

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.





What do you think of when you hear the word steadfast? Someone in the armed forces? A Boy Scout? A person who never gives up? Loyalty?

Steadfast came to my mind as I looked for a word to describe 2018. For our residents, our board and our staff to accomplish all we did, we had to be steadfast in our resolve to keep moving forward.

In 2017, we took a hard look at Sheltering Wings and created an ambitious strategic plan to expand and enhance our ministry to survivors of domestic abuse. Our work started

with a checklist of activities we called "Solidifying the Core." Much as one might focus on strengthening abdominal muscles in a workout regimen, we steadfastly made certain that our residents were receiving strong, cohesive and effective educational programs and services. We steadfastly examined our outreach initiatives and administrative structures to ensure their soundness. Through these conversations, we set highly ambitious goals – expanding men's services and opening a community center are just two examples of goals we plan to achieve in the future - that we knew would require steadfast dedication and good old-fashioned hard work.

I'm proud to say that we took important steps forward in 2018. You'll see some of them in this report.

This year of steadfastness has reinforced my belief that we can turn our dreams and plans into realities. We have a visionary and cohesive board and a talented and steadfast staff. We have passionate and generous donors like you. We have former residents who return to give back. And we have an incredibly kind and faithful God who I'm confident is directing our efforts.

Thank you for all you do.

In His Service,

Cassie Mecklenburg

a Mathly

Executive Director





from the Chairman

Service on a nonprofit board of directors can be fairly mundane. You meet month after month to review spreadsheets, hear committee reports and cast votes.

Not at Sheltering Wings!

Serving on this board – in addition to being an incredible honor and responsibility – has been exhilarating. From our ambitious strategic plan in 2017 to today, we are moving toward what we know will be an exciting future, thanks in large part to our many supporters.

Our board is particularly thrilled about this year's progress toward on-site emergency housing for male victims of domestic abuse – something one in seven men experience in their lifetimes. Though we have much more to learn, we want to be poised to help any victim of any form of domestic violence when they reach out to us.

We are also enthusiastic about the steps Sheltering Wings takes in prevention and education. Historically, we have been known for providing emergency housing for people escaping domestic violence. This effort will continue, but we anticipate the day we can prevent domestic violence. Much of our effort in 2018 was dedicated to this worthwhile effort.

Reflecting on all that occurred in 2018, I am filled with gratitude. I'm grateful for the men and women beside whom I am privileged to serve on the board. I am grateful for our passionately committed and talented staff, who invest so much of themselves into spearheading community prevention and education initiatives and helping residents build independent lives. And, last but certainly not least, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for faithful donors like you. We simply could not do what we do without the generosity of hundreds of individuals, families, churches, businesses, foundations and grantors.

Finally, I continue to be amazed at how generous God has been in providing and directing. Whether addressing the increased demand for our services, growing our prevention program or giving us the faith we need to follow Him toward our goals, He continually reminds us that He is with us in this journey.

Sincerely,

Alyson Lurker

Chairman, Board of Directors

Vision

Sheltering Wings was formed in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ. We will extend the love and compassion of Christ to survivors of domestic abuse and their children in the desperate circumstances of domestic abuse. Christ was never coercive or offensive and neither are our services. We will offer our help in the name of Christ to any survivor of any background.

Donor-supported Services for Victims of Domestic Abuse



Our services are possible only through the generosity of donors – individuals, clubs, groups, schools, companies and more. Sheltering Wings helps victims of abuse recognize their worth and gain the skills they need to live stable and independent lives.

Emergency Services

Immediate access to safety and shelter with 24-hour crisis calls and room assignments, connections to legal assistance, safe removal from an abusive situation, medical care and pet fostering.

Life Skills

Education, job skills, family development, emotional health and mental health support and training to promote independence and stability.

Children's Services

Crisis intervention, support groups, and classes focused on helping kids restore normal daily living and create healthy relationships.

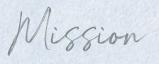


Prevention and Education

Classes, workshops, teen outreach and practical strategies equip the community to recognize and prevent domestic abuse and to identify and support victims.

Thank you for your support!

To make a much-needed gift now, visit shelteringwings.org/donate.



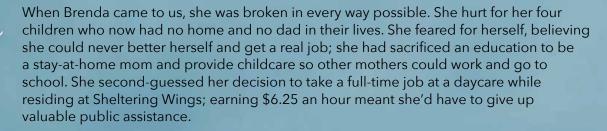
Sheltering Wings provides emergency housing for men, women and children suffering from any form of domestic abuse. We build stable and independent lives through essential programs offered in a supportive and Christ-centered environment.



Sheltering Wings is an accredited partner of United Way of Central Indiana.

Steadfast in the face of doubt

Brenda's Story



She'd often get discouraged. But then she'd remind herself that her children were safe and she was, too – something she couldn't have said before arriving at Sheltering Wings.

As Brenda's mentor, I met with her every week. Our conversations were late at night – I worked the third shift – and by then, Brenda was tired. When I praised her for her steadfastness and for being a great mom, she'd say, "I'm just dumb. I'll never be like the other women who are able to leave here."

One night, as I encouraged her to think about college, Brenda said with disgust, "I could never go to school! I don't even know how to turn on a computer."

It was a turning point. Right then and there, I took Brenda into our computer lab and showed her how to turn on a PC and set up her email.

I could see the world opening up in her brimming eyes and dazzling smile.

Brenda soon enrolled in school to major in Early Childhood Development. She became an assistant to the daycare director while maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

Today, Brenda is a college graduate and the director of the daycare.

So many women like Brenda come to the shelter unable to see their potential because they've been told for so long that they don't have any. Through our life skills training – possible only because of generous individual, corporate and group donors – people like Brenda can find their place in the world and set their children on a loving path toward a successful future.



Fundraising & Mental health

Breathing new life into fundraising



Lisa Thorton

The real heroes at Sheltering Wings are our donors, so when Lisa Thornton joined the staff as Director of Development in 2018, we took a huge step toward providing residents with more programming and making a bigger difference in our community.

Lisa is an accomplished fundraiser and manager with a history of exceptional results in corporate and nonprofit organizations. She is skilled at building long-term relationships built on integrity and mutual respect.

Creating serenity



Elizabeth Craig

Addressing the mental health needs of our residents is one of the most important facets of our work. Adult Therapist Elizabeth Craig spearheaded the creation of a welcoming, calming haven where individuals can get one-on-one therapy. With the help of generous donors and a volunteer with an eye for interior design, Elizabeth renovated the therapy room into a beautiful, bright, safe and serene space that promotes healing and wholeness.



to the individuals, companies and organizations for their financial support in 2018. You changed more lives than you will ever know.

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Sheltering Wings

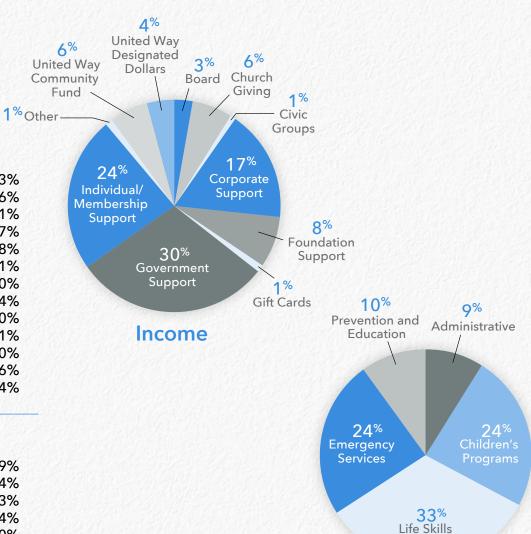
Financial Summary

Income

Board	\$	49,920.00	3%
Church Giving		92,282.64	6%
Civic Groups		15,871.98	1%
Corporate Support		281,962.71	17%
Foundation Support		123,362.87	8%
Gift Cards		10,196.49	1%
Government Support		491,635.80	30%
Individual/Membership Support		384,316.61	24%
Interest		270.12	0%
Other - Miscellaneous		9,203.10	1%
Schools		2,871.84	0%
United Way Community Fund		94,545.96	6%
United Way Designated Dollars		61,923.77	4%
	\$ 1	,618,363.89	



Administrative	9%
Emergency Services	24%
Life Skills	33%
Children's Program	24%
Prevention & Education	10%



Expenses

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These are preliminary, unaudited year-end figures and may differ slightly from the final figures we will report to state and federal governments. Our finances are reviewed annually by an independent public accounting firm. For questions about our financial statements and audit information, please contact the executive director at (317) 386-5052.

As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, Sheltering Wings is led by a board of directors made up of local leaders committed to serving victims of domestic violence and educating the community about domestic violence, all in Christ's image. Directors oversee planning and operations, lending their professional expertise and skills to ensure that services comply with responsible stewardship, the Sheltering Wings mission, vision and guiding principles, and state and federal laws governing nonprofit organizations.

