



IMPACT REPORT

2023-2024



A Message from our Chief Executive Officer

As we navigate the intricate tapestry of our lives, it's easy to get caught up in the whirlwind of daily responsibilities. Yet, it's in these moments that we often find ourselves yearning for a deeper sense of connection, purpose, and impact. This is where your incredible support comes into play.

At Home of the Sparrow, we embrace the power of our collective empathy, emotions, and beliefs and use them to create meaningful change. Our Vision Statement and Guiding Principles define our mission and inspire us to do the most we can for the women and children in our community who are experiencing housing insecurity.

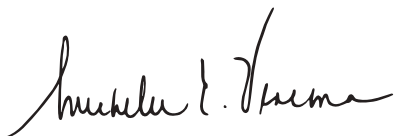
The principle that resonates the most with me is **collaboration**. I know we can't be as successful – and provide the services that are so desperately needed – alone. Donors and volunteers fuel our mission and give us hope that one day our services will no longer be needed – that everyone in Chester County will have safe, affordable housing. Until then, it is a joy and a privilege to partner with you to work towards this common goal.

Buoyed by your generosity, our small staff can and did accomplish amazing things this fiscal year. It is my pleasure to recognize, in this Impact Report, the contributions of over 1,200 donors who supported us with cash contributions, gifts-in-kind, and volunteer time that allowed us to assist 401 women and 540 children.

Together, we prevented evictions, helped women successfully reintegrate into our community, paid supportive rent to landlords, housed vulnerable seniors, provided entry money to move families into new housing, provided gift cards for fuel and groceries, taught valuable budgeting skills, made warm connections to collaborating agencies who provide additional resources and safety nets, facilitated access to mental health care services, and helped our women increase incomes and decrease expenses. All these things and so many more – kept women and their children housed so they never had to experience the trauma of homelessness.

Thank you for being a beacon of hope and a source of joy and empathy in our shared mission. Your continued support not only helps us change lives for the better, but also inspires others to make a difference.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Michelle E. Venema
Chief Executive Officer

VISION STATEMENT

Believing all individuals deserve safe, affordable housing, our vision is a future where all women have access to the tools, resources, and services they need to lead hopeful, independent and productive lives.

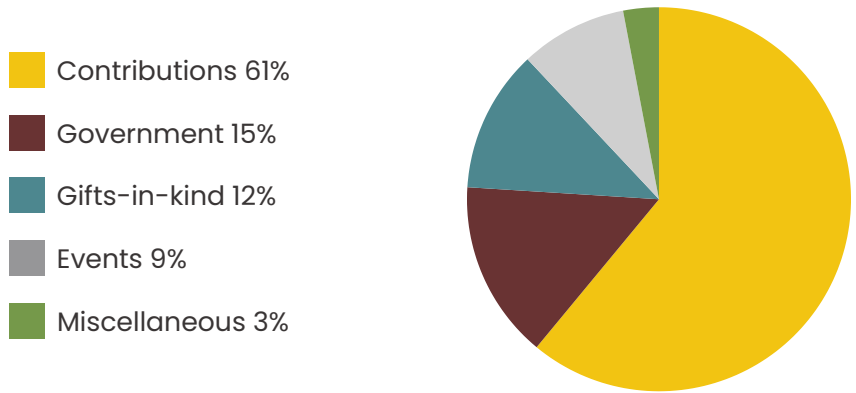
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Resiliency:** We build women's strength, confidence, and life skills to put them in control of their lives and improve their ability to independently overcome future challenges.
- **Respect:** We serve and lead with warmth and compassion, meeting women where they are, without judgement.
- **Collaboration:** We collaborate with organizations, donors, funders, and the people we serve, to leverage resources and opportunities that result in positive change and growth.
- **Adaptability:** We maintain a funding and operational model that allows us to develop and incorporate new ideas that achieve impactful outcomes for our communities.
- **Forward-Thinking:** Never satisfied with the status quo, we proactively think about what is next for the people we serve and for our organization.
- **Transparency:** We operate with honesty and integrity in all matters.

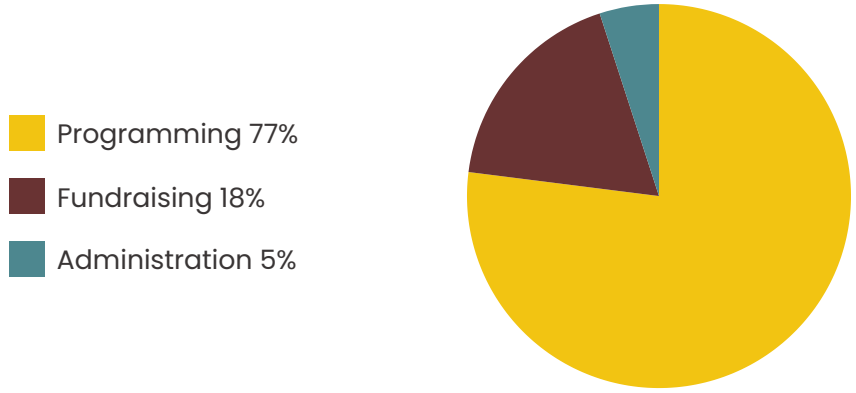
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

TOTAL ASSETS **\$2,248,996**
TOTAL LIABILITIES **\$90,406**
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS **\$1,629,347**

INCOME BY TYPE



EXPENSE BY TYPE



GIFT-IN-KIND IMPACT

July 2023 through June 2024

Back-to-School Supplies
• 115 children and 70 families
• 45 donors and 34 volunteers
Value: \$8,625



Winter Coats
• 190 coats
• 72 families and 19 women
• 45 donors
Value: \$9,500



Holiday Gifts and Party
• 87 families and 152 children
• 100 donors and 25 Volunteers
Value: \$27,000



ADDITIONAL GIFTS-IN-KIND

• 303 gifts from 257 donors
Value: \$145,822

VOLUNTEER IMPACT

• 263 activities and 111 volunteers
1,377 hours donated



Our Why...

Chester County is a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family. However, the cost of living is high for “ALICE” – women who are **A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, and **E**mployed – they often do not earn a wage that enables them to achieve a sustainable budget.

AVERAGE EXPENSES FOR A MOTHER WITH ONE CHILD IN CHESTER COUNTY*		
	Monthly	Annual
Food	\$607	\$7,290
Child care	\$1,375	\$16,500
Medical insurance premium, out-of-pocket costs	\$842	\$10,110
Rent, two bedroom apartment	\$2,023	\$24,277
Transportation	\$1,041	\$12,487
Utilities, clothing, internet, etc.	\$1,225	\$14,702
Required income after taxes to meet expenses**	\$7,113	\$85,366
Average income of an HOS program participant	\$2,773	\$33,280
GAP	\$4,340	\$52,086

* <https://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/42029>, last updated on 2/14/2024.

** This budget does not allow for savings, retirement or other long-term financial investments.

...NEARLY ALL HOS PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS WORK FULL-TIME AND EARN ABOUT \$16 PER HOUR.

Even at twice the minimum wage (\$7.25) there is an alarming gap between expenses and income that can result in homelessness and lifelong trauma.

With support from donors, we can help bridge this gap and help women work towards self-sufficiency. In addition to providing direct payments to landlords and vendors, our case management practices help women:

- Develop money management skills.
- Identify higher wage opportunities.
- Reduce debt and expenses.
- Gain swift access to mental health services for them and their children.
- Connect with other services and benefits to help them make ends meet.

Your incredible support changes lives!



Your Impact ...

Thank you for supporting 401 women and 540 children during our 2024 fiscal year!



Supportive Housing

18 Women

37 Children

RENTAL ASSISTANCE AND CASE MANAGEMENT FOR 3 TO 30 MONTHS

Eviction Prevention

94 Women

128 Children

EMERGENCY PAYMENTS TO LANDLORDS TO STOP AN EVICTION



Pre-Senior Bridge Housing

15 Women

HOUSING AND RENTAL ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE WAITING FOR A HOUSING VOUCHER

Shared Housing

10 Women

MATCHING HOMEOWNERS WHO HAVE ROOMS TO RENT WITH WOMEN SEEKING AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS



Graduate Outreach

99 Women

181 Children

AFTER PROGRAM COMPLETION, HOME OF THE SPARROW ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

WRAP

160 Women

189 Children

SERVICES FOR WOMEN REENTERING THE COMMUNITY AFTER INCARCERATION

Supporters, Donors and Volunteers

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A & E Clothing Corporation
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Jerry Abdalla
Karan Abdalla-Oliver
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In Memory of Kim Zachary

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of this list. It is intended to recognize support received between 7/1/2023 and 6/30/2024.

We sincerely regret any errors or omissions and encourage you to contact us so that we may correct our records. Thank you!

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OUR MISSION

Home of the Sparrow's mission is to partner with women facing homelessness to secure housing and achieve long-term stability.

VOLUNTEER & GIFT-IN-KIND OPPORTUNITIES

Please contact Geisa O'Reilly Corbitt at gcorbitt@homeofthesparrow.org.
www.homeofthesparrow.org/volunteer

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HOS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law. EIN 23-2775004.



Our inaugural golf outing was so much fun! Join us on June 2, 2025 at Waynesborough Country Club for another great day on the links to support the women and children we serve!

Photo credit: Gary Altoonian Photography



Walk for Women is fast becoming a beloved community event! Join us on June 21, 2025 for our 3rd annual walk featuring face painting, balloon animals, music, and a chance to learn more about our mission.



TO MAKE A DONATION

Phone: 610-647-4940

Mail: Checks made payable to: Home of the Sparrow, 969 East Swedesford Rd Exton, PA 19341

Online: Scan the QR code or visit www.homeofthesparrow.org

Giving envelope: Enclosed

For more information and giving assistance: Contact Kathleen Sanger at 610-647-4940 and ksanger@homeofthesparrow.org

Designed by Ryan Gray