Mrs. Stewart is a lifelong resident of Panama City, FL and a graduate of Bay High School. Hope holds degrees in communications from the University West Florida -BA '97 and Florida State University - MS '00. She began working with the planning council in May of 2004 as a planner with the RideOn commuter assistance program.

Finding unique solutions to transportation difficulties is not new to Mrs. Stewart. Growing up in a home in which both parents were visually impaired has given Hope a unique perspective to the plight of families and households with obstacles to accessing transportation.

Hope is involved in her community and volunteers time working with the youth group at Cove Baptist Church. Previous employment has included coordinating a caregiver services program for the Bay County Council on Aging and working with employee education at Gulf Coast Medical center, both in Panama City.