

A commissioned **HOPE AND GRACE ADVOCATE (HGAD)** is an equipped member of the church community who walks alongside individuals, couples, and families in the tender areas of pregnancy, new parenting, and prior abortion and utilizes church and community resources to empower them to overcome the challenges, thrive in life, and heal within safe community. This person is also a growing Believer in Jesus Christ and in regular fellowship with other growing Believers through church services, small groups, or any part of a church congregation to which they are led. An HGAD will have participated fully in the *Get EQUIPPED!*™ and *Be the Solution!*™ courses and will also participate in additional training requirements to be prepared to minister to others in the tender areas of untimely pregnancy, new parenting, and past abortion. An HGAD does not know everything but is teachable.

Here is a list of possible responsibilities that an HGAD may carry:

- Meet with a young woman, young man, or a couple experiencing an untimely or crisis pregnancy that you meet or is/are referred to you to encourage them that they are not alone and direct them to helpful resources. This would include:
 - Local pregnancy center – Ultrasounds, counseling, parenting classes, etc.
 - Adoption services.
 - Information on abortion and abortion trauma.
 - City/County housing assistance.
 - Employment assistance.
 - Home for unwed mothers, if available.
 - Following up with them to check on how they are doing.
 - Encouraging them as needed.
 - Checking if there are other ways they need assistance.
 - Getting them connected with the church community if possible – Weekend services, small groups, ministry leaders (youth, women’s, men’s, college, singles), events, etc.
 - Prayer for them and with them if allowed.
- Meeting with the parents of a young man or woman with an untimely pregnancy to provide information and support.
 - Information on abortion and abortion trauma.
 - Help get them connected with other people or couples in the church who can walk with them through this.
 - Getting them connected with the church community if possible – church services, small groups, ministry leaders (as above), events, etc.
 - Providing community resources for their son or daughter
 - Prayer for them and with them if allowed.
 - Anything on the list above that is applicable.
- Meeting with a person struggling over a child lost to abortion or struggling over past sexual trauma or sin
 - Assess their emotional state and stability.
 - Referring them to pastoral or professional counseling if needed.

HOPE AND GRACE ADVOCATE SERVANT LEADER JOB DESCRIPTION

- Being a listening and compassionate ear.
- Directing them to healing resources.
- Checking up on them to see how they are doing.
- Connecting with them at least once a week while they are doing a healing Bible study.
- Encouraging them to press through.
- For someone with a past abortion - accompanying them, if invited, to their memorial service for their lost child(ren) through the healing Bible Study.
- The HOPE AND GRACE ADVOCATE reports to the or the LEAD HGAD for assistance with friends they are working with.
- The LEAD HGAD is responsible for everything on the lists above, plus overseeing the work of other HGAD's, such as:
 - Following up with HGAD periodically to see how things are going with friends they are working with.
 - Reporting to church staff or pastoral lead any issues that cannot be worked out with an HGAD and the friends they are working with.
 - Reporting to Hope and Grace Global when issues arise that need a recommended protocol.
 - Keeping a digital record of who is benefitting or has benefitted from the services of your church's HGADs
 - Reporting to HGG the number being helped, description of services provided, and how their assistance prevented an abortion or helped someone find healing

The LEAD HGAD reports to the church pastoral point person for the Hope and Grace Partnership for help with spiritual matters, church resources, relational issues, or church community connections. For other resources, the LEAD HGAD or connects with the local pregnancy center or other local agencies. HGG is also available for support services when needed.