



BETHANY

h o u s e s e r v i c e s

ONE STEP CLOSER TO HOME

We envision a future where all families have a place to call home and no one spends a night without shelter.

Whether from lack of affordable housing, health issues, the challenges of raising children alone, or other life circumstances, many families in Greater Cincinnati find themselves without a home and nowhere else to turn.

These families and children are the unseen faces of homelessness in desperate need of not only shelter, but a pathway to stability.



Bethany House shelters over 50% of homeless families and 66% of homeless children in Greater Cincinnati.

Bethany House is more than just a shelter. We provide safety, security, education and hope to help families get back on their feet and reach long-term stability.

Shelter & Housing:

- Shelter Diversion
- Emergency Shelter
- Re-Housing programs
- Prevention and Post Shelter Support

Supportive Services:

- Life Skills Classes
- Counseling
- Case Management
- Employment Services
- Children's Services



BETHANY
house services

Our mission is to empower homeless and at-risk families with the solutions to achieve housing stability and long-term self-sufficiency.

Our Mission

To empower homeless and at-risk families with solutions to achieve **housing stability** and **long-term self-sufficiency**.



Cincinnati's Homeless

Single Men

Shelterhouse
Barron Center

City Gospel
Mission

Single Women

Shelterhouse
Hatton Center

Teens/Youth

Lighthouse
Sheakley
Center

Mecum House

Families

Bethany House

The Salvation
Army

Interfaith
Hospitality
Network

YWCA



A Community Challenge

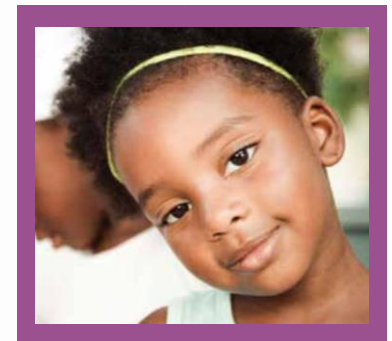
1,400+

families experience homelessness in Greater Cincinnati each year

56%

of families who call the regional hotline for help do not receive services

A high family poverty rate coupled with the shortage of affordable housing units has exacerbated the need for family shelter in Greater Cincinnati—and the demand is growing. Our community must do more to help families in need.



FAMILY HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

- We are a partnership of the four emergency shelters dedicated to homeless families in Hamilton County.
 - Bethany House Services
 - Interfaith Hospitality Network
 - The Salvation Army
 - YWCA





HISTORY

- Started in 2000 with the name Family Shelter Partnership Program (FSPP).
- Originally formed to administer a grant from Hamilton County for direct client services.
- Goal: improve the case management system across the family shelters to create efficiency and standardized care.
- Bethany House Services provided fiscal oversight and leadership of the program.



CoC Grant

- The CoC grant (from HUD) is the largest and most consistent funding source for FHP.
- \$323,230 per year.
- Funds Case Manager salaries at partner agencies.
- Funding is competitive and based on our collective housing/income outcomes.
- Bethany House is the lead agency & grant applicant.



Collaboration

- The FHP is also a place for trying innovative approaches to addressing family homelessness (i.e. Rapid Re-Housing Demo Program).
- Level of collaboration dramatically increased 2015 when the FHP created *Solutions for Family Homelessness*, a community wide plan.
- It increased again with COVID-19

COVID-19

- Unparalleled Collaboration within FHP and Homelessness Sector
 - FHP started with calls 7 days a week in mid-March with GCHC and STEH which continue today.
 - Homelessness Service Providers shortly thereafter and continue today.
- How do you “stay at home” when you don’t have a home?
- How do you maintain “social distancing” when you are living in very close quarters in a shelter with 40 other moms and kids sharing bedrooms, bathrooms and dining rooms?
- Home is the safest place during COVID-19 and our families don’t have a home.
- What’s Next? Cincinnati’s lowest income families were already struggling to pay rent and make ends meet before the pandemic.
- We must use this opportunity while there is a spotlight on our city’s most vulnerable population to improve housing, healthcare, childcare, education,

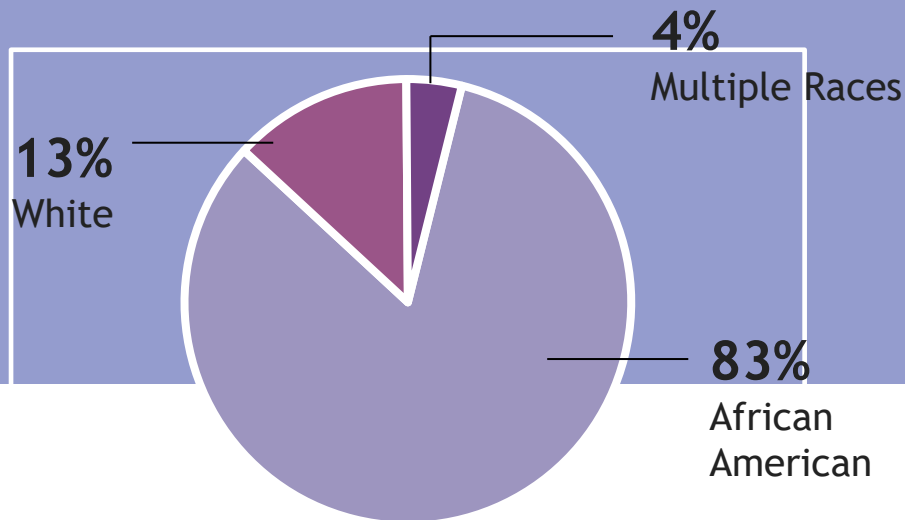


Who Does Bethany House Serve? HOMELESS FAMILIES



Who We Serve

Across all Bethany House programs and services, we serve approximately 800 families annually—including 1,600 children.



95%

of our families are led by a **single mom**

70%

of family members are children—most under age 6

100%

of our families live in extreme poverty

Our average family is a single mom, 29-30 years old, with 2-3 children

Our Programs Work

96%

of families leaving shelter moved to positive housing

82%

of families who exited shelter have remained housed

86%

of families who graduated from housing programs have not returned to homelessness



WHY are families homeless?



**It only takes one
single and
sometimes
uncontrollable
event to tip a
family into
homelessness.**



Some root causes of family homelessness

Lack of affordable housing

Generational poverty

Lack of education or skills

Domestic violence

Unemployment

Low paying jobs

Mental health issues

Physical Health issues

Cognitive delays or disabilities

Challenges of raising children alone



Did you know?

70% of the people in our shelter
on any given day are
CHILDREN



Our Shelters



FAIRMOUNT



WESTWOOD



WESTWOOD



COLLEGE HILL



BOND HILL

Children Bear the Brunt of Homelessness

- Sick twice as often
- Hungry twice as often
- Change schools 3-4 times per year
- Twice as likely to repeat a grade
- Twice the rate of learning disabilities
- Score significantly lower in reading, spelling, and math
- By the time homeless children are eight years old, one in three has a major mental disorder.



How you can help!

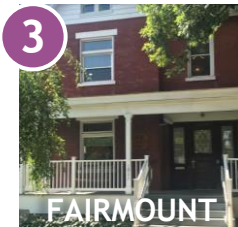
- Host a Breakfast or Dinner
- Childcare
- Donation Drives
- Host a Fundraiser
- Attend a Fundraiser
- Office Assistance
- Young Professionals Group
- Speakers Bureau
- Mailings
- Adopt-A-Room/Adopt-A-Family
- Tell someone we have homeless families

bethanyhouseservices.org/volunteer-opportunities/
info@bhsinc.org 513-921-1131



Current Challenge: Decentralized & Aging Facilities

- 7 current facilities—5 shelters & 2 admin
- Shelters are at maximum capacity
- 3 shelters are less effective “apartment style”
- 3 buildings are 110+ years old
- Maintenance is very expensive
- Moving staff and supplies between shelters is time-consuming and costly
- No “flex” space for peak times
- De-centralized model limits programming



Bethany's Future

Bethany House is building a new family shelter and comprehensive services center designed to help families and children experiencing homelessness achieve housing stability and long-term self-sufficiency.

- Communal-style, trauma-informed design
- On-site services, counseling and healthcare
- 24/7 safety, security and support for all families
- Classrooms for adult education
- Children's indoor and outdoor play areas
- Flexible space for "overflow"



22

Immediate & Long-Term Impact



Serve More Families

- Reduce average length of stay for families in shelter
- Serve 100 additional families annually
- Provide “overflow” space to meet the need during peak times

Deepen Support Services

- Expand onsite service offerings for families: healthcare, employment services, literacy/tutoring for children and adults
- Improve access to programs and provide 24/7 safety, security and support
- Improve quality of shelter facilities

Create More Positive Outcomes

- Increase number of families reaching long-term stability
- Improve educational and long-term outcomes for children
- Reduce cycle of generational homelessness in our community

