

Pentecostal Hour



by Mark DeBolt

No zephyr soft
but cyclone strong
bore thoughts aloft
in windy song.

No flicker mild
but flames of red
danced hot and wild
upon each head.

And so fierce was
our thundering word
in languages
of all who heard,

all knew it meant
the Spirit's power.
This was our Pent-
ecostal hour.



A TRIBUTE TO DORTHY DAY FELLOWS, MACEY & EBONY

By Meredith Owensby

One night this past winter, Macey was dropping off a friend in Bellevue, just over the river from Cincinnati. It was bitter cold, and both women were tired from the evening's festivities.

As Macey drove through the dark streets of the neighborhood, she noticed a strange light ahead of her. Slowly, she realized a house on the street was on fire. No emergency vehicles were around.

Fearing that people could be trapped in the house unaware, Macey pulled over, jumped out of the car, and raced to the front door. She began banging on the door, calling loudly for anyone inside to flee.

This, in a nutshell, characterizes Macey's approach to crisis: She assesses the situation, decides on a course of action, and puts herself wholeheartedly into that action, even if it means personal risk and bruised knuckles the next day. This is true regardless of the hour or level of fatigue she's currently experiencing.

When Macey moved to Norwood, she had never lived outside of Iowa for any length of time. She moved in 2021, the second summer of the pandemic, when we were just beginning to emerge from our protective pandemic crouch positions at the shelter.

Very quickly, Macey established herself as a capable and thoughtful case manager. She was well liked by guests, who trusted her to do the things she said she would do. There was no administrative task too complicated, no set of steps too thankless that Macey could not get to the goal.

It wasn't all about to do lists, however. Macey has that particular mix of friendliness and capability that you find in the best waitresses and health care workers, a solicitude that also takes no crap. This is no accident, as Macey has been and is currently an Olive Garden waitress, and worked in a nursing home during college. She is one of those people who adds positively to a situation, be it a celebration or a crisis moment.

Those of us who have worked with Macey during her time at Lydia's House have no doubt that she will make a stellar social worker wherever she heads next.

Macey, we give thanks for the many needs you have seen and addressed in your years of service with us.



Featured: Macey, left, and Ebony, right.

Ebony Pratt was emboldened to apply to our Fellowship program after finishing a masters degree in Non-Profit management. When we got her application, noteworthy for her extensive experience working in nonprofits and clear commitment to her personal faith, it felt like the sky opened up. Frankly, had we designed a candidate to be the first to come to us under the "non-profit leadership" framework for our Dorothy Day Fellows, we couldn't have done better than to design Ebony!

Over the last two years we've been grateful for her low drama, hard work ethic and can-do spirit. We've also been grateful

that she was willing to leave her mom and brother, for the first time in her life, and venture from North Carolina to Cincinnati.

In her interview Ebony told us that she'd been both an accomplished Scout and, later, a Girl Scout leader. Little did she know that we've long drawn inspiration from the Scouts as we've led our troop through the wilderness. For years we offered house made merit badges for guests and community members as they accomplished goals. While we don't do that anymore (having lost our main seamstress) we still hold this practice in our hearts. For Ebony I'd award the "make it better" badge, for the many times she revamped ugly things or clunky systems for the better and the "with a smile" badge for the umpteen volunteer orientations she conducted with grace and the "golden shovel" badge for over seeing countless hours of volunteers to clear the vacant lot where our addition is soon to go. I might also add the "cheer them on" badge for her enthusiasm at our attempts at silly sports like Fowling (football meets bowling) and the "ultimate organizer" for keeping all our birthday celebrations and events in order while being sure that we observed each person's milestone.

Ebony has been a sweet and thoughtful volunteer coordinator, a gracious host to many new folks at our table, a knowledgeable and polished ambassador for our mission, a curious learner of new skills, a generous lender of purses and accessories, and a friend to us all.

As she transitions to whatever God has next for her, starting late summer of this year, she leaves a hole that it will be difficult to fill. Lydia's House is stronger for her gifts and those gifts, no doubt, have contributed to building the beloved community.

WHAT'S THE CATHOLIC WORKER?

By Mary Ellen Mitchell

If you've ever looked closely at our publications, you'll see that we offer "Hospitality in the Catholic Worker Tradition." The Catholic Worker is a model that Meridith and I drew inspiration from in our young years of formation when we volunteered at the Open Door Catholic Worker Community in Atlanta, Georgia, serving grits and boiled eggs to folks in their breakfast soup kitchen. Meridith went on to live with this community for several years as a resident volunteer.

Different than a typical non-profit, Catholic Worker houses are typically founded by a small group or community of faithful people who commit themselves to living and working for the ministry typically in a "main house" where the works of mercy happen or nearby in an extended community of additional houses. Homeless guests often live with volunteers. Most leadership is lay. Catholic Workers often don't get paid for their work or only take stipends, balance work and prayer, engage in a larger critique of consumption war and violence, publish regular newspapers or newsletters that include commentary on social justice and social change, and do direct work with the very poor and homeless while also protesting the conditions that create homelessness.

The unofficial byline of the movement is "Our vision is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable." The founder of the Catholic Worker Movement, Dorothy Day, is currently being considered for sainthood in the Catholic Church. She was known for saying about the problems of the world, "The only solution is love" and advocated relationship and community as the ultimate salve for most of what ails us. She spent many months in jail for protesting war and nuclear weapons while also living in community and helping others start houses around the United States. Her original house, opened in 1933, is still in operation in New York City.

The Catholic Worker is less formal network and more spiritual network. Many houses die with their founders and that's ok, because the spirit is what matters, not the institution. There's no main office or agreement we signed to affiliate. We do have regional gatherings and Lydia's House faithfully attends the Ohio River Valley Catholic Worker and Christian Community gathering in Bloomington Indiana each May. Let us know if you'd like to go!

We also make it a point to visit one another. Meridith stays in close contact with her friends from the Open Door, now based out of Baltimore Maryland. We have made many trips to visit our friends (and vice versa) at the Bloomington Catholic Worker/ Christian Radical, when we started Lydia's House the St. Francis/ St. Joseph Catholic Worker in Over the Rhine offered us a generous donation for renovations, and during my sabbatical I took students to visit the Albuquerque Catholic Worker, which focuses work on helping migrants from Mexico and Central America.

Over Holy Week this year I took Sam to visit the Los Angeles Catholic Worker and we had a great time! This house has been in continuous operation since 1970 and got its initial energy protesting the Vietnam War. They offer in house hospitality and hospice care to older folks who were formerly homeless, run a soup kitchen on skid row where they serve 700 (!) meals a day 4 times a week, and regularly participate in protests to improve labor conditions for hospitality workers in Los Angeles and to campaign for more affordable housing for the nearly 100,000 street homeless in greater LA. It was great to meet them and share life with them for a week.

The world could use more Catholic Worker Houses. If you're interested in the movement, volunteer opportunities at other houses, or starting a house, I'd be happy to talk to you more. By the way, not all Catholic Workers are Catholic... the Open Door was started by Presbyterian pastors!



ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY TIME

By Mary Ellen Mitchell



In the Lydia's House children's religious education program we sing a song about the liturgical year and corresponding colors: purple is for preparation, white is for celebration, green is for the growing time, red is for Pentecost. Because our program ran October – May over the last year, we tended toward all the colors but green. Green, however, as our liturgical calendar wheel makes clear, is the bulk of the year. In a European growing cycle this time is also the time when you grow and harvest; outside of an agricultural framework we know it as “ordinary time.”

As we head into summer, aka ordinary time, it strikes me that at Lydia's House summer is anything but! In the world of family homelessness summer is known as the “summer surge,” or a time when many doubled up relatives are asked to move out, causing the census of shelters to rise. Typically Lydia's House stays full in summer, and many of the children we serve tend to be a bit older, as school aged children are particularly vulnerable to the pressures of displacement during this season. We learned early on that older children, and better weather, set the stage for more programming. We are supported in these efforts by a number of foundations that encouraged us in offering “child enrichment,” among them GCF summertime kids, The Dater Foundation and The Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio.

When I consider summer at Lydia's House many good memories rise to the surface! Dinners are frequently outside, accompanied by basketball or “umi car” races down the driveway. We frequently porch sit after dinner and often visit our local corner

store, Ameristop, for soft serve. My kids and Lydia's House kids run together to the store, and adults accompany them home, trying to keep the ice cream from melting by licking the cones.

Summer always includes camp. We've heard from guests that camp was a highlight of their childhood, if someone had coordinated it for them through church or the Boys and Girls club. We decided Lydia's House could be such a coordinator, and developed relationships to make camp a reality. Annually, we send kids to Camp Joy and take families to Procter Episcopal Family Camp.

Other activities have included family carnivals, field trips, shopping trips for back to school, Shakespeare in the backyard, pool parties, Reds games, parades and amusement park trips. Often, in the summer, something fun is added to our schedule every week.

Sometimes it's hard to explain what makes Lydia's House unique as a shelter. Other times, it's very clear. Summer, especially, helps us live into our calling to be extraordinary in the hospitality and support we offer to the families we serve and those in the extended community of former guests and volunteers.





THE CASE FOR TWO ADULTS

By Mary Ellen Mitchell

After a decade working to house homeless mothers and their children, I've come to realize that more affordable housing for single parents is a limited solution to family homelessness.

It's a Wednesday night in January and I have the flu, like the real, diagnosed with a nasal swab, influenza b. I've been in bed, mostly, for five days. My husband left his full-time job tonight to head to a zoning meeting, and with three children unsupervised it's like Lord of the Flies here at my house. At one point I make an announcement on "Alexa" to call them to my bedside, because my voice isn't loud enough to yell. They file in, disheveled school uniforms and ruffled hair, as I interrogate them. "Each of you. What is the screaming?" Six-year-old replies, "Sam licked me and then I tried to touch Annie with my lick hand." Me, "Annie, is this true?" Annie (age 13), "Yes, so then I put in my headphones and locked my door."

In a recent Atlantic article entitled "The Married Mom Advantage," sociologists Brad Wilcox and Wendy Wang report that women like me survived the pandemic with the least amount of mental and financial scarring. We married mothers in two income families may have headlined the New York Times for a season as we zoomed from the closet, but when all was said and done we were the least lonely and the most financially secure. I wasn't surprised to read this, mainly because of my years as a director of Lydia's House, observing first hand the loneliness and despair of single moms.

What's striking to me about the chaos in my house during my bout of flu is that the evening would have gone completely differently if my husband were home. The carefully crafted chore chart would be semi-enforced; the announcement Annie made of "I made burritos but eat them wherever because mom and dad aren't around" would have been refuted in favor of our normal preference for tables and chairs. Whenever he or I attempt single parenting we always come back with, "bad idea." Indeed, solo moms, those that are without a cohabitating partner, are faring badly. These are the moms that land with us in the shelter.

I've seen this intimately as we've offered space and food and financial support to our guests. I know these women, and I've followed some of their lives for almost a decade. In long-form interviews that I've conducted one guest expressed her hope for life moving forward this way: "In a real best case I'd have a partner to share bills and burdens with. I want a family. I want more kids with a partner. I want to be able to have somebody to fall back on."

Yet it is poor women who are parenting alone,

engaging in a documented phenomenon, the "planned, unplanned" pregnancy. Seventy percent of births to women without a high school diploma occur outside of marriage, whereas the same is true for less than ten percent of college-educated women. As Richard Reeves notes in his recent tome "Of Boys and Men," this is something of a paradox: the women who have the highest level of economic independence are making childrearing work in marriage or cohabitation while those who most need a second income—not to mention a second child transporter, a second dishwasher, a second bedtime facilitator—are not.

While men may have let them down, our shelter guests haven't given up on partnership. Perhaps the best illustration of this hope is the large number of women we've served that have more than one child, the later children often with new fathers. Hope springs eternal.

Loneliness eats away at women in our circle of shelter guests, but as a political liberal schooled in "Housing First" and a general social service mentality that independence was the highest good, I've regularly preached a gospel to our homeless guests that they should "depend on no one."

Instead, my husband and I spent the past decade advocating for and building affordable housing in Cincinnati.

First raising capital to renovate buildings with zero debt, and then accepting Section 8 vouchers, we started with one building and recently added a second. We created a landlord partnership program for other landlords, advocated fiercely to our national elected officials to improve the Section 8 voucher program, and spoke regionally about the importance of adding units at 30% AMI, targeted at single moms. Since Lydia's House entered tenuously into the world of low income land lording and the bigger conversation about what it would take to respond to the housing affordability crisis in our region (which, by the way, is one of the most affordable in the nation) rather than see an uptick in affordable family housing, the picture seems to get bleaker. Rents in our region are among the fastest rising in the nation. Public housing authorities are closing units, and many of their housing project communities are in bad shape. An affordable housing trust fund, targeted at developing housing for those earning 30% AMI or below, failed miserably at the local ballots. Meanwhile, we need

thousands more of these highly subsidized units to provide for the current demand by lowest income families (30% AMI and below), many of these single parent-headed. And our region pales in comparison to housing needed in larger cities, and overall.

When I jumped into the housing development and advocacy conversation seven years ago, it was from a place of idealism that we could work together as advocates and community developers to solve a 20,000 unit deficit of family housing available for the very poorest families.

I now wonder if we're even solving the right problem.

What if the family housing affordability crisis for able-bodied adults with children in our region could be greatly alleviated by simply adding a second adult—be it father, sister, grandmother, or friend—to the equation?

In late 2022 the Housing Advocacy group National Housing Coalition presented a study called “Paycheck to Paycheck” including a calculator which sorts housing options based on job type and typical pay. The argument they make effectively is that one low-skilled worker can't afford a two-bedroom apartment in most regions, including affordable Cincinnati. However, use the calculator to try out very low-paid, low-skilled jobs, like hotel maid for instance, and double that income—and the housing affordability on a two-bedroom unit in Cincinnati suddenly works without subsidies.

Perhaps this is obvious to most readers, but for me it was an epiphany.

I am not presenting a case for the model of two working adults sharing one unit of housing in order to undermine the case for creating new units of affordable housing for families, subsidized by the government and charity. Lydia's House currently owns twelve of these units and may add more. The few projects that go on line each year are vital, particularly as we are net losing apartment units in our region. There will always be solo parents, and there are situations, particularly for foster care age outs, where there are literally no other adults in their circle to invite in for rent-sharing. Subsidized housing is also needed for disabled parents.

Furthermore, asking women to live with abusers or have their children abused by men, for the sake of rent, is unacceptable.

Still, it's clear that the small amount of affordable housing we can put on line each year is not a comprehensive solution to the social phenomenon of single adults with their children in need of separate 2+ bedroom housing units.

A more human solution, and one that matches the tone of our current economy and long history of anthropology, is to live together.



The problem is that our current paradigm, particularly in the social service sector and in housing policy, disincentivizes co-housing, co-parenting and bill-sharing. This “independence mentality” serves no one well. Instead, it undermines the ability of families to achieve the self-sufficiency and relationship stability that they want to have.

On my refrigerator is a magnet quote “Life does not have to be Perfect to be Wonderful.” After a decade of accompanying single moms through shelter, applying for benefits, affordable housing, income cliffs, child-care debacles, and the bottom falling out again and again, I want to make my own magnet, “Partners don't have to be perfect to be better than single parenting.” No matter what government solutions we can throw at families in terms of childcare and other benefits, there really is no substitution for other caring adults in the circle. The work to be done, then, is to convince those adults that this is true, make the possibility more alluring, and find new ways to support couples or alloparents as they do the often difficult work of raising children.

Because in the end getting along is probably less difficult—and certainly more sustainable—than going it alone.

Mary Ellen Mitchell is the co-founder and co-director of Lydia's House, a landlord, housing advocate, co parent of 3 children and community builder in the Norwood neighborhood of Greater Cincinnati.

For the full text of this article, including some proposed solutions, check out our blog.

<https://stlydiashouse.org/the-case-for-two-adults/>



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LYDIA'S HOUSE 2022 REPORT TO PARTNERS

2022 was another brimful year for Lydia's House! We resumed many of the precious community building activities that had gone on hiatus during the pandemic, even while supply chain issues slowed our housing expansion. As a result of work and prayer, the fruits of last year included:

Guest Care

- Improved our in-house Access database to allow for easier communication and tracking for guests and former guests, with the goal of creating internal accountability and better guest outcomes over time
- Moved our exit surveys and social support questionnaires online, reducing the collection and analysis administrative burden for staff
- Improved our financial support of shelter guests by creating a new "Problem Solving Budget" for guests to access grants as needed
- Improved two-way communications and accountability through a case management binder system, fully accessible to guests, with to do lists styled on the "Kanban" method of organization
- Upgraded household technology with door codes active at particular times and an emergency phone for urgent needs
- Received donated pregnancy tests from Caresource Foundation and provided them to shelter guests, with the hope that earlier pregnancy detection will result in earlier prenatal care

Aftercare

- Hosted more aftercare family birthday parties for our Virginia Coffey Affordable Housing Families, creating stronger ties between the shelter and affordable housing communities
- Improved turnaround times for grants while reducing staff hours on the emergency assistance financial aid program
- Funded and facilitated 15 families receiving Norwood pool passes for the first time
- Organized community resources into Padlet software, making them easier to search, update, and comment on
- Increased knowledge of the social security disability system and located community resources to help with applications
- Facilitated eviction record removal for two former guests with dismissed evictions, allowing them to apply for future housing
- Designated "point people" among staff for particular aftercare needs, such as childcare and housing acquisition

- Listened closely to former guests on their needs and fears in a "post Roe" Ohio; wrote an article and disseminated it to interested partners and churches; improved our women's health program and helped women create fertility trackers to better understand their reproductive cycle

Administration and Fundraising

- Reduced administrative burden by integrating online giving with Donor Perfect software, for smoother online and automated giving
- Changed payroll company to Payroll Partners, improving our Human Resource capacity
- Created an online screener for Dorothy Day Fellowship applicants and began recruitment for the second class of fellows, to start summer 2023
- Accommodated increase in affordable housing development costs by applying for community based resources, specifically targeting cost increases related to COVID and supply chain dysfunction

Affordable Housing and Shelter Expansion

- Created a tenant report card with incentives for on time, in full rent payment and lease adherence to allow greater communication and transparency with our affordable housing tenants
- Introduced a three year trajectory for next step housing after Lydia's House apartments
- Opened 1801 Mills, a four unit apartment building with one 1 bedroom, two 2 bedroom, and one 3 bedroom apartments
- With the help of Probono Partners, had the lots at 2020 and 2024 Mills Ave consolidated to prepare for shelter expansion
- With the help of Ben Eilerman, received all necessary zoning for our shelter expansion
- Worked with Hub+Weber architects to prepare drawings for the new shelter expansion
- Collaborated with Hamilton County to receive funding for the expansion, which will include a larger dining room, community space, onsite children's area, and an additional staff living suite



Strategic Partnerships

- Strengthened relationship with Norwood's Baby Bear to provide infant and child items to moms
- Celebrated the arrival of Dress for Success in Norwood, allowing Lydia's House guests and former guests to easily access business appropriate clothing
- Joined New City Church in celebrating Easter and shopping for needed items at their clothing exchange; collaborated with New City Church to add aftercare financial assistance for former guests
- Received "Welcome to the Shelter" baskets from donors at Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church and "Welcome Home" baskets for those moving to apartments from donors at Bellarmine Chapel
- Outfitted numerous families with winter coats thanks to Upspring's coat closet
- Partnered with Cincinnati Shakespeare Company for tickets and adult enrichment opportunities
- Attended a Cincinnati Reds game, courtesy of the Reds Franchise
- Visited King's Island on a hot day last summer, rejoicing in the waterpark option, with support from the Dater Fund and Kings Island
- Attended a women's basketball game at Xavier University, courtesy of XU
- Steered families toward appropriate childcare with assistance from 4C for Children
- Received a large grant from Bellarmine Parish and worked with them to provide Christmas presents to our families and volunteer landscaping for our properties

- Celebrated Christmas, complete with a visit from Santa, with the Ladies of the Norwood Moose Lodge
- Swam and Trick or Treated with the Norwood Department of Recreation
- Partnered with Wright Patterson Credit Union to get former guests driving with the "Wheels for Work" program
- Streamlined professional referrals to the Norwood franchise of The Maids, and worked with their leadership to provide meals for shelter guests
- Met with Community Action Agency and Citylink to streamline admission into respective programs for Lydia's House guests

Spiritual, Atrium, Adult Programming

- Welcomed children ages three to six to participate in weekly Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) program. The class comprised both Lydia's House kids and children from the neighborhood, with every week including at least 50% LH kids.
- Received a scholarship toward training from the National CGS office, and welcomed assistance from long time trainer Dan Teller
- Trained three volunteers in administering CGS level I
- Developed an adult education program that included visiting instructors from Capacitar and True Freedom Recovery Yoga
- Collaborated with "Light for the Darkness" to plan liturgies and celebrations for adult education
- Improved our in-house birthday celebration and added a ritual for honoring new Godparents

Lydia's House 2022 Year in Review

54 served in shelter + 113 aftercare = 167 Individuals Served

Emergency Shelter at Lydia's House



22 Families were provided Emergency Shelter for stays between 6 and 30 days

77% Continued into Transitional Housing or Safe Stable Housing

Each Family Received:

- On-Site Staff Support
- 24/7 Shelter Access
- Nutritious Meals
- Private rooms
- Case Management Services , including Applying to Housing and Benefits Navigation
- Support in Receiving COVID Vaccine



Women Served:

- Average Age = 25 Years
- Average ACE* Score = 4.8
- 27% Experienced Domestic Violence in the Past Year
- 45% Spent time in Foster Care as Children
- 23% Had a Mental Health Diagnosis
- 73% African American; 14% Caucasian, 13% Other category
- Shelter guests named an average of 1.1 people in their social support network **

Transitional Housing Program at Lydia's House



Average Total Length of Stay: 88 Days
70% Moved into Stable Housing



57%
Received
Needed
Mental Health
or Medical
Care



50%
Obtained and/or
Maintained
Employment or
Getting Job
Training



57%
Obtained
Government
Benefits



43%
Obtained
Necessary
Documentation

80% Cited Improvements in Reliable Social Network**

"I understand how to be a family with people I did not know."

"I'm happy that I opened myself up to the opportunities and gatherings Lydia's House had to offer. This really helped me build my confidence and self worth. I began to feel like family."



*ACE = Adverse Childhood Events, A tool used to assess traumatic events individuals correlated with negative health outcomes, Score 0-10

**As measured by the Sarason Social Support Questionnaire - Short Form, among th

14 Families Continued onto Lydia's House On-Site Transitional Housing Program. Transitional housing is offered for those that stay in shelter longer than 30 days



15%
Received
Legal
Assistance



36%
Received
Assistance in
Enrolling
Children in a
New School or
Daycare



6 Guests
Supported in
Pregnancy

"Don't look at this as being in a shelter. Look at it as an opportunity to be better, to be around helpful people."

experienced during childhood, higher scores

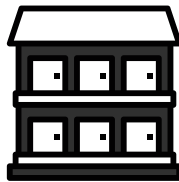
ose who completed their stays in 2022

Lydia's House Aftercare Program 41 Families Served



- 9 Parties Offered to Aftercare Families (Galentine's, Easter, Mother's Day, Back to School, Two Amusement Park Outings, Pool Party, Thanksgiving, Breakfast with Santa)
- 5 Families Attended Family Camp and 11 kids attended summer camp
- \$46,000 Spent on Aftercare Families
 - \$37,000 Provided in Financial Assistance, such as Rent, Utilities, and Bills
 - 37 Children Provided Funding to Strengthen Family Bonds, including Birthday Parties, Vacations or Family Outings
 - 21 Families Provided Annual Memberships to Local Attractions, such as the Zoo or Norwood Pool
- 12 Families Provided Legal Assistance, including Trained Tax Preparation
- 15 Families Provided Case Management
- 22 Families Provided Social Support outside of gatherings
- 29 Families Provided Assistance in School or Daycare enrollment, School Supplies or Uniforms
- 5 Individuals Participated in Car Program to have Affordable, Reliable Transportation with credit building car loans now provided by Wright Patt Credit Union

Virginia Coffey Place Supportive Housing



8 Families Housed,
including 15 kids

\$3,400 Provided in Rental
Assistance to Tenants

Expanding Local Affordable Housing

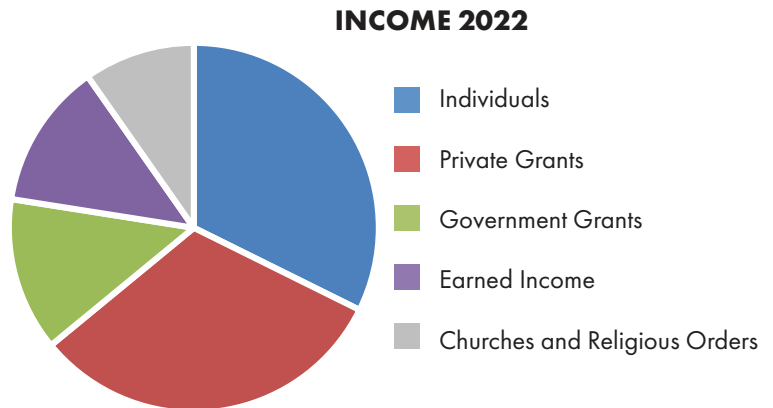
1801 Mills Ave opened October 2022 with 4 units of affordable housing, including one three bedroom unit, two two bedroom units, and one efficiency



2022 ANNUAL REPORT FINANCES

INCOME 2022

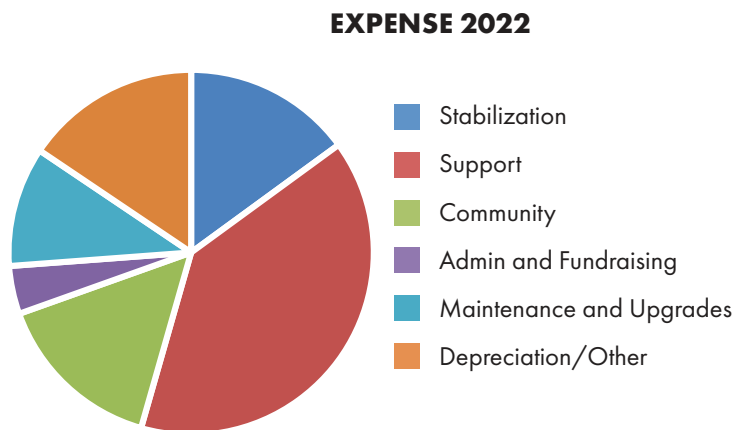
| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Individuals | 217,725 |
| Private Grants | 213,668 |
| Government Grants | 90,571 |
| Earned Income | 86,100 |
| Churches and Religious Orders | 65,529 |
| TOTAL* | 673,593 |



*Total income includes capital campaign fundraising for 1801 Mills Ave. The expenses for this project are not listed below, but rather are booked as an asset in our accounting.

EXPENSE 2022

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Stabilization <i>(includes utilities, food, bus passes, insurance, personal care spending)</i> | 56,323 |
| Support <i>(includes expenses related to guest support personnel)</i> | 148,530 |
| Community <i>(includes worship, outings, support for other ministries, newsletter, aftercare)</i> | 56,922 |
| Admin and Fundraising <i>(includes office expenses and supplies, software and hardware, accounting professional expenses, admin professional expenses)</i> | 16,056 |
| Maintenance and Upgrades <i>(includes yards, furniture, building maintenance and maintenance staffing)</i> | 39,962 |
| Depreciation/other | 58,597 |
| TOTAL | 376,390 |



A GROWING COMMUNITY REQUIRES A LARGER BUILDING!

It's long been a part of our dreams, and more recently our board approved strategic plan, to put an addition on Lydia's House. During Covid, especially, we found that the need for social distancing forced us to reduce our in house census, so when funds came out under the CARES act to expand shelters, we jumped on the opportunity by filing an application. At the same time, we used donated funds to purchase the empty lot next to our main property and consolidated the two pieces of land into one plot. We've been in discussion with state and county leaders to secure construction funding for the addition for almost 2 years and hope to break ground before the start of summer.

We're excited to share a rendering of our new addition, which we anticipate opening in early 2024. When complete it will add an additional housing suite on site, complete with its own kitchen

and bathroom, as well as a much larger dining room and community space and a designated children's education space. Still on the horizon is a new landscaping plan for the yard, new fencing and a new outdoor playground.

We're grateful to Hamilton County Commissioners, the staff of the Planning and Development office, Tom Perry from the State of Ohio, Ben Eilerman (who navigated this funding and design process for all of us), Hub+Weber architects, Andrea Backsheider, Pro Bono Partners, and a number of private donors including: The Cincinnati Woman's Club, The Housholder family, Bellarmine Chapel, private funds of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation and Laurie and Dan Roche. If you're interested in contributing to the new yard/ playground project please reach out to maryellen@stlydiashouse.org



Lydia's House Addition

LYDIA'S HOUSE
PO Box 128808
Cincinnati, OH 45212

STLYDIASHOUSE.ORG
513-549-7752

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Cincinnati, Ohio
Permit No. 6207



LIVE IN COMMUNITY WITH US!

Lydia's House is excited to invite the second class of Fellows for our Dorothy Day Fellowship Program. We're hiring for an "as soon as possible start" for an initial commitment of 18-24 months.

THE 2023-2025 APPLICANTS CAN CHOOSE FROM TWO POSITIONS:

- Community Ministry Fellow
- Maternal and Family Health Fellow

Each position will include mentoring in the fight against family poverty and homelessness, and all positions share the work of maintaining and staffing the shelter.

The positions include a living suite and a generous compensation package including

- Housing and utilities
- A monthly living stipend of \$1000
- Wellness funding for counseling, spiritual direction and retreats
- Connection to the larger Catholic Worker and Christian social justice movement through gatherings and shared experiences
- Meals with the community
- Communal prayer times and structures for accountability and growth
- Professional development funding and opportunities for learning
- Health Insurance via Ohio Medicaid
- A program grant to create and implement new programming
- The option of taking classes at nearby Xavier University at a reduced rate

Each living space can accommodate a single woman or a married couple. The positions are full time and require night and weekend work. Women of color are strongly encouraged to apply.

For more information, please visit our website at <https://stlydiashouse.org/fellowshipprogram/> or contact maryellen@stlydiashouse.org

