# Because *Every Child* deserves to be *CELEBRATED.*

Providence House
Every child is your child.™

ProvidenceHouse

# HOUSE NEWS

Spring 2018

# It's Playtime!

Most children are naturally drawn to the outdoors and that is no exception for the kids who come to Providence House. Outdoor play is incredibly beneficial for children as it gives them the opportunity to explore their environment, develop fine and gross motor skills, and socialize with other kids.

Our outdoor play spaces allow children to get the physical activity that they need. With two playgrounds, a basketball court, a whiffle ball field, and a sensory and vegetable garden, children are able to run, swing, jump, skate, and ride a bike while being in the fresh air and sunshine!

In honor of our playgrounds and partnership with KaBOOM! and Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, Mayor Jackson designated July 20, 2012 as Let's Play Day in the City of Cleveland! Every year, we like to use that day as a reminder to get outside and play on July 20th!

**Become a PH "Gardening Angel"!**

## HAVE A GREEN THUMB? PART OF A GARDENING GROUP?

Join us at Providence House as a "Gardening Angel" this spring and summer by tending to our sensory and vegetable garden. Our children love to learn that they can grow their own food and turn it into a tasty meal.

If your group is interested in maintaining our sensory and vegetable garden throughout the seasons visit **provhouse.org/garden** to learn how to become involved today!

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# A Note from Natalie

At Providence House, we come to work every day emboldened by our mission to protect as many at-risk children and support as many families through crisis as we can. For our entire team, serving this mission is more than a job – it's a vocation. Sometimes it can be really, really hard. It can be overwhelming. It can be heartbreaking. None of us ever want to see a child suffer and a family struggle.

Recently, we came together as staff to reenergize and rededicate ourselves to who we are and why we do what we do, even in the face of seemingly insurmountable challenges. We spent time talking about our guiding principles, our foundational beliefs and behaviors about our work. We had words that resonated for us, but wanted to carefully define what they meant based on our individual and collective reasons for committing ourselves to our challenging work. As we discussed a specific principle, we labored over choosing the right words to describe what it meant to us personally to be serving children and families at Providence House.

I believe you as a supporter of our work and mission have the same foundational beliefs and I want to share them with you.

**Passion** – We are energized by our work, resilient in difficult times, unified in our devotion and determination to end child abuse and neglect, and unwavering in our mission to make the lives of our families better.

**Integrity** – We hold ourselves accountable to the highest ethics and rigorously assess our activities to preserve credibility and continuously improve.

**Collaboration** – We learn from one another, adopt best practices, share our accomplishments and build trust by promoting a welcoming, transparent environment to pursue the highest standards in our industry and continue to pioneer the crisis nursery field.

**Communication** – We actively listen to and engage everyone honestly and openly about the challenges and opportunities that we confront and embrace each day.

**Compassion** – We believe serving children and families in crisis is our calling, and it is our duty to keep an open heart and mind to their struggles and join them in advocating for their success.

We are humbled by devotion and implicit trust given to us by our families and our donors. I believe this unwavering commitment to Providence House is rooted in the knowledge and the demonstration that we live these values each and every day for every child, every parent and every supporter that touches our organization. I thank you for continuing to keep our values and our children generously in your hearts.

## WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS, MAKE LEMONADE!

Share some Lemonade Love by hosting – or helping others coordinate – a lemonade stand to benefit Providence House.
**Any amount you donate makes a difference!**

We are happy to work with you to create a fundraiser to raise money or collect donated items for Providence House. **Visit provhouse.org/lemonade for lemonade stand materials and other ideas.**

# Providence House Birthday

Providence House turns 37 this year and we have a lot to celebrate!

## 40th Anniversary

Path to 40!

## 37 Years

Longest operating Crisis Nursery in the United States.

## 10 to 12

Expanded age of service from 10 to 12 years old.

## 8,000+

Served over 8,000 children and families throughout our history.

Help us celebrate by sharing your best birthday moments with us **@provhousecle**!

# Celebrating our Founder

## Sister Hope Greener

## Birthday Blast for the Babies,

### HONORING SR. HOPE GREENER, CSJ!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

## 37TH ANNUAL LUNCHEON FOR EVERY CHILD

**FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2018**

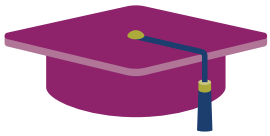
**RSVP by April 6, 2018**

Register online at **provhouse.org/luncheon** or for more information contact **Taylor** at **taylor@provhouse.org**.

# Community Need

**1 in 8 children** experience a confirmed case of maltreatment by their **18th birthday.**

**75%** of high school dropouts have experienced abuse and neglect.



**80%** of violent juvenile and adult prisoners were raised in violent homes.

**30%** of children suffered from abuse or neglect will later abuse their own children.

## Help us **STOP** the cycle

## Because Every Child is *Your Child*

In January, Providence House CEO and President, Natalie Leek-Nelson, and Director of Programming and Clinical Operations, Ashley Kurz were honored to join the amazing community of San Antonio to share our Crisis Nursery model. The group of stakeholders, partners, and public officials behind this effort was so impressive and engaged! Find out more about bringing our crisis nursery program to your city on our website, so that children everywhere are raised in safe, loving families free from abuse and neglect.

## Celebrating our *Families*

Escaping a domestic violence situation, Eliza came to Providence House seeking safety and security for her four children. While her children stayed at Providence House, Eliza needed to enroll her oldest two daughters in school, secure safe supervision and care for her youngest two, obtain employment, and take her GED test all while trying to find new housing.

During her children's 60 day stay at Providence House, Eliza was able to enroll in benefits for medical insurance, food assistance, and cash assistance, obtain a fulltime job as a server, find day care for her youngest children, and enroll her two oldest at a local Catholic elementary school.

At the end of the 60 days, Eliza's family was reunited when space opened up in a family shelter. Like many of our families, Eliza still remains in touch and engaged with our social workers through our bimonthly Aftercare Program. We are also excited to say that she passed her GED practice test and is getting ready to take the exam!

Providence House
37 YEARS | protecting Every Child

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## Looking Ahead

Visit provhouse.org/events for more information!

Christmas in July
*July 22*

pARTy with PHriends
*August 10*

Deck the House
*December 11*

Thank you to our Corporate Partners in Prevention:

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