

HOPE SHINING BLUE

A **Denim Day celebration** honoring survivors of sexual and domestic violence

Benefitting Aurora Healing & Advocacy Services and Aurora Abuse Response Programs across Wisconsin

Wednesday, April 26, 2023
Eagles Ballroom in Milwaukee



Thrive Award honoring Candace Sanchez

Candace is a survivor and servant leader who views giving back as an important part of her own healing journey. She has been a dedicated member of the Aurora Healing & Advocacy Services Giving Circle since 2018. She is an author, life coach, motivational speaker, and podcast host who uses her platform to help others thrive by bravely sharing her truth and encouraging others to do the same. Candace is a dynamic Healthcare IT leader; she joined Advocate Aurora Health as the Director of HIT Business Relationships in 2020 and leads by example as a proud Latina woman in STEM. Candace prides herself on being a servant leader in the very same community where she grew up, Racine, Wisconsin. She is currently the Vice President of Por La Gente Association which provides annual scholarships to Latino youth. This past fall Candace was the event lead for Walk Together MKE to raise awareness and funds for the National Foundation to End Child Abuse and Neglect. A troubled youth herself, Candace now shares her story of transformation and resilience that allows her to find happiness in her career, family and most importantly, within herself. Candace is a proud mother to two beautiful children and grandmother to five.

The Annual Thrive Award was established in 2014 to recognize a sexual assault survivor who is healing and thriving in life, and whose work in the community benefit survivors and promote awareness of sexual assault issues.



Hope Shining Award honoring Nancy Yarbrough

Nancy has been a leader in the Milwaukee community for over 20 years, doing issues-based education and advocacy, with an emphasis on human trafficking. As the Founder and Executive Director of the nonprofit Fresh Start Learning, she is committed to improving the quality of life for those who have lost hope and provides holistic support to individuals in need including domestic violence, drug addiction, homelessness, mental health, and legal support. Nancy is currently serving as a Police Commissioner for Glendale as well as serving as a commissioner on the Milwaukee County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Committee. She is a nationally sought-after expert in the impact of exploitation and trauma informed healing methodologies. Nancy is an author, TEDx speaker and a proud mother to five beautiful children and grandmother to five grandsons, with her first granddaughter on the way.

On occasion, Aurora Abuse Response programs presents the Hope Shining Award to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the local community that directly benefits survivors of sexual violence or elevates awareness of the issue.