



2022
**ANNUAL
REPORT**



Brittany Leathers, Chief Education + Enrichment Officer, comforts one of our youngest residents who spends each day in our Early Learning Center.

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT + CEO



Friends,

With domestic violence numbers rising, it can be easy to focus on the challenges... not having enough beds, needing more funding, and seeing the cycle of violence perpetuate. While these experiences are our reality, we don't allow them to shadow our focus. Because despite the barriers, there is much to celebrate!

For every unfortunate story, there is also a positive one. Stories that lift your spirit and demonstrate the courage and strength of survivors, while underscoring our shared passion to help them build a new life.

Watching those we have the privilege to serve shift from trauma to triumphant healing, brings all of us immense joy. At Newhouse, every client is seen as an individual – not a statistic – and our care team creates an individualized plan to support their transformation. Their stories are why we are here. Stories like...

- The mom, who after living in shelter for several months with her daughter, became employed in our kitchen. They have now moved into permanent housing and are thriving.
- The pair of large black labs who no longer must protect their owner from her abuser, but now chase balls in our backyard. We keep pets and people together, knowing many won't leave their abusers if that means leaving their pets behind.
- The 15-year-old who got dolled up for her Quinceañera and felt like the princess she is for a special birthday party at Newhouse.

Our team is proud to be a part of survivors' stories. By providing an ecosystem of services, we help women, children, and men create the lives they deserve – a life free from domestic violence.

In 2023, we are taking the next steps in our vision to expand our ecosystem. We are excited to:

- Break ground on a new Intake + Healing Center to add 40 new beds for survivors.
- Partner with more organizations to offer additional resources to clients.
- Continue shifting the norms to approach social work differently.

Thank YOU for every part, big and small, you played in our organization's success last year, and for being committed to supporting survivors and families in years to come.

Together, we are transforming lives, families, and communities.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in teal ink that reads "Courtney Thomas". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Courtney Thomas
she/her/hers

President + CEO, Newhouse

GENERATIONAL TRAUMA

The impacts of trauma can span beyond the person who experienced the traumatic event (such as domestic violence). When a person experiences fear or trauma, their body produces hormone responses and increased levels of cortisol and adrenaline. Continued presence of these hormones can change a person's genetic makeup, which can be passed down through generations.



**1 IN 3
WOMEN**



**1 IN 4
MEN**

AND

have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.¹

ADULT

Witnessing and living with adults who are experiencing domestic violence can create a "normalized" perception of abusive relationships. Therefore, they are more likely to continue to find themselves in unhealthy relationships with intimate partners.

MORE THAN 90% of Newhouse survivors³ said they experienced domestic violence, neglect, or abuse as a child.

PARENT

If someone has children with an abuser or their children witness an abusive relationship, the cycle of abuse can easily continue.

A parent usually wants to leave a dangerous home to protect their kids, but it can be very difficult to exit the situation if the abuser controls the finances, social circles, and everyday life.

INTERVENTION IS CRITICAL –
not just for adults and parents but also for kids, who are truly the key to breaking the cycle.

When we help a child heal, we help the generations to come heal.

ADOLESCENT

In response to seeing abuse, a child may turn to bullying or aggression toward peers. This is much more likely if they do not have a good support system and/or caregivers who understand the cause and effect of domestic violence.

As an adolescent, they are more likely to be in an unhealthy relationship.

CHILD

1 IN 15 CHILDREN are exposed to intimate partner violence each year. 90% witness it firsthand,¹ which leads to:

Boys being **10X** more likely to abuse as an adult.

Girls are **6X** more likely to be sexually abused.²

THE NEWHOUSE APPROACH

We are more than a domestic violence shelter.

Domestic violence numbers continue to rise, yet the approach to healing has not evolved.

That is why Newhouse has established a new community-centric vision to:

- **change** the landscape for equitable access
- **evolve** how we approach social work
- **reduce** repeated needs for services (or the return to unhealthy situations)
- **create** efficiencies in the social services system

The need is larger than our shelter. Survivors deserve improved accessibility and increased efficiency in support services. We want to expand our footprint and create a campus model of on-site, whole-person healing resources in Kansas City.

Additionally, our investment in children goes beyond the standard model of healing. Our goal, in partnership with universities and leading mental health institutions, is to deliver the most cutting-edge modalities to reverse the developmental impacts of trauma. This is how we truly break the cycle.

The ecosystem of services we are building:

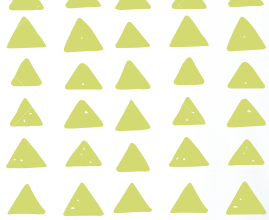


OUR MISSION:

Newhouse shatters the barriers that feed the cycle of abuse and partners with survivors to achieve safety, self-sufficiency, and whole-person healing through our ecosystem of transformative services.

OUR VISION:

For all people to live a life free of domestic violence.



PROGRAMS + SERVICES

Newhouse is a place where survivors can heal and feel empowered to achieve their full potential.

Safe Housing

We provide no-cost, safe housing for survivors fleeing domestic abuse. Trauma-informed, trained advocates monitor the shelter around the clock and provide 1:1 assistance. Meals, clothing, and personal hygiene items are always available. When our shelter is full but the need for help is high, we are fortunate to have local hotel partners who may provide accommodations.

Strengths-Based Case Management

We work with survivors to rebuild their lives and achieve self-sufficiency. Our strengths-based approach empowers survivors to set goals and create a life independent of abusive relationships. Together with case managers, clients assess their needs, set goals, and access community resources to ensure a continuum of care.

Substance Dependency Counseling + Recovery Stabilization

Addressing substance dependency is often a courageous first step in the healing process. We are committed to helping all survivors through their journey and recognize substance dependency is a common issue for those who have experienced abuse.

Legal Advocacy

Our attorney and court advocates are at the sides of survivors as they navigate the complex legal system. We provide legal services for divorce and custody cases, along with orders of protection.

Adult Therapy

Survivors are empowered to rise from the impacts of trauma. Mental health services include assessments, individual and group therapy, referrals to advanced behavioral health institutions, and more. Therapists use tools such as DBT, CBT, and EMDR to address depression, PTSD, family issues, etc.

24/7 Hotline

Advocates answer our hotline 24/7. Trained in crisis de-escalation, safety planning, and community referrals, advocates also serve by being nonjudgmental listeners. Translation in more than 120 languages is available via a three-way call with live interpreters.

Job Readiness

Our team helps survivors reach self-sufficiency, and that includes supporting them in finding a job and accessing resources to prepare them for success.

FOCUSING ON THE NEXT GENERATION

In our care, kids are safe, valued, and met where they are. We offer a sensory gym, summer camp, field trips, and events, along with experiential learning opportunities to gain the tools to solve problems and make healthy choices.

Children's Therapy

Because early childhood intervention is necessary to overcome the cycle of violence, therapists work with children to process their trauma through play and sand tray therapy. Children have a safe and confidential place to be heard, while also learning coping and emotional regulation skills.

Early Learning Center

Our Early Learning Center provides age-appropriate activities to help children ages six weeks to five years gain confidence and discover the joy of learning, reading, and exploring their world.

Children's Center for Education + Healing

Students in grades K-12 are provided with individualized programs to enhance and accelerate their education.

Nearly 1 in 3 people
Newhouse served in 2022
were children.



SUCCESS IN 2022

Accomplishments include:

- Inaugural Worthy Pop-up Bar event raised nearly \$30K
- Our most successful gala in Newhouse's history raised \$978K
- Purchased a bus to transport children and families
- 832 new donors, including 37 new monthly donors
- Grant revenues increased by 56%
- Earned the highest rating possible by Charity Navigator upon evaluation of effective donation stewardship
- Created a \$3.2M capital expansion plan and raised funds to add 40 beds
- Developed and approved new strategic plan
- Grew legal department by adding second court advocate
- Achieved record revenues despite having the smallest budget of Jackson County domestic violence shelters
- Diversified our Board of Directors

Our organization experienced significant growth within our team and the footprint of our mission. Beyond our own shelter, there is much to celebrate on a national, regional, and local level.

- ▶ The Safe Connections Act was signed into law in November, helping survivors of domestic violence to sever ties with their abusers by offering a path to separate from shared wireless service plans more easily – a notorious way for abusers to maintain control.
- ▶ Bodily autonomy and self-determination for survivors and others were protected in Kansas with the rejection of an abortion referendum in August.
- ▶ Mayor Quinton Lucas issued a Proclamation in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October in Kansas City, MO.

“This feels like a place I can breathe and heal!” - Newhouse Resident

STORY OF STRENGTH + SURVIVAL

Laura was a proud new mom of a handsome baby boy when she experienced one of the worst days of her life.

For two years, she had been in a physically, emotionally, mentally, and financially abusive relationship. She was the breadwinner for the family, yet she was beaten for not making enough money. Over time, the abuse escalated from a slap, to being thrown, to being choked until she was unconscious. She knew enough was enough and planned her escape from her abuser so she could start a new life without fear for her son.

She arrived at Newhouse in a police cruiser with nothing but her baby – no clothes, no food, no belongings. Our team had a room ready for them when they arrived and provided both of them with all of their basic needs, including meals, clothing, hygiene items, and baby supplies. Laura accessed services such as therapy, case management, and legal support for an immediate order of protection and long-term custody. Her baby boy got to be with other young children in our Early Learning Center. Laura was incredibly strong, even after surviving immense trauma, and we were proud to help her create the life she and her son deserved.

Laura did so well at Newhouse that she was able to move into transitional housing and began to feel like herself again. One horrible day, her birthday actually, she faced one of the scariest days of her life. Her abuser attacked her in her own home for hours, treating her like a hostage and not letting her feed her crying baby. She was beaten so badly that she went in and out of consciousness, and he took her phone away so that she could not call for help. Then she found one moment to escape. She bravely ran out the back door and called 911 from her smart watch. That saved her life. Because of her incredible resilience, she and her son are living happily in the Southwest while her abuser is behind bars.

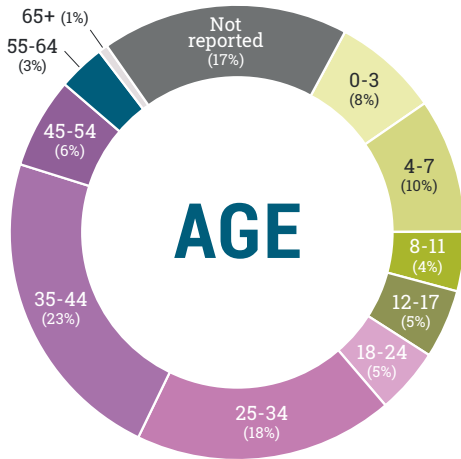
She is the hero of her own story, and our team at Newhouse is proud to be one of the resources that helped her achieve whole-person healing and self-sufficiency.

**“ At Newhouse,
I was able to
process my
emotions
and heal. ”**



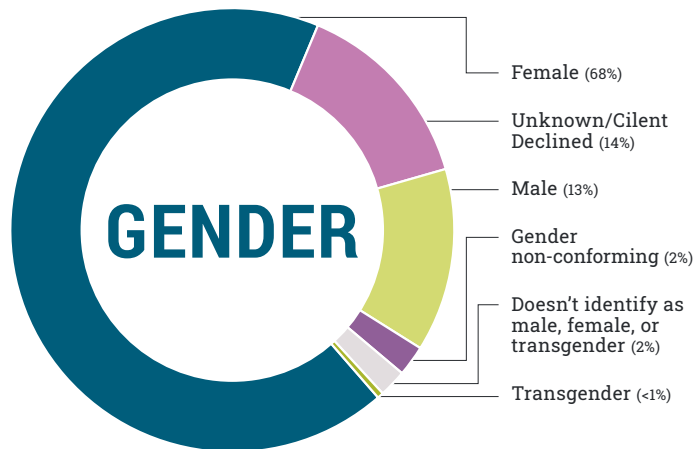
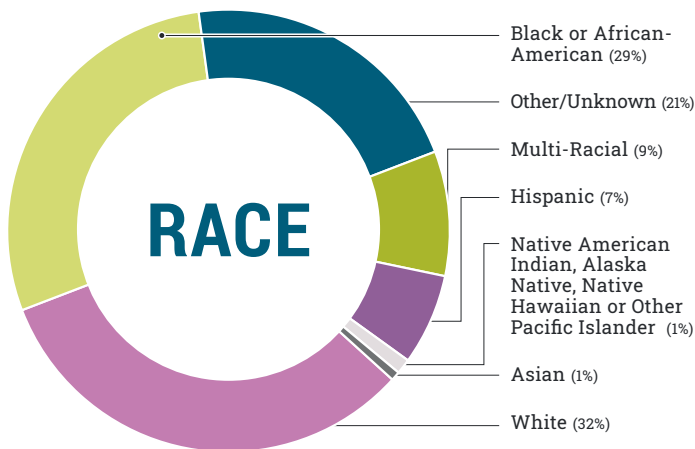
Photo by Ever Grace Photography
Used with client's permission

WHO WE SERVE



Nearly **1 in 3 people*** Newhouse served in 2022 were children.

**Of those whose age was reported*



Due to the nature of legal referrals, a client's race and gender are not always shared at the onset of our work.

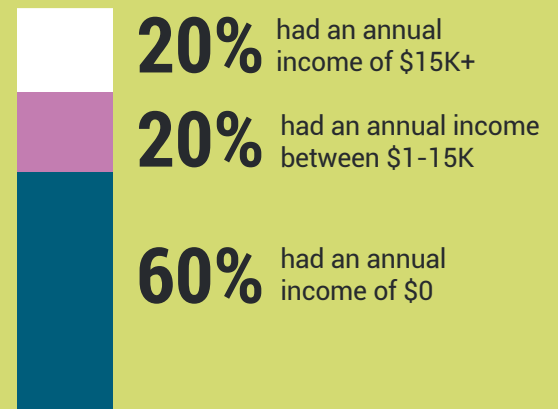
450

survivors received transformative services in 2022

69% OF SURVIVORS HAVE A FORM OR COMBINATION OF MENTAL, PHYSICAL, OR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY.

Data gathered from 91 adults who shared if they had a disability

Of the households who provided employment/income information:





HOW WE SERVE

Newhouse is the **only domestic violence shelter in the KC urban core.**

85% of violent crimes prosecuted in Jackson County are located within a three-mile radius of our shelter.¹



Newhouse is Jackson County's **only domestic violence shelter** that provides...

▶ a full-time Early Learning Center for children six weeks through age five.

▶ an on-site Children's Center for Education + Healing, serving kids in grades K-12 with a customized educational plan.

▶ **care with no time limit.**

This allows a person to truly heal from complex traumas, become self-sufficient, and reduces their risk of returning to their abuser or becoming homeless.



▶ an Attorney, who is barred in Kansas and Missouri, and dedicated court advocates to help survivors navigate the legal system.



16,140

HOTLINE CALLS
answered by staff 24/7



20,531

SAFE DAYS + NIGHTS
provided to survivors



15

PETS SHELTERED
or boarded with our support



31,610

MEALS SERVED



518

VOLUNTEERS
gave 5,969 hours of their time



121

CHILDREN RECEIVED
12,296 hours of educational support + childcare

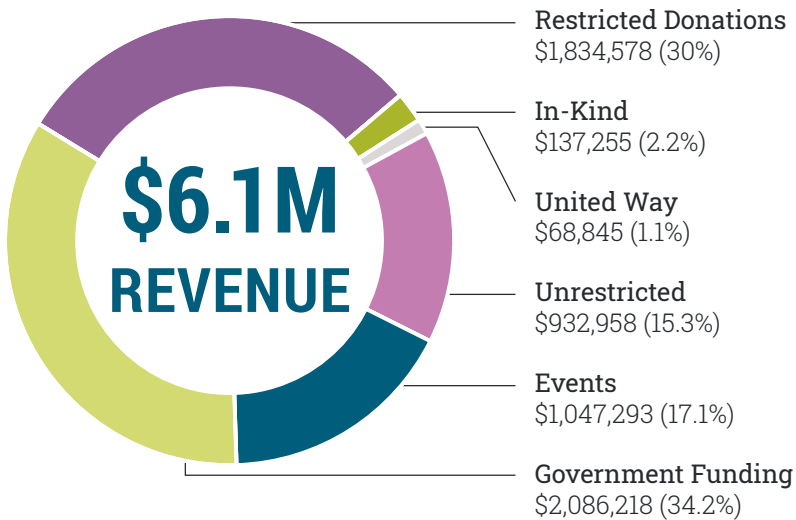
¹Jackson County Prosecutor's Office

FINANCIALS

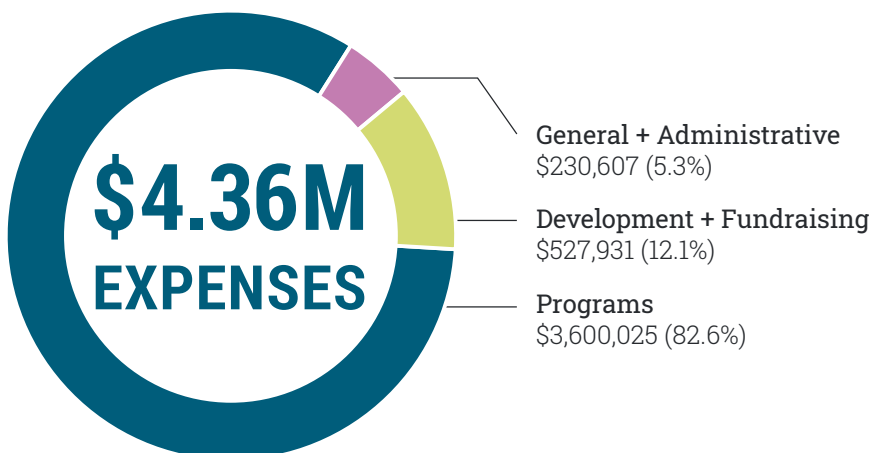


Newhouse has served survivors in Kansas City since 1971, making us the metro's first and oldest domestic violence shelter. In the last three years, our team has worked tirelessly to successfully create financial stability, through significant growth in funding from grants, events, and individual donors. We are grateful to the entire community who stands with us in supporting survivors and families!

Join us in investing in local survivors.

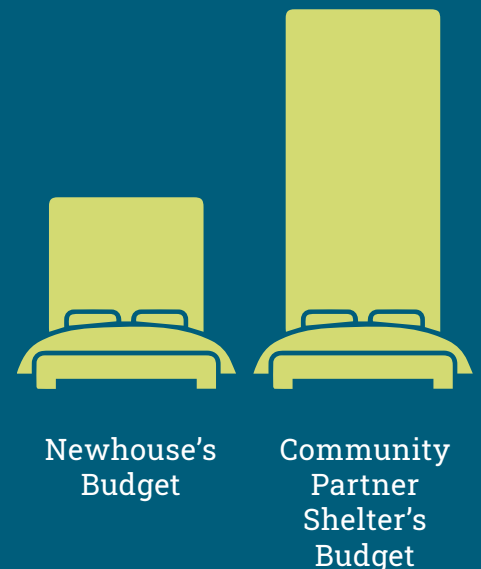


Revenues are higher than average due to a portion of restricted donations being designated for the new Intake + Healing Center that will break ground in fall of 2023. These funds cannot be used for general operations.



Newhouse is operating on the smallest budget of any domestic violence shelter in Jackson County.

Newhouse provides 88 beds for survivors and families - a quarter of Kansas City's available total beds, yet we operate on a budget that is **60%** lower than other community partner shelters.*



*Based on expense budget per bed.



LEADERSHIP

Newhouse Executive Leadership Team

- President + CEO: Courtney Thomas
- Chief Operating Officer: Mary Huff
- Chief Development Officer: June Anne Chalfant
- Chief Clinical Officer (PT): Grey Endres
- Chief Marketing Officer: Rachel Hodgson
- Chief Financial Officer (PT): Dan Kowalik
- Chief Education + Enrichment Officer: Brittany Leathers
- Attorney at Law: Humaira Mirza
- Chief Program Officer: Ondria Thornton

Newhouse Board of Directors

- DJ Pierre, *Chair*
- Rochelle Stringer, *Immediate Past Chair*
- Faiza Alhambra
- Nadia Cruth
- Ryan Drigans
- Sally Ellis Fletcher
- Mary Frontczak
- Kathy Gaumer
- Kai Guo
- Greg Hart
- Moira Holland
- Jeanette Jayne
- Jennifer Keller
- Debbie Swearingen
- Said Taiym
- Karen Torline

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

- Donate funds
- Donate in-kind items via our Amazon Wish List
- Attend or sponsor one of our signature events: Worthy Pop-up Bar, New Day Breakfast, and Imagine a Day Gala
- Volunteer with us
- Tell people around you that they are worthy of love and healthy relationships



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