



Because
Every Child
deserves to
be a ***kid.***



Providence
House

Every child is your child.™

ProvidenceHouse

HOUSE NEWS

Summer 2017

All too often...

... children whose parents are facing crises ranging from homelessness and domestic violence to substance abuse and medical or mental health issues experience developmental delays. Seven to ten year olds are often a primary caregiver for younger siblings, impacting their social-emotional development and academic performance.



At Providence House, we're focused on the development of the whole child – mind, body, heart, and spirit.



Mind

- Language development
- School readiness
- Daily lesson plans
- Community field trips



Heart

- Nurturing environment
- Trauma informed care
- On-site therapies
- Self-soothing skills



Body

- Basic needs items
- Medical visits
- Personal care skills
- Nutritional guidance



Spirit

- Social skills development
- Fun enrichment activities
- Exploration encouragement
- Self-esteem support



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A Note from Natalie



They say that nonprofits should stay out of politics, and we adhere to the rules. But sometimes the policies driven by politics can adversely impact the very people that nonprofits are trying to help, leaving underserved

populations even more vulnerable and putting tremendous pressure on already strained nonprofits (and their donors) to fill the gaps created by these policies.

As advocates for our children and families, we have to pay very close attention to how proposed policy changes could impact their lives – for better or worse. It is a part of the work we do. Beyond keeping kids safe and families together, we educate and we advocate. Whether it's downtown, downstate or at a national conference, it is our responsibility to represent the needs and challenges facing our children and advocate for policies and safety net benefits that will improve their lives.

We are gravely concerned about the proposed changes to critical safety net benefits. Reductions and cuts in programs such as Medicaid, children's health insurance (CHIP), food stamps (SNAP), earned income tax credits, and more are all on the table. With dramatic change or loss of these benefits, the needs of our families and the safety risks for their children will exponentially increase.

Our donors support us because they want to help children in crisis. Therefore, we feel it is our obligation to share with you how external factors such as policy change could cause harm to our children. Some of the tax reform and policy changes being proposed will be catastrophic to our children and families who rely on these life-saving safety net benefits, placing an even greater burden on us, and you.

We continually educate public officials about the impact and economic benefit of our services. We also share the real life stories of children and families that we support and raise awareness about the devastating impact that proposed policy changes and benefits cuts will have on them.

Over the past few years, we have seen unprecedented increases in the number of children who need us. Last year, we received over 1,000 calls for children who needed admission. While we have grown our campus and services to help more children, we are challenged to grow our revenues to keep up with the growing need.

For more than five years, we have been aggressively seeking new sources of revenue. For example, we launched a background check service that provides earned income. We've also partnered with United Way and Community Shares and advocated for government funding that supports Providence House as well as current or future crisis nurseries in Ohio. Overall, we have been successful in these efforts, but so much more is needed for us to have the capacity to meet the demand.

We already struggle year over year to raise enough funds to protect as many children as we can. If these changes go through as proposed, the dramatic spike in need will spread like wildfire directly to the doors of Providence House and our fellow human service providers.

We're bracing ourselves for another year of increasing calls for children who need our help.

We're hoping that compassion prevails in policy decisions so families can move forward, not backward.

And we're counting on you to continue to be a champion for our babies and children. Please make a gift to help them, advocate for them ... and always, always love them.

GET TO KNOW US!

Want your group to learn more about what we do and how we help babies and children?

Speaking engagements do just that!

We love to meet new people and new organizations so have us out for a speaking engagement! Our PHamily will travel out to your location to engage your organization in a discussion that will let them learn more about our organization.

To request a speaker please visit: provhouse.org/engage



Field Trips!

Providence House makes a difference not only in the daily care, shelter and security provided to children in need, but also cultivates young minds by instilling a love of learning and growing through science, the arts, and cultural venues throughout Northeast Ohio.

Why Field Trips?

- Enhance Learning Skills
- Reinforce Developmental Milestones
- Focus on School Readiness and Performance
- Provide Positive Exposure to the Community

Field Trip Destinations

- Artist for a Day
- Cleveland Aquarium
- Cleveland Botanical Gardens
- Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
- Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad
- Great Lakes Science Center
- Mitchell's Ice Cream
- Swings-N-Things

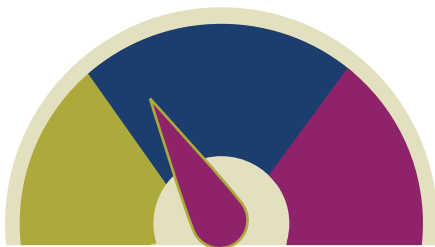


37

Field trips last year

Advocating for Government Support

Natalie A. Leek-Nelson, President and CEO of Providence House, testified in front of the members of the Senate Finance: Health and Medicaid Subcommittee on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 to discuss the importance of continued funding to Crisis Care Facilities in Ohio.



In a study of long-term outcomes for families and children after receiving PH services, it was found:

66%

of children served were considered high risk coming into PH



82%

of children served remained out of foster care



Average annual cost at
Providence House
to care for one child:

\$8,380

vs.

Average annual cost in
Foster care
to care for one child

\$25,782

For every child foster care serves, Providence House could serve approximately 3 children.

Visit provhouse.org/testimony to read the full testimony.

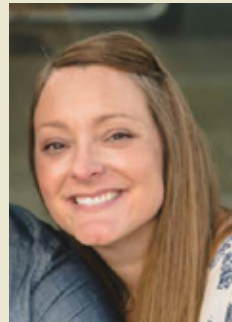
Help us welcome Every Child!

Did you know that every child who comes to Providence House receives a brand new backpack or suitcase which includes 5 pairs of new clothing, a blanket and a teddy bear?

Last year we supplied nearly 400 backpacks to our children and babies!



Celebrating Ashley's 10 Years!



Ashley Kurz is celebrating her ten-year anniversary with Providence House! Since joining the team, Ashley has served as a social work intern, Advocacy Manager, and Director of Family Services before being promoted to her current role as our

Director of Programming and Clinical Operations. Ashley has impacted hundreds of lives through her compassion and commitment by coaching families to become more stable and nurturing for their long-term benefit and success.

Q&A

Get to know more about Ashley!

What inspires you?

Strength and perseverance in others

What is the best place you have traveled to?

Sweden!

Tell us something that might surprise us about you.

I have a twin sister

What is your go-to karaoke song?

Mr. Jones by Counting Crows

What would you like to be known for?

Having a kind, open heart

"I am so grateful for Providence House. Ashley feels like family to me now."

- Quote from a Providence House Parent



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Looking Ahead

Visit provhouse.org/events for more information!

pARTy with PHriends September 29

Tickets on sale now!



Deck the House December 5

Tickets on sale now!

Save the date: 37th Annual Luncheon - April 13, 2018

Proud to be a partner of:

