



house news

SPRING 2023



## Celebrating the Impact of Our Incredible Volunteers

As we celebrate the 42nd anniversary of Providence House this April, we're excited to recognize the dedication and generosity of our incredible community of supporters who have helped us keep more than 14,000 children safe and families together.

April is National Volunteer Month and the perfect opportunity to share our appreciation for those who have given Providence House the gift of their time, energy, and talent.

Since our founder, Sister Hope Greener, opened Providence House in 1981, we have depended on volunteers to help support our children, events, and an array of projects and services throughout the year that are essential to fulfilling our mission.

We are constantly in awe of the incredible kindness of those who come to Providence House, ready to do whatever is needed and humbled by the personal experiences that inspire so many to make a difference in the lives of children and families throughout Northeast Ohio.

"As a former single mother, I was blessed with a village of neighbors willing to help. I know firsthand the feeling of 'What am I going to do now?' I am proud to support the mission of Providence House, which acts as a village of helpers," said Sarah Ezzie Haines, a PHriends Associate Board Member and Senior Manager of Wellness at SITE Centers. In her role with PHriends, Sarah donates her time and expertise as a yoga instructor to host exciting fundraising events for Providence House.

"We have been honored to play even the smallest part in the Providence House mission, which so closely models our own. Our founder and CEO started ChoiceLocal as a purpose-driven company after he and his wife lost their child late in pregnancy. We have a goal of helping 10,000 children each year, and every time we volunteer, each teammate has truly enjoyed bonding with each other and the Providence House team while lending a helping hand," said Brittany Piper, Senior Director of Digital Media at ChoiceLocal, which volunteers for Done in a Day projects multiple times a year.

We are extremely grateful to all who have volunteered with Providence House in the last 42 years and graciously helped our children and families through their caring service.

[LEARN MORE INSIDE...](#)

## SUCCESS STORY : *Joseph*

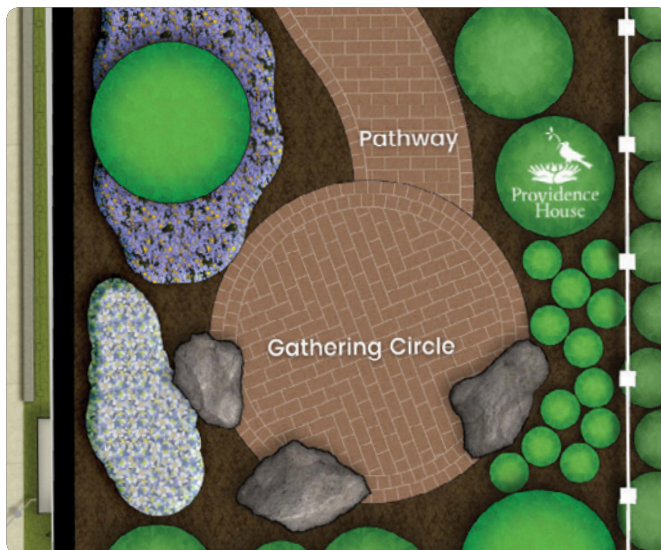
Eleven-year-old Joseph came for a brief stay in our Crisis Nursery after his mom, Sandra, reached out to us for respite care services. Joseph's escalating mental health challenges were creating conflict at home and causing the family to feel overwhelmed.

During his time at Providence House, Joseph, his mother, and his older siblings were able to get some space to safely rest, recharge, and take care of their needs so they could feel more equipped to handle future challenges.

Our Childcare Staff provided lots of loving care to Joseph to ensure he felt safe and comfortable. He participated in fun activities at the House, went on a field trip to the movie theater, and had time to relax and experience some of the joy of childhood.

When it was time for Joseph to reunite with his family, he told us, "The staff has been really effective with my depression - this is the happiest I've been since my mom and dad got divorced."

Sandra said through working with Providence House, she and her older children were also able to rest, and her family received the support they needed to improve their emotional stability and gain a new appreciation for one another.



## Become a Special Part of Our New East Campus

The welcoming, home-like environment of our new East Campus Crisis Nursery will feature a beautiful Children's Garden with a brick pathway and gathering circle engraved with the names of our cherished Providence House supporters.

You can have a lasting impact on our new home while making a difference in the lives of children in crisis by purchasing an engraved brick paver for \$500. This donation will help get our East Campus ready to welcome generations of children who will benefit from your generous gift.

There are only 350 pavers available for purchase on a first-come, first-served basis.



Visit [provhouse.org/eastcampus](https://provhouse.org/eastcampus)

or scan this QR Code to purchase yours now!



# Volunteer Opportunities

If you're interested in a new way to engage with Providence House, please explore the volunteer opportunities below and be sure to visit [provhouse.org/volunteer](http://provhouse.org/volunteer)

## DONE IN A DAY VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Done in a Day volunteering is a great way for companies and organizations to build teamwork while giving back to the community. Done in a Day groups visit one of our campuses or our warehouse to spend a few hours completing a project such as taking donation inventory and organizing, landscaping, weeding, outside clean-up, painting, etc., and learn more about Providence House and our services.

## EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Many volunteers are needed to host successful fundraising events for Providence House, including our Annual Luncheon and Deck the House Benefit Auction. Event Volunteers spend time behind the scenes helping prepare decor, raffles, and more, as well as provide support during events to ensure our guests have a wonderful experience.

## CHILDCARE VOLUNTEERS

Our Childcare Volunteers support the Childcare Staff in our Crisis Nursery by working directly with the children staying with us and by completing essential tasks such as laundry, meal preparation, and light cleaning. Their contributions are extremely valuable in helping us provide a safe, loving environment for our kiddos.



*"I have been a dedicated supporter of Providence House for 20 years as both a fundraising and childcare volunteer, because I truly believe in their mission. I would encourage anyone to consider getting involved."*

**— Ida Pocci**

## PHRIENDS

An energetic group of young professionals, PHriends are dedicated to making a difference in the Cleveland community by raising awareness and funds for Providence House. Our PHriends Associate Board provides an opportunity for those looking to increase their involvement with Providence House and gain leadership and networking experience.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our dynamic Board of Directors is comprised of esteemed professionals from an array of industries who lend their expertise to Providence House by providing guidance, governance, and fiscal oversight. They serve as ambassadors of Providence House in their personal and professional spheres, helping to raise funds, establish partnerships with corporate and community organizations, and champion our mission.

*join us*

## 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Providence House Luncheon

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 12 pm  
InterContinental Cleveland

## Advancing Opportunities Built with Hope

Help Providence House celebrate 42 years and more than 14,000 children kept safe and families together at our Annual Luncheon on Wednesday, April 26!

This year's event will feature exciting updates on our new Providence House East Campus in the Buckeye-Shaker Neighborhood, a Keynote Address by Cuyahoga County Executive Chris Ronyane, and the Every Child Award Ceremony honoring:

- University Hospitals
- Three Arches Foundation
- Cleveland Guardians
- Significant Other Association



We hope you'll join us and hundreds of our wonderful supporters, partners, community

leaders, and volunteers for this special event to help our children and families! Purchase tickets at [provhouse.org/luncheon](http://provhouse.org/luncheon) or scan this QR code.



## Aftercare Program

We often get asked, “What happens once children leave the Crisis Nursery to return home to their families?” The parents and guardians we work with do an incredible job to address their crisis situations while their children stay with us, but not all challenges our families face are completely resolved once they have reunited.

That’s why we offer our voluntary 12-month Aftercare Program. It allows families to stay connected to Providence House services for a full year after their child returns home and receive continued support in improving stability for the future.

Our Aftercare Program features individual support services such as counseling, assistance resolving issues with utilities, housing, education, and more, as well as referrals to other organizations and providers. Participants have access to free giveaways, parent activities, and family events hosted by Providence House.

The program also offers a support group to help parents and caregivers build peer-to-peer relationships. Those in the support group receive free

essential need items, including diapers, children’s clothing, hygiene, and household cleaning products.

Last year, we provided 34 families in our Aftercare Program with these continued services:

- 197 Case Management Sessions
- 163 Home Visits/Deliveries
- 136 Referrals
- 77 Bus Passes

Once a family concludes their year in our Aftercare Program, they are still able to keep in touch with Providence House in a less-formal capacity, so we can offer assistance as needed and celebrate their successes.





Happy Spring! This season always feels like a time to celebrate stepping out of the winter doldrums into the embrace of warm sunshine and the immense promise of opportunities for new growth around us.

Providence House is embracing the feeling of

"opportunities" this spring as we anticipate the opening of our new East Campus just off the Opportunity Corridor. Our new campus will offer so many new opportunities for families to access our programs and services.

Our Spring Newsletter is filled with stories about the opportunities we offer for children and families. While you are most familiar with our Crisis Nursery care and family services, our featured Respite and Aftercare Programs, along with our incredible volunteers, are also critical for us to support families in achieving every opportunity for safety and stability that they can. And they do! Last year 99% of our families successfully completed our program and reunited with their children!

I hope you will take the opportunity to join us and celebrate our 42nd Anniversary at our Annual Luncheon: Advancing Opportunities Built with Hope on April 26 at the Intercontinental Hotel. Hundreds of guests and supporters like you will share a wonderful lunch and learn more about the life-changing opportunities that Providence House is bringing to children and families in our community.

But these opportunities are only possible because of you. Your trust and generosity give us the opportunity to keep children safe and families together. Your love and dedication give our children a safe place to stay and loving care. And your belief and support give our families the opportunity to heal and find hope for their future.

Thank you for the opportunity to be your "hearts and hands" to embrace the children and families that you support us to care for. You are their springtime in the midst of their crises, and their hope for the bright opportunities ahead of them.

Natalie A. Leek, President & CEO

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President & CEO | *Natalie A. Leek*

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\*PAST CHAIR | +DECEASED





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*In this issue...*



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Aftercare Program



SUCCESS STORY

Joseph



GET INVOLVED

Volunteer Opportunities

Join us April 26th for our 42nd annual  
**PROVIDENCE HOUSE LUNCHEON**

Visit [provhouse.org/luncheon](http://provhouse.org/luncheon)  
for more information.



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