL Mission) on Lighthouse. The custom is to retain such records for 10 years in Mississippi. So, the requirements for merciful release have not been met. This is an invitation for you to provide a guest sermon no later than Wednesday, June 16th, 2021 at 8pm Pacific if you wish to provide one rather than have a progress report posted at that time. For sermons (including guest sermons), see <https://www.cope.church/sermons.htm> and for progress reports see <https://www.heal-online.org> . Here's how to participate:

1. In the body of an e-mail message write out your complete sermon and include answers to the following questions:

Did you report fraud or other unlawful actions to the proper authorities? If not, why? If so, what happened with the reports? (So, 2 part question)

Why do you believe Lighthouse Children's Home should remain enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program?

2. Send that guest sermon to me at rev@cope.church with your first and last name (full) and notify me if you wish for your contact information to be included or for all feedback to be handled by the mission and/or church. Your full first and last name will be shared along with your sermon as written and provided by you. It will be posted as a Guest Sermon at <https://www.heal-online.org> , <https://www.heal-online.org/lightchild.htm> , and <https://www.cope.church/sermons.htm> .

If no one provides a guest sermon and there are no new complaints received by the HEAL Mission by December 31st, 2023, Lighthouse Children's Home will receive a

merciful release.

Thank you in advance for participating. And, please learn more about how to value your contributions at <https://www.cope.church/givetoday.pdf>.

In Solidarity,

Rev. Angela Smith
HEAL Mission National Coordinator/Founding Mother of COPE"

Now, there was a vote on whether Lighthouse Children's Home should remain on the watch-list initiated on April 1st, 2020 where all Sponsors of that program's placement in the COPE Conversion Program were invited to participate. The Sponsors unanimously voted against merciful release or the equivalent at that time. HEAL Mission and the COPE Conversion Program recognize participation in the vote in April as recent enough participation even if Sponsors prefer more time to consider, write, and/or provide any guest sermon. While we understand this may be disappointing for Lighthouse Children's Home, it is the hope that this progress report helps explain the reasons for the continued enrollment/placement in the COPE Conversion Program. Additional or continued participation by Sponsors, including providing guest sermons or participating in future votes will impact whether or not the program qualifies for merciful release or remains enrolled. Lack of participation by Sponsors, where all other criteria for merciful release are met, will result in merciful release of the program.

Similar invitations will be going out to all survivor/victim/whistleblower e-mail lists regarding their respective programs placed on the watch-list. It may take some time to get through the entire list especially if enrollments pick up. But, we are working on it and everyone can submit Feedback at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> at any time regardless of position regarding program placement or enrollment.

To close, I remind everyone that there are remedies at law. Labor trafficking, rape, fraud (misleading marketing/false advertising), false imprisonment, kidnapping, battery, assault, and any crime or tort you could name are actionable at law. The HEAL Mission of COPE is prepared to assist all victims by providing reporting resources and information for the sake of justice and we appreciate all Sponsors who selflessly contribute content for the sake of informing the public to help those exercising due diligence avoid becoming a victim. Reporting Guide Available at: <https://www.heal-online.org/report.htm> and <https://www.heal-online.org/lightchild.htm> .