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
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

**Board of Directors**
Bruce Traan, *President*
Jeremy Bressman, *Vice President*
Rosie Drumgoole, *Secretary*
Laura Etchen, *Treasurer*
Michelle Cohen
Shelley Fulla
Zahra Khudeira
Mary McFadden
Ashley Munson
Jenn Shepherd
Shanon Shumpert
MJ Zaring

**Board Emeritus**
Cynthia Alcantara Limperis
Heather Colburn
Cathy Colombo
Paul Haase
Margaret Herring
Joanne Hickman Dodd
Debra Kleban
Cheryl Kobetsky
Janet Krehbiel Pieracci
Jay Raghavan
Joanna Rupp
Gail Russell
Linda Jean Smith
Rose Wageman

**Young Professional Board**
Taylor Beard, *Co-Chair*
Rachel Dickey, *Co-Chair*
Irene Burke, *Membership Chair*
Celia Frei, *Volunteer Chair*
Eric Kang
Nicole Moser
Lauren Wilder
Catrina Miksis
Ethan Ramer
Heather Anderson
Jessie Nelson, *President Emerita*
Community Partners

All Chicago
CAPS
Catholic Charities
Center for Housing and Health/ AIDS Foundation of Chicago
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
Chicago Furniture Bank
Chicago Homelessness and Health Response Group for Equity
Chicago Recovery Alliance
Chicago Rents
Greater Chicago Food Depository
Greater Chicago Legal Clinic, Inc.
Health & Medicine Policy Research Group
Heartland Alliance Health
Interfaith Housing Development Corporation
Malcolm X College
Rush University
The Emergency Fund
Target
To Walk in My Shoes
White Castle

Government Partners

Chicago Department of Family and Support Services
Chicago Department of Housing
Chicago Department of Public Health
Chicago Housing Authority
Chicago Low Income Housing Trust Fund
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Illinois Department of Human Services
Illinois Housing Development Authority
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
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<th>Major Institutional Partners</th>
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<td>The A. Montgomery Ward Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Co-Trustee</td>
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<td>Anonymous Fund of the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County</td>
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<td>Bailey Foundation</td>
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<td>The Blowitz-Ridgeway Foundation</td>
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<td>Crown Family Philanthropies</td>
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<td>Edmond &amp; Alice Opler Foundation</td>
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<td>George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities</td>
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<td>Greater Chicago Food Depository</td>
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<td>Hoellen Family Foundation</td>
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<td>Jack Miller Family Foundation</td>
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<td>James P. and Brenda S. Grusecki Family Foundation</td>
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<td>The Chicago Temple Fund</td>
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<td>W.P. &amp; H.B. White Foundation</td>
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<td>Winnetka Congregational Church of Benevolence Committee</td>
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<td>Midland National Life Insurance Company</td>
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<td>United Way of Metro Chicago</td>
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Major Donors

Alan and Janette Stanek
Alice Brunner
American Endowment Foundation
Amy and Adam Narot
Anbritt Stengele
Andrea Wood
Andy Salk
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Barbara and Victor Zaveduk
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Christopher and Meg Weltzer
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Dennis W. Wilson
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Erin Bartucci
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GTG Consultants Inc
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Halam Lau
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Jacob and Stephanie Weber
Jade Dorynek
Jake Cowan and Alison Borque
James Perry and Robert Horton
Janet Krehbiel Pieracci and Henry Pieracci
Janet Marsh
Jarryd Elloy and Lisa Elloy
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Jeaneane, John and Olivia Quinn
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Jentes Family Foundation
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Jessica Sarowitz
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago
JoAnn Sylvester and Larry Diekman
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John C. and Carolyn Noonan Parmer
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JX Enterprises
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Latanya Watts
Laura Etchen
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Management America
Lili Hall Scarpa and Andrea Scarpa
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Maine Beer Company
Margaret Herring
Margaret Siber
Marie-Claude Schauer
Marilyn Freund
Marta Delgado and Saumya Nandi
Martha Jane Zaring
Martin and Mary L. Boyer Foundation
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Mary Koptik
Matthew and Kathleen Derov
Meredith S. Hudgens
Michelle Cohen
Michelle Grand
Microsoft
Midland National Life Insurance
Company
Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C.
Moira Colins Griffin and Dr. Andrew J. Griffin
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Nancy and John Hartung
Nancy Kresek
Olivia Bea Ross Foundation
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Patricia Hulseman
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Sheila Holder
Sheila Ruder
Shelley Fulla
Stephanie Beck
Sylvia and Don Henry
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Teresa Mastin
The Chicago Community Trust
The Egerter Family Foundation
The Home Church
The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
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The University of Chicago
Thomas South
Thomas W. Dower Foundation
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University of Chicago
Val Valsan
Vanessa Chin
Vicki E. DuFour
Virginia Caponigro
Wendy Mausolf and Sean Flynn
White Castle
William and Martha Scanlon
XSELL Technologies
Zahra and Soliman Khudeira
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.

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