

# Celebrating Recovering Moms, Healthy Babies and Strong Families

On August 18, 2022 staff, clients, Board members, state officials, and guests celebrated the 15th Anniversary of Chrysalis House Healthy Start (CHHS). The afternoon event was held at the Cylburn Arboretum in the Vollmer Center, a short drive from the Healthy Start facility on Park Heights Avenue in Baltimore City.

Founding Program Director Debra Tribble recalled that 15 and a half years ago she was asked to develop a program for pregnant incarcerated women and those involved in the criminal justice system. Since that time the program is now able to accept any pregnant or post-partum woman or a mother with one child under the age of three in a home-like setting as women from across the state sought refuge for behavioral health and legal issues.

The women were able to learn new parenting and life skills while caring for their infants in a sober environment. Fifteen years later, along with a dedicated staff she continues to provide strong, and compassionate services for the mothers and their children. To date the program has served over 330 women. Originally the Chrysalis House Healthy Start program was funded by the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS).

Debra Tribble has developed many key partnerships over the years and a recent one of these is especially unique. The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation allows each of its employees to choose a non-profit program to direct his or her giving grant. Ms. Kallie Wasserman of The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation directed her 2022 employee giving grant to Chrysalis House Healthy Start in the generous amount of \$20,000. What a great way to recognize the 15th Anniversary. These funds are earmarked to enhance the services and enrichment activities for the women and their children.

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## **Executive Director Update**

We are pleased to give a well-deserved Shout Out to Chrysalis House Healthy Start on the occasion of its 15th Anniversary of serving moms and babies on Park Heights Avenue in Baltimore. Thanks to Debra Tribble and her team for providing sober housing, case management and Group Counseling to moms from the beginning to now. Well done!

The one constant is life is change and if we ever doubted it, the pandemic beginning two and half years ago has proved it. Yet we did not let the virus deter Chrysalis House from plans to serve even more women in need of critical addiction and mental health services through the largest capital improvement project by our agency.

Our Campus Expansion continues to make rapid progress. Our General Contractor, Hamel Builders, is looking for a mid-November completion date and with it nineteen new beds for women in critical need of treatment. My thanks to our state and local government funders, Maryland foundations and individual contributors to make our vision a reality.



Christopher J. McCabe (Chris), Executive Director

As mentioned in the spring newsletter, with more clients expected, we will be hiring more staff. To learn about open positions visit chryslaishouses.org. and click on Employment, or contact Ms. Diana Martin, Director of Human Resources, at dmartin@chrysalishouses.org.

Best wishes for a pleasant fall from the clients and staff at Chrysalis House.

Sincerely, Christopher J. McCabe (Chris) Executive Director

### **Development News**

After nearly six years, our outstanding Development Director Loren Weisman has moved onto her next adventure in fundraising. She will remain local working for another wonderful Anne Arundel County nonprofit. As we always say, "Once a part of Chrysalis House, always a part of Chrysalis House". Thank you Loren.

While we search for a new Development Manager, we will continue to communicate to our friends and supporters throughout the fall. Thanks to all who support our mission of empowering women to build a better life for themselves and their children.



#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Chrysalis House accepts donations of appreciated securities. Donating stock can save money on taxes and provide you with a larger tax deduction than a cash gift. And more of your donation will directly benefit Chrysalis House programs. Check with your tax advisor, or contact Executive Director, Chris McCabe (cmccabe@chrysalishouses.org) for more information.



### **Creative Writing**

To Love Once More

The turmoil that be trapped in my heart will always remain.

I feel if I can not remove it I'll move over the pain.

I've strained for decades wondering why life never paved a way of happiness or forevers,

My childhood darkened by memories of horrid affairs, Misery suspended over my head, dreams of ending it all Not Fairy Tales or shops at the Mall.

I look up today, hoping the Joy of my Boys can fill the void That some inkling of happiness can be employed In my heart a Birth, a Mother's Love Years of Light from Above shining down.

Knowing that now I'm deserving I'm not swerving in and out
Of self doubt.
Not causing problems and pain taking heed of all of the knowledge I've gained.

I made amends even still a living one is being made.
I am to love once more on this path that's been paved.
Nothing but Sobriety and endless love in my cave of affection Under close inspection,
never throwing caution to the wind
Holding on to the words:
You can begin
and love again.

By Katrina C.

# The clients also wrote alpha, or acrostic, poems as a group.

Chyrsalis House

**C** aring and compassionate

**H** onest to myself

R ealizing my Potential

Y earning for Recovery

S taying on track and creating stability

As I grow stronger.

L earning from my mistakes

I nspiring each other

**S** taying focused even when it is hard.

**H** onorable women realizing our worth

O pening our hearts

tilizing our tools, our knowledge andTwelve Steps

**S** eeing the future

**E** xpecting a new life!











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