

NEWS FROM THE LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER

Lotus House Women's Shelter provides shelter, sanctuary and support to women and children in need. Situated in a quiet enclave in the heart of Overtown, Miami, Lotus House serves over 100 women and children daily who are homeless, whether due to domestic violence, medical or mental health issues, disabilities, loss of employment or other economic reasons. A holistic resource center and residence, Lotus House addresses the gender specific needs of homeless women with an

innovative format based on principles of education and empowerment. Women and children are permitted to live free for up to a year, in a respectful, healing environment, accessing wrap-around support services and a wide range of educational, job readiness and community resources. At Lotus House, the minds, bodies and spirits of women and children in need are nurtured and supported to empower them to improve the quality of their lives on every level,

achieve greater self-sufficiency and transition to permanent homes off the streets. For more information see lotushouseshelter.org or call us at 305-438-0556.

- Over 68,000 meals served each year
- Over 40,000 nightly shelter beds each year
- Lotus House has provided shelter, sanctuary and support to over 750 women and children since inception
- Lotus House is the proud mother to 73 newborns with more on the way
- 118 Lotus House food prep graduates, certified as safe food handlers, and counting

Become a Lotus Angel

Your support is essential to our work in empowering women most in need to build a safe, secure and better way of life for themselves and their children. By becoming a Lotus House Angel, you are providing these very special women with the tools they need to break the cycle of homelessness and assist them in becoming who they were truly meant to be. At the same time, our community blossoms with their beauty and the hope for a better future.

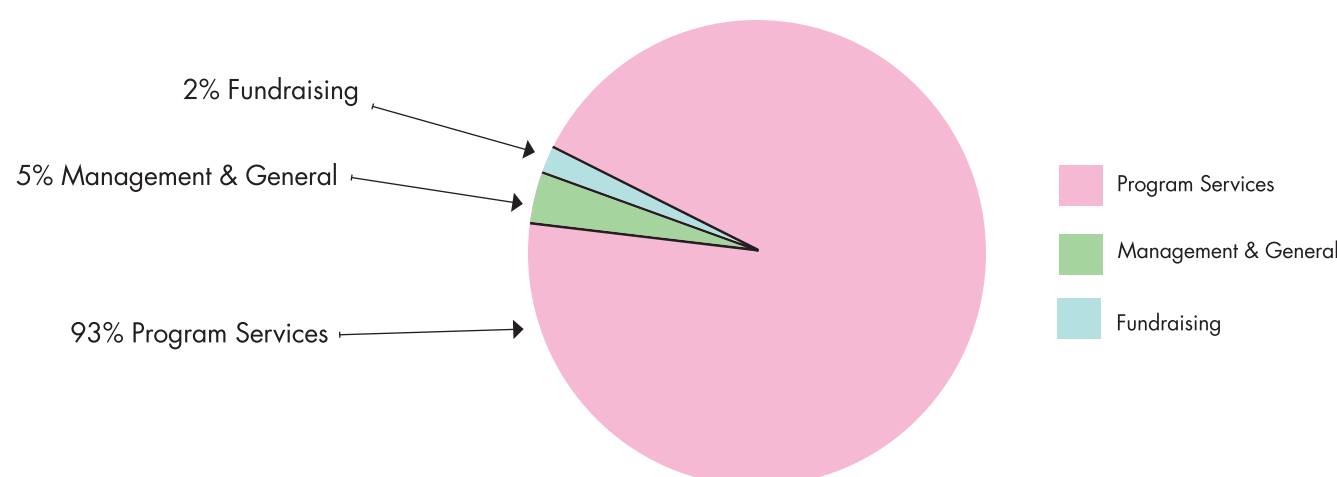
\$1,000 provides 345 healthy nutritious meals.

\$2,500 provides a wide range of job readiness and education programming through the Learning Center to women on the work path. This includes one on one coaching, computer skills classes, job search workshops, job readiness trainings, daycare and transportation assistance, access to computers, copiers, postage, fax and all necessary office supplies and study guides.

\$5,000 provides multi-faceted health and wellness programming as well as access to medical and mental health care for approximately 31 women served for an entire month through the Lotus Wellness Center, including medical and mental health care, eye care, medical labs and prescriptions, individual and group counseling and transportation assistance.

\$10,000 provides up to 36 infants and toddlers at a time, with food/formula, diapers, wipes, soap, clothing, strollers and other supplies needed, as well as daycare assistance for up to a month.

\$25,000 provides three meals a day, shelter, clothing, supplies, supportive services, full health and wellness programming, job readiness training and education programming, transportation assistance, daycare assistance, and basic operational costs for approximately 56 women and children served for a month.



THE SUNDARI FOUNDATION, INC.
CONSOLIDATED AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2010 FISCAL YEAR EXPENSES

The 2012 annual budget for Lotus House is approximately 1.4 million, allowing us to serve an estimated 250 women and children a year.

Become a Founder

The Endowment Fund was formed to secure the financial stability and long-term viability of the Sundari Foundation, so that the Lotus House Women's Shelter will serve as a resource for women and children in need for generations to come.

The Endowment Fund offers donors the opportunity to establish a memorial honoring loved ones or a legacy of service for generations of women and children in need to come. We want to recognize your gift with an appropriate naming opportunity at the Lotus House, whether a room or a wing of the shelter or one of the many gardens, lotus pond, or sitting areas, to honor you and your loved ones in a very personal way. Let us help you select a memorial or legacy that achieves your goals, through structured gifts and/or estate planning, and provides appropriate recognition for your generosity.

OUR FOUNDERS:

Legacy Founder \$1,000,000 and up
Martin Z. Margulies
The Universe

Grand Founder \$500,000 - \$999,999
Beth and Jay Lotspeich
Vivian and Rafael Morera

Sustaining Founder at \$150,000 - \$499,999
Julie and Chris Petricone

Founder at \$50,000 - \$149,999
Bank of America
Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Audre Carlin
Kathryn and David Villano
Angela Whitman
Faith Xenos



Lotus House Birthday Baby born March 1, 2012!

Donations to the endowment fund are deductible to the full extent permitted by section 501(c)(3) of the federal tax code (tax id # 92-0233563). A copy of the official registration and financial information for the endowment fund with the state of Florida may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll free (800-435-7352) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

LETTERS FROM LOTUS HOUSE

In the words of those we serve...

After years of struggle, bad relationships and drinking away my problems I found myself homeless for the third time in my life. The stresses had taken its toll and I needed to go somewhere that was safe for a pregnant woman... In [the] Miami bus station I was scared and hungry. My number one priority was food- I needed to feed the baby and keep hydrated as well. I did what many homeless do - I found the nearest church. My routine was a daily round of churches - for meals and sleep on the curb at night. Eventually I found ... Lotus House. ...The staff was friendly and full of smiles - thank goodness. ... I couldn't believe it. I felt like a huge weight had been lifted off of my shoulders. Security for a year - this was unheard of! I knew Lotus House actually wanted to make sure that I would be able to bring a healthy baby into this world. As I became more and more pregnant it became harder to ride public transportation and Lotus House provided me with rides to my doctors appointments. When my baby was born it was Lotus House that picked me up from the hospital. When I was hungry it was Lotus House that fed me. When I was sad it was Lotus House that gave me a hug. When I was scared it was Lotus House that made me feel secure. For 6 months I was in a real live heaven on earth for a women in need. When it was time for me to leave it was Lotus House that helped me with my resume - something I had been discouraged from working on for years. Today I am forever grateful to Lotus House. The love I received from the shelter is something I will hold dear for the rest of my life. I thank the universe for the kind heartedness of [staff] and pray her Shelter is an example for other shelters.

I leave Lotus House Shelter empowered; I am stronger, smarter, and wiser, humbled, appreciative, and most of all ready to stand on my own.

The Beginning

I once was lost, but now I can see. I didn't know who I was, I was hurt and full of pain, I had to do some soul searching.

When I got to Lotus House, the staff made me feel welcome and it was nothing to worry about, they had my back.

I once heard of Lotus flower, but now I know what a lotus flower is and that flower is me.

Lotus House help me believe in myself, helped me to think in a different manner and approach life in a different way.

Lotus House helped me understand that there are some things in life I can't change, to "Let life have its way"

I always like to help people and give them what I have received, when I didn't have no one I had Lotus House.

Lotus House make me feel at home, I have grow as a person and as a mother, and my job is not done, Lotus House helped me appreciate the little things in life, and to regain self esteem.

When I came to Lotus House a part of me was missing...

I am OK now

I feel strong and complete.

Lotus House will always be a part of me!

Everyday I wake up I walk over to the beach and watch the sunrise. I am grateful when I get to see my children I am grateful. there are so many things I am grateful for, but most of all I am grateful for the day I walked through the gates of Lotus House And my life totally changed for the better.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE LOTUS HOUSE FOR ALL THEIR HELP, GENEROSITY, AND LOVING CARE THAT I RECEIVED WHILE RESIDING ONSITE.

WHILE LIVING AT LOTUS HOUSE I LEARNED A LOT OF NEW THINGS ABOUT MYSELF AND HOW TO DEAL WITH OTHERS AROUND ME. THE STAFF ALWAYS TREAT YOU WITH RESPECT WHETHER YOU ARE RIGHT OR WRONG IN YOUR DEALINGS. THEY ALL SHOWED LOVE TO EVERYBODY WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION, AND AN HONEST CONCERN FOR THEIR RESIDENTS.

MANY OF THEIR GROUP STUDIES REALLY BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS. (IM QUITE SURE THEY WILL APPRECIATE THEM ONCE THEY HAVE GRADUATED BACK INTO SOCIETY. EVERYTIME I GOT A NEW ROOMMATE I ALWAYS TOLD THEM THE LOTUS HOUSE IS "THE END OF A JOURNEY AND THE START OF A NEW BEGINNING", AND THAT'S JUST WHAT IT IS, WHATEVER LEAD US TO LOTUS HOUSE PREPARES US FOR A NEW BEGINNING AND A BETTER WAY OF LIFE. THE EMPOWERING GUIDANCE LEAVES A REAL IMPRESSION ON OUR LIVES AND IT PROVES TO BE SUCCESSFUL. EVEN THOUGH I NO LONGER RESIDE AT THE LOTUS HOUSE, MY EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN A LIFE LEARNING ONE. I WISH THE LOTUS HOUSE THE BEST IN THEIR EFFORTS AND HOPE THAT THEY CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE BEST CARE FOR THE HOMELESS AND THOSE WHO MAY HAVE BEEN MISGUIDED.

While in the Lotus House I received many resources such as job assistance, legal services and much needed counseling. During my stay I worked and saved my income while I healed from my wounds. And like a new birth nine months later I became a new person. Now I can say through this long but stressful journey I have successfully transitioned into permanent housing where I currently stay with my two children and dog.

No matter what are your circumstances there is always a helping hand available. I don't know where I would have been if it weren't for the lotus house I would definitely recommend it to many woman and single mothers this is a beautiful place to help you grow.

My time at Lotus

I spent 9 months at Lotus House. The time I spent there I was able to deal with the trauma from my life and learn how to live a healthy life. I also learned how to be the best parent I can for my son. Lotus House empowered me to stand on my own!

Lotus changed my life for the better. It also changed me as a person and gave me the tools to move forward. Even now that I've moved out its great to know there is a safe place that I can go to to help me find the resources I need to solve any problem.

Thank you I am for ever grateful.

My experience at the Lotus House is one that I will never forget. When I arrived I was down on my luck. I had two small children and pregnant with one on the way. I was given the opportunity to better myself as a person, and as a mother. While at the Lotus House I was encouraged to join and participate in many activities. I also took parenting and anger management classes also an womens self prevention class. With these classes I learned so much. I also came in as a person carrying many things on my heart. When I left I was a happier person and a more caring and loving mother. I thank the Lotus House for allowing me to be a guest and welcoming me and my family with open arms. I would recommend this place to anyone that is struggling in their life and needs a second chance. Thank you, kindly, And much love.

Lotus House has helped me mind, body and soul. I had nothing, but a sliver of hope when I came here. Now, I have everything and feel I can be a productive member of society. I will forever be thankful to Lotus House. I seriously feel the whole world would be a better place if there were more Lotus Houses in this world because every one needs a little help at some point in the world. Thank you