2015 Annual Report

- Safe, drug-free housing and individualized family services to 60 women and 109 children in 2015
- 16 years’ experience successfully reuniting and healing families torn apart by drug and alcohol addictions
- Extensive community collaborations include: Operation Breakthrough, Comprehensive Mental Health Services, ReDiscover, Children’s Mercy TIES, Jackson County Family Drug Court, University of Kansas School of Social Welfare, Happy Bottoms, Giving the Basics, COMBAT
- Proven outcomes: reducing the number of at-risk families, and in turn reducing demands on social support programs and criminal justice systems

Amethyst Place reunites families...heals broken hearts...restores hope.
Board of Directors
Sheryl Feutz-Harter, Board President, Bryan Cave
Rachel Whipple, Board Vice President, Community Volunteer
Tresia Franklin, Past Board President, Hallmark Cards
Marietta Parker, Secretary, Community Volunteer
Nancy Leaiser, Treasurer, Community Volunteer
Penny Clodfelter, Jackson County Family Drug Court
Sharon Ell, Silpada Designs
Jaimie Gray, Amethyst Place Alumni
Marcus Harris, KCMO School District
Bryan K. Love, United Inner City Services
Tammy McGee, Amethyst Place Alumni
Sean Peery, HomeAdvisor
Kayla Sullivan, Operation Breakthrough
Oneta Templeton, Children's Mercy Hospital TIES
Preston Washington, Community Volunteer
Brenda Williams, Community Volunteer

Program Council
Penny Clodfelter—Chair, Family Drug Court
Lori Glenski, ReDiscover
Samantha Griggs, Comprehensive Mental Health
Jill Lewis, Missouri Children’s Division
Kayla Sullivan, Operation Breakthrough
Oneta Templeton, Children's Mercy Hospital TIES

Special Advisors
Sister Corita Bussanmas
Alice Kitchen
Irene Caudillo
Steve O’Neill
Sister Jeanne Christensen
David Ross
Alan Dubois
Sister Berta Sailer
Alice Ellison

Amethyst Place Staff
Kimberley Davis, Executive Director
Julie Carmichael, Director of Programs
Shanda Moon, Client Services Coordinator
Jessica Baeuchle, Family Support Therapist
Jennifer Tung, Volunteer Coordinator
Irma Robinson, Family Care Coordinator
Gina Green, Resident Assistant Manager

We thank the volunteer photographers who provided pictures of our beautiful families for this report.
Dear Friends,

In 2015 Amethyst Place served 60 women and their 109 children in our supportive recovery housing program for homeless women with substance abuse issues. 62% of clients who moved out in 2015 graduated successfully, defined by maintaining sobriety for at least one year and transitioning successfully to independent housing. Because we provide supports well beyond traditional treatment programs, our success rates are well above the national average for substance abuse treatment programs.

Our mothers must overcome the challenges of single parenting, limited education, unreliable transportation, and criminal histories. Over half of our residents enter our program without a high school diploma. Very few of our mothers enter the program with a computer and the skills necessary to use one, which shuts them out of full participation in today's technological world. **Our program improves educational and employment outcomes:**

- All residents have free wireless internet access and most have donated refurbished computers in their homes;
- Women without a high school diploma are encouraged and supported to attend GED classes and are offered individualized tutoring;
- 43% of current residents are enrolled in college courses, typically the first in their families to do so;
- 40% of current residents are employed through our supported employment program, 100 Jobs for 100 Moms.

The women who come to Amethyst Place have been chronic consumers of publicly funded services such as correctional systems, police, and hospital emergency and impatient services. By reducing the number of at-risk families, we reduce demands on social support programs and community violence, saving public tax dollars. Operating under the canopy of trauma-informed care, our services incorporate the following principles: increase child safety and well-being, reunite and preserve families, and build the capacity of moms to create stable homes.

Since opening our doors in May 2000 Amethyst Place has served over 700 women and children. We continue to secure the infrastructure and staffing necessary to sustain the programming and therapeutic support that Kansas City’s most vulnerable women need to be reunited with their children and live successful, sober lives. Thank you for bringing transformational hope to our moms—they dream of a better life for their families, and you are making those dreams come true.

Kimberley Davis  
Executive Director

Sheryl Feutz-Harter  
Board President

2735-A Troost, Kansas City, Missouri 64109  ☎  816.231.8782  ☐  www.amethystplace.org
Our Mission

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. The Vision of Amethyst Place is that families will successfully transition to drug-free, independent housing and healthy community living.

A New Home

A mom arriving at Amethyst Place has been chronically homeless, her meager possessions fit in just a few trash bags. Here at Amethyst she is given a fully furnished, decorated apartment, complete with pictures on the wall and dishes in the cupboards. When she graduates, she keeps all furnishings, allowing for a smooth transition to independent living.

The Impact

The most immediate outcome we observe at Amethyst Place is how quickly our children stabilize when they have a room they call their own; a bed and a dresser and food in the kitchen; a playground and clean clothes; and a sober mom dedicated to creating a better life for her children. We see improved educational outcomes for our children, less illnesses, and fewer behavioral problems.

A trash bag cannot support the contents of any life; it will eventually break from the strain.
Our Growth

Amethyst Place began with 7 units at 11th and Benton and now offers 38 supportive housing units at 27th and Troost. Since opening in 2000, Amethyst Place has served 248 unduplicated families: over 700 women and children.

Family Profile

✓ Homeless woman in recovery with a minimum of 30 days confirmed sobriety
✓ 30 years old, a high school dropout, raising two children under 7 years old
✓ Living on less than $10,000 per year, including all public assistance
✓ Family history of drug and alcohol addiction
✓ She and her children have suffered considerable trauma prior to their stay
✓ 70% of the children have a history of foster care or other placement not with their mother
✓ Women with a history of work in sex trafficking, as well as women recently released from prison or on probation make up a significant percentage of our population

Amethyst Place served 60 women and their 109 children in 2015.
Our Partners

Our distinctive community case management model partners each family with a case manager from a referring agency to coordinate services with Amethyst Place staff. This is an efficient and effective approach to integrate the family into the community services network and build skills to access community services.

A New Set of Skills

When a woman arrives at Amethyst Place, she is often parenting sober for the first time. Because most of these women grew up in the foster care system or lived in families where substance abuse was prevalent, and some were initiated into drugs and prostitution by their parents at a young age, they lack the basic life and parenting skills to ensure long-term sobriety and economic security. Mandatory group meetings provide opportunities to develop community living skills, effective parenting, and conflict resolution skills.

100% of clients attend evening programming. 60% have mentors.
Education

Nearly half of the clients served in 2015 entered the program without a high school education, most dropping out by the 10th grade. 77% of those high school dropouts now have their GED or are enrolled in GED classes. 100% of women who test for the GED will pass, thanks to our wonderful tutors. 40% of our 2015 residents enrolled in college. Many were able to do so thanks to our education fund that removed financial hurdles.

High School Graduate at Intake

2015: 77% of high school dropouts now have their GED or are enrolled in GED classes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes-GED</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes-diploma</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OUTCOMES

2015: 77% of high school dropouts now have their GED or are enrolled in GED classes.

Primary Daytime Activity

Women must be in treatment, work, or go to school at least 20 hours per week. All of our families rely upon public assistance and face difficult choices regarding employment because of the cliff effect of losing public benefits. An hourly wage that moves her “officially” out of poverty, cannot provide any real economic security when offset by reductions in the important public benefits which are her safety net.

16 residents were employed through our supported employment program: 100 Jobs for 100 Moms.
Her Financial Resources

100% of families received some public assistance in 2015, including rental subsidies. 93% of parents are within prime working years, 25-44, which are not typically ages at which one needs significant assistance from social service agencies. But our parents are under-employed due to the combined influences of single parenting, little to no post-secondary education, unreliable transportation, criminal histories and minimum wage jobs that fall far short of a true living wage.

65% of families survive on less than $10,000 per year, which includes all sources of public assistance. Most families receive food stamps, averaging $300 per month. 25% of families receive TANF averaging $268 per month. When appropriate, fathers are encouraged to support her recovery process and provide financial support. In 2015 one married couple lived on property and four residents reported receiving child support.

95% of our families fall below the Federal Poverty Level.
Her Challenges

- 78% of residents do not own a car. Many jobs are located in suburban areas not well served by public transportation in evenings and on weekends.
- 60% of our mothers are on or have been on probation or parole. 23% have felony convictions.
- 41% of our mothers do not have medical insurance and suffer from a multitude of chronic health conditions, using the emergency room as their primary care provider.
- 98% of our clients are dually diagnosed with substance abuse and a mental illness.
- 75% tested have an ACE (Adverse Childhood Events) score of 4 or higher. The ACE Score assesses stress during the first 18 years of life. An ACE score of 4 or more greatly increases the likelihood of severely adverse adult health outcomes.

Mother's Health Insurance Status

- Uninsured: 41%
- Medicaid: 53%
- Private Insurance: 4%
- Medicare: 2%

Primary Mental Health Diagnosis

- Depression: 39%
- Bipolar: 14%
- PTSD: 17%
- Anxiety: 27%
- Other: 3%

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Score

- Ace Score 0-3: 25%
- Ace Score 4-7: 54%
- Ace Score 8-10: 21%

Our full-time on-site therapist is trained in trauma informed therapy.
**Major Outcomes**

- 100% of families are reunited and stabilized.
- 92% of clients in 2015 demonstrated one or more benchmark improvement in at least two dimensions of the self-sufficiency index (education, career resiliency, housing, household management, goal setting, support system, mental health, parenting, human relations/safety).
- Mothers are better able to maintain their sobriety during times of stress, and show increased focus on children's well-being. 73% remain drug and alcohol free during their stay.
- Our successful graduation rate of 62% is well above the national average for substance abuse treatment programs.

**Improvement in Self-Sufficiency Indices**

- No improvement: 3%
- 1 dimension: 5%
- 2 dimensions: 7%
- 3 dimensions: 7%
- 4 dimensions: 11%
- 5 dimensions: 12%
- 6+ dimensions: 55%

**Drug and Alcohol Free During Stay**

- Yes: 73%
- No: 27%

**Move Out Reason**

- Noncompliance: 19%
- Relapse: 19%
- Successful graduation: 62%

A stable home is the foundation for all these positive outcomes.
Her Need

She moved to Amethyst Place after abusing drugs for 18 years—first shooting up meth with her mother at age 14. She entered in-patient treatment twice but left each time with no place to live. She was not eligible for food stamps and struggled to get a job because she was a convicted drug felon, and no one would rent to her because of her criminal history and numerous evictions. Both times she returned to apartments where drug use was pervasive, both times she relapsed. Her children were in foster care and she was facing termination of parental rights because she was unable to provide safe housing for them.

Our Answer

With fully furnished and safe housing, professional support and 24-hour supervision, community case management, out-patient treatment, and life skills classes, she has regained custody of her children and is now living a life that she thought was out of her reach. After 14 months, she lives in our alumni housing and is a leader in the community.

A mom who thrives starts the ripple effect of success—other residents begin to believe they can do it too.
Her Need

Prior to coming to Amethyst Place, she had faced 32 years in prison as a persistent drug felon. She was underemployed due to the challenges of single parenting, limited education, unreliable transportation, and criminal histories. She entered our program without a high school diploma. She had never owned a computer and did not have the skills necessary to use one, which shut her out of full participation in today’s technological world.

Our Answer

With on-site tutors, EnCompass mentors, free wireless internet access, free computer classes and a refurbished computer, she is succeeding in ways she never has before, and for the first time in her life believes in her own potential—because we believed in her. She now has her GED, has been released from probation after 10 years, celebrated four years sobriety, and has completed her first semester in college.

24 residents attended college in 2015, supported by our volunteer tutors and an education fund that removed financial barriers.
Her Need

When she came to Amethyst she had lost custody of her son and was pregnant with her second child. She was reunited with her son shortly after arriving, but he came with a host of emotional issues as a result of separation and addicted parenting. Just like 98% of our residents, she too had never addressed the mental health issues that directly caused her substance abuse. With few supports, she was convinced she was an unfit mother, and had decided to give her unborn child up for adoption.

Our Answer

After intensive therapy with our full time onsite Family Support Therapist, combined with parenting classes and other life skills programming, she began to believe in her own potential and decided to keep both of her children. Today she is a model parent—you need only look at her family photographs to see the pride she takes in her son and daughter, and the joy she finds in being their mom.

On-site therapy is vital for these shattered families, who are learning a whole new way of living together.
Thanks to You!

Volunteers
In 2015, over 400 volunteers provided more than 5,000 hours of service for our women and their children. Volunteers renovated our childcare room, mentored our moms, taught classes, led sports clinics, provided childcare, moved furniture and decorated apartments, organized and helped with community and fundraising events, took pictures of our families and tutored our moms and children.

Funding provided in part by:

Ameriprise Financial
Bike for the Brain
Blue Cross/Blue Shield
Blue Scope Employees Credit Union
Bryan Cave
Christ Community Church
Church of the Resurrection/United Methodist Women
Cigna Life and Health Insurance Co.
Community America Credit Union Foundation
Courtyard Properties
Curry Family Foundation
Daniel G and Wanda K O’Dell Family Foundation
Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph
Don Harman Memorial Fund
Dowd Burton Fund
Duke Family Memorial Fund
Dunn Family Foundation
Empower Retirement
Enid and Crosby Kemper Foundation/UMB
Francis Family Foundation
Great West Life & Annuity Insurance Company
H&R Block Foundation
Hall Family Foundation
Hallmark Cards
Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City
Homelessness Trust Fund
Impact Fund
Ina Calkins Trust Fund
Jackson County COMBAT
Jacob L. and Ella C. Loose Foundation
Joel and Judy Gerwick Foundation
KCP&L
McCullough Family Foundation
McGee Foundation
Missouri Bank
Missouri Department of Mental Health
Missouri Housing Trust Fund
Oppenstein Brothers Foundation
Richard and Lynn Klein Foundation
Rolling Hills Presbyterian Church
Royals Charities
Schwab Charitable Fund
Sisters of Mercy West Midwest Community
Swope Health Services
Technology Solutions Partners
Terracon
United Way Donor Designations
United Way Partner Allocation
US Bank Foundation
Village Presbyterian Church
Women’s Foundation of Greater Kansas City
(1) Contributions of approximately $198,000 received in 2015 are intended to be expended in 2016 for restricted purposes.
(2) Income and Expenses are net of participant rent assistance pass through from DMH of $329,190
# Statistics: Mothers

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mothers served in 2015</td>
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<td>Median age of Mother</td>
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<td>Ethnicity of Mother</td>
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<td>White</td>
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<td>African-American</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>Average tenure (months)</td>
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<td>Average household annual resources</td>
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<td>Educational attainment at Intake</td>
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<td>Some High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>GED</td>
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<tr>
<td>High School Graduate--Diploma</td>
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<td>17%</td>
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<td>College Degree</td>
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<td>Primary Daytime Activity</td>
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<td>Full or part-time work</td>
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<tr>
<td>College</td>
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<td>GED classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treatment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primary Substance of Choice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>47%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
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<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (Opiates, PCP, Heroin, Prescriptions)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental health diagnosis only</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<td>2015 Clients Discharged</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful Graduation</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>62%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-compliance</td>
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<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relapse</td>
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<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clients Discharged Average Tenure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful Graduation</td>
<td>17 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-compliance</td>
<td>8 months</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Relapse</td>
<td>9 months</td>
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## STATISTICS: Children

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children served in 2015</th>
<th>109</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number of households with:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No children</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 child</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 children</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 children</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 children</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Median Age of Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>less than 2 years old</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 to 5 years</td>
<td>48</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 to 8 years</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>9 to 12 years</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>Teenagers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethnicity of Child</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
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<td>African American</td>
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<td>Hispanic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade in School</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Home full time with mom</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daycare/PreK</td>
<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elementary (K-4)</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle School (5-6)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jr High (7-8)</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Female Children (Total = 50)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
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<td>School Age</td>
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<td>Male Children (Total = 59)</td>
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<td>Preschool</td>
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<td>School Age</td>
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Client Satisfaction Survey

In 2015 clients were asked to provide anonymous responses to a satisfaction survey at 30, 60, 90 days, and 6 months.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>No Answer</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am happy living at Amethyst Place</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I completely understand the rules</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The rules are fair</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daytime staff treat me with respect</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nights/Weekend staff treat me with respect</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I get what I need</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff is sensitive to my culture</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2015 clients were asked to provide anonymous responses to a satisfaction survey at 30, 60, 90 days, and 6 months.
Client Satisfaction Survey

Amethyst Place has provided a safe and comfortable environment for myself and my children. I am able to focus on bettering myself and the lives of my children. I am forever grateful.

This place is changing my life and who I want to become. I really love it here.

I love all the help and respect from staff. They have helped me accomplish goals I have had for a long time. Amethyst Place is a huge blessing! Thank you!

I’m overwhelmed with gratitude towards the transitional living at Amethyst Place. I owe my strength in recovery to this place. My children love this place.

I appreciate this program very much. It is unique in the way it supports mothers in getting their education. This has been a blessing for me.

I love the help they provide. And the community help. It really put us back on our feet and got us ready for adulthood and in a way we will succeed.

I wouldn’t change anything about Amethyst Place. It is wonderful. The support I get from my treatment team is excellent.

The staff has been wonderful. Overall I am very pleased with the entire program. My apartment is comfortable and I’ve been offered support though groups, community programs and therapy services as a result of living here. I am very happy.

Amethyst Place saved our lives to get back on our feet. I am so grateful for Amethyst Place. Thank God for Amethyst Place my son really likes it here.

This place is changing my life and who I want to become. I really love it here.

The staff go above and beyond for all of the moms here and I couldn’t be more thankful to have them as a support team.

I am so thankful for this program! My life is going better than I even imagined it could.

This place really helps my family, I love the on-site therapy and being able to have sober people to go to if having any problems.
To make a gift or for more information contact:

Kimberley Davis, Executive Director
kim@amethystplace.org
2735-A Troost
Kansas City, MO 64109
816.231.8782
www.amethystplace.org

Amethyst is the sobriety stone, and ancient goblets made of amethyst were believed to hinder inebriation. This beautiful healing crystal represents calm and inner peace, and protection from harm.

More information can be found on our web site including links to our Annual Report and Outcomes Report, or visit our profile on the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation web site where you can access audits and 990’s.

Thank you for supporting vital, outcomes-driven programming for a mother who dreams of a better life for herself and her children.