



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 September 2022

Blessings Abound

From our Executive Director

I am always amazed but not surprised by the blessings that have been integral to Wellsprings' success. Throughout the ups and downs in this life, Wellsprings continues to be the dream in action that Sr. Rita and Sr. Justin desired.



In March 2022, in an effort to best utilize our available bed capacity, 16 beds were dedicated for emergency bed placements to expedite admissions. During the first 30 days, each woman is assessed to determine if they will be a good fit for transitional housing. Those that are not are referred to Coordinated Access at The Beacon for a housing assessment. By doing so, we were able to increase our overall occupancy capacity to over 85% and maintain occupancy at this level and higher.

We have been fortunate to welcome two new board members this year, Brandon Jenkins and Cindy Keller Picazo. We welcome their talents and expertise to the governing board and are excited to have them join our team! If you know anyone that is interested in becoming a board member or volunteer please don't hesitate to send them our way.

We wouldn't be able to provide housing and services without the commitment and generosity of our supporters and volunteers. Please know that we appreciate you more than ever as we continue the journey to serve women experiencing homelessness. Please continue to pray for Wellsprings' growth and the success of the women in the program.

Valerie Beckham

In Memoria,

It is with deepest sorrow to announce the passing of our Honorary Board Member, Most Reverend, Joseph A. Fiorenza, D.D., Archbishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. He was instrumental in helping Wellsprings get established in 1988. He was also Sister Justin's cousin. We will miss his insight and support.



Our annual Golf Tournament was a great success thanks to the generous participants who attended this year. The tournament was held on May 2nd at Quail Valley Golf Course. We had 10 teams participate. Golfers enjoyed a light breakfast and box lunch along with two fun holes sponsored by Dixon Golf, a raffle and live auction. Thank you to board member, Mark Janik, for being our auctioneer! Check out the photos and see if you recognize any of the golfers.



*As this newsletter goes to print, we wish to thank Chris Smith of **La Viva Cocina & Cantina** in Cypress for hosting our annual wine tasting party on September 19th. Without his generosity we could not have such a successful fundraiser.*

Welcome to our newest board members.

Brandon Jenkins
Bayou Bridge Capital



Cindy Picazo
Senior VP BancorpSouth Bank



Resident Testimonials

I came to Wellsprings from treatment and needed somewhere stable to live so I could try to get myself together. Wellsprings provided that and more since I've been here. The classes were helpful and my advocate helped me a lot. I'm in one of the Next Step houses and I recently got a car. I'm getting ready to leave soon and I know I'm better prepared to live independently when the time comes. TW

I exited the Wellsprings program in July, and I know if it hadn't been for the program I would not have been able to do as much as I did. I had my first job for a while and then got a better job as time went on. I reconnected with my kids and grandkids and it is a really good feeling to do that. BT

I am getting ready to leave the program and it is scary to think about being on my own. Wellsprings is a safe place for me. Individual counseling was really helpful to me and made me aware of some things with my mental health and my recovery. The staff has been supportive and encouraging with me and I really appreciate that. GM



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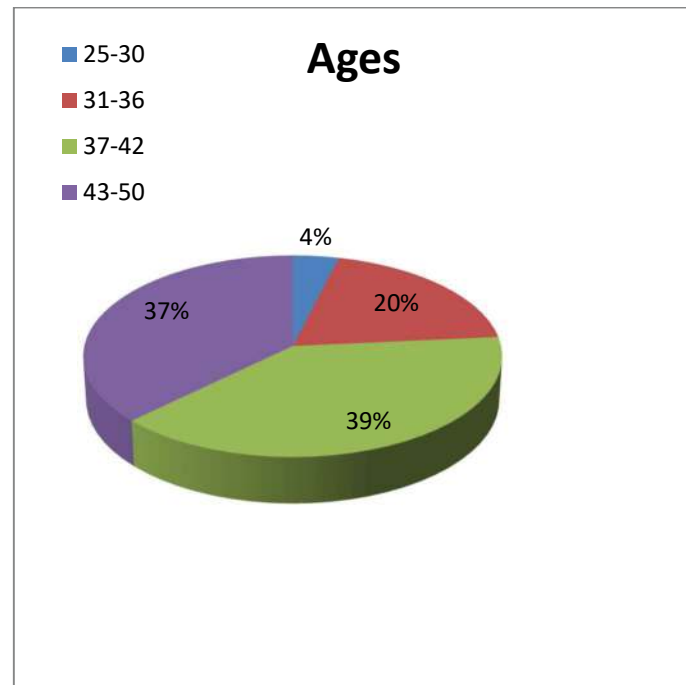
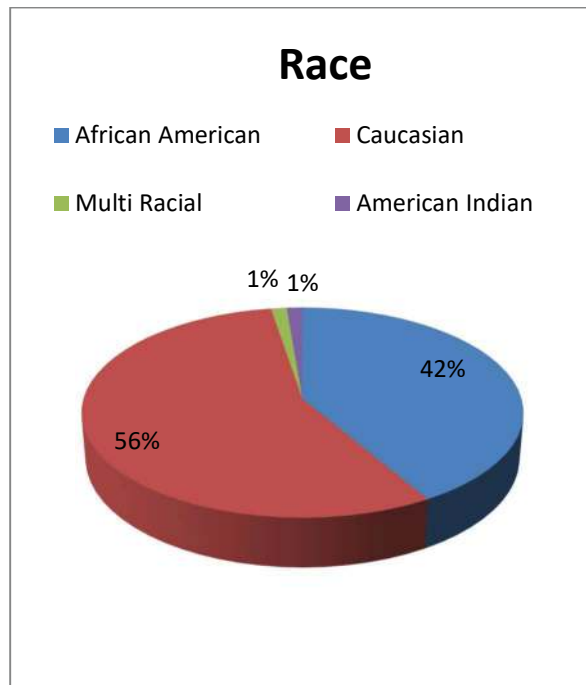
THE BOARD

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 2021, 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, Mary Ann Geist, Mark Janik, Sarah Austin-Morris, and Veril Hughes. In 2021, 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, Multi-Racial and Caucasian.



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OUR LEGACY

Over thirty four years ago, 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 that were experiencing homelessness, but did not have children in their immediate care. These women were particularly challenged in their ability to access stable housing and services that would allow them to become contributing members of their community. Their goal was to create a safe place where women could take the time needed to work on problems that plagued their lives and subsequently caused them to become homeless. 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

Through the provision of stable housing and supportive services our transitional housing program gives homeless women the chance to rebuild their lives, become economically and emotionally equipped to achieve their true potential - 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;
- Limited food and clothing;
- Toiletries & household items;
- Counseling (individual & group);
- Employment readiness;
- Life skills education classes;
- Crisis intervention.

Upon entering Wellsprings, each resident is assigned to an advocate who works in tandem with them to formulate a service plan and link them to services needed to accomplish goals identified in their service plan. Case management is a supportive service that provides continuous contact, support, and motivation to the residents while monitoring their progress in achieving their service plan goals. Each resident's situation requires plan of action is specific to their needs that directly addresses the root causes of self-destructive behavior that has led to their homelessness.

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All residents participate in the development and implementation of service plan goals and objectives that target 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 conducts periodic Resident Evaluation Surveys to assess the advantages of program services from the resident's perspective. Their feedback is instrumental in making changes or revisions relative to programmatic issues as well as to determine the benefit of the services that are offered to them.

Wellsprings Village can provide stable housing and supportive services for 40 women experiencing homelessness.

2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2021, Wellsprings provided 7,864 bed nights to 76 women who were experiencing homelessness. Wellsprings continued to regroup through the pandemic and successfully transitioned 90% of 48 that exited into independent living; this was a 13% increase from 2020. Successful exits occur when the resident has remained clean and sober, obtained and maintained employment, established a savings account, learned and applied new life skills, and incorporated coping strategies that allowed them to live self-sufficiently.

Wellsprings provided over 888 bus rides to program residents. The bus passes allowed them to search for employment, go to work, medical appointments, and to take care of other important personal business matters. In addition to bus passes, agency vehicles provided over 3,136 van rides to take the residents to and from bus stops and other locations. Wellsprings provided \$4,847 of personal supplies and household items to the residents and \$2,548 of in-kind donations that were received from our generous supporters.

OUR TEAM

Wellsprings Village has a dedicated team who are committed to serving the homeless women that are admitted to the program. During 2021, the following full-time employees included: Valerie Beckham (Executive Director), Nirra Lockhart (Program Liaison), Carmen Wright (Client Advocate), Monique Douglas (Lead Resident Technician), Alicia Allen (Resident Technician), and Aaron Blake (Security). The following part-time employees during 2021 included: Julie Brown (Financial Administrator), Felicia Waddy (Financial Administrator), Karen Gaddis (Resident Technician), Charlotte Hypolite (Resident Technician), Latrice Kelley (Resident Technician), Cheryl Pratts (Resident Coordinator), Brittany Turner (Resident Technician), and Paterra Warren (Resident Technician).

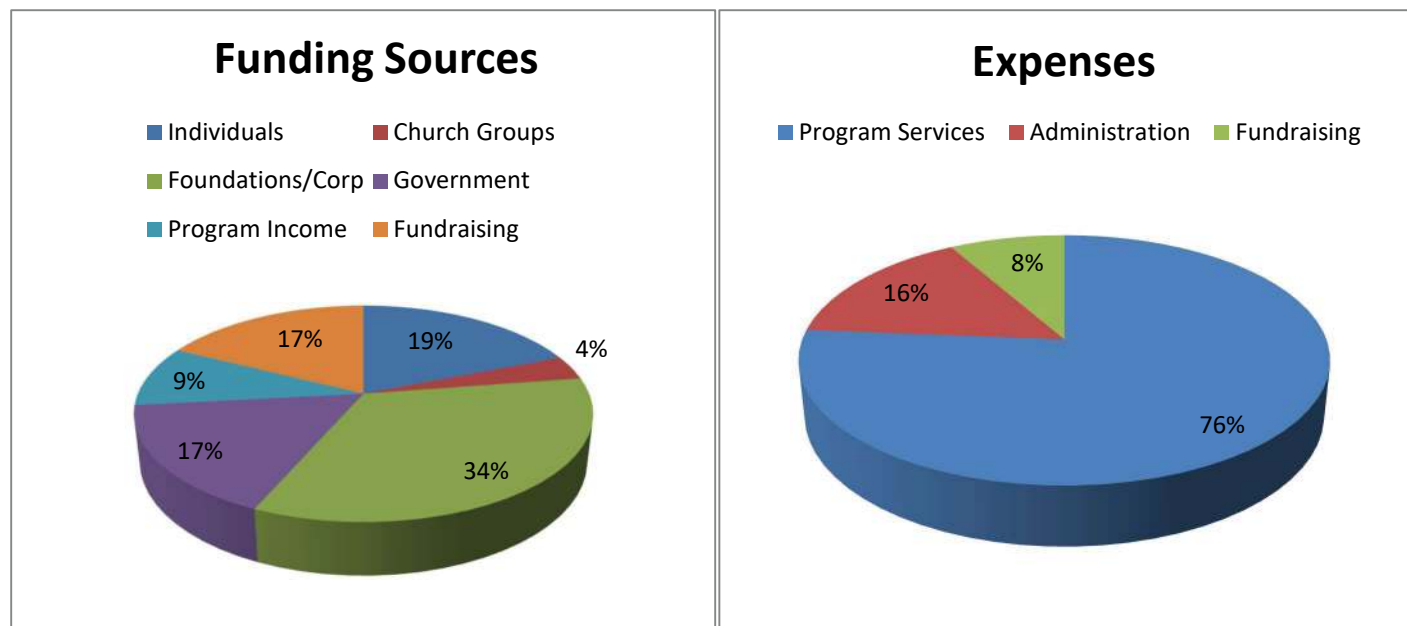
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VOLUNTEERS

Volunteerism proved to be stronger in terms of dedicated hours in 2021 versus 2020. Volunteers continued to support Wellsprings by providing ongoing governance, supplies that included masks, sanitizer, disinfectant sprays, and cleaning products to ensure the campus was safe. Wellsprings had 46 unduplicated volunteers that contributed 3,260 hours of service. These volunteers and community members committed their time and talents to the mission of Wellsprings by providing leadership, fundraising, organizing special events and projects to benefit the residents in the program.

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 total revenue for 2021 was \$435,792 and total expenses were \$515,777. The ending net assets for 2021 totaled \$1,614,852.



**January - December 2021
Individual Donor List**

Anonymous Donors
Marta Alves
Daniel & Mary Lynne Anderson
Marilyn & Ward Arendt
Margaret Ascherl
TL & Katherine Aubin
Sarah Austin Morris
Rosemary Bach
Susan G Baker
William & Bethe Baragona
Angeline Barber
Stephen & Mary Jo Barta
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Rick & Kathleen Bayles
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Philip Boudreaux
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Francis Conroy
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Roberta Court
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Marilyn Decell
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Sr. Benignus Galiano
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Mickey & Buddy Gomez
Richard & Norma Graves
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Alice Hagan
Katherine Hall
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WJ & PA Hargraves
Roslyn Harrell
Michael & Sharon Harris
David & Irene Herd
Shannon Henson
Rose Mary Hettler
Carole Hopkins
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Barbara Hutchings
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Barbara Janda
Janet Hill
Mark and Becky Janik
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Lisa Johnson
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Rev. Sunny Joseph
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John & Lorraine Kehoe
Eileen Keller
T & M Keller
Joseph Kelly
Bill & Mary Lou Kelly
Dianne Kempf
Ann Kluppel
Pat & Gilbert Koterak
George & Judith Kurka
Tom Lang
John Levett
Patricia Libero
Leonard & Florence Ligon
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Nick and Lucy Lomonte

Margaret Longnecker
John & Lorraine Loper
Norma Loreda
Sandra Lorenzo-Horton
Andrew Lubrano
Anthony & Rosalie Lucci
Thomas Mahoney
Jo Frances Manuel
Bruce & Jan Marek
L Faye Marshall
Thomas & Margaret Matchett
Donald & Jacqueline Maus
Rose Mays
Lloyd & Mary McChesny
Kathleen McDermott
Catherine McDonnell
Michael McGlothlin
Daniel McSweeney
Wesley Meyers
Frances Michulka-Macha
Robert Miller
Allan & Cathy Minar
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Jay Morelli
Kathleen Mroczkowski
Marie Novak
Sonja Novo
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Carole F Payne
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Charlotte Radvansky
Hugh & Elizabeth Raetzsch
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Aloma Revia
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Catherine & Mitchell Rotter
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Monica Smith
Kathleen Solcher
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Keith & Ruth Thayer
Brian Thiel
Emily & Noel Thomas
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David Weber
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Sally Weir
Clayton Weishuhn
Sergio & Carolina Weitzman
Jerri Workman
Kenneth & Donna Yanowski
Dianne Yeomans
Jerri Workman
Kenneth & Donna Yanowski
Dianne Yeomans

**Corporate, Church & Foundation
Donor List**

Albertsons Safeway Community Giving
Amazon Smile Foundation
Bluebonnet Deanery CCW
Cameron Foundation
Chevron Matching Employee Funds
Dominican Sisters of Houston, TX
Hamman Foundation
Kroger Community Rewards
Marek Family Foundation
John P. McGovern Foundation
The Medallion Foundation
Network for Good
New Braunfels Community Foundation
P-21 Foundation
Scanlan Foundation
Soteria Innovative Solutions
St. Laurence Catholic Parish
St. John Vianney Catholic Church
St. Paul's Methodist Foundation of Houston
Strake Foundation
Texas Mutual
The Sign Factory
Trinity United Methodist Church

Please think of Wellsprings with your company matching funds.

If you do not see your name here,

*Donor Appreciation
Picnic and Open
House*



*Sunday October 23
4 to 7 pm*

Tour the Village

Meet the Residents

*RSVP/Get directions: Ginny
Kazmierczak call or text 713-305-
9845 or email at vkaz@comcast.net*

*Bring friends who may be interest-
ed in learning what Wellsprings is
all about.*



Wellsprings Village, Inc.
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 Houston, Texas 77231-1017
 713/529-6559
 www.wellspringsvillage.org

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Save the Date

Wellsprings Village Annual Gala

Friday, November 18, 2022

Junior League
 1811 Briar Oaks Lane
 Houston



Wellsprings Village, Inc. Board of Directors

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Carole Updyke

Vice President /Secretary

Virginia Kazmierczak

Treasurer

Bill Rice

Sarah Austin-Morris Charles Carmouche
 Mary Ann Geist Mark Janik
 Brandon Jenkins Cindy Keller Picazo

Executive Director

Valerie Beckham

Advisory Board

Marilyn Arendt Ann Ellis
 Larry Harris Mary Lou Kelly
 George (Joe) Kurka, Jr.
 Miriam Mitchell Meyers Tim Nolz
 Sonja Novo Anna Stool Al Vacek, Jr.
 Sergio Weitzman Dianne Yeomans



Use your Kroger Plus card to help Wellsprings Village.
 You will no longer have to tie it to the card every year.
 Once you set it this time you are done!
 Visit **KrogerCommunityRewards.com**. Sign in to your
 account or create one, find our organization, our number
 is: **81686**. Every time you shop, Kroger donates.