

Because **Every Child**  
deserves a **loving family.**



Providence  
House

Every child is your child.™

ProvidenceHouse

# HOUSE NEWS

Summer 2018

# Every Child is Your Child

We have all heard the saying, "it takes a village" and when it comes to the children of Providence House, those words couldn't be truer. It's vital for the community to understand how hard we all must work to prevent child abuse and neglect. Together we can promote our children's safety, healthy development, and long-term well-being. Together, we can support every child.

## Last year

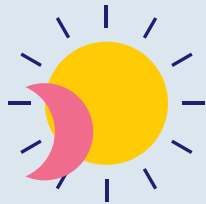


We served  
**323**  
Children  
from 167 families



We provided

**5708**  
Days of Care



**32%**

of our families were  
homeless or had  
unsafe housing

**96%**

of our families were  
living below the  
federal poverty level



## Successes!

Kids reached

**24**

developmental milestones  
during their stay at PH

**99%**

of children were  
reunited with their  
parent/guardian

**90%**

of families were fully  
engaged in services provided  
by Providence House.



## Family Fun Day!

Did you make it out to our Family Fun Day on July 22nd? We enjoyed games, crafts, activities, entertainment, and refreshments!



Share your pictures from the event with us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @provhousecle!

**FOUNDER:**

Sr. Hope Greener, CSJ

**CEO & PRESIDENT:**

Natalie A. Leek-Nelson

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:**

Jane M. Cronin, Chair  
Duane F. Bishop, Jr.\*, Chair Emeritus  
Gregory D. Rush, Vice Chair  
Joseph M. Sauer, Secretary  
Timothy K. Flanagan, Treasurer  
Paul T. Kostyack, Counsel

**TRUSTEES:**

Shelby H. Ball  
Brian Blouch  
Charlene Coughlin  
Robert A. Coy  
Karen R. Dolan  
Nicholas J. Dreher, M.D.  
W. Scott Emerick  
Adam R. Jacobs  
Moses R. Jhirad  
Anthony J. Jones  
Karen E. Kirsh  
Joseph P. Lukac  
Anthony Madalone  
Ryan P. McKean  
Scott A. McKinley  
Carol A. Moore  
Robert M. Preseren  
Jeffrey A. Robinson  
Michael D. Stovsky  
Gareth D. Vaughan\*  
John C. Weber  
Donna M. Winfield  
Karla R. Wludyga

**LEGACY COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

William J. Aamoth  
Joseph W. Bauer  
Edward J. Bell\*  
William M. Denihan\*  
Terrance K. Donley  
Evelyn Croft Faulkner  
Sally Gries  
Thomas M. Laird  
Lolita McDavid, M.D.  
Paul M. O'Connor\*  
Rena Olshansky  
Jeffrey K. Orloff\*  
Susan M. Palmer  
Dominic V. Perry\*  
Robert J. Roe  
Russell Trusso, M.D.

**HONORARY**

**LIFETIME MEMBERS:**

Suzanne Christ  
William Christ, Sr.  
Sr. Nancy Conway, CSJ  
John Doherty\*  
Robert Dorfmeier†  
Stanley Kerka  
Sandy Kish Jordan  
Greg Klein\*  
Bettie Perry  
Charles E. Taylor, PhD\*

\* Past President † Deceased

# A Note from Natalie



After 17 years of talking about and advocating for Providence House, it's sometimes easy to forget that there are still many people in the community who don't know what we do, or

who may have misconceptions about the work that goes on at Providence House.

I still hear people say, "You're the place that rocks babies." Yes, we do. But we also do so much more. Not only do we protect nearly 400 children every year, we also help them reach their developmental, social emotional, and educational milestones. And we help their parents. By building nurturing parenting skills and addressing family crises, children can reunite with their parents in a safe, stable home. Did you know that 99% of our children safely return home following our services? That's our record for the past 10 years and counting! And a testament to the commitment of our families to become stronger, safer, and self-sufficient.

It's easy to judge these families. We know that some think that these are "bad parents" who have made "bad choices." So often, this is not the case. These are moms, like Johanna on the cover of this newsletter, who had no support system and turned to Providence House. Or dads, like Arthur, who live paycheck to paycheck only to become homeless with his son when he couldn't afford rent, utilities, and food after he lost his job. Providence House becomes the family, friend, and neighbor these parents trust to keep their children safe while we help them rebuild their family.

But if there is one thing I have learned in doing our work, it's that there can never be enough awareness, outreach, or education about the challenges facing parents and children in our community and how our services help them.

Awareness is key to combatting misconceptions in the community and to making sure that the families that need our services are aware of them and how to access them.

This past spring, we worked with TWIST Creative, a local advertising agency, that generously donated their time and talent to build a community awareness campaign for Providence House. TWIST fearlessly took on the painful and difficult subject of child abuse prevention and family crisis for our campaign; shining a bright, bold, brave light across our city about the love, devotion, and dedication of our children, families, and community champions. You can see these stories on our website. You can also be a part of our campaign and advocacy: visit a Phoenix coffee shop and text a gift for our coffee sleeve promotion or purchase a t-shirt and tote bag promoting our powerful messages of hope for children and families on our website at [provhouse.org/store](http://provhouse.org/store).

I hope that you will read the stories on our website and help us spread the message of hope that Providence House brings to children and families in our community. Please take the time learn more about the real issues facing our families and children by visiting the video gallery on our website to watch my TEDxCLE talk "Bad Moms or Bad Circumstances" and our "Changing the Story" video about the lifelong impact of crisis on children. 20 minutes of your time with these videos will leave you shocked, sad, and I hope, ready for action and positive change!

Thank you for being a part of the most important work that we can do for a safer, stronger community – protecting our children and building stronger families. You help us bring hope and healing to our community's most desperate parents; striving to protect their most precious treasures – their children – from hunger, homelessness, and harm while they bravely and vulnerably ask for our help to rebuild their lives.

## DOUBLE YOUR DONATION!

Companies big, small, and everything in between, match gifts. Don't miss your opportunity to support more children and families through your employer. Ask if they'll match your donation and we will help you with the rest!

For more information visit [provhouse.org/match](http://provhouse.org/match)

# All Around Town

In April we took over Cleveland with our brand awareness campaign! With this campaign, we focused on what makes Providence House us. You may have seen us on billboards, kiosks, and your morning coffee!



We shared with you the moments our supporters fell in love with us and the moments our families turned to us. To learn more about our campaign and to hear about others' stories, visit us at [provhouse.org/campaign](http://provhouse.org/campaign).

## GIVING IS NOW EASIER WITH ALEXA

You can now give to Providence House in one easy step! Simply say, "Alexa, make a donation to Providence House."



## We Filled the Truck!

Mike Trivisonno and WTAM 1100 hosted the **4th Annual Fill the Truck for Providence House** event on June 7th. This event raised over **\$20,000** for our babies and children!

We enjoyed a day full of fun, food, music and great conversations with Paul and Karen Dolan, Annie Thomas, and more!

### Facility Donations from:

- Absolute Roofing
- Assured Window Cleaning
- DiMarco & Associates, LLC
- The Floor King
- Window Nation

*Thank you to everyone who came out!*



# Meet Our Staff!



**Vanessa Vazquez** is celebrating her 17 year anniversary with Providence House! Joining the team in 2001 as a Childcare Provider, Vanessa had quickly transitioned to a Supervisor a short two months later. Vanessa works closely with the children and staff daily and her enthusiastic and optimistic attitude is nothing but contagious. Vanessa's passion for our mission is her driver and the reason she has impacted hundreds of lives.

## Become a PHriend!

Are you a dedicated, young professional looking to support a cause? Become a part of our PHamily by joining our PHriends Group. Help promote the mission of Providence House through fundraising and friend-raising with our young professional group.

To learn more about the PHriends group visit [provhouse.org/phriends](http://provhouse.org/phriends).

Learn from your peers.  
**Volunteer your time.**  
Stay inspired.  
**Develop your leadership skills.**



## IT'S NOT TOO EARLY!

The holiday season is right around the corner and we have made shopping a lot easier with our holiday giving ideas below.

- Giving Tree
- Holiday Cards
- Donation Drive

Visit us at [provhouse.org/holiday](http://provhouse.org/holiday) to learn more about giving opportunities this season!

### Q&A

## Get to know more about Vanessa!

What inspires you?

My son inspires me. Thanks to him, I am the best mother I can be. The smile on his face brings all of the happiness in my life.

Tell us something that might surprise us about you.

I play 6 different instruments.

What is your go-to karaoke song?

A Moment Like This by Kelly Clarkson. This song has a lot of meaning to me because it was playing during my son's adoption ceremony.

What would you like to be known for?

For what I do, for helping people and putting smiles on their faces.

What is the best part about your job?

Simple things that makes the kids happy like a new pair of shoes or a new outfit. Seeing them happy makes me happy and keeps me coming back here every day with a smile on my face.

**Looking Ahead** | Visit [provhouse.org/events](http://provhouse.org/events) for more information!



**Deck the House**  
*December 11, 2018*

**Annual Luncheon**  
*April 16, 2019*

