



Dear Friends,

Fiscal Year 2023 marked a new chapter for Deborah's Place, with the CEO role changing hands for only the 4th time in our nearly 40-year history. With former COO Katharine Booton Wilson taking on leadership of the organization, we were able to make a seamless transition, maintaining the institutional knowledge and cohesion of Deborah's Place.

After doubling the number of women served from FY18 to FY22, we continued to expand our impact through fruitful partnerships with government agencies, organizations, and our community. Among the 656 women we served in FY23 are dozens who have graduated from our residential programs into their own housing, while still receiving support from our Alumnae Services team. Our partnership with the Center for Housing and Health provided housing and support for 122 women with new additional funding from Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). Regardless of the program she's a part of or the degree of support she receives, each woman's story is linked with the funders, staff, and volunteers who keep Deborah's Place moving forward.

As the funding landscape changes in the lingering wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, your continued support enables Deborah's Place's mission: serving women in achieving their goals and moving on from the experience of homelessness. We hope that you find our FY23 Annual Report informative and inspiring.

With Gratitude,



Bruce Traan
Board President



Katharine Booton Wilson
CEO



Who We Serve

- 94%** of the women we served lived at or below the Federal Poverty Line
- 90%** of the women we served were diagnosed with a mental or physical disability
- 75%** of the women we served experienced chronic homelessness before finding a home at Deborah's Place
- 74%** of the women we served were African American
- 70%** of our residents were over the age of 45
- 66%** of the women we served were diagnosed with a mental illness
- 2%** of those served were transgender

Highlights

- 656** women received dedicated support in gaining a steady income and housing and achieving their self-identified goals
- 147** of those women were new to Deborah's Place
 - 81** transitioned to independent, permanent housing
- 96%** of residents maintained their permanent supportive housing





The Path Ahead

TW: Mention of domestic abuse

Domestic abuse is a leading cause of homelessness for women—and like spinning whirlpools, both abuse and homelessness can trap you in a cycle that feels impossible to escape.

In April of 2020, Darnella (pictured above) decided she'd had enough of the abusive relationship she was in—but she faced a challenging dilemma. Leaving her situation meant giving up her home, which was at least shelter. Staying, on the other hand, meant more abuse and mistreatment. Darnella made the incredibly courageous choice to leave, and she came to Deborah's Place.

Pregnant and looking for a way forward, Darnella found refuge at Teresa's Interim Housing: our 120-day transitional program which helps women bridge the gap between homelessness and stable, permanent housing. There, she learned ways to cope with her trauma and tools for the life she wanted to build. Darnella will be the first to tell you that it wasn't an easy or smooth journey—"there were a few times I should have been put out. But Miss Tiffany [Isom] saw that I wanted better, she saw that I was trying. Miss Tiffany wanted better for me."

With their willingness to meet her where she was, the staff at Deborah's Place earned Darnella's trust.

"They showed me what my life could be like without my abuser. They taught me how to be a good and nurturing mother."

Today, Darnella has achieved so many of her goals. She and her son, now 3 years old, live together in their own apartment. She supports them by working at an upscale restaurant, and is now pursuing a new

goal: working for a non-profit herself. Alumnae Services Manager Gwen Johnson is helping with mock interviews. Darnella says “I want to be that supportive person. I wouldn’t have made it this far in my life if it wasn’t for me going to Deborah’s Place. I feel like that’s the path I need to be going on.”

There are still bumps and curves in the road—like a fire that burned down her Section 8 apartment earlier this year, forcing Darnella and her son to relocate. Yet through setbacks and challenges, Darnella has persevered with resilience and fortitude, and with continued support from the Deborah’s Place Alumnae Services program. She’s investing in her healing and raising her son in a loving home. She is determining her own path, and we can’t wait to see where she goes from here.

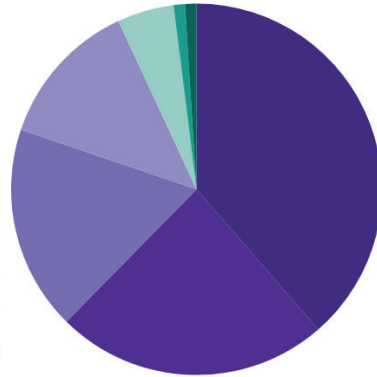


Financials

Revenue

Total: \$7,093,637

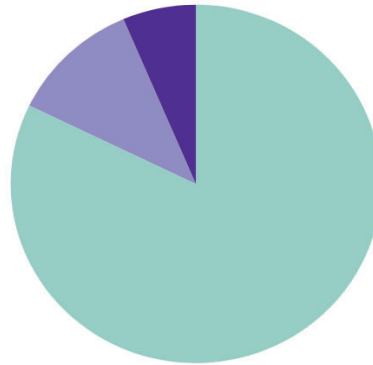
Government	39%
Program/Rental Revenue	24%
Individual	18%
Foundations, organizations, corporations & churches	13%
Other	5%
In-Kind Donations	<1%
Fundraising Event	<1%



Expenses

Total: \$7,214,362

Fundraising	6%
Admin	11%
Program	82%



Total net assets as of June 30, 2023
\$6,069,201



FY23 Board Members

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White Castle

Government Partners

Chicago Department of Family and
Support Services
Chicago Department of Housing
Chicago Department of Public
Health
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VNA Foundation
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Wellington Ave Union Church of Christ
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Mission Statement

Deborah's Place opens doors of opportunity for women who are homeless in Chicago.

Supportive housing and services offer women their key to healing, achieving their goals and moving on from the experience of homelessness.

2822 W JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60612
773.722.5080
DEBORAHSPPLACE.ORG



Deborah's
Place