

HEARTS OVER HATE UPDATES AUGUST 2026

I know it's been a long time. Almost 10 months, actually, since I've sat down to write one of these newsletters.

Life has been a lot. Between building LuvLine, trying to keep Ben's dream moving forward, everyday life, and what feels like endless court dates and hearings, I just haven't been able to bring myself back to writing.

So much has happened in these past 10 months, and there has been so much I've wanted to share. But every time I thought about sitting down and putting it all into words, it felt overwhelming.

Today, I finally decided it was time. Hearts Over Hate has continued to grow, help families, and bring people together. LuvLine has become such an important part of my life and, in many ways, my lifeline. And through all of it, we continue to wait and fight for justice for Ben.

There is a lot to catch up on, so here we go.



“Dr. Ben Harouni Hope and Healing Fund”

HOH has partnered with the Jewish Family Service of San Diego (JFS), which assists families who were victims of violent crime or domestic violence as part of the new Dr. Benjamin Harouni’s Hope and Healing Fund.

The purpose of this Fund is to provide critical short-term support to families affected by violent crimes.

The primary goals include:

1. Easing Emotional and Financial Burden – through counseling, grief management, and supportive services.
2. Temporary Housing Assistance – for families facing displacement or instability.
3. Access to Nutritious Food – ensuring families can meet basic needs during their time of grief.



YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION



Since our last update, Hearts Over Hate has continued to stand beside individuals and families whose lives have been changed by violence. Every number represents a real person, a real family, and a moment when someone needed to know they were not alone.

This is what your support makes possible:

- 44 approved cases & households
- \$90,286 approximately distributed.



STORIES OF IMPACT

Anne: After the tragic loss of her husband to violent tragedy at the hands of her friend’s son, Anne was left to navigate overwhelming grief while facing significant barriers as an undocumented survivor. Concerned that accessing government benefits could jeopardize her U Visa application, she had few safe options for support. We provided critical assistance by covering utilities and delivering nutrition support, easing her immediate financial burden during an incredibly vulnerable time. Your compassion ensured that Anne was not alone—offering stability, dignity, and the space she needed to begin healing.

Johnson Family: A grieving family received assistance with funeral and memorial expenses after the tragic loss of their young daughter in a daycare setting. In the midst of unimaginable heartbreak, this assistance helped ease an immediate financial burden at a time when the family was overwhelmed by shock, grief, and loss. Your generosity provided more than practical support; it offered compassion and dignity during one of the most painful moments a parent can endure.

1ST ANNUAL MUSIC + COMMUNITY NIGHT

SACRAMENTO, NOVEMBER 2025

Our first Sacramento community gathering, (sponsored by LuvLine) was held at SacYard Brewery, in the city where Ben was proudly raised, making the day especially meaningful to our family and Hearts Over Hate. More than 200 people came out to support us, not only through their generosity, but through their presence, their hugs, and the time they spent with all of us.



With many of our board members having deep roots in Sacramento, it was also a beautiful opportunity to reconnect with longtime family, friends, and a community that continues to surround us with so much love.

Although we did not sell tickets or charge admission, the generosity of those who attended helped us raise approximately \$3,000 to support the mission of Hearts Over Hate.



We are incredibly grateful to everyone who showed up for us, stood beside us, and reminded us of the power of community. We hope to bring everyone together again **this coming November** and continue spreading love, kindness, and hope in Ben's honor.



2ND ANNUAL FREE DENTAL CLINIC

SMILES, LOVE & COMMUNITY

Our free dental clinics continue to be one of the most meaningful ways we honor Ben's legacy — bringing together dental professionals, volunteers, and our community to provide care to those who need it most.

At our last clinic, we were able to provide free dental care to more than 30 patients, thanks to an incredible team of 4 dentists, 1 registered dental hygienist, and our wonderful volunteers who gave their time and their hearts.



This clinic was especially meaningful because we also honored Ben's 30th birthday in heaven. We celebrated him by sharing some of his favorite treats, surrounded by people who continue to help us carry his love and legacy forward.

It was bittersweet, but such a beautiful way to remember him on this milestone birthday.

It was another beautiful reminder of what can happen when a community comes together with kindness and purpose.

These are some of my favorite photos from that special day below.

SAVE THE DATE !
OUR NEXT HEARTS OVER HATE
FREE DENTAL CLINIC WILL BE ON:
FEBRUARY 28, 2027

We will once again need dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, students, and general volunteers to help make the day possible.

If you would like to volunteer, please save the date. More information will be coming soon.

One smile at a time, we continue to turn love into action.



MURDER CASE UPDATES

After nearly two years, the defendant was found competent to stand trial. Since then, however, the process has continued to be incredibly frustrating.

He fired his attorney and chose to represent himself. We have attended multiple hearings, been sent from one courtroom to another, and endured delay after delay.

Most recently, we went from El Cajon to downtown San Diego, only to learn that we would have to return back in another few weeks. The defendant has no remorse whatsoever, and in a letter to the police department, he admitted to his crime proudly.

With that said, unfortunately we are nowhere near trial for his heinous crime. We are hoping and praying for this torture to be over at some point.

I am forever in debt to those friends who continuously come and show support. Without them we would not have the strength for all this nonsense.



LUVLINE- MY LIFELINE- Ben's idea, carried forward with love



I truly cannot imagine my life without it.

What started as Ben's idea has given me a way to wake up every morning with a purpose - to continue something he believed in and to introduce his creation to people he never had the chance to meet.

In just one year, LuvLine has reached more than 35 states and 3 countries. Recently, I received an inquiry from a dentist in Santiago, Chile, interested in bringing LuvLine there.

Ben's mission continues. His love continues.

The thought of Ben's creation traveling internationally fills me with pride. His hands may not be here to carry his dream forward, but somehow, his idea continues to travel.

And with every box of LuvLine, \$1 is donated to Hearts Over Hate, allowing one part of Ben's legacy to help support another.

Last year, LuvLine sponsored HOH at our Sacramento event and this year it will do the same for our September event in LA.

HEARTS OVER HATE UPDATES

Mark your calendars and invite your friends and family to join us for an unforgettable experience that honors the triumph of Hearts over Hate.

We are excited to host a special awareness event to bring together the community. This gathering aims to foster understanding and support for what we stand for.

Please RSVP today to secure your spot, as space is limited. We are thrilled to share this special evening with you, featuring our board president, Jake Harouni, and his cousin, Andrew Manavi, who will be DJing at The Proper Hotel in Santa Monica.

HEARTS OVER HATE PRESENTS: AN EVENT FOR A CAUSE
SUNSET SOUNDS



SPONSORED BY: **LUVLINE** FLOSS

SOUNDS BY:
BASS PUEBLO + CYRUS

6-9PM | THURSDAY, SEPT 17
CALABRA ROOFTOP @ PROPER HOTEL
FREE RSVP
(\$15 SUGGESTED DONATION)
HEARTSOVERHATE.ORG | @HEARTSOVERHATE



From Grief I keep choosing love



There are moments when grief feels more overwhelming than words can say. Fifteen months ago, a medium mentioned that after two years, the pain would lessen, as he had also lost a daughter and spoke from experience. However, for me, that hasn't been true. Each day, I find myself missing Ben more deeply.

Yet, Hearts Over Hate has shown me that even in the darkest times, we still possess the power to choose what we contribute to the world.

We choose kindness. We choose compassion. We choose community.
And again and again, we choose love over hate.

Thank you to every person who has donated, volunteered, shared our story, attended an event, purchased LuvLine, or simply reached out to remind us that Ben has not been forgotten. You are helping us keep his light alive.

Be kind - first to yourself, then to others.

With love and gratitude,

Hilda & the Hearts Over Hate Family

GET INVOLVED

Donate: heartsoverhate.org

Volunteer: Email Hilda@heartsoverhate.org

Instagram: [@heartsoverhate](https://www.instagram.com/heartsoverhate)

HEARTS OVER HATE

Threads of Hope & Love

