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ABOUT ANCHOR HOUSE INC.

MISSION

Anchor House Inc.’s mission is to provide a safe haven where abused, runaway, homeless and at risk youth and their families are empowered to succeed and thrive. Anchor House Inc. seeks to end youth homelessness and prepare youth to live productive and independent lives.

VISION STATEMENT

Anchor House Inc. will be recognized as New Jersey’s preeminent advocate for abused, runaway, homeless, aging out and at-risk youth and their families, and a model of trauma-informed best practices in the field.

ANCHOR HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thomas J. Pryor, Esq., President
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Beth Mowery
Gregorio Rodriguez
Jan Sturm
Arthur R. Sypek, Esq.
DeWayne H. Tolbert
Annette Vanek, Secretary
Kim McNear, Executive Director

PROGRAMS

Anchor House Shelter
Anchorage Transitional Living Program
Anchor Line Transitional Apartments
Anchor Link Outreach
CoC Rapid Rehousing Apartments
Connecting YOUth Bridging Lasting Connections
Connect to Home
School Outreach

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Kim McNear, Executive Director
Karen Stettner, Business Manager
June Albanowski, Director of Children and Youth Services
Mereides Delgado, Director of Aging-Out Youth Services
Benjamin J. Thornton II, Director of Outreach Services
Jay Neiderman, Shelter Program Coordinator
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

“We remain confidently passionate, optimistic, and encouraged by our vast support network”
- Thomas J. Pryor, President of the Board

As we approach the 40th anniversary of Anchor House, it is fitting that we reflect on the current state of the Agency and the vital services we provide.

We have seen prodigious growth in our programs, campus and diversified services, now provided to a wider array of at risk youth, within the broader community we are proud to serve. Our focus has come to include greater emphasis upon “housing,” and to serve youth, into young adulthood, with ever gratifying results.

The Agency is blessed by the dedicated, skilled and steady hand of our executive director and staff who, through the lens of the trauma informed care model, work miracles, large and small on a daily basis. We are favored by the generosity of our Foundation, and the tireless efforts of our faithfully courageous cyclists, who give us the luxury of bridging funding gaps endemic to modern day social service agencies. With our doors open and our eyes focused on the challenges which lie ahead, we look forward to maximizing the impact we can make in the lives of as many we are called upon to nurture along life’s path.

Although challenges remain in our aspirational goal of ending youth homelessness and fulfilling our larger mission, we remain confidently passionate, optimistic, and encouraged by our vast support network, infused with a sense of purpose by the life altering differences we make, both imperceptible and lasting.

Until such time as the vital services we provide have been rendered obsolete, with our mission having been fulfilled, we will continue forward with the important work that must be done, in the name of all who have gone before us. We are deeply gratified and humbled by the legacy we carry into the future.

We are respectfully mindful of having been favored with a sacred trust; making the most of the glimpses we are given into those vulnerable lives we are called to enter, for however brief or long a time, to heal and comfort with heartfelt respect, and gentle compassion, in whatever way we are blessed to be able to.

“With your support we can give our youth their hearts’ desires – a safe place to live and caring connections in the community.”
- Kim McNear, Executive Director

This is an exciting time at Anchor House Inc. as we celebrate our 40th year in 2018. While the agency has evolved over the years, our mission has remained consistent: to provide a safe haven where abused, runaway, homeless and at-risk youth and their families are empowered to succeed and thrive. Thank you to our wonderful board, staff, interns, volunteers, donors and community partners whose dedicated work improves the present lives of our youth and also prepares them for a better future. We appreciate every single donation and kind act, and are especially grateful for the proceeds of the Anchor House Foundation’s The Ride for Runaways which, year in and year out, helps fill in funding gaps so services continue to all those in need.

During the fiscal year, we served over 300 youth and provided residential housing to 102 youth, the majority of whom are from Mercer County. We began new programming to increase the number of supportive housing apartment units for youth ages 18 to 25. Residential numbers will increase as older youth now have long term housing solutions with the recent implementation of our Continuum of Care Rapid Rehousing Program and Connect to Home Housing Choice Voucher Programs. In time, prevention efforts through the Shelter, School Outreach and Anchor Link, and the new Bridging Lasting Connections Program, the number of homeless youth aging out of the child welfare system will decrease.

Trauma informed care, leadership training and coaching for staff, as well as extensive leadership and communication training of Youth Advisory Council members, empowered our advocacy for system changes on the county, state and federal level. Too many youth are currently homeless, especially youth aging out of the child welfare system. HUD eligibility requirements and age restrictions creates a gap in funding, yet every youth deserves a safe place to call home.

All our youth face many obstacles and show great courage in meeting challenges. Some were brave enough to share their stories in this report. Won’t you help them break the cycle of homelessness, build life skills and connections in the community, and plan for a better tomorrow? With your support we can give our youth their hearts’ desires – a safe place to live and caring connections in the community.

Thomas J. Pryor, President of the Board

Kim McNear, Executive Director
New Programming
One strategy to reduce youth homelessness is to provide safe, subsidized, supportive housing so young adults have time to obtain and retain employment, go to school, gain life skills and build connections in the community. Our two new apartment programs provide supportive housing to youth in a trauma informed environment. The Continuum of Care (CoC) Rapid Rehousing Program serves young youth, 18 to 24 years of age, who meet HUD eligibility requirements and the NJDCF Division of Child Protection & Permanency refers youth, ages 18 to 21, to the Connect to Home Program.

Collaborations
New initiatives this year included the first ever Point in Time (PIT) Drop in Day at Anchor Link and participation in the National Safe Place Networks’ Innovation Circle. Anchor House coordinated trainings by the Runaway Homeless Youth Training and Technical Assistance Center (RHYTTAC) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for not only our staff but also other local community service providers. Anchor House was one of the sponsors of the educational video series The Raising of America: Early Childhood and the Future of our Nation presented to the community. The College of New Jersey’s (TCNJ) Center for Community Engaged Learning and Research collaborated with us to provide Bonner Community Scholars to mentor Connecting YOUth teens, and the Community Engaged Research Initiative Class conducted a survey of past residents in our transitional living programs.

Leadership Training
Administrative staff and emerging leaders at Anchor House benefitted not only from The University of Pennsylvania’s Leadership X training, but also coaching calls from PennCLO Alumni Network which helped them hone their leadership skills. However, staff were not the only ones trained on leadership, as the members of the Youth Advisory Council participated in a three-part series of YouthMax on change, leadership, and communication.

Advocacy
Our staff continues to successfully advocate for our youth on various committees on the Trenton/ Mercer Continuum of Care, Trenton Area Stakeholders, Mercer County Human Services Commission, Mercer County Youth Homelessness Committee, the Workforce Development’s Youth Investment Council, NJ Alliance for Children, Youth and Families, and RHYTTAC Advisory Board. Also, the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) has proven to be an effective voice in the community. Youth participated in the Mercer County Youth Homelessness Committee, helped plan the Point in Time (PIT) Count and the Point in Time Drop in Day, and conducted surveys out on the street during the PIT. One youth was also a member of the Department of Children and Families’ Central Region Youth Advisory Board and was honored as Youth of the Year.

Recognition
- Anchor House Inc. was named the Community Partner of the Year by the Mercer County Community College EOF Program.
- June Albanowski, Director of Children and Youth Services was awarded the Administrator of the Year Award by the NJ Alliance of Children, Youth and Families.
- YAC/YAB youth honored as Youth of the Year at the Adolescent Networking Conference.
As Anchor House Inc. grew to meet the growing needs of our youth, our continuum of care now includes emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent housing, as well as school and outreach services.

1978
Anchor House Inc. Founded and Incorporated

1979
• Shelter Doors Open Ride for Runaways
• 4 Riders Raised $5,000

1984
School Outreach Program Begins

1992
Anchorage Transitional Living Program Opens

1997
Anchor Link Street Outreach Begins

2004
Angel’s Wings Merges with Anchor House Inc.

2007
Anchor Line Apartment Program Opens

2015
Anchorage Relocates to Centre Street

2016
Connecting Youth Bridging Lasting Connections Begins

2017
• Connect to Home Apartment Program Begins
• CoC Rapid Rehousing Apartment Program is Operational
• Ride for Runaways’ 207 Participants Raised $576,000.

2016-2017 PROGRAM SERVICES

Anchor House emergency shelter and residential programs includes a safe place to live, food, clothing, and much needed crisis intervention, individual, family and group counseling, medical, dental and mental health care. Residential and community youth receive life skills education, prevention education, educational preparation and counseling, and job readiness training. Substance abuse assessment, prevention, counseling and referrals are available, as are therapy, aftercare and support groups for youth and their parents. We provide services that will improve the resiliency, productivity and self-sufficiency of youth which will have an impact long after the youth leave Anchor House Inc. Anchor House is a strong advocate for our youth and strives to improve access, support and services for abused, homeless, runaway, aging out and at-risk youth.

MOVING FORWARD ON STRATEGIES TO END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS BY 2020

Continued advocacy on city, county, state and federal level
Evidenced based interventions to improve outcomes
New Homeless Youth Coordinated Entry & Assessment Services Center at Anchor Link
Increased housing options for youth ages 18 to 25
- **Anchor House Shelter** provided emergency shelter, crisis intervention and counseling to 81 residents, age 17 and under, who had an average stay of 13 days. Over 91% were stabilized and discharged to a safe place to live. An increasing number are returning to the Shelter for aftercare services with a total of 83 sessions.

- **School Outreach** provided individual and group counseling to 108 students in 11 middle and high schools in Mercer County. All students remained in school and improved their well-being. This year School Outreach students also came to the Shelter to participate in workshops and in the Youth Advisory Council.

- **Anchorage Transitional Living Program** served seven residents this year with an average stay of one year. These youth people are 18 to 21 years of age transitioning into adulthood and learning vital life skills. Almost 86% of residents obtained and retained employment and 100% of youth desiring vocational or college education were enrolled in school. A total of 18 youth also returned for aftercare counseling.

- **Anchor Line Transitional Apartments** offers an opportunity for young adults ages 18 to 21 to learn how to live on their own while still receiving supportive services. This year 14 youth resided at the apartments and 100% of the youth obtained and retained employment. All youth desiring vocational or college education were enrolled in school.

- **Anchor Link Outreach Program** conducted outreach to 730 contacts, with 41 youth, coming to the Drop in Center for individual counseling and services. Youth were welcome to use the laundry facilities, receive food packages and clothing, and participated in 317 life skill sessions.

- **Connecting YOUth –** This year Connect to Family, Connect to Well Being and Connect to Achievement combined into a renamed **Bridging Lasting Connections Program** providing coaching, mentoring and educational assistance to 23 at risk youth in the child welfare system. The Bonner Community Scholars from The College of New Jersey have been excellent peer mentors for youth still in high school.

- **Connect to Home** provided supportive housing apartments to five youth ages 18 to 21 learning to live interdependently. With the inclusion of Connect to Home, Anchor House is now the sole provider for the Connecting YOUth Program in Mercer County.

- **CoC Rapid Rehousing Program** is our newest program which will provide supportive housing services to youth 18 to 24 years of age living in their own apartment.

- **Therapy** plays an important role in helping our youth cope with the multiple traumas they have suffered during their brief lives. This year our therapist conducted 222 individual therapy sessions and 41 group sessions with youth in all programs.

- **Youth Advocacy Council (YAC)** is comprised of youth from our programs who are trained in communication and leadership skills, and advocate for themselves and their peers to improve the services available to homeless and at-risk youth. YAC gives them a voice at Anchor House, on the CoC Homeless Youth Safe Rest Committee, National Safe Place Network and other forums.

- **Volunteer Opportunities** are offered to certified volunteers to work with the youth, as well as colleges, civic organizations, houses of worships, and corporate groups to conduct community service projects, drives and fundraising events. This year over 1,786 volunteer hours were donated by dedicated volunteers, interns and supporters.

- **Interns** majoring in social science at Rutgers University, Rider University and The College of New Jersey were once again invaluable assets to our programs. They contributed over 522 hours of time to our programs.
REAL LIVES, REAL SUCCESS

**JONI’S STORY**
A former foster care youth, Joni* was homeless and living in her car until it got towed. Joni began couch surfing and finally thought she could stay at a friend’s house, but the friend’s mental health issues forced her to find a safe place to live. Joni ended up at the Anchorage Transitional Living Program and credits the program with helping her get back on her feet, become stable, learn how to budget, and start college. According to Joni, “Anchorage was not a HOUSE, it was a HOME. In 2008 I lost my mother and the staff was there for me 1000%. They were not only support at home, they attended my mom’s funeral and people I grew up with my whole life were not even there to support me….I am blessed beyond words to be a part of Anchor House.” Joni transitioned to the Anchor Line Apartment Program, graduated from college, continues with steady employment and now wants to get her master’s in social work. She would like to run a nonprofit for homeless mothers and their children who may have medical issues that prevent them from receiving services from other agencies.

**XAVIER’S STORY**
Xavier* was a homeless youth awaiting DCP&P placement when he came to the Shelter. He says,“Anchor House provided one of the most important services in my life, at the time, which was paying for my college application fee. With the help of Anchor House, I was able to pay my application fee and get accepted into Montclair State University. During my stay at Anchor House, I met a variety of mentors that gave me advice along my journey to college. The staff comforted me through my homeless situation and helped guide me in the right direction. From there, after I left Anchor House, I have been able to achieve more than I could ever imagine. I graduated from Montclair State University in three years with a B.S. in Information Technology and obtained over six IT certifications. I have also been accepted into the University of Delaware, and plan on starting my M.S. in cybersecurity this upcoming summer.”

*Names have been changed to protect client confidentiality.*
**ANOTHER HOUSE INC. REVENUE**

- Federal-ACF $227,012
- State of NJ – DCF DCP&P $1,193,494
- Mercer County $75,000
- City of Trenton $9,000
- Anchor House Foundation $365,000
- Private Fundraising $155,351

Revenue $2,024,857

**ANOTHER HOUSE INC. PROGRAM EXPENDITURES**

- Anchor House Shelter & School Outreach $736,483
- Anchorage Transitional Living Program $567,823
- Connecting Youth $302,115
- Anchor Line $115,415
- Anchor Link Outreach $94,751
- Programs $1,816,587

**PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENSES**

- Personnel $1,364,558
- Program Supplies $30,938
- Rent $84,375
- Insurance $48,370
- Repairs/Maintenance $25,392
- Utilities $53,122
- Recreation $15,197
- Professional Fees $41,492
- Transportation $20,680
- Depreciation $73,099
- Food $36,388
- Assistance to Clients $22,976

**EXPENSES EFFICIENCY**

- Program Service Expenses $1,816,587
- Management and General Expenses $208,796
- Fundraising Expenses $56,490

- Personnel 55%
- Program Supplies 4%
- Rent 18%
- Insurance 17%
- Repairs/Maintenance 6%
- Utilities 31%
- Recreation 4%
- Professional Fees 5%
- Transportation 10%
- Depreciation 3%
- Food 87%
- Assistance to Clients 3%
THE RIDE FOR RUNAWAYS

The Ride for Runaways is the major fundraising activity for Anchor House Inc. The Ride’s success is critical to the future of Anchor House and every dollar helps. Most cyclists raise much more than the required minimum of $750, and in 2016, 207 participants raised $576,000.

“The great secret about Anchor House, (that’s really no secret at all), is that it’s not only about saving and improving lives. It’s that year in and year out the work of the House and the organization of the ride has created a way for all of us to learn how to be good people and live better lives. The magic of the place and the ride is its people, all working together to help each other and create such an amazing and wonderful experience. Ride Strong, Ride Well, Ride Safe!”

- Sandy Cooney

For more information about the 2018 ride, or to donate, go to anchorhouseride.rallybound.org.

CELEBRATING OUR DEDICATED RIDERS IN 2016

5 Year
Mark Andrew
Kilani Digiacomo
Mark Garbarini
Michelle Goss
Eric Rounds
Stacy Shanfeld

10 year
Peter Downey
Karen Fanning
Joan Feldman-Plumb
Jeanne Imbrigiotta
Patty Jewell
Bob Lawler
Jackie Shelly

15 year
Ann Brown
Kathy Drulis
Tom Florek
Sue Glass
Janet McLaughlin
Jay Neiderman

20 year
Juan Cardenosa
Tom Imbrigiotta
Jeff Knoll
Martha Moseley
Joe Mutinsky

25 year
Tom Csapo
Debbie Hutchinson

2016 Anchor House Ride for Runaways
Manchester NH to Trenton NJ
SPECIAL THANKS! The Anchor House family would like to thank the following Corporations, Organizations and Individuals who make the Anchor House “Ride for Runaways” possible:

LOGISTICS, TRANSPORTATION AND PROMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Aleias Cookies
Alliance Foods
Aztec Graphics
Central Moving Systems, Bridgewater NJ
County of Mercer
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Wildflowers Inn Restaurant Pennington

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Lacy Roberson
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Travis Tanay
Chris Thornton

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Ewing Branch of the Mercer County Library System
Faith Baptist Church
Groveville United Methodist Church
Hamilton High School West
Hamilton Township Education Association
HMS Host
Holy Redeemer Chinese Catholic Church Youth Group
Incarnation-St. James Catholic Church
Jackson United Methodist Church
Johnson and Johnson Procurement - Skillman
Longhorn Steakhouse
Mercer County Corrections Trenton PBA
Mini Cooper of Princeton
Morrisville Presbyterian Church
Monmouth University
Needlework Guild of America
NJM Insurance Group
Notre Dame High School PTA
Olive Garden
One Simple Wish
Peddie School
Princeton University Athletes in Action
Princeton University Pace Center - Community Action
PVH Corp.
Red Lobster
Rider University
Rutgers University
Saint Marks United Methodist Church
Samurai Do Karate for Christ
Seasons 52
SES
Sigma Kappa and Kappa Delta Sororities
Sikh Sabha of Lawrenceville
St. Francis Medical Center – J. Delores Baker
St. Hedwig Roman Catholic Church
St. Paul’s School of Princeton
TCNJ CELR Bonner Community Scholars and Research Class
The Bag Project – Anupa Wijoya
The Cheesecake Factory
The Church of Saint Ann
The Church of Saint Ann Altar Rosary Society and Bread Ministry
The Times of Trenton
Thomas Edison State College
Thomas R. Grover Middle School
Tiffany’s Backpacks for Kids
Trenton College Club of AAUW
Villa Victoria Academy
Volunteers of America
Washington Crossing United Methodist Church
Washington Crossing United Presbyterian Church Youth Group
WaWa
West Windsor Plainsboro African American Parents Support Group
West Windsor Senior Center
Yesler Company
Yoga Gangsters

Princeton University Community Action Students Work Miracles Every September
**HOW YOU CAN HELP**

**DONATE**
- Donate online at www.anchorhousenj.org/donate
- Check to see if your employer has matching funds
- Designate payments through other workplace giving programs
- Designate payments through United Way
- Leave Anchor House a bequest in your will or trust
- Make Anchor House the beneficiary of your IRA or life insurance
- Attend our events or sponsor a cyclist for The Ride for Runaways
- Save the date - October 20, 2018
  40th Anniversary Celebration at Mercer County Boathouse

**VOLUNTEER**
- Check out our volunteer page and application on our website at www.anchorhousenj.org/volunteer
- Conduct a drive for toiletries, office or household products, gifts for youth
- Conduct a day of giving or plan an event for youth
- Apply for college internships on our intern page on the website.
- Conduct a workshop on your expertise or career
- Offer job shadowing opportunities for our youth

**OTHER SUPPORTS**
- Follow us on Facebook and share our posts
- Start a fundraising campaign

**YOUTH EXPLAIN WHAT YOUR SUPPORT HAS DONE FOR THEM**

JS — “They took me in when no one else would. The program itself is amazing but to top it all off we have the best staff ever. They help me stay motivated and concentrated. If I could stay here forever I would in a heartbeat.”

DB — “25 years ago I entered Anchor House for 31 days. Anchor House to me was the only place as a kid I felt safe. For the first time in my life I was able to breathe and not be afraid. I could go to sleep at night and not feel like something was going to happen. I had accountability for chores and the rules of the house which really went a long way. There was structure and caring. It gave me the chance to be a kid even if it was only for a short time. My case worker showed me so much compassion that I was able to break down walls and tell what did and was happening to me. She gave me hugs! That was a huge thing.... Today I have a family of my own with two kids and a husband of 13 years. I can’t imagine what my life would have been had they not sent me to Anchor House.”

EW — “Anchor House means a lot to me, from giving me a place to live to helping me get a scholarship for college, but ultimately it means family to me. Anchor House has helped me in so many ways, it’s hard to count. It has given me numerous opportunities to participate in many community events and even gotten me a job. The experience Anchor House has given me will stay in my memories as living documents both now and forever, because I had the chance to interact with different personalities and was able to enhance my coping and life skills.”

TLS — “Anchor House has truly lived up to its name in my life— it has been an anchor thru the many storms that I have faced in my life. It has been over 20 years since I’ve received services at AH & I remain in contact with the staff & have on several occasions come back to volunteer. I continue to work in child welfare with the hopes of helping people the way that AH helped me.”
THE ANCHOR HOUSE
40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SAVE THE DATE

October 20, 2018
Mercer County Boathouse
West Windsor, NJ
8:30am-12noon