

BECAUSE EVERY CHILD DESERVES

a Champion.



Providence
House

Every child is your child.™

ProvidenceHouse

HOUSE NEWS

Summer 2021



DESTINATION 50 STRATEGIC PLAN

Hundreds of constituents throughout the community, including parents, donors, partners, and more, helped us to design our route and lay the tracks for our journey into the future.

1 Our **CORE** goal is the fuel for our journey, giving us strength and speed to reach our future destinations.

- Enhance **RESOURCES** through people, places, and programs.
- Expand **REVENUE** strategies to diversify and support continued growth, and financial stability.
- Expand **RELATIONSHIPS** with key constituents; remaining true to our core competencies.

3 Our **COMMUNITY** goal is focused on deepening and broadening community engagement to serve as a model for communities both locally and nationally.

- Engage authentically with our communities.
- Elevate the Providence House Model in communities across the country.
- Enhance knowledge through continuous learning and data sharing.
- Educate and Advocate on behalf of children and families.

2 Our **CARE** goal is to continue to deliver our vital services to children and their families while also expanding programs and partnerships.

- Exceed Excellence in our services.
- Expand East to serve the growing number of children who need us.
- Enrich Partnerships in all community sectors to deepen partnerships for client benefit.

4 Our **CULTURE** goal is to cultivate a culture of inclusivity and equity inside and outside our organization.

- Embrace everyone.
- Encourage a compassionate and inclusive culture and community.
- Excel organizationally as we expand our staff, campuses, and services.

ALL
ABOARD!



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Natalie's Note

NATALIE LEEK
PRESIDENT & CEO



A few months ago, Providence House posted a photo of me and our partners at Blessing House in Lorain and Brigid's Path in Dayton as we prepared to offer testimony to the Ohio

House of Representatives Aging and Health Committee to enhance licensing regulations for crisis care facilities and residential infant care centers. Immediately following the posts, I began to receive emails both for and against our advocacy efforts. Some applauded our efforts and said this was necessary to inform and educate elected officials. Others were upset and said it was not the role of nonprofits to engage in politics.

It is important to be clear about the distinction between politics and advocacy. As non-profits we cannot directly endorse or contribute to a specific candidate. However, we can educate elected officials and public agencies about the challenges confronting our nonprofits and advocate on behalf of our clients for good policies that improve their lives. With so many urgent priorities facing all nonprofits, the reality is that government relations is an important one. More and more, nonprofits are filling the gap in governmental services that have been transferred to the nonprofit sector and we must understand and engage with policy makers and public agencies to successfully fill these gaps.

The testimony we offered was to show unanimous support among Ohio's existing children's crisis care providers for enhancing licensing guidelines and clarifying requirements for these services in Ohio. Sometimes, our advocacy is to support or oppose policy decisions that will impact the lives of our children and families. Sometimes, it is to secure or increase funding support for our services so that we can help even more children and families and alleviate taxpayer burden for public systems. And sometimes, like that testimony, it is to improve and enhance smart and sound practices for our organizations and our clients.

Our advocacy is not, and cannot, be focused just at the state level. Advocacy extends to our city and county governments, elected officials, and public agencies, and now more than ever, to Washington DC. Often Federal policy changes flow down to

the state governments and are further enacted by local governments. For nonprofits, this can mean significant changes in funding, client benefits or restrictions, and even policy changes affecting our operations. Not paying attention, not voicing support or concern, not acting on or complying with these changes is not an option. We must if we want to survive.

As an example, in 2018, Congress passed the Family First Preservation Services Act (FFPSA), referenced as the most transformational change for child welfare in the U.S. in over 50 years. It shifts the focus away from removing children from their families and placing them in foster care, to providing intervention and strengthening families to keep them together. Every U.S. State is required to roll out its FFPSA program by 2021. Ohio's begins in October 2021. It will have a dramatic effect on all child-serving agencies, both public and private, in terms of regulations, services, and funding. Yet, most voters aren't even aware of it.

But Providence House is ready. We've been at the table, paying attention, asking questions, and preparing our program to meet the new standards for nearly three years. However, if we had not been paying attention and advocating for our program in this change, the outcome could have been devastating and left us drowning in the wake of this wave of transformation in child welfare.

I often get asked "What is the most important thing you need at Providence House?" People are often surprised when I don't say "a donation" first. Yes, we need donations. They are vital. But before that, I have two other priorities:

1. Tell a parent in crisis about us so that we can help keep their children safe and work with them to build the stability needed to keep their family together.
2. Advocate with, and for us, to create equitable policies to improve the lives of families and children so they can be free of poverty and system involvement and ensure public investment in nonprofits.
3. Yes. Make a gift to help us continue the work we have done for 40 years thanks to your support, which has kept over 13,000 children and families safe and together.





Our Impact

FISCAL YEAR END STATS

Last year,
174*
CHILDREN
from
84
FAMILIES
stayed at
Providence House

**Reduced due to COVID-19.
Typically nearly 350 children
admitted annually.*

We provided
2,789
DAYS OF
CARE



Reasons for Admission

40%
OF FAMILIES
had a parent or guardian who
lacked resources to meet basic needs

31%
OF FAMILIES WERE HOMELESS
or had unsafe housing

23%
OF FAMILIES
had a family member with a medical crisis

13%
OF CHILDREN HAD
a caregiver with a mental health crisis

10%
OF CHILDREN WERE
victims of or witnesses to violence

8%
OF CHILDREN
were in county custody (through our
Emergency Placement Program with DCFS)

*These numbers do not add up to 100% as many
of the families that come to us experiencing
compound crises*

COMMUNITY EDUCATION & RESILIENCY PROGRAM

The Community Education & Resiliency Program was started in April of 2019 to help families in the community before a crisis occurs. This program brings our successful family preservation services such as case management, parent education, and trauma services directly to local partner organizations.

- With case management, parents and guardians are partnered with a Licensed Social Worker dedicated to identifying unmet needs and helping families build stronger child connectedness and stability.
- Our parent education programs are focused on targeting each parent/guardian's strengths and areas of growth. Parents can partake in group education sessions to meet their emotional needs or do private, hands-on education sessions specific to their family's goals.
- While children stay with us, parents and guardians engage in individualized and group sessions focused on identifying and addressing their goals and needs as well as understanding how their own experiences of trauma have impacted their caregiving and family stability.

Our current partners are the Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland, Fairhill Partners, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Association, and the Harvey Rice Wraparound School.

Are you interested in bringing this program to your faith community, school, or organization? Please contact our Community Services Coordinator Emily Bango at emilyb@providencehouse.org.





We've Officially Opened!

Providence House has officially opened our new East Side Offices in Cleveland's Buckeye-Shaker neighborhood. With renovations complete, we are now focused on raising the final funds needed to build our new 20-Bed Crisis Nursery and Family Resiliency Center, increasing the number of children we can serve annually on our west and east campuses to more than 600, and expand services to nearly 1,000 parents and guardians.

The Buckeye-Shaker campus offers an expansive space with the ability to serve a diverse group of families. Our East Side campus will offer:

- Emergency shelter for 240 more at-risk children.
- Services for an additional 120 families in crisis who have children in our care.
- Support for nearly double the amount of reunited families who we support through our ongoing Aftercare Program.
- Community resources to 220 additional families through outreach and continued partner referrals.

Are you interested in learning more

OR CONTRIBUTING TO OUR NEW EAST SIDE LOCATION?

Please visit provhouse.org/givinghope for more information!



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GROWING, SO IS OUR TEAM!**

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- Childcare Providers – All Shifts
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- Maintenance Technician
- Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator
- Donor Engagement Manager
- Events & Partnerships Manager
- Government Relations & Public Policy Manager

Learn more and apply at provhouse.org/jobs.



2050 West 32nd Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

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pARTy with PHriends
OCTOBER 8, 2021 • 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.



Deck the House
DECEMBER 7, 2021 • 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

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