



Providence House Heartline

PROVIDENCE HOUSE, INC.

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PROVIDENCE HOUSE CELEBRATES ITS 30th ANNIVERSARY

Providence House is celebrating a milestone birthday in 2009 – thirty years of excellence in serving women and children who are homeless. Although 2009 has started with a tough economy, Providence House remains optimistic because of the generosity of its supporters who have helped serve more than 12,000 women and children since we began thirty years ago.

The trajectory of time that has passed since the founding of Providence House, as the old cliché goes, seems like yesterday. It is amazing to me that over thirty years have passed since Sister Elaine Roulet and the Sisters of St. Joseph opened the doors of their residence at St. James' Convent in Brooklyn to provide a safe and secure haven for women on weekend furlough from prison. Their hospitality allowed these women to reunite with their children, spend quality time together and begin to heal fractured family bonds. At that time there were not too many places where this service of hospitality was offered.

Sister Elaine was joined by Sisters Mary Dunleavy, Maryellen Kane and Elizabeth Mullane in looking for a residence where they could serve even more women and children in a small, caring and home-like atmosphere. It was during this time the Providence House mission began to take shape. Providence House 1 opened its doors in the former brothers' residence at Holy Cross parish in East Flatbush, Brooklyn on a warm September day in 1979.

As the homelessness crisis in New York City exploded during the 1980s and 1990s,

Providence House expanded its program to include providing shelter, food and intensive case management services to women and children who found themselves homeless. During their stay in the Providence House program, all our residents are taught the skills that will help them escape the cycle of poverty and homelessness through education and employment as well as the skills that will help them become good parents and responsible citizens. Our mission is carried out at our eight transitional housing programs and three permanent housing facilities located in Brooklyn, Queens and Westchester County. On any given day, 160 women and children are served by the staff and core communities, who give lived expression to our mission and the core values of community, compassion, hospitality and nonviolence.

There is so much to tell about Providence House that cannot be written in this short space. I encourage you to go visit our website at www.providencehouse.org and read the Program Report that expands on our history, programs and services. Within its pages, Sister Mary Dunleavy so poignantly captured what is the essence of Providence House from all her years of living the mission: "I can truthfully say it's been a great life. Tending to the things that really matter, living a philosophy that teaches me that for many of the women of Providence House my life will be the only Gospel they will ever read."

We give gratitude for these 30 years of rich history. We are truly blessed. ☩

WELCOME TO PROVIDENCE HOUSE

BRADLEY PIERRE, MS. Ed
Associate Executive Director/Programs



It is my pleasure to have recently joined the dedicated Providence House core community and staff and to be involved in what I consider to be some of the most important work faced by our community and society. That is the work of changing lives, changing perceptions, and preparing our clients for true independent living.

I come to Providence House with over 18 years of dedicated service to the children and families in some of the most vulnerable communities throughout our city and have worked to address the myriad of issues affecting them. Some of these issues include education, juvenile delinquency and prison reform as well as the issues of housing and homelessness.

Over the course of those years my experience has allowed me to gain a great appreciation for the work that we do as well as the people who do it. Our challenge is to impact lives and to bring attention and resources to the most vulnerable and underserved individuals in our city. In order to meet that challenge we must expect more from ourselves and demand more from our clients. It takes a great team of dedicated professionals to meet such challenge and an organization with a mission that fundamentally supports that premise. Providence House is such a place and the staff and core community here are those kinds of professionals. I look forward to my continued work here at Providence House and sharing my experience and expertise, and most of all my passion for this work to support the mission of Providence House. ☞

PAULA MIGLIORE,
Director of Mission Effectiveness



Paula Migliore is beginning her first year with Providence House as the Director of Mission Effectiveness. The position of Director of Mission Effectiveness

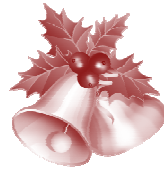
has been created so that our mission and values will be fostered and sustained into the future in all Providence House programs.

Paula comes to Providence House as a master's degree professional, with a background in campus ministry and social services. For 8 years she was involved on the university level with developing the area of mission effectiveness among students, colleagues and the various departments of St. John's University in Queens. Most recently, Paula was working at St. Vincent's Cardinal Manning Center, a men, women's and children's shelter in Los Angeles, CA.

The vision and principle values of Providence House are aligned with Paula's personal involvement in areas of social justice and mission work within the United States, Central and South America. A native of Pennsylvania, Paula is the daughter of Christine and Leonard (late) Migliore along with her three sisters, Angela, Nicole and Tori. ☞




HOLIDAYS AT PROVIDENCE HOUSE



Thanks to all our donors for making our Holidays at Providence House special for the many women and children we serve.

Providence House Video Soon To Make its Debut!

Providence House has just completed shooting a brief video that highlights the challenges and successes the agency has experienced. The segment will be televised on local news and public television stations as well as made available to the public on the Providence House website and YouTube. 

Please check our website at www.providencehouse.org for date of release.

Lights, Camera, Action!...

SAVE THE DATE

PROVIDENCE HOUSE PEOPLE OF HOPE AWARD CELEBRATION

Thursday June 4, 2009
from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at
The Water Club in New York City

for ticket price and information
Call Jose Ortiz at
(718) 455-0197 ext #19
Email: ortizj@providencehouse.org

WOMEN SPEAK


A PLACE FOR MY FAMILY AND ME

By Cherrine Adlem

Transferred from a shelter where the living conditions were horrifying and the staff and residents made my family and me feel like outsiders, we were all traumatized on where our placement would have been. Not having a clue what the name Providence House Inc. was or would be, we arrived at the doorsteps of Providence House 2, located in Prospect Avenue, Park Slope, Brooklyn.

Greeted by a face full of smiles and a warm hug I said this is the place for my family and me. It is indeed a blessing in living here, all of the sisters and staff encouraging me not to lose hope in achieving my goals. Having my children raise in Providence House 2 is truly a blessing, we are like family here, birthdays are celebrated along with many other occasions, and yes, Christmas, we enjoyed the best.

My children receive the help they needed since I came, and this is one thing that I am grateful to PH for among others. My son was diagnose with ADHD, and Providence House helped me to be the parent that I should be while my son receives the services that will help him in the future. Thanks to the director, case manager and the housing specialist who all have made this possible for my son.

In closing, I would like to say that Providence House is indeed a family unit, where needs are met and most of all independence is achieved. I am looking forward to obtaining my apartment in a few months from now, using the skills, qualifications and all the others learned while here at Providence House 2. God bless you Providence House and may the families who enter feel the same as I did. 

PROVIDENCE HOUSE, INC.
703 Lexington Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11221

Website: www.providencehouse.org

Email: info@providencehouse.org

(718) 455-0197 phone

(718) 455-0692 fax

