

WELLSPRINGS VILLAGE 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

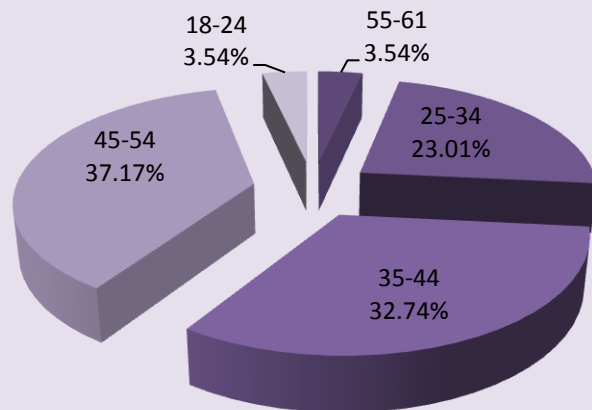
THE BOARD...

Wellsprings Village, Inc. has been blessed with members dedicated to the mission of Wellsprings, "To provide a safe, growthful environment for homeless and abused women. We seek to empower them to become economically, emotionally, self-sustaining, contributing members of society". The Executive Director of Wellsprings Village, Inc. is Valerie Beckham. The Board membership as of December 31, 2013 consisted of the following: Most Reverend Joseph Fiorenza (Honorary), Carole Updyke (President), Keith Zarker (Vice President), Tim Nolz (Treasurer), Barbara Divine (Secretary), Mary Ann Geist, Virginia Kazmierczak, Mary Lou Kelly, Sarah Austin-Morris, Randall Fleming, and Susan Clark. The board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 12:30 p.m. These meetings take place at the Wellsprings Village, Inc. administrative office. The Wellsprings Village, Inc. Advisory Board had been established at the direction of the Wellsprings Village Board of Directors. The charter members of this Advisory Board are Marilyn Arendt, Richard Dini, Ann Ellis, Larry Harris, Ray Holtzapple, Sandra Lorenzo-Horton, George Kurka Jr., Miriam Mitchell Meyers, Mike McGlothlin, Robert M. Schick, Anna Stool, Al Vacek Jr., Sergio Weitzman and Dianne Yeomans. The mailing address for Wellsprings Village, Inc. is Post Office Box 311017, Houston, Texas 77231.

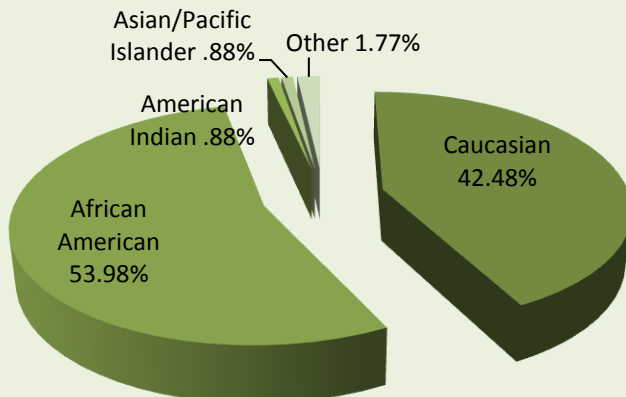
THE RESIDENTS IN 2013...

Wellsprings Village, Inc. served 113 women in the onsite transitional residence program. The residents were diverse in background, in culture, and in race, which included African-American, Caucasian, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native American. Some stayed only a short time and others needed a longer period of time.

Ages of Residents



Races of Residents



Wellspring Village provides housing and services to the homeless, abused, and distressed women of our community. Through housing assistance and supportive services, Wellsprings helps homeless and abused women make significant lifestyle changes that will allow them to rise from the ashes of despair and hopelessness to a life of productivity and self worth. Our programs provide strength, education, support and hope.

In 1988, Sister Rita Owens, O.P. and Sister Justin Farinella, O.P., answered the prayers of hundreds of homeless women in the Houston area. The Dominican Sisters founded Wellsprings and established its mission:

“To provide a safe growthful environment for homeless and abused women. We seek to empower them to become economically, self-sustaining, contributing members of society.”

They recognized that, although emergency shelters meet the immediate needs of women with nowhere to go, they do not end the destructive cycles of domestic violence, substance abuse, and poverty that led them into homelessness. Wellsprings was founded in response to the need for long term housing and services for these women.

Wellsprings has opened its doors to over one thousand women since 1988.

THE WELLSPRINGS SOLUTION...

Wellsprings offers programs that include education and life-skills training in a safe, affirming environment, giving homeless women the chance at the lives they deserve – lives of independence, self respect and freedom.

Upon entering Wellsprings, a woman is assigned a client advocate who offers continuous contact, support, and motivation during her stay. Each resident’s situation requires individualized care that directly addresses the reasons she became homeless; whether it be domestic violence, substance abuse, poverty, or combinations of these reasons.

Wellsprings offers programs for its clients that provide:

Case management;
Transportation in the form of bus passes and a van ride to/from nearby bus stops;
Clothing, personal supplies, and household supplies; and
Counseling (individual & group);
Life skills workshops.

The program requires the women to:

Engage in development and implementation of service plan goals and objectives that target education & employment;
Attend individual and/or group counseling sessions to address the root causes of their self destructive behaviors and encourage new coping skills; and
Learn life skills that emphasize time and financial management so that they can responsibly manage their daily lives.

Wellsprings considers a resident's departure a "successful exit" when they have obtained viable job skills, secured full time employment, learned to apply new life skills, and have established a savings account. Wellsprings conducts periodic Client Evaluation Surveys to assess the advantages of program services as well as to gain feedback from the resident regarding the services offered and what is most beneficial in order for them to complete the program successfully.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY WELLSPRINGS...

The Wellsprings Village is an On-Site Transitional Housing Program is a comprehensive transitional housing development project that is built on a three acre tract of land in Houston, Harris County, Texas. This location is the permanent site that provides a safe, nurturing environment for the homeless and disadvantaged women of our community. This may include women who have histories of substance abuse, domestic violence, or both, but do not have children in their immediate care. In this program, the women share living quarters and 24-hour staff remains on property to supervise the residents. There, they have constant access to the tools necessary to become self-sufficient. The aim is to help these women take charge of their lives and their futures within a twenty-four month period or less and to never again find themselves without the tools needed to obtain gainful employment and stable housing.

After completing the core requirements of the program, the women receive job-search assistance and professional development. Once they have secured full-time employment, they are required to save a portion of their income to prepare them for their transition to self-sufficiency. Upon exiting the program, our clients receive assistance locating an apartment and setting up their households.

At capacity 48 women benefit from the On-Site Transitional Housing Program.

STAFFING...

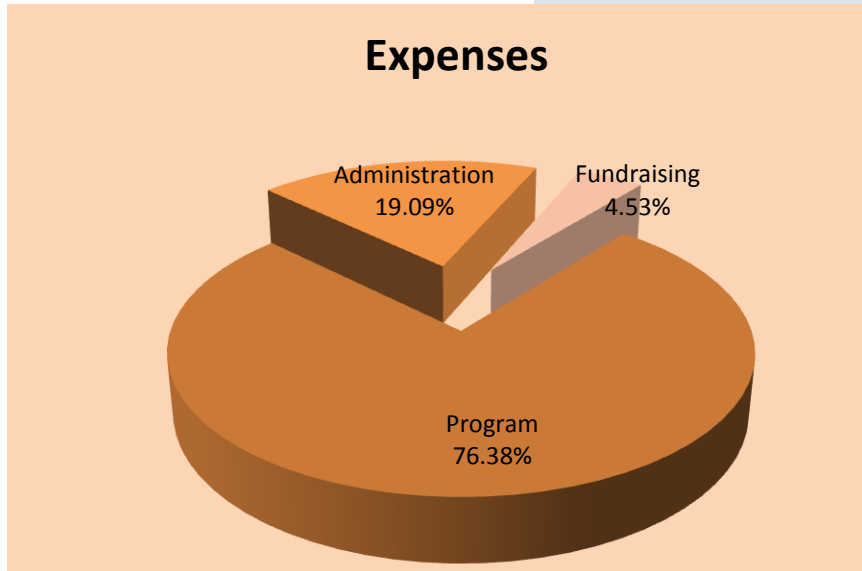
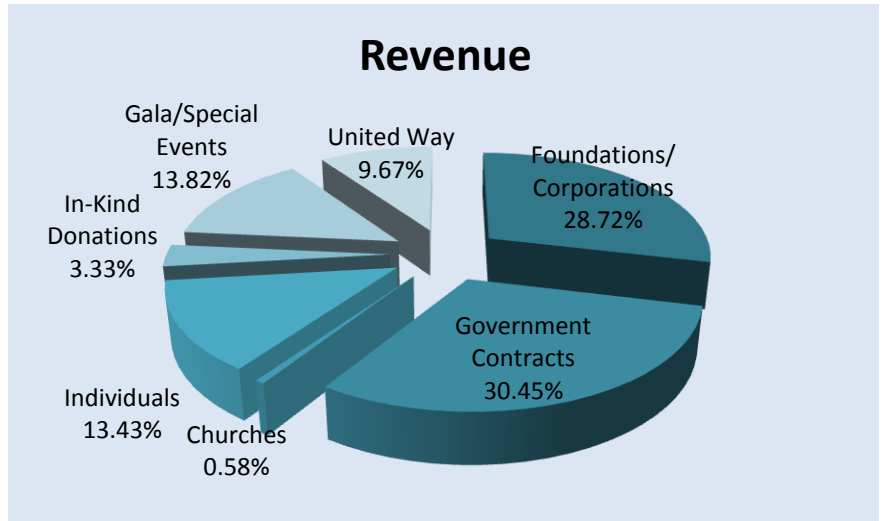
The staff as of December 2013, consisted of the following: Valerie Beckham (Executive Director), Desmond Startin (Financial Administrator), Nirra Lockhart (Client Advocate), Ann Taylor (Part-Time Client Advocate), Cheryl Pratts (Resident Coordinator), Monique Douglas (Lead Technician), Charlotte Hypolite (Part-Time Technician), Donna Lucas (Part-Time Technician), Arlene Montgomery (Part-Time Technician), Juanicia Lee (Part-Time Technician), LaToya Wesley (Part-Time Technician) and Carmen Wright (Part-Time Technician).

VOLUNTEERS...

96 unduplicated volunteers contributed 2,829 hours of service. These community members dedicated and committed to the mission of Wellsprings, provided leadership, spent many hours raising funds, and organized special events for the women. Volunteers also built a storage solution for stocking supplies given to the residents. The landscaping around the resident homes was refreshed by volunteers during the building of the storage solution.

FUNDING...

Wellsprings Village, Inc. was fortunate to receive funding from the following sources: United Way of Greater Houston, Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Child Care Council of Greater Houston, Emergency Food and Shelter Program, TDHCA, foundations, churches, individual donors and special fundraising events.



A United Way Agency



United Way of Greater Houston