



house news

SUMMER 2022



Responding to Crisis Through One of Our Own

Operating a nonprofit is never easy, and operating one in the midst of a pandemic has at times felt overwhelming.

But even when the odds are stacked against us, our Providence House team is devoted to supporting children and families in crisis – and recently, we did so while facing a crisis of our own.

Despite our ongoing efforts to protect everyone at Providence House from the endless cycle of variants, last month, 10 of the 12 children in our Crisis Nursery and a few of our staff members contracted COVID-19.

Closing the house was not an option, as nearly all of the children in our Crisis Nursery were homeless. So, we had to ask our staff to undertake significant risks to themselves and their families to fulfill our mission and care for children in crisis – and they did.

Through the dedication and selflessness of our childcare providers, our children received the constant, loving care they needed with oversight from our medical partners at MetroHealth.

The children are now all well, and most have already reunited with their families. Families that,

thanks to support from our social work team, have resolved their crises, such as homelessness, poverty, and violence, and are on the path to safety and stability.

It demonstrates our incredible team's commitment to supporting children and families when they need it most.

We wanted to share this glimpse inside Providence House with you because it demonstrates our incredible team's commitment to supporting children and families when they need it most.

Providence House is an organization responding to crisis and operating through crisis every day. We want to thank everyone who is reading this, as it is only through your continued support that we are able to care for these children and every child to come.

commitment

Building Our PHuture on Cleveland's East Side

We are thrilled to see our plan to help hundreds more children and families every year becoming a reality with the construction of our new East Campus Crisis Nursery in the Buckeye-Shaker Neighborhood!

The 20-bed Crisis Nursery, currently under construction, will attach to our existing Weizer Building, which features a Children's Activity and Education Center, a Family Resiliency Center, and the Providence House administrative offices.

We are also in the process of hiring a local artist or team of artists to transform an exterior wall of the Weizer Building into an inspiring mural that will overlook the Crisis Nursery's outdoor play area. Our goal is for this mural to reflect the strength of our families and the Buckeye-Shaker Neighborhood, as well as the hope and joy Providence House represents.



Construction progress of our new East Campus Crisis Nursery

As our Crisis Nursery takes shape at Buckeye Road and East 118th Street, we've been preparing our adjacent property at East 119th Street to become the future home of our Community Services Hub. The structure that previously stood on the property has been demolished, and the site has been cleared to make way for the new 3-story mixed-use facility where we hope to host partner agencies who also want to help residents in the community.

Our East Campus project is being funded through our Giving Hope for the PHuture Campaign. We want to thank everyone who has helped us raise more than \$11 million of our \$21 million campaign goal! Through the generous support of foundations, public funding, corporate partnerships, and amazing individuals, we are well on our way to bringing Providence House services to even more children and families!

HOW YOU CAN GIVE HOPE *for* THE PHUTURE

There are many ways you can get involved in or expand your support of our East Campus project through the Giving Hope for the PHuture campaign!

- *Make a gift using the enclosed envelope or online at provhouse.org/eastcampus*
- *Coordinate a corporate matching gift through your company if your employer offers matching donations for employee gifts, and double your impact!*
- *Host a small gathering to invite others to learn about our expansion project from a representative of Providence House*
- *Invite a friend for a tour to see East Campus firsthand and explore all it will offer*
- *Name a space and become part of the East Campus in perpetuity*

If you are interested in any of the opportunities above, please contact our President and CEO, Natalie Leek, with any questions you might have at natalie@provhouse.org or 216.651.5982 x224

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A NOTE FROM

Natalie



As you can see, we are making amazing progress on our new East Campus! I believe that it will truly be a beacon of hope and healing for so many individuals, families, and children in this community. But, we still have a way to go... and I hope you will help!

I often get asked, "What is the difference between gifts to Providence House for the children and gifts for the capital campaign to build the East Campus?" The primary difference is that the gifts or pledges we receive for the East Campus project are restricted for only that purpose and cannot be used for direct services to our children and families. So, while we have reached half of our goal for the East Campus, we cannot focus on only that. We still need, and must, continue to receive gifts to support our ongoing services for the babies and children in our care today.

If not today, I hope you will consider supporting our efforts to grow and serve hundreds more children each year with a future gift to our campaign. To learn more about our "Giving Hope for the PHuture" Campaign for our East Campus, visit our website, provhouse.org/eastcampus.

We are also hosting "Hard Hat Tours" of the East Campus! If you are interested in visiting East Campus, please **contact Amy Mills at amym@provhouse.org or 216.651.5982 ext. 230.**

Please know that we are so very grateful for you and for any gift that you can make. The enclosed gift envelope allows you to select where you would like your gift applied.

Stay safe and well. You are important to us and to the babies and children that you are helping.

Natalie
Natalie A. Leek, President & CEO

Community Education & Resiliency Program

Keeping families together is one of our top priorities at Providence House. Our Community Education and Resiliency Program (CERP) enables us to work with parents and guardians before a serious crisis occurs so they can think proactively about their families and improve stability for the future.

CERP brings our successful family preservation services to parents and guardians in our local community through child-serving partner organizations, including the Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland, Cleveland Metropolitan School District, and Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority. This has given us the opportunity to directly support families on Cleveland's East Side, right where they live before our East Campus opens!

This prevention-based program includes Providence House case management, parent education, and trauma services to help families identify any unmet needs, build upon their strengths, and develop social connections with others. And if they do encounter a crisis, they will already be familiar with the many ways Providence House can help.

We have received excellent feedback from families who have participated in CERP! Some of the comments from our recent cohorts include, "This program has been a lot of help to me. It helped me find steps to improve my situation. Great program, very helpful!" and "This program was so positive! I would love to be a part of another one."

Here is a look at the impact of CERP on the 35 participants in our 2021-2022 fiscal year:

100%

of participants felt supported by Providence House staff

93%

would participate in a second series of the program

86%

would recommend the program to others

73%

reported their parenting skills improved

70%

said their bond with their child increased during the program

68%

experienced a decrease in their trauma symptoms

Changing How We Say “Thank You”

We strive to be the best steward of every gift we receive to support our children and families, and thank you for entrusting Providence House with your gifts. Every gift means so much to us and truly makes a difference in the lives of our babies and children.

To stretch every gift we receive and maximize your support for our mission, we are making some changes to our Thank You letter process. Due to escalating costs for paper supplies, printing, and postage, we will be limiting the number of printed Thank You letters we send beginning in October 2022. While some gifts will continue to be acknowledged with mailed letters, we will make every effort to move to digital acknowledgments whenever possible. Every donor will still receive an annual gift statement for tax purposes.

You can view the details of this change and opt out of printed and mailed Thank You letters on our website at provhouse.org/thankyouletters. Even if you opt-out, you will still receive your annual gift statement.



Every gift is crucial to helping the children we care for in our crisis nursery. This change will ensure that every dollar you give goes toward the direct care of children and services to families in crisis. We are deeply grateful for your patience and understanding as we make this change. And above all, we are so thankful for your continued support and love for our children and families!

Thank you

Why You Can Feel Confident Supporting Providence House

Providence House takes pride in earning the highest ratings with non-profit monitoring organizations to demonstrate our responsible stewardship of your generous donations.

This year, we once again received a three-year CARF accreditation for our commitment to excellence. CARF is an international, independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services and has recognized

us for meeting quality standards to enhance the lives of the children and families we serve.

We also have earned a 2022 Candid Platinum Seal of Transparency for our quantitative measures of progress and results and a 4-star rating (the highest possible) from Charity Navigator for being accountable, transparent, and financially healthy. We pursue these accreditations so you can feel confident that every gift you

make to Providence House is used wisely and makes a difference for children and families.

