

2024-2025

ANNUAL REPORT



www.hopeforfamiliescenter.org

About The Hope for Families Center

The Hope for Families Center embodies a heartfelt vision of hope and transformation for homeless families. Rather than simply offering shelter, we provide a structured, empowering environment where families are guided toward self-sufficiency through education, employment support, financial literacy, and life-skills training. Residents engage in goal-setting, budgeting courses, parenting classes, and career services, all coordinated by case managers who encourage sustainable growth. At its core, the Center fosters trusting relationships and a safe, stable environment offering three meals a day, clean accommodations, childcare support, and helping families restore dignity and confidence.



Ending family homelessness requires a dual approach, investing in effective housing solutions today while implementing proactive prevention strategies for tomorrow. Together, these efforts lay the foundation for lasting change in our community.



Marty Mercado
Executive Director

A Year of Transformation

Building Hope, Expanding Impact

Dear Friend,

This past year has been one of the most transformative in our history at The Hope for Families Center. What began as a vision to meet the growing needs of families experiencing homelessness in our community is now becoming a reality. Thanks to your generosity, advocacy, and unwavering belief in our mission, we are proud to share that all three buildings of our long-awaited expansion was completed at the end of December 2025.

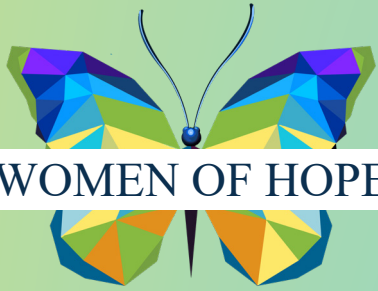
This expansion has doubled our capacity, adding 20 emergency shelter rooms and nine transitional apartments. That means more children will sleep in a safe, comfortable bed. More parents will receive the tools they need to rebuild their lives. And more families will finally find the stability and opportunity they deserve.

Over the past fiscal year, we served 192 individuals—120 of whom were children. These families have faced unimaginable challenges, from the trauma of displacement to the uncertainty of not knowing where they would sleep tomorrow. Yet time and again, they've shown remarkable resilience: parents returning to school, securing employment, and children thriving socially and academically.

This transformation would not be possible without our dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to meet the daily needs of our residents, or without the steady leadership of our Board of Directors. We are also deeply grateful to our Capital Campaign Steering Committee, whose passion and determination helped bring this vision to life.

Thank you for standing with us. You have helped build more than just buildings—you've built a foundation of hope that will transform lives for generations to come.

With deep gratitude,
Marty Mercado
Executive Director



WOMEN OF HOPE

Looking forward, we are planting the seeds for a more profound impact. In November, we launched Women of Hope, a new advocacy group made up of women in our community who are passionate about creating change for families facing housing instability. These women will use their voices, networks, and leadership to raise awareness, influence policy, and champion solutions that address the root cause of family homelessness. Advocacy is a vital part of our mission, and Women of Hope will help ensure that our work goes beyond shelter toward long-term, systematic change.

2024-2025

Accomplishments

This year, The Hope for Families Center made extraordinary progress in the fight against family homelessness. From expanding our shelter to doubling our capacity, to helping parents gain employment and children thrive, every milestone reflects our unwavering commitment to making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring in our community.



54

Family units served

120

Child residents

100%

of children enrolled in school

100%

of residents established a relationship with a primary care provider

ALL

families received financial literacy

Nyki & Kristian

RESILIENCE • DEVOTION • HOPE

Nyki's upbeat personality offers no hint of the hardships she has endured. Her journey is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the power of compassionate support.

Growing up, Nyki experienced an unstable childhood marked by the turbulence of her parents' relationship. The idea of a secure home was foreign to her, and as she transitioned into adulthood, that instability followed. A traumatic event—being sexually assaulted by someone she trusted left her reeling. Struggling to cope, she turned to alcohol and substance use.

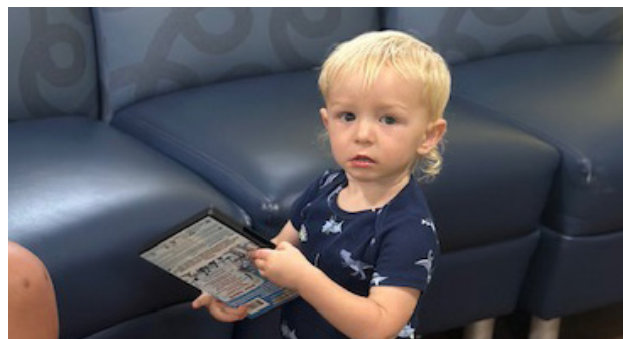
Nyki then learned she was pregnant with her son, Kristian. Within hours of Kristian's delivery, Nyki faced the heartbreak of child welfare workers taking him into foster care.

Determined to change the course of her life, Nyki enrolled in CRC's Families in Transition program, which allowed her to start recovery while remaining with her child. After seven months, she regained full custody of Kristian.

Her recovery journey led her to The Hope for Families Center, where she found safe housing, structured support, and the tools to build a more stable life. Today, Nyki is 19 months sober. She works at Walmart, has purchased a vehicle, pays her bills responsibly, and is committed to creating a better future for herself and her son.

Nyki's journey is far from over, but she faces each day with courage and conviction. With support from her case manager and staff at HFC, Nyki is creating the stability she always longed for, with her greatest motivation being Kristian.

At The Hope for Families Center, stories like Nyki's are not exceptions—they are the reason we exist. Thanks to the support of our donors and community partners, families like hers can move from crisis to stability, from despair to hope.



The Power of Community

Capital Campaign Update



Lindsey Kross
Director of Development

The 2024–2025 year has been one of incredible transformation for The Hope for Families Center. Thanks to the unwavering support of our donors, partners, and community, we are proud to report that our Capital Campaign has been a success.

We have raised nearly \$6 million and these funds have directly fueled the expansion project that will allow us to serve significantly more families in need. Construction has progressed smoothly and is now complete. With the finish line crossed, we are preparing to fill 20 brand-new emergency shelter rooms and 9 transitional apartments. This expansion will more than double our capacity, meaning that up to 50 families will soon be living on The Hope for Families Center's campus. These new living spaces are more than just rooms; they represent stability, dignity, and a critical step toward independence for families facing homelessness.

The success of this project underscores the power of community-driven change. We are deeply grateful to everyone who contributed to this campaign because your belief in our mission has made this transformation possible. As we look to the future, The Hope for Families Center remains committed to providing not just shelter, but comprehensive supportive services that empower families to rebuild their lives. With expanded facilities and increased capacity, we are better positioned than ever to break the cycle of homelessness in our community.

Thank you for standing with us and investing in a stronger, more hopeful future for families in crisis.



Thank You

This project is proof that when a community believes in dignity and opportunity real and lasting change happens. Every brick laid and every room built is a testament to the compassion and commitment of those who chose to invest in brighter futures.

From all of us at The Hope for Families Center and from the many families whose lives will be forever changed, thank you for believing in the power of hope.

LEGACY BUILDERS 500,000+

John's Island Community Foundation
Bill & Marlynn Scully
Sue Scully
Warren & Virginia Schwerin

HOPE CHAMPIONS \$200,000-\$499,999

Steve Allsop
Anonymous
Joan DeCrane
Schooner Foundation

FUTURE SHAPERS \$100,000-\$199,999

Marybeth & Chuck Cunningham
John Childs
Andrew & Sheila Kostanecki
Paula L'Esperance
Sheila & George Marshall
David & Susan Pyles
Sandy & Randy Rolf
Bill & Louise Schmitt
Ralph & Millie Young

FAMILY ADVOCATES \$50,000-\$99,000

Bob & Emilie Burr
Dr. Bill Cooney
Lawrence & Norma Noesen

COMMUNITY PILLARS \$20,000-\$49,999

Bruce & Lee Albro
Al & Angela Phillips Diaz
Tom & Cheryle Mackie
McCabe Family Foundation
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Richard Oehme
Andrew & Anita Salzberg
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Julie & Michael Wright

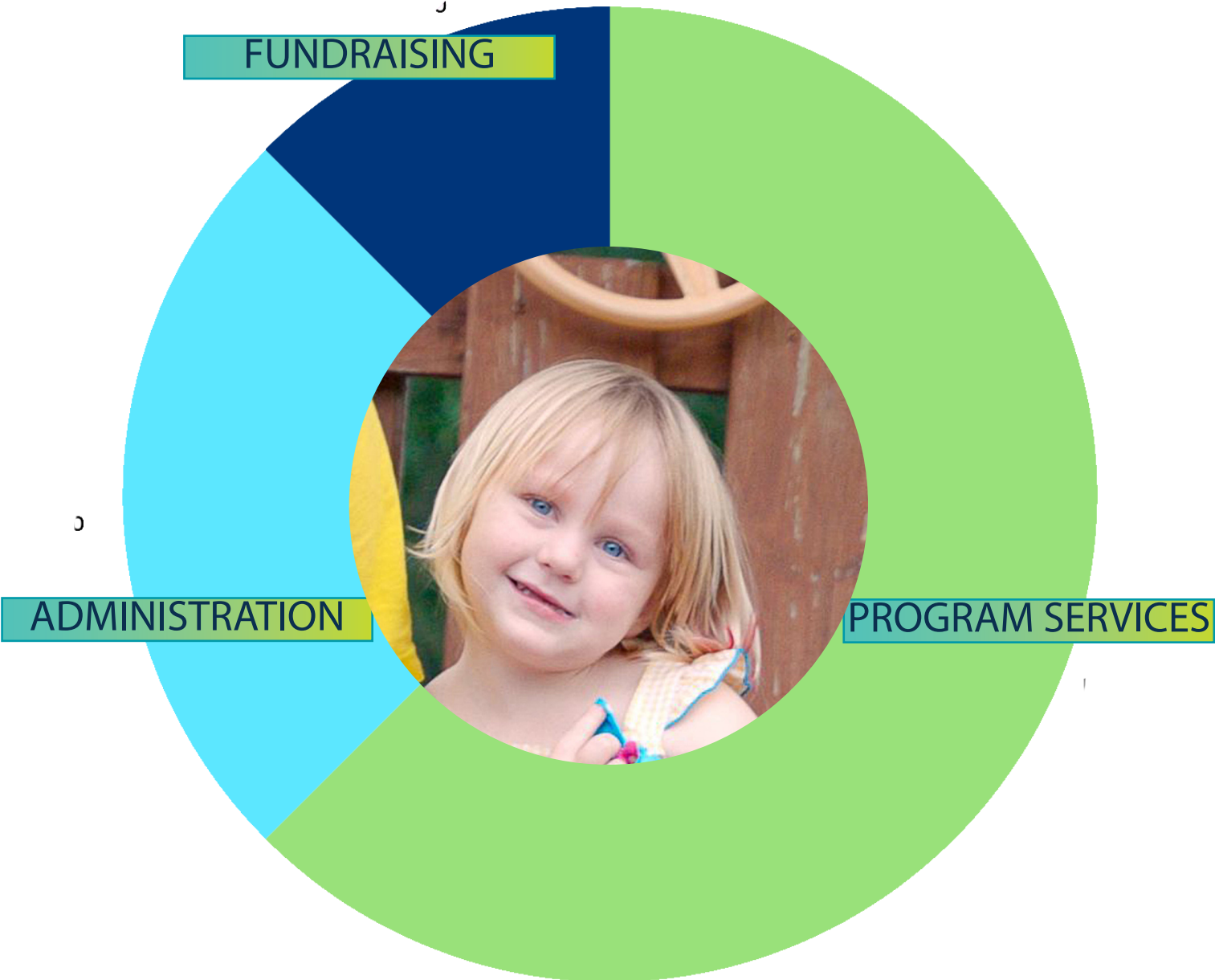
COMPASSION PARTNERS \$5,000-\$19,999

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VISIONARIES OF CHANGE \$5,000 & Below

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Susan Watson Scully
David & Heidi Sommers
Melissa & Ryan Weaver
Sharon Wolf
Youth on a Mission

Funding Futures



75.10%
Program Services

17.17%
Administration

10.73%
Fundraising

2024-2025 Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of The Hope for Families Center plays a vital role in advancing our mission to make family homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring. Their leadership and unwavering commitment help ensure that families in crisis receive the support they need to achieve lasting stability and independence. We are truly grateful for their guidance, dedication, and service.



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President



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Millie Young

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50,000 AND OVER

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In 2024-2025

The Hope for Families Center
humbly accepted donations

In Memory of:

Leo Dilling

Cletus Gilson

Bob Hartmann

Jacquie Hill

Therese Kenneally

David Progar

To celebrate significant
milestones and holidays and to
honor generous commitments,
The Hope for Families Center
has gratefully accepted
donations made

In Honor of:

Carol Mahony

Sue Scully

THANK YOU

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Stephen M. & Lucia H. Bailey
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Becker Family Foundation

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