

Mary's Mantle

DECEMBER 2023
MARYSMANTLE.NET



FROM OUR MARY'S MANTLE FAMILY TO
YOURS, WE WISH YOU A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!



MARY'S MANTLE EXPANSION

OUR VISION

Based on current needs of the women we serve, local and national research of best practices, and lack of affordable, low-income housing in Metro Detroit, Mary's Mantle proposes the following:

- Continue to have a maternity home designed to support 4-6 pregnant women at a time, in a community living setting.
- Open a 10-12-unit transitional apartment complex that will allow women, who meet set criteria, to live with their child(ren) for a set amount of time. Women who successfully complete the programming in the Mary's Mantle maternity home will be given priority placement. These units will be subsidized by Mary's Mantle; however, tenants will be responsible for a portion of their rent and their utilities .

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING MATTERS

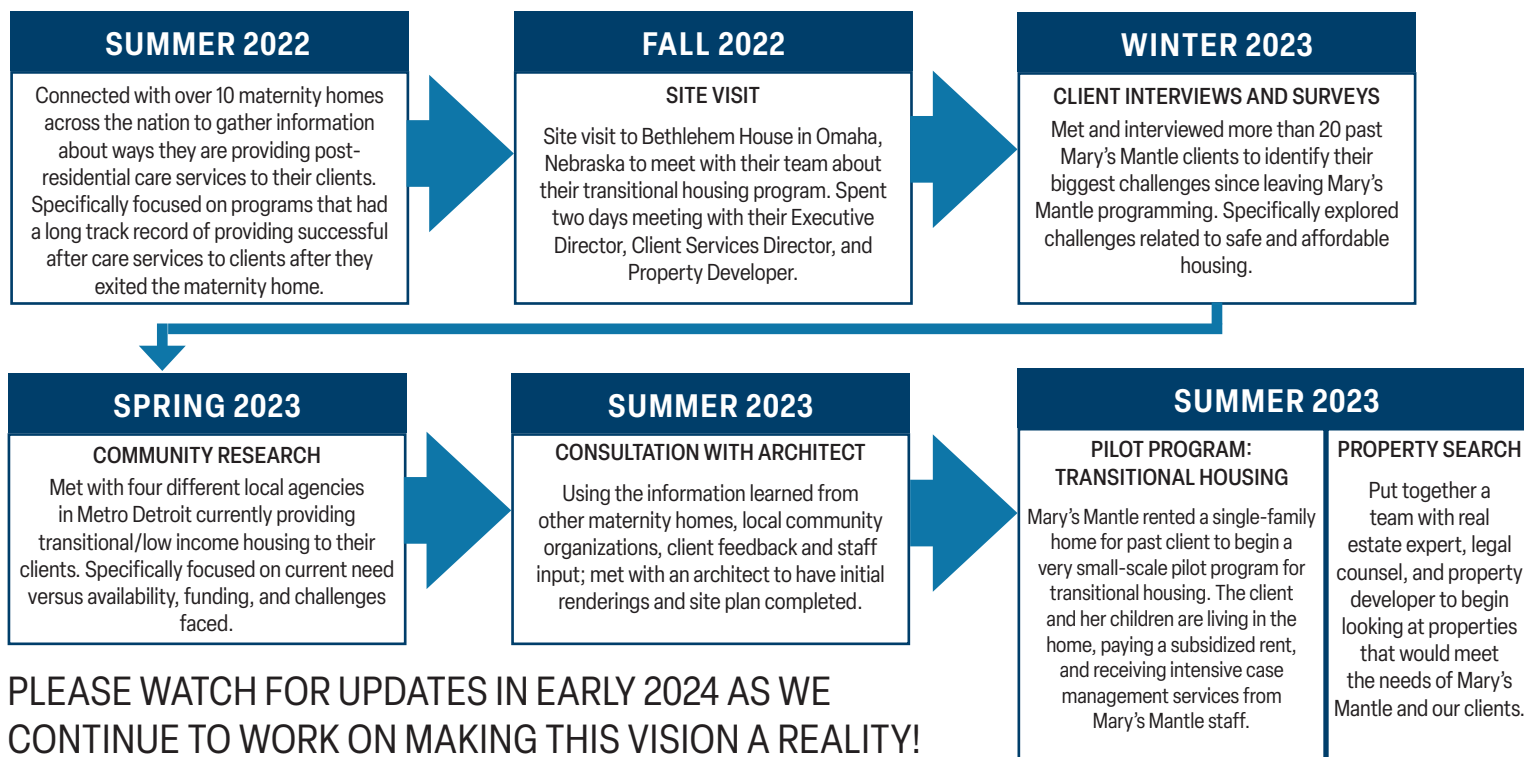
Based on a survey of past Mary's Mantle moms:

- 70% have felt unsafe in their current homes
- 100% identified the need for a safe place for their children to play outside a priority
- 80% expressed desire to live in a city with a better school system
- 66% have experienced issues with their landlord in past year (repairs, maintenance)
- 56% were concerned with how they would afford their rent in past year

RESEARCH SUPPORTS TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

According to a report recently released by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, a renter making minimum wage would have to work **77 hours per week (nearly two full-time jobs)** to afford a two-bedroom apartment in Metro Detroit.

PROJECT TIMELINE



PLEASE WATCH FOR UPDATES IN EARLY 2024 AS WE CONTINUE TO WORK ON MAKING THIS VISION A REALITY!

STAFF TRAINING AT MARY'S MANTLE

Mary's Mantle has been honored to serve a wide variety of women that have come from all walks of life. Unfortunately, many of the ladies that come through our doors have experienced trauma in childhood or as adults. Some women are victims of child abuse, sexual abuse or assault, domestic violence, or have experienced other traumas in their lives. Trauma can have lifelong effects that can manifest in many different ways. In order to provide the best environment for women that are survivors of trauma, we have found it important to seek out and provide trauma informed care training for our staff. Our goal is to prepare staff to understand the effects of trauma, and gain the necessary skills that will enable us to support and effectively work with these women while being



understanding and compassionate.

This past September we were fortunate to schedule a three-day training with Suzanne Burns, MS, CFTP and Lisa Holmes, COO, MACS, CFTP from Be Charity Wise. Suzanne and Lisa run a maternity home in Tennessee and are educated, trained, and experienced in the area of trauma informed care. Suzanne and Lisa provided staff with a wealth of knowledge on this subject and were able to share real life experiences of the women they work with in their maternity home. The information and insight the staff gained was very beneficial as were the skills and techniques that staff learned.

Mary's Mantle continues to be thankful for the support of our donors which allows us to provide valuable staff training to better serve our clients.

KEEPSAKES OF THE KINGDOM 2023



Listen! Is there a resounding, melodious joy lingering in the air? We wouldn't be too surprised, because our recent Keepsakes of the Kingdom evening began with a beautiful Mass concelebrated by our chaplain Father John McKenzie and board member Father Drew Mabee. Father Drew's homily encouraged us to remember that each one of us has God-given human dignity, and that our sacred duty as Christians with such dignity is to infiltrate any

darkness to liberate others (cf. Mt. 16:18).

After Mass, we transitioned into another kind of celebration - a banquet of food, fun, and friendship in the University of Detroit Student Union. We were inspired by the stories of our honoree, Cindy Bauer Gaus, and of one of our newest staff members, Lojen Al-Sheikh. We shared prayer, laughter, and wonder as we kept our eyes fixed on the Mary's Mantle mission.

We thank those who strategized and those who sponsored. We thank the designers and the decorators. We thank the speakers, our auctioneer, our emcee, our bidders, and our volunteers. We thank each donor who helped us exceed our fundraising goal. We thank the priests, religious, diocesan staff, and seminarians who joined us. We thank the board, the staff, and the prayer team. We thank each of you. May your Christian dignity continue to shine.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

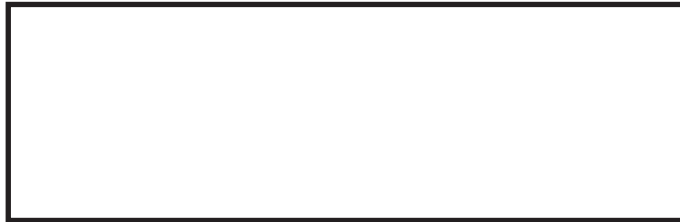
Dr. Ken Kernan President	Father Drew Mabee
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STAFF MEMBERS

Katie Montes Executive Director	Lojen Al-sheikh Case Manager	Jill Kurcz Support Staff
Mary Jo Wisneski Director of Client Services	Kristen Heintz Controller	Jill Paul Support Staff
Joanna Willis Program Manager - After Care	Breeanne Leneair House Supervisor	Ruth Moreno Support Staff
Marian Bart Spiritual Coordinator	Jessica Gaderick Office Manager	Sheryl Nieman Hancock Support Staff

Mary's Mantle 

P.O. BOX 365
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Mission Statement

Mary's Mantle is a Catholic residential program for homeless expectant women. We witness the love of Christ by promoting the dignity of life. We provide a safe, faith-based, and caring environment that supports the transition into motherhood, including extended aftercare for continued personal growth and integration into the community. We focus on the spiritual, emotional, physical, educational, and vocational well-being of mother and child.

WWW.MARYSMANTLE.NET • INFO@MARYSMANTLE.NET

SAVE THE DATE

**SUNDAY, MARCH 3
5-8 P.M.**

**Mary's Mantle
Golf Outing
at TopGolf
More details
to come!**



Work at Mary's Mantle

Did you know that Mary's Mantle is staffed 24/7/365? That means Support Staff cover 128 hours each week working in the home in the evenings, overnights and weekends. We are always looking for the right people to join our team.

The preferred candidate(s) will be mature, caring individuals who can function as a support to the women who live at Mary's Mantle. It is imperative that the candidate has a wealth of compassion for vulnerable pregnant women and small babies, while maintaining a spirit of accountability.

Great for college students looking to gain experience, recent retirees, or anyone looking for part-time non-traditional work hours. Visit www.marysmantle.net or e-mail Katie Montes at katie.montes@marysmantle.net for more information on duties and how to apply