

for Care & Protection of Children

Mission & Vision

- Friends Association promotes the independence of families with children by providing shelter, programs and services that prevent and end homelessness in Chester County.
 - Our vision is to lead the community in eliminating homelessness for families with children so they will thrive in homes with safe and stable environments.

Our Key Areas



Prevent Homelessness



Provide Emergency Housing



Partner with Families for Stabilization



Promote Systemic Change

Our Model







2-Generation



Trauma-Informed



Resiliency Focused

Trauma rates are very high

Combat injury of a loved one School Violence Bullying Act of Terrorism Community Violence Serious Injury **Abuse** Crime Accident Discrimination Violence within the family
Homelessness Loss of a Loved one
Economic stress Living or escaping from a war zone **Poverty** Cyberbullying Fires Racism Neglect Serious Illness

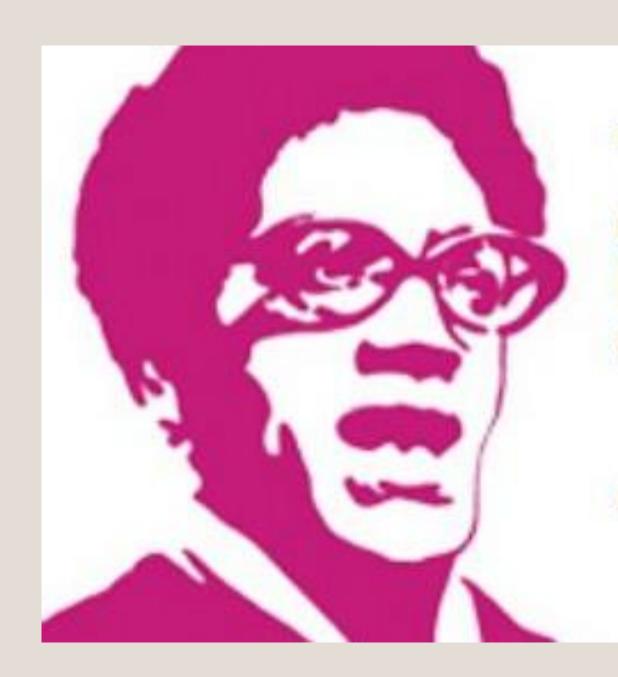
Unhoused Mothers-Trauma History

- ■93% of unhoused mothers have experienced trauma
- Most common involved interpersonal violence
- □70% were physically assaulted
- ■49% were sexually assaulted

Source: SHIFT Study 2007-2010, National Center on Family Homelessness

History of Trauma among Children

- □ Within a single year
 - 97% move
 - 22% separated from families
 - 25% witness violence
- 8% have experienced physical abuse
- □ 8% have experienced sexual abuse



There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives.

Audre Lorde

Trauma



77-98% of incarcerated women have experienced trauma

National Resource Center on Justice Involved Women "Working with Justice Involved Women"

Disproportionate involvement of women of color

- African American women incarcerated @ 2x rate of white women
- Latina women 1.2x rate
- Black females aged 18 & 19 are 3x more likely to be imprisoned
- Latinas 2x as likely





Focus Group Incarcerated Women

I need to find a job; w/ record it'll be hard with my background, finding reliable transportation especially late at night

I'm worried about returning home, being a stable parent for children; thrown back into household, will be an adjustment; embarrassed of what others will think about me upon my return;

If things don't work out at mom's house, I'll be homeless. I need to find a job and I have medical issues: diabetes, neuropathy;

Who will watch my kids and how will I pay for it? Where will the money come from?

"We need a case manager to contact us long before release to help plan and address housing, sobriety, parenting and employment concerns."

"I need someone to offer family counseling to ease the transition back into family life. It should start before I'm released."

Their Needs:

- Jobs
- □ Skills
- □ Self-sufficiency
- □ Safe Transportation
- Childcare
- Housing

- Substance Use & Mental Health treatment
- Healthcare
- Help reconnecting with children
- □ Self-esteem-fear of stigma

Reentry

■ Women have different needs

□ Gender-responsive programs and housing are vital

More likely to be custodial parent



80% of women in prison are mothers

More likely to be custodial parent – 85%

25% enter prison either recently gave birth or are pregnant



"When a man goes to prison he loses his freedom, but when a woman goes to prison, she loses her children." ~Unknown

NIA House

Restore · Rebuild · Reunify

A community-based housing program for women & children impacted by incarceration to heal, ground in community, and reconnect to their purpose.

NIA House directly addresses key factors impacting successfully reentry:



Safe and stable housing



Healing from trauma



Economic empowerment



Family reunification



Restore

Safe & stable environment

Sanctuary that initiates, promotes & nurtures healing

Inclusive of family

Foundational needs met

Move-in stipend

Restorative & holistic activities



Rebuild

Recovery

- Certified Peer Specialist on staff
- Self Help Groups
- Access to D&A Treatment

Wrap Around

- Legal Assistance
- Family Reunification
- Health Education
- Mental Health Support
- Access to Trauma Counseling

Rebuild (continued)

Peer Facilitated Groups

- Parenting Inside Out
- SELF Trauma Group
- Moving-On Program
- More for your Money

Case Management

- Recovery Support Plan
- Self-Identified Goals
- Compliance with Courts
- EmploymentDevelopment
- Housing

Leadership Development



Community Events & Organizing



Advocacy through Personal Testament



Initiatives for Local & Statewide Change

Reunify

- Motherhood is centered
- □ Reclaiming role as parent & primary caregiver
 - ■Family reunification plan & support
 - ■Legal support
- □ Family therapy & parenting education

Legal Clinics

- □ Legal assistance for:
 - Expungement
 - Occupational licenses
 - Traffic citations

- Education
 - Anti-discrimination laws
 - Landlord/Tenant

Eligibility

Currently incarcerated or directly released from jail or prison

Currently living in a halfway house, transitional house or recovery house

Directly discharging from treatment center

At-risk of being unhoused

Trans Women & LGBTQ Inclusive



Principles

(S)	Dignity & Self Esteem
	Empowerment & Personal Control
₽ P	Security, Privacy, & Personal Space
	Stress Management
A STATE OF THE STA	Sense of Community
	Beauty & Meaning



It starts with a home....

We VIEW housing as a PLATFORM to improve FAMILY HEALTH & WELL BEING and approach case management for the WHOLE FAMILY in a holistic model.



You can help end family homelessness in our community!

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