



THE WELLHOUSE
RESTORATION REPORT

2020 - A YEAR IN REVIEW





**YOU ARE NOT
UNWANTED**

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*Images in this report are representative of
the women we serve.*

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN

WellHouse Supporters,

In this report, you will read about the miracles of 2020 that only God could have done, and He chose YOU to have a part in it!

The WellHouse effort is viewed much the same way Paul did the body of Christ. Romans 12:4-5 states, "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body..." Your response was far-reaching. Not only did it save ladies from bondage, it also was a measure of encouragement to the volunteers, staff and board. We could not fully function without you!

My first introduction to The WellHouse was in 2012 during a church conference. Totally blindsided by the horrible treatment of ladies through sex trafficking, I had a strong desire that only God could have instilled in me: to help this very young mission in any way possible. Nine years later, I have had the honor to witness God's miracles year after year. With the challenges of 2020, it was no different.

The campus grew with the construction of WellHouse Child and a chapel – miracle. Ladies continued uninterrupted healing through programs conducted virtually – miracle. Ladies received degrees, GEDs, and jobs – miracle. Funding increased 7% over 2019 – miracle. You, our supporters, were a part of all this and more.

As a Supporter, you can probably point to a similar "blindsided" moment when your eyes were opened and your heart changed concerning the harsh reality of sex trafficking. Without you responding to the call, many ladies may not have experienced a miracle... and you would have missed a blessing.

In 2021, may we all enjoy the blessing of many more restored victims of sex trafficking.

Thank you for your dedication and God bless,



KYLE HEWLETT
Vice Chairman of the Board

"You can probably [recall the moment] when your eyes were opened and your heart changed concerning the harsh reality of sex trafficking. Without you responding to the call, many ladies may not have experienced a miracle."

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

WellHouse Supporters,

2020! The unprecedented year that will never be forgotten, but, as you will see in this amazing Annual Report, God provided, as we embraced faith, courage, and strong resilience. Even as The WellHouse had to pause receiving new survivors for a short time and had to wrestle with best practices in the face of constant change, **we progressed!**

As you will see in this report, the length of stay for survivors increased as they valued the safety provided by The WellHouse. In fact, the average length of stay increased to 225 days over 177 days in 2019 as survivors arrived to The WellHouse from 22 different states and one country!

As Zoom gatherings became commonplace, we were able to virtually attend and host some amazing events. Two in particular defined the year of virtual meetings for The WellHouse: the National Trafficking Sheltered Alliance Conference which The WellHouse helped plan, and our own virtual fundraiser which was well attended and helped to raise a record amount of funding.

As we worked to diversify our funding streams, we were deeply encouraged as the year ended very well. Even with all the challenges, you, our supporters, gave, and you gave generously! We are especially happy about a newly formed partnership with Rescue:Freedom International who became both financial supporters and consultants on all things nonprofit and anti-human trafficking!

But, possibly the most exciting event of 2020 was the award of funds to build the WellHouse Child youth home! This vision has exploded, and we anticipate opening the home by July of 2021. This is an amazing accomplishment and another God-sized blessing and can only be described as miraculous!

Please enjoy this report and rejoice with us in the blessings of 2020!

Gratefully,



CAROLYN POTTER
Chief Executive Officer

"2020: The unprecedented year that will never be forgotten, but, as you will see in this amazing Annual Report, God provided as we embraced faith, courage, and strong resilience."



YOU ARE
NOT
UNWORTHY

KARA'S SURVIVOR STORY

Name has been changed to protect the survivor. These are her actual words.

"Be still and know that I am God."

I used to hate Psalm 46:10.

That was his favorite scripture. One that he often quoted as he preached services at the downtown outreach ministry building. That building hosted resources for the homeless and for those in poverty. One of its interior doors held a sign that displayed his name as senior pastor.

I went there because I was hungry, and I needed a place of refuge from the abusive relationship I'd been in for several years. I had jumped into it after my divorce at age 25, after nine years of an unhealthy marriage. I had two children with my ex-husband that I'd been estranged from, and this new relationship had produced another child, who was also later taken from me. The relationship isolated me, left me with constant bruises, and eventually landed me in jail over an unpaid traffic ticket. After I got out of jail, I had nothing. No place to go; no job; no identifying documents to obtain a job; and no hope.

So I went to that building. And the senior pastor that sat behind that door capitalized on my desperation. He gave me a choice- I could either become a missing person that no one would ever look for, or I could perform sexual services for him and his elite friends who were powerful in the community. I never went missing.

Through his connections, I earned ways to get proof of my identification, a job, and an apartment. Eventually though, I spoke up about him hurting women. Women that no one cared about. Women that could be manipulated and controlled by evil.

When I spoke up, I lost my access to the apartment and was ostracized by him, and then the community. He faced zero consequences, and continued to harass and threaten me and others.

Over the next few years, I struggled with homelessness and extreme poverty. I tried to pull myself up, but I couldn't even afford boots with straps. I would walk miles on end for shifts at dead end jobs while sleeping in alleys, and doing whatever it took to survive. I was in constant motion- walking, working, even moving across the country on a Greyhound bus.



But it was never enough. I was stuck in survival mode. Surviving as a woman means being a target for those who would take advantage of her "services", knowing she has no other choices.

My travels landed me in Birmingham, and I reached out to a lady that I had met a couple years prior at a human trafficking awareness church service. That lady was able to connect me to The WellHouse. I wanted to keep running. She suggested I be still. So I did.

The WellHouse provided a place of rest. A place where I could know who God is... in stillness. In peace. With true hope for the future. The staff earned my trust and helped me become someone I wanted to be.

Almost 5 years after leaving The WellHouse, I make a living being anything but still. But it's a different kind of movement now. Instead of frantic, survival-based, day-to-day chaos, it's focused. I'm on a sustainable, long-term, successful career path. My relationships with my family and children have been renewed and are growing in love. God has even allowed me to be in a position to help others on similar paths that I've had to walk. I no longer cringe when I hear King David's exhortation.

Sometimes it's just nice to be still and know He is God. The WellHouse provided that for me and I'll forever be grateful.

- WellHouse Graduate

RESTORATION PROCESS

What We Do



A CRY FOR HELP

It begins with a call to The WellHouse crisis line where the cry for help, and ultimately hope, meets opportunity.



FROM VICTIM TO SURVIVOR

Within a short time, the recovered victim transitions to survivor as she leaves behind the horrific victimization she has endured. She travels, sometimes with help, by bus, train, plane, or car to The WellHouse campus in Alabama.

TO WELLHOUSE TRAUMA CENTER

For the first time, she is safe. She arrives with few belongings. The pain on her face begins to subside as she slowly exhales a lifetime of trauma. A clean room and bed, a nice shower, a home-cooked meal all spell safety and hope. Having a Home Coordinator who cares for her as she settles in, and a Trauma Therapist who shows empathy and compassion, is just the beginning of what she is to experience on her healing journey.



THE IMMEDIATE SHELTER

After stabilization and transitioning to TIS, while still battling fears and uncertainty, she begins to understand her victimization. As she fights fear in the hard work of recovery, along the way, she comes to know that she can. Ongoing compassionate therapy, the possibility of reconciliation with children she thought she would never see again, daily looking toward the hill to the apartments, signifying true healing and hope has exploded in her whole being, and it shows in her whole countenance. Then, she decides she wants to keep moving toward the life she was created to have.



GRADUATION

Finally, the day of completion arrives, and she graduates! The ceremony is priceless as many who have come alongside her in her journey come to celebrate her accomplishment! Countless goals have been reached and she is ready to transition to independent living in the apartments, which she had her sights set on since she arrived.

NEXT STEPS TO FREEDOM

She and her Case Manager develop a plan just for her. It may include regaining custody of a child, GED and college, a career path, or her newfound faith! A glance back at her first arrival reveals noticeable change! She completes her goals, one by one, with some occasional steps backward when those surrounding her catch and bring her back. A brave new life evolves. Many, including a dedicated mentor, pray for her, love her well, and extend grace, all of which help her stay on the path of healing.



TRANSITIONAL LIVING

Transformation has taken place in every area of her life: spiritually, emotionally, physically, and mentally. Pathways in the brain have begun healing as she is no longer abused or forced to abuse substances, and the trauma has subsided. She is hardly recognizable from the moment she entered The WellHouse, except for those dreams that she came to believe could be hers. And she has succeeded!!



2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Notable Achievements

The year 2020 was a year of forward progress, despite its challenges. Our staff adjusted to the protective health measures in place by implementing virtual programming. Our volunteers served virtually. Our events went virtual, and our Grace Gala in January was a strong success. In the quiet moments, our staff took time to pause and reflect on our organizational culture and implement fresh vision for our team. And God provided for The WellHouse as we broke ground on our campus expansion project.



CAMPUS EXPANSION

Grounded in prayer, we are extending our reach. Breaking ground on WellHouse Child and WellHouse Chapel were monumental days that you made possible.



VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

We are fiercely dedicated to programming excellence. Because of the pandemic, we took almost all of our programming online. Your support equipped us with the resources to deliver tele-health, individual and group therapy, recovery programs, financial literacy, life skills, job skills, Bible study, case management, and more - *virtually*.



ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

We took some reflection time to define the culture and persona of The WellHouse. What is The WellHouse Way? We are intentional in prayer, serve with excellence, and love with grace.

EVENT SPOTLIGHT

We celebrate our gracious partners. You showed up in a big way in 2020, first at our Junior Board Grace Gala and then at our WellHouse Virtual Luncheon. Thank you for your record attendance and support!



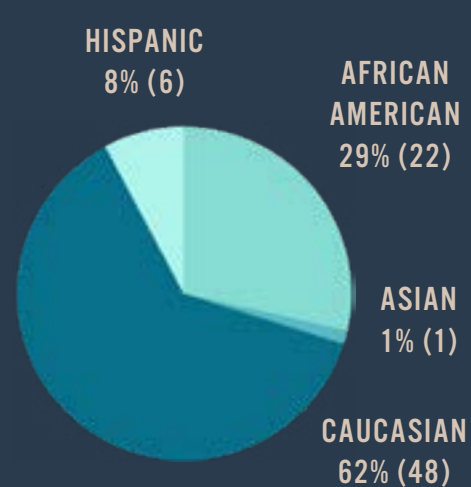
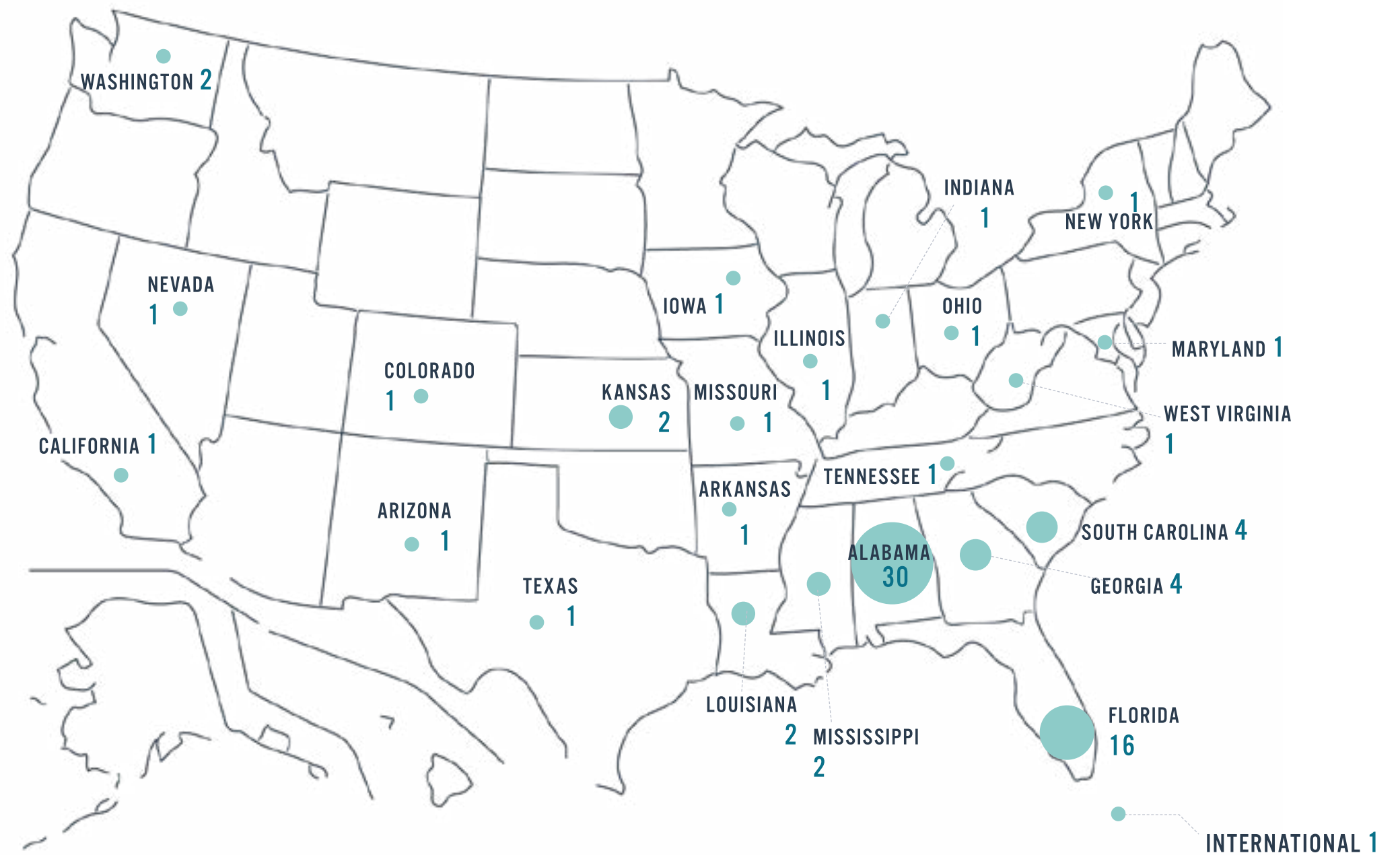
STATISTICS & DEMOGRAPHICS

Survivor Data

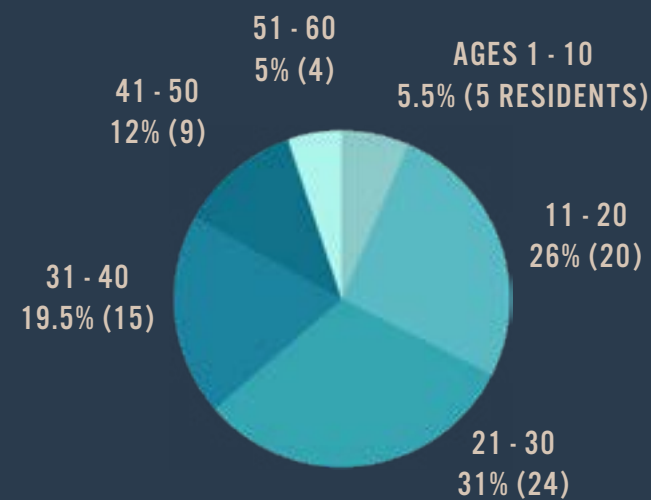
During 2020, The Polaris Project carefully tracked the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on victims and survivors. When comparing post-shelter-in-place time with pre-shelter-in-place time in 2019 and 2020, **the number of crisis trafficking situations increased by more than 40 percent** - from approximately 60 in a 30-day period to 90.*

The WellHouse responded to this need by sheltering and caring for more survivors in 2020 than any year previous. Once available, COVID-19 tests were administered upon intake, and if necessary, a two-week quarantine at the Trauma Center was provided so our work could continue.

*Visit polarisproject.org for more information.



ETHNICITY



AGES SERVED

TOTAL SERVED: 77
ADULT RESIDENTS: 59
WELLHOUSE CHILD VICTIMS SERVED: 13
CHILDREN OF VICTIMS SERVED: 6

OUR IMPACT

By the Numbers

Our impact is your impact. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of victims of human trafficking.

For this lifetime, and for eternity.



- 6** Graduates Moved to Transitional Living
- 7** Serve Days with 16 Participants
- 9** Worked on College Course Work
- 11** Ready-to-Work Classes
- 12** Equine Therapy Classes with 16 Participants
- 14** Worked towards GED
- 16** Purchased an Automobile
- 17** Found Employment
- 35** Cooking Classes
- 37** Art Therapy Classes
- 38** AA Class Participants
- 47** New Victims Entered the Program
- 52** Received Trauma Center Services
- 53** Work Therapy Shifts
- 60** Exercise Class Participants
- 77** Total Served
- 104** Trauma Group Therapy Classes
- 139** Crisis Calls
- 225** Average Length of Stay
- 250** Bible Study Classes
- 351** On-site and Tele-Health Visits
- 450** Life Skills Classes Attended
- 870** Counseling Sessions
- 8,645** Nights of Safety

YOU ARE
NOT UN-
DESERVING

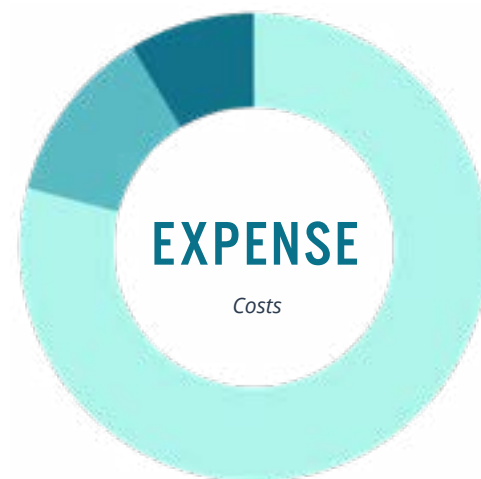
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2020 Support & Expenses



- 44% Households
- 31% Foundations and Grants
- 9% Capital Campaign Payments
- 7% Churches
- 5% Corporations
- 4% Miscellaneous

+ An estimated \$15,650 in non-cash gift donations



- 79.10% Programs
- 12.23% Administration
- 8.67% Fundraising

You faithfully and generously gave a total of \$2,719,500 in 2020, and we are grateful. Your support allows The WellHouse ministry to continue our culture of excellence as we remain good stewards of funding, expand upon our great services, and secure the sustainability of this great work!

YOU ARE
WORTH
FIGHTING
FOR

I'LL DO
WHATSOEVER
IT TAKES
TO FIND
YOU

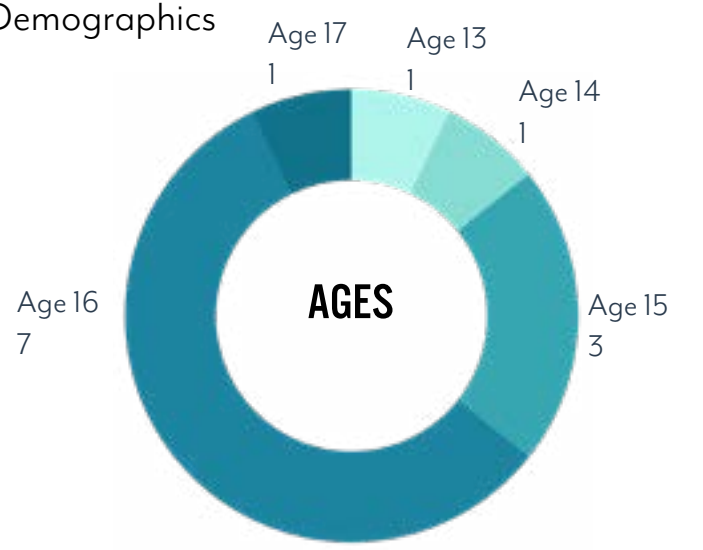
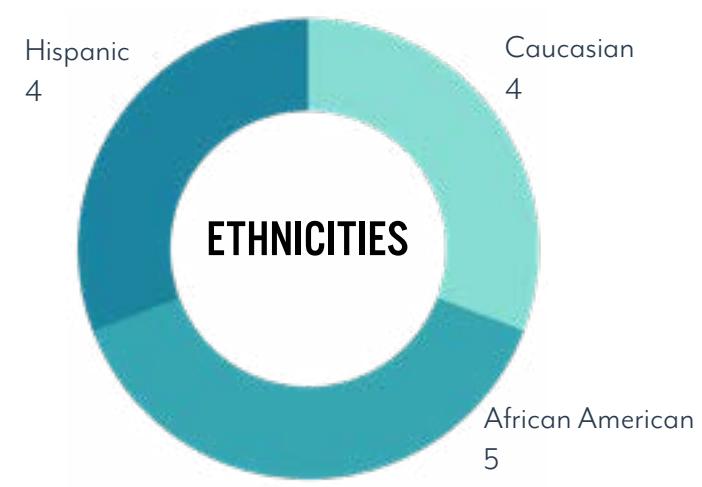
WELLHOUSE CHILD

The Beginning of WellHouse Child

Over the past year, we stepped out on faith with the launching and operation of WellHouse Child, and have seen God provide in overwhelming ways. Interacting with and serving a child who has been sex trafficked, as well as serving her family, is a humbling experience that is hard to explain. WellHouse Child has helped families from Florida, Alabama, and Louisiana, providing a support system and transportation to other residential facilities by ground and air. These are quite often very intense situations that require two staff members and a lot of planning and coordination. WellHouse Child is unique because we provide 24/7 support to parents, who often find themselves lost in legal processes and personal trauma as they try to process what their child has experienced. In 2020, we also partnered with an organization serving minors of different nationalities who were trafficked while on their journey to the United States.

We are incredibly grateful for the blessing of funding to build the WellHouse Child home on our campus. It will have the capacity to house up to ten minors at any given time from across the United States. Thank you for your support and praying with us as we approach our grand opening in July 2021. We are committed to serving minors and their families with intentional, exceptional care, reflective of that which has been built in The WellHouse Adult program.

WellHouse Child Demographics



I WILL RESCUE YOU

I WILL LEAVE THE 99 TO FIND YOU



GET INVOLVED

Take Action!



ADVOCATE

Tell your friends about our mission! Share our posts too!



VOLUNTEER

Volunteer to be part of our mission.



PRAY

Pray for our residents, team, and volunteers.



SUBSCRIBE

Subscribe to rescue updates by texting FREED to 833-881-8516.



LEARN

Read our blog to learn more about human trafficking.



FOLLOW

Follow The WellHouse on social media!



READ

Read our quarterly e-newsletters. Subscribe on the homepage of our website.



COMMIT

Consider becoming a Restoration Partner with a committed recurring gift.



SHOP

Shop items handcrafted by residents in our online store.



REQUEST

Request a speaker for your upcoming event by filling out the request form online.



FULFILL

Fulfill our ongoing needs. Visit our Wish List to sign up for a donation.



CONTRIBUTE

Contact us to learn how you can contribute to our residents' Christmas.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

Key Volunteer Support

Thank you to our incredible volunteers who make our work possible! You are the heartbeat of The WellHouse!



ELIZABETH'S CLOSET
Sorting and shopping days



BIBLE STUDIES

\$27,200

VALUE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES

1,000

VOLUNTEER HOURS

411

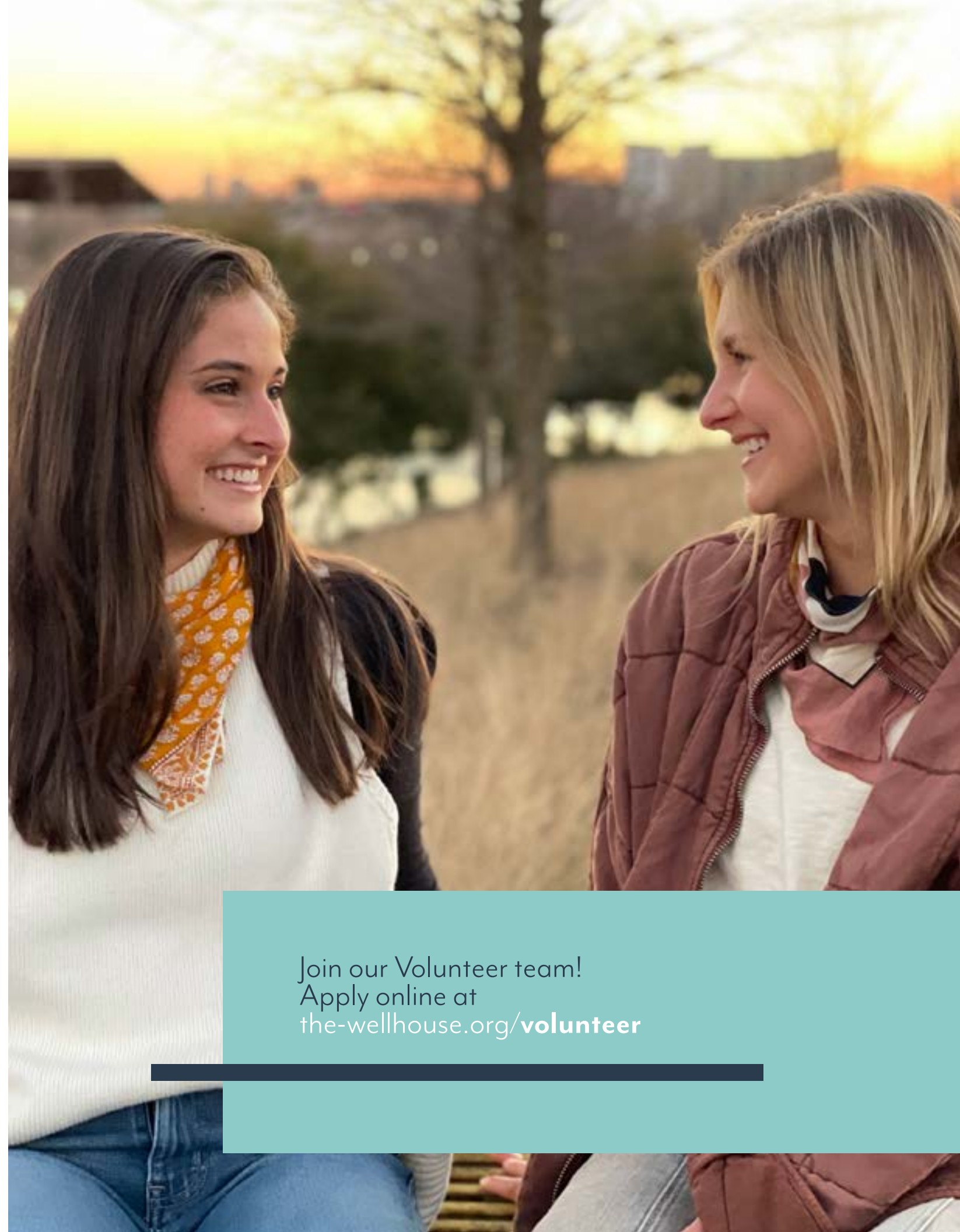
VOLUNTEERS

KEY PROGRAMS:

- Art Therapy
- Bible Studies
- Cooking Classes
- Elizabeth's Closet
- Equine Therapy
- Holiday Celebrations
- Job Readiness
- Landscaping
- Life Coaching
- Workout Classes



ART THERAPY



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

ShopWell is a work-therapy program and resident-run store that provides practical job training in a safe environment, and features handcrafted products made by empowered survivors.

Shop online at the-wellhouse.org/store



EXPANDING SHOPWELL

A Fresh New Direction

ShopWell is The WellHouse residents' work-therapy program and online storefront established in 2016. ShopWell provides Wellhouse residents a safe environment to develop various workplace skills that will equip them for a future career, and empower them for lasting success.

As a result of their work in ShopWell, residents are afforded an opportunity to gain confidence in their abilities and move toward self-sufficiency. And this year in 2021, we began expanding the ShopWell vision by adding new products and providing more opportunities than ever.

When you wear our one-of-a-kind bracelets, hold a prayer cross, or drink from a mug, you are sharing hope, love, and courage. Handcrafted by a survivor of human-trafficking, each exclusive piece encourages healing and restoration. Every ShopWell piece is made by our residents from carefully selected materials and features the stamped WellHouse logo. Your purchase goes towards making an impact on the life of the woman that created your piece as she seeks and attains independence and restoration. You can shop online at www.the-wellhouse.org/store.



2020- 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Leaders

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.

“*The WellHouse brought me out of a life of pain and misery. Living on the streets and sleeping in the rain was a life of despair and sorrow. God brought me here through my advocate, and the blessings I have received from God while being here are surreal. I am forever grateful to God, the staff, and the volunteers who go out of their way for us.*”

- WellHouse Graduate

Allan Worthington
Chairman of the Board

Kyle Hewlett
Vice Chairman of the Board

Darlene Wilson
Treasurer

Garry Ard

Bruce Bailey

Karan Bailey

Missy Lawler

Paul Lawler

Pam Matthews

Derrick Mostella

Jan Rice

Scott Simpson

Jim Stroud

Susan Vawter

“WellHouse staff and residents have made me feel welcome and given me a home.

I have never had a family or sense of security before in my life, and everyone at The WellHouse has finally made me feel safe, secure, loved, and wanted.

Many days and nights I believed nobody cared if I lived or died. I no longer have to wonder if anyone cares about me. I know I am a child of God, and I will always be His, and I am loved.”

- WellHouse Graduate

*Representative of the women we serve





THE WELLHOUSE

P.O. Box 868
Odenville, Alabama
35120

www.the-wellhouse.org



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

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