

Annual Report 2017

Love
Hope
Respect



Mission

We who recognize God's providence and fidelity to His people are dedicated to living out His covenant among ourselves and those children we serve, with absolute respect and unconditional love. That commitment calls us to serve suffering children of the street, and to protect and safeguard all children.

Just as Christ in His humanity is the visible sign of God's presence among His people, so our efforts together in the covenant community are a visible sign that effects the presence of God, working through the Holy Spirit among ourselves and our kids.

Vision

Covenant House will continue to fulfill its mission by providing shelter and services to children and youth who are homeless or at great risk. In the spirit of open intake, services will be offered to all youth who seek help, with priority of concern and commitment to those for whom no other service is available.

- » We will make every effort to reunite kids with their families.
- » We will collaborate with community agencies and associations and actively participate in community efforts to improve the condition of families and children.
- » We will advocate with and on behalf of youth to raise awareness in the community about their suffering.
- » Our mission is based on faith and the belief that all children and youth have a right to love, respect and genuine concern. Our individual and shared spirituality will permeate all of our activities.

Principles

Immediacy

Kids come to us in crisis, desperately requiring help. We provide for their basic human needs – food, clothing, a shower, medical attention – immediately.

Sanctuary

Kids trying to get off the street are often scared and mistrustful. We protect our kids from violence and degradation by providing safety.

Value Communication

We show our youth, by example, that wholesome, caring relationships are based on trust, respect and honesty.

Structure

Street life is unstable and unpredictable. We provide structure and a reasonable set of expectations to give our kids a chance to focus on their futures.

Choice

We help youth make positive choices. We give them the encouragement they need.

Dear Friends,

After many years of admiration and respect for the work of Covenant House International, I was introduced to their work here in Michigan. Like you, it was evident to me that these youth deserved opportunities for a better life than what they found on the streets and that I was in a position to change their path from homeless to hope. I was honored to join the board in 2014 and in June of 2016, I was elected chair of Covenant House Michigan's Board of Directors. I am delighted to offer my first "letter" to you in this Annual Report.

Each time I arrive on campus, I see the sign reading, "Covenant House" but to the youth it is their home. Much like your home or mine, the structure itself transforms from brick and mortar to a space filled with absolute respect and unconditional love. I want you to know I see it every time I visit the campus; from the smiles greeting me upon my arrival, to the laughter drifting through the courtyard and the friendly waves as I pull out of the parking lot after a Board meeting. The sense of family and "home sweet home" are very much part of life at the Cov. This home is a reality because of your prayers, financial support, and many hours of volunteer time. On behalf of the Board of Directors and dedicated staff, we thank you again for being a significant part of this mission and look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeffrey P. Rumley".

Jeffrey P. Rumley
Board Chair



A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Covenant House Michigan Family,

The first time visitors come to our Detroit campus, most, if not all, comment "I pictured something different – this place is beautiful!" I am pleased when I hear this, knowing our facilities crew is incredibly dedicated to their job. I think what surprises guests is how we tend to this campus not only as shelter, but more as a home. Because it is "home" to the young men and women we serve.

Regardless of the heartbreak, neglect and tragedy many have experienced in their own homes growing up, we extend hospitality, absolute respect and unconditional love to everyone living under our roof and very soon we will be offering this same hospitality in Grand Rapids when our new campus opens. Every day, we make an effort to extend a touch of home to life at the Cov – from the ever present candy dish at the receptionist's desk to the cook's famous tuna casserole – our goal is to create a warm, welcoming and loving environment for the kids who need it most.

Servant leadership is not easy. Helping our kids address their mental health needs, conquer substance abuse, and recover from severe emotional trauma can prove daunting. Yet the staff soldier on with joy in their heart and an outpouring of love to each and every one of these young men and women who call Covenant House Michigan "home." I commend the staff, especially those working in direct service to our residents, and you as well. Together, we are answering the call to serve those who otherwise are abandoned, overlooked and forgotten. Thank you.

God Bless,



Gerald J. Piro
CHM Executive Director



In Memorium-Sister Xavier Ballance, DC

It is with great sadness that we mention the passing of one of our most loyal member of the Board of Directors, Sister Xavier Ballance, who was called home in August 2016. Sister Xavier was an integral part of Covenant House Michigan having served on our Board since 2001.

We had the distinct honor to present her with our Lizzie Award at Night of Broadway Stars 2016 for her tireless work on behalf of the youth we serve. Sister's generosity enabled us to continue our mission and serve so many young people over the years. She made it her priority to ensure quality health care and supportive services for our young people and we at Covenant House Michigan will be forever grateful for her love toward our youth.



Board Members - Fiscal Year 2017



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Jacqueline Wilson
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In remembrance of Sr. Xavier Ballance, DC., thank you for your legacy of service to Covenant House Michigan. You will be missed.

-The CHM Board of Directors

Our goal at Covenant House Michigan is to provide a better life for the youth who come through our doors. We not only offer food and shelter, we offer a opportunity for independence and success. Whether they are brought here by our Outreach Team, or reach out on their own, every youth is embraced with open arms. We recognize that each young person is unique and needs individualized attention and treatment. Some may need to finish high school or obtain their GED. Some have never been employed and need to develop job skills. Some have never been taught basic living skills.

We have made a covenant with our youth to help them to better themselves. And in turn they, too, have made a covenant with us to succeed. Covenant House Michigan's programs offer assistance and hope for a better future.

The Street Outreach Team - Patrols the streets of metro Detroit daily. They find kids living in abandoned houses, cars and on street corners, among other unfit places. The Team provides these youth with prevention services, information about CHM's residential, education and job programs, counseling, food and clean clothes.

•Youth Served this Year - 2,065

Caritas Center - Forty-five bed shelter offers hot food, a shower, clean clothes and a warm bed to teens who come in off the streets and are in crisis. The Center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Youth can stay from one day to three months.

•Youth Served this Year- 420

Rights of Passage (ROP) - Thirty bed program provides long-term transitional housing for youth 18-24 years of age who demonstrate the desire to turn their life around and make a transition from street life to productive adulthood and independent living. Residents are part of a caring, supportive community that offers options for coping with everyday issues in their lives.

•Youth Served this Year- 72

Covenant House Academy - Over a period of several years, Covenant House Michigan collaborated to open four charter schools in order to better serve the needs of homeless and other at-risk youth who lack a high school diploma. Covenant House Academy serves youth aged 16-22 at our locations in Detroit and Grand Rapids through a specialized curriculum tailored to address the needs of dropouts and other at-risk youth. Over 1,000 students were enrolled between the four Academy locations.

•Graduates - 115

Employment Center - Prepares our youth for the world of work and independence. The program focuses on job expectations, workplace ethics, communication skills and teamwork. With staff support, our youth prepare resumes and portfolios, participate in mock interviews and are assisted with finding employment.

•Youth Placed in Jobs this Year- 93

Total Me Zone - Offers daily classes such as: anger management, grief workshops, etiquette, mock interviews and dress for success sessions. These and other life skills classes help young people find their way when they leave CHM's doors.

Opening Doors for Homeless Youth in All Seasons



**Employment Program
job Fair**



Pumpkin Carving



**Candlelight Vigil
&
Executive Sleep Out**



Alumni Reunion



Sleep Out Kick Off



Masquerade Ball



Fiscal Year 2017 Detroit Snapshots



Detroit Lions Visit



**First Young Professional
Sleep Out**



**Volunteer Appreciation
Brunch**



**Valentine's Day
Outreach Tour**



Nurses Health Fair



**20 Year Anniversary
A Night of Broadway Stars**



Grand Rapids Capital Campaign

Our Goal: \$4.5 million



Several years ago Covenant House Michigan's Board of Directors and Grand Rapids community leaders made a promise to help end youth homelessness...

The second half of fiscal year 2017 saw the fulfillment of this promise as Covenant House Michigan launched plans to build a new facility for at-risk, runaway and homeless young people in Grand Rapids.

Our desire to help stemmed from a growing awareness of the challenges faced by many of the students attending Covenant House Academy - Grand Rapids. One of the most shocking realization of all being that 15%-20% of the student population didn't have a safe place to sleep on any given night, which translated to more than 40 students per night. Acknowledging the tremendous need, we accelerated action to fulfill our promise to Grand Rapids.

In early 2017 the Grand Rapids City Commission, with blessings from Mayor Roslyn Bliss, approved rezoning existing Covenant House Michigan property to accommodate new construction alongside the Academy. This breakthrough launched the \$4.5 million dollar Grand Rapids Capital Campaign to build a facility for homeless youth.

We offer a special thanks to Grand Rapids community leaders: Mark Murray, Jeff Connolly and longtime Covenant House supporter Elsa Fierens for co-chairing the Grand Rapids Capital Campaign and partnering with us on this life-changing project.



Covenant House Michigan Consolidated Statement of Activities *
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Contributions	\$ 1,040,546
Contributions, Temporarily Restricted	1,038,355
Government Grants	680,905
Branding Dollars from Parent	877,000
Grants from Parent related to National Sleep-Out	237,292
Special Events, Net of Direct Benefits to Donors of \$42,396	403,415
Contributed Services, Merchandise & Public Service Announcements	221,325
Total Support and Revenue	\$ 4,498,838

INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REVENUE

Investment Income	
Interest Income	\$ 27,383
Other Income	1,132,592
Total Investments and Other Income	\$ 1,159,975

Total Support Revenue, Investment and Other Income **\$ 5,658,813**

EXPENSES

Program Services	
Shelter and Crisis Care	\$ 1,608,613
Rights of Passage	1,166,317
Outreach	337,244
Public Education and Advocacy	220,399
Schools	231,565
Total Program Services	\$ 3,564,138

Supporting Services	
Management and General	\$ 911,535
Fundraising	311,603
Total Supporting Services	\$ 1,223,138

Total Expenses **\$ 4,787,276**

Change in Net Assets **\$ 871,537**

NET ASSETS

Beginning of Year **\$ 10,376,595**

End of Year **\$ 11,248,132**

**See 2017 Audited Financial Statements w/ Supplemental Information, page 19, at www.covenanthousemi.org*

**Thank You to all Our Donors, Volunteers and Supporters
Who Assist Us in Giving Young People a Place to Call Home**



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