



Bloom

HELP. HEAL. HOPE.

## BLOOM: GIVING SURVIVORS A VOICE!

In the Lehigh Valley, where community and compassion run deep, one organization is standing boldly against one of the most hidden injustices of our time. **Bloom for Women** is a faith-based nonprofit that provides sanctuary and a continuum of care to heal, empower, and employ survivors of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. Their message is clear: Not on our watch!

Bloom exists to ensure that no one falls through the cracks of society—especially those whose voices have been silenced by trauma, manipulation, and exploitation. Through five residential homes across the region, Bloom offers safe, stable housing and a comprehensive two-year program that focuses on healing the whole person—body, mind, and spirit.

Every survivor who comes to Bloom's doors has a story. Many were trafficked by someone they knew, coerced through addiction, fear, or false promises. Nearly **27 million people** are trapped in trafficking worldwide (source: International Labor Organization), and the Lehigh Valley is not exempt. It is a "hotspot" due to its proximity to major highways. And, Pennsylvania ranks 11th in the country for signals to the National Human Trafficking Hotline. Bloom's mission is to restore dignity and give survivors a voice—helping them move from surviving to thriving.

Bloom's services extend far beyond housing. The organization provides **emergency response, pregnant and parenting survivor care, independent living housing, and direct-to-survivor outreach.** Its outreach team goes into under-resourced areas, homeless encampments, jails, drop-in centers, hospitals, etc. to meet survivors where they are. Bloom also invests in prevention—educating youth, training community members, and working alongside law enforcement and healthcare providers to identify and support victims.

Bloom's work is also deeply rooted in empowerment through its **two social enterprises:**

- **Bloom Creative Studio** in Bangor uses art as a powerful tool for healing and expression. Survivors, staff, and community members create side by side, using clay, paint, and other mediums to process emotions, rebuild confidence, and rediscover joy.
- **My Sister's Closet** in Bethlehem is a women's charity boutique offering curated, pre-loved clothing and accessories. Every purchase supports survivors and provides meaningful employment, volunteer opportunities, and critical funding for Bloom's programs.

Both enterprises are living examples of transformation—turning pain into purpose and creativity into community.

As January approaches, Bloom invites the Lehigh Valley to join in observing **National Human Trafficking Prevention Month.** This is a time to learn, engage, and take action. Whether through volunteering, donating, hosting an awareness event, or simply sharing Bloom's mission, everyone can play a role in protecting the vulnerable.

At its core, Bloom is about restoring voices once silenced. Every survivor has a story worth hearing and a future worth fighting for. Together, we can ensure that exploitation has no place in our community.

### Not on our watch.



Carol Andersen on PA Capital Steps



Sample Room for Mom and Baby

To learn more, get involved, or make a donation, visit [www.bloomforwomen.org](http://www.bloomforwomen.org)

