

Here comes the sun

Q1

Sunny days are coming

As we look forward to sunny days ahead, we reflect on the past year.

Even in the midst of a universally challenging season, we have much to celebrate.



OUR VENICE HOME has remained open since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis.

Our team has worked tirelessly to protect the health and safety of our residents and staff. Despite a few occurrences of Covid in the home, our residents have been protected from the spread of the virus.

OUR EXPANSION PROJECT is nearly at completion! It's taken longer than we imagined, but we have overcome the challenges of the global pandemic, supply chain shortages and soaring materials costs, and now our second home, the Pico Home, is nearly finished. In April 2022, we will open our doors to triple the number of women and families we serve annually!

And in 2021, we had unimaginable opportunities to spotlight our mission and our incredible residents who are courageously changing the future for their families. From the *Superbowl LVI Legacy Program* to *The Kelly Clarkson Show* and recognition by *Archewell*, the foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, communities around the world tuned in to learn and to support our mission.

But most of all, we celebrate YOU! Our community of supporters—donors, foundations, partners, and volunteers—who have carried us through this challenging season. I could not be more grateful for your efforts to support our pregnant mothers as they step out of one of the darkest seasons of their lives into a future filled with hope and light.

With joy and gratitude,



Sarah Wilson, Executive Director
swilson@theharvesthome.org

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS // **BACK**

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

→ HELEN REID PARENTING CENTER

For the past seven years, The Helen Reid Parenting Program at St. John's Health Center has brought their services onsite, facilitating our weekly Therapeutic Parenting Group which helps women to prepare for motherhood and aids in building strong attachment with their babies.



→ KINDRED SPACE LA

Nicole LaCour-Wordlaw of Kindred Space LA provides the pregnant women at Harvest Homes with culturally sensitive classes to prepare them for childbirth and breastfeeding.

→ WESTSIDE INFANT FAMILY NETWORK (WIN)

Through a two-year capacity building cohort program, WIN is partnering with Harvest Home to assess and strengthen our effectiveness in providing trauma and resiliency informed care for families.

And I say, it's all right

LARON'S JOURNEY TO INDEPENDENCE

Harvest Home is a safe place for pregnant women to rest and build stability as they prepare for motherhood. It is both a program and a sanctuary for residents like Laron, a 2021

Residential Program Graduate, who now has stable housing and is working full-time to support her one-year-old daughter, Dominique.

Laron arrived at Harvest Home when she was five months pregnant after months of bouncing between family members' homes and sleeping in her car. During her time at Harvest Home, Laron and her fellow residents built a community like she had never experienced; one that was caring and non-judgmental.

While living in the home she surrounded herself with positive people, gained the courage to step out of unhealthy relationships and gained critical life skills like setting up structures to help her manage her time. As she puts it, "I now know how to plan for my lifestyle, set goals, and set a schedule for my day."

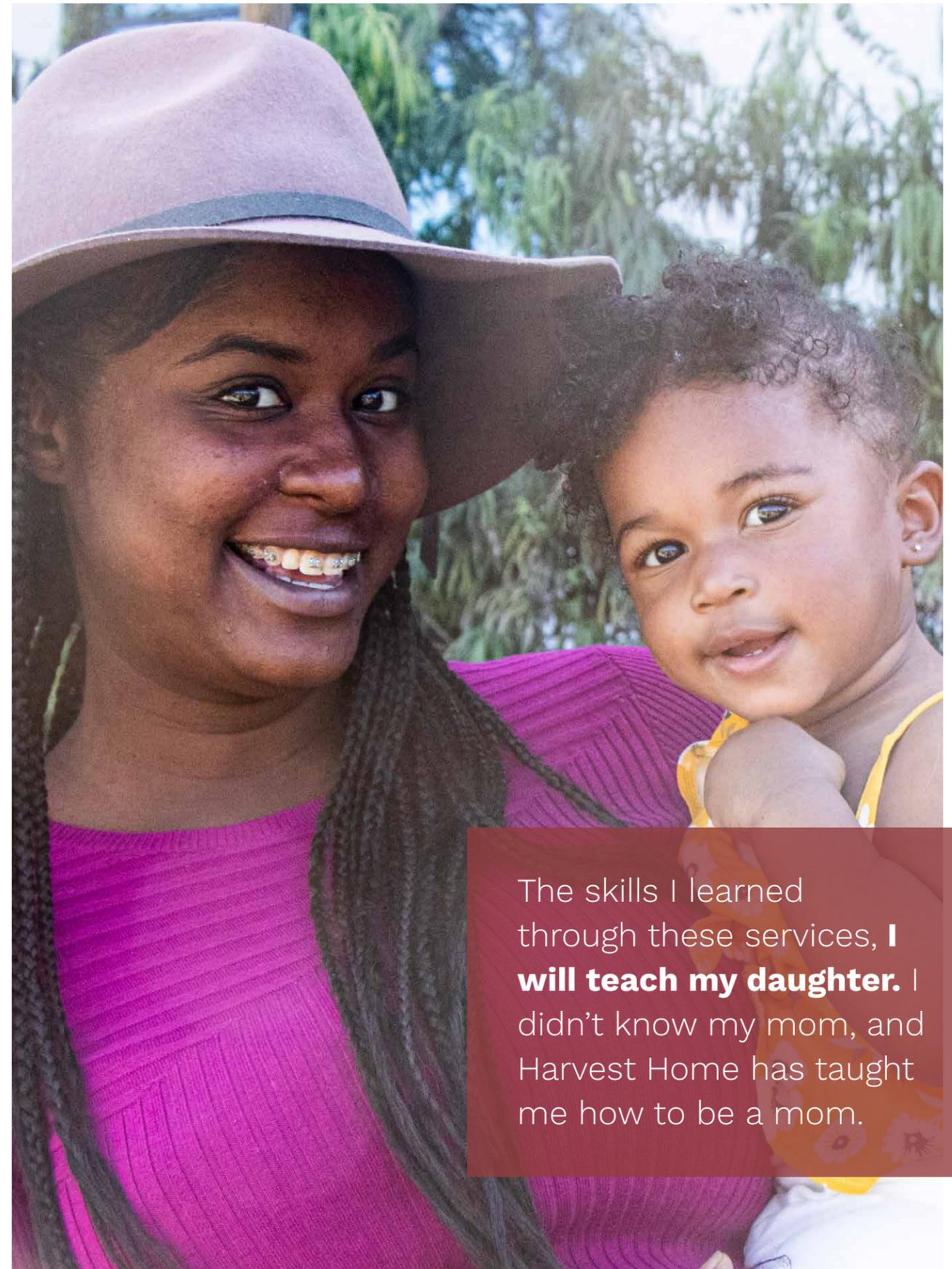
One of the most valuable resources at Harvest Home is our residential program team who work intentionally to build relationships with our residents. This was especially true for Laron

who bonded with her therapist, Ebony Ogbeide, M.A., AMFT., who now serves as Program Manager for the Venice Home. "I most strongly connected with Ebony as my therapist. She helped me look at situations from different points of view and see positives. She was a good guide. She understood my confusion when I couldn't. She helped me understand it."

At Harvest Home, Laron transformed into a mom; prepared and empowered to be a confident mother to sweet little Dominique. As a graduate, she reflects on her time at Harvest Home, "I am grateful for the relationships I have built with other residents and am most grateful for the parenting class and bible study. The skills I learned through these services, I will teach my daughter. I didn't know my mom, and Harvest Home has taught me how to be a mom."

And Laron is an incredibly hardworking and intentional mom doing whatever it takes, working multiple jobs, while navigating her new life as a single parent to care for her daughter.

Laron is just one of the strong and resilient women who became a mother at Harvest Home this last year. We are honored to be a part of her story and celebrate with every mother who has overcome tremendous obstacles in their motherhood journey. ●



The skills I learned through these services, **I will teach my daughter.** I didn't know my mom, and Harvest Home has taught me how to be a mom.

In 2021,
through our
Venice Home
we provided

25

moms and
babies with:

- 1,977** BED NIGHTS IN A SAFE HOME
- 238** CASE MANAGEMENT MEETINGS
- 150** INDIVIDUAL THERAPY SESSIONS
- 39** GROUP THERAPY SESSIONS

OUR 2021 GRADUATES:

- 100%** RETAINED OR REGAINED CUSTODY OF THEIR CHILDREN
- 100%** RECEIVED JOB READINESS TRAINING
- 100%** GAINED ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE AND DEVELOPED PERSONAL CARE PLANS FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR BABIES.
- 100%** PARTICIPATED IN THERAPY SESSIONS
- 78%** TRANSITIONED TO STABLE HOUSING

the women we serve

→ **AVERAGE AGE:** 27.5 YEARS OLD

→ **AVERAGE STAY:** 5 MONTHS

→ **RACE / ETHNICITY:**



Black/African American // 57%



Hispanic/Latinx // 22%



Caucasian // 13%



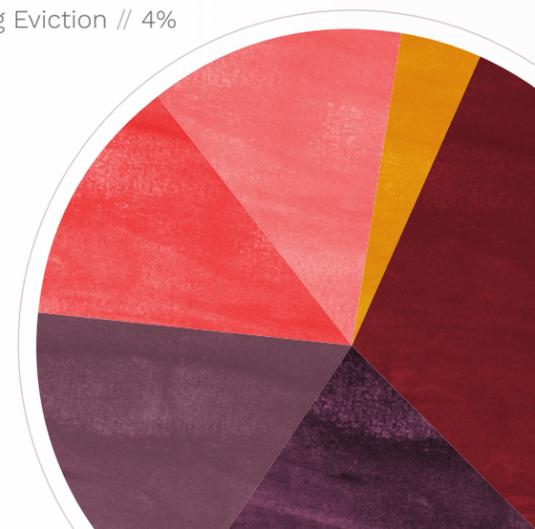
Asian // 4%



Two or more races // 4%

→ **WHERE THEY WERE:**

- Living on the Street // 31%**
- Couch Surfing with Family/Friends // 22%**
- Living in a Car // 17%**
- Living in a Shelter // 13%**
- Combination of Factors // 13%**
- Facing Eviction // 4%**



THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

One of our greatest joys is witnessing firsthand the incredible transformation that happens in a woman's life from the time she arrives at Harvest Home pregnant and in distress, as she welcomes her little one, and graduates from our program, confidently taking her next steps back into the world. After graduating from the residential program, families are invited to participate in the alumnae program through which they receive continued case management, attend events and programs, and gain access to diapers and other essential items like baby gear.



Representation matters

ALUMNAE IN LEADERSHIP

From the Board of Directors and Alumnae Leadership Council to our staff team, our graduates play a critical role in ensuring that our residents' voices are represented throughout the organization. Our alumnae leaders bring invaluable feedback from their personal experiences that helps us understand how we can strengthen our programs to better serve future residents.

In this last year, our alumnae leaders helped guide decision-making around the program model for our second home, vaccination policies, and our trauma and resiliency informed care programming. In 2022, the Alumnae Leadership Council will continue building on their advocacy work with plans to tackle one of the biggest barriers to success when mothers leave Harvest Home: Good childcare, where mothers know their baby is safe while they are working or obtaining an education. ●



Here we shine a light on three alumnae serving in key leadership positions across the organization:

ALEX Operations Coordinator

"I just can't imagine working anywhere else. I think I was meant to find Harvest Home and I was meant to work here," shares Alex, Harvest Home's Operational Coordinator extraordinaire and a 2020 graduate. "There is no power dynamic when I reach out to residents, I am able to connect with them and solve problems because of our shared life experience." Alex has found a home within the Harvest Home family, "I have experienced the hardships and instability. I really want to hold onto my why as I stay connected to the community."

DESTINY Alumnae Leadership Council

"I was drawn to be a part of the Alumnae Leadership Council because of the impact that Harvest Home had on my own life." Destiny, a 2017 graduate, shared her desire to become more deeply involved and the newly formed council was the perfect opportunity for her to give back to a place she feels has given so much to her. "By serving on this council we get to be the voice that clarifies or translates how the support offered, or rules created, are actually being received by people living through the experience." When asked why she continues to participate, Destiny answers,

"By participating as an alumna you get to see where women were when they were residents, where they have gone as a result of Harvest Home, and then unite with them to figure out how we can give back. **Pretty magical.**"

NIKOLE Board of Directors

"I see Harvest Home as the reason I am where I am—a thriving member of society," shared Nikole, 2014 graduate and the first alumna to serve on Harvest Home's Board of Directors. "Having been offered the opportunity, I was appreciative and so grateful that Harvest Home would consider having an alumnae voice in their leadership." Nikole's fellow board members have shared how invaluable it is to hear the perspective of the resident firsthand when making decisions that impact the home. "If you haven't been homeless and pregnant, you can't understand that experience. I see my voice benefiting the women in the home and it's great to make that impact from a board level."

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

→ THE CHANGE REACTION

Harvest Home's newest partner, provides grants to individuals who need financial assistance in scenarios that will impede their upward trajectory—situations like a broken-down car that gets them to work, a refrigerator that goes out, or obtaining a job that requires new clothes. The Change Reaction has been an invaluable resource that helps our alumnae build stability even in the face of unexpected situations.

In 2021,
Harvest Home
provided
support to

49

alumni
families

21,723 DIAPERS DISTRIBUTED
407 PACKS OF WIPES PROVIDED



CURRENTLY
HOUSED // 86%



ACTIVELY INVOLVED
IN THE ALUMNAE
PROGRAM OF
GRADUATES FROM
2018-2021 // 89%



CURRENTLY EMPLOYED
OR ENROLLED IN
SCHOOL // 58%



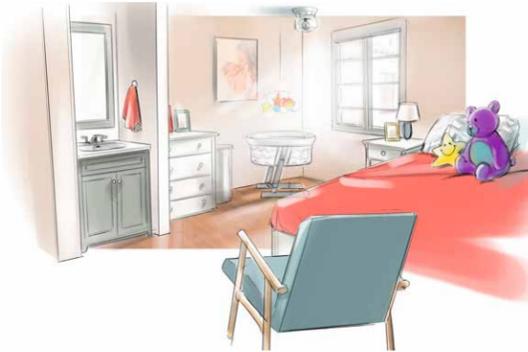
ACTIVELY SEEKING
EMPLOYMENT // 35%



Alumnae gatherings



A new era for Harvest Home



The Pico Home: Tripling our Impact MORE MOMS AND BABIES SERVED

As the number of pregnant women experiencing housing instability and homelessness has grown, so has Harvest Home's passion to serve the needs of this vulnerable community. Back in 2015, we made a commitment to increase the number of women we are able to serve by opening a second home. After several years of looking for just the right setting for this expansion, in 2019 the Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles entered the conversation with the opportunity to transform a former convent into a place of respite, retreat and growth for pregnant women experiencing homelessness.

It's been quite a journey, but we are thrilled the doors to the Pico Home will open in April 2022. This new home will nearly triple our service capacity enabling us to serve 28 women at a time — an increase that will make up nearly 25% of the available housing in Los Angeles dedicated for pregnant women. The Pico Home will also allow us to serve mothers who have older children in their care through one of two family bedrooms.

At the 9,100 sq ft Pico Home, each woman will have her own bedroom with all the essentials she needs, including a sink and vanity and a spacious closet. This home has been designed with our mothers' unique program needs in mind featuring a gourmet kitchen stocked with everything need to practice cooking skills, a dining room to build community over nightly dinners, communal spaces for classes and programming, an onsite therapy room for individual therapy sessions and a tranquil backyard to relax and play. ●

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

→ THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES

Under the leadership of Archbishop Gomez, the Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles is committed "to eliminate the many faces of poverty in our midst— spiritual, economic, and moral" and envisioned the repurposing of a former convent to serve mothers and infants in need.

→ RIOS

An LA-based multi-disciplinary design firm, RIOS has been at the core of Harvest Home's expansion team— from architecture and landscape to interior design and digital media.



Leading into the future:

PEER NAVIGATORS

As we open our second home, we are adding a new staff position to help our residents better navigate their journey to stability. Each home will be staffed with a Peer Navigator—an alumna who will use her strengths, experience and skills to provide peer support and encouragement. Pictured is our first peer navigator, 2021 alumna, Facey, with her son Ryder.



These women will serve as active advocates, mentors and role models of resiliency and healthy self-care, helping residents envision the path ahead and the hard work that pays off. ●



9100
square feet



18
individual bedrooms for mothers & infants



40
more additional families served annually

"I was **overwhelmed with happiness** when I heard Harvest Home was opening a second home. It is going to help so many mommies become strong." MICHELLE, 2014 GRADUATE

A two-step model

The opening of our second home brings the opportunity to tailor our programming to better support pregnant women who are coming from a myriad of experiences. After an in-depth needs assessment including meetings with alumnae, community partners and stakeholders, our staff developed a two-step program model which will be implemented in concert with the opening of the Pico Home.

Step One: The Venice Home

A SAFE SPACE TO SEEK STABILITY

All residents will stay at the Venice Home for their first 30 days. While at Venice, pregnant women participate in case management and programming to assess their short-term needs and set plans for lasting independence.

At the end of this time, women may choose to enter our Transitional Program (Step 2) or pursue housing outside of Harvest Home.

Step Two: The Pico Home

A PLACE TO PREPARE AND GROW

At the Pico Home, pregnant and new moms participate in our Transitional Program designed to fully equip and empower women to establish long-term stability and transition out of homelessness.

Through case management, therapy and a full slate of equipping courses, mothers leverage their own strengths to build the life they envision for their families.



THE PICO HOME

TO GIVE: Text **HHREPORT21** to **41444** or go to **harvesthomela.org/donate**

The forever effect

THE TRUE IMPACT OF DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Whether it's relating through the miracle (and challenges) of pregnancy and parenthood, championing pregnant women working to end homelessness for their families, or desiring a better life for disadvantaged children, our donors and volunteers have personal connections to our mission that drive their involvement and support. At Harvest Home we strive to do our part honoring our supporters through transparency and strong stewardship.

Following the loss of their baby girl at 38 weeks pregnant, Kelly and Ken MacDonald found refuge at Harvest Home. Blanketed by the love and compassion of their family, friends and church community, Ken and Kelly bestowed that love onto the mothers and babies living at Harvest Home. They began by donating Jordan's shower gifts and essential baby items as well as asking for donations to be made in her memory in lieu of flowers. The loss of a child is unimaginable, but somehow through their affliction their vision became clear – Harvest Home would be a place through which baby Jordan's legacy would live on.

Initially drawn to Harvest Home because of the growing rate of homelessness in Los Angeles and their connection to Harvest Home's faith-based programming, when Kelly became pregnant, she thought, "how uncomfortable it would be to be pregnant on the street," and that she never wanted anybody to have that experience. In her words, "I

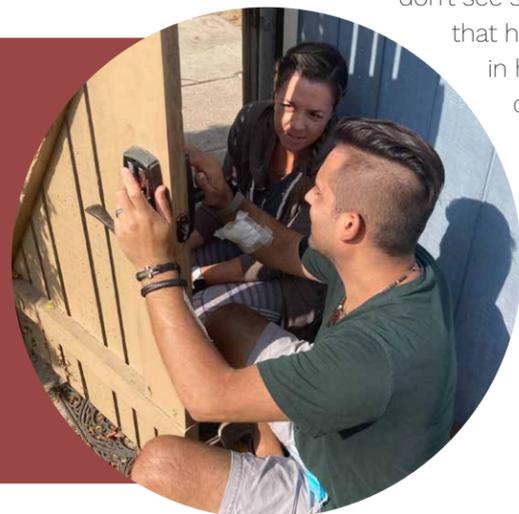
remember there was a story on Harvest Home's Instagram where a resident said she couldn't believe she had her own room and that hit me. To never have your own room and that was such an amazing comfort to her. I thought, wow, that is so special that the women have this place, this privacy."

Kelly and Ken have become regular fixtures at Harvest Home filling the role of Harvest Home's "Handy Couple." Ken was grateful to have the opportunity to use his "spiritual gift of working with his hands" to perform needed fix-it projects around the Venice home. "Because we don't have our own baby, it brings us joy to get to know all these moms and babies and see first-hand how their lives are changing."

The MacDonalds are keenly aware that the hard work taking place within Harvest Home's walls is made possible through the kindness of donors in sharing their love and resources. For those considering becoming supporters Kelly and Ken say, "Your money is getting used in so many different and great ways. You're affecting the lives of mothers and their children, and their children's children. Because of the life skills and resources provided, it's a forever thing that continues, and continues"

When asked what they were most looking forward to seeing with the growth of Harvest Home, Kelly and Ken voiced their elation over the new house. "More rooms, more residents and a continued success rate. That's one of the reasons we love Harvest Home. You don't see success rates

that high, especially in homelessness or addiction, and we're just looking forward to seeing that continuing with greater volume now. ●



"Your money is getting used in so many different and great ways. You're affecting **the lives of mothers and their children, and their children's children.**"



TEAM365 members:

ANDREW AND ARYSSA SCHWANDT

Team365, Harvest Home's monthly donor club, provides sustaining support to ensure that our mission is carried out 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. This consistent and reliable giving allows for prudent long-term planning and budgeting.

Andrew and Aryssa Schwandt joined Team365 after learning about Harvest Home through Vintage Church. "Living in a city that struggles with homelessness, we wanted to do more about it than blame elected officials. The reality is that the homeless epidemic is a complex issue that will not be solved overnight. In the meantime, there are people who need to be served now and Harvest Home is stepping in."

Andrew and Aryssa stepped in as well. "We have been blessed as individuals and as a family. We both had the privilege of receiving an education which has translated to higher pay. We view it as God blessing us so we can bless others."

Their blessings have translated into two monthly gifts to Harvest Home—one for each home. "A second home means more pregnant mothers will be housed and cared for throughout the pregnancy and early life of the baby and all outcomes there are favorable." ●

Text TEAM365 to 41444 to join!

HARVEST HOME IN THE SPOTLIGHT

ARCHEWELL FOUNDATION, the charitable foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex honored Harvest Home on Mother's Day with special recognition by Duchess Meghan and a donation of a year of diapers and cleaning supplies in collaboration with Proctor and Gamble.



FORD MOTOR COMPANY and GABRIELLE UNION teamed up to donate a 2022 Ford Maverick to facilitate smooth transitions for our Harvest Home graduate moms and babies as they move into their new homes.



THE KELLY CLARKSON SHOW, moved by our mission, featured our Executive Director, Sarah Wilson, and alumna Alex Firestone in their Rad Humans segment that highlights social impact organizations across the country. Plus, they donated \$10,000 to put the finishing touches on the Pico Home.



SUPER BOWL LVI LEGACY PROGRAM, "Champions Live Here" recognized Harvest Home as one of the 56 "unsung hero" grassroots organizations and nonprofits who are making an impact in underserved communities across the Los Angeles region. Harvest Home was awarded a \$10,000 grant and was highlighted on NBC4.



2021 HALO AWARD

→ THE HALO AWARD, THE VOLUNTEER CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM OF THE CARL & ROBERTA DEUTSCH FOUNDATION, STRENGTHENS ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS & RECOGNITION OF EXTRAORDINARY VOLUNTEERS.

In 2021, Harvest Home volunteer, CINDY MATTSON, was honored as a HALO award recipient winning a \$25,000 grant for Harvest Home to continue growing our volunteer program and the opportunity to participate in a 12-month capacity building volunteer program.

Cindy first volunteered at Harvest Home over a decade ago, taking on administrative tasks so that our staff team could focus their time serving our residents and babies.

A few years ago, her volunteer role shifted as she started assisting with resident intake. When pregnant women reach out in need of support, Cindy's kind voice is on the other end of the line. As Cindy conducts interviews to introduce prospective residents to our program, she hears their stories and sometimes offers to pray for them. One such occasion, she shared, stuck with her: "A woman called who was sleeping at a bus stop, pregnant. I felt led to pray with her after hearing about her situation, and she ended up moving into the Venice Home to have her baby girl. She graduated, she and her baby are doing well, and she still texts me to this day— I always save her messages!"

As we continue to expand as an organization, it will take a lot of hands to continue our mission here in Los Angeles. To those thinking of volunteering, Cindy says,

"It might sound selfish, but it really is a blessing just to get to serve others. Taking care of these moms and seeing their babies grow brings real joy— that's what it's all about. **The greatest joy is getting to help other people.**"

Interested in learning more about volunteering at Harvest Home? Email volunteers@harvesthomela.org



Compassion in action:

OUR VOLUNTEERS BY THE NUMBERS

 **159**
volunteers

 **1425**
volunteer hours

TOTAL VALUE: \$40,669

(based on valuation of \$28.55 per hour)



A special thanks to Melanie Alice, Trisha Harrison Photography, JRR Photography, Tom Queally and Justin Wilcox for capturing our Harvest Home family so well.

Your giving matters

TOTAL INCOME: \$1,327,672

- 39% INDIVIDUAL DONORS: \$516,615
- 33% EXPANSION: \$436,098
- 9% FOUNDATIONS: \$125,000
- 8% GIFTS IN-KIND: \$102,000
- 6% PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM (PPP): \$83,700*
- 2% CHURCH AND CORPORATE DONATIONS: \$32,94
- 2% SPECIAL EVENTS: \$31,314

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$1,083,965

- 57% PROGRAMS: \$617,439
- 18% EXPANSION: \$194,985
- 15% ADMINISTRATION: \$159,431
- 10% FUNDRAISING: \$112,108



Looking Ahead:

DOUBLING OUR BUDGET TO TRIPLE OUR IMPACT

As we open the Pico Home, our annual budget will nearly double so that we can staff and operate our new residence which will serve an additional 18 mothers—tripling the amount of families we are able to serve at one time.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amy Adams, Board Chair
Lorri Benson, Vice Chair
Barton Crist, Treasurer
Jennie Korneychuk, Secretary
Kirsten Bosch
Pamela Cole*
Christy Fanous
Anna Park McGowan+
Nikole Salón
Kate Underwood+
Anthony Wang

After six years of service, we thank Pamela Cole for her dedication as she finishes her term this April.

+ Board Member term began January 2022

(310) 452-1223 // info@harvesthomela.org // harvesthomela.org

TO GIVE: Text **HHREPORT21** to **41444**
or go to harvesthomela.org/donate
