

HAPPENINGS

creating
STABILITY
before crisis

New Transitional Housing Opens Doors to Independence

Approaching its 30th year, Sojourner Truth House continues to transform lives, and now it is taking that mission even further. Every day, families walk through our doors and begin building a path toward stability, guided by compassionate staff who believe in their potential.

Today, that impact is growing in a powerful new way.

Sojourner Truth House has launched **two new transitional homes**, expanding its reach to serve young women before they ever experience homelessness. Women ages 18-24 now have the

opportunity to live in a safe, supportive environment for up to 36 months, gaining the time, resources, and confidence needed to build independent, thriving futures.

"It is with great excitement that Sojourner Truth House has been blessed with the opportunity to serve the community further by acquiring **two new transitional houses."**

said STH Board Chair Candace Dickson.

"It is our hope that supporters of Sojourner Truth House will assist with **standing in the gap for the underserved community by contributing to our causes such as the new transitional housing."**

Real stories made possible by your support.

Residents will work one-on-one with case managers, pursue higher education, and secure stable employment, mirroring the proven model that has helped thousands rewrite their stories. For some, this opportunity comes at a critical turning point. Young women aging out of foster care, for example, can now step directly into stability instead of uncertainty.

At Sojourner Truth House, it is not uncommon to see generations impacted: grandmothers, mothers, and daughters finding support under one roof. This new program creates a powerful opportunity to **break that cycle**, empowering young women to build a different future for themselves and for generations to come.

The homes themselves are designed with both comfort and community in mind.

STH Volunteer Spotlight

Tom and Kathy Molnar reflect the spirit of service in all that they do, selflessly giving of their time and talent to support others.

Tom, now retired, was a veterans' representative for 30 years and has been volunteering in Sojourner Truth House's garden and pantry for about 10 years. Kathy, a retired math teacher of 30 years, does data entry for the food pantry and has been an STH volunteer for about five years.

"Everyone wants to support a charity, but you want to support one that you trust is doing the job and doing it well," Kathy said. **"People are being treated with dignity here and money is being handled responsibly** here. When you're at STH as often as Tom and I are, **you get to see that firsthand.**"

Generously gifted by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, each residence can house up to twelve women and features private bedrooms, inviting shared spaces, and an environment where connection flourishes and no one feels alone.

Your support makes this life-changing work possible.

Because of you, young women are gaining not just housing, but the foundation for a future filled with promise. Gifts to the **Greatest Needs of Sojourner Truth House** ensure that these homes remain places of safety, growth, and transformation.

Together, we are creating stability before crisis and opening doors that change lives forever.

The couple, who have been married for 53 years, witnessed every stage of STH's journey and have a **deep connection to its mission**. They are close friends with Sister Peg Spindler, CSA, one of the foundresses, and continue to support the organization in multiple ways: not only with monetary donations, but with their time as weekly volunteers.

In Kathy's words: **"You receive much more than you give when you volunteer."**



**Tom & Kathy
Molnar**

Honoring 18 Years of Compassionate Service



After 18 years of dedicated service, Dr. Pamela Key, LSW, MSW, is retiring from Sojourner Truth House, leaving a lasting legacy of compassion and hope for women and families across Northwest Indiana.

As Director of Client Services, Dr. Key led the case management program, helping families overcome homelessness, trauma, and other challenges by connecting them with resources, support, and a path toward stability.

Dr. Key describes her experience working for Sojourner Truth as **"life-changing, gratifying, and humbling all wrapped up into 18 years."** She credits the women and families she served with shaping her own life, saying, **"The lives that have impacted me grew me, healed me, and inspired me to be a better person. It has taught me to live a life of intention."**

During nearly two decades, Dr. Key witnessed more than half of Sojourner Truth House's history, serving alongside leaders including Sister Peg Spindler, CSA and Sister Kathleen Quinn, PHJC. Her commitment to serving vulnerable populations became a defining part of the organization's mission and growth, so much so that Dr. Key once shared, **"Homelessness has no face and has no race. People are from all walks of life."** That belief shaped her approach to service throughout her career, meeting individuals and families with dignity, compassion, and understanding.

As she prepares for retirement, Dr. Key remains grounded in the faith that guides her. **"I know that it was God who planted me here, sustained me, and gave me permission and the strength to depart and start on a new journey. I trust that my future plans are in the hands of the Lord."**

Sojourner Truth House celebrates Dr. Key's extraordinary career and the lasting impact of her service. The programs she helped build, the partnerships she cultivated, and the countless lives she touched will continue to reflect her legacy for years to come. **We extend our deepest gratitude for her faithful service and wish her every blessing as she begins this new chapter!**



2026 Walk

Together, we raised over \$133,000!



L to R: Kelly Joiner, Christi Hardesty, Sister Salem Bisong PHJC, Tyrone Spann, Hamie Harris, Gayl Baker, Dr. Pam Key

In recognition of International Women's Month, Hard Rock made a generous contribution to Sojourner Truth House, demonstrating its commitment to supporting women and families in Northwest Indiana. The significant gift, which falls into the highest tier in our sponsorship program: "Fund A Month".

This designation honors partners whose support helps sustain critical services like meals, case management, transportation, and more for vulnerable women and families. We thank you!

Our Funding Partners

The generous benefactors below awarded grants to STH between January 1 - June 30 of 2026:

Raskob Foundation Precious Blood Foundation
First Merchants Bank First Financial Bank
Geminus Foundation Service League of NWI



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In 1997, Sr. Peg Spindler, CSA, alongside the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, recognized the need for greater support for women in Gary - and established Sojourner Truth House.

Today, CSA's commitment remains as strong as ever. Through annual giving, participation in the Walk for STH, and their generous support as a 2026 Welcome Home Sponsor, the congregation helps families transition from shelters to safe, stable, and permanent housing. God Bless!

L to R: Dr. Pam Key, Sister Peg Spindler, CSA, Angela Paul



Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes



DID YOU KNOW?

2026 Taxpayers who do not itemize will be able to claim a charitable deduction of **up to \$1,000** for single filers and **\$2,000 for married couples filing jointly** for cash donations made by check, credit card, or other qualified means to eligible nonprofit organizations.

As always, we encourage you to consult with your tax professional regarding your individual situation and eligibility.

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ



Partners in the work of the Spirit

Sojourner Truth House is a ministry of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

Images of clients are for illustrative purposes only.