

GreenHouse17

Nurturing lives
harmed by intimate partner abuse.

24-HOUR CRISIS HOTLINE 800.544.2022

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P.O. Box 55190, Lexington, KY 40555

GreenHouse17.org



Serving 17 Kentucky counties: Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Nicholas, Powell, Scott, and Woodford.



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BE INFORMED. BE INSPIRED. BE GIVING.



PROGRESS & possibility



safety

We imagine our community without intimate partner abuse. And believe you want this too. Until the violence ends, we commit to nurture lives harmed.

Our emergency shelter serves survivors of intimate partner abuse who are homeless with complex safety, healing, and stability needs. Few renovations were necessary in 2005 when we moved to the 17,000 square-foot facility previously occupied by Bellewood Presbyterian Home for Children in rural Fayette County.

After more than a decade of providing services from the shelter, additional capacity and improved space are desperately necessary to meet the changing needs of intimate partner abuse survivors in our community.

Your support sustains progress and opens doors to possibility.

Sincerely,

Darlene Thomas, M.S.S.W.
Executive Director
859.519.1903
dthomas@greenhouse17.org

healing

VICTORIA'S STORY

"He had cameras on me 24/7. Even though he said it was for home security, he would yell at me through the thing. He had cube trackers on the keys, so he always knew where I was."

Although Victoria worked outside the home, she was never able to save money because her abuser took the majority of her paycheck. She longed for independence but knew there would be consequences if she pushed back.

"There was always a lock and key in the closet. I knew if we were ever to get into an argument he would lock me out of our house."

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Victoria found healing at the emergency shelter. She met with her family advocates and attended support groups every day. While her safety concerns and legal matters were being addressed, she began to participate in nature-based healing activities.

"On my first day on the farm, I knew it was going to be very interesting. It is not easy work. It was hot and humid and there were bugs, but that's nature. That's also what really helped me center myself."

The stipend Victoria earned helping on the farm paid for gas to and from her part-time job in a nearby town. Being able to keep her job while living in shelter made the transition to independence much quicker than she expected.

"I've connected in ways that I've always been curious about. You have to be open to the experience, but hard work never hurt anyone."

PREPARING FOR POSSIBILITY

With the support of our housing advocates, Victoria is preparing to move into her own apartment really soon.

"That night when I heard the lock on the door click for the last time, I made up my mind. No one else was ever going to control me like that again."



STABILITY

IMAGINING POSSIBILITY

The vision for the shelter renovation began three years ago during a shelter visit with staff from EOP Architects, the Lexington-based firm known for the Kentucky International Convention Center Renovation and Rupp Arena Reinvention. With their guidance and professional support, a plan began to take shape.

Discussions were informed by Building Dignity, a best-practice guide to design domestic violence shelters. Our conversations explored how use of the facility influences policies and practices, what survivors and their children find challenging about the structure, and how the building could support our mission more effectively.

The following solutions were identified.

- Increase shelter capacity by 10 beds.
- Improve safety at shelter lobby entrances.
- Improve use of shared spaces in the facility.
- Maximize efficiency of staff work spaces.

SECURING SUPPORT










Estimates for the renovation totaled \$525,000. Request for support was submitted to LFUCG Grants and Special Programs. Following competitive review and public hearings, we received notification of \$420,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program funding. The construction contract was awarded to Elaine Allen LLC, a Lexington-based construction management firm.

MAKING PROGRESS

Construction began in January 2019. Early project efforts focused on the west and east wings of the facility, where survivor bedrooms are located. Construction will continue throughout the spring to address safety and use of the shelter's shared spaces, including the crisis office, lobby, accessible shelter bedroom, children's play area, and large support group and meeting room.

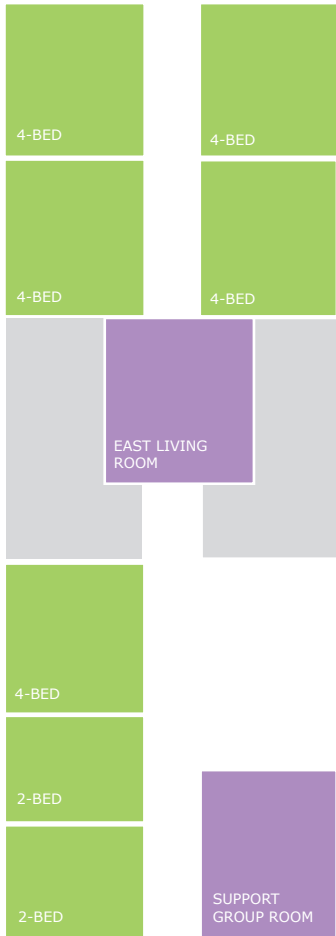


OUR HISTORY & TIMELINE

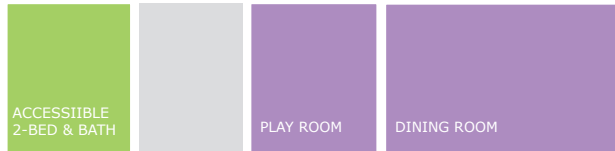
- 2004**  Founded as Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program with support of Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence, United Way, and 100 Women. Service delivery begins.
- 2005**  501c3 status conferred.
\$1.2 million raised for the purchase of the agency's current emergency shelter facility.
Agency assumed mortgage for remaining shelter purchase. Few facility improvements required before move to new location.
- 2007**  Farm began with planting of box gardens.
- 2009**  Full-time farm manager hired and nature-based healing program launched.
- 2013**  Name changed to GreenHouse17 to reflect commitment to nurturing lives harmed.
Handmade by Survivors brand established and sales of field-grown flowers began.
Agency received the national Mary Byron Project Celebrating Solutions Award, Kentucky Nonprofit Network Innovative Nonprofit Award, Center for Nonprofit Excellence Pyramid Award for Social Innovation, Kentucky Housing Coalition Homelessness Innovation Award, and LFUCG Environmental Award.
- 2016**  In partnership with Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence, construction launched for \$4.3 million scattered-site housing project for survivors. Agency receives \$348,000 federal grant to support delivery of housing services.
- 2017**  University of Kentucky secured \$450,000 federal research grant to measure farm-based program effectiveness.
- 2018**  Assumed and launched Children's Safe Exchange and Visitation Program upon closure of existing provider.
Secured \$420,000 federal grant to support half million dollar shelter renovation.
- 2019**  Shelter renovation begins.

NAMING & ADOPTING

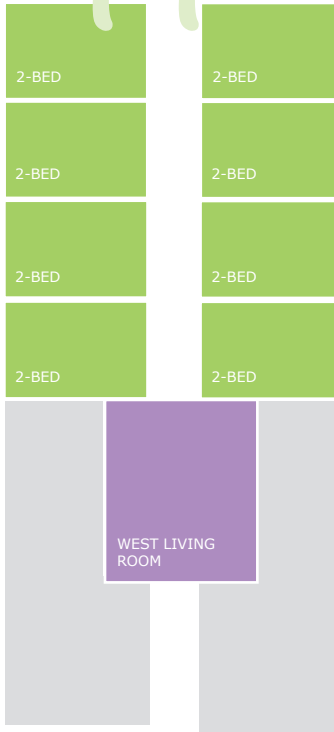
Your gift to name or adopt a space at the renovated shelter opens doors to possibility. And reminds survivors that our community cares about their well-being. Although early efforts secured 90% of funding required, approximately \$100,000 is needed to fully realize project plans.



East Wing



Portion of center corridor



West Wing

opportunities

NAMING OPPORTUNITIES for 20-year duration with gift or pledge:

Large Support Group & Conference Room.....	\$ 25,000
Main Lobby Area.....	\$ 20,000
Dining Room.....	\$ 15,000
Play Room.....	\$ 10,000
Support Group Room.....	\$ 10,000
Living Rooms (2).....	\$ 7,500

BEDROOM ADOPTIONS include care and maintenance over five years, fulfilled by gift or pledge with first option to renew:

Bedroom with four beds (5).....	\$ 5,000
Accessible bedroom and bath (1).....	\$ 3,000
Bedroom with two beds (10).....	\$ 2,500

A CHAIR AT THE TABLE in the Large Support Group and Conference Room to honor and remember..... \$ 1,000



A meaningful recognition for retired social servants, charitable family members, and individuals harmed by intimate partner abuse. Each chair at the table will be commemorated with installation honoring donor and namesake. Inspired by words from Midy Aponte and Shirley Chislom.

MORE INFORMATION

Contact Darlene Thomas, Executive Director, about naming and adopting opportunities at the renovated emergency shelter: dthomas@greenhouse17.org or 859.519.1903.



possibility

17 counties in central Kentucky
4200 square mile service area
5000 survivors served every year
250 adults & children sheltered last year
13000 safe bed nights provided
4000 crisis calls answered annually
16000 support services a year

