

peacepromise

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

Good Ground Turns Two!

It was 6:59am.

The line was long and snaking down the steps of Good Ground Coffee Company's walkway, filled with a combination of biggest fans and curious community folk clambering to get in. Once the door opened at 7:00am, the shop's staff (five survivors, two shift leads, assistant manager, and general manager) never stopped moving until they closed again later that day.

Before there was a constant bustle of customers in and out, steaming caffeinating potions in hand, Good Ground's notoriety was just beginning. For weeks before the Grand Opening on May 14, 2024, the mahogany chairs and tables had sat empty, and retail shelves were slowly building inventory. Training days of timed flatbread bakes & pulled espresso shots consumed the staff, and the palpable buzz of anticipated opportunity loomed from kitchen to room. This Cumberland County hotspot (and soon-to-be staple of the community) began its journey to assist sex trafficking survivors through employment opportunities, one of the biggest barriers survivors face on their journey to freedom.

Who knew that what began as a school group project would become the social enterprise of one of Central PA's most influential nonprofits?

Thankfully in the last two years, there have been many success stories, and survivors can trace their solid foundation to



Elyse Acosta,
General Manager of Good
Ground Coffee Company

Jesus, Peace Promise, and Good Ground.

Elyse Accosta, at Good Ground from Day One and a pillar of the business, has recently stepped up to take the reins of Good Ground management. Originally from the Philly area and armed with a Bachelor's in Peace & Conflict Studies (Messiah University, 2024) Elyse has a heart for all things hospitality and helping others. We are so lucky to have her running this (tight) ship as we navigate the coffee industry and work with survivors of sexual trauma and its residual effects. "I can't say I was necessarily 'drawn' to the coffee by itself, what mattered more to me was walking alongside survivors and [to be] a part of their journey by providing a safe working environment for them to thrive."

Welcome to your new role, Elyse!

Catelynne Lewis,
Marketing Coordinator

A Letter From Patty

Executive Director of Client Services,
Patty Seaman



Dear friends,

I'm in awe of how God has increasingly showed favor on the survivors in our community.

- A new comfort level with helpers and volunteers. Allowing for more face to face time.
- An electric bike to empower a survivor to be more independent.
- Homemade meals around a table that bring out comments like "I feel like my grandma made this. I don't have a grandma, but if I did and she made pot pie, this is what it would be like."
- A statement during a car ride: "My mind had to catch up with my faith."

One of the most notable moments of favor came when Dauphin County Children and Youth Services filed a withdrawal for the termination of parental rights at 364 days from the original filing date — a highly unprecedented decision and a reflection of the hard work they had witnessed in Donna over the past year as she fought to become a capable mother in the eyes of the law, even going beyond the requirements. When told, "You don't need to do all of this," she responded, ***"yes I do, [my son] needs to know I did everything."***

She attended parenting classes on her lunch breaks in the community room. We may have gotten her to the appointments, but she did the hard work. She filled her mind with stories from adults who had experienced foster care and adoption, children who had returned home, counselors, therapists, and most importantly, scripture. As her faith grew, she began to hear a voice in the quiet moments of making body butters — one that sounded like her own thoughts, but far wiser. She chose to keep going, believe for the impossible, and ultimately surrender the outcome, trusting her Savior with whatever came next.

What was scheduled to be a

termination of parental rights hearing was withdrawn, leaving her rights to her son intact and awarding Subsidized Permanent Legal Custody to her sister-in-law and brother so her son can remain in their care permanently, with her rights intact and the ability for them to come up with their own "co-parenting" goals, plans and visitation schedule.

This has been Donna's goal for a year, not to take her son from where he is thriving,

but for her to have a secure place in his world. Her heart's desire is for her family, her son, her brother, her sister-in-law and their children to be united and working together. She loves being a sister and an aunt as much as she loves being a mom. She is now trusted to be all those things. Because she chose the God way that did not make sense to anyone. She truly risked it all, potentially having all rights taken, because she believes in herself and God.

The judge shared with her after the ruling that this was one of only two cases in the history of Dauphin County CYS to ever have a petition for termination withdrawn. **May 13, 2026: the day the courtroom saw what a "thrivor" truly looks like.**

We are honored to be the community of support around Donna. If you happen to run into her at Good Ground, tell her how proud you are of her because we cannot quit boasting about her!



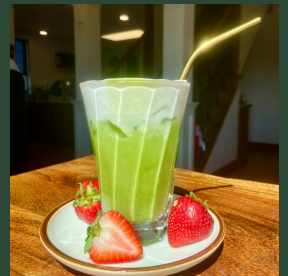
TAMP INTO Good Ground

Working at Good Ground means more than just making coffee.

It is joining a team whose daily work directly supports the healing programs of Peace Promise, aiding the mission of restoring hope and strengthening lives of individuals who have been impacted by sexual exploitation.



Banana Bread Latte



Strawberry Matcha

Summer Specials



**Our Watermelon
Lemonade Pop-Up
was a success!**

Thank you so much
to all who
attended!

Soaps *by* Survivors

Retail Locations

Good Ground Coffee
244 S 17th Street
Camp Hill

Locals Market
200 N U.S. 15
Dillsburg

Longnecks True Value
127 Doe Run Road
Manheim

Messiah Lifeways
100 Mount Allen Road
Mechanicsburg

Roots Salon
3804 Gettysburg Road
Camp Hill

Route 174 Roadside Market
849 Boiling Springs Road.
Mechanicsburg

Smucker Gardens
1677 US-209
Millersburg

Visit Us

Mon thru Friday
7am - 3pm

Saturday
8am - 3pm

Two businesses.
One home.
One purpose.





Volunteer Corner

Drivers Needed



Our Direct Care Team is looking for a few individuals who would be willing to volunteer as part of our list of drivers to assist as needs arise.

For more information, email
volunteer@peacepromise.org

Volunteers Needed at Good Ground Coffee!

We have some openings to help cover volunteer shifts at Good Ground Coffee.



Please contact Elyse Acosta at goodgroundcoffee@peacepromise.org for more information & ways to get involved!



Summer Experiences!

Is there a summer activity that you love to do with your family that you would like to financially sponsor for the group, or simply provide the supplies for the experience? Ideas could include: Lake Tobais; Picnic at Little Buffalo; Herr's Drive in movie night; Mini Golf and Ice-cream. We would love to share your family's favorites with the community of survivors as they grow in experiences.

Reach out to rebecca@peacepromise.org or patty@peacepromise.org

Service Opportunity

Would You Consider Providing Meals For Our Survivor Groups?



Please consider partnering with Peace Promise by signing up to either 1) make a meal or 2) sponsor a meal for our survivor support groups. There are a variety of dates and times available and this is one easy way that our community can walk with us in survivor support.

Do you have a skill or hobby to share?

Master of Power Tools?
Fishing? Yes, please. Basic home maintenance? We should ALL learn how to shut off an overflowing toilet!

Or are you a tech person that wants to teach how to use sheets, or google drive? We want you!



For more information, on either of these opportunities mail
rebecca@peacepromise.org

Recent Collaborative Event

Peace Promise was honored to join The YWCA & She's Somebody's Daughter, the Cumberland County DA, Sean McCormack, Detective Dave Miller & many other coalition members for a lunch and learn on April 28, 2026.

She's Somebody's Daughter had an eye-opening simulation demonstrating how trafficking is rampant in our local communities yet goes unnoticed. DA McCormack announced more recent arrests as part of operation "Closed2Trafficking" which was later released to the media that day. We would like to thank all our collaborators on the coalition for a wonderful day.



We would love to meet with your community!

Consider connecting with us as you fill your calendar this year. We can speak on topics such as the sex industry, trafficking, and pornography, among other topics. We would love to speak to your church, group, or school. We would love to share our mission with you!

For more information, email us at admin@peacepromise.org



Welcome, Catelynne!

We are so thankful to bring on board our first **Marketing Coordinator** to our Peace Promise team!

Catelynne Lewis is a Central PA native living with her husband and two little ones in Harrisburg. Since graduating from Messiah in 2020, she has accumulated vast marketing & communication experience working with many of our community partners and nonprofits in the area. Please congratulate her when you see her in her new role!



Partner Number: 50045

Peace Promise receives a portion of the proceeds anytime you make a donation to Community Aid when you give them our name and our partner number! So make those donations and don't forget to tell them who sent you!

Donate Now



Upcoming Dates!

- 7/11 - Soaps by Survivors @ Meadowbrooke Gourds' Summer Celebration
- 10/11: Run for Freedom (In-Person)



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Peace Promise is a 501 (c)(3) organization.