



WELLSPRINGS VILLAGE, INC.

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

A Publication of Wellsprings Village, Inc.

Annual Report Issue August 2025

Honoring the Legacy of Our Founders



Sister Rita Owens, O.P.

Sister Justin Farinella, O.P



Thank you for being part of our community! In this newsletter, we bring you exciting updates, and upcoming events.

WWW.WELLSPRINGSVILLAGE.ORG



A Word From Our Executive Director

Greetings to all our Wellsprings Friends and Supporters! Can you believe that we are already halfway through 2025! I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of an organization that is committed to helping women make transformational life changes. It is rewarding to see how the program can provide opportunities to women that have a desire to change the trajectory of their lives. Many women enter the program with the bare minimum and they commit themselves to make the necessary changes that will help them to achieve great things while they are in the program.

As we ended 2024, our staff endured a tedious transition period as we tried to fill openings for full time positions. The staff truly stepped up to the plate and beyond to fill in gaps in our schedules. They tirelessly continued to work evening, overnight, and weekend shifts as we maneuvered along the way. It is truly awesome to have a great group of board members and volunteers who are dedicated to making the program a success with their time, talents,

and monetary support. We certainly could not do this work without you!

Special thanks go out to Cheryl Pratts, Monique Douglas, Charlotte Hypolite, Paterra Warren, and Latrice Kelley for showing up and making sure the program continued to operate effectively. Nirra Lockhart and Carmen Wright were previously our full time case managers and their hours were shifted to cover gaps in shifts as well. Although they were case managers, they assumed the role of Technicians when we did not have anyone in those positions. We are grateful to all staff members, that help to keep our operations running smoothly. A special shout out goes to Kacy Mitchell for increasing Wellsprings visibility on our social media platforms and for getting our newsletter up and running again!

We are finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel! We have hired two full time case managers, Erica Bennett and Alvicher Willis, and a full time resident technician, Kayla Fisher, to join our TEAM. The board of directors also welcomed

M. Theresa Baker, Shobana Muratee, and Rhonda Gideon this year. We will be sure to highlight them in our next newsletter.

We often hear the saying that "it takes a village to raise a child," and it truly has meaning beyond raising children. It takes a community of people making an effort in order to make an impact on someone's life. Together we are making that happen for the women we serve at Wellsprings Village. All of us are working together to continue to actualize the mission and vision of our beloved founders, Sr. Rita Owens and Sr. Justin Farinella.

Peace and Blessings to you all,

Valerie Beckham



2024 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 2024, Wellsprings Village provided over 12,794 bed nights for 132 women experiencing homelessness.

2024 Accomplishments

Wellsprings Village surpassed organizational goals in 2024, providing over 12,794 bed nights for 132 residents. This represented a sustained 30% growth since 2022. Most Wellsprings Village residents experienced complex barriers to financial stability and housing stability, which included previous incarceration, mental illness, and/or substance abuse. In 2024, 93% of newly enrolled residents had no financial resources, and 93% reported multiple barriers.

91% of the residents who exited the program successfully transitioned into independent living! In addition to stable housing, the program provided over 3,530 van rides to nearby locations and 1,057 bus passes that represented 846 rides. Bus passes were instrumental in the residents accessing mainstream resources, attending important appointments, job interviews, and traveling back and forth to work.



2024 Annual Report

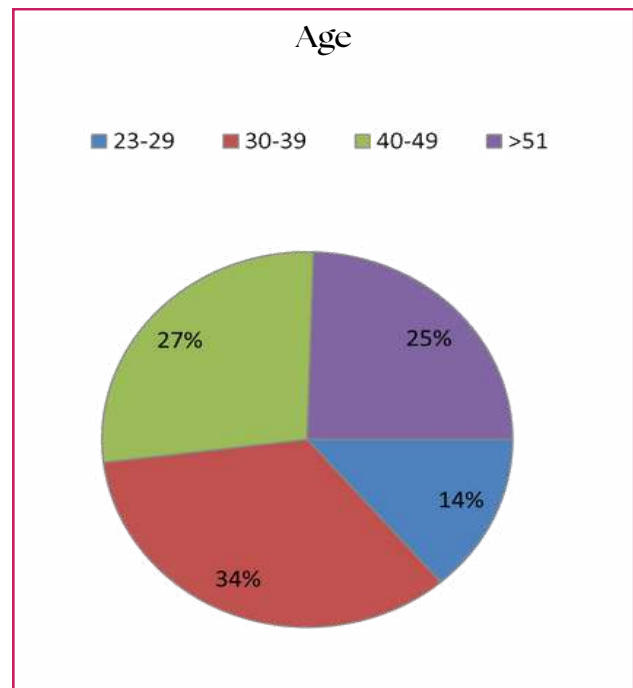
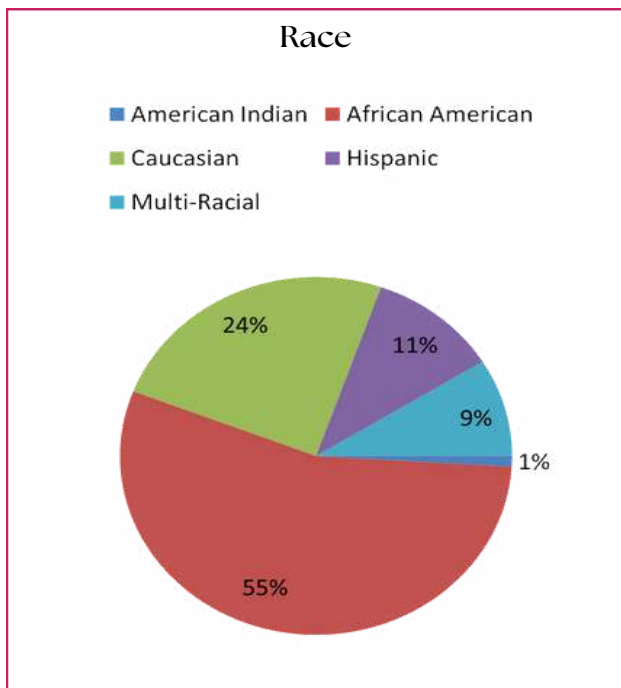
The Board

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 2024, 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.



Our Team

Wellsprings Village has a dedicated team who are committed to serving the women who are admitted to the program. During 2024, 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 2024 included: Alicia Allen (Resident Technician), Charlotte Hypolite (Resident Technician), Latrice Kelley (Resident Technician), Kacy Mitchell (Office Admin), Cheryl Pratts (Resident Coordinator), and Paterra Warren (Resident Technician).

Volunteers

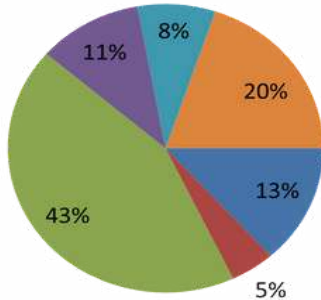
Volunteers are an essential component of the program! Wellsprings had 174 unduplicated volunteers who contributed 3,676 hours of service. Their service included board governance, monetary support, organizing fundraisers, and special events. Additionally, volunteers engaged with residents through on-campus 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 invaluable.



2024 Annual Report

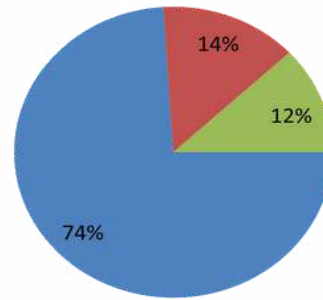
Funding Sources

■ Individuals
■ Foundations/Corp
■ Program Income
■ Churches/Groups
■ Government
■ Fundraising



Expenses

■ Program Services
■ Administration
■ Fundraising



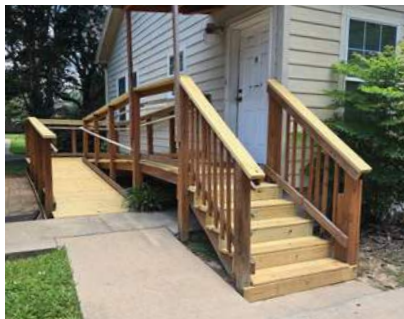
Funding

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, Fundraising Events, Government Grants, Churches, Other Groups, and Corporations. Total revenue for 2024 was \$592,185, and total expenses were \$532,925. The ending net assets for 2024 totaled \$1,576,759 includes the value of the houses and property.



Volunteer Spotlight: New Decks

Jerry Kazmierczack and his team of Habitat Volunteers from St. Laurence Catholic Church graciously volunteered their time to work on a project that really needed their expertise and attention. Thankfully, 39 volunteers volunteered 201 hours of their time to come out and rebuild the decks, railings, and steps for us. Their work was absolutely incredible, and we cannot thank them enough for their generosity.





Golf Tourney

We are thrilled to share the success of our recent charity golf tournament, where we raised an incredible \$23,700! The event brought together generous sponsors, enthusiastic players, and dedicated volunteers for a day of fun, friendly competition, and giving back.



Bel Inizio and the 5k Run

Bel Inizio is a nonprofit that helps disadvantaged women develop self-confidence and life skills through fitness and nutrition. Participants train to complete a 5K, which helps prepare them for the ultimate race — the race for a better life. This is Wellsprings second year participating in Bel Inizio's program. The name of this year's Team was Pretty W.I.N.G.S.



2025 Luncheon

This year at our 15th Annual Luncheon, we raised \$10,000! Joining us this year was our guest speaker, Michael C. Nichols, the Director of the City of Houston's Housing and Community Development. A huge thank you to everyone in attendance. We hope you enjoyed the food provided by Maggiano's Little Italy.



Please scan the QR code to make a donation and visit our social media platforms.



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Save the Date

Wine Tasting

Monday, August 11th

6:00 - 9:00pm

La Viva Cantina
2904 Northwest Freeway
Cypress, TX 77433

\$50 per person

RSVP to Wellsprings Village
713-529-6559

Gala

Saturday, November 22nd

6:00 - 10:00pm

Junior League of Houston
1811 Briar Oaks Lane
Houston, TX 77027

Stay tuned for more details!

**Wellsprings Village Inc.
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