



**SOUTHSIDE  
CENTER OF HOPE**  
A Supportive Community for Women

*Fiscal Year 2020*

# ANNUAL REPORT

# GIVING HOPE TO WOMEN

## Mission

The mission of Southside Center of Hope is to provide a safe and healing community for homeless women and their children to recover from substance use addiction, trauma and mental illness.

## Vision Statement

To eradicate the effects of homelessness and substance use addiction among women and their children.

## Southside Center of Hope provides the following services:

**Case Management** - The program expands the network of services available to residents by connecting them with external service providers. Residents are connected to community partners for services based on their individual needs ranging from medical, behavioral health, legal, education, employment, financial literacy and permanent housing.

**Shelter** - The program offers safe and supportive housing in a 28-bed recovery home for up to 12 months to single women and women with children who are experiencing homelessness and have recently completed residential addiction treatment.

**Substance Abuse** - The program provides a range of addiction recovery and prevention services through individual and group counseling. The model caters to the specific needs of female substance abusers and uses the 12-step program, trauma informed care and evidenced-based principles.

**Supportive Services** - The holistic recovery program combines traditional techniques with alternative approaches such as art therapy, meditation, nutrition, and yoga.



# FROM OUR LEADERS

Dear Friends,

For the past 37 years, Southside Center of Hope has addressed three of the most pressing issues facing women in black and brown communities - homelessness, addiction, and poverty. In the process, we have restored families by empowering women to create transformational change in their lives.

FY2020, was a year unlike any we have ever experienced. The COVID-19 crisis affected us all, causing changes in our programming, unforeseen challenges and often fear. These realities are not new for women experiencing homelessness and in recovery from addiction. We navigated through unprecedented circumstances that none of us were prepared for and despite the uncertainties and fear, Southside Center of Hope remained open to serve the most vulnerable women and children in our community.

We remained encouraged because of the resilience and perseverance of our residents, the acts of kindness bestowed upon us by our supporters and the heroic efforts of our staff. As essential workers, they displayed a sense of compassion, commitment and determination that allowed us to provide safety, security, life necessities and comfort to families when it was most needed. This has been our mission since 1983, started by our founders the late Sister Connie Driscoll and Sister Therese O'Sullivan.

The greatest lesson from 2020 is that we are all in this together and no matter what comes our way, we must keep moving forward. Prior to being faced with a global pandemic, our organization was dealing with economic struggles. We made strides to ensure the long-term sustainability of our mission and will continue to do so in the coming fiscal year.

We know each day in the coming weeks and months will bring more challenges and pressures on all of us but especially nonprofit organizations that rely on contributions from individuals who may be facing economic hardship because of the pandemic. We are prepared to face these challenges head-on with ingenuity, fortitude, and integrity. We ask that you continue to stand with us and help us lead the fight to end the addiction crisis among homeless women in Chicago. Thank you for partnering with us, together we will continue to give women the precious gift of a life free from the disease of addiction.

Together, we give recovery,

*Yaisa Hagood*

Yaisa Hagood  
Executive Director

*Kevin Waklatsi*

Kevin Waklatsi  
Interim Board President



## SHIQUITA'S STORY

“

*The program helped me cope with the pandemic by helping me to understand that I am powerless over what's going on in the world.*

For over 30 years, Shiquita struggled with addiction. She began using drugs with her mother at the age of 13 and continued off and on until she found a recovery program that worked for her at Southside Center of Hope.

Before coming to House of Hope, Shiquita completed a 28-day addiction treatment program and was living at another recovery home. "I left that recovery home after four days and came home and overdosed," she said. Her son found her unresponsive and after that experience she remembers saying to herself "this is really it for me."

Decades of struggling with her addiction, a strained relationship with her family, and a strong will to survive led Shiquita to return to treatment. After completing another 28-day program, she came to live at Southside Center of Hope.

"I was nervous and scared, but I had a made-up mind at that point. There was nothing that was going to make me leave House of Hope," Shiquita remembers. "When I got there, I was relieved to learn that the program was designed to integrate me back into society slowly. I re-learned how to deal with other people and their different personalities, and how to handle conflict and deal with my feelings in a safe environment."

After completing the program at House of Hope, Shiquita was hesitant to leave and begin the next phase of her recovery journey. Fully equipped with the tools she needed to stay sober, she returned home to live with her son.

Shiquita left House of Hope shortly after the COVID-19 pandemic began. Throughout the pandemic she has been able to continue working and maintain her sobriety.

"The program helped me cope with the pandemic by helping me understand that I am powerless over what's going on in the world. I can only control how I react to it, and I can't allow things to overwhelm me," she said. "Everything I learned at House of Hope I use subconsciously every day, from the anger management classes, meditation group, and art therapy class."

Recovery from years of addiction has transformed Shiquita's life in numerous ways, and she is most grateful for the impact it has made on her relationship with her family. "My family has always been behind me, but my opinion was not taken seriously when I was using drugs. Today, I am the one making the decisions and paying all the bills; that would have never happened before. They look to me now to be the leader of the family."

# YOUR SUPPORT MADE A DIFFERENCE

## WHO WE SERVED

Average Age	41
High School Diploma or GED	73%
Domestic Violence Victim	80%
Prior Incarceration	49%
Mental Health Diagnosis	71%
Chronic Health Diagnosis	43%
African American	53%
Caucasian	31%
Hispanic	6%
Mixed Race	10%

## FY2020 IMPACT



**49**

Women &  
7 Children  
Served



**8,500**

Shelter Nights  
Provided



**13,220**

Meals Served



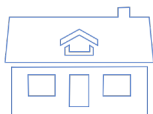
**37**

Years of  
Service



**500**

Volunteer Hours



**20**

Women Placed in  
Affordable  
Housing Units



**100%**

Obtain Health  
Insurance



**20**

Women Acquired  
Gainful  
Employment

# STANDING TOGETHER DURING COVID-19



## Essential Technology

Residents had access to desktops, cameras and wifi to work and attend school remotely, attend 12- step meetings via zoom, and for tele-health appointments

## Resources and Emergency Relief Funding

- PPE equipment, cleaning supplies and food was donated.
- More than \$100,000 was raised for our COVID-19 relief fund.



“

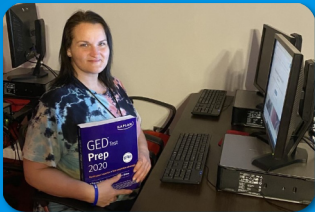
*“I found out I got accepted to the workforce training program and then before I could start the Coronavirus pandemic happened. Thankfully, we have still been able to have classes online and it has been amazing.”*

Anna.

“

*“I was a little stressed at first, but I have a roof over my head, I’m sober, and everything’s starting to look up for me.”*

Natasha



“

*“I knew I was ready to leave Southside Center of Hope because I had a year of clean time, I had learned new relapse prevention tools, and I added structure to my life that will help me in the real world.”*

Cora



# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Fiscal Year 2020

June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020



## INCOME

Corporations	\$17,657
Foundations	\$184,835
Government	\$22,918
Individuals	\$229,729
In-Kind Donations	\$26,605
Investments & Interest	\$33,371
Miscellaneous	\$540
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$515,655</b>



## EXPENSES

Fundraising	\$41,290
General & Management	\$110,713
Program Services	\$523,204
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$675,207</b>

Deficiency of revenue over expenses (\$159,552)

## NET ASSETS

Beginning of Year	\$852,473
End of Year	\$692,921

More detailed financials can be found on our website:  
[www.southsidecenterofhope.org](http://www.southsidecenterofhope.org)



# THANK YOU

*We would like to thank the following corporations, organizations, and foundations for their generous support in FY2020:*

All Chicago	Northern Trust Charitable Giving Program
Bank of America Charitable Fund	PayPal Giving Fund
B & D Foundation	Pepsico Foundation
Boeing Company Employee Individual Giving Program	Reva and David Logan Foundation
Blowitz-Ridgeway Foundation	Rust-Oleum Corporation
Center for Research Libraries	State Board of Education
Chicago Community Foundation	Sisters of Mercy West Midwest Community
Dominican Sisters of Springfield Illinois	Skyway Connections Company LLC
Exelon Foundation	St. Anne Catholic Community
George M. Eisenberg Foundation For Charities	St. Barnabas Church
Helen Brach Foundation	Top Box Foods
Hospital Sisters of St. Francis	University of Chicago Service League
Judy Family Foundation	United Church of Hyde Park
MacArthur Foundation	W.P. & H.B. White Foundation
Mount Carmel High School	

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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brother Tom Collins, CFC	Sherly Morris
Charles Beavers	Gabriel Piemonte (President)
Peter Brown (Treasurer)	Ollie Thomas
Romana Khan	Kevin Waklatsi (Vice President)



**SOUTHSIDE CENTER OF HOPE**  
**6423 South Woodlawn Avenue**  
**Chicago, IL 60637**  
**[www.southsidecenterofhope.org](http://www.southsidecenterofhope.org)**