ONE DREAM, ONE TEAM

2017 ANNUAL REPORT
Dear Friends,

We have continued to strengthen the true spirit of One Dream, One Team in 2017 by striving to improve quality of life, foster meaningful educational opportunities, and viewing the work within Journey House as our life’s calling. Thanks to your support through generous donations, sharing our story, volunteering at our events, and attending our programming we have been able to grow on past accomplishments and reach further than we would ever imagined.

Brand new this year is our innovative Workforce Development Program: THRIVE (Transforming, Healthy, Responsible, Inspiring, Valued, Employable) Career Interns. THRIVE is a holistic approach that increases mental skills toughness and provides career pathways in construction, retail/hospitality, manufacturing, and health care. We are proud to have completed our first two cohorts this year!

We were thrilled to continue our travel based education program by hosting 35 scholar athletes and their coaches and parents from Isabela, Puerto Rico. The true spirit behind One Dream, One Team was captured in a traveling mural created by our Cultural Exchange Scholar Athletes. This mural is a tangible representation of the spirit of unity created by this cross-cultural experience.

In March, we published our first Journey House book: *Changing Lives in 5 Days*. The publication is a photo journal story of our Felix Mantilla Little League Scholar Athletes traveling from Milwaukee to the hometown of Major League Baseball Legend Felix Mantilla in Isabela, Puerto Rico.

Our family engagement events hit record highs in attendance this year with 792 people at our Halloween Spooktacular, 493 at our sit-down Thanksgiving Dinner, 300 at our First Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, and 1,146 people at our Winter Wonderland Celebration. These events highlight the spirit of togetherness here at Journey House.

We continue to expand our impact within the near Southside. In December 2017, Milwaukee County Parks approved a management agreement for Baran Park. We plan to build a Felix Mantilla Little League baseball complex, which will include three little league fields, a tee-ball field, a regulation high school field, and an Academy & Training Center. Additionally, we plan to establish a career intern training and job placement program at Baran park. The program will focus on sports turf and landscaping, hospitality, and culinary arts training.

Thank you for being part of One Dream, One Team!

Together in the Journey,
Michele Bria, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer
Mike Kleber, Chairman, Board of Directors
2017 Numbers

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

- Latino: 55%
- Multiracial: 20%
- African American: 17%
- Caucasian: 6%
- Asian American: 1%
- Native American: 1%

**REVENUE**

- Contributions: 61% ($1,561,426)
- Government Grants: 25% ($639,692)
- Other: 9% ($240,733)
- Contract Services: 4% ($99,892)
- Fundraising: 1% ($18,191)

**Total Revenue**: $2,612,552

**EXPENSES**

- Adult & Workforce Development Programs: 40% ($1,227,302)
- Youth Programs: 33% ($1,002,391)
- Management: 21% ($649,579)
- Fundraising: 6% ($195,359)

**Total Expenses**: $3,074,631
Highlights

On May 6th, 2017, Journey House hosted its “Run for the Roses” Kentucky Derby Gala & Auction: One Dream, One Team. The event welcomed 264 guests and raised over $160,000.

For Thanksgiving, the Zilber Foundation donated over 100 turkeys and hams that were distributed at our annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Every family that attended our dinner, left with their choice of turkey or ham for their own Thanksgiving Dinner.

In the summer, Journey House joined forces with Lighthouse Youth Center and Districts 2 & 5 of the Milwaukee Police Department for a day of fun at the Milwaukee Country Zoo. The program, which included 20 Journey House students, 22 Lighthouse students, and 12 police officers, was an effort to bridge the gap between the north and south side, as well as increase students’ positive exposure to the police force.

In December, T BEY (Tessa’s Black Entertainment for Youth) directed 24 students for the premier of the play, The Big Bad. Over 200 community members came to watch the students shine. Cast members stayed afterwards to sign autographs and take pictures.

Community volunteer, Luis Eduardo Perez Sanchez from Jalisco Mexico, led a month-long summer yoga class for over 80 students.
Awards

2017 State of Wisconsin’s Martin Luther King Legacy Award for Service to Dr. Michele Bria. Presented at the State of Wisconsin Capitol by Governor Scott Walker for her social justice efforts (January 16, 2017).

2017 People’s Choice LISC Milwaukee Award for Neighborhood Development Innovation (MANDI) for a public space that helps build the community for the Journey House Community Garden (April 2017).

2017 City of Milwaukee – Mayor’s Design Award for Journey House Campus Housing Initiative Phase II – Test of Time for 2033 West Scott Street. This award recognizes recipients who have added value to their neighborhoods by restoring, constructing, or enhancing their properties in a way that respects the urban fabric and contributes to the character of their surroundings (May 2017)

Felix Mantilla Little League

Journey House is the operational manager of the Felix Mantilla Little League (FMLL), and through a transformational partnership with Felix Mantilla and his family, we continued the Felix Mantilla Little League Education and Cultural Exchange Program by welcoming 35 Puerto Rican Scholar Athletes and their coaches and parents to Milwaukee for five days of fellowship, cultural exchange, and recreation.

The Puerto Rican and Milwaukee Felix Mantilla teams explored Milwaukee together, starting with an Opening Ceremony and cookout at the Packer Stadium in Mitchell Park. Scholar Athletes took a boat tour of Milwaukee and Lake Michigan, visited Discovery World, bundled up for ice skating at Petit National Ice Center, and cheered for their favorite racing sausage at a Brewer’s game. To celebrate their friendship and common passion for the game, the two teams played a game at Helfaer Field, their real life “Field of Dreams.” Under the artistic direction of Eric Ledesma and Julio Cordova the teams left their legacy by creating the “One Dream, One Team” traveling mural. The mural features the island of Puerto Rico, with Milwaukee transposed over the island, surrounded by the baseball glove prints of the Scholar Athletes to represent their unity. The mural has been displayed in prominent places around the city, including City Hall for Hispanic Heritage Month.

“You need to swing the bat to get off the island.”
– Felix Mantilla, Major League Baseball Legend
“The cultural exchange was a great experience—getting to meet, learn and interact with kids my age who live in another country was exciting!” – Doshin Rivera

“Both teams did everything together, it was inspirational to watch these boys, these athletes, form lasting friendships that were being developed right in front of your face.” – Ricardo Galaviz
Core Programming

Through our pillar programs of adult education, workforce readiness, youth development, and family engagement, Journey House provides the tools families need to advance their personal and professional goals and move their families out of poverty. All program areas integrate three key methods that allow us to achieve our mission: education, relationship building, and exposure.

Adult Education
As an MATC satellite site, Journey House provides high-quality instruction in English Language Learner (ELL), adult basic skills/GED/literacy (offered in English and Spanish), and a pathway to citizenship. The skills developed through these programs serve as powerful tools for adults to obtain and maintain quality employment. Our classes offer a Personal Education Plan to ensure we are meeting the specific needs of each and every one of our students. In order to decrease the obstacles adult learners encounter when continuing their education, Journey House provides free, bilingual, on-site child care with a curriculum centered around social, physical and intellectual stimulation to prepare children for Head Start and K4. Throughout the year, 468 adults participated in ELL, 262 adults participated in Basic Skills/GED classes, 12 adults earned their GED, 369 increased an instructional level, 18 became US citizens and 176 children attended our childcare.

Workforce Development
Our Workforce Readiness programs provide participants with a solid foundation, then build on that foundation
with support that gives them the skills employers are seeking. Journey House is one of four Local Initiative Support Corporation Financial Opportunity Centers in Wisconsin that allows low-income residents to obtain the tools and resources necessary to gain meaningful employment. This year we launched a new initiative—the THRIVE internship, an intensive 12-week program that prepares individuals for the workplace. 924 participants benefited from our workforce readiness services, including 72 job placements, 125 adults received regular financial and career coaching, 109 completed our two-week mental skills boot camp, and 614 FY2017 tax returns were filed, free of charge, through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Additionally, 12 residents took advantage of Journey House’s Campus Housing Initiative, which provides housing and transitional services to youth aging out of the foster care system.

**Youth Development**

Providing low-income youth the opportunities to thrive in academics, athletics, and the arts (visual and performing) allows them to develop the educational and life skills necessary for long term success. Journey House fosters the personal and academic development of community youth through a wide variety of programming including highly organized athletic leagues, Journey House Football League and the Felix Mantilla Baseball League, College Careers Academic Enhancement Structured Study Hall, modeled after Division I College Athletic programs, Youth Leadership through Esquires and Girls in the House, theater program, community choir, drumline, and after school Community Learning Centers.

In 2017, 570 youth participated in our athletic programs, 97 in our arts programs, 171 in our youth leadership programs, and 968 students attended one of our three Community Learning Centers.

**Family Engagement**

Throughout the year, Journey House offers numerous opportunities for families to come together and enjoy a meaningful night out. These events foster rich environments where families can learn, grow, and laugh together. This year was our first annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, accompanied with our Halloween Spooktacular, Thanksgiving Dinner, Shop with a Cop, Adopt a Family Program, and WinterWonderland. Throughout the year 4,103 individuals participated in these meaningful programs.
THRIVE

This year was an exciting year in our Workforce Development program. In August, we launched our innovative **THRIVE Career Pathways** program. THRIVE is a holistic approach that fosters Transforming, Healthy, Reliable, Inspiring, Valued, and Employable Career Interns. THRIVE’s career pathways include hospitality, retail, manufacturing, construction, and health care. These careers were chosen by engaging current industry leaders in Wisconsin and understanding what they are looking for in employees. Through THRIVE, Journey House strives to help people gain the skills necessary to hold meaningful employment. THRIVE’s 12-week program starts with 2 weeks of mental-toughness boot camp, the most important part of the program. Mental toughness tools and awareness assist participants to self-identify their “grit” to “stick-with-it” in their Career Pathway, internship, and job. The goal of the program is to help participants improve and develop individual strengths by incorporating certified mental toughness and workforce readiness skills. These principles include engaging the talents and interests of each participant, developing their skills and competencies, and providing mentoring circles for networking opportunities. Once completing the mental toughness boot camp, participants engage in 6 weeks of classroom instruction that helps interns become employable in any field through financial coaching, professional development, and workplace value training. Throughout the program, THRIVE Career Interns tour all of the career pathways to gain exposure and identify the many different options available. The THRIVE program finishes with a 4-week internship in the career pathway of the intern’s choosing. In 2017, we completed two cohorts of THRIVE interns and are looking forward to many more future cohorts.

*Quote from employer:*

“Mandy exudes positivity from the moment she arrives at work. She’s always willing to try new things and tackle any assigned projects. In addition to shadowing our Guest Services Team, Mandy is working at improving speed and accuracy through data entry projects which she has expressed interest in working on.”
Quote: from THRIVE intern:
“I have done data entry, answered phones at the front desk, learned about all types of exhibits. I like everything! This is a wonderful and amazing experience and it takes me outside my comfort zone. I am still learning everyday—especially on the computer.”
Washington D.C. Trip

In August, 45 scholar youth leaders, many of whom had never been outside of Milwaukee before, had the opportunity to visit Washington D.C. thanks to a grant from Herb Kohl Philanthropies. These students were youth that showed exceptional dedication and leadership throughout the summer while participating in volunteer projects, community service, and internships through Journey House programming.

This 5-day bus adventure was an opportunity for our students to learn more about our country and nation's capital through visits to important national landmarks such as the Library of Congress, the U.S. Capital, the African American Museum, the Natural History Museum, the Spy museum, the Navy Academy, the WWII Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, and more. Throughout it all, students experienced many different aspects of big city life, such as riding the subway for the first time!

For more pictures visit: http://www.journeyhouse.org/dc.html
“It gave the kids an opportunity to think bigger than what they see on a daily basis. They realized there’s more than one opportunity and one path for them. It inspired them to reach farther outside Milwaukee.” – Dra’Vonn Bankhead

“My favorite part of the D.C. trip was visiting the African American museum. I like it because I got to see all the achievements black people have made over the years.” – Johnise Myers
Food Systems Initiative

The second year of the Food Systems Initiative at Journey House germinated a wide array of project successes and partnerships which we could have only dreamed of two years ago. One the projects we’re especially excited about is the Green Infrastructure and Schoolyard Redevelopment initiative at Longfellow School and Journey House. After receiving a Green Infrastructure Planning Grant from our partner ReFlo, a “Green Team” was formed with over 65 teachers, administrators, community partners and residents to prioritize and launch both green infrastructure and environmental programming which would incorporate this new infrastructure.

After a year of monthly meetings amongst the green team and its five subcommittees, the result was a beautiful comprehensive plan which focused our efforts on completely transforming the school’s 42,000 sq. ft. asphalt playground into interactive greenspace including a soccer field, outdoor classroom and performance stage, a rainwater catchment system, and a greenhouse. The plan incorporates over $430,000 of green improvements to be enjoyed by students and residents alike for decades to come.

To date, over $200,000 has already been raised for the playground redevelopment, including funds to design and construct a new greenhouse facility slated to for construction in fall of 2018!

2017 brought many other fruitful outcomes to the neighborhood including 40 new fruit trees and bushes; 25 of these were planted around Journey House/ Longfellow with the remaining 15 adopted by 6 Clarke Square residents.

Visitors to Journey House over the past year have likely marveled at four new vibrantly colored raised garden beds planted with a variety of vegetables, fruits and perennial flowers to attract pollinators from miles around. These beds were constructed and cared for by 6 Longfellow classes; an invaluable learning experience which the majority of students had not previously been exposed to.

The Journey House Community Garden teemed with neighborhood gardeners and visitors alike throughout the growing season! From community potlucks with live music, to cooking classes, to soil health workshops, to a visiting university delegation from New Delhi, India, over 600 people were actively engaged at our community garden and related programming in 2017. Many of these individuals grew not only fruits and vegetables, but also new relationships, knowledge, and a sense of personal well-being.
Grants and Contracts

CITY OF MILWAUKEE
Community Development Block Grant
Neighborhood Ambassadors Program (NAP)

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR/
MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE
YouthBuild

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

LOCAL INITIATIVE SUPPORT CORPORATION (LISC)
Financial Opportunity Center

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (MPS) DEPARTMENT
OF RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES
Community Learning Center
   - Kagel Elementary School Community Learning Center
   - Longfellow K-8 School Community Learning Center
   - South Division High School Community Learning Centers
   - Summer Stars

UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS OF MILWAUKEE
Helen Bader Cultural Arts Grant

UNITED WAY OF GREATER MILWAUKEE
AND WAUKESHA COUNTY
Milwaukee Community Schools Partnership

WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD
Adult Education and Family Literacy Program
Civics/English Literacy
Mario and Rita Alba brought their family to Milwaukee from Mexico in 2000. Shortly after arriving in Milwaukee, Mario sought out an organization that could provide him with the skills and support necessary to learn English and provide for his family. The years Alex spent in Journey House's English Language Learner classes gave him the confidence to pursue further employment opportunities in the city and create a more stable life for his family. After their youngest son, Cesar, was born, his wife, Rita, also joined Journey House to pursue her own English education. Rita chose Journey House because of the on-site child care. It gave her the opportunity to study and be close to her young child. She felt confident knowing that her son was nearby and it allowed her to focus on her school work.

Both Mario and Rita fondly remember their English classes at Journey House and their time with Teacher Eileen, who continues to teach English here today. Rita even recalls that her first ever sloppy joe was made by Eileen!

The Alba family was also part of the Adopt a Family program shortly after they moved to Milwaukee. Their oldest son, Missael, remembers meeting the family that adopted him and his siblings when they dropped off the holiday gifts. He was comforted knowing that there were people and families in the community that cared about him and his family and were looking out for them in their time of need.

Cesar, who grew up in Journey House's on-site childcare, now works with Journey House as an intern through the Cristo Rey Corporate Work Study Program. Cesar is always eager to share the story of how his parents were brought to Journey House and the lasting impact their involvement with Journey House had on the family's integration into a new community and new culture.
“All of our accomplishments have been because of our parents and how they took the initiative to study English here at Journey House and overcome any obstacle.” – Missael

“A lot of the opportunities I’ve had were because of my parents and my family. I’m so happy my parents were able to come here and give me opportunities I wouldn’t have had otherwise. I look up to my family no matter what situation I am in.” – Cesar
Felix Mantilla Sr., nicknamed “El Gato” (the cat), has had a love of baseball as long as he can remember. Born in 1934, he remembers growing up and playing baseball in his hometown of Isabela, Puerto Rico—it’s what all the kids did and he learned quickly that he had a great talent for the game. His professional baseball career started at the age of 12 when he was signed by a Police Athletic League in Puerto Rico. Before coming to the United States, Mantilla helped Puerto Rico win the 1951 Amateur World Series and the 1954 Caribbean League World Series. Once in the United States, Mantilla enjoyed an 11-year Major League Baseball career, playing for five different teams: the Milwaukee Braves (1956–61), the New York Mets (1962), the Boston Red Sox (1963–65), the Houston Astros (1966), and the Chicago Cubs (1967). His favorite memory from that time was with the Milwaukee Braves, when he helped his team win the National League Championship and win the World Series against the New York Yankees.

A torn Achilles tendon took Mantilla out of the Major Leagues, but baseball continued to pump through his veins. He spent 7 years with the, now, Milwaukee Boys and Girls Club, coaching baseball and leading youth teams to division championships. In 1972, inspired by conversations with friends and community members on Milwaukee’s south side, Mantilla founded the Felix Mantilla Little League, which has been an influential sports program in Milwaukee ever since.

Mantilla has been named to the New York Mets 1960’s All-Decade Team and enshrined in the Puerto Rico Sports Hall of Fame, the Isabela Puerto Rico Hall of Fame, the Wisconsin Old Time Baseball Players Hall of Fame, and the Milwaukee Braves Wall of Honor at Miller Park.

“You need to swing the bat to get off of the island.”
– Felix Mantilla
John Miceli was exposed to drafting in high school when he made the decision to create his own path instead of continuing his education at the same school as his older siblings. It was his exposure to these technical skills in high school that inspired him to go into architecture at the University of Illinois, and later pursue his Masters in Architecture at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. Upon graduation from UWM in 1986, Miceli joined what is now Eppstein Uhen architecture. Throughout his 30 years with Eppstein Uhen, Miceli was influential on many projects and built strong relationships with numerous partners. One such partnership was with Milwaukee Public Schools, when he worked as the Project Manager for the Brown Street School renovation and reopening. Then in 2002, when Milwaukee Public Schools started the Neighborhood School Initiative, Miceli was introduced to Longfellow Elementary and Journey House. As the project manager for the Longfellow renovation, Miceli was inspired by the work of Journey House within the community, and he joined the Board of Directors in 2003. A few short years later, Miceli helped bring the new Journey House building to life as the Project Manager. Since joining One Dream, One Team, Miceli has been a driving force behind many integral projects including the Campus Housing Initiative and the urban garden water gazebo, which he worked on with his son, who is following in his father’s footsteps as an architect. One of his highlight memories over the years was making the new Journey House building a reality and the inaugural basketball game in the gym between board members, staff, and those who worked on the construction of the building. It was a proud moment that will continue to live on. Miceli retired from Eppstein Uhen in 2016 but continues to serve on the Journey House Board of Directors and supports the Journey House family wherever he can.

John Miceli

“There’s decisions that you make along your life, I don’t know what goes into them necessarily, but they take you on a path that you wouldn’t otherwise go.”
– John Miceli
Eugene Manzanet has served on the Journey House Board of Directors for over a decade. Every professional decision he has made has been focused on how he can do more for his community. After serving eight years in the United States Marine Corps reserve, Manzanet has dedicated his time and energy to serving the Milwaukee area as a resource for financial education, community and economic development. He has been in the banking industry for 24 years in a variety of roles and capacities. Currently, he is Vice President of Community Development Banking for PNC Bank where he provides direct support to community social service organizations with financial resources to increase homeownership, enhance small business growth and support economic development through catalytic projects in Southeastern Wisconsin. At Journey House, Manzanet has been an instrumental advocate and key player in many projects, including turning the current facilities from a dream to a reality, developing the Journey House Packers Stadium, and bringing the Felix Mantilla Little League program and Cultural Exchange program into fruition. Manzanet is currently pursuing his Doctorate in Leadership, Education, and Service with the end goal of being an even more effective contributor to the Journey House mission and the Greater Milwaukee community. Manzanet embodies the ideal of One Team, One Dream each and every day.

“It’s about moving the proverbial needle—I’m working on providing nonprofits a transitional framework to move into a social entrepreneurial mindset for long-term sustainability.”
– Eugene Manzanet
“The dream for Journey House Africa starts from here. We believe in the betterment of vulnerable communities everywhere we touch.”
– Rogers Kimuli

Rogers Kimuli

Journey House was the proud host agency for one of the U.S. State Department’s Community Solutions Fellows. The Community Solutions Program is a four month long professional leadership development program for community leaders worldwide who are passionate about working in environmental issues, tolerance and conflict resolution, transparency and accountability, and women and gender issues.

In August of 2017, Rogers Kimuli joined the Journey House family from Rwanda. Before coming to Milwaukee, Rogers worked as the Project Manager for Strive Foundation Rwanda where he developed trainings and project interventions related to economic empowerment, fighting gender-based violence, positive parenting and the rights and inclusion of women and youth. With Journey House, Rogers immersed himself in the life and culture of Milwaukee and became an integral part of the Journey House family. Rogers participated in YES! and Community Building along with other participants. Rogers’ main goal during his time with Journey House was to learn about the inner-workings of the organization in order to be able to replicate the programs and services in his home country. He brought a deeper understanding of community and culture to Journey House as he openly shared his experiences with forgiveness and conflict resolution, characteristics that are imperative to a healing journey. When Rogers returned to Rwanda in December he started Journey House Africa where he has replicated a variety of projects including a community garden and kitchen and economic empowerment programs. Rogers continues to collaborate with Journey House staff to strengthen both organizations while learning together.
Our Champions:
Journey House Donor Report

(Contributions by constituent)

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Joseph and Vera Zilber Charitable Foundation, Inc.

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2017 JOURNEY HOUSE GIFTS IN KIND REPORT
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Journey House Learning & Leadership Centers

Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics
2110 West Scott Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204
Ph: 414-647-0548
Fax: 414-647-0266

Journey House Packers Football Stadium
Milwaukee County Mitchell Park (eastern side)
South 22nd Street and West Pierce Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Felix Mantilla Little League
Baran Park
2474 South Chase
Milwaukee, WI 53207

COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS (CLC):
Albert E. Kagel K-5 Elementary School
1210 West Mineral Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204
Ph: 414-902-7400
Fax: 414-902-7415

H.W. Longfellow K-8 School CLC
1021 S. 21st Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204
Ph: 414-902-9800
Fax: 414-902-9815

South Division High School CLC
1515 West Lapham Boulevard
Milwaukee, WI 53204
Ph: 414-902-8300
Fax: 414-902-8315

CAMPUS HOUSING PROPERTIES:
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Milwaukee, WI 53204
2033 West Scott Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204