



*St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth & Families*

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2014**

*A Tradition of Caring*

Introducing...

# Our New Logo!



*A Tradition of Caring*

**St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families**

FY2014 Annual Report

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*To read previous issues, visit our website: [www.stanns.org](http://www.stanns.org)*

Dear Friends,

For over thirty years, St. Ann's identity has been closely tied to our logo: a royal blue collection of child and maternal silhouettes. For many of us, this image came to symbolize St. Ann's historic Children's Residential Program, where for decades orphaned and neglected children found healing, nurturing, and love.



As we transformed our programs to better meet the needs of children *with their mothers*, St. Ann's leadership decided that it was time to adopt a new symbol of our evolving work and steadfast mission.

Today, we are proud to present St. Ann's new logo.

To me, the figures in this new logo illustrate many aspects of our mission: they could be members of a homeless family entering one of our supportive housing programs; a child care instructor shepherding two youngsters in their early childhood development; or, a young mother leading her children to the bright future that awaits them.

The female figure in the center embodies all that our staff hopes to instill in our young mothers: strength, confidence and engaged parenthood.

Most important, the young woman and children are moving forward. Ultimately, our hope is that St. Ann's will be a stepping stone for young families on their journey to stability and success.

Just as our previous logo symbolized the iconic programs of St. Ann's past, we hope that this new image will come to represent a place of healing, inspiration and opportunity for years to come.

As always, our work would not be possible without the leadership of our Board of Directors, tireless work of our staff, and generosity of our community. On behalf of all of the women and children who will find healing and hope at St. Ann's this year, we thank you.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sister Mary Bader". The script is fluid and cursive.

Sister Mary Bader

# Supportive & Transitional Housing

In our supportive and transitional housing programs, vulnerable young families receive resources and support to help them make a successful transition from homelessness to independence within two years.

Residents of Faith House and Hope House have access to wrap-around services which not only address their immediate housing needs, but also prepare them for a successful career, stable housing, and confident future for their families.

## FAITH HOUSE



Eight fully-furnished, one bedroom apartments with shared living and dining spaces.

## HOPE HOUSE



Twelve furnished single-room units with shared living and dining spaces.

40

*Individuals served in our Faith House and Hope House programs (18 mothers & 22 children)*

1,900

*Days of providing emotional support, education and guidance to young families seeking independence*

2

*Families that transitioned successfully to independent living*

# Carla's Story

After months of unreliable employment and couch-surfing, Carla\* had begun to think that she would never be able to provide a stable home for her son. When she arrived at St. Ann's, she had two goals in mind: to find a secure job and an apartment for her family.

"She had goals, but she needed to visualize a plan, a path forward," explained Rhonda Bethea, St. Ann's Resident Manager.

As soon as Carla and her son settled into their new Hope House apartment, Ariana began to meet with her Employment Counselor. Together, they created a resume, identified nearby job opportunities and practiced interview skills. Each day, after dropping her son off at St. Ann's on-site child care center, Carla put her new skills into practice as she went out and introduced herself to prospective employers.

"We always encourage the young ladies to get out there and talk to employers," explained Ms. Rhonda. "Face time is important. It helps to put you ahead of the other applicants."

Within a few weeks, Carla was hired part-time by two local retail stores. But even as she learned to balance her new work schedule with parenting responsibilities, Carla continued her job search. She knew from her life skills classes that in order to create a safe and stable childhood for her son, she would need a position with benefits and advancement opportunity.

In September, she found it: an opening at a local child care center. With her resume in hand and interview skills honed, Carla introduced herself to the manager and walked out with a full-time job with benefits.

By January, Carla had also reached her second goal. She and her son found their very own apartment, close to her job and his school.

Ms. Rhonda could not be more proud. "We may have given her the tools and support, but she did it all on her own," explained Ms. Rhonda. "And she just told me that she has set her next goal: to buy her first car."

*\*Names have been changed to respect the privacy of our clients.*



# Teen Mother & Baby Program



For over 30 years, St. Ann's has provided residential care and supportive services to pregnant and parenting young women (ages 13 to 21) and their infants in Grace House, the home of our Teen Mother-Baby Program.

Our staff provides Grace House clients with structure and guidance as they sort through their life decisions, develop new skills, and begin taking crucial steps to ensure the welfare of their children and the future of their young family.

**44**

*Individuals served in our Teen Mother & Baby Program (23 mothers and 21 children)*

**3,329**

*Days of providing emotional support, education and guidance to pregnant and parenting young women*

**6**

*Infants born during the fiscal year (5 births at full-term and healthy birth weight; 1 premature birth)*

## A Focus on Health

Adolescent mothers are often at higher risk of pregnancy complications, including premature and low birth-weight deliveries. In Grace House, expectant mothers receive comprehensive prenatal care to ensure a healthy delivery for mom and baby.

Every Grace House client receives on-site nursing support, 1-on-1 assistance with newborn

care, and first-rate prenatal and post-partum wellness care from our partners, Providence Hospital and Fort Lincoln Medical Center.

Through daily parenting support from our resident managers and weekly parenting skills classes from our Child Care Center staff, new moms learn how to properly care for themselves and their infants.

### *In her own words...*

*"When I first got here {to St. Ann's}, I was mad. I didn't care about anything and I had a bad attitude all of the time. But then I realized that it isn't all about me anymore. I got my act together and fixed my attitude, language and started doing better in school. When I first got to St. Ann's, my grades were not good. But I started doing better and soon I got straight A's. Because I changed my outlook, I was placed on Ms. Rhonda's Honor Board for doing well in the program, in school, and for taking care of myself during my pregnancy. Now, I am so happy. I want to thank Ms. Rhonda and Ms. Swain for being there for me."*

*- A Grace House resident*

## COMPREHENSIVE CARE

Our residents have access to wrap-around services which help their family make the successful transition to stability, independence and self-sufficiency within two years.



### St. Ann's Parenting & Life Skills Curriculum

Young mothers in our residential programs attend weekly classes to improve their parenting and life skills. **Here are just a few class subjects from this year:**

- Creative Cooking • Creating a Safety & Emergency Plan • Violence Prevention
- Parenting: The Value of Your Attention • Understanding Work/Life Benefits • Zumba
- Infant CPR & First Aid • Life Skills: Managing Money • Child Centered Play
- Creating Support Systems • Parenting & Discipline • Positive Self Image
- Infant Contact • Tax Education & Preparation • Growth & Motor Development
- Cash Flow Budgeting • Parenting: Using Your Authority Wisely • Financial Literacy

# Finding His Strength

*When a family enters St. Ann's residential programs or a baby is delivered, the mother and child meet with St. Ann's Physical Therapist, Karen Konar, to evaluate the child's development. For Christina\* and her son Michael\*, this first appointment was a turning point.*

Christina's son Michael was born with a congenital kidney disease that required multiple hospitalizations and surgeries during his first months of life. Christina knew that because of his health, Michael was progressing more slowly than most children, but she didn't know how to change it.



*St. Ann's Physical Therapist Karen Konar works with an infant learning to roll onto its stomach*

During her initial evaluation with Michael, St. Ann's

Physical Therapist, Karen Konar, determined that Michael had motor skill development delays and significant weakness in his shoulders and trunk muscles, most likely due to his medical challenges.

Christina began bringing Michael to weekly developmental interventions with Ms. Karen. She noticed the changes almost immediately. Within the first month, Christina saw improvement in his overall strength. A month later, Michael started to belly crawl. Soon after that, he was pulling himself up on furniture into a standing position.

At the time of this report – 9 months after his initial evaluation – Michael is walking several steps at a time. He will continue to receive Physical Therapy until he is walking independently, Ms. Karen and Christina know that he will meet this important milestone in the near future.

*\*Names have been changed to respect the privacy of our clients.*

# Education & Employment Program

For many young mothers, the biggest barrier to stability is finding and maintaining a successful career.

In our Education and Employment Program, we reduce barriers to education and employment by providing pathways to academic and career advancement. Our staff works with clients to meet their educational goals, identify employment opportunities, and embark on their chosen career paths.



*St. Ann's High School Faculty*

**21**

***Diploma and GED-seeking students served in St. Ann's High School***

**100**

***Student attendance rate in St. Ann's High School\****

*\*Does not reflect excused absences*

**100**

***Percent of students who advanced in grade level, among diploma-seeking High School students***

**1**

***Student took and passed her GED examination***

# OUR GOALS

*The mission of the Education and Employment Program is to assist each of our residents in building the foundation for a successful career and lifelong independence.*

For clients in our **Supportive and Transitional Housing Program**, we focus on assisting in their career development efforts, while promoting the importance of a long-term career strategy. Each client receives one-on-one career counseling, resume writing assistance, interview and job etiquette guidance.

For clients in our **Teen Mother-Baby Program**, our primary objective is high school completion through earning either their diploma or GED. Small class sizes in our on-site High School enable St. Ann's faculty to provide individualized support. Eligible clients are encouraged to obtain a summer internship.

## Bringing Compassion into the Classroom

For Principal Valerie Swain the key to fostering success in St. Ann's High School is to create an environment where students feel supported and understood.

"You can train teachers to create good lesson plans and be on time, but one thing you can't teach is compassion and empathy," explains Ms. Swain.

St. Ann's young mothers carry a heavier load than the typical high school student. For many clients, their life experiences - including adolescent pregnancy and parenthood - has made it difficult for them to succeed in a typical school setting. St. Ann's teachers work with each student to help her overcome her unique challenges.

"We instruct our faculty to put crisis management and understanding ahead of the curriculum," explains Ms. Swain. "We want our teachers to feel comfortable sacrificing their lesson plan in order to address any challenges that might hold our students back from learning."

# Child Care Center

St. Ann's Child Care Center offers affordable child care for infants, toddlers, and preschool children (ages two months to four years) from our community, as well as children living in St. Ann's supportive housing programs.

We make a special effort to assist low-income, single-parent families and families in crisis, ensuring that their children have developmentally appropriate care and are prepared for the important transition to school.



**85**

**Total number of children served in Fiscal Year 2014, including 64 in the Infant and Toddler Program and 21 in the Preschool Program.**



# Our Curriculum

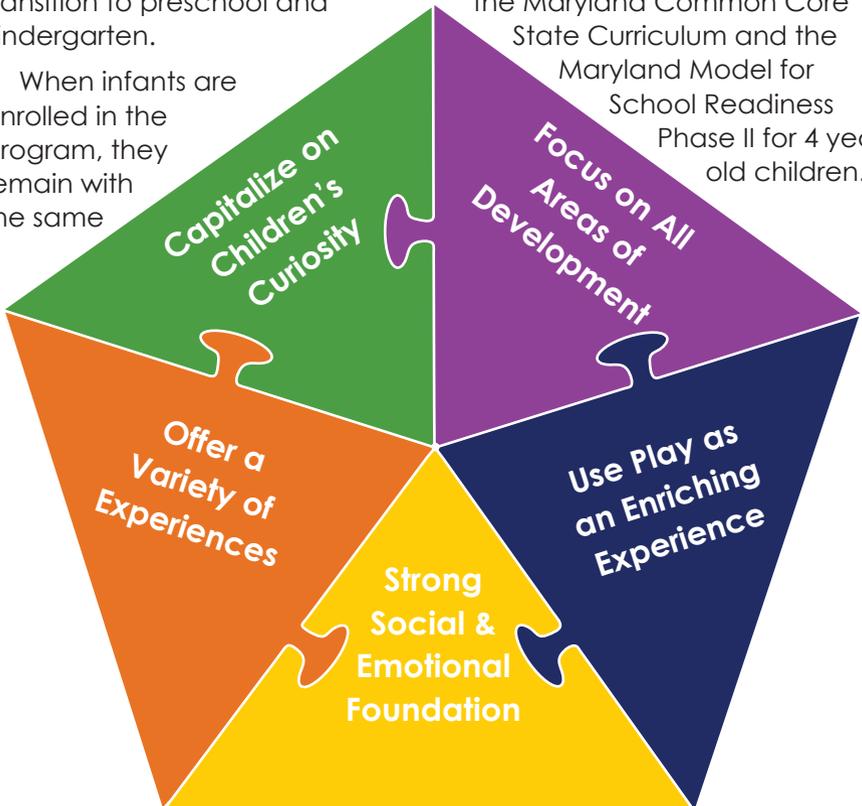
Our Child Care Center has over 30 years of experience developing a strong social and emotional foundation for every child in their care.

We provide a learning environment that capitalizes on a child's natural curiosity, enabling each child to develop to his or her full potential and successfully transition to preschool and kindergarten.

When infants are enrolled in the program, they remain with the same

caregiver for the first two years. Our curriculum consists of active and quiet time, directed and self-directed activities, individual and group exercises, as well as indoor and outdoor recreation.

St. Ann's Child Care Center follows the Maryland State Department of Education's Healthy Beginnings Guidelines, the Maryland Common Core State Curriculum and the Maryland Model for School Readiness Phase II for 4 year old children.



# OUR LEADERSHIP

This work would not be possible without the dedication of our staff and the stewardship of our Board of Directors.

On behalf of all of the young women and children who were touched by St. Ann's mission this year, **we thank you.**

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## KEY STAFF

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Sister Mary Bader, DC  
*Chief Executive Officer*

Barbara Dubik  
*Director, Child Care Center*

Ben Lipovsky  
*Chief Financial Officer*

Beth Ann Fromm  
*Director of Development*

Jeanette Chittams  
*Director, Residential Programs*

Peggy Howard Gatewood  
*Administrator of Contracts,  
Licensing & Special Projects*

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*FY2014 (July 2013 to June 2014)*

Charles L. "Chuck" Short, *President*

Anne E. Schneiders, *Vice-President*

Karen Hess, *Secretary*

G. Thomas Borger, *Treasurer*

Gabriel I. Albornoz

Lizzy McMurtrie

Rose Bruzzo

Christine Page

Reverend William Byrne

Elizabeth Perkins

Anne DeCourcy

Joseph L. Quinn

Michael T. Flynn

John Szczur

Steve Heidenberger

Kelli Stonework

Michael Holliday, MD

James A. Walker

Timothy F. Maloney

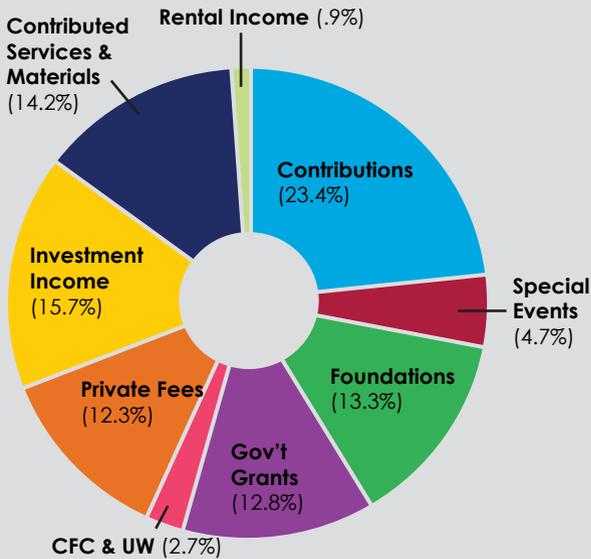
Sr. Mary Catherine Warehime, DC

Barbara Ann Kelly Myers

Nicole Whiteman, Esq.

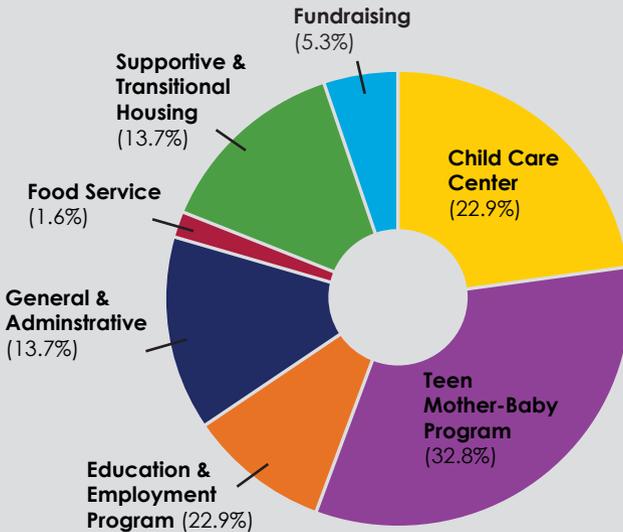
## Revenue (FY2014)

	Amount	% of Total
Contributions	\$1,160,404	23.4
Special Events	\$234,921	4.7
Foundations	\$659,559	13.3
Government Grants	\$637,408	12.8
CFC & United Way	\$136,853	2.7
Private Fees	\$610,106	12.3
Investment Income	\$780,129	15.7
Contributed Services & Materials	\$708,000	14.2
Rental Income	\$29,895	.9
Other	\$1,145	.02
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>4,928,525</b>	



# Expenses (FY2014)

	Amount	% of Total
Child Care Center	\$1,049,514	22.9
Teen Mother-Baby Program	\$1,505,322	32.8
Education & Employment Program	\$457,571	9.9
Supportive & Transitional Housing	\$628,667	13.7
Food Service	\$72,917	1.6
General and Administrative	\$629,569	13.7
Fundraising	\$244,562	5.3
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,588,122</b>	



Note: This financial information is contained in a full set of audited financial statements, prepared by Gelman, Rosenberg & Freedman Certified Public Accountants. Copies of the completed audit can be obtained from St. Ann's administrative offices (4901 Eastern Avenue, Hyattsville, MD 20782).