



2015 Annual Report

“I was very broken, but hopeful, when I arrived. The support, structure, and guidelines I was given are what helped me join a great fellowship, have hope for the future, and continue to do the next right thing.”



Empowering homeless women and their children to achieve permanent, independent living.



*“The Lake County Haven provides a safe and structured environment that provides more of a home atmosphere than a shelter.”
— Lake County Board*

The Lake County Haven proudly presents its 2015 annual report.

2015 was a year of many accomplishments at the Haven. With the help of our professional staff, many women and children found a way out of homelessness and into safe, stable, independent living. That work was possible only through the donations of people across Lake County and beyond. We extend our deepest thanks to all of you, and we invite you to partner with us again. We know how difficult it must be to decide which projects will receive your support. We would like to tell you why we are the best investment for your charitable donations.

We have a program that works.

Our vision is that no one who comes to the Lake County Haven will ever be homeless again. We are successful because we provide the highest quality of professional services in a very homey environment that offers much-needed calm, nurturing, and stability. Our focus is holistic, always encompassing the emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of our residents. The results of these efforts are clear: our residents are consistently successful in turning their lives around. We are proud to report that in 2015 82% of our residents moved on to the next level of independent living.

We are a solid agency.

We have a knowledgeable, resourceful Board of Directors. Our Board consists of civic leaders, corporate professionals, and concerned citizens from across Lake County. We have a professional, experienced staff with the knowledge to address the many factors that contribute to homelessness. Finally, we have a committed, tireless group of volunteers who are happy to serve wherever they are needed.

We are a good investment.

Your donation goes further at the Lake County Haven. Our overhead costs are kept very low so that we can allocate most of our funds to services that directly benefit our residents. We believe in collaborating with other community agencies rather than duplicating services. We have been fortunate enough to be supported by a diverse base of friends and funders, including businesses, foundations, individuals, government entities, houses of worship, and civic groups. This diversity strengthens the agency and allows it to weather tough economic times. Finally, our financial records are monitored by a Certified Public Accountant and are scrupulously overseen by our Board of Directors. Our books are audited annually by an independent body, and our audits have always been clean.

We serve you and your community.

The Lake County Haven was founded by community members just like you. We remain a grassroots organization, committed to the values of the Lake County community: independence, honesty, kindness, responsibility, good citizenship, and non-violence. We exist to help you and your neighbors when hard times arrive. We act as a safety net, helping people through their time of crisis, and giving them the tools to once again be self-sufficient.

We are unique.

Many people comment on our location in Libertyville as a distinction that makes the Haven unique. But that is just the beginning. We are, and always have been, an exceptionally innovative agency. We use the fact that we are a small agency to our advantage. While a larger agency might be mired in bureaucracy and layers of middle management, and stuck in the rut of doing things “the way they’ve always been done,” our small size enables us to quickly change with the times and meet the current needs of our community. Furthermore, we draw on the “best practices” of both non-profit and for-profit entities in our desire to be the best. We continually evaluate our services by using a multitude of tools,

including surveys and focus groups. We then use what we learn to improve our programs. We went even further by collaborating with Hazelden, an internationally recognized service provider for people struggling with addictions. Hazelden audited our programs and found them to be outstanding. (A copy of this review is available upon your request.) It is through methods such as these that we are constantly striving to be the very best provider of services to homeless women and children in Northeastern Illinois.

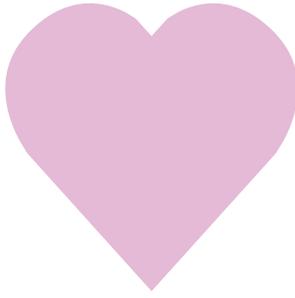
We need your donations.

We serve some of the most vulnerable members of our community. Homelessness is on the rise, and women and children comprise the fastest-growing segment of the homeless population. Your contributions are urgently needed.

Philanthropy has been described as “voluntary action for the common good.” We hope that this report shows you why you should contribute your dollars and time to the Lake County Haven. Please join with us today, and together we will strengthen, nurture, and protect the Lake County community.

“The Haven helped in any way possible to make sure that I had anything and everything I needed.”





Our Mission

The Lake County Haven empowers homeless women and their children to achieve permanent, independent living.

Our Vision

Our vision is that our residents will never be homeless again.

Our Programs

Shelter

Our transitional shelter provides warmth, comfort, security, and safety to 10 women and children every day of the year. The average length of stay in this communal home is four months. Shelter residents provide a supportive community for each other during the transition from homelessness to independence.

Housing

Our transitional housing program encompasses 8 apartments and condominiums scattered throughout Libertyville. This program is a critical middle step between the shelter and independent housing. The length of stay in this program ranges from 1-2 years. Goals that are often achieved in this program include: paying off debts, advancing in a career, and completing a GED.

Supportive Services

Professional case management services are the means through which people learn to reverse the patterns that led to their homelessness. Numerous life skills are taught such as resume writing, interviewing, financial management, self-care, living in recovery, and parenting. The Case Manager and resident form a strong partnership. With that guidance and support, a homeless woman can build a healthy, safe, self-sufficient life.



“The staff believed in me when I didn’t believe in myself. The Haven is an awesome place and I appreciate everything that was done for me.”

New this year!

2015 was a year in which extensive cuts were made to community services in mental health. Without these services, there is a much greater likelihood that our residents will not be able to transcend the psychological issues of trauma, addiction, and mental illness, and that those conditions will continue to drag them down into homelessness. In an effort to prevent that from happening, the Haven developed a 40+ hours per week program for our residents. This program provides group counseling and educational seminars such as Recovery First, Preparing for Independence, Wellness Recovery Action Planning, Self-care, Parenting, and much more. The results were immediately obvious to us: our residents are gaining strength in leaps and bounds. We believe that this new program will lead to even more of our residents being able to achieve and maintain long-term safety and stability for themselves and their families.

2015 Program Achievements

Lake County Haven provided...

56 women and children with transitional shelter.

35 women and children with transitional homes.

8,995 hours of supportive services.

10,440 nights of shelter and housing.

Plus, countless amounts of food, clothing, furniture, and personal services were also provided.

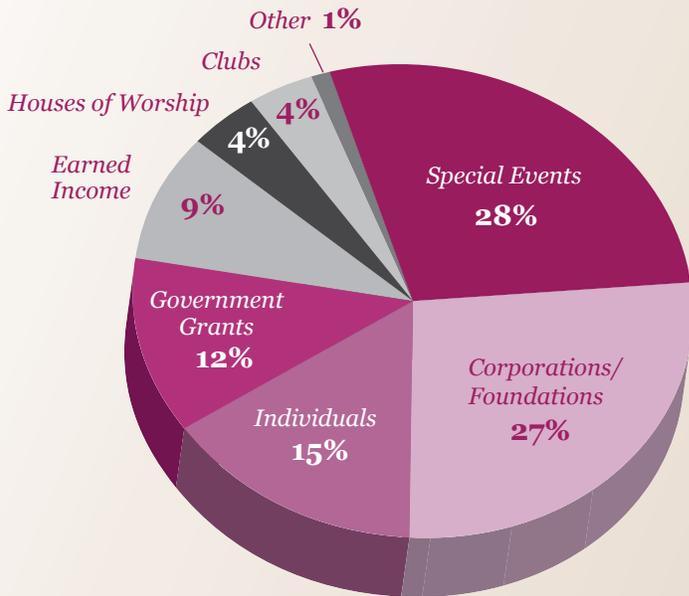
In 2015...

82% of our residents moved on to the next level of independent living.

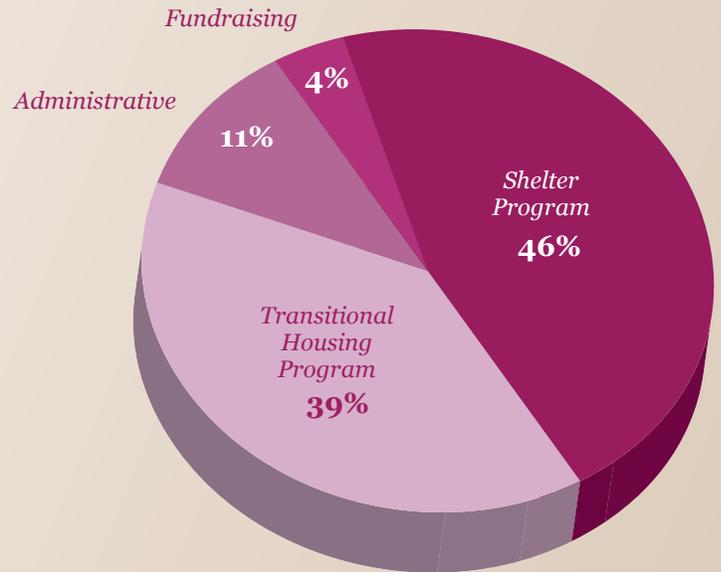


“I feel blessed to have the opportunity to join the program. I’ve learned a lot about my capabilities and independent living.”

Where Funding Comes From 2015



How Funding is Used 2015



Shelter Program	\$ 302,460.00
Transitional Housing Program	\$ 254,468.00
Administrative	\$ 70,150.00
Fundraising	\$ 24,895.00
Total	\$ 651,973.00

“[Through the Haven’s program] I now have a will to live, and confidence in knowing I’ll live life well. I feel my potential has expanded beyond what I ever thought possible.”

Board of Directors

Ken P. Neumann, President
Donna Barnett, Vice President
Suzanne Abel Lingard, Treasurer
Lorraine Pritchard, Secretary
Paul Adams
Elliot Pinsel
Dennis Ryan
Rob Schuler
Daniel Shanes
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Staff

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Bronwyn Campbell, Counselor/Case Manager
Kate Ceithaml, Outreach Coordinator
Sharon Halbert, Site Supervisor
Sharon Jones, Case Manager
Jennifer Larson, Graduate Services Coordinator
Barbara McCarty, Site Supervisor
Liz Pleines, Operations Coordinator
Brooke Projanksy, Counselor/Case Manager
Amy Gold Ray, Counselor
Laura Sabino, Executive Director
Maria Sievert, Volunteer Coordinator

Advisory Council

Sharon Halbert
Diane Harvey
Sharon Jones
Barbara McCarty

Mad Men Party Leadership Team

Event Co-Chairs: Suzanne & David Lingard
Hosts: Danette & Jack Lemm

Gala Leadership Team

Gala Co-Chairs: Beth McKenna & Debbie Simmons
Raffle Co-Chairs: Cathy Andrews, Suzan Edwards,
& Beth Reese
Decorations Chair: Debbie Simmons

“The Haven is just the BEST program. After my mom came here, everything started getting better.”





We extend our deepest appreciation to our donors who, through their generous support, make possible the work of the Lake County Haven. You help in so many ways; everyone's gift is important to the success of the Lake County Haven. Many thanks to all of you for your generous gifts of money, in-kind donations, services, and volunteer efforts.

Thank you.



“Your program works. It changed the woman that I am for the better. The staff loved me until I could love myself. Thank you.”



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