

## GLAD HOUSE 2024 TMPACT REPORT



### A Letter from the Director

When children endure traumatic experiences, they often struggle to identify safe situations, people, and places. The kids at GLAD House have faced significant challenges in their young lives. Many have lived with adults who were violent towards each other and neglectful of the children, leaving them to care for themselves and their younger siblings for extended periods.

The program GLAD House offers is vital for these young survivors, providing a secure environment after school and during the summer. Here, they learn that each day, as they step off the van, a trusted adult will be there to greet them, offer a snack, and assist with homework. Over time, the children begin to realize they are not alone in their struggles. The staff at GLAD House equip them with the skills to break the cycle of abuse and addiction, helping them carry a sense of safety that eases their fears.

Recently, Maria faced a conflict with a peer and, feeling overwhelmed, reacted by yelling instead of seeking help. After working through the conflict with her therapist, she expressed:

I've always solved my problems myself because there was no one to help me. I'm still getting used to having adults at GLAD House who want to support me.

The children at GLAD House are resilient; they've learned to solve problems, prepare meals, and care for younger siblings. We create a space where they can lay down those burdens and simply be kids. We remind them often that GLAD House is a safe haven where everyone can be themselves—a goal that requires dedication and hard work.

After a two-week break before the after-school program started, another GLAD House child, Joanne, exclaimed:

"I'm so happy to be back!
GLAD House is my safe place."

Every child, like Maria and Joanne, deserves a safe space to grow, heal, and thrive. At GLAD House, we are dedicated to providing that sanctuary for children who have been profoundly affected by parental addiction and trauma.

Community support is crucial to our mission. With your help, we continue to offer essential programming that provides emotional support, life skills groups, and, most importantly, a nurturing environment where these children can simply be kids. Together, we can break the cycle of trauma and addiction. By investing in GLAD House, you are not just supporting a program; you are empowering children to reclaim their childhood and plan for their futures.

Sincerely,

Michelle Cox

MSW, LISW-S, OCPS
Executive Director

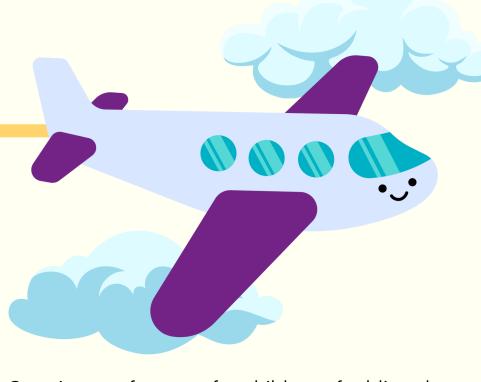
## GLAD House is a Safe Place to be Yourself!

GLAD House is proud to be a safe haven for children impacted by parental addiction, offering them stability, support, and a place to simply be themselves. Our theme this year, chosen by both staff and children, is "GLAD House is a safe place to be yourself!" For many of our kids, life is marked by constant change and upheaval—moving between homes, switching schools, and navigating the emotional challenges of growing up in families touched by addiction. GLAD House provides a

much-needed constant in their lives, a place where they feel secure, valued, and accepted. Here, they are free to express themselves, form friendships, and work with staff who truly care about their well-being and success.

Pictured: A group art project where the GLAD House kids decorated what makes them feel safe.





Creating a safe space for children of addicted parents is essential, as these kids are at a higher risk of experiencing trauma, neglect, and instability. They need a consistent, supportive environment to help them build resilience and develop healthy coping skills. At GLAD House, we work hard to create that environment, empowering children to break

the cycle of addiction and envision a brighter future. By offering a secure and welcoming space, we help these kids grow into confident individuals who feel a sense of belonging and purpose—benefiting not only their own lives but also strengthening the community around them.

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# Create a Safe Place for Your Kids at Home!

We are deeply grateful to our incredible community for helping make GLAD House a true safe haven for our kids. Your support has allowed us to provide sensory rooms, coping tools, and spaces for our kids to relax and unwind. Thanks to your generosity, each group room has a designated "safe space" with cozy bean bags, oversized stuffed animals, and calming tools.



We're especially proud of our sensory room, created for kids who need a quiet place to feel secure and de-escalate. This special space is filled with star lights, hammock chairs, lava lamps, fidget toys, and more! All designed to help our kids calm down, express themselves, and feel at ease.

At GLAD House, we work with each child as an individual, to understand what makes them feel safe to unload, share their big feelings with trusted others, and simply be themselves!

## Create a Sensory Room in Your Home!

#### 1. Choose Soothing Lighting

Use dimmable lights, string lights, or a nightlight projector.

### 2. Engage the Senses with Tactile Items

Items with different textures like soft blankets, and stuffed animals, can help kids self-soothe.

## 3. Sometimes, We Just Need to Move!

Hammock chairs, rocking chairs, or small exercise balls can help kids release energy and calm down.

#### 4. Use Calming Sounds

A white noise machine, nature sounds, or soft music can help kids—and us—relax!

#### 5. Offer Sensory Tools

Stress balls, fidget spinners, and stretchy bands, can give kids a safe outlet for their energy and emotions.

#### 6. Add Weighted Items

Weighted blankets or lap pads provide comforting pressure, which is calming for many kids and adults.

## 7. Encourage Your Kids To Express Themselves!

Include items like coloring books, drawing tools, or a small chalkboard where kids can express their feelings creatively.

## GLAD House Financials



#### **2024 REVENUES**

Contributions: 24%

■ Foundations/Grants: 46%

Medicaid Billings: 18%

MHRS: 12%



#### 2024 EXPENSES

Program: 70%

Management and General: 13%

Fundraising: 17%

\* Net Assets: \$2,030,083

\*\* Data Unaudited for Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

#### YOU CAN CHANGE LIVES

CHARITABLE GIFTS to GLAD House provide support for the agency to fulfill its mission and help donors with important financial benefits and potential tax savings. There are many meaningful opportunities for you to change the lives of the children and families we serve. Please consider the following:

#### CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS:

Gifts of cash and checks provide an important source of annual support for GLAD House.

#### **GIFTS IN-KIND:**

GLAD House is often in need of in-kind donations such as school and craft supplies, snacks, educational materials, or games. Please contact us to discuss current needs.

#### MEMORIALS AND TRIBUTES:

Donations may be made in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion. This is a wonderful way to recognize someone special who has touched your life in a meaningful way.

#### **BEQUESTS:**

Remember GLAD House in your will. Through estate planning provisions, you can leave a lasting legacy to support GLAD House and the work it does.

#### **PLANNED GIFTS:**

There are various planned giving options available offering opportunities that will have a major impact on GLAD House while providing numerous benefits for the donor. Examples include gifts of stock, real property, life insurance, retirement plan benefits, annuities, or trusts. Consult your attorney, accountant, and/or financial planner to discuss the best options for you.

## Donations, With Thanks!



It is with sincere gratitude that we recognize the generous donors who made financial and in-kind contributions to GLAD House. This listing reflects gifts received from July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

#### INDIVIDUAL (\$1000+)

Dr. Beatrice Lampkin Betty McQueen Beverly Lampkin

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