

Our Vision Every homeless woman, youth and child will have the opportunity to heal, learn and grow, build the foundation for a brighter future, and blossom into who they are truly meant to be.

NEWS FROM THE LOTUS HOUSE

Childhood Homelessness



On any given night, an estimated 2.5 million children in America (1 in 30) sleep in emergency shelters, hotels/motels, doubled up in homes of others, cars, abandoned buildings and places unfit for habitation. The majority are under age 6, and the number continues to grow, with poverty and lack of affordable housing as the drivers. The experience of homelessness is traumatic for children, layered with negative stressors, broken school, family and community relationships, food insecurity, and dramatic changes in daily life. Young children are especially vulnerable to the negative developmental impacts caused by homelessness, behavioral and academic problems, and early psychological disorders. Many have unhealed wounds from the events leading to homelessness, as violence is a leading cause of homelessness for women. While it may be self-evident that homelessness ends with a home, there is an estimated national deficit of millions of affordable housing units for low-income families and the

safety net of emergency shelters are likewise inadequate to respond to the waves of children coming through the system. We lack a concerted, informed, coordinated and compassionate response to this crisis that places children first. We are losing a generation of children to the trauma of homelessness, a cycle destined to repeat. Innovative solutions, like Lotus Village, are needed all across our country. It is time for change. It is time to put children first!

Solutions

Lotus House is committed to ending childhood homelessness in our country. We believe housing is a basic human right and dignity for all children, as essential to their wellbeing as food, education and health care, and in times of transition, shelter with enriched protective factors is essential to breaking the cycle of childhood abuse, domestic violence, and homelessness. Research shows that early and focused interventions can minimize and even reverse the effects of early traumatic



childhood experiences. Evidence-based trauma-resolution focused therapy and strong supportive parenting skills can positively impact everything from a child's chances of high school graduation to their success in the workforce as adults. Lotus House offers child and family centered programs with wrap around support services carefully designed to promote trauma resolution and foster positive, healthy development and parenting so that mothers and children thrive together. To enhance the mental and developmental health of babies and children, Lotus House provides infant mental health assessments, child parent psychotherapy, play therapy, nurturing skills for parents, and individualized service planning. To promote trauma resolution, life skills building, and empowerment

of mothers-to-be and mothers, Lotus House provides early screenings of each woman's mental health and well-being, evidenced based, individual and group counseling, and personalized action plans, with social services supports, education and job readiness training. The coordinated, multi-faceted and wrap around support system offered by Lotus House empowers these fragile families the chance to heal, reclaim their lives, achieve greater self sufficiency and build the foundation for a brighter future. Our planned Lotus Village offers the comprehensive facilities needed to implement these life saving child and family centered solutions. Your support makes all that we do possible!



Our Impact With your support, Lotus House lifts women, youth and children out of homelessness by providing trauma-informed, holistic sanctuary, support, education, tools and resources to empower them to improve the quality of lives on every level, achieve greater self sufficiency, and build a brighter future as they transition to new homes.

95,000+
Number of Nourishing Meals Served Annually

75,000+
Number of Shelter Bed Nights Annually

250+
Number of individuals Sheltered Nightly

650+
Number of Women, Youth and Children Served Annually

128 and counting!
Newborns who will call Lotus House their First Home

2,000+
Women, Youth and Children Served to Date

Dear Lotus House Thank You Letters from Former Guests

I was laid off four months into my pregnancy, and resources were scarce. When I found out about Lotus House... I called every day until there was an open bed....

Lotus House was the greatest thing that could have possibly happened to us!!! It was the oasis, a blessing, a savior!!! It was by far some of the most challenging months of my life, BUT...for the first time in a very long time, I had support. I had a counselor, a resource coordinator, employment counselor, groups to attend, child psychologist, other guests' support, yoga classes, kids yoga classes, kids groups, an incredible staff who work around the clock with support and supplies, diapers, parties, clothes, toys, holiday gifts, random raffles/events, cake, arts and crafts, donations, donations, donations, costumes, princess dresses, princess pajamas, princess everything, astrologists, healers, bodyworkers, trainings!!! Pretty much everything! Not to mention that every guest receives brand new bedding and brand new towels! All of these things made a huge difference... especially to my daughter!

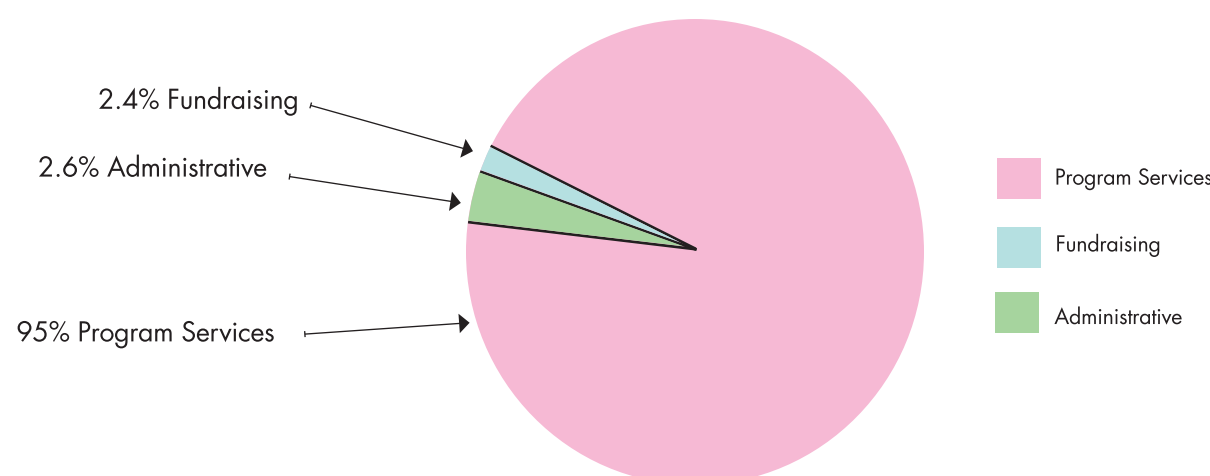
It's not easy being homeless. Not having a place to call your own, to feel at home, to keep your things. It's not easy for anyone, especially for a child. All the ways [my child] was able to enjoy herself made a huge difference. Now being out of the shelter, I can more clearly appreciate the constant Love and support of many wonderful people providing a much needed service to humanity. Thank God for all the blessings we received. To experience abundance in times of lack. Forever changed by my experience. Forever grateful. *Lotus House Mother*

When I arrived at Lotus House, my heart was broken. I had lost my home, and myself. And here, by the kindness of staff and strangers I started little by little to find myself, and my way back...I learned to stand up for myself, and ask for help when I needed it. Thank you, Lotus House, and your wonderful ladies for the kindness you showed. *Lotus House Alumni*

Lotus House is the best shelter in the world to me for women and children. I'm excited about being part of Alumni. And feel happy for the other guests that are coming behind me with the new facility that's coming. I know all their needs will be addressed, as mine. Lotus House is the best. I love all of you here. And thank you so much for being angels in my life. *Lotus House Alumni*

My time here has been amazing...everything I have done here has showed me the true side of me, how i should value myself, and how I can have hope in my life no matter what I am going through. The people here showed me love and care... and I am grateful to have these people beside me through everything. *Lotus House Alumni*

With Lotus Women Shelter, you will find respect, love and caring people who are there for any and everyone. May God bless each and every one. *Lotus House Alumni*



SUNDARI FOUNDATION, INC.
CONSOLIDATED AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2015 FISCAL YEAR EXPENSES
The 2017 annual budget for Lotus House is approximately \$4.2 Million, allowing us to serve over 650 women, youth and children each year.

Please give generously at www.lotushouse.org. Donations to Sundari Foundation, Inc. dba Lotus House are deductible to the full extent allowable under IRC 501c3 (tax id#81-0652266). A copy of the official registration and financial information (Foundation #CH17660) filed with the State of Florida may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll free 800-436-7352 within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state. Like us, fb "lotushouse"



Lotus Village Breaks Ground!

With the help of hundreds of supporters attending the Lotus Village public hearings over many months, thousands of hours spent by alumni gathering neighborhood petition signatures, and countless support letters from public officials, service providers, collaborating agencies and all of you, LOVE prevailed! And Lotus Village broke ground on September 15th amidst a sea of beautiful children and pink lotus flowers! Our heartfelt thanks to everyone for your dedication, perseverance, extraordinary support and LOVE!



Bank of America makes \$250,000 challenge grant to launch Lotus Village.



Lotus House staff LOVE the prospect of their new home creating more LOVE for generations to come!



Lotus Village

Lotus Village is a prototype for the future, a state of the art, planned, mixed-use “village” offering supportive shelter and comprehensive health and wellness facilities designed to prevent and end homelessness. The Village will be the new “home” of the Lotus House Women’s Shelter, with expanded capacity for up to 500 homeless women, youth and children on a daily basis. So much more than shelter, Lotus House offers multi-faceted wrap around support services, including trauma informed, individual and group counseling, education, job readiness training, medical and mental health care, social services, healing arts and activities to heal body, mind and spirit. Supporting Lotus House and our Overtown neighborhood, Lotus Village will include a holistic neighborhood women’s and children’s health clinic and a therapeutic children’s wellness and early learning center. In Lotus Village, we create a new model, in which shelter and services for those in need are fully integrated with the urban fabric of our neighborhood.

Lotus Village will include four residential floors to shelter women, youth and children with support service nodes and community activities rooms on every floor. Programs are tailored to the special needs of children and families, youth, elders and medically needy, and victims of violence. The ground floor offers an in-take sanctuary, working classroom kitchen and culinary program, computer library, healing hands salon, yoga and meditation room, children’s play areas, art and activities lab, children’s wellness, childcare and early learning center, health clinic, community pavilion, soothing fountains, urban garden, lotus pond and lush landscaping. It takes a village ~ Lotus Village!

Learn more about how to become a Founder of Lotus Village at www.lotusendowment.org or contact Constance Collins, Executive Director, 305-613-1573, constance@lotusendowment.org.



Lotus Village Breaks Ground September 15, 2016 ~ A Dream Come True!

BECOME A SUSTAINING FOUNDER OF LOTUS VILLAGE

As a sustaining Founder, your gift assures Lotus Village will be a resource for women, youth and children in need for generations to come. Make a pledge that is truly life changing, life saving for the most needy and fragile among us, providing a sanctuary with wrap around support services like counseling, education, job readiness training, medical and mental health care, healing arts and activities to reclaim lives and build the foundation for new lives. Please include us in your estate planning with a legacy gift to Lotus Endowment Fund, Inc.. It is a gift of life, assuring our children the promise of a brighter future.

Donations to Lotus Endowment Fund, Inc. are deductible to the full extent allowable under the Internal Revenue Code section 501c3, Tax ID# 92-0233563. A copy of the official registration and financial information (#CH26128) filed with the State of Florida may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll free 800-436-7352 within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

Thank you for caring,
thank you for making a difference!
Make Life Your Legacy!
www.lotusendowment.org

