

WELLSPRINGS VILLAGE 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

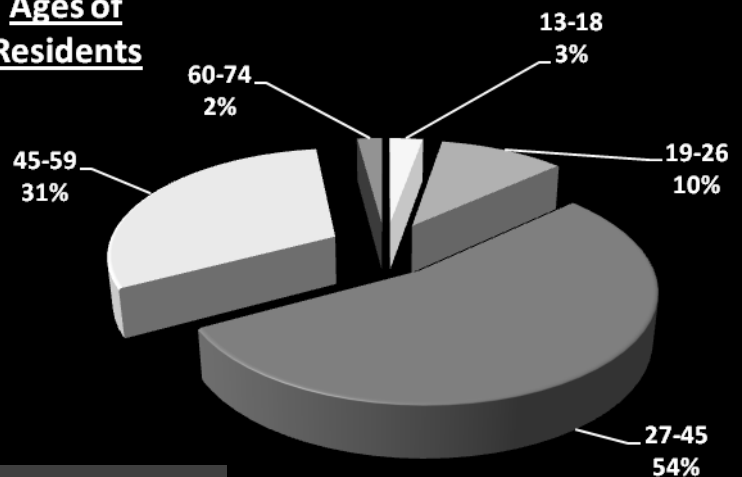
THE BOARD...

Wellsprings Village, Inc. has been blessed with members dedicated to the mission of Wellsprings, "To provide a safe, growthful environment for homeless and abused women. We seek to empower them to become economically, emotionally, self-sustaining, contributing members of society". The Executive Director of Wellsprings Village, Inc. is Valerie Beckham. The Board membership as of December 31, 2009 consisted of the following: Most Reverend Joseph Fiorenza (Honorary), Sister Justin Farinella (Emeritus), Carole Updyke (President), Marilyn Arendt (Vice President), Jackie Calhoun (Treasurer), Barbara Divine (Secretary), Denise Davis, Mary Ann Geist, Roslyn Harrell, Eugene Hawthorne, Virginia Kazmierczak, Mary Lou Kelly and Nicole Ware-Smith. The board meetings are held on the third Monday of each month beginning at 6:00 p.m. These meetings take place at the Wellsprings Village, Inc. administrative office. The Wellsprings Village, Inc. Advisory Board had been established at the direction of the Wellsprings Village Board of Directors. The charter members of this Advisory Board are Richard Dini, Ann Ellis, Larry Harris, Mike McGlothlin, Robert M. Schick, Reverend Jeffery F. Smith, Al Vacek, Jr. and Reverend Garrett Wingfield. The mailing address for Wellsprings Village, Inc. is Post Office Box 311017, Houston, Texas 77231.

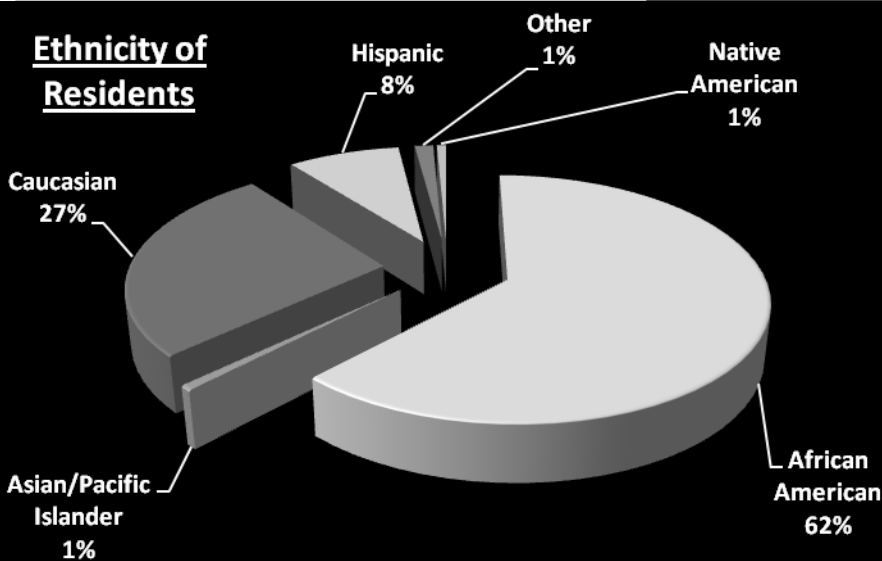
THE RESIDENTS IN 2009...

Wellsprings Village, Inc. served 143 women in the scattered-site supportive housing program and the onsite transitional residence program. The residents were diverse in background, in culture, and in race, which included African-American, Caucasian, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native American. Some stayed only a short time and others needed a longer period of time.

Ages of Residents



Ethnicity of Residents



Wellspring Village provides housing and services to the homeless, abused, and distressed women of our community. Through housing assistance and supportive services, Wellsprings helps homeless and abused women make significant lifestyle changes that will allow them to rise from the ashes of despair and hopelessness to a life of productivity and self worth. Our programs provide strength, education, support and hope.

In 1988, Sister Rita Owens, O.P. and Sister Justin Farinella, O.P., answered the prayers of hundreds of homeless women in the Houston area. The Dominican Sisters founded Wellsprings and established its mission:

“To provide a safe growthful environment for homeless and abused women. We seek to empower them to become economically, self-sustaining, contributing members of society.”

They recognized that, although emergency shelters meet the immediate needs of women with nowhere to go, they do not end the destructive cycles of domestic violence, substance abuse, and poverty that led them into homelessness. Wellsprings was founded in response to the need for long term housing and services for these women.

Wellsprings has opened its doors to over one thousand women since 1988.

THE WELLSPRINGS SOLUTION...

Wellsprings offers programs that include education and life-skills training in a safe, affirming environment, giving homeless women the chance at the lives they deserve – lives of independence, self respect and freedom.

Upon entering Wellsprings, a woman is assigned a client advocate who offers continuous contact, support, and motivation during her stay. Each resident’s situation requires individualized care that directly addresses the reasons she became homeless; whether it be domestic violence, substance abuse, poverty, or combinations of these reasons.

Wellsprings offers programs for its clients that provide:

Case management;
Transportation in the form of bus passes;
Supplemental medical (assistance with medications, glasses) and dental care;
Clothing, personal supplies, household items, and household furnishings; and
Counseling (individual & group);
Life skills workshops;
Spiritual growth & development.

The program requires the women to:

Engage in development and implementation of service plan goals and objectives that target education & employment;
Attend individual and/or group counseling sessions to address the root causes of their self destructive behaviors and encourage new coping skills; and
Learn life skills that emphasize time and financial management so that they can responsibly manage their daily lives.

Wellsprings considers a resident’s departure a “successful exit” when they have obtained viable job skills, secured full time employment, learned to apply new life skills, and have established a savings account. Wellsprings conducts periodic Client Evaluation Surveys to assess the advantages of program services as well as to gain feedback from the resident regarding the services offered and what is most beneficial in order for them to complete the program successfully.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY WELLSPRINGS...

The Supportive Housing Program 2004 - Transitional Housing Component assists women without children in their immediate care. These women are in recovery from substance abuse or fleeing domestic violence situations.

The women in this program live in apartments throughout the city and are assisted with rent payments and supportive services. The program provides assistance up to 24 months and is designed to help these women transition into independent living upon program exit. Funding for this program is received from the Department of Housing and Urban Development; Wellsprings cash resources, as well as In-Kind resources received by the agency.

The women entering this program are considered literally homeless according to the Department of Housing and Urban Development - they live on the streets, in cars, in emergency shelters, they will soon be evicted, or they are exiting institutions with no access to housing resources.

They are thoroughly screened by our client advocates and licensed counselor(s) prior to admission into the program to ensure they are able to live independently with little risk of relapsing into a life of substance abuse, untreated mental illness, or domestic violence. Program clients are visited by client advocates on a regular basis to ensure that their living environments are clean and safe.

At capacity 10 women benefit from the Supportive Housing Program 2004 Transitional Housing Component.

Note: This program ended on January 31, 2009

The Wellsprings Village is an On-Site Transitional Housing Program is a comprehensive transitional housing development project that is built on a three acre tract of land in Houston, Harris County, Texas. This location is the permanent site that provides a safe, nurturing environment for the homeless and disadvantaged women of our community. This may include women who have histories of substance abuse, domestic violence, or both, but do not have children in their immediate care. In this program, the women share living quarters and 24-hour staff remains on property to supervise the residents. There, they have constant access to the tools necessary to become self-sufficient. The aim is to help these women take charge of their lives and their futures within a twenty-four month period and to never again find themselves without the tools needed to obtain gainful employment and stable housing.

After completing the core requirements of the program, the women receive job-search assistance and professional development. Once they have secured full-time employment, they are required to save a portion of their income to prepare them for their transition to self-sufficiency. Upon exiting the program, our clients receive assistance locating an apartment and setting up their households.

At capacity 48 women benefit from the On-Site Transitional Housing Program.

STAFFING...

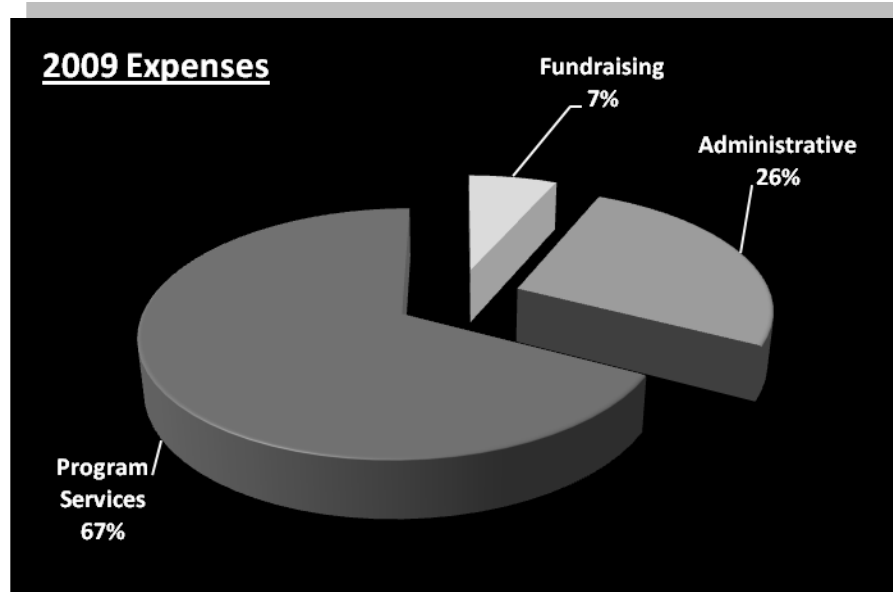
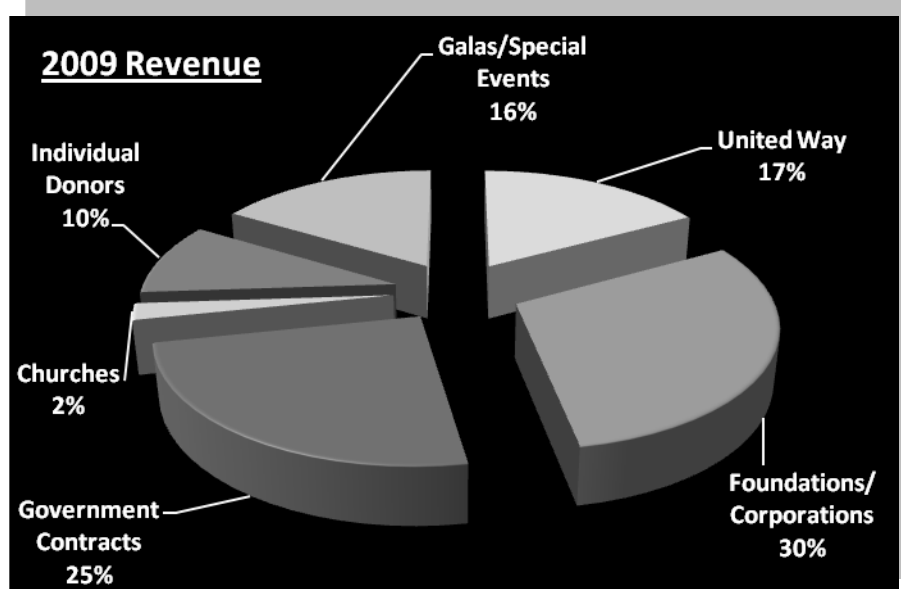
The staff as of December 2009, consisted of the following: Valerie Beckham (Executive Director), Sister Rita Owens (Director of Development), Irene Tapner (Executive Assistant), Alonda Scott (Client Advocate/Program Liaison), Ann Taylor (Part-Time Client Advocate), Cheryl Pratts (Resident Coordinator), Monique Douglas (Technician), Etta Francis (Technician.), Carmen Adekeye (Part-Time Technician) , Mary Baldon (Part-Time Technician), Lisa Graham (Part-Time Technician), Donna Lucas (Part-Time Technician), Lakeshia Woods (Part-Time Technician), and Darryl O'Neal (Night Patrol).

VOLUNTEERS...

101 unduplicated volunteers contributed 3,901 hours of service. These community members dedicated and committed to the mission of Wellsprings, provided leadership, spent many hours raising funds, and organized special events for the women.

FUNDING...

Wellsprings Village, Inc. was fortunate to receive funding from the following sources: United Way of Greater Houston, Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Child Care Council of Greater Houston, Emergency Food and Shelter Program, foundations, churches, individual donors and special fund-raising events.



A United Way Agency



United Way of Greater Houston