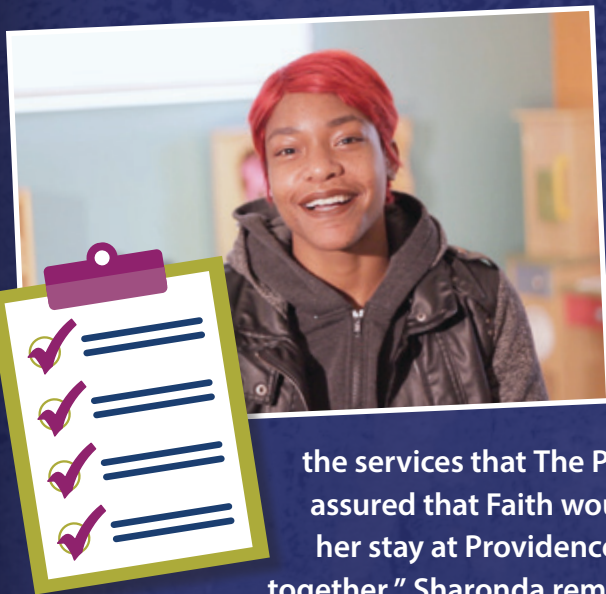
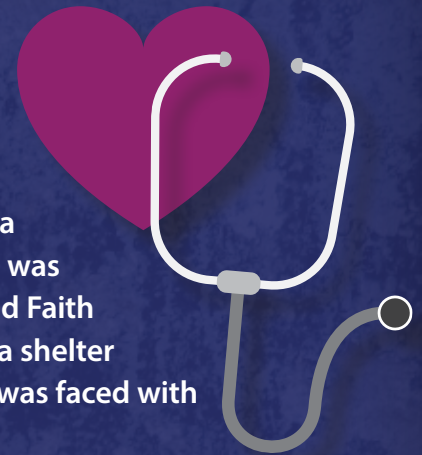




THE HEART OF THE MATTER: SHARONDA & FAITH

Early in Sharonda's pregnancy, she found out her daughter had a life-threatening heart condition and would require multiple heart surgeries. Sharonda strongly believed her daughter would survive, and when she was born, she named her **Faith**.

Faith's heart condition and fragile health was not the only obstacle Sharonda was facing. She was experiencing domestic violence and her living situation was not safe for her or Faith. Without dependable friends or family, Sharonda and Faith were faced with the prospect of going to a shelter, but Sharonda knew that a shelter would not be a safe environment for her daughter. As a loving mother, she was faced with the unimaginable: nowhere to turn, no one to help, nowhere to go.



Sadly, Sharonda is far from alone in her struggles. In the past 3 years, we've seen a 70% increase in admissions. Last year, 36% of our families were homeless or had unsafe housing, and an additional 14% of children served were a victim of or witness to violence.

Sharonda was referred to the services of Providence House by the Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services and she was admittedly hesitant: "I was skeptical to bring her here because of her heart condition. I was afraid of anyone else taking care of her besides me." With

the services that The Prentiss Wellness Nursery provides on site, Sharonda could be assured that Faith would receive the care and medical attention she required during her stay at Providence House. "I knew that she would be safe while I got myself together," Sharonda remembers. "I knew I didn't have to worry about her. The staff knew everything about her heart condition, what she needed to eat, and what to do in an emergency."

Even with reassurance, bringing a child to Providence House can be a very difficult decision for any parent. "I remember they showed me around, showed me that her bed was comfortable, that she was safe, that she was taken care of. It was such a relief," Sharonda says tearfully.

Faith has been at Providence House for 6 weeks, and Sharonda is actively participating in all of the programs that are offered, and now has a job. "I am currently looking for housing. I miss her, but she loves it here," Sharonda says. "Providence House is like my family. I can talk to them, I trust them. I would not be able to do anything I need to do or change my situation without them."

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A Note from Natalie:

36 years

Dear PHriends,

Despite mixed messages from old man winter, spring is finally around the corner. For Providence House, this means that our Birthday is coming! On April 27, 1981 we opened our doors and our hearts to our community's most vulnerable babies and children.



Our formal celebration will be at our 36th Annual Luncheon

on April 21st. Come learn more about our mission to protect over 8,000 children and their families, our positive impact on the community, and our gratitude for thousands of people like you who help us keep children safe and families together. Details and ticket information are on the next page.

We are honored to have Denise Zarella, Cleveland 19 News Reporter/Anchor, join us as our Keynote Speaker. A passionate advocate for children and families in crisis, Denise is on the frontline reporting stories about the tragedies and triumphs of families throughout our community on a daily basis. She will be sharing her thoughts on the growing need to help protect our children and the impact that Providence House is having on some of the most threatening issues facing our community's children: poverty, homelessness, infant mortality, and the opioid epidemic.

Our families will also share their poignant and personal stories about their triumphs over crisis and how Providence House has helped change their lives. Stories from families like Sharonda and her daughter, on the front page, who had nowhere to turn until they found Providence House.

Updates on progress and next steps in our Vision 40 Strategic Plan will celebrate the continued growth and innovation at Providence House and our path to the future.

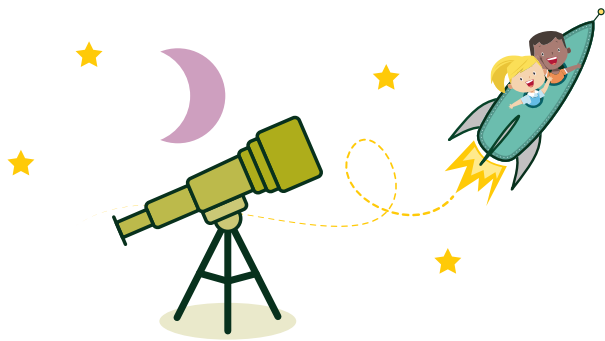
I hope that you will join us on April 21st to meet our families, learn more about community issues affecting our children, and support our continued efforts to keep children safe and families together.

If you aren't able to join us, please make a gift today in lieu of attending in honor of our 36th Birthday, the thousands of children we have cared for, and the hundreds more who need us each year. We can only help the growing number of babies and children who need us with your help and support. And we are ever grateful for every gift to help every child who need us. Thank you.

On April 27, 1981 we opened our doors and our hearts to our community's most vulnerable babies and children.



Connect with Providence House on social media. Find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Tumblr!



FOCUS ON 40

Path to the Future

Presented by the **Catanzarite Foundation**

36TH ANNUAL LUNCHEON!

FRIDAY, APRIL 21 • 12:00-1:30P.M.
Renaissance Cleveland Hotel Grand Ballroom

Visit provhouse.org/events to register today!

TICKETS:

"Grown Ups" Table Sponsor: \$3,000

Table of 10 preferred seating, half-page program ad, shared logo on multimedia display screens and event signage, and program sponsor listing

"Big Kids" Table Sponsor: \$2,000

Table of 10 special seating, quarter-page program ad, shared logo on multimedia display screens and event signage, and program sponsor listing

"Little Kids" Table Sponsor: \$1,000

Table of 10 seating, shared logo on multimedia display screens and event signage, and program sponsor listing

Individual Ticket: \$80 each

PLANNED GIVING

Make Providence House part of your legacy through our planned giving program.

Contact **Kayla Naticchioni** at kayla@provhouse.org or 216.651.5982 x225 for more information!

Providence House: Responding to Our Community's Most Pressing Needs

Since the late seventies, crisis nursery services have been provided for parents seeking wellness, stability, and safety for their families, but many fear losing their children to foster care if they ask for help to reach their goals. Our outcomes show that the Providence House Crisis Nursery model can strengthen families and prevent children from entering foster care.

We want to share with you how our services are helping some of our community's most vulnerable families impacted by the opioid epidemic and Ohio's high infant mortality rate.

Opioid Epidemic

Providence House has been caring for children of parents struggling with substance abuse since its founding in 1981.

- Ohio ranks second in the country for number of overdoses related to heroin.
- At least half of children taken into custody last year in Ohio had parents struggling with substance abuse.

In the past five years:

- We have cared for 59 children whose parents were struggling with substance abuse, including alcohol, opioids, and other drugs.
- 85% of these children were reunified with their parent or guardian with 78% parent compliance with recommended Providence House family preservation services.

Infant Mortality

Providence House is committed to improving birth outcomes in Ohio and has joined the Cuyahoga County First Year Infant Mortality Initiative and Ohio Equity Institute to Improve Birth Outcomes to reduce infant mortality rates in our community and throughout Ohio.

- Ohio's infant mortality rate is 7.2 per 1,000 live births and ranks 45th nationally.

In the past five years:

- We have cared for 155 high-risk infants under 12 months old who were born premature, narcotic weaned, or diagnosed Failure to Thrive.
- 93% of these children were reunified with their parent or guardian with 79% parent compliance with recommended Providence House family preservation services.



Providence House

Every child is your child.

2050 West 32nd Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

provhouse.org

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Call 216.651.5982 x223
- ▶ FOR INFO ON EVENTS
Call 216.651.5982 x225
- ▶ TO VOLUNTEER
Call 216.651.5982

JOIN US FOR OUR 2017 EVENTS...

- ▶ **April 13, 2017**
Great Lakes Brewery Tour & Happy Hour
Come learn more about how you can get involved with Providence House and the PHriends Group at our Happy Hour!
- ▶ **April 21, 2017**
36th Annual Luncheon
Join us for lunch at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel to learn about the impact we are having on our families and community issues.
- ▶ **September 29, 2017**
5th Annual pARTy with PHriends
Join our PHriends Group as they return to 78th Street Studios for the 5th annual wine and beer tasting, featuring original art by the children of Providence House!
- ▶ **October 14, 2017**
Annual Cleveland Police Second District "Baby Shower"
Come out to support Cleveland Police and Providence House at their annual fundraiser for our babies and children!
- ▶ **December 5, 2017**
Deck the House
Grab your friends and come to the 22nd Annual Deck the House Live & Silent Auction at FirstEnergy Stadium (*Home of the Cleveland Browns*)!

For more information on any of our events, visit our website at provhouse.org/events.

Thank you to our Annual Corporate Partners:

OHIO SAVINGS BANK

Grant Thornton

Community West Foundation
Illuminating Hope

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For more information on the Providence House Annual Corporate Partnership Program, contact Kayla Naticchioni at kayla@provhouse.org or 216.651.5982 x225