



WELLSPRINGS VILLAGE 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

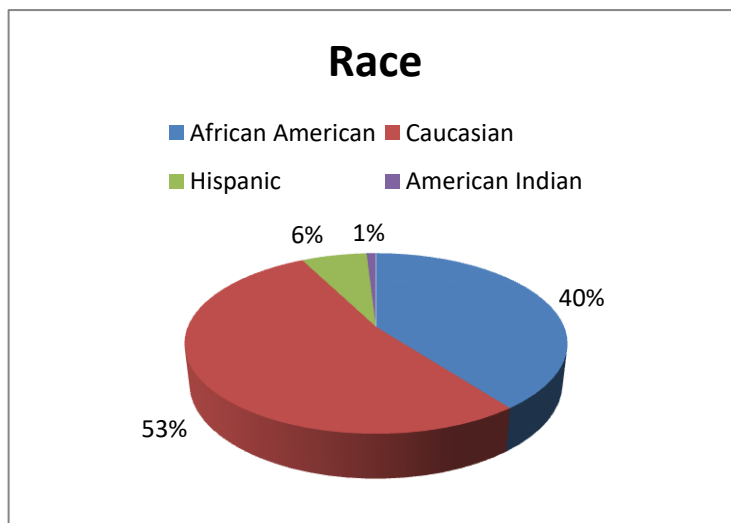
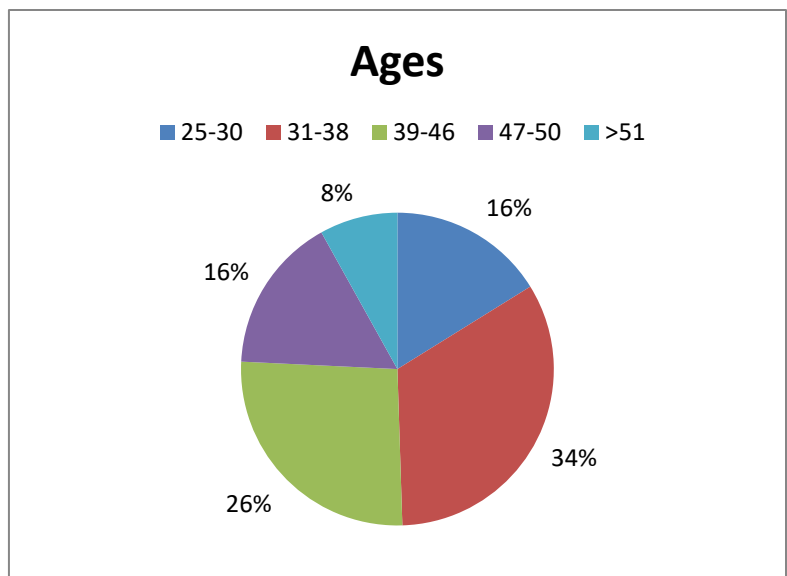
THE BOARD

Wellsprings Village, Inc. has been fortunate to have board members that are committed and dedicated to our mission to serve the homeless women in our community. During 2018, the board's membership consisted of the following members: Most Reverend Joseph Fiorenza (Honorary), Carole Updyke (President), Virginia Kazmierczak (Vice President/Secretary), William K. Rice (Treasurer), Charles Carmouche, Ervin Hughes Jr., Veril Hughes, Mary Ann Geist, Mark Janik, and Sarah Austin-Morris. Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m., at Wellsprings Village.

The mailing address for Wellsprings Village, Inc. is Post Office Box 311017, Houston, Texas 77231.

OUR RESIDENTS

Our resident population was diverse in background, culture, age and race: African-American, Hispanic, Caucasian, and American Indian residents. Wellsprings provided 10,571 bed nights to 99 women who were homeless in 2018 and 85% of those that exited our program transitioned to long-term, independent living, were gainfully employed and had saved a portion of their income.



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OUR LEGACY

Thirty-one years ago, in 1988, Sister Rita Owens, O.P. and Sister Justin Farinella, O.P., birthed the vision of Wellsprings in response to the need for stable housing and supportive services for homeless women that did not have children in their immediate care. These two courageous Dominican Sisters founded Wellsprings and established its mission:

“Wellsprings provides a safe, nurturing environment for women who were homeless or abused, helping them to become independent, contributing members of our community.”

As they researched the needs for these homeless women, they understood that while emergency shelters met the immediate needs of homeless women, it was only a short-term solution to a long-term problem. They believed that the women did not have access to adequate services, or the time needed to change the destructive cycles of domestic violence, substance abuse and poverty. Omission of these services would result in at-risk females being trapped in a cycle of homelessness. Our pioneers responded to this need by creating Wellsprings Village to address the need for long-term stable housing with supportive services.

THE WELLSPRINGS SOLUTION

Wellsprings 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 positive self-worth.

Our programs 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. Participation in our programs and services allows the women to gain strength, education, support and hope.

Wellsprings offers the following services for its residents:

- Safe, stable housing in six four-bedroom homes;
- Comprehensive case management;
- Transportation in the form of bus passes and agency van rides;
- Food, clothing, personal supplies, & household items;
- Counseling (individual & group);
- Employment readiness;
- Job skills training;
- Life skills education classes;
- Crisis intervention.

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

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All residents are required to engage in development and implementation of service plan goals and objectives that target education & employment, personal growth & development and locating permanent housing. Residents attend individual and/or group counseling sessions to address the root causes of their self-destructive behaviors and encourage new coping skills. Additionally, the residents 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 and maintained employment that pays a livable wage, have established a savings account, and learned to apply new life skills that would allow them to live independently. Wellsprings conducts periodic Resident Evaluation Surveys to assess the advantages of program services as well as to gain feedback from the residents regarding the services offered and what is most beneficial for them to complete the program successfully.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY WELLSPRINGS

Wellsprings Village is a transitional housing campus 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, and/or diagnosed mental health challenges; the women served do not have children in their immediate care.

Residents share living quarters and household chores in a gated community that is staffed 24-hours a day. Residents receive comprehensive case management services to ensure that they have on-going support to remain focused on their personal goals to become self-sufficient. Wellsprings Village provides encouragement and guidance through supportive services to help the women take charge of their lives and their future so that they will break the cycles of self-destructive behavior that have rendered them to be homeless. Residents focus on three key areas while they are in the program: education & employment, personal growth & development, and transitioning into permanent housing when they exit the program.

At capacity, 40 - 44 women benefit from housing and supportive services at Wellsprings Village.

OUR TEAM

Wellsprings Village has a dedicated team who are committed to serving the homeless women that are admitted to the program. During 2018, the following full-time employees were: Valerie Beckham (Executive Director), Nirra Lockhart (Resident Advocate), Carmen Wright (Resident Advocate & Weekend Security), Monique Douglas (Lead Resident Technician), Evelyn Brass (Resident Technician), and Aaron Blake (Security). The following staff were part-time employees during 2018: Cheryl Pratts (Resident Coordinator), Kimberly Teter (Resident Technician), & Seba Suber (Financial Administrator).

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VOLUNTEERS

During the 2018 operating year Wellsprings had 144 unduplicated volunteers that contributed over 2850 hours of service. These volunteers and community members committed their time and talents to the mission of Wellsprings by providing pro bono services, in-kind donations, leadership, fund raising and organizing special events and projects to benefit the program and its residents.

FUNDING

Wellsprings Village, Inc. was fortunate to receive funding from a variety of supporters who believe in our mission. Support was received from the following sources: Individual Donors, Foundations, Fund-raising Events, Emergency Food & Shelter Program, Churches, Groups & Corporations, and Government Grants. Wellsprings total income for 2018 was \$448,491 and total expenses were \$573,564. The ending net assets for 2018 totaled \$1,815,460.

