



2016

# ANNUAL REPORT



# REFLECTIONS RIPPLES REALITIES

Annual Report—2016



## *A Bright Spot!*

Despite the climate change causing record temperatures, horrific weather events, decimation of species and destruction of villages and islands due to rising seas, I can walk out of my office and watch a curious toddler make friends with all the homeless women and smile. I can see a woman who has been through her own personal hell talking and laughing with new-found friends and know all is well in the moment. Despite the darkening, frightening climate in our government which could cause many more to be homeless, without health care or unable to find clean air or water, I can visit our flower garden and see a tulip struggling through the crumbling leaves looking for some sun and I can breathe peacefully. Despite the endless war and violence causing streams of refugees sometimes drowning in their quest for a place to be, I can see those who have lost their homes here for whatever reason, pressing forward through discouragement and anger, I can see them encouraging each other, working with our case managers, attending class each day, working toward stability in their lives and I am amazed. In the midst of the "swamp" of greedy, power-hungry folks, I see our staff and volunteers giving their ALL each and every day to bolster the lives of our clients and their children. I see them overcoming the frustrations with a system that does not work for people and finding resources to help. Sometimes they "make a way where there is no way." I see clients and staff alike resisting the temptation to give up and, with resilience, keep on moving and I am inspired. Here at STH we try to be nonviolent, compassionate, truthful, encouraging and empowering. We teach resourcefulness. More often than not, our clients leave STH lifted up, wiser, stronger and more willing to engage their world in a positive way. Here, there is no way but UP. No way but ONWARD. No way but into the LIGHT. So, very much thanks to you, our faithful and generous donors and friends, STH is a BRIGHT SPOT in the landscape of today. Thank you and bless you!

Sister Peg Spindler, CSA  
Sojourner Truth House Executive Director

STH 20th Anniversary.....	p.5
Profile of Case Manager Pam Key.....	p.6
Our Financials and Volunteers.....	p.9
2016 Donor Listing .....	p.11

## SOJOURNER TRUTH HOUSE Board of Directors 2016

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Pam Yttri  
*Retired Teacher, Philanthropist*

Sr. Peg Spindler, CSA, *Non-voting Ex-Officio*  
*Executive Director, Sojourner Truth House*

# CLIENT STORY: RIPPLES CALMED

**“Kaye” knows what it’s like to be in ever-changing waters. For the past four years she and her children have had to endure the ebb and flow of life.**

Kaye was in what seemed to be an idyllic marriage from the outside, yet inside she was drowning. The weight of life’s challenges became too much for her husband and he chose to leave. With four children and no family support in the area, she went to live with family in a neighboring state. Unfortunately, Kaye realized that the situation was unsafe for them so she was forced to uproot her children and move several more times before returning to Northwest Indiana.

While that might seem to be the perfect way to calm the stormy waters, things were far from stable for Kaye and her children. By that time her oldest child had been diagnosed with mental illness, presenting yet another set of challenges. With no family support or financial resources, Kaye’s only choice was to go to a homeless shelter, which is how she found Sojourner Truth House. She immediately embraced the ministry’s holistic approach to healing mind, body and spirit. She actively participated in classes and welcomed the chance to help others. She also knew that the added stress of having a child with mental illness might have dire

consequences for the entire family. Kaye worked with her case manager to identify new treatment options for her child. She also knew she had to be proactive in seeking help for her other children as she could see that they needed stability and attention. Kaye used positive and supportive parenting techniques she learned in STH classes so that each child knew she honored and valued their individual worth.

Kaye found housing and work and thought that the seas were finally calm until her child’s illness became harder to handle and she was forced to quit work to provide round the clock care. With no other means of financial support, she had to move again and returned to STH for support. Her case manager assisted with finding a landlord who could house her family on short notice and staff helped move as many of her possessions as possible.

Today Kaye is able to provide her children with the attention they need and has stable housing for her family. She knows from experience that there are no guarantees and that the seas can become choppy and unmanageable at any time. But she has also seen the still waters and the wonderful peace and tranquility they bring. So for now, Kaye stays focused on the shore in the distance... knowing that as long as she keeps the faith the tide will bring them in.

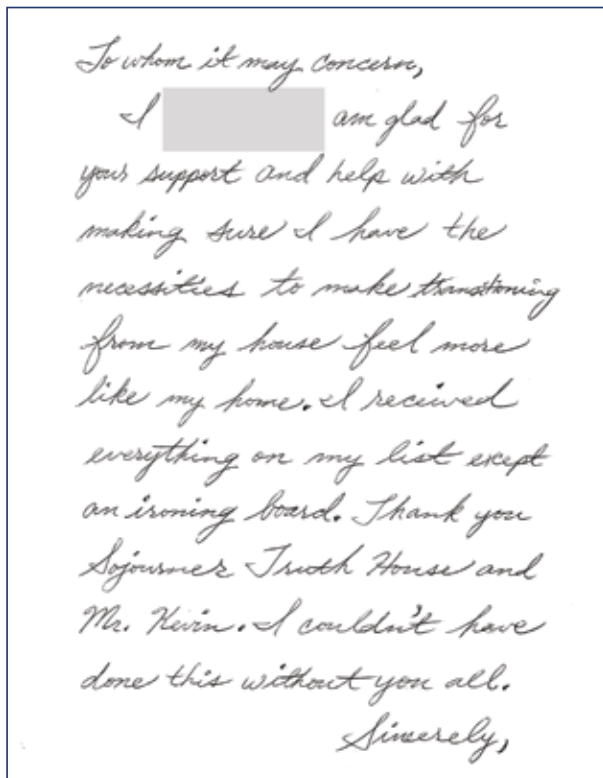


# GRATEFUL TO BE BACK ON TRACK

Sometimes the little things derail your life and lead you down a path you never expected. That was the case for "Monica" when a minor health challenge got in the way of her once bright future.

Monica had earned two degrees and was on a great career path when she suddenly faced surgery to repair a leg injury and was unable to work. With no support in the area and having exhausted all of her financial resources, Monica lost everything and had to move to a homeless shelter served by the day center at Sojourner Truth House. She immediately saw that STH programs "could help (her) get healed" and was focused on getting her life back on track. She is quick to point out that things were challenging but her faith sustained her as she looks forward to "limitless possibilities" in her future.

Monica completed her STH program requirements and immediately dove into her housing search. She recently moved and now she has a fresh start, thanks to the generosity of donors like you.



*To whom it may concern,  
I [redacted] am glad for your support and help with making sure I have the necessities to make transitioning from my house feel more like my home. I received everything on my list except an ironing board. Thank you Sojourner Truth House and Mr. Kevin. I couldn't have done this without you all.  
Sincerely,*

In her own words, Monica says THANK YOU!

# SERVING OUR CLIENTS

Sojourner Truth House serves the community through three streams of service.

Shelter women and their children need assistance overcoming homelessness and returning to self-sustainability. STH provides access to:

- Intensive Case Management services
- Basic skills and employment training
- Healthcare screenings and referrals
- Community resources and benefit programs
- Assistance with finding safe, secure housing

Once housed, Transitional Outreach Program Participants (TOPPs) are able to maintain support through STH programs and services. STH provides access to:

- Ongoing Case Management
- Therapeutic programs
- Community resources and benefit programs

Community residents come to the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet for help meeting intermittent nutritional insecurities. STH provides qualifying households with:

- Pantry staples
- Personal care items
- Basic medical screenings
- Community resource and benefit lists

Sojourner Truth House addresses these three streams of service with a holistic approach that provides help and hope for mind, body and spirit.



Child Enrichment Center facilitator Marlene Birdsong-Smith shares a story with STH Scholars.

# STH CELEBRATES 20 YEARS STRONG!

**In 1997, five women religious leaders came together to look at ways to help underserved residents of the area. Sisters Joan Fisher, Kathleen Quinn, Loretta Schleper and Ann Linzmeyer of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ and Sister Peg Spindler of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Agnes, heeded the call from then Bishop Melczek to establish a ministry to aid the poor.**

They saw many in Gary and Northwest Indiana who were plagued by joblessness and economic uncertainties. They witnessed firsthand how families struggled to provide even the most basic household necessities and even lost their homes and possessions.

That group of Sisters founded Sojourner Truth House with the help of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. Their original plan was to open a homeless shelter but as Sister Loretta says, they quickly knew that was not "their biggest gift." Rather they wanted to provide "triage," identifying what was needed and connecting clients to resources. A chance meeting with Sister Peg brought her to STH where she joined Sister Joan (whom she describes as "fearless") and the rest of the ministry's Poor Handmaid founders. The Sisters worked side by side to remodel buildings, forge community partnerships and establish service lines for their clients. Today, Sister Peg serves as Executive Director and Sister Kathleen volunteers two days a week.

Through the years, Sojourner Truth House has evolved from a small ministry serving 600-800 clients per year to a day center for homeless and at-risk women and children and one of the largest food pantries in the area, serving an average of 2,092 clients per month! STH also has a clothes closet and is one of the few pantries in the area providing personal items.

Join us as we gratefully reflect on the past, joyfully celebrate the present and look hopefully to the future. It is through your generous and faithful commitment that Sojourner Truth House is able to fulfill its mission of providing hope and help to those we serve-yesterday, today and tomorrow. Thank you!



**Thanks to your unwavering support, Sojourner Truth House is celebrating 20 Years Strong! We invite you to an Open House at STH from 1:00 to 4:00 PM on Saturday, September 16, 2017, followed by a Thanksgiving Mass with Bishop Donald J. Hying at 4:30 PM at the Cathedral of the Holy Angels, 640 Tyler Street in Gary. The day will culminate with the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner from 6:00 to 9:00 PM at Avalon Manor in Merrillville.**

**Tickets for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner must be purchased in advance. For more information and to secure your reservation, contact Abbi Blake at (219) 947-8560.**



## WAYS TO HELP

To learn more about volunteer opportunities at STH, please call (219) 885-2282 or visit [sojournertruthhouse.org](http://sojournertruthhouse.org) and click on "How to Help." Sojourner Truth House gratefully accepts donations of cash, check, credit card and stock. Give securely online at [sojournertruthhouse.org](http://sojournertruthhouse.org). Or, mail your gift to: 410 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Ave., Gary, IN 46407.

# CASE MANAGER PAMELA KEY



**Pamela (Pam) Key lives life with the zesty combination of persistence, compassion and dedication.**

She is persistent with her family, keeping close tabs on her two daughters and six grandchildren. She is persistent in her faith as a dedicated leader in her church. She is persistent with her clients, gently but firmly guiding them to a better tomorrow. She is persistent about her personal growth, holding a Masters Degree in Social Work from Indiana University.

Pam was even persistent when she applied for a Case Manager position with Sojourner Truth House nine years ago. Before interviewing, she called every week because she “really wanted to work here.” Her persistence paid off when

she was asked to join the STH team and she has not stopped since. In 2016, Pam was named Client Services Manager and supervises three Masters level Case Managers who work with homeless clients and their children. She also supervises the Support Services area that serves community clients in the food pantry and clothes closet.

Pam is proud to have organized “lots of firsts” in the past year benefiting clients and strengthening community partnerships. In February, STH clients traveled to Indianapolis for the State Legislature’s Lead Day. They spoke with elected officials, learned how bills are written and passed, and advocated for enhanced services for the homeless. Clients went to Donaldson, IN, for an overnight Recovery Addiction Retreat where they were able to talk openly about their experiences and learn ways to break free from negative situations. In August, STH teamed up with Healthy Families for a Back to School Fest that provided school uniforms and supplies for local children.

STH partnered with Healthy Start in October for the inaugural Parenting Conference. The event, funded with grants from Legacy Foundation and Society of the Precious Blood, featured speakers and exhibitors who promoted healthy, positive parenting. During a class session, a recent parolee revealed that her child was being bullied and she didn’t know how to help her. Pam, facilitators and attendees worked with her to identify ways she could assist her child.

As a result of her persistence, compassion and dedication, Pam received the 2016 Victims Advocate Award from the Attorney General of the State of Indiana. This award, given to only two social service professionals in the state, recognizes and honors recipients for their dedication to victims and survivors and other underserved members of their communities. And on March 9, 2017, Pam was named Region 1, National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Indiana Social Worker of the Year. We are extremely proud to have Pam Key, MSW, on our team!

# PARTNERING IN THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

An old adage says that it takes a village to accomplish great things and STH is fortunate to have the support of a number of local churches that share its mission. To spotlight just a few...

**Suncrest Christian Church of St. John** began partnering with STH in 2015, underwriting the Housing Stabilization Program. Members volunteer in a variety of capacities, including community client intake, pantry and clothes closet. They work at fundraisers, give donations for holiday gatherings and organize outside events. Every two months a growing group spends their Saturday morning assisting with everything from packing school supplies to gardening and cleaning the grounds.



Clockwise from top left: Suncrest members Kevin McHugh, Rod and Bobbie Reutter and Donna Kortas walked and volunteered at the 2016 Walk for STH; Cheryl Gojko is a Holy Spirit member and longtime STH supporter; Irene Szewczyk and Karen Boyle of St. Maria Goretti load kitchen and bath supplies from a recent church donation drive; Shirley Moorehead, third from left, leads the St. Timothy team in the walk.

**St. Timothy Church in Gary** is represented at STH by both volunteers and Walk for STH donors. These loyal supporters give in many ways to ensure that client needs are met, exemplified by their large donation of turkeys at Thanksgiving. Parishioners come out to participate in the annual Walk for STH while others give generously to support their team, led by their pastor, the late Rev. Alfred Johnson. Rev. Johnson served on the Sojourner Truth House Board of Directors for many years and will truly be missed.

**St. Maria Goretti Church of Dyer** partnered with STH in 2014, recognizing the need for pantry items. In addition to making a monthly monetary donation, they organized a number of opportunities for their members to collect toiletries for distribution to clients in need. They also took part in the annual Soles in Step shoe collection fundraiser.



**Holy Spirit Church in Crown Point** has worked with STH for a number of years to provide both financial and in-kind contributions. The Holy Spirit Hopefuls team is consistently one of the top Walk for STH fundraising teams and collects shoes for the annual Soles in Step shoe collection fundraiser. Holy Spirit also works to ensure that once clients move into their home they are able to enjoy a bountiful family meal, providing food baskets for distribution for the Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.



**First Baptist Church in Gary** has provided referral forms to their food pantry for a number of years. They recognize the limitations of our pantry supplies and welcome larger families who may need additional food items to meet their emergency needs.

**St. Michael the Archangel Church in Schererville** has also been a STH supporter for some time. Parishioners actively participate in the annual Walk for STH and are consistently

one of the top teams. They also donate shoes for the Soles in Step fundraiser, provide many other in-kind collections and volunteer at the ministry.

These are just a few of our Partners in the Work of the Spirit. The "village" of Sojourner Truth House supporters spans all of Northwest Indiana and we are truly grateful to each of them—and to you. Your efforts, big and small, help us fulfill our mission...to provide help and hope to those we serve.

# A JOB THAT PAYS MORE THAN MONEY



Volunteer Pat DeNeal takes information in the Community Client Intake area.

**Pat DeNeal spent her career as a nurse, working 25 years in a hospital and 20 years as a nursing teacher. She served in every area that her profession offered from staff nurse to director of nursing and loved caring for others.**

When she retired she was able to renew her first passion, which is the love of music. Pat started music lessons at the age of six and began playing for her church at 14. Her natural abilities helped her branch out so she began playing for outside groups and she now plays for both an all-female and an all-male chorus.

Little did Pat know that there was room in her life for a third passion until she ran into a Sojourner Truth House co-worker four years ago at her gym. Pat remarks "She said come and see it, and I did-and I never left!" Pat serves two days a week as a volunteer in the community intake area, gathering information from clients seeking emergency household supplies like food, clothing and personal products. Pat arrives with a compassionate ear and an infectious smile every day, letting both the clients and her fellow volunteers know that she truly cares. Pat even brings youth from her church during school breaks because she believes "it's a way for them to learn how to give and not receive." They are grateful for the opportunity to give back to the community.

Pat shares her life of service with Harold, her husband of 50 years, and is quick to point out that her time at STH allows her to be away from home so she's "not in his hair" and each can enjoy retirement in their own way. She treats her volunteer duty like a job and is as meticulous about her appearance today as she was in nursing. When Harold says, "Why are you so dressed up?" she reminds him that she is going to work. His reply is, "They don't pay you," and she responds, with conviction, "They pay me more than money...case closed!"

Pat was recognized as one of five 2014 Volunteers of the Year for her dedicated service to the clients she serves at STH. She was also recognized at the 2016 United Way Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Volunteer of the Year. Pat is truly a dedicated servant leader and the clients and co-workers at STH are grateful for her support.

## GIVING TUESDAY

Sojourner Truth House participated in the #Giving Tuesday online fundraising event in November 2016 and raised \$6,146. Monies were used to fund an overhaul of the Child Enrichment Center. This space houses children of STH clients while they participate in therapeutic and recuperative classes and provides them with an inviting space that is conducive to learning and positive growth.

The following generous donors made gifts to the 2016 Giving Tuesday campaign.

*Dr. Vanessa W. Allen  
Stephanie Anderson  
Susan Black  
Abigail Blake  
David Brockway  
Dr. Thomas and Carol Buchanan  
Ardis Campbell  
India and Anthony Castaneda  
Tammy Cliff  
Terrence Councilor*

*Ralph and Julie Dowd  
Victoria and Michael Doyne  
Thomas Eaton  
Stephen Euvino  
Amy Francis  
Don Fyall  
Rachel Gajos  
Jeff and Michelle Granskog  
Ian Herron  
Paula Johns*

*Robert and Claudia Johnson  
Nannette Keller  
Karen and Robert McMahon  
Toni Mola and David Block  
Shirley and John Moorehead  
Richard and Sylvia Morrisroe  
Ruth Needleman  
Anita Parry  
Mary and Charles Polusky  
Terry and Glenn Sanders*

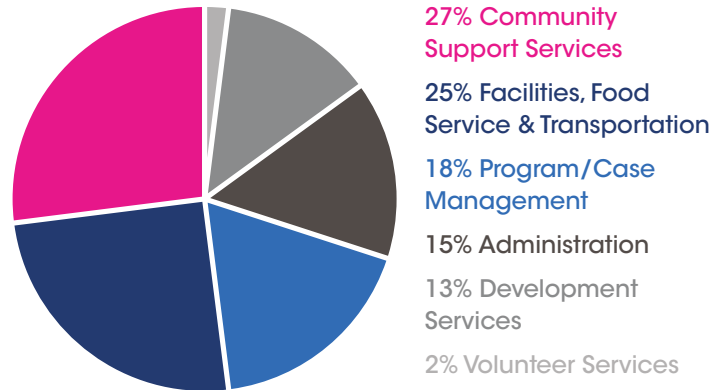
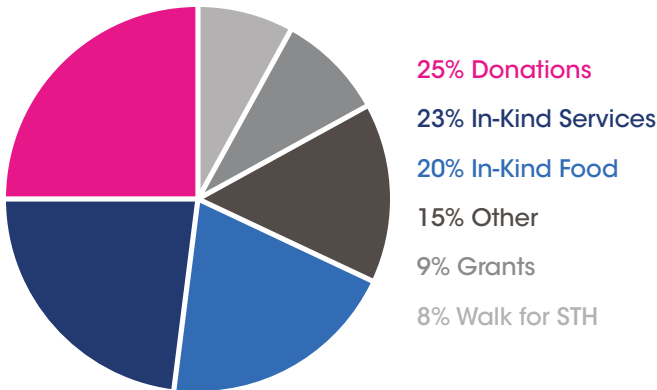
*Deborah Schulte  
Katherine Scott  
Sr. Peg Spindler, CSA  
Louise Standefer  
Mirthala and Thomas Taylor  
Doris Vician  
Dr. Roland and Chantal Walker  
Pamela Yttri  
Enterprise Network Group  
of IN, LLC*



# 2016 FINANCIALS

**2016 REVENUE: \$1,338,201**

**2016 EXPENSES: \$1,669,127**



## Sojourner Truth House is a ministry sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ

The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ founded Sojourner Truth House in 1997 and, since that time, have provided STH with a significant grant each year to assist in meeting the needs of the ministry and the clients whom they serve. Today, 20 years later, the Poor Handmaids remain committed to the homeless and at-risk women and children in our community. Their support to meet the deficit of expenses over income was \$601,000 in 2016.

Since 2010, the number of clients served has increased by 79%! As the financial needs of Sojourner Truth House increase annually due to the ever increasing number of clients served, we cannot rely solely on the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. Therefore you, our faithful donors, are needed more than ever. It is our hope that you will continue to help us to compensate for the increasing need, as well as future growth.

# OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are essential to the successful implementation of every aspect of operations at STH. They perform all manner of duties to supplement client service efforts each day. In addition to a number of large volunteer groups, individuals served a total of 5,113 hours in all areas of the ministry and were invaluable to overall sustainability efforts in 2016. Their service equates to more than \$146,000 in salary expenses saved by STH, clearly demonstrating the ministry's commitment to fiscal responsibility.

## VOLUNTEER HOURS BY ASSIGNMENT

Childcare .....	35	Maintenance .....	192
Clothes Closet .....	316	Mover .....	197
Data Entry.....	22	Nursing .....	507
Driver .....	12	Office Assistant.....	489
Food Pantry .....	802	Receptionist .....	14
Interviewer.....	2262	Special Events.....	76
Kitchen .....	189	Training.....	2

# THE GEMINUS HEAD START FAB FOUR

Each week, Sojourner Truth House clients have a chance to interact with a number of community partners who provide valuable information and services. They learn about insurance opportunities and healthcare providers, take confidential HIV and AIDS tests, get baseline medical screenings and schedule follow up appointments to address potential wellness concerns.

One such partner is Geminus Head Start. The Geminus "Fab Four" come to STH and provide information to clients and sign them up for Head Start to ensure that their children get a positive and healthy start in life. According to Thomas Walker, Quality Assurance Manager for Geminus Head Start, "Geminus Head Start is the Northwest Indiana leader in early childhood education, positively impacting families and children through creative partnerships that inspire growth and foster empowerment. Geminus offers multiple program types: A prenatal program for expecting mothers, Early Head Start for children birth to three, and Head Start for children three through five. In addition to centers throughout Lake and Porter County, a home-based option is available."



Left to right: Rebecca Neal, Dalynn Dunlap, Deidre Gatlin and Melanie Hoover

STH believes that one of the best ways to foster growth and self-sustainability in our clients is to expose them to area services and organizations that offer the resources they need. We are grateful for our partnership with Geminus Head Start!

## STH SUPPORTERS TAKE THEIR ASSIGNMENTS LITERALLY

In 2015, STH launched a fall fundraising campaign known as the Bathrobe Ball. This "non-event" encourages donors to forego hiring sitters, getting dressed up and enduring a banquet hall meal while supporting the programs and services of Sojourner Truth House. Instead, they are asked to relax at home in their bathrobe while making a difference in the lives of more than 2,000 clients served each month at STH.

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Associates decided to lend their support to the "event" in 2016 as they "bought tickets," donned sleep apparel and robes and hosted their own Bathrobe Ball. Each of them was grateful to have had an opportunity to participate and to exemplify the good works done by Poor Handmaid Sisters and Associates each day.

Service League of Northwest Indiana also came together for this "event" in 2016. Members gathered to enjoy a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship, knowing they helped other women and their families in the area.



Poor Handmaid Associates enjoyed a night of casual fun and fellowship for the 2016 STH Bathrobe Ball.

The Bathrobe Ball will take a hiatus in 2017 as Sojourner Truth House celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Saturday, September 16, 2017. We hope you will join us as we commemorate 20 Years Strong!

# GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS

Sojourner Truth House gratefully acknowledges the individuals, groups, corporations, foundations and organizations that made it possible for us to fulfill our mission of providing hope and help to those we served in 2016. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to our in-kind donors and other supporters in the community.

## THE GIFT OF INDEPENDENCE (\$10,000+)

Citizens Savings Foundation  
Cohen Family Fund  
Francis Meyer Charitable Lead  
Unitrust  
John W. Anderson Foundation  
Suncrest Christian Church

## THE GIFT OF CONFIDENCE (\$5,000+)

American Endowment Fund  
James and Pamela Boehm  
Congregation of Sisters  
of St. Agnes  
Geminus Corporation  
Barbara Kubiak  
Lake County Community Fund  
Lake County Substance Abuse  
Council  
Barry Levin  
St. Maria Goretti Church  
The Westerman Foundation

## THE GIFT OF BELONGING (\$1,000+)

Kenneth and Nina Allen  
American Legion Post  
Ameristar Casino of East  
Chicago  
Ancilla Domini Sisters, Inc.  
Ancilla Mission Club  
(formerly PHJC Bazaar)  
Kimberly Anderson  
Frederick and Judith Arand  
Kenneth and Rita Backe  
Cindy and Gordon Barker  
Leo and Cynthia Barron  
Catherine and Cal Bellamy  
Suzanne and Gerald Bishop  
Ann Bowman  
Sang Young Chyung, MD  
Susan Cohen  
EThomas and Sylvia Collins  
Community Foundation of  
Northwest Indiana, Inc.  
Community Healthcare System  
James and Ann D' Orazio  
Diversified Marketing Strategies,  
Inc.  
Heather and Fabian Dohmes  
James and Charlene Donovan  
Julie and James Doran  
Dave and Marie Edmonds  
Joe and Jacqueline Feller  
Forest Ridge Academy, Inc.  
Patrick and Carolyn Gorman  
Claudia Govert

Greater Northwest Indiana  
Association of REALTORS®  
Helping Hands of Northwest  
Indiana  
Francine Hintz  
Hoffman Charitable Trust  
James and Claudia Huson  
Indiana American Water  
Company  
James F. Giannini & Associates, LLC  
Paula Johns  
Kappa Kappa Kappa, Inc. Beta  
Rho Chapter  
Louise Karwowski  
Douglas and Patricia Kvachkoff  
Legacy Foundation, Inc.  
Thomas and Cheryl Malsch  
Robert and Karen McMahon  
Mornette McShane  
Toni Mola and David Block  
Thomas and Kathleen Molnar  
Daniel and Deborah Moser  
Ms. Mary Hope Mueller  
NIPSCO  
NISOURCE Charitable Foundation  
Order of AHEPA Lodge 78  
Ross and Lexi Pangere  
Charles Pease  
Peoples Bank  
Joyce Phipps-Nutt  
Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ  
Foundation  
Powers & Sons Construction  
Company, Inc.  
Puntillo and Crane Orthodontics,  
P.C.  
Myrna Quinn\*  
Timothy Raykovich, MD  
Katherine Scott  
Robert Scott  
Service League of Northwest  
Indiana  
Mary Ann and Gary Shacklett  
Sigma Theta Tau, Inc. - Mu  
Omega Chapter  
Society of the Precious Blood  
St. Catherine Hospital  
St. Vincent De Paul Society  
Strack & Van Til LLC  
John and Diane Sullivan  
TWG Development, LLC  
United Steel Workers Local 1014  
Next Generation Committee  
United Way of Greater Atlanta  
Valparaiso University  
George and Phyllis Vesvardes  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
of Munster  
Thomas and Susan Witt  
Pamela Yttri  
Lillian and John Zaborske

## THE GIFT OF HEALING (\$500+)

Ahepa 78 Housing Corp.  
AHEPA Senior Apartment  
Residents  
Altrusa International of the  
Indiana Dunes  
Randall Ban and Sally Gilchrist  
Jean Bargeron  
Susan and Bill Birdsall  
Centier Bank  
Gervaise Bastian  
Mary Chandler  
Ronald Cohen  
Crown Point Community  
Foundation, Inc.  
Michael and Marilyn Dolder  
Carol Dunn  
Jeffrey and Jane Edwards  
Vincent Engelman  
Family Dental Care P.C.  
Fidelity Charitable (Jonathan  
and Becky Berman  
Charitable Fd  
First United Methodist Church  
Rachel Gajos  
Hall, Render, Killian, Heath &  
Lyman, P.C.  
Kent and Shirley Lindquist  
Majestic Star Casino, LLC  
Marram Health Center  
Robin and Kevin McHugh  
McShane's, Inc.  
Men of Plus  
Methodist Hospitals  
Midwest Refrigeration  
Corporation  
Dr. John and Mary Mirro  
Dr. Lynn M. Miskovich  
Mortar Net USA, LTD.  
Rev. Joseph V. Murphy\*  
Novak Family Foundation  
Steve and Georgiann Pangere  
Pope Benedict XVI Academy of  
Excellence  
Porter-Starke Services, Inc.  
Patricia Rees  
Verne Seehausen  
Sisters of St. Francis of  
the Holy Cross  
Joseph and Lisa Skozen  
Gloria Smokvina  
Society of Nurses in  
Advanced Practice  
Carolyn Sojka  
James and Judith Spence  
Marko Spudic  
St. Andrew Catholic Church  
St. Mary Church  
St. Matthias Roman Catholic  
Church

St. Stephen, Martyr Parish  
St. Timothy Community Church  
Sandra and Michael Stoffregen  
Judith Stanton, Esq.  
Vickey Sultzman, Ph.D., LCSW  
Rev. James and Claudia  
Swarthout  
Jack and F. Judith Tonk  
TSL Refrigeration, Inc.  
Paul and Charlene VanSickle  
John and Julie Wojcik  
Michael and Maureen Zimmer

## THE GIFT OF SHELTER (\$100+)

1<sup>st</sup> District Democratic Precinct  
Organization  
4th District AME Church  
Abundant Grace C.O.G.I.C.  
Robert Acosta  
Air Filter Heating & Cooling, Inc.  
Ajax Sanitary Supply Co  
Kamau Akbar  
Valerie Allen-Broadnax  
Allied Venture LLC  
Trish Alt  
American Freedom Insurance  
Company  
Ariel Anderson  
Colleen T. Anderson  
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 Halray Mister  
 Perry Mitchell  
 Modrak Products Company, Inc.  
 Willie Monroe  
 LeKisha Montgomery  
 Willie Moore  
 Shirley and John Moorehead  
 Martha Morgan  
 David and Claudia Motta  
 James Mullins  
 George Murphy  
 Natalie Murphy  
 Kim Naspinski  
 Bill and Joanne Nawrocki  
 Nazareth Home  
 Anule Ndukwu  
 New Mt Moriah Missionary Baptist Church  
 New Revelation Missionary Baptist Church  
 Roy Nichols  
 Michael Nicolai  
 Sandra Noe  
 Karen Nolan  
 Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission  
 Darlene Novack  
 NWI Veterans Village  
 Sheila O'Connell  
 Rena Oliver  
 Alberta O'Neal  
 Alesia Owens  
 Lovie Owens  
 Pallotto Dental Care  
 Shelly Pasko  
 Cecilia Pavel  
 PAWS Resale Shop  
 Peoples Bank  
 Sharon Perkins  
 Janet Petrites  
 Jean Phillips  
 Pi Sigma Phi Sorority-Upsilon Chapter  
 Jeanette Pike  
 Pilgrim Baptist Church  
 Chaka Pleasant

Rodney Pol, Jr.  
 Elena Polizotto  
 Cassandra and Samuel Polk  
 Cynthia and Andrew Polk  
 Beth Polusky  
 Claude Poupolos  
 Jo Powell  
 Beverly Pratt  
 Palrice Prelatt  
 Ms. Eva Prince  
 Alesia Pritchett  
 Gail Puckett  
 Barbara Punak  
 Ann Marie Queen  
 Queen of Peace Friary  
 Isabelle Ramirez  
 Rams Ventures Corporation  
 Mary Rapien  
 Jim and Marge Rauer  
 Real Recognizes Real Records  
 Recognize Real Records, Inc.  
 Jessica Reddy  
 Christina Reinhardt  
 Jacqueline Renslow-Wiler  
 Roberta and Rod Reutter  
 Cynthia Reynolds  
 RHS of 1968 Outreach Benevolent Committee  
 Mrs. Chanita Rias  
 Willie Richardson  
 Ridge United Methodist Church  
 Susan Ring  
 Dan and Gina Robinson  
 Gloria and Edward Robinson  
 Marie Robinson  
 Nashanta Robinson  
 Warren Robinson  
 Betty Roby  
 Erica Rodgers  
 Judee Roper  
 Kathy Ross  
 Hortensia Rubalcava  
 Saint James Family Help Services, Inc.  
 Nikeisha and Dino Salas  
 Mary and Dennis Sampson  
 Brian Sanders  
 Heather Sandilla  
 Allie Santel  
 Esther Santel  
 Michelle Saunders  
 James and Sandy Schleper  
 Monique Scott  
 Richard and Debbie Scott  
 Sadie Sease  
 Carol Sehlinger  
 Merry and Dennis Senchak  
 Grace Sewell  
 Darrolyn and Leon Sharp  
 Mrs. Jackie Shayotovich  
 Deborah Shell  
 Carol Shingler  
 Mary Shipp  
 Tim Shurtz  
 Ms. Melissa Sienicki

Derrick Sims  
 Tracy Sims  
 Mark and Patricia Sinclair  
 Delphia Singh  
 Delores Singler  
 Julia Singleton  
 Judith and John Skafish  
 Doris Skinner  
 Clyde Smith  
 Mary Smith  
 Stephanie Smith  
 Tiffany Smith  
 Gloria Smokvina  
 Snow and Ice Pros, Inc.  
 Priscilla Somerville  
 Spirit of God Accelerated Education  
 Nakia Sprouse  
 Rona Squzert  
 St. Ann of the Dunes  
 St. Ann of the Dunes Peace and Social Justice  
 St. Anthony Home  
 St. Gianna Molla Respect Life Group  
 St. Helen's Philoptochos - Women's Society Chapter #2034  
 St. John Baptist Church  
 St. John the Evangelist Parish No. 176  
 St. Joseph the Worker-St. Mark  
 St. Joseph's Carmelite Home  
 St. Lukes AME Zion Church  
 St. Maria Goretti Church  
 St. Mary of the Lake  
 St. Mary's Altar and Rosary Society  
 St. Mary's Family Services  
 St. Michael the Archangel Parish  
 St. Michael the Archangel School  
 St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church  
 St. Patrick Church  
 St. Patrick's Crestfield  
 St. Peter the Fisherman  
 St. Thomas Aquinas Parish  
 St. Timothy's Episcopal Church  
 Raven Staley  
 Milquita Stallworth  
 Jamia Steele  
 Carl Stemler  
 Anderia Steward  
 Connie and Lee Stewart  
 Yolanda Stoffregen  
 Robbin Stotts  
 Strack & Van Til  
 Debbie Stribiak  
 Becky Strzechowski  
 Jacqueline Stuck  
 Donna Summerville-Smith  
 Sweet Home Missionary Baptist  
 Gwendolyn Swope  
 Frances Szymanski  
 Jennifer Taylor  
 Mrs. Juanita Taylor  
 Mark and Marcia Taylor

Sister Carol A. Terlicher, SSCM  
 The Spinners  
 Robert and Mary Lee Thiel  
 Lisa Thomas  
 Shirley Thomas  
 Wynetta Thomas  
 Victoria Thompson  
 Thompson-Rogers  
 Rosalind Thurston  
 Lynn and William Toczyl  
 Patricia Toney  
 Nickolas and Diane Tournis  
 Dorothy Travis  
 Trinity United Methodist Church  
 Sister Joellen Tumas, PHJC  
 Dolores Turner  
 Nicole Turner  
 Patricia Turner  
 John Turpa  
 Rosella Tuscynski  
 Unilever  
 Unity Baptist Church  
 Unity Outreach Ministries  
 University of St. Francis  
 Brianna Ursery-Harlson  
 US Steel Local Union 2695  
 Sister Linda K. Volk, PHJC  
 Carole Wade  
 Mimi Waldron  
 Brianna Walton  
 Robin Walton  
 Jamie Ward  
 Cynthia Warner-Lowe  
 Keith Wash  
 Barbara Washington  
 Watson Elementary School - Student Council  
 Linda Webb  
 Sister Mary C. Welhoelter, PHJC  
 Kathleen and Robert Welsh  
 Ms. Ada Wesson  
 Westminster Presbyterian Preschool  
 Glenda Whickem  
 Chareice White  
 Mrs. S. White  
 Rondi Wightman and Greg Stinson  
 Wildwood Church of Christ  
 Scott and Viki Williams  
 Vanessa Williams  
 Ms. Renee Willis  
 Diane Wilson  
 Mary Wilson  
 Ben Wojcik  
 Sister Carleen Wrasman, PHJC  
 Mr. Mark Wusik  
 Michael Yarnelle  
 Willie Younger  
 Lisa Zarych  
 Eugene Zell  
 Lynda Zipko  
 Jessica Zvyak

## WHAT YOUR SUPPORT MEANS

In 2016, your support helped us assist an average of 2,092 clients each month and feed 25,101 individuals and families. We transported clients 8,965 times for housing searches, medical visits and employment opportunities. We served 14,980 meals and conducted 5,082 recuperative and therapeutic classes.

# MISSION, VISION, & VALUES

## OUR MISSION

Sojourner Truth House is a ministry of hope and help for homeless and at-risk women and their children sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. Through hospitality, advocacy, integrative services and collaboration, participants improve their quality of life and that of the community in a safe, trusting environment.

## OUR VISION

Sojourner Truth House is a village of hope that empowers women and their children. Our unique model of service and collaborative actions inspires the human spirit so that participants can improve their quality of life and become contributing members of their communities.

## OUR CORE VALUES

We believe that our four core values flow from joyful service to all, especially the needy and underserved. These values are Openness to the Spirit, Community, Simplicity, and Dignity and Respect for all.



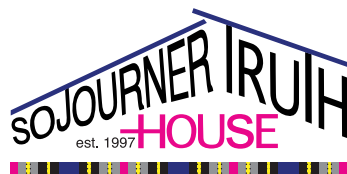
Service League of Northwest Indiana members gathered to support the 2016 STH Bathrobe Ball.



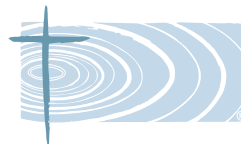
Sister Peg leads Coffee and Conversation at STH.



The groundbreaking of the Village of Hope Permanent Supportive Housing project.



Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ



Partners in the work of the Spirit

A ministry sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ

410 W 13<sup>th</sup> Ave | Gary, IN 46407 | (219) 885-2282

[www.sojournertruthhouse.org](http://www.sojournertruthhouse.org)