May was Mental Health Awareness Month and highlighted the need for increased awareness and outreach, as well as the importance of accessing and openly discussing mental health treatment. It only made sense to highlight a local mental health organization that has been integral in responding to and providing services for many families and children impacted by trauma in our community.

It is our privilege to select Center for Hope as our Prevail Hero of the Month. Center for Hope was opened by Dawn Crossman and is staffed by six therapists. They provide EMDR, play therapy, and specialized services for treating eating disorders. At Center for Hope, they recognize and understand the impact of trauma on the individual, but also on the family and community at-large. Center for Hope has also linked families to victim advocacy services and support groups at Prevail. Their team takes time to collaborate for the benefit of the client and family. They have been an integral team member in responding to community-based trauma and highlight the importance of systems being responsive to the mental health needs of all its members.

A Prevail Hero is a person or group that goes above and beyond in service of individuals impacted by crime and abuse. Our clients have told us that Center for Hope is a “real” place. Also, that they “get it” and understand how trauma shows up in their life. Most importantly, that they are nonjudgmental. Center for Hope is a place that has earned trust because the therapists have the youth and family’s best interests in mind. For these reasons and many more, it is our honor to name Center for Hope our Hero of the Month.

Thank you Center for Hope! You are our HEROES!