

CENTER FOR
PERFORMING ARTS



SOUTHSIDE
CENTER OF HOPE
A Supportive Community for Women in Recovery

Fiscal Year 2019

ANNUAL REPORT

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Addiction is a disease. No woman decides to become an addict or alcoholic. Once addicted they face tougher challenges in comparison to men. Women tend to progress more quickly from using addictive substances to dependence. Women also develop medical or social consequences of addiction faster than men. They often find it harder to stop using addictive substances. Female substance abusers are often cast in a harsher light than their male counterparts. This is due in large part to society's view of women as wives, caregivers and mothers. It has been estimated that only 30% of female substance abusers receive treatment.

Aftercare for women once they complete detox and treatment is vital to the recovery process. The more we come to understand about addiction, the more we see that women of prolonged addiction struggle to get through the first year out of treatment. Issues with family, economic hardship, inability to resist temptation and break old patterns, and stigma are very real obstacles that women face once they leave residential treatment. This impedes their ability to reintegrate into society and they very often relapse as a result. First year relapse rates are as high as eighty percent.

Thanks to our generous supporters, we have been providing solutions for women in recovery from more than three decades. Our agency is the only recovery home in the State of Illinois that provides long-term care to women following treatment and detox that does not charge program fees nor bill insurance.

Sister Therese O'Sullivan and Sister Connie Driscoll co-founded St. Martin de Porres House of Hope in 1983 to fight the epidemic of homelessness among single mothers on the South Side of Chicago. Today, their vision has expanded into a social service agency, with the goal of eradicating the long-term effects of homelessness, addiction and mental illness on women and children. Each year we provide women with holistic and comprehensive services that include: Long-term Shelter, Addiction Recovery Services, Behavioral Health Services, Case Management and Aftercare.

This past year, we changed our name to reflect more accurately the impact we've had during the past 36 years on the South Side of Chicago. The name change better reflects our vision, which is not just to help women and children overcome homelessness, but to ensure that those who are marginalized and disenfranchised have access to the care they need to fundamentally change their lives.

During the past year, we identified the two social ills we most directly address: substance use addiction and mental illness. I'm very pleased to report that our offerings consistently address both issues and trust that they will only get stronger. As the drug epidemic continues to plague Chicago, our mission has become increasingly vital to those who would otherwise not be able to receive the services they need. We are committed to eradicating the effects of homelessness and drug addiction among women and children and hope that you will continue to help us in this fight by supporting Southside Center of Hope.

Our 2019 annual report highlights the impact your giving made on the families we served.

Thank you for making our work possible.

Yaisa Hagood

Yaisa Hagood

Executive Director

FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

This past year has been one of tremendous change and growth for our agency, one that has challenged both our staff and the board of directors in new ways. We continue to develop the ability of our board to provide the support our executive director needs during this period of transition from an organization run by our beloved founders to one that will endure beyond their day-to-day leadership. This process began well over a decade ago with the passing of Sister Connie, and we are now living the reality of a House of Hope in which neither of the founders is present at our facility, although Sister Therese continues to provide guidance.



This is a time of testing for all of us. The need that Sisters Connie and Therese took on more than 35 years ago has exploded, both in terms of drug and alcohol addiction and the need for housing for the most vulnerable among us. Our facility and staff also increasingly meet the needs of clients with mental health challenges. If anything, the landscape of support for the people we serve has become far more complex and fractured over the years.

We are able to adapt to these changes and yet remain effective because we are true to our core mission, yet capable of adapting when needed. Many facilities around the city have closed, while others have given up on the idea of full recovery for the people they serve. We recognize that who we are is a community of compassion and commitment, and we continue to expect the best possible outcomes for the women who come through our doors. We continue to graduate women from our program who are clean, sober, employed, and ready to take on the challenges of the world beyond our walls.

It is my job to make sure our board of directors embraces this mission in deed as well as word, and I am pleased to be able to report that we continue to make progress in board development. We are recruiting a more diverse group of board members, while adding expertise from the field to our board. We are challenging members to make larger commitments to the fiscal health of the organization. And we are in the process of developing a strategic plan to take House of Hope into a new era in which our founders' vision is augmented by a new set of tools and strategies and adapted to the ever-changing challenges of our day-to-day operations.

I am so grateful to all of you for your continued commitment. Without you, what we do would literally be impossible. The individual support we receive is the backbone of our operation, and a testament to our collective commitment to our founders and their vision to support families in the greatest need. I encourage you all to reach out to myself or Yaisa to as we all continue this journey together. Know that you are never far from our thoughts and that the work you value so much continues every day.

With high hopes,

Gabriel Piemonte

Gabriel Piemonte

Board President

SAME MISSION, EXPANDED SERVICES

Our mission is to provide a safe and healing community for women and children experiencing homelessness and recovering from substance use addiction, trauma and mental illness.



“Sister Connie and I wanted a place where women could bring their children while they recover in a structured, safe environment that motivates them to achieve sobriety, become gainfully employed and live independently. Our new name doesn't change our mission.

- Sister Therese O'Sullivan, co-founder

Our New Name, *Southside Center of Hope*:

- Reflects the impact we've had for the past three decades in Chicago, specifically on the South Side.
- Embodies our founders' vision of being more than a shelter. We've evolved into an agency that provides recovery and mental health services and case management.
- Makes women of all faiths and religious beliefs feel welcomed.
- Reduces confusion about who we are by setting us apart from other organizations named "St. Martin de Porres"

“*When I first walked through the door, I knew I was in the right place.*”

CASINA'S STORY

At 44 years of age, Casina O. had a solid career as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Schwab Hospital. She grew up on the West Side, one of seven children, and spent ages 5-16 in the foster system. She remembers most of that time fondly, playing with her friends, making mud pies, going to the park and to carnivals. “I moved around a lot, but most experiences were good.”

On the day her daughter was born, Casina returned to live with her mother. “My mother was very supportive. The transition went well,” she says. After attending Chicago Vocational High School in the Avalon neighborhood, she earned her GED, and then set her sights on becoming a dietary technician. While attending Malcolm X College, she took a job in security at Schwab, and completed her training to become a CNA.

Casina reflects on the time she was working at Schwab and attending church. “There was nothing wrong that I could see,” Casina says, but she started dating a man who would come to her home and smoke crack. “One day I asked if I could try it. I had never touched any drugs before that. I ended up getting addicted.”

Casina's addiction upended her life, and she was sent to county jail in 2017 for four months. She was released to A Safe Haven for treatment, and then came to Southside Center of Hope, where she lived for three months, graduating from the program in April 2018.

“When I first walked through the door, I knew I was in the right place,” Casina says. “The counselors were just

awesome. Miss Yaisa is very dear, and Sr. Carlotta and Sr. Therese are very good people. I can't find the words to describe them.

“While in the program, I grew up. I learned so much about me, how to take care of myself. They have so many different classes there on how to take total control of your life again. I was able to get all the information I could gather and use it, and it was profitable. Now I am not afraid to go on and take challenges. I have something I can hold on to, something I can believe in.”

After being in the program for 90 days, Casina completed the job training program at Cara Chicago and was assisted with finding full-time employment. She recently celebrated one year working at Home Chef.

Casina offers this advice to women who are struggling with addiction: “Arm yourself with the information about addiction. Take that information and use it when that addiction tries to raise its head. It doesn't matter what goes on in one's life - drugs are not the solution!”

“*Arm yourself with the information about addiction. Take that information and use it when that addiction tries to raise its head.*”



WE FORMED PARTNERSHIPS WITH A PURPOSE.... ENDING ADDICTION

In January 2019, we partnered with the University of Illinois Extension Nutrition Education Program to offer the Eat Smart and Move Program. Each week, residents took part in a nutrition education group that focuses on promoting healthy diets and physical activity through engaging, informative, and interactive programming. As part of the program, the residents learn new recipes and have a hands-on cooking class.

Upon completion of the program, each resident will receive a certificate which they can put on their resume and those who want to work in the food service industry will be provided with job resources. Recently, we had our first group of residents complete the program and earn certificates.



Food and Nutrition Program Launched



Partnership with Southwood Interventions

In February 2019, we partnered with Southwood Interventions to allow new residents to participate in an Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) for the first 90 days of their stay at St. Martin de Porres House of Hope. With the implementation of managed care and state budget cuts, Illinois, like many states, has seen a decrease in the length of time people can receive in-patient treatment. The time people are spending in a residential treatment has been decreased significantly from 90 days to just 28 days. For women who've had a relapse in the past year, often their time back in treatment is less than 28 days. "Very often we get calls from hospital and treatment facilities referring women who've

only had five days of detox or 14 days of residential treatment," said Yaisa.


Residents begin their day bright and early at 6:30 a.m., a tradition started by founders Sister Therese and Sister Connie. They wake up, eat breakfast, complete chores, have morning meditation, and then a staff member transports residents in phase one of the program to Southwood Interventions located, in Englewood, where they take part in four hours of psycho-educational groups.

From February to May 2019, none of the women in the program who participated in IOP at Southwood Intervention relapsed.


WHO WE SERVED IN 2019

Average Age	42
High School Graduate or GED	77%
Domestic Violence Victim	43%
Prior Incarceration	30%
Mental Health Diagnosis	74%
Chronic Health Diagnosis	66%
African American	70%
Caucasian	28%
Hispanic	3%
Asian	1%
Mixed Race	1%

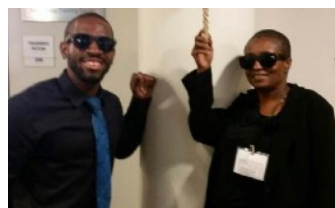
OUR IMPACT




56
*Women Served
6 Children Served*




20
*Women Placed In Affordable
Housing Units*




22
*Women Assisted with Finding
Gainful Employment*



100%
Acquired Healthcare



14,480
Meals Served



8,506
Shelter Nights Provided

Note: The average length of stay in the program is more than 12 months. Some women didn't complete the program in the 2019 fiscal year.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Fiscal Year 2019
June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019



INCOME	
Corporations	\$23,527
Events (Net)	\$11,009
Foundations	\$125,740
Government	\$38,818
Individuals	\$148,869
In-Kind	\$8,405
Organizations	\$112,576
Total Income	\$468,944



EXPENSES	
Behavioral Health	\$79,362
Food	\$119,703
Fundraising & Development	\$75,632
Health and Wellness	\$592
Management & General	\$115,115
Shelter	\$184,041
Substance Abuse	\$157,186
Total Expenses	\$731,631

Deficiency of revenue over expenses	\$275,275
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NET ASSETS	
Beginning of Year	\$1,084,518
End of Year	\$839,973

More detailed financials can be found on our website:
www.southsidecenterofhope.org

THANK YOU

We'd like to thank the following corporations, organizations, and foundations for their generous support in FY19:

Bank of America Charitable Foundation	Lannan Foundation
B & D Foundation	Mount Carmel High School
Beggars Pizza of Oak Lawn	OLPH Youth Ministry
Center for Research Libraries	Premonstratensian Fathers Augustine Steward Trust Fund
Chicago Community Foundation	Racine Dominican Mission Fund
Dominican Sisters of Springfield	Ride Life A Girl
Exelon Foundation	Rothschild Investment Group
George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities	Rust-Oleum Corporation
Helen Brach Foundation	Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Hope Ministries	Sisters of Mercy West Midwest Community
Hospital Sisters of St. Francis	St. Anne Catholic Community
Howland Helping Hands Funds	St. Barnabas Church
Hyde Park Union Church	St. Louis de Montfort Parish
Illinois State Treasurer	State Board of Education
Indian River Community Foundation	Thomas W. Dower Foundation
John R. Houlsby Foundation	Union Church of Hyde Park
Judy Family Foundation	University of Chicago Service League
Kirkland & Ellis Foundation	W.W. Grainger-Lake Forest
Knight Family Foundation	W.P. & H.B White Foundation

In addition, we would like to thank all of our individual donors and volunteers who contributed their time and resources to make our organization a success

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

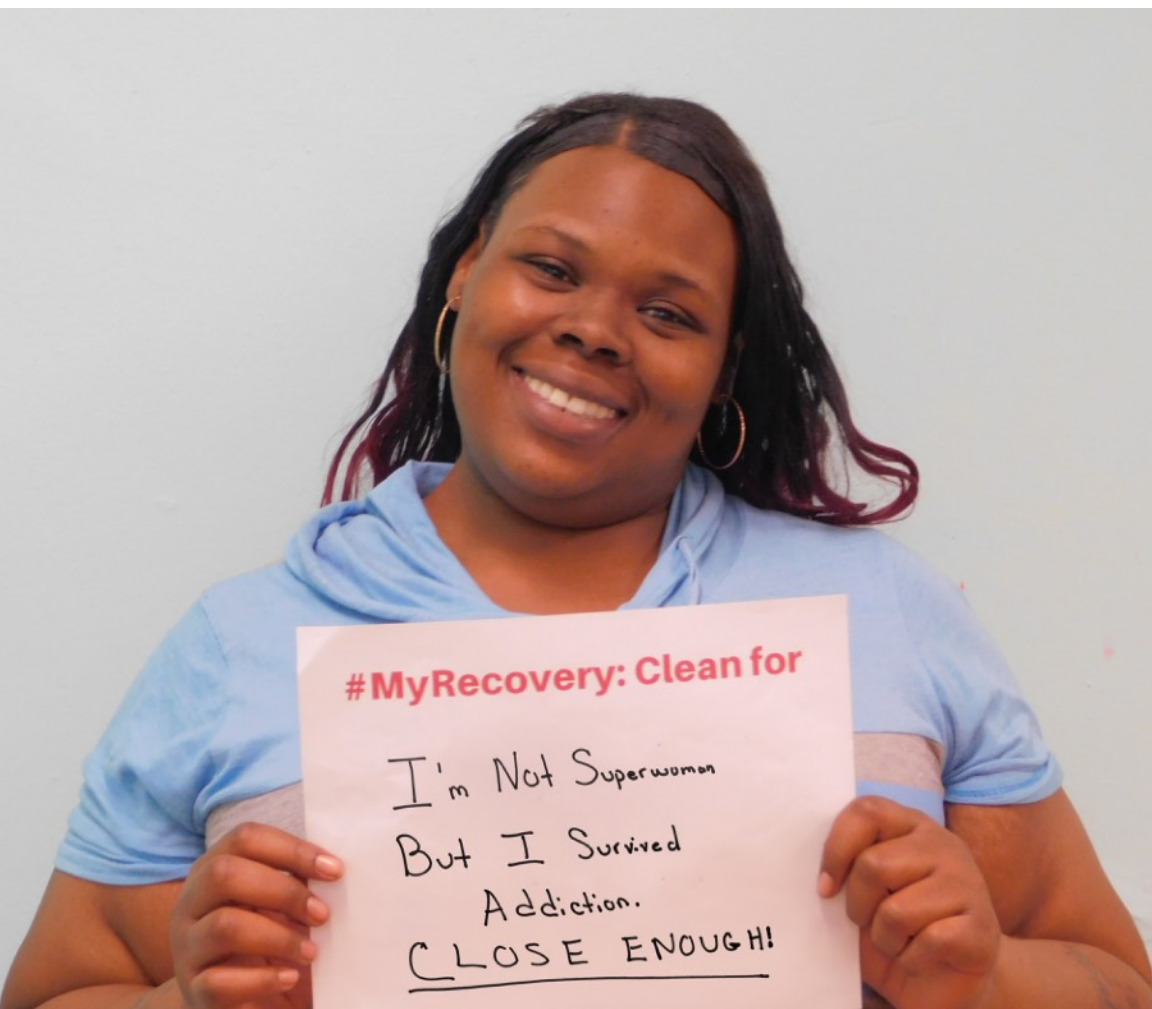
Brother Tom Collins, CFC	Gabriel Piemonte (President)
Peter Brown (Treasurer)	Eva Stojchevska
Romana Khan	Ollie Thomas
Rusan McNeal	Kevin Waklatski (Vice President)
Sheryl Morris	

In FY19 more than 100 volunteers donated a total of 1,240 service hours to help further the mission of Southside Center of Hope.

HOW DOES THEIR STORY END?

Thanks to a grant from the W.P. & H.P. White Foundation, we were able to develop an aftercare program in 2017. The program allows us to provide case management and recovery services to women who complete our program for one-year post program. The first year, we worked with 20 graduates. In the second year, we assisted 28 graduates. In both years, we achieved a success rate of 80 percent. The women were able to successfully maintain their recovery following discharge for 12 months. While it has proven difficult to maintain contact with all program graduates, we are actively working on a plan to improve and expand our efforts soon by providing transitional and supportive housing to our program graduates.

The road to recovery isn't easy... but the women in our program don't expect it to be. All they ask for is a chance - a chance your gift gives to them. Thank you for helping women reclaim their lives.





WHAT WILL YOUR IMPACT BE?

Your gift of money, resources or time is an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of homeless women recovering from addiction and their children. Here's how you can support our work:

Host a "Hope" Party

Organize a "hope" party and invite your friends and family to learn about the mission of our agency. Contact us for your free "Hope" Party Kit and to have a staff or board member attend your event.

Become a Monthly Giver

Provide a consistent contribution each month through our monthly giving program, Hope Givers Network. Your pre-authorized monthly contribution will ensure we can continue to provide services to women and children in need.

Leave a Legacy

Leave a legacy that represents the things you believe in. Once you have taken care of your loved ones in your

will, please consider including a bequest to our agency.

Volunteer

Volunteers are important members of our team and essential in our efforts to end homelessness and addiction for women and their children. By donating your time and energy, you support our staff to help best serve our residents beyond the limits of the budget.

Matching Gifts

Employee matching gift programs are corporate giving programs in which your employer matches donations made by its employees to eligible nonprofit organizations. It's an easy way to double your contribution to us!

SOUTHSIDE CENTER OF HOPE

6423 South Woodlawn Avenue

Chicago, IL 60637

www.southsidecenterofhope.org