

# First Lady Beshear tours Redeeming Hope

**BLAKE VICKERS**  
RICHMOND REGISTER

Redeeming Hope is still a few months shy of opening, but that didn't stop Kentucky's first therapeutic center for survivors of human trafficking from receiving a high profile visitor on Tuesday.

Kentucky First Lady Britany Beshear and several officials from Richmond and Berea were given a tour of the facility by Redeeming Hope founder and president Lisa Foster.

Thanks to a \$100,000 check from the General Assembly, Redeeming Hope has everything in need to finish construction and begin housing up to 12 survivors.

The First Lady — who has a background in social work and is a member of the National Coalition for the Prevention of Human Sex Trafficking — was impressed with Foster and company's work.

"This is an amazing project. This is going to help a lot of girls in our foster care system who have been sexually abused and exploited to have a place where they can heal and grow," Beshear said. "I think the work Lisa is doing here is absolutely phenomenal... our children are our biggest and most amazing natural resource."

The 6,000 square foot

facility will take in 14-18 year old girls across the entire commonwealth of Kentucky. As part of their treatment, they'll be given support for school and technical school services.

"We're going to put everybody on an individualized basis and see where they are when it comes to education and where they want to be," said Zinnia Hensley, community resource coordinator and social worker for the Berea Police Department. "We all have to have some sort of identity outside of here. We don't want their identity to be that they were abused and victims. We want them to be survivors who help and hope out in the world and our community."

Hensley noted that there is a misconception that human trafficking and sexual violence is not common in the area. She believes that once Redeeming Hope opens, it will quickly change that perspective in the community.

"It's one of the highest areas (for abuse and trafficking) that I've seen. I was in the military, and I've been to a lot of different places," Hensley said. "This facility is going to be an eye opener. But it's also going to help a lot of people here."

According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, they received 278

signals for the crime in Kentucky in 2024. 75 of them were from victims or survivors of human trafficking. The hotline found 139 cases that year involving 256 victims.

During the tour with First Lady Beshear and the other officials, Foster emphasized that she wanted Redeeming Hope to truly feel like a home for the girls that will live there. There are several steps they're taking to ensure that, starting with the staff they hire.

"We're only hiring staff that love them," Foster said. "They will have meals together. They do outdoors stuff together. We'll have different functions and things for them, because it is a locked home. We have a beautiful Florida room that they can spend a lot of time in, so they don't feel like they're constantly indoors... Anything that you would do for your kids at home is something that we want to do for these kids here."

For Foster, these final stages of construction on Redeeming Hope mark the end of a long and difficult journey. She was inspired to take on the task of helping young female survivors after losing her daughter — Jordan Morgan — to a fatal home invasion in 2022.

Faith has been of deep importance to Foster on



PHOTO BY BLAKE VICKERS, RICHMOND REGISTER

**Lisa Foster (left) gives Kentucky First Lady Britany Beshear a tour of what will become Redeeming Hope, the state's first therapeutic foster home for victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.**

this journey. She asks visitors to write down a piece of scripture of their choosing on support beams in the home. First Lady Beshear immediately had something in mind.

"Go and do likewise" from Luke 10:37.

This practice was inspired by a moment Foster had shortly after losing her daughter.

"I know that God has done it. When my daughter was murdered, I got in my prayer closet. I told God, that if he was going to make me live... he was going to have to give me something to do for him until I could come to heav-

en," Foster said.

Shortly after that moment, Foster got the call from the Old Paint Lick School Ministries to join the fight against human trafficking.

"I knew that was what I was to do. And I came back and I started reaching out, and it just snowballed," Foster said.

Much of the funding for Redeeming Hope has come from small donations in the community. Foster said it started with a handful of change at the Spoonbread Festival and has only grown from there. She believes that Madison County is serious about helping out

victims of trafficking and abuse.

"I'm just so thankful that it's finally coming," Foster said. "I see so many news reports and see just exactly how bad human trafficking and sexual exploitation of kids is. It makes me want to hurry up and get the house going. And then go onto another one... Children are not for sex. And the people need to know that."

Redeeming Hope is still seeking out donations. If you'd like to help out or are seeking help regarding a human trafficking or child sexual exploitation situation, visit <https://redeeminghopeky.org/>.

## WATER

Continued from Page 2

common household actions, particularly during the summertime. Failure to comply will carry penalties by fines and ultimately potential disconnection of water service.

Lake Liberty serves as the town's primary water source, according to WEKU, and one of the potential solutions being discussed by officials, including the Lake Cumberland Area Development District, is transferring water from the Green River to the 88-acre

man-made lake.

"That's a man-made lake over there, and the water flow's not been what it normally is," said Halcomb of Casey County. "... I think another reason they went under their state of emergency is because they're looking ahead. We've got this dry weather, and so if the fire departments over there have any fires ... then they're going to be using a whole lot more water."

But Pulaski County's water suppliers are fed by the much larger Cumberland River and Lake Cumberland, and while even that

lake isn't as full as it could be, it's still plenty capable of serving Pulaski's water needs.

"Of course the lake is down some, but no, we're fine," said Burnside Mayor Robert Lawson, whose city has its own water intake from the Cumberland River. "We're down deep in it, but

we have no problems."

He said that from he understands, there are "some issues" with Wolf Creek Dam, causing Lake Cumberland to be down about 12 feet from normal summer pool. Rehabilitation is currently ongoing with the dam's spillway gates. "My understanding is that they're

not going to raise it any more than what it is right now, but we're safe and we've got plenty of water," said Lawson.

Dana Whitis, Water and Wastewater Manager for the City of Somerset, confirmed that their water availability, pulling from Lake Cumberland is doing fine as well

— which impacts customers beyond the borders of Somerset proper, as they also supply the Southeastern Water Association, Western Pulaski Water District, and the cities of Science Hill and Eubank.

"I don't have any concerns," said Whitis. "We've got plenty of water."

### **PUBLIC HEARING & REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING FOR THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION**

Hearing Date: Tuesday June 23, 2026 Time: 5:30PM

Place: Energy Center Council Chambers

1) Zone Designation for Mayer Properties, LLC at 323 Randolph St with Parcel ID# 076-1-2-04.3 from R2 to R1A

All Parcels can be referenced/found in the Planning & Zoning Department or at the Pulaski County Clerk's Office

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

25-P-00353

Estate of: Betty Inabnitt  
Executor's: Jacklene

Lowery  
Attorney: William A. Leger

Comes for a final settlement hearing on Thursday July 16th, 2026 @ 1:00PM in the Pulaski County Judicial Building.

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## SENTENCED

Continued from Page 1

traveling northbound on U.S. 27 and struck the Singleton vehicle as it entered the intersection, according to the sheriff's office.

Witnesses reported observing Rose run the red light immediately before the collision. Evidence obtained during the investigation showed speeds from Rose's exceeding 100 miles per hour in the seconds leading up to the crash, according to the sheriff's office.

Investigators also obtained blood samples from Rose, which later tested positive for amphetamine, ketamine, and methamphetamine, according to the sheriff's office.

The Pulaski County Sheriff's Office conducted an extensive investigation into the case with assistance

from the Kentucky State Police, the Pulaski County Coroner's Office, and other agencies.

The case was investigated by the Detective Ryan Jones and prosecuted by Dalton. Sheriff Bobby Jones thanked Dalton and his staff for their work on this case.

The Pulaski County Sheriff's Office said that it continues to extend its thoughts and prayers to the family and loved ones of Aaron and Ashley Singleton.

### **CANDIDO'S TOWING & REPAIR**

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