

# Shared Blessings

## **You Give Hope...**

Christina had just returned from a honeymoon cruise — where she hid from her new husband to avoid physical and emotional abuse.

This was supposed to be the fairytale ending. Love at first sight — after a devastating cycle of abusive relationships that began as a young teen.

Her only thought — how could she protect her young daughter.

## **You gave her hope.**

Because of your support, Sheltering Wings' crisis hotline is answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. An advocate answered when Christina called. She learned about resources and even toured the emergency shelter.

Like many victims, Christina had safe housing and chose not to use our shelter. But the knowledge that Sheltering Wings was there — standing ready to help — gave her comfort during a scary time.

## **Because of you, Christina no longer felt alone.**

Today, Christina is married to a man she describes as a "true partner, patient and supportive." She is in counseling to work through the significant trauma she experienced over decades. She is getting medical help to heal from the health issues caused by stress, trauma and abuse. And she's working to provide safety and support to other domestic abuse survivors.

"I felt an urge that God wanted me to do more than just donate," Christina says.

Names in survivor stories may be changed for their protection.

**24/7 HELPLINE (317) 745-1496**

She joined the Sheltering Wings board in January. "I felt like this would be a good way to use my story to make a difference for someone else."

Christina is determined that no victim — especially young teens like her when she first faced abuse — feels alone.

"No one should walk through tragedy alone," Christina says. "Now, today I can stand with people the way I wish someone had been there for me."

Thank you for standing with survivors like Christina.

**"Sheltering Wings gave me the assurance that I had safe options. I knew that if I needed to leave, I would have a place to keep my daughter safe." — Christina**



# Look what you made possible...

## 3 CAR DONATIONS

so far in 2025! By donating a car in good, working order, these donors gave survivors a way to see their kids (or grandkids), a way to work and a path to growing stability.



## 48 SURVIVORS (24 adults and

24 children) secured safe and affordable permanent housing in 2024. Thanks to you, Sheltering Wings was able to provide financial assistance for barriers like rent, application fees, and more to help survivors establish their own safe home.



## 21 CLIENTS

found jobs — either on their own or with staff resources — so far this year. Your support means 21 adults are on their way to financial independence and personal security.



## 2 CLIENTS earned their high school

equivalency so far this year. Four more are on their way. Lack of education — leading to low-income employment — is a significant barrier to stability.



Thanks to you, a new world of opportunity is now open to these survivors.

## Men IN Action Breakfast



Mark your calendars for the 9th annual Men IN Action Breakfast Oct. 2 featuring Devon McDonald. Devon is the Pro NFL Chief of Staff to Chaplains

at Athletes in Action, an international organization whose goal is to empower Christ-followers on every team, in every sport, in every nation.

**WHEN:** Thursday, Oct. 2

**WHERE:** Hendricks County Fairgrounds

**COST:** \$15, includes a delicious breakfast



Scan the QR code to register and learn more.

# Our work is not possible without YOU

Did you know more than 25 percent of Sheltering Wings funding comes from federal and state government?



I hope you know how important and wonderful you are to us. You are doing sacred work to care for families in desperate need.

This work is not possible without private donations from kind people like you who care enough to help.

The full budget for 2025 is \$3.3M, and currently about ¼ of our annual funding comes from state and federal government grants. Government funding has always been volatile — and it continues to be so. We've been working diligently for many years to reduce our reliance on government funds, and we need your help to continue this work.

Thank you for sticking with us and for showing up day after day to help the people who need you. Your support is more important now than ever.  
Paige Vanzo, Donor and Engagement Director | [pvanzo@shelteringwings.org](mailto:pvanzo@shelteringwings.org) | 317.386.5049



## Thank you for supporting survivors!

Thank you to the sponsors, attendees, and volunteers who made the 2025 Premier Event a success. Because of you, survivors and their children find help and resources to build stability – whether they need shelter or not.

Thank you for Standing In The Gap!

### PRESENTING SPONSORS



### TITANIUM SPONSOR



# Community Advocacy Services

Emergency shelter is just ONE tool to fight domestic abuse

Our goal, always, is to support survivors as they build stable, independent lives.

For the past two decades, that meant bringing survivors to safety within our walls. Because of your support, Sheltering Wings has grown to be the second largest domestic violence shelter in Indiana.

Together, we can do even more. Emergency shelter is a significant tool to breaking the cycle of abuse — but it's just one tool.

Each survivor's needs are different. The solution to end domestic violence is found in whatever builds safety, stability, and independence. It's found in one-on-one help asking, "What do you need?" and "How can we help?"

By asking those simple questions, we can serve even more survivors through Community Advocacy Services (CAS). Your support means survivors like Christina find the support and resources they need—outside shelter walls. CAS is individualized for each person including:

- Help with protective orders
- Case management
- Support groups
- Financial help
- Housing advocacy
- And more!

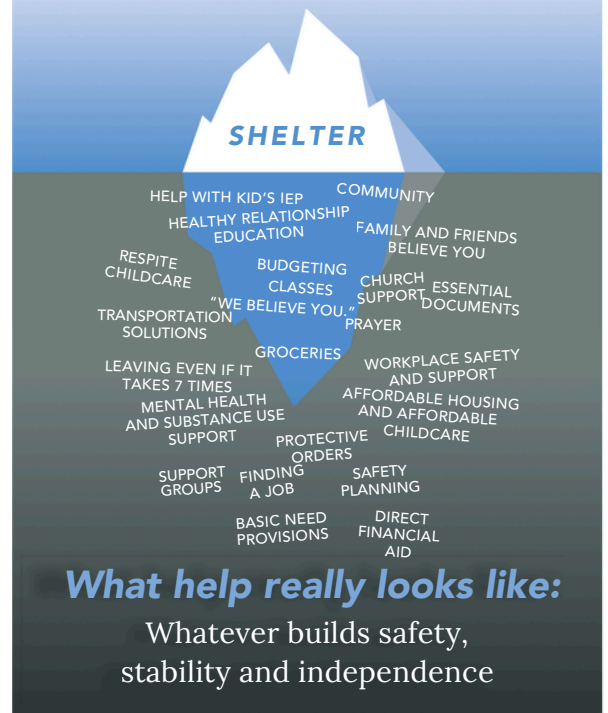
The CAS program also supports survivors as they take the first step of independence – moving from shelter to their first safe home.

Survivors like Adrianna, who fled devastating abuse with her young sons and unborn daughter. You gave her safety and space to heal while in shelter. You gave her the strength and resources to build stability for her family. Today, Adrianna lives in her own apartment while continuing to receive CAS support. **Her journey isn't over; but thanks to you, she is on the path to breaking the cycle of abuse for herself and her children.**

**94 PEOPLE OUTSIDE OF EMERGENCY SHELTER WERE HELPED THROUGH COMMUNITY ADVOCACY SERVICES IN 2024.**

We're hoping to reach 100 more each year by 2027.

**What you think domestic violence help looks like:**



**What help really looks like:**

Whatever builds safety, stability and independence



# Families like Christina and her daughter need you this Christmas (in July!)

Christmas in July is one of the most important times of the year for us. We dedicate the month to securing what our families need after supplies from the Christmas season have been used up.

Christina's family didn't come to shelter, but this year 300 people will. You can provide for our families' basic needs like cleaning supplies or school supplies, and food while they're staying with us.

We are 100% reliant on you, our community, to make sure our families have what they need.

**Here are ways to help this year:**

**GIVE!** Your generous financial gifts directly provide safety and support to survivors. Both cash and non-cash gifts are vital to break the cycle of abuse. Send in your gift with the reply form here or scan the QR code to give online.

**Double your gift now through July 31!**

And – through July 31 – your gifts will be matched \$1 for \$1 up to \$20,000 thanks to a group of generous donors! Give now to double your gift and double your impact!

**GATHER!** Your gifts of food, toiletries, and other goods directly sustain survivors. Host a Wish List drive with your church, business, or group. Check out our Essentials and Back-to-School wish lists for urgent needs.

**LEARN and SHARE!** You can help prevent abuse. Learn how by attending a Sheltering Wings training. Or invite our Prevention team to present at your church, group, or business.

And spread the word! Help those who need help and those who want to help find Sheltering Wings. Follow our social media accounts and share posts and information.



To learn more and get involved in Christmas in July, scan the QR code or visit [ShelteringWings.org/Christmas-in-July](https://ShelteringWings.org/Christmas-in-July).



# Will you give hope to families desperately seeking safety?

Your gift means survivors find safety and the support they need to build stability and independence.

**Give by July 31 to double your gift!** All gifts matched \$1 for \$1— up to \$20,000! – thanks to a group of generous donors.

Fill out the information below and return it in the enclosed envelope. Or, scan the QR code to give online.



Please use my Christmas in July gift to keep families like Christina's safe.

\$50    \$100    \$500    \$1000    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make my gift recurring

I've enclosed my check # \_\_\_\_\_ Please

charge my credit card \$ \_\_\_\_\_    Visa    MC    Discover    Amex

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

Exp. Date (MM/YY)   /   CVV

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to make a gift via stock, Donor Advised Fund (DAF), Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from my IRA, or other assets. (Paige Vanzo will contact you to arrange the gift.)

**Gifts made to Sheltering Wings go to the greatest needs of our programs unless designated for a special purpose.** Use the enclosed envelope, scan the QR code, or visit [ShelteringWings.org/Newsletter](http://ShelteringWings.org/Newsletter)

