



THE WELLHOUSE
RESTORATION REPORT

2019 - A Year in Review



RESTORATION REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Allan Worthington



WellHouse Supporters,

I am truly humbled to write this letter and share my thoughts with you. Being a part of The WellHouse has been one of the more amazing chapters in the lives of my wife Nancy and me. Six years ago, God called us to get involved with an emerging sex trafficking ministry. How could we have known that God would call so many to come along beside us as staff, volunteers, and the most amazing financial donors?

In the beginning, I recall we had a budget of around \$325,000, and you were there to support these traumatized women. Today, our budget is approaching \$1.5 million and you are still there encouraging the residents, staff, and board with your incredible generosity and faithfulness to what you have been called to do. We have people who have faithfully supported The WellHouse since the beginning with a biweekly gift, which just overwhelms me. We also have many donors who have made major substantial gifts and sacrificial gifts that have so benefited the quality and levels of care we provide. We are so incredibly grateful for each one of you.

Because of your generosity, we have the best staff in the country. In fact, most anyone will tell you that The WellHouse is the undisputed leader in providing faith-based rescue followed by long-term care for victims of sex trafficking. It is The WellHouse who is developing a curriculum for every aspect of dealing with trafficked victims. All of this is possible because of you, and it will continue because of your calling to help us in the years to come.

So, thank you for your continued faithfulness and for your hearts for the survivors we serve.

ALLAN WORTHINGTON
Chairman of the Board

"The WellHouse is the undisputed leader in providing faith-based rescue followed by long-term care for victims of sex trafficking. All of this is possible because of you."

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Carolyn Potter



WellHouse Supporters,

As I reflect on the ten years of existence of The WellHouse since it was incorporated and received its non-profit status, I am truly amazed and grateful. While The WellHouse has existed for ten years, the phenomenal growth I've witnessed over the past five years can only be described as a God-sized miracle. I have often expressed that it is a privilege to serve at The WellHouse, and indeed it is! I am honored to almost daily walk beside survivors of human trafficking whose resilience in the face of the most egregious of evils, often beginning in childhood, defies all logic and imagination. But, here they are, seeking a new normal and healing from lifelong atrocities. And, The WellHouse is privileged to provide for them because of God's gracious provision through those of you who are reading this report!

You have chosen to step away from conventional giving and support an organization whose mission involves work that, a few years ago, most did not even know was needed. Because of your kindness, in record time, The WellHouse has become a leader both locally, statewide and nationally. In fact, most organizations similar to The WellHouse offer an average of 6-8 beds at a time when The WellHouse offers 40 beds! In addition, the level of comprehensive services offered at The WellHouse is incredible, and the results are unmatched! All because, you—our supporters—care!

Please enjoy this report and join us in our gratitude to God for these amazing blessings.

Thank you so very much. We look forward to what the next ten years will bring, and trust you will continue this journey with The WellHouse!

CAROLYN POTTER
Chief Executive Officer

"While The WellHouse has existed for 10 years, the phenomenal growth I've witnessed over the past five years can only be described as a God-sized miracle."

HANNAH'S SURVIVOR STORY

Name has been changed to protect the survivor

Hannah came from a seemingly "normal" family. Her grandfather was a preacher, and her name was inspired by a Biblical figure, but things were not what they seemed. Growing up, she dealt with ongoing sexual harassment and "culture grooming." Hannah became a mom at age 16. After high school, she had little options to support herself and turned to night club dancing. This is where her trafficking story begins.

Working at the night club, Hannah began hanging out with an unsafe, rebellious crowd. Around this time, Hannah lost custody of her son and consequently started using recreational drugs to cope with that loss.

Hannah was invited to go to Texas and work at a different club by a man in this group. Hannah accepted the offer. In Texas, the man took Hannah to a bondsman's office and tried to sell her off to pay off his bond. His offer was rejected, and the man left Hannah stranded at a nearby motel.

Alone and crying, a woman tried to comfort Hannah. The woman herself was in an unsafe situation. Her partner later showed up—enraged by her act of kindness—and beat the woman in front of Hannah. Hannah tried to scream for help and was able to escape, when two teenage girls at the motel ushered her into their room. They offered to let her spend the night in their room for safety, and she did.

When she woke up the next morning, Hannah had over 300 text messages on her phone. The two girls, who were living in the motel with their mother and a sex trafficker, took compromising photos of Hannah and posted a sex ad online. The texts were from potential buyers.

The girls told Hannah that she would work to pay them back for the overnight stay, which she did. When they were through with her, they sold Hannah to another trafficker. From there, Hannah found herself trapped in a life of sexual exploitation.

In "the life," Hannah worked every day from 7 a.m. to midnight—or longer—in order to meet a demanding quota. She was forced by her trafficker to wear a choker as a sign of ownership. She walked the streets and responded to online ads, to be sold for sex, never keeping the money she made. Hannah remembered a major thoroughfare in Houston, Texas, known for trafficking, where she was often sold: Bissonnet Street.



"Cars would come down this street, like a drive-through, and pick up girls for sex," said Hannah.

The road is known locally as the "Bissonnet Track." The *Houston Chronicle* reports that tenants a few blocks away have reported to building managers they've seen strangers having sex outside their doorways, in their complex's laundry room and inside Range Rovers in the gated parking lot.

After months of slavery, and sexual trauma, Hannah was rescued. Her mother found her, and got her to a safe place. Hannah connected with a mentor who introduced her to The WellHouse. It was here, where Hannah found healing, love, and a new way of life.

It was at The WellHouse where Hannah came to know Jesus fully for the first time. She now knows He accepts her, and calls her "my daughter, my beloved."

Hannah is now a graduate of The WellHouse program. She is making progress toward regaining custody of her son, and she's working toward her bright future ahead. ♦

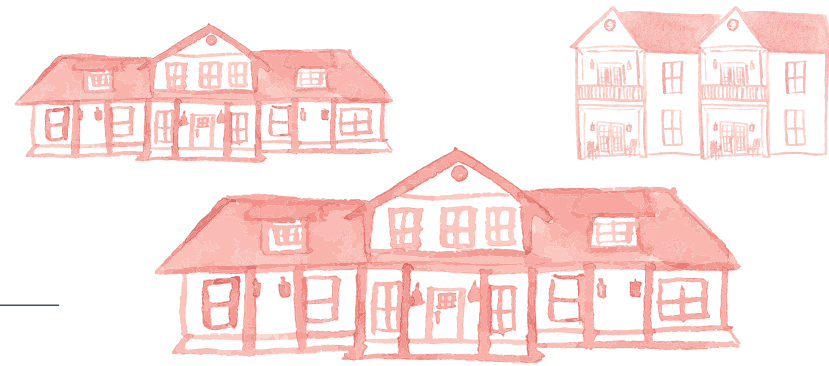
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The WellHouse has helped me understand how to be stable and have a stable mentality. It has taught me about responsibility, through having a job and owning a car and apartment. It has shown me God's intentions for my life. During my time at The WellHouse, I made the decision to know God, and know Him intimately."

"My goal is to finish college, and then speak publicly at schools, churches, and other places to spread awareness [about trafficking]. I want to be the person that helps other young girls out of the situation I was in. One day, I would love to start my own WellHouse-like program in another part of the county."

- Hannah





WHAT WE DO

Established 2010

THE WELLHOUSE OFFERINGS

Mission

We exist to honor God by rescuing and providing opportunities for restoration to female victims of human trafficking who have been sexually exploited.

Purpose

We provide residential, therapeutic programs to female victims of human trafficking who have been sexually exploited, offering medical, spiritual, mental, and emotional care. We welcome women and girls of all ages, and mothers with their children. Regardless of race, color, creed, or religion, survivors in pain can be assured they will find love and acceptance at The WellHouse.

IN 2019...

12,948
NIGHTS
OF SAFETY

55
VICTIMS RESCUED
WHO ENTERED
PROGRAM

250+
CRISIS
CALLS



RESCUE & RESPOND

- Rescue through our 24-hour crisis call line
- Partner with FBI, Homeland Security, and local law enforcement to respond to crisis calls
- Accept referrals from street outreach partners, hospitals, shelters, and more



SHELTER & STABILIZE

- Provide emergency shelter and stabilization in our Trauma Center
- Administer complete medical care and daily therapy
- Welcome victims into a retreat of calm, safety, and rest



HEAL & RECOVER

- Shelter survivors for up to four months in our short-term home, The Immediate Shelter
- Provide food, clothing, and medical care
- Assist in regaining identification
- Offer individual and group therapy, opportunities for spiritual growth, substance abuse recovery, art therapy, work therapy, and equine therapy
- Facilitate community relationship building and bonding with others



RESTORE & EQUIP

- Accommodate survivors for up to 12 months in our long-term program, Next Steps to Freedom
- Equip with job skills and employability
- Assist with educational goals: GED, college
- Provide transportation and help to obtain vehicles
- Offer life skills classes including financial literacy, cooking, group exercise, and more
- Continue all therapy programs



STRENGTHEN & PROPEL

- Supply graduates with a transitional living program, Next Steps to Independence
- Secure graduates in full time employment
- Help to find safe, sustainable, permanent housing for graduates after exiting
- Offer ongoing counseling and case management

IMPACTFUL MOMENTS

At The WellHouse in 2019

Twenty Nineteen was a pivotal year for The WellHouse. We opened a new facility to provide a better level of care for trafficking survivors, and a transitional next step to independence. We saw a significant improvement in the health of our residents with unprecedented offerings of on-campus medical care. We also launched our first phase of services to victims under the age of eighteen, WellHouse Child.

1 TRAUMA CENTER

The Trauma Center is a place of safety, stabilization and support for our newest residents. Here, a survivor receives daily therapy, assessment and one-on-one care from dedicated staff, preparing them for a smooth transition into regular WellHouse programming.



2 NSI TRANSITIONAL LIVING APARTMENTS

Next Steps to Independence is a transitional living opportunity for WellHouse Graduates. Our apartment homes offer a way for women to live, work and confidently move forward while remaining a treasured part of the WellHouse community.



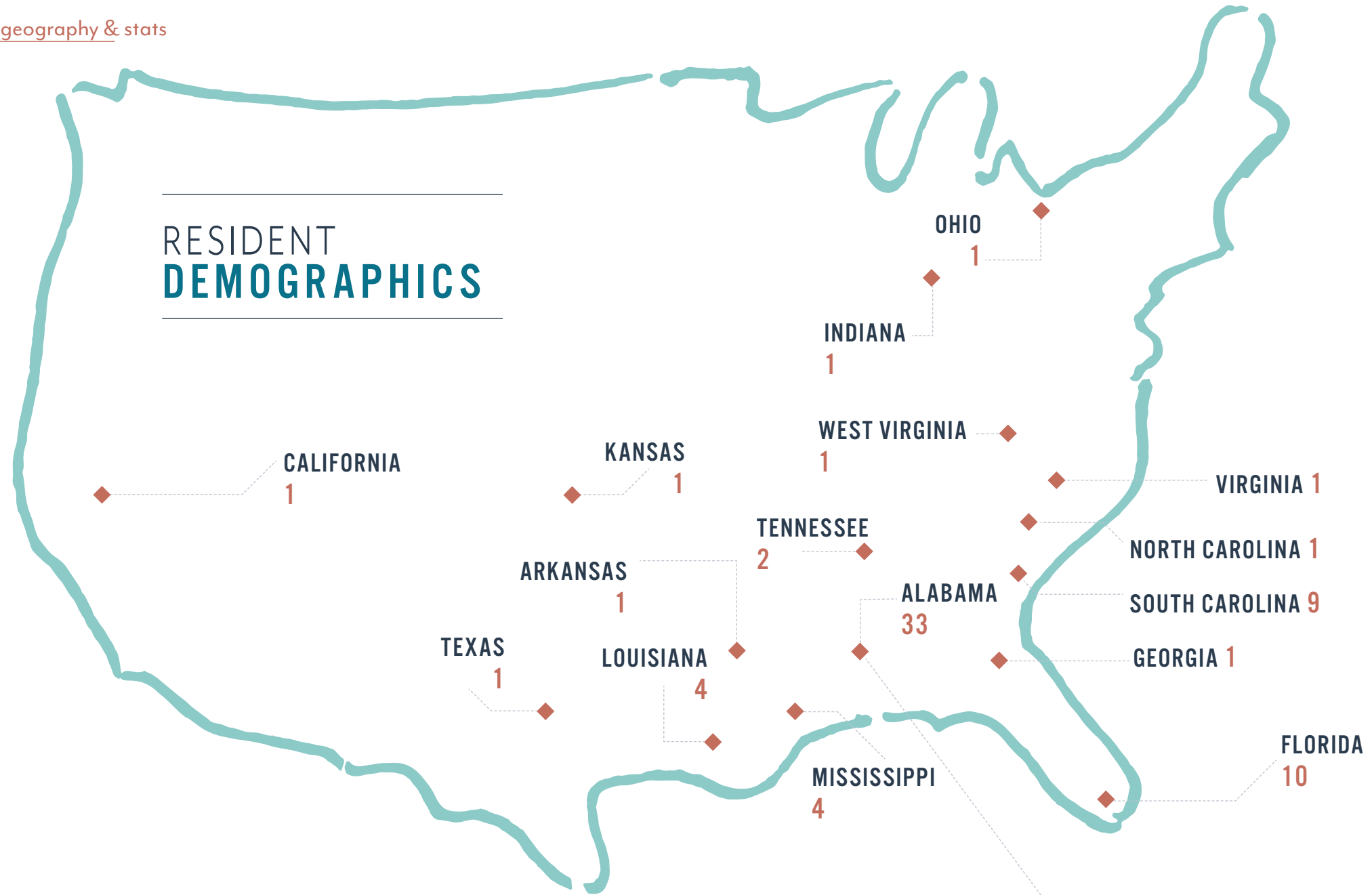
3 ON-SITE MEDICAL CLINIC

The WellHouse is the only known residential facility in the U.S. that has an onsite medical clinic specifically for survivors of sex trafficking. Through our partnership with University of Alabama at Birmingham, our residents are receiving unparalleled levels of care.

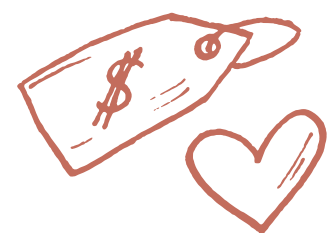


4 WELLHOUSE CHILD

This new initiative of WellHouse programming specifically serves victims of human trafficking under the age of 18. Through our partnerships with law enforcement and victim service organizations, WellHouse Child is currently providing case management support to 7 children. The crime is real. The need is clear.



RESIDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

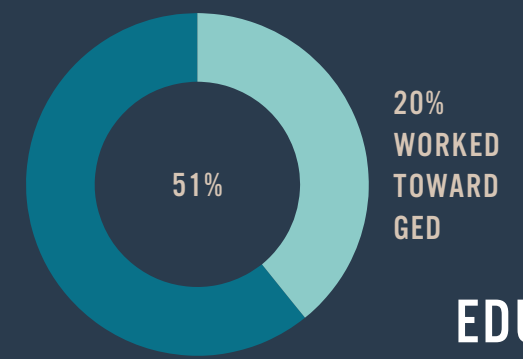
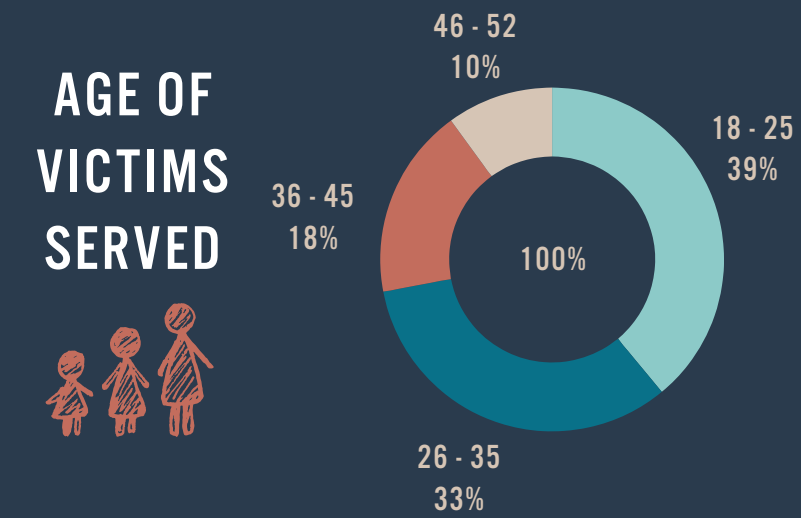
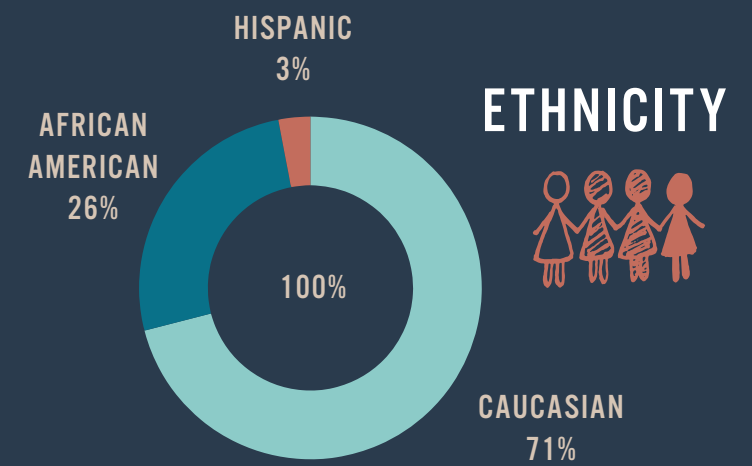


In 2019, more calls to Polaris' National Rescue Hotline came from southeastern states than anywhere else in the U.S. The WellHouse rescues victims from all over the U.S. and abroad, with a concentration in the Southeast.

73 
TOTAL RESIDENTS SERVED

Birmingham has been identified as one of six major hubs in the south for human trafficking. Commercial sex is estimated to be a \$110 million industry in the Birmingham metropolitan area. Part of that is due to the proximity to Atlanta. The 140-mile stretch between Birmingham and Atlanta is often dubbed the sex trafficking super-highway.

Source: Department of Homeland Security



EDUCATION PROGRESS



OUR IMPACT

2019 Stats

The WellHouse is rooted in the compassion and love of the Christian faith and is dedicated to best practices as defined by the trauma informed care model. We are person-centered in our approach to serving needs of survivors of human trafficking who become a part of The WellHouse family. Through the empowerment provided in this unique approach, broken lives have experienced life changing transformation.

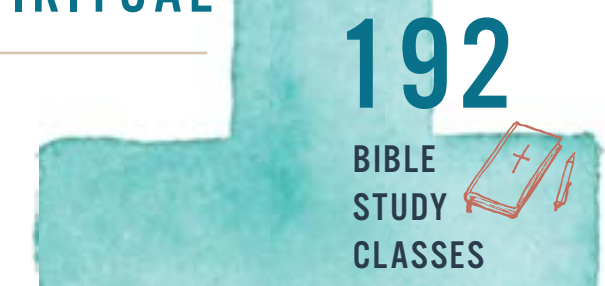
MEDICAL



EDUCATION AND JOB SKILLS



SPIRITUAL



THERAPEUTIC



LIFE SKILLS



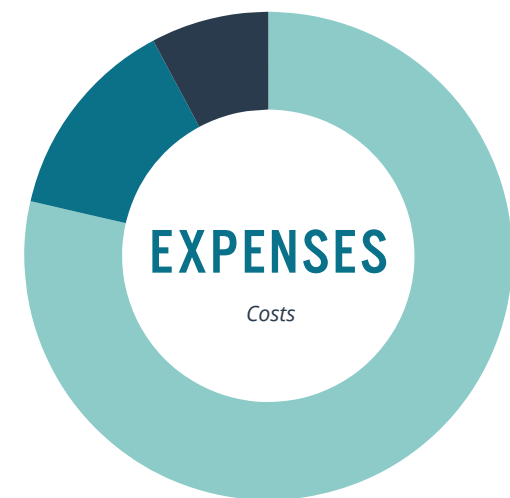
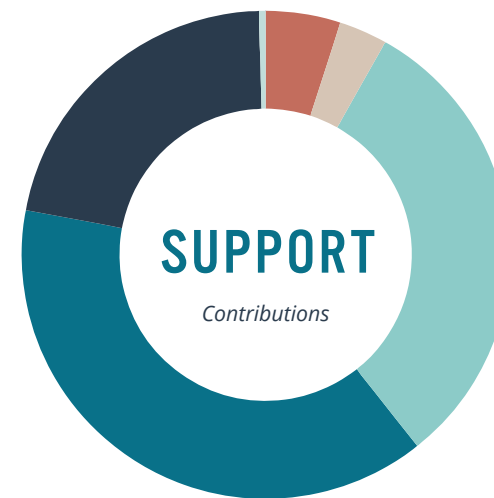
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I wish donors had the opportunity to witness what we see every day. To hear a woman tell you she has not slept for days because she was afraid to close her eyes, and now that fear is gone! I want our supporters to know: You are making a difference in the lives of the girls at The WellHouse. You are part of the mission!"

- Marlie, WellHouse Staff

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2019 Financials



- 39% Individuals
- 31% Foundations and Grants
- 21.5% Capital Campaigns 2016, 2018
- 5% Church Mission Partners
- 3% Corporations
- .5% Miscellaneous
- 78.6% Programs
- 13.6% Administrative
- 7.8% Development

TOTAL SUPPORT* **\$2,678,500**

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$1,340,300**

*A percentage of the total support received in 2019 was allocated to 2020 operations as well as to Capital Campaign payments.

The gift of giving is always a blessing, but giving to The WellHouse allows us to SAVE lives. It provides a warm bed and meal, a safe place where women can seek protection and find and accept Christ.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

The Volunteer Team

320 
VOLUNTEERS

4,991 
VOLUNTEER HOURS

\$127,000
VALUE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES 

OTHER VOLUNTEER WORK INCLUDES:

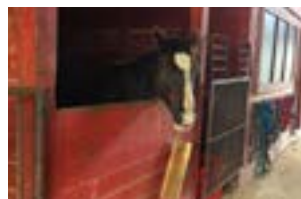
- Life coaching
- Meals
- Job readiness
- Holidays
- Activities
- Special events
- Library
- and more!



ELIZABETH'S CLOSET

A place for residents to feel beautiful

WellHouse volunteers Jessica and Angie (now staff) turned the Next Steps to Freedom storage room into a welcoming shopping boutique for residents. Elizabeth's Closet is a place where girls can come and try on new and gently used clothing, jewelry, shoes and outerwear, all donated by the community.



EQUINE THERAPY



COOKING CLASSES



MUSIC LESSONS



ART THERAPY



LANDSCAPING



BIBLE STUDY

Join our Volunteer team!
Apply online at
the-wellhouse.org/volunteer

“ This is a wonderful ministry that protects, loves, nurtures and encourages these survivors to become the ladies that God intended for them to be. We, as volunteers, get to see firsthand how God brings restoration to their lives.”

- Tammy, Volunteer

“

I never knew how deep an impact the residents would have on my life. They are the strongest women I know. They are resilient. They are overcomers. They eagerly open their hearts to God. They embrace that they are forgiven and come humbly before God knowing He has changed their lives. They have many tough days, but they press on.

- Angie, WellHouse Staff

GET INVOLVED

Take Action!

PRAY

Prayer moves God's heart!

The WellHouse exists because of God's favor, and your prayers to Him are precious. Prayer moves mountains, and it moves God's heart. Pray daily for freedom for victims. Pray for restoration for survivors. Pray for courage, strength, healing, hope, forgiveness, and a renewed mind. Pray for staff to always remain hopeful, diligent, and joyful in this work. Pray for our community to grow in awareness and support. And pray that our government would pass legislation to help survivors and penalize traffickers.



ADVOCATE

Speak out!

All of us are better than one of us; therefore, help us spread the message about the evils of human trafficking and the solution of The WellHouse.



GIVE

In-kind or financial gifts

Your support enables The WellHouse to serve the most vulnerable population imaginable. Your gifts *do* make a difference in the restoration and healing of lives hurt by human trafficking.



VOLUNTEER

Take action!

Volunteers are our lifeline! Please consider how you can help. There is a place for everyone. Visit our website to learn about volunteer opportunities and apply.



“ Thank you to The WellHouse. For being the hands and feet of Jesus. For showing me grace upon grace. And loving me until I could love myself.”

- WellHouse Graduate



2019- 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Allan Worthington
Chairman of the Board

Kyle Hewlett
Vice Chairman of the Board

Pam Matthews
Secretary

Darlene Wilson
Treasurer

Garry Ard

Bruce Bailey

Karan Bailey

Missy Lawler

Paul Lawler

Jonathan Register

Jan Rice

Jim Stroud

Susan Vawter



“ I am most surprised by the hope that springs up in our residents despite what they have suffered. They still care about people. They still believe in the possibility of their futures. They still laugh! When I am with them, my hope increases.”

- Debby, WellHouse Staff



THE WELLHOUSE

P.O. Box 868
Odenville, Alabama
35120

www.thewellhouse.org

Support our mission!
Give today.
the-wellhouse.org/donate

Email
info@the-wellhouse.org

Crisis Hotline
1(800) 991-0948

Office Phone
1(800) 991-9937