



# Ministry Partnership Guide

How Heal Can Empower the Church



Heal



# IT'S ALL ABOUT THE CHURCH

When Christ ascended into Heaven, he left us more than just his Holy Spirit; he left us his Church, the one and only plan for implementing his redemption strategy to bring heaven to earth. We find Scripture clear in how it communicates the church's critical role in this endeavor, and we firmly believe that our job as followers of Jesus is to cherish her<sup>1</sup> and never abandon her<sup>2</sup>. That's why it's an honor for Heal to come alongside churches like yours to support the biblical mandate Christ gave us to fulfill his Great Commission<sup>3</sup>.

At Heal, we never forget this important truth: it's all about the Church. Thankfully, we believe God created the church to be a "body"<sup>4</sup>, leaving room for many "parts" to play a role. At Heal, we see our role as specifically helping men and women who deal with the spiritual side effects of physical pain or limitation experience freedom in Christ. We've seen how often physical pain and limitation can make people feel isolated and hopeless, cut off from Christ and community. For various reasons, this often leads them to drift away from the church, whether that be from feeling misunderstood, having decreased energy, or not receiving support that's relevant to their physical struggles. Regardless of the reason, Heal exists to support them where they are at while encouraging them to remain connected as much as possible to their local church (see our [Try Again Worksheet](#) at the back to learn how we do this).

By becoming a ministry partner with Heal, we can help support you in your church's mission by ministering to the small but precious part of your flock who may be slipping through the cracks because of their struggle with physical pain or limitation. We can also serve those who, while connected, still struggle to find people who can relate to them in their physical pain. At Heal, we love fulfilling our call to minister to these people in the margins and we hope to partner with you and your church in this.

1. Ephesians 5: 25
2. Hebrews 10:25
3. Matthew 28:19
4. 1 Corinthians 12:12



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# The Mission

At Heal, we offer three primary things:  
**Community, Tools** and **Truth**.



Through our Heal Community app, we've developed a close-knit community of dozens of men and women struggling with physical pain or limitation. The app allows them to not only receive weekly devotions that are specific to their physical struggles but it also gives them the opportunity to reach out ask for prayer when they're struggling. We also run occasional virtual (perhaps someday in person) Heal Retreats for people to connect with others at a deeper level and be encouraged with a message and worship.



In addition to community, we have a growing library of tools that we share with our members to support them, including our podcast, recommended books, sermons, a reading plan, an online quiz, and more.



Finally, we ground all that we do in the truth, God's Word. We understand you care deeply about your flock and are probably quite protective of the resources you recommend to them. That's why we want to communicate to you our commitment to always adhere to Scripture. Through every retreat, devotional, and podcast interview we produce, we always seek to prioritize the Word of God as the foundation of our theology surrounding physical pain or limitation<sup>1</sup>.

1. If you'd like to learn more about the specifics of Heal's theology, please check out the Beliefs page at the back.

Whether it's advertising our upcoming virtual retreats, sharing about our Heal Community app, recommending our podcast, or using our digital resources, there are lots of ways your church can take advantage of Heal's resources in order to strengthen your church.

## Speaking and Preaching

In addition to our resources and events, Heal also provides value to churches through live speaking and preaching. Heal was founded by Tera Bradham DeNeui after the painful trials she endured from years of chronic undiagnosed pain. Her agony led her through a journey of questioning God and ultimately discovering his faithfulness in pain. Tera's speaking topics include faith through adversity, women's ministry, healing, grief, freedom in Christ, and so much more. To learn more about how Tera could be an asset for your church, check out her speaking one sheet at the back.

## Heal Conference

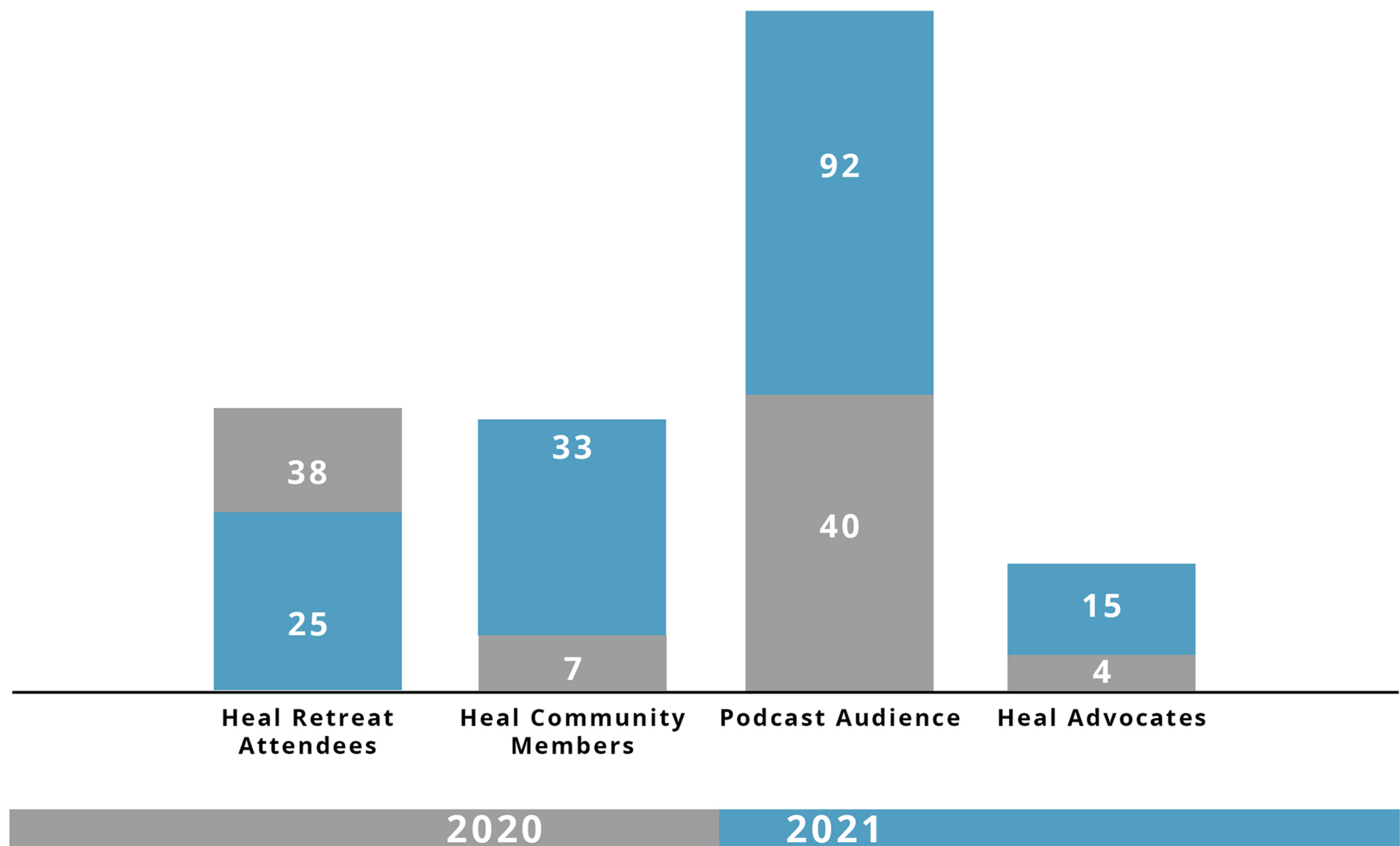
Finally, one of the ways you can join Heal as a ministry partner is by joining us as we develop our first ever Heal Conference. One of our biggest dreams for Heal has been to create an in-person event for those struggling with physical pain or limitation where they can be filled with truth, encouragement, and community. Currently our goal is to host the first conference either in 2024 or 2025. We hope that churches like yours will join us in whatever capacity you feel led. Please help us envision what this event could be and then help us turn the vision into a reality!

The logo for Heal, featuring the word "Heal" in a stylized, handwritten-style font.

# The Growth

In addition to being a trustworthy ministry partner, we believe in the importance of producing fruit as an outward sign of the inward work God is doing<sup>1</sup>. That's why we track our growth to help us see the ways in which God is tangibly utilizing Heal to create real change in the kingdom of God.

While we believe growth goes way beyond numbers and charts, the graphs below show some of the outward ways in which God has blessed and allowed Heal to grow over its two years of existence. We have seen exciting growth in many of our outreaches like our podcast, our Heal Community App, and our network of Heal Advocates



Check out what others have to say about Heal's impact...

Heal





"Being a part of Heal Community has been such a blessing and encouragement to me, and I have been consistently reminded to stand firm, remain grounded, and walk out my faith in the way the Lord is leading me. The ministry emphasizes the importance of staying focused on the Lord, His plan, and timing for our lives - which is such an important reminder for those like me who live with chronic illness and/or pain on a daily basis. It's been such a gift to have the ministry leaders pouring into my life through Heal events, prayer, and weekly posts with relevant content."



"I was just looking for a small praying community of like-minded strugglers, when I found this little group online. It feels like a little church in away. It is small and personal and I feel like I can be honest and share and always count on a response or two. It is so good to be a part of this community."



"Encouragement, fellowship, community. These three words only touch the surface of what the Heal community has meant to me since it first began. I've battled through trials, some that were not even directly related to physical pain and the Heal Community has shown up for me in prayer and words of hope during each moment of feeling broken. I'm thankful for this special Heal Community family and that I get to be apart of it."

✕

★★★★★

03/03/2022

**Encouragement for the Weary**

I am uplifted and encouraged in this journey of living with chronic pain and illness by each interview on the podcast. Tera is a terrific host who asks thoughtful and deep questions. I love the meandering conversations which all point me back to the strength and hope I have in Christ.

✕

★★★★★

05/20/2020

**So encouraging!!**

If you deal with chronic pain yourself, know someone who battles physical pain, or just want to listen to some amazing stories, you've found the right podcast. Tera connects with incredible individuals and shares their stories in such a meaningful way. Love listening!!

✕

★★★★★

01/26/2021

**So encouraging and inspiring!!**

This podcast comes highly recommended!! Each of Tera's episode are truly encouraging, inspiring, and uplifting!! God is using her story so powerfully—and I HIGHLY encourage anyone (who hasn't already) to give her episodes a listen!! You won't regret it!! ❤️



*"What a privilege it is to serve as a Heal Advocate, and partner in prayer with this ministry! The impact of Heal is powerful!"*

- Kirk



*"It is a blessing to be able to serve Heal as a prayer advocate. I consider it a privilege to pray for my brothers and sisters who are struggling with chronic health problems and I thank God for allowing me to take part in the Heal Ministry."*

- Jeri



*"Being a Heal advocate is a reminder we are not alone, because others are walking with us in this journey of hope."*

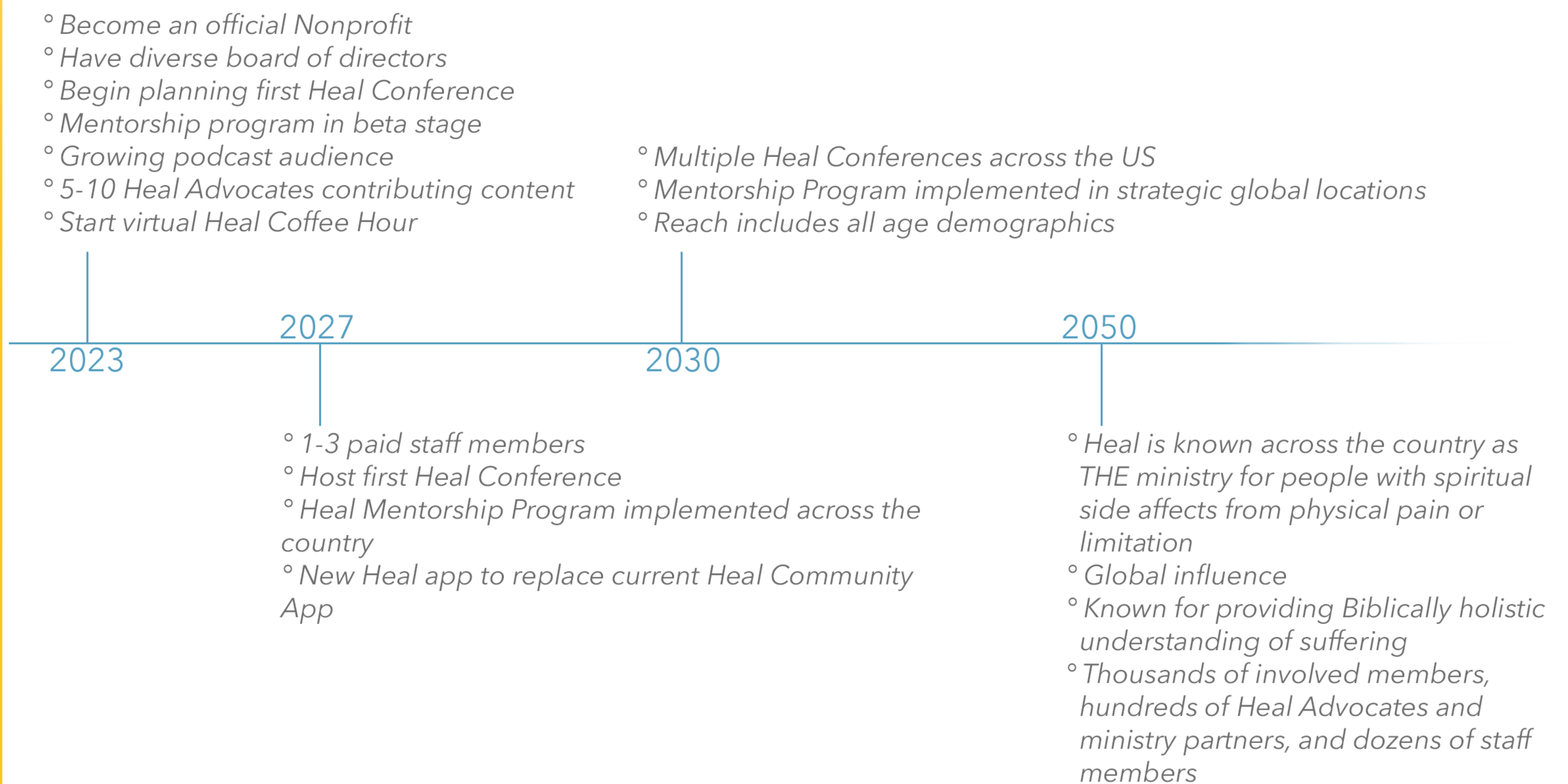
- Rick

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# The Vision

In addition to looking back at how far we've come, we believe in consistently seeking fresh vision from the Lord as to where we feel he is calling Heal in the future. Below is an outline of some of the God-sized dreams we've been given that are far too ambitious for us to achieve on our own. Thankfully we serve a big God who has a tendency to show up in big ways that give him the glory.



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# The Team

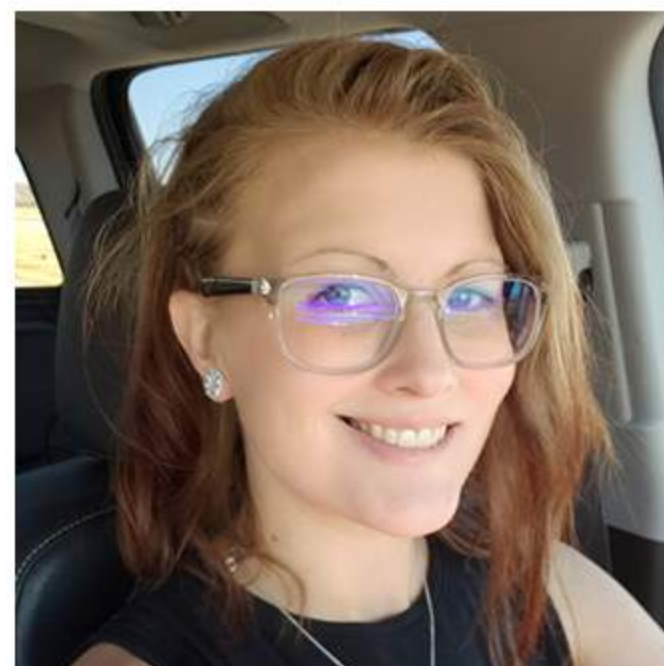
At Heal, we believe effective ministries keep Jesus as the star, not any of us. When he tasked us with making disciples of all nations, that meant inviting others to join us in the work he has called us to fulfill, which is why we are excited about our growing team.

## STAFF

*Currently Heal is run by our three volunteer staff members: Tera Bradham DeNeui (Founder), Nic Nienhuis (Podcast Editor), and Jacob DeNeui (Executive Director). They partner together to use their God-given strengths to fulfill the work of the ministry.*



Tera Bradham DeNeui



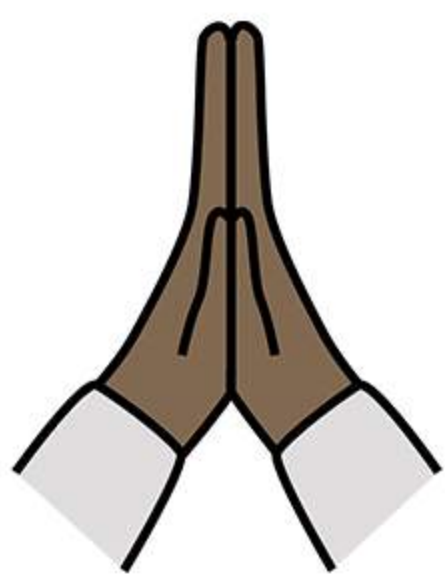
Nic Nienhuis



Jacob DeNeui

## HEAL ADVOCATES

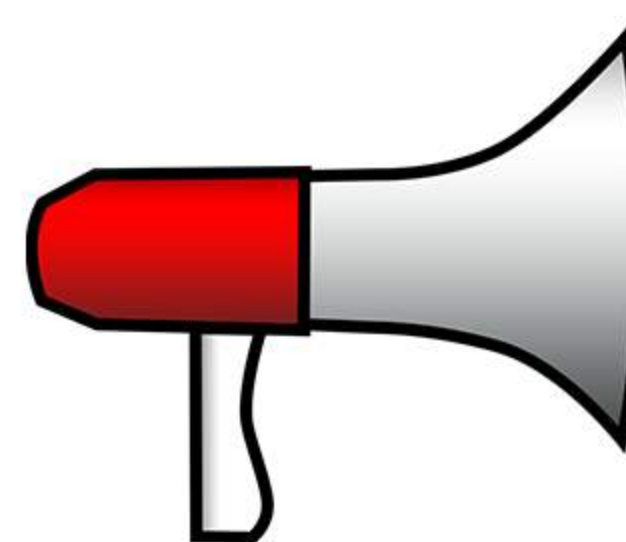
*Our Heal Advocates are men and women who have chosen to partner with Heal to help us in our mission. To participate, they pick any number of the following roles:*



Prayer Warrior



Content Creator



Ministry Promoter



Kingdom Investor

*The Heal Advocates receive occasional newsletter updates with ways our Prayer Warriors can specifically pray for our needs and the needs of our people. Content Creators help by filming or writing Heal Devotionals for our Heal Community App. Ministry Promoters commit to using social media or word of mouth to share about events and content that Heal produces, and Kingdom Investors partner with the ministry by investing their money with the expectation that there will be a heavenly return on that investment through the work we do.*

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# Become a Ministry Partner

Hopefully by now you've seen the ways in which Heal can support you and your church through our work. That's why we want to invite you to join us by becoming a Ministry Partner. By becoming a Heal Ministry Partner, you're allowing us to employ our God-given focus and giftings into supporting those in your own network who may find deep value from Heal. Here are a few ways you can become a Ministry Partner:

## Sign up for the Newsletter

It's a simple step but by signing up for our monthly newsletter, you'll stay updated on what's happening within the ministry including any upcoming events, new podcasts, new partnership opportunities, etc. Simply visit [www.thehealministry.com](http://www.thehealministry.com), scroll to the bottom, click Subscribe, and enter your name and email.

## Join the Conference Discussion

If you're interested in helping us make create the first ever Heal conference, let us know! And don't worry, you can make your commitment as large or as small as you would like.

## Ask Tera to Speak

Our founder Tera has a passion and anointing for teaching and preaching a message of freedom in Christ. Hosting Tera at your church or event could be a great way to help your congregation hear impactful truth in a fresh and revitalizing way. See Tera's one sheet in the back or visit her website at [www.terabradham.com/speaking](http://www.terabradham.com/speaking) to learn more.

## Advertise Heal as a Resource

Whether it's displaying our information pamphlets, adding our events to your announcements, or simply spreading the word about the ministry through word of mouth, there are many ways you can share Heal with those in your congregation who need it most. Just let us know what works best for you!

## Share Recommendations

As we walk through the process of becoming a nonprofit, we are simultaneously praying over creating our first board of directors. If you know of someone with legal, financial, nonprofit, ministerial, or general leadership skills who might have an interest in supporting a ministry focused on helping people with physical pain or limitation, we would be honored if you would connect us with them to see if they would be a good fit for our board or staff.

## Become a Heal Advocate

By becoming a Heal Advocate (or encouraging those you may know to consider joining), you can help support our critical work through your prayer, creativity, network, and/or finances. Just go to [www.thehealministry.com/join](http://www.thehealministry.com/join), click Join Now, and sign up!

The logo for "Heal" is written in a stylized, cursive script. The letter "H" is large and loops around the "eal", which is written in a more standard cursive. The color is a light orange or gold.



We are honored by your expression of interest in our work at Heal. We wouldn't have asked for your valuable time if we didn't truly believe that Heal could genuinely help support you in your work. As a leader in God's local church, you have an important role to fill. It's our hope that you allow us to support you in that role as we continue working together to bring God's kingdom here on earth as it is in Heaven.

Sincerely,

Jacob & Heka

Heal



# Try Again

A tool for reconnecting to the  
church despite pain or  
limitation.



Dear Fellow Sojourner in Pain,

If you're reading this, you've probably been hurt by the church in the past. We're so sorry you've experienced that loss. Regardless of how your relationship with the Church was strained, our hearts ache with you and we believe God's does too.

Thankfully, we serve a redemptive God who knows how to make broken things whole again. While even the thought of trying to become involved with a church after all you've experienced might seem as impossible as scaling a cliff wall, we're here to encourage you to keep climbing, one hand hold at a time.

The Try Again worksheet is meant to be a resource to help you take your first step in practically planning out what it will take to reconnect with God's chosen instrument for bringing his kingdom come here on earth: his Church. To start, you'll need to print out the following page so that you can start filling it out (if your technology allows, you can also fill it out digitally). We believe in the power of threes so we gave you the space to plan three different "tries" at different churches or church services. If need be, you can always reprint the worksheet if you end up needing more tries. If the thought of filling out a worksheet seems daunting because of your limitations, don't worry, we made it super simple.

As you take this step forward in your healing, don't forget that we're here for you. If there's any other way that we at Heal can help support you in your journey, please don't hesitate to reach out.

You're not alone.

Sincerely,

Tera and Jacob DeNeui



## TRY #1

I will visit

☐ In person ☐ Online  
on this date:

Before visiting, I'll need to

- ☐ Ask someone for a ride
- ☐ E-mail the church to ask for assistance
- ☐ Set my alarm for  to get ready for service
- ☐

## TRY #2

I will visit

☐ In person ☐ Online  
on this date:

Before visiting, I'll need to

- ☐ Ask someone for a ride
- ☐ E-mail the church to ask for assistance
- ☐ Set my alarm for  to get ready for service
- ☐

## TRY #3

I will visit

☐ In person ☐ Online  
on this date:

Before visiting, I'll need to

- ☐ Ask someone for a ride
- ☐ E-mail the church to ask for assistance
- ☐ Set my alarm for  to get ready for service
- ☐

These are the people who will encourage me through my journey:

<input type="text"/>	will text me after I visit to ask how it went.
<input type="text"/>	will let me call him/her afterwards to process.
<input type="text"/>	will <input type="text"/>

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

In addition to trying church again, I want to learn more about

- ☐ **Heal Retreats**  
- Short virtual retreats to connect with others, hear a message, and be encouraged ([www.thehealministry.com](http://www.thehealministry.com))
- ☐ **The Diamonds Conference**  
- Online retreat to encourage those who are chronically ill ([www.sgwilloughby.com](http://www.sgwilloughby.com))
- ☐ **Recommended Books**  
- [www.thehealministry.com/books](http://www.thehealministry.com/books)
- ☐ **Heal Community**  
- An app-based network of people with physical pain or limitation ([www.thehealministry.com/heal-community](http://www.thehealministry.com/heal-community))
- ☐ **The Heal Podcast**  
- Stories to help people discover God's healing for them through their physical pain, illness, or limitation
- ☐ **The Joni and Friends Podcast**  
- Stories of hope, practical advice, and encouragement through real challenges





# Our Beliefs

## An Overview of Heal's Theology of Pain

At Heal, we believe ***God's heart is to free people who feel marginalized by their physical pain*** (Psalm 34:18). So often physical pain and limitations pull our eyes off Christ and onto our suffering. While challenging, pain and limitations have the ability to remind us of our need for God and actually draw us closer to him, but only when we allow them to. These are a few of our theological beliefs about pain:

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***Only God has the power to provide everlasting peace to those burdened with physical pain or limitation*** (Matthew 11:28).

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***God heals in the way that brings Him the most glory and draws us closest to Him*** (Philippians 3:10).

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***God's heart is to heal us physically, and that may be in this lifetime or it may be in the lifetime to come*** (John 11:21-26).

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***We believe in miraculous healing*** (Matthew 10:1-8), ***integrative/medical healing*** (1 Timothy 5:23), ***and ultimate/heavenly healing*** (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14).

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***We believe in asking God for healing while being surrendered to how and when He chooses to heal*** (Luke 22:42).



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***We believe that, while God cares about the state of our bodies, He is more concerned with our spiritual healing than our physical healing***

(Matthew 10:28).

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***We believe physical pain is due to the fallen world sin created, though it can sometimes be due to contributing spiritual factors***

(Psalm 38:2-7).

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***We do NOT believe in shaming people for their pain, but in giving them tools to walk in freedom through Christ, no matter what their healing looks like*** (John 9:1-3).

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***We believe that, while chronic physical pain or limitation makes many activities challenging, a healthy and vibrant walk with the Lord involves some level of participation in his Church here on earth***

(Hebrews 10:25, James 5:14).

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# Tera Bradham DeNeui

Christian Author and Motivational Speaker

## ABOUT

My biggest passion is inspiring people to **step into the victory of Christ while overcoming the pain of the world**. I have spoken across the world to churches, schools, prisons, and conferences about the power of hope in overcoming impossible circumstances. After experiencing a 7-year trial with debilitating pain that left my arm degenerating, I know what it means to beg God to die and I know what it is to depend on Him for my next breath. My desire is to help others believe in a good and loving God amidst their circumstances so they can find freedom not in spite of their pain, but because of it.

## TOPICS

### **Resurrection Faith**

Most people only live with preventative faith. We pray for travel safety and for our kids to do well in school, but we don't have faith that God can reverse a situation once it has soured. We need resurrection faith in order to believe God can restore a marriage, reverse a diagnosis, or help us forgive the unforgivable.

### **Never Give Up**

It's never over until God says it's over. We put periods where God has only placed a comma, and we turn his periods into question marks. His Word will not return void, and His promises don't have an expiration date.

### **God's Grace in Chronic Pain**

Whether physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual, chronic pain can cause people to lose hope. I shed light on issues like feeling betrayed by God, what to do when the healing doesn't come in the way or timing you expect it to, and how you don't have to live a pain-free life to live a full life.

## REVIEWS

*"Tera does an incredible job connecting with her audience and opening the door for hope. So often our pain, injury, or perceived inadequacy digs itself into our psyche and becomes a part of our identity. That can be a dark place. Tera's experiences demonstrate how God offers us healing and a new identity on the other side of our pain."*

**Whitt Jones**

Gallatin Valley FCA

*"Tera is a masterful speaker. She establishes quick but meaningful rapport with her audience through her compassionate heart and genuine love for people. A word of warning to the listeners: Be prepared to be moved."*

**Dr. Andrei C. Dutta, CCIM**

Freedom Church

*"Tera is the perfect combination of grit and grace. Having gone through her own arduous journey with physical and emotional pain, she knows how to both empathize with and empower her audience. She shares HER story and HIS Truth in such a powerful way that, as a listener, you simultaneously feel comforted, convicted and compelled."*

## CONTACT

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**Trish McCarthy,**

Chasing Squirrels Podcast