



Hope House of Milwaukee, Inc.

209 West Orchard - P.O. Box 04095
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Ending homelessness and creating healthy communities

CHRYSALIS PROJECT

Mid Year: January 1 – June 30, 2014

Homeless individuals and families often face multiple burdens such as unstable living situations, inadequate inter-personal skills, and poor support networks. Research has demonstrated that housing linked with services is the only strategy that is successful in reducing homelessness. The **Chrysalis Project** is designed to meet the transitional housing and developmental needs of homeless families, their children, and single women, parents, and their children. The project involves five elements: extended shelter and supportive case management services; comprehensive assessment of strengths, resources, and needs and development of a guest-driven, applicable plan for services and programming; practical onsite educational opportunities for guests; frequent reinforcement of newly learned positive behavior; and referral and linkage to community-based services and supports. The goal is to decrease homelessness, improve individual functioning, and enhance community-based support networks of participants.

PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

The population served in the Chrysalis Program is homeless families, their children, and homeless single women. All individuals entered the program from extremely low-income backgrounds with inadequate resources to secure housing.

In the first half of 2014, a total of 18 families were served by the Chrysalis Project. This included 17 adults and 19 children. There were 10 new families and 10 family discharges this quarter.

The Chrysalis Project served 26 single women during the first half of 2014. There were 11 new singles and 16 discharges this quarter.

60% of clients stayed with the program for between one and six months. 12% stayed less than one month, and 28% stayed more than six months.

Demographically, 70% of the new intakes were African-American, 25% were White, and 5% identified as Bi-Racial or of another race. 5% identified their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino. Issues other than homelessness faced by the new intakes include Mental Illness (25%), Physical Disabilities (20%), Developmental Disabilities (10%) and Drug Abuse (5%). 35% were victims of Domestic Violence. Many of these clients faced multiple issues simultaneously.

PROGRAM GOALS, INDICATORS AND RESULTS

Program Goals, Indicators and Outcomes

The Chrysalis Project offers immediate and interim services and programming with the intention of promoting long-term change in participants, measured as follows:

GOAL 1: TO INCREASE RESIDENTIAL STABILITY FOR PARTICIPANTS.

Indicator: *60% of the participants who enroll in the Chrysalis Project will successfully obtain permanent housing upon exit.*

Results: 88% of the participants have successfully obtained permanent housing in the community upon discharge from Hope House during the first half of 2014.

GOAL 2: TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT INCOME FOR PARTICIPANTS

Indicator: *20% of the adult Chrysalis Project participants will secure employment upon exiting the program.*

Results: 50% of the participants have successfully obtained employment upon exiting the program.

GOAL 3: TO INCREASE GREATER SELF-DETERMINATION FOR PARTICIPANTS.

Indicator: *Adults that complete the Chrysalis program will receive supportive services that prepare them for employment or housing.*

Results: 100% of program participants received supportive services during their stay.

SUCCESS STORIES

Sarah* lost her job a couple years ago and after searching for several months with no luck finding one, she lost her apartment too, and was forced to move into her car. It was a scary time. She struggled to find safe, private places to park, and had no access to showers or a kitchen. Eventually her car broke down and she found an abandoned van behind a car dealership where she was able to stay temporarily, but after her belongings were stolen out of it, she worried that the thief might come back for her. The owner of the car dealership connected her to an emergency shelter, and from there, she came to Hope House. Almost immediately upon arriving here, Sarah found a job working at a food pantry downtown. She explained that the staff at Hope House were always helpful with whatever she needed. After a year and a half living here, she has saved up enough money to move into a new apartment soon. She is thankful for the opportunity to get her life back on track through Hope House's shelter and programming.

Elisa* moved to Milwaukee from Puerto Rico to be with her children's father, but things did not go as planned and because she lacked English language skills, she was not able to locate employment. She had no choice, but to move into an emergency shelter with her children. She was then referred to Hope House and was able to focus more on her needs because of our long-term stay. She began by applying for W2 and complying with their stipulations. She then started ESL classes and was placed at a bilingual childcare and elementary school, where she advanced and was given the opportunity to get childcare certified. Meanwhile, she was working on getting all of her certificates and degrees from Puerto Rico, where she is a registered nurse. This mother not only received all of her degrees and certificates, but she also became a certified childcare worker before leaving Hope House and is now in the process of getting hired on through the childcare/elementary school. She saved her money while at HH and is now living in permanent, stable and affordable housing.

**Names changed for privacy*