



Celebrating 160 years!

**ST. ANN'S CENTER FOR
CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES
2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP

Celebrating 160 Years of Serving Vulnerable Women, Children, and Families in the National Capital Area

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OUR MISSION, VISION AND VALUES:

Mission

St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth, and Families strengthens and supports families on their journey toward stability. Inspired by Catholic social teaching and Gospel values, St. Ann's Center provides a nurturing community where families heal from the past, overcome barriers, and take hold of their future.

Vision

St. Ann's Center is a leader in innovative services to women, children, and families.

Values

St. Ann's Center is committed to providing care that is safe, nurturing, healing, empowering and strength-based, and where all are served with compassion, dignity, and respect.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support of St. Ann's Center in FY2020. Throughout a year filled with uncertainty, your help enabled us to fulfill our mission started by the Daughters of Charity 160 years ago.

Three Sisters founded St. Ann's Center in 1860 as D.C.'s first foundling home for vulnerable children. Three years later, President Lincoln signed an Act of Congress incorporating St. Ann's and expanding our services to expectant women and mothers affected by the Civil War. We've lived this mission ever since – through two World Wars, the 1918 Flu Pandemic, the Great Depression, and COVID-19, just to name a few challenges.

St. Ann's has been able to live its mission across the decades through the generosity of our friends and supporters. Thank you for the many ways you have supported our community these past months.

Your help directly impacted our families and our mothers who reached significant milestones during the pandemic – graduating from high school, completing certificate programs and nursing degrees, and successfully transitioning from St. Ann's to stable, permanent housing. Thank you for enabling these successes!

We were fortunate to be able to celebrate these incredible accomplishments – along with our 160th Anniversary – during our first-ever virtual gala in May 2021. I invite you to experience (or re-experience!) our *Hope Blossoms* gala by viewing the video recording at www.stanns.org. And of course, we look forward to seeing you again in person soon.

Sister Mary

Sister Mary Bader, CEO



160 Years of Service

1860 | 13th Street NW and Pennsylvania Avenue

- Three Daughters of Charity found St. Ann's to aid orphaned and neglected children in the nation's capital.
- One year later during the Civil War, our mission grows to include education and job programs for single mothers.

1863 | 2400 K Street NW

- St. Ann's moves into our first permanent home at 14th Street NW and K Street NW.
- President Lincoln signs an Act of Congress incorporating St. Ann's.
- We are charged with caring for D.C.'s growing numbers of abandoned children and unwed mothers in the wake of the Civil War.



1870 - 1880 | Growing Demand

- During this period, the population of Washington, D.C. nearly doubles, resulting in increased need for St. Ann's caring services.

1900 - 1920 | Aiding New Americans

- The early 20th Century brings an unprecedented wave of immigration, creating new needs for innovative services to first-generation Americans.

1914 | Innovation at Work

- Responding to the changing needs of our community, we open St. Ann's Kindergarten.

1920 | Key Partnerships

- St. Ann's becomes founding member of D.C.'s "Community Chest" partnership, which later becomes the United Way of National Capital Area.

1946 | 2400 California Street NW

- St. Ann's moves to our second home on California Street NW in D.C.'s Kalorama neighborhood.

1949 | Child Day Care

- St. Ann's begins Child Care Center for working mothers with young children to further assist the D.C. community. This program continues today.

1953 | A Generous Guild

- Local women volunteers establish The Seton Guild to support St. Ann's.

1962 | Our Hyattsville Home

- In need of more residential space and expanded support services, St. Ann's moves from D.C. to a newly constructed campus in Hyattsville - dedicated by Archbishop Patrick O'Boyle - which remains our home today.



Our Roots Run Deep



1984 Expanding Child Care

- St. Ann's expands our Child Care program to include care for infants.
- This was the first non-hospital-based infant care program authorized in the state of Maryland.

1996 | Faith House

- Recognizing the growing need for affordable, supportive housing for impoverished single mothers in our community, St. Ann's opens Faith House, an apartment facility built to help families make the transition to independent living.



2010 | Major Milestone

- St. Ann's center marks 150th Anniversary!

2013 | Hope House

- As homelessness in our community rises, St. Ann's expands our supportive and transitional housing program for vulnerable mothers and their children by opening Hope House.

2013 - 2014 | EEP

- St. Ann's establishes our Education and Employment Program (EEP), formed to reduce barriers to education and employment by providing individualized pathways to academic and career advancement.

2016 | Food Pantry Initiated

- Assisted by the generosity of individuals and businesses, a pantry was opened to aid the needs of resident mothers as well as those in the community.
- Fresh vegetables, food staples and diapers are made available to struggling families in the community as well as resident mothers.

2017 | Community Services Expanded

- Our English as a Second Language (ESL) program is initiated to further serve community needs.

2020 | Challenges and Celebrations

- St. Ann's Center marks 160th Anniversary!
- St. Ann's staff responds to the unique challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In Fall 2020, we host our first-ever Virtual Open House





**& 11 Mothers
& 11 Children**

Served in Teen Mother & Baby Program

**30 Families
(30 Mothers & 38 Children)**

Served in Transitional Housing Programs

12 Families

**Successfully transitioned from St. Ann's
housing programs to safe, permanent housing.**

HOUSING PROGRAMS

St. Ann's Center operates three supportive housing programs that cater to the needs of young moms and children seeking safety and stability through St. Ann's: **Grace House**, **Hope House**, and **Faith House**. Within these programs, families are able to meet their housing needs while also having access to wraparound services that support families' goals of long-term independence and sustainability.

GRACE HOUSE

Teen Mother & Baby Program

In **Grace House**, pregnant and parenting young women receive supportive housing services as part of the St. Ann's Teen Mother & Baby Program. The young mothers are supported through their pregnancy and early motherhood. Mothers are able to continue their education, make important decisions affecting their families, and plan for the future with the help of our staff who serve as Life Coaches.

HOPE HOUSE & FAITH HOUSE

Transitional Housing Program

Our transitional supportive housing program consists of **Hope House** (est. 2013) and **Faith House** (est. 1996). Hope House residents reside in single-family units with shared kitchens and living spaces in St. Ann's main building. Faith House residents live in a standalone building on St. Ann's campus that allows for a more independent setting of private, one-bedroom apartments with a shared kitchen and living areas.

All residents have access to our wrap-around support services, in addition to 24-hour supervision and mentoring. These services are designed to supplement the housing needs and prepare residents for a life of stability, successful careers, and financial independence.

SUPPORT SERVICES AND OUTREACH

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

St. Ann's Education and Employment Program (EEP) helps families overcome barriers to academic excellence and workforce success, using individualized roadmaps based on each client's particular strengths and needs.

EMPLOYMENT COUNSELING

Our career-centered counseling program is a collaborative effort in conjunction with our local partners geared to building the foundation for lifelong independence. Our residents receive one-on-one career counseling, resume writing assistance, job etiquette advice, and job placement assistance.

GED PREP AND TUTORING

Our Education Center assists women within St. Ann's Center and from the community who have not earned a high school diploma. Our younger mothers who are enrolled in high school receive individualized tutoring and are assigned a staff member who serves as an advocate for the student and a liaison to the school. Prep classes are conducted for women working toward their GED.

MENTORING

St. Ann's is fortunate to have Volunteer Mentors who are matched with mothers for weekly support sessions. Mentors and mentees work together to build new skills and develop strengths along the family's journey.

PARENTING AND LIFE SKILLS

Through Parenting and Life Skills classes, residents acquire practical knowledge and skills. These classes are taught by staff and volunteers with professional experiences in various fields. Subject areas include: financial literacy; maternal and pediatric health; child development; nutrition; self-care; spirituality; parenting; and Street Law, Inc., to name a few.

ESL

St. Ann's English as a Second language (ESL) Program was created in 2017 to assist St. Ann's residents and community members. The ESL program will resume when COVID-19 safety restrictions are lifted.

CLINICAL AND SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

St. Ann's wrap-around CSWS are key to our residential program. Each family is paired with a social worker to assist them in accessing healthcare, child care vouchers, and other benefits. Together, case managers and mothers create service plans designed to address and serve each mother's complex and unique needs.

The CSWS offers a model of care that is trauma-informed and strength-based to families - both individually and in group settings. These services help young mothers heal from traumatic experiences, thrive in motherhood and achieve stability.

OUTREACH

St. Ann's provided 307 underserved individuals in the community who were in need of food, clothing, baby items, toys, and other supplies.



CHILD CARE CENTER

St. Ann's first offered Child Care in 1949, to assist working families in D.C. In 1984, our Child Care expanded to include care for infants, and we became the first Infant Child Care Center licensed in the state of Maryland outside of a hospital setting. We have been offering high-quality and safe child care to residents and children from the community for three decades since. Our child care services feature a full developmental program with emphasis on social and emotional development.

INFANT AND TODDLER PROGRAM

(Ages 2 months to 2 years)

St. Ann's has prioritized care for infants and toddlers for our entire 160-year history. Each child participating in our program receives individualized care and attention in a loving environment designed to meet each child's particular needs. Our program provides close supervision and structure while allowing each child to grow at their own pace.

St. Ann's also offers an Early Head Start program for low-income families with children under the age of 3. This enriching program supports physical, cognitive, emotional and social development, to help prepare children for continued growth and success in future learning environments.

Early Head Start also supports parents in their role as primary caregivers and teachers of their children.



St. Ann's Child Care Center closed temporarily between March 13, 2020 and July 20, 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, our dedicated Child Care Center teachers found creative ways to continue providing support to the families who rely on St. Ann's. Our teachers created a virtual "Circle Time" and storytelling space, interacting regularly with little ones via Zoom. We are grateful for the gift of technology which helped us to stay connected until our Child Care Center was safely re-opened!



PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

(Ages 3 to 4 years)

St. Ann's Preschool Program helps children develop their ABCs as well as emotional and social skills. In their last two years at St. Ann's, children are prepared for a successful transition to Kindergarten. Our well-trained and caring teachers utilize activities, instruction, and play to help students grow in self-efficacy and self-esteem while learning to socialize with peers in a nurturing environment.



71 Children served

& 23 Children

Enrolled in Early Head Start



Low Teacher-Child Ratio



Indoor and Outdoor Play Areas



Hands-on Science Activities



Computer Fun & Play-Centered Learning



Health and Fitness Program



Music



Arts and Crafts



Dedicated and Experienced Staff



License #33020



In a small auditorium at St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families in Hyattsville, Md., 26-year-old Susana Chiang and I talk softly through our masks. Nearby is a well-loved plastic playhouse, where Ms. Chiang's 4-year-old daughter is preparing us pretend food. She serves invisible ice cream and pasta with pepper and eggs. Children always seem taken with the essential vocations — food service, mail delivery, health care, parenthood — as though they're born with a sense of what's important in the world.

As her daughter plays, Ms. Chiang explains how she came to be at St. Ann's, which offers shelter, counseling, education and child care to mothers and pregnant girls and women in crisis.

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT: SUSANA CHIANG

This is an abridged version of the May 18, 2020 New York Times article by Elizabeth Bruenig, which featured St. Ann's Center and resident Susana Chiang. Since publication, Susana and her daughter have transitioned from St. Ann's transitional housing program to permanent, independent housing of their own.

Ms. Chiang's life stabilized at St. Ann's. She earned a certification to work as a nursing assistant and began considering her prospects for a career. About two years ago, she got a job as a teaching aide at a Montessori school. Ms. Chiang loves her work. "Kids meet us where we are," she said. "They're always living in the present moment. They're really grateful."

When schools closed down in mid-March, Ms. Chiang was furloughed. She applied for unemployment benefits but received a notification that she was ineligible, without a clear explanation as to why. With no income, she began spending the money she has saved during her time at St. Ann's. "It's been stressful," she said.

Ms. Chiang has poured herself into her online teaching certification program. She volunteered on a couple of occasions to babysit the children of other residents of St. Ann's as they worked their essential jobs. St. Ann's is home to women who work in

nursing homes, grocery stores and big-box stores — employment considered, even under coronavirus-related restrictions, necessary to the functioning of civil society. These workers are now widely recognized as essential, but their compensation, benefits and status in society hardly reflect how critical they are.

But the women of St. Ann's remain hopeful and dedicated. "When I got here," Ms. Chiang tells me, "there were all these people around me who wanted to support me. I'd never had that before. I started — doing things, you know?"

She still suffers from anxiety, intensified by the pandemic, and from self-doubt. It isn't easy to be a single parent at any time, much less during the coronavirus. "Sometimes I wonder: Did I make the right choice?," she says. Ms. Chiang's daughter darts up for a hug. "But she's thriving all the time, and she makes me so happy. I'm just so grateful that there was a place like this."



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: NIA GRAHAM

Nia Graham is an actor and teaching artist with The Theater Lab who volunteered to teach Life Stories at St. Ann's in 2019. Life Stories is a nationally recognized theatre program helping people from vulnerable backgrounds create dramatic works using their own life experiences. Over ten weeks of classes, Nia taught women at St. Ann's how to write, act, and direct stories about their own lives.

Nia helped participants explore stories about the past as well as the future. Nia recalls the group bringing to life one participant's dream of writing a book by having a staged book signing,

with actors waiting in line to meet the author. "[Through Life Stories] you can step into your future self, and imagine your life as the best version it can be. It's powerful to be able to live that for a moment through theater play," says Nia.

Nia's motivation to help vulnerable populations stems from her own life experiences. At age 15, Nia became pregnant and left her high school to become a resident at St. Ann's. At first she was hesitant, but she says she soon found a supportive community and made friends in a setting that allowed her to continue taking classes. "I went in crying, and I came out crying tears of joy," Nia says.

After giving birth, Nia successfully transitioned from St. Ann's and returned to her high school. She even journeyed to Korea through the school's International Studies program. "All thanks to St. Ann's!" she says.

Now a mother of three and a veteran actor and teacher, Nia enjoys working with other young women and helping them reclaim their vision for their futures.

"When I was 15 and pregnant I was told that my life was over. I carried that for a long time. And there was a truth to sacrifice and difficulty. But the idea that you can't follow your dreams or that your dreams don't matter - I knew I could return to St. Ann's and tell them that's not true," says Nia.

In addition to working with St. Ann's, Nia teaches Life Stories at numerous settings across the D.C. Metro area, including the Children's Inn at NIH (where she has been teaching acting classes over Zoom during the COVID pandemic) and with TAPS (Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors), working with families of fallen service members.

Nia says her students' bravery inspires her to continue volunteering at St. Ann's and throughout the region. "There's a certain amount of courage that you need. I am always so touched and moved by how courageous our participants are. There's a lot going on in their lives. When they open up [during] this hour and a half, it means so much to me and I am so changed," she says.



In the early months of the pandemic, our Board of Directors provided twice-weekly meals for all St. Ann's families during Maryland's lockdown period.

Thank you to each of our board members for your generosity and leadership in a challenging time!

Our work would not be possible without the dedication of our staff and the stewardship of our Board of Directors.

Staff Leadership

Sister Mary Bader, DC
Chief Executive Officer

Jeanette Chittams
Director, Residential Programs

Karen Gilroy
Vice President of Finance & Administration

Louise Cole
Director, Human Resources

Amy Rice
Vice President of Programs

Peggy Howard Gatewood
Administrator of Contracts, Licensing & Special Projects

Shaneen Alvarez
Director, Clinical and Social Work Services

Monique Harper
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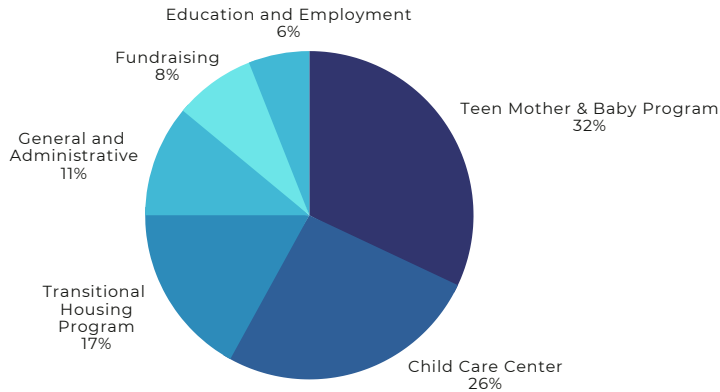
Lenora R. Fuller-McCall

Anne E. Schneiders, Esq. †

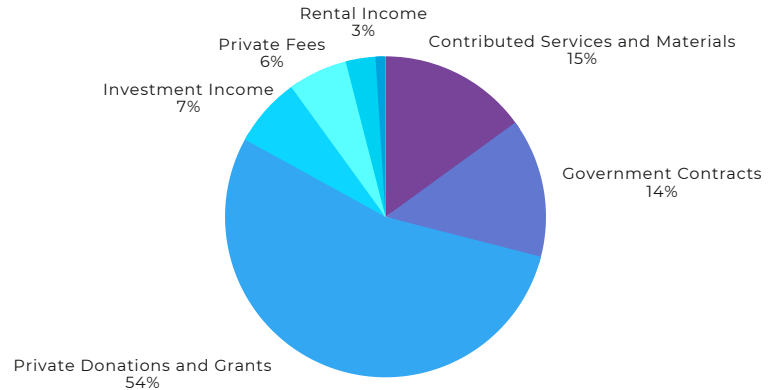
Mary Lou Goehrung

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

EXPENSES FY2020		
Teen Mother & Baby Program	1,448,779	32%
Child Care Center	1,194,817	26%
Transitional Housing Program	792,243	17%
General and Administrative	510,866	11%
Fundraising	386,730	8%
Education & Employment	252,980	6%
Total Expenses	4,586,415	100%



REVENUE FY2020		
Private Donations and Grants	2,649,180	54%
Contributed Services and Materials	708,000	15%
Government Contracts	700,686	14%
Investment Income	340,165	7%
Private Fees	296,731	6%
Rental Income	166,200	3%
Special Events	6,912	<1%
Total Revenue	4,867,874	100%



This financial information is contained in a full set of audited financial statements prepared by Gelman, Rosenberg & Freedman Certified Public Accountants. Copies of the completed audit can be obtained from St. Ann's administrative offices at 4901 Eastern Avenue, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

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