

St Martin de Porres House of Hope Annual Report – June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015

St Martin de Porres House of Hope has successfully completed its 32nd year of operation and is looking forward with continued dedication and optimism. Our program provides a safe environment and support for a recovering woman to maintain her sobriety and focus on making life changes required to secure independent living. Success is achieved as she continues on her road to recovery and is able to live independently – in her own home by supporting herself and her children with employment.

Our women are referred to the House of Hope by various treatment centers and the courts. They have been through other programs unsuccessfully, often more than once. This program is their last resort. To succeed, each must make a commitment to change her life. Without personal commitment and acceptance of responsibility, she will not succeed. Each woman develops a personal plan with a counselor who monitors her progress throughout her stay. Our program provides the environment, activities and support to enable a woman to change her life so she may live independently without drugs and alcohol.

Environment

St Martin de Porres House of Hope provides a safe, structured, disciplined and nourishing environment for a woman and her children to live. Each woman's children, girls thru 18 and boys thru 11, are housed with her in dorm like accommodations keeping the family unit intact. All receive three meals a day. All participate in keeping the facility clean and tidy which is excellent training for when they are living on their own. Without the safe environment for herself and her children, a woman cannot focus on changing her life.

This past year we provided 12,979 shelter nights to women and children. Three meals were served daily.

Program

Counseling

Counseling continues to be a key component of the program. Each woman receives individual and group counseling as they progress thru the program.

- Follows 'Minnesota 12 Step Model' which includes phases, groups, meetings, individual substance abuse addiction counseling, and weekly 12 step classes
- Psychological, grief and family counseling
- Weekly parenting classes
- Anger management classes

Music

Music classes are held weekly in partnership with Harmony, Hope and Healing. The women are proud of their choir and the pleasure it brings to those who hear it. Over the past year, the choir has been requested to sing at many church and civic events. The program includes:

- Weekly classes for women
- Weekly classes for children and pre-school children
- Weekly sessions for family music
- Outside performances averaging two or more per month

Education

- Volunteers provide tutoring and mentoring for women and their children including grammar classes
- GED prep classes are held several times a week and attended regularly
- Computer literacy classes

Job training

The House of Hope partners with CARA, a non-profit organization, to provide job preparation training and placement.

Health services

- Drug screening
- Nutrition
- Health classes / clinic
- Weekly Tai Chi classes for residents and staff

Workshops

- Life skills
- Budget and money management
- Self perception workshop
- Art

Special for Children

- Preschool classes to prepare for school
- Summer camp
- Tutoring sessions two evenings a week
- Scholarship program

Summary of Program Results

At the beginning of our last fiscal year, June 1, 2014, we had 27 women and 6 children living at the House of Hope. At the end of the year, May 31, 2015, there were 29 women and 7 children living here. Over the year 59 women and 9 children used the services of the House of Hope. The average age of the women entering in our program was 48. The youngest was 26 and the oldest 68.

- Sixteen women successfully completed the program. Their average time in the program was 19.8 months.
- Three women participated in the program but did not successfully complete it. Their average time prior to leaving was 2.8 months.
- Six stayed only briefly, decided this was not for them, and left after an average of 25 days.
- Five women were transferred due to medical or mental issues or other special circumstances. Their average time in the program was 5.1 months.

Summary of Financial Information

Over the last year our support from our friends continued at levels comparable to previous years. The large number of people volunteering their services and in kind donations continue to help keep our costs down.

Overview of Operating Revenue and Expenses – June 1, 2014 thru May 31, 2015*

Contributions	147,458
Grants	284,061
Memorials	1,195
Total Income	432,714
Administration	108,258
Fundraising	28,034
Programs	463,327
Total Expenses	599,619

The operating shortfall was covered by reserve funds.

*Numbers are preliminary, year end financial audit is still in process.