

## WHAT A YEAR!



365 Days of Family Recovery at Amethyst Place



## 2019 IMPACT REPORT











## ABOUT AMETHYST PLACE



## **History**

Amethyst Place was founded in 2000 to provide housing to women in recovery from substance use and their children. What began as 7 units at 11th and Benton has grown to 36 fully furnished apartments at 28th and Troost. Services have grown as well, including on-site therapy and support groups, education and career development, a food and hygiene pantry and clothing closet, four nights of programming a week, and much more.

#### **Mission and Goals**

The Mission of Amethyst Place is to support women recovering from drug and alcohol addiction and their children by providing safe, drug-free housing and individualized services to promote healthy families. We help families overcome significant trauma and develop essential life skills by:

- Reuniting, stabilizing, and healing families by providing a supportive, safe home with onsite resources to support whole family healing.
- Removing barriers and individualizing services to promote sustainable recovery and healthy living.
- Building capacity of mothers to achieve economic success and overcome generational poverty by expanding positive social networks, advancing education, and providing supported employment opportunities to pursue vocational goals.



## SUPPORTIVE HOUSING



Our Supportive Housing program provides an empowering, stable, and recovery-oriented environment for families to reunify and thrive together. Each family is given their own apartment that comes fully furnished and decorated to meet their individual needs. Families receive access to basic necessities through collaborations with Harvesters, Happy Bottoms, and Giving the Basics. Regular housing inspections ensure our apartments are well-maintained by both the property owner and our families. Most of all, our families are able to build supportive community with one another. Specific features of the Supportive Housing program include:

- 36 individual, fully furnished apartments
- Food and hygiene pantry
- Clothing closet
- Randomized alcohol and drug testing
- Emergency assistance funds
- On-site medical/dental services through Swope Health



## Judonna



When Judonna moved in to Amethyst Place with her son Robbin, who was 1 at the time, she had never lived on her own before. Now she has found comfort in the support of her neighbors. Her favorite part of Amethyst Place is "being around all the other women and children." Her son, now 2, is flourishing and talking a lot. "Our communication is really good," she said.

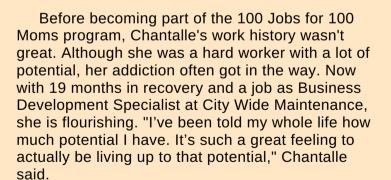
In addition to working toward her GED, Judonna is part of a job training program at MADI Apparel through the 100 Jobs for 100 Moms program. As a result, she discovered a newfound passion for sewing. "I've always been a little interested in it, but I've never worked with a machine before. It's really fun!" Judonna said. Her goal is to purchase a sewing machine so she can practice at home. Long-term, Judonna is "looking forward to having my own place and managing my own things," a goal she is working toward daily.

# FAMILY EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM



In 2019, Amethyst Place was honored to receive the Economic Empowerment Award from LISC. We are dedicated to helping our families overcome generational poverty by providing increased educational and vocational opportunities and improving their positive social networks. Through our Family Empowerment Program, we remove unnecessary barriers so our moms can achieve their goals and change the life course of their families. Not only do the women find fulfillment through exploring their own professional and academic potential, but they also serve as powerful role models and inspiration to their children, who are often even prouder of their moms' achievements. Program features include:

- Case management for the whole family
- Family reunification support
- Life skills training
- Tutoring for GED and college
  - Covering cost of GED testing
  - Assistance with children's educational needs (early childhood and beyond)
  - · Benefits and financial counseling
  - EnCompass mentoring program
  - 100 Jobs for 100 Moms program
  - Graduate aftercare program



Her success at work has allowed her take care of her family financially with less stress and also begin paying off past debts. "Plus it's helped with getting me and my kids in a routine that works really well for us," she added. Chantalle's success at City Wide is also bringing new opportunities to other Amethyst Place moms -- three others have been hired based on her performance with more to come.

## **Chantalle**



# THERAPEUTIC SUPPORT SERVICES



Our on-site clinical team provides a range of services to help reunify, stabilize, and heal families impacted by generational addiction, poverty, trauma, and periods of separation. Our Therapeutic Support Services address the unique needs of women, their children, and the family system through evidence-based therapies. We believe in the power of peer support and employ a Missouri Certified Peer Specialist (and Amethyst Place graduate) to provide one-on-one recovery coaching. Specific services include:

- Regular treatment team meetings
- Individual, couples, family, and group therapy
- Attachment-based play therapy
- Parenting education through Parents As Teachers curriculum, parenting groups, and modeling of appropriate parenting
- Weekly recovery meetings led by residents
- · Monthly art club



## **Danielle**



When Danielle moved in, she was without her son, Benjamin. "I was separated from him for 13 and a half long months," she said. "He was 2 months old when he was removed from my care." It took just a month to reunify after moving in. "I was very happy when he came home to me yet overwhelmed at the same time," she said. "Here I had this 16 month old, and we had to get adjusted to living together."

Therapeutic and case management services provided Danielle with the resources she needed to adjust. "I have tons of mental and moral support," she said. Now her strong bond with Benjamin is evident. "He hardly ever leaves my side," she said. "Because I am in this program, my son and I have a happy, safe, warm, and stable place to live." Benjamin recently started daycare so Danielle can work toward her academic and career goals, helping them build an even better future together.

## **IMPACT**





## **Our Families**

Forty nine families resided at Amethyst Place in 2019, including 72 kids. Entering the program, the typical mother was 32, had 1-2 children, was without a high school education, and was dually diagnosed with substance use and mental health disorders. She likely experienced a history in foster care, parental substance use, sex trafficking exploitation, domestic violence, was recently released from prison or on probation, and had significant past trauma. Of the families living at Amethyst Place in 2019, a third of residents (34%) were age 5 or younger; two-thirds (68%) were female; and the racial/ethnic demographics were 72% White, 14% African-American, 11% multi-racial, 2% Hispanic, and 1% Native American, 95% of Amethyst Place families lived below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level, 58% of children had a history of foster care or other out-of-home placement.



## **Our Outcomes**

**Housing Stability:** families lived at Amethyst Place an average of 17 months



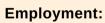
## **Family** Reunification:

94% of children were reunified with their moms at **Amethyst Place** 



college, 5 moms pursuing

**GED** 



37 moms employed or in job training, 18 of those in 100 Jobs for 100 Moms program



#### **Program Success:**

80% of moms who exited the program were successful graduates



#### **Positive Social** Networks:

50 moms paired with 100 mentors through EnCompass program



#### **Graduate Aftercare:**

25 graduates still engaged in services





## Recovery:

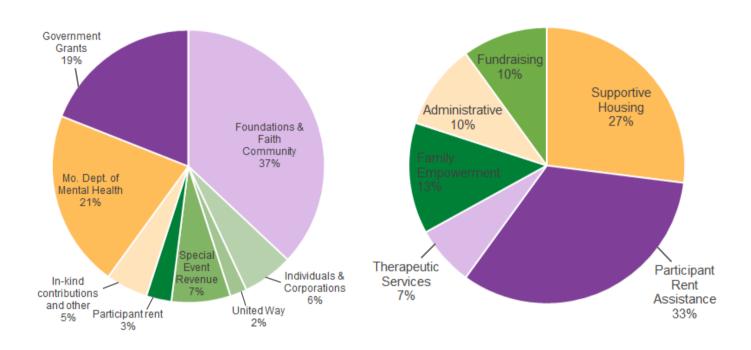
82% of moms remained alcohol- and drug-free

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



## Revenues = \$1,731,581

## Expenses = \$1,463,954



#### **Volunteers**

In 2019, Amethyst Place was grateful to have a breadth of volunteers supporting nearly every facet of the program. Volunteers logged more than 820 hours in childcare, 300 hours in tutoring, 250 hours in children's mentoring, and 1600+ hours mentoring moms in our EnCompass Program. Volunteers shared their expertise by teaching weekly educational and recreational programming for families, organized monthly birthday parties for kids, and hosted regular meals and holiday parties. Fourteen groups came to do clean-up projects; numerous businesses donated goods and time for holiday festivities; and several companies organized supply drives for diapers, wipes, kitchen appliances, and other household items.



## **FUNDERS**



#### FUNDING PROVIDED IN PART BY:

- 100 Women Who Care KC
- Amazon Smile Foundation
- · AMC Cares Charitable Fund
- ASPIRE
- ATF Bonner Springs LLC
- Balocca-Clemens Family Foundation
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- · City of Kansas City CDBG Funds
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- ReDiscover
- The Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
- Robertson Family Foundation
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- Schwab Charitable Fund
- Second Presbyterian Church
- Shumaker FamilyFoundation
- · Sisters of Mercy West Midwest
- Skillbuilders Fund
- · Susan M. Stanton Charitable Fund
- Swope Health Services
- Tella Naluri Foundation
- Thomas and Sally Wood Family Foundation
- Travois
- UMB Bank
- United Way Donor Designations
- United Way Partner Allocation
- US Bank Foundation
- Zeck Ford

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- Alan Dubois
- Alice Ellison
- Alice Kitchen
- Steve O'Neill
- David Ross
- Sister Berta Sailer

## CELEBRATING 20 YEARS IN 2020



#### Dear Friends of Amethyst Place,

My name is Starla Brennan. As the new Executive Director of Amethyst Place, I am thrilled to be at such a life-changing organization! Throughout my career in the social services field, I have witnessed how Amethyst Place has made an incredible impact on families through its long-term investment in healing and empowerment. I am so honored to help carry on this legacy in 2020 as we celebrate our 20th anniversary.



Things took an unexpected turn this spring with COVID-19. We were forced to cancel our Mother's Day Brunch and converted the event into a virtual fundraising campaign, A Mother's Love, which has seen an unprecedented level of support. That has allowed us to relieve the financial stressors of our residents and graduates so they can focus on keeping their families housed, healthy, and safe. We are always so grateful for your generosity, but especially during times like these.

Despite the challenging circumstances, 20 years is a huge milestone and we plan to celebrate accordingly! First, we invite you to join other champions for family, recovery, and hope by **becoming a sponsor** of our 20th Anniversary celebration, which kicked off May 1. The year-long celebration will include an innovative new virtual version of our signature **Homecoming event on October 10, 2020.** We are also having a **mural commissioned for our Community Building** by local artist JT Daniels. In addition, we are starting a donors-only newsletter, **The Purple Paper**, to keep you better connected to our community.

I can't wait to celebrate family recovery and a tremendous 20-year legacy alongside you!

Starla Wulf Brennan
Executive Director



