HOPE CENTER
AND RECOVERY
KENTUCKY ACHIEVE
MAJOR GAINS
FOR CLIENTS AND
COMMUNITY!

Recovery clients were less involved with the criminal justice system

- 91% DECREASE IN ARRESTS
- 88% DECREASE IN INCARCERATION

Decreased percentage of clients meeting DSM criteria for depression and anxiety

- 72% DECREASE IN DEPRESSION
- 61% DECREASE IN ANXIETY

Fewer homeless individuals

- 83% DECREASE IN HOMELESSNESS

“[Client] was the hardest thing I have done, but I needed it. It was the greatest thing I have done in my life and now I get to tell my story to the girls there and help them.”

[Quote from a Recovery Kentucky Client]

Improved economic status

- 52% INCREASE IN EMPLOYED CLIENTS

“[Client] is a sober life. It has given me something to look forward to in life.”

[Quote from a Recovery Kentucky Client]

Recovery Centers save Kentucky taxpayers money

Using national cost estimates on substance abuse, it is estimated that for every dollar spent on recovery services, there was a $3.59 return in cost savings for every dollar spent on providing recovery services.

-$3.59 COST-SAVINGS FOR TAXPAYERS

Report prepared by the University of Kentucky Center on Drug and Alcohol Research. Findings from the full report can be downloaded from cdar.uky.edu/rcos.
helping and healing women

You will find several pieces in this edition about different ways we fight homelessness, all of them focused on women. For those who go way back with the Hope Center, that is quite a development. At first our primary and virtually only mission was to serve homeless men. But we were also charged with developing and implementing a variety of programs to assist homeless and at-risk populations. We have done so.

Homelessness comes in many varieties. Most studies show that single homeless adults are more likely to be male than female. On the other hand, a survey by the U.S. Conference of Mayors found that 65% of the homeless people who are members of households with children are females and that homeless women without children are more likely to have a history of substance abuse.

Our women’s recovery program focuses on women who either don’t have children or don’t have custody of their children. We also manage the recovery program in the detention center, which includes a female division. We operate the Rouse House, affordable permanent housing for women in recovery. We manage One Parent Scholar House, which is designed to help single parents (almost always women) with affordable housing, child development and support while they pursue higher education.

Inside you can read personal stories from women in these programs. They are worth a look. Statistics help us understand social issues on a large scale. When you meet these women or hear them speak or read what they have to say about their lives you understand them in ways that numbers can’t reflect. It was something to sit in the sold-out hall for the Education Builds Hope Luncheon and see everyone in the place completely caught up as young mothers spoke of what is happening in their lives. It was equally rewarding last month to watch 21 women transition out of our women’s recovery program, the 30th time we have held that celebration since 2002.

Our history is one of identifying needs and determining what can be done to fill those needs. If we can fill a particular need, we try to find a way to do so. We can’t fill every need, and fortunately there are many other agencies that do important work we are not involved in. We coordinate with many of them. With your help, we will keep looking for the important work we can do.

Cecil Dunn, Executive Director
We help. We heal. We give hope.

NAOMI JUDD SPEAKS TO SOLD-OUT CROWD AT 2014 DON & MIRA BALL EDUCATION BUILDS HOPE LUNCHEON

“I would have walked over broken glass to get to your program if it had been there when I needed it,” said Naomi Judd on May 15 at the third annual Education Builds Hope Luncheon benefiting the One Parent Scholar House. Naomi spoke candidly about her time as a single mother pursuing higher education, along with one Scholar House graduate and a current resident.

An added event to this year’s program was the live auction, led by Walt Robertson of Swinebroad Denton and Bill Justice. A basketball signed by John Calipari and game tickets, donated by Don and Cathy Jacobs, raised funds for One Parent Scholar House.

We want to thank our sponsors and in-kind sponsors for their generous contributions, and everyone in attendance for sharing another great event to help single parents obtain higher education.

Pictures from the event can be found on the One Parent Scholar House Facebook page, at www.oneparentscholarhouse.org, or by calling the Development Department at 859 225 4673.

One Parent Scholar House thanks our sponsors for making this event possible:

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BREAKING GENERATIONAL CYCLES OF POVERTY: REBECCA

“One Parent Scholar House is home. It’s the only support system I have ever had.”

I was born into poverty and lived my whole life in the welfare system. I got pregnant the summer after I graduated high school. I didn’t go to Morehead State, where I had a full academic scholarship for the honors program, but instead moved to Ohio with my daughter’s father. Over the next two years, I lost count of the busted lips, black eyes, and times I was knocked unconscious. After finding myself in a hospital bed from a concussion, enough was enough. I packed what little I could in the car, grabbed my daughter, Lily, and drove 300 miles in the middle of the night, in the rain, back home to Kentucky to live with my aunt. Within three days she had gotten me a factory job. I was making it, all on my own, just me and my baby. I thought that was going to be the rest of my life. When I was laid off a year later, I decided to go to the local business college to get some sort of higher education. Then I met someone who told me about One Parent Scholar House. I looked into it and applied to the program. I was shocked at how eager these people were to help me.

One Parent Scholar House is home. It’s the only support system I have ever had. If I had been living any other place, I would have had to make more money, spend less time with my daughter, less time studying and more time worrying about living around others who looked down on me for being a young single mother. There are 80 single mothers living here in the same situation as me. If this place helps those other 79 as much as it has helped me, then I know the sounds this place will keep making – the sounds of breaking the cycle of poverty and the sounds of cheering as we walk across our graduation stages and the sounds of our little ones growing up knowing that they have a chance to succeed in school like their mothers.
On June 29th, the Hope Center Recovery Program for Women held its 30th Transitional Ceremony. Twenty-one women were recognized for their completion of the Recovery Program and their transition into our Phase II Aftercare program. The program included music and original readings from several clients. “The disease of alcohol and drug addiction doesn’t discriminate. It hits all walks of life! You can see that each of these ladies are unique, and their talent shines through when they’re free from active addiction. Recovery gives them those talents back,” says Stephanie Gudger, Women’s Recovery Assistant Director. This group of transitions also includes the first Detention Center Program client to transfer to the community and successfully complete the aftercare program. The Hope Center extends its thanks to Rosemont Baptist Church and the New Life Circle Club of United Hills Methodist Church for providing and serving refreshments.

BARBARA H. ROUSE HOUSE OFFERS SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR WOMEN AFTER RECOVERY

One of the biggest challenges for men and women who have completed a recovery program is finding suitable and affordable housing after leaving that program. The Hope Center recognized that need and created affordable housing opportunities for recovery clients. Not only do these properties provide clients with a place to live, but they allow clients to gain independence in a drug- and alcohol-free environment that supports continued sobriety. The Barbara H. Rouse House, built in 2010, provides all of that for women who have completed recovery programs. Rouse House is a 44-unit building next to the Ball-Quantrell Jones Center for Women. The Hope Center owes thanks for the funding of this building to the Rouse Family Foundation, a Neighborhood Stabilization capital grant awarded by the Kentucky Department for Local Government, and competitive funding from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati.

EMILY USES HER TEACHING SKILLS TO HELP REBUILD LIVES

“I’m more comfortable in my own skin than I’ve ever been.”

Lexington is my true home now. The accountability and the support network of the Rouse House keeps me on track. I love it here; it’s great to have my own place. It’s a good feeling, a real sense of accomplishment. I have two daughters, and my oldest came and visited me last week. She spent the night and we had some great quality time together. She told me, “I love my new mommy.” I love being a peer mentor and being able to give back to the new clients. There aren’t any new stories here - we can all relate to one another and we all have a common bond. I started my professional career in teaching, I have a bachelor’s degree in education, but I’m considering pursuing a counseling degree now. Being a peer mentor is a great way to test out a new career path, and I can try to use my story as a tool to help others. This is a tough program to get through. You really have to take a long, hard look at yourself, but in the end, it’s worth it. I’m more comfortable in my own skin than I’ve ever been, and it’s because of the Hope Center.

BRENDA FOUND A NEW LIFE AT THE WOMEN’S DETENTION CENTER PROGRAM

“I am too good to do the things I did.”

I started using drugs when I was 15 years old, and had twins shortly after that, then a daughter. After two years, they were taken from me. Once that happened, I was destroyed. I overdosed, and was on life support for two weeks, and as a result, I have to wear hearing aids now. When I was sent to jail and had no choice but to detox, I was so sick, and I promised myself I’d never do that again. I got into the Hope Center Jail Program, and now I have 15 months clean. I finished the program in a little over five months and it was the best decision of my life. I moved into the Rouse House four months after I was released from jail and I absolutely love it. I have something to call mine and I’ve worked for every single thing in my apartment. It makes me feel like a real woman. When I was using, I never thought about working or having my own apartment, but now, it’s my life. I know now that I am too good to do the things I did. If you want to succeed, you can do it. If you want help, it’s definitely here. My life has completely changed, and I love it.