

WELLSPRINGS VILLAGE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR LEGACY

In 1988, Sister Rita Owens, O.P., and Sister Justin Farinella, O.P., unveiled the vision of Wellsprings. It came in response to the need for stable housing and supportive services for women who were experiencing homelessness but did not have children in their immediate care. Many were challenged in their ability to access stable housing and services that would allow them to be self-sustaining. Their goal was to create a safe place where women could take the time needed to work on the issues that contributed to their homelessness. 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."

THE WELLSPRINGS SOLUTION

Wellsprings Village directly addresses issues related to poverty and homelessness, beginning with stable housing. Using supportive services that include time management, financial literacy, life skills instruction, and mental health awareness classes, Wellsprings Village changes the trajectory of its residents' lives. Its gender-informed supportive services focus on trauma, substance abuse, and establishing new coping strategies that will help them to become productive and successful.

In 2023, Wellsprings Village provided over 20,437 bed nights for 139 women experiencing homelessness.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Wellsprings Village continued to see positive results from the Mental Health Awareness Program that was implemented in 2022. Through survey results collected from each class, 95% of the residents reported that they learned something impactful about their overall mental health. Those who had a mental health diagnosis gained a better understanding of their symptoms and medication management. Additionally, they reported that they were immediately able to apply the coping strategies they learned in class.

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In 2023, the program provided 114 life skills education and mental health awareness classes on campus. 87% of the women who exited transitional housing were employed and transitioned to independent living environments.

92% of the women who entered the program did not have any income at program entry. Bus passes provided 1,145 bus rides and 3,866 van rides were provided.

The Board

Wellsprings Village, Inc., has been fortunate to have a governing board who are committed and dedicated to its mission to serve homeless women in our community. During 2023, the board's membership consisted of the following members: Carole Updyke (President), Virginia Kazmierczak (Vice President/Secretary), William K. Rice (Treasurer), Charles Carmouche, Carla Garcia, Mary Ann Geist, Mark Janik, Brandon Jenkins, Sarah Austin-Morris, Gwendolyn Turner Juarez, and Cindy Keller Picazo. Board meetings were held via Zoom on the third Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m.

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, Caucasian, Hispanic, and Multi-Racial.





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OUR TEAM

Wellsprings Village has a dedicated team who are committed to serving the homeless women who are admitted to the program. During 2023, the following full-time employees included: Valerie Beckham (Executive Director), Nirra Lockhart (Program Liaison/Advocate), Carmen Wright (Advocate), Monique Douglas (Lead Resident Technician). The following part-time employees during 2023 included: Alicia Allen (Resident Technician), Charlotte Hypolite (Resident Technician), Lacey Harrison (Resident Technician), Latrice Kelley (Resident Technician), Kacy Mitchell (Office Admin), Cheryl Pratts (Resident Coordinator), and Paterra Warren (Resident Technician).

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are an essential component of the program! Wellsprings had 125 unduplicated volunteers who contributed 3,475 hours of service. Their service encompassed board governance, monetary support, organizing fundraisers, and special events. Additionally, volunteers engaged with residents through on-campus activities that provided support and encouragement. Residents were also invited to attend off-campus workshops and events sponsored by volunteers. Their commitment to support the program was undeniable.

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, Government Grants, Churches, Other Groups, and Corporations. Wellsprings Village total revenue for 2023 was \$498,022 and total expenses were \$530,761. The ending net assets for 2022 totaled \$1,600,213.

