



BELIEVE



2015 ANNUAL REPORT



DEAR FRIENDS,

We have a unique way of looking at things here at Journey House. Our vision allows us to see what others might view to be obstacles as opportunities. A strong belief in the community and those who live here, along with incredible support from our partners and volunteers, lets us see what is possible.

In June, we welcomed tenants into the first of our completed Campus Housing properties. What was a nuisance property in the neighborhood, a foreclosed and abandoned building, is now home to six motivated youths aging out of foster care. We look forward to the completion of our second property, located at 2033 West Scott Street, in 2016. This initiative not only provides much needed housing for our youth, it beautifies the community and increases public safety in the neighborhood.

We have expanded our Youth Athletic Leagues to include the Felix Mantilla Little League (FMLL). 2015 was our first season serving as operational manager for the League and we welcomed 165 new scholar athletes into the Journey House family. As with our other programs, there is an intensive fusion of character skill development and education in the program. Former Major League Baseball player Felix Mantilla and his family, along with the Brewers Community Foundation, helped to make the season a huge success.

As our organization continues to flourish, we must focus on the growth of staff capacity. Currently, our human infrastructure is operating over-capacity. Under the direction of our Board, we have come up with a long-term sustainability plan focused on securing additional revenue to be raised to adjust current staff salaries to fair market value and to add essential and additional staff, allowing us to enhance our services to meet community needs.

We are excited about the possibilities and look forward to what the coming year will bring.

Thank you for believing in our mission.

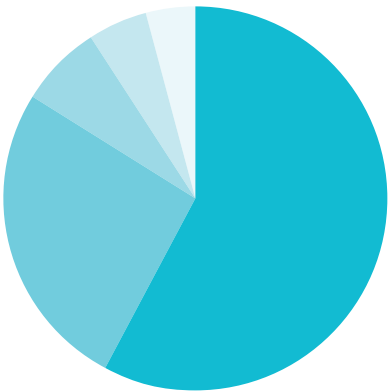
Together in the Journey,
Michele Bria, Ph.D., *Chief Executive Officer*
Eugene Manzanet, *Chairman, Board of Directors*

**JOURNEY HOUSE
EMPOWERS
FAMILIES LIVING ON
MILWAUKEE’S NEAR
SOUTHSIDE TO MOVE
OUT OF POVERTY
BY OFFERING
ADULT EDUCATION,
WORKFORCE
READINESS, YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT, AND
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
PROGRAMS.**



Junior Girls in the House members help out at the annual Gala & Auction

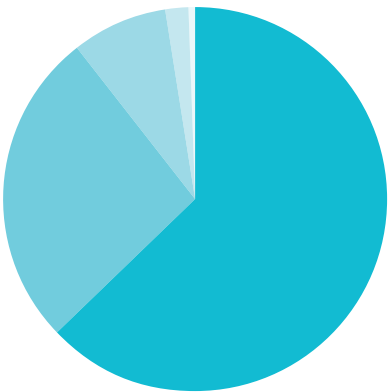
2015 NUMBERS



DEMOGRAPHICS	
Latino.....	58%
African American.....	26%
Caucasian.....	7%
Other.....	5%
Asian American.....	4%

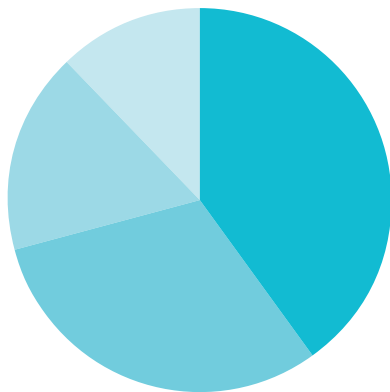
3,934 TOTAL UNDUPLICATED NUMBER SERVED THROUGH CORE PROGRAMMING

3,152 TOTAL NUMBER PARTICIPATING IN FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS



REVENUE	
Contributions.....	63% (\$1,447,870)
Government Grants.....	26.5% (\$609,101)
Other.....	8% (\$179,914)
Contract Services.....	2% (\$55,102)
Fundraising.....	0.5% (\$9,711)

\$2,301,698 TOTAL REVENUE



EXPENSES	
Adult & Workforce Development Programs.....	40% (\$1,005,172)
Youth Programs.....	31% (\$783,624)
Management.....	17% (\$413,429)
Fundraising.....	12% (\$293,040)

\$2,495,265 TOTAL EXPENSES

YOUTHBUILD

2015 was the first of a three year, \$1.1 million U.S. Department of Labor YouthBuild grant. Journey House, Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC), and Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity are partners in this initiative.

YouthBuild is a program that provides classroom instruction and occupational skills training to low-income, at-risk 16 to 24 year olds who are unemployed and not in school. Participants spend 6 months learning construction trades such as carpentry, welding, and plumbing while obtaining certification in OSHA and first aid. Participants then put these skills to use by completing 80 hours of on-site work at a new build or remodel of a house.

Spanning their participation in the program, YouthBuilders are working toward earning their GEDs, undergoing leadership and customer service training at Journey House, and working with our Urban Careers Institute Financial Opportunity Center developing valuable job readiness skills and increasing their financial literacy.



top: Secretary Eloise Anderson of Wisconsin's Department of Children and Families joins YouthBuild participants and Journey House staff at the completion ceremony of their Community Building Workshop

right: YouthBuild participants practice newly learned skills in the workshop at MATC Education Center Walker's Square



IN 2016, OUR THIRD COHORT OF YOUTHBUILDERS WILL BE WORKING ON THE REMODEL OF JOURNEY HOUSE'S SECOND CAMPUS HOUSING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 21ST AND SCOTT STREET.



top left: YouthBuilders celebrate the completion of the classroom portion of their training / top right: YouthBuilders hone their carpentry skills in the MATC workshop
bottom: YouthBuilders take what they've learned on-site to help build a house



OUR GOAL IS TO EDUCATE 72 YOUNG ADULTS IN THE TRADES OVER THE COURSE OF THE THREE YEARS AND TO HELP THEM COMPLETE THEIR EDUCATION.

TAKING CENTER STAGE

Journey House’s Youth Theatre put on its first production in December of 2014. The program has been unveiling a passion for the performing arts in our drama students ever since.

Under the leadership of Director Ricardo Galaviz, these students learn voice projection and use of the body while building their confidence and developing presentation skills. This program is designed to teach participants the fundamentals of theatre by putting together a great show. This hands-on approach to learning demonstrates cooperation, focus and motivation within a diverse atmosphere much like we have to do at the workplace or in college and beyond.

Audiences are treated to two shows per year, one in June and one in December. In June 2015, the students transported audiences to Kansas with their theater production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Thirteen youth made up the cast and crew.

In December, the Youth Theatre took to the stage with *Alice @ Wonderland*, a modern adaptation of Lewis Carroll’s classic. New with this production, team building games and theatrical exercises were incorporated with standard rehearsals to help the actors get to know each other and become more comfortable with each other. In the production, the actors were able to carry this chemistry to the stage and it showed in their fantastic performances.



top left: Journey House Theatre cast of the *Wizard of Oz*

top right: The Cowardly Lion gets ready for the show

bottom: Journey House Theatre cast of *Alice @ Wonderland*



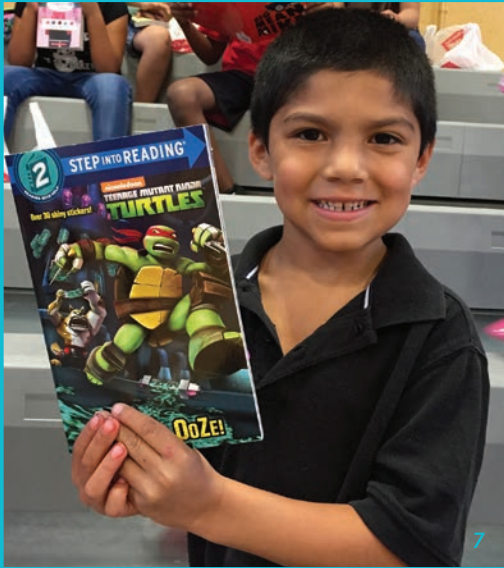
BELIEVE IN READING

In an effort to improve local literacy rates and inspire children to read, Journey House partnered with Target, the Zilber Family Foundation, and Scholastic to create a Reading Oasis Room at the Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics.

On July 21st nine Target volunteers, representatives from the Zilber Family Foundation, Journey House staff, and 227 youth gathered to help dedicate the Reading Oasis, a community gathering place filled with 1,200 books, kid-friendly furniture, and a listening station and library, all provided by Scholastic. Each child who attended the grand opening received six books to take home with them.



top left: Camille Henderson of the Zilber Family Foundation (far left) and Cherise Myers of Journey House (far right) work with volunteers from Target to get the Reading Oasis ready / top right and bottom: Community Youth enjoy selecting new books for their personal libraries



COVERING ALL THE BASES

The 2015 season was Journey House's first serving as operational manager for the Felix Mantilla Little League (FMLL). During this inaugural year, we had 165 youth, predominantly Hispanic boys and girls ages 4-15, competing in the League. Teams were divided into five levels by age: T-Ball 4-6 years old, 7-8 years old, 9-10 years old, 11-12 year olds and 13-15 years old.

As with all of our athletic programs, our Little League serves as an extension of the classroom, encouraging and inciting economically disadvantaged children to excel, not only in sports but also in academia, employment and civic responsibility. Because we emphasize education (both academics and skill development), we refer to our players as Scholar Athletes.

The League was founded in 1973 and named after former Major League Baseball player Felix Mantilla. It is the longest running Little League in America with a living Major League baseball player namesake. Mr. Mantilla and his family strongly believe in the importance of infusing education into athletics and have become invaluable partners in this program, joining Journey House in leveling the playing field for our Scholar Athletes.

Our partnership with the Mantilla family has resulted in the Felix Mantilla Educational and Cultural Exchange Program. In summer of 2016, our 9 and 10 year old All Stars will travel with coaches, parents, umpires and Journey House staff to Mr. Mantilla's hometown of Isabella, Puerto Rico for a four-day tour that will include playing a tournament with the Bify Melendez Little League. Between games, the group will take part in educational and cultural experiences.



top left: Former Major League Baseball legend Felix Mantilla signs a ball for one of the Scholar Athletes at the end of the season Banquet / top right: FMML coaches attend the UWM Coaches Baseball Clinic / bottom left: FMML Scholar Athlete Carmen Reynoso-Perez receives 1st Place Award for her Summer Book Analysis from MLB legend Felix Mantilla and his sons Jose and Felix Mantilla / bottom right: FMML Scholar Athletes and Mom



WE ARE PROUD TO SAY THAT THE FMML WAS FEATURED IN MPTV'S "DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH," A 30-MINUTE DOCUMENTARY ON THE VALUES AND LIFE LESSONS OF URBAN LITTLE LEAGUE IN MILWAUKEE. THE SHOW PREMIERED IN AUGUST 2015.



TOUCHDOWN

The Journey House Packers Youth Football Program is the perfect example of the incredible power of belief. The program was started in 2005 by Journey House Director of Youth Programs Charles Brown with one team of 26 boys, ages 6-8, who played at the pee-wee level. The boys played six games that season and didn't score a touchdown until game five.

Over the next two years, the program grew to include the Junior age group (9-11 year olds) and the Major age group (12-14 year olds). Today, nearly 100 youth play for the JH Packers.

In 2009, we started our own football league and in 2013 we opened the Journey House Packers Football Stadium in Mitchell Park, giving our scholar athletes a state-of-the-art-facility to call home. All along, the program has focused on teaching life skills and character development as well as the fundamentals of the game.

In the fall of 2016, the very first pee-wee player recruited by Mr. Brown to play on his team back in 2005, Anthony Barron, will play the game for Colorado State University at Pueblo, Colorado. Other Journey House Packers headed to play college ball include Shamaine Banks, Quintin Reed, and Rasheed Nance.

THE DONALD DRIVER FOUNDATION BELIEVES

On December 11th, Donald Driver stopped by Journey House to spread some holiday cheer. He brought with him 40 volunteers from 7 different organizations including BMO Harris, Lammi Sports Management, and the Brewers Community Foundation. Among the helpers was Hank the Dog. Referred to as the Donald Driver Turkey Trot, this event delivered 200 care packages, each containing a complete hot meal for the holidays. These care packages, valued at \$10,000, went to pre-registered, active Journey House families.

Between unloading the truck and distributing the packages Donald and his guests enjoyed a lunch at Journey House catered by Escobar's Kitchen. Head Chef Jose Escobar is a GED Graduate of Journey House.

The Donald Driver Foundation presented Journey House with a \$15,000 Urban Gardening and Healthy Living grant at the event.



top left: Anthony Barron commits to playing football for Colorado State University at Pueblo

top right: Journey House Junior Packers (9 to 12 year olds)

bottom: Aerial view of Journey House Packers Stadium



top left: Donald Driver presents Journey House with care packages and a grant for our Healthy Living Initiative

top right: Donald Driver and Coach Charles Brown with Journey House youth Packers

bottom: Participants in Journey House's Neighborhood Ambassador Program helped pack and distribute care packages and enjoyed meeting Donald Driver

CAMPUS HOUSING INITIATIVE

Journey House celebrated the grand opening of the first of its Campus Housing properties on June 3rd. The property, located at 741 South 23rd Street between National Avenue and Pierce Street, was formerly a foreclosed property owned by the City. The building now has 6 apartments that house youth who are aging out of foster care (ages 18–25). Complementary supportive programming from Milwaukee County WrapAround and Journey House assist the residents with life skills, workforce readiness, financial education, and career pathways.

Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele and Mayor Tom Barrett, both instrumental in getting this initiative off of the ground, were on hand at the celebration to speak about their offices' respective partnerships and support for the project. The program was followed by an open house in which tours of the apartments were given.



top left: A "before" picture of 741 S. 23rd Street / top right: Pictured with Dr. Bria, Cathy Peltz provided the landscaping for this Campus Housing Property



top left: Mayor Tom Barrett and Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele help celebrate the opening of our first Campus Housing property

top right: Our first Peer Resident Advisor addresses the crowd at the grand opening of 741 S. 23rd Street

bottom: Community members, Journey House partners and staff, and media attend the grand opening celebration



This initiative evolved out of a Journey House Board Retreat in which Journey House Board of Directors members and senior leaders were grappling with two persistent challenges identified by Journey House participants and community residents:

- How do we address the housing needs of our motivated youth (graduating from high school/GED with college & career aspirations) who are homeless and/or "couch surfing"?
- Is there anything we can do with the abandoned, blighted foreclosed properties that are a haven for crime and negativity in the Clarke Square neighborhood?

As we began exploring ideas and strategies, Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee immediately committed to be part of the conversation. Other partners quickly joined us at the table as we continued searching for solutions including Alderman Jose Perez, Cardinal Capital, Cesar Chavez BID, Clarke Square Neighborhood Initiative, El Rey, MATC and Milwaukee Public Schools.

OUR NEXT CAMPUS HOUSING INITIATIVE PROPERTY IS LOCATED ON THE CORNER OF 21ST STREET AND SCOTT STREET.

The historic building will be renovated in 2016 and will house four apartments for youth aging out of foster care and a community meeting room that will provide the neighborhood with another space to gather. There are hopes of turning the garage into an art studio for our visual arts programs.

CORE PROGRAMS

Through programs in adult education, workforce readiness, youth development, and family engagement Journey House provides its participants with the building blocks they need to move their families out of poverty.

Our Adult Education Programs focus on building the academic and life skills needed to obtain and keep family-sustaining employment. 684 adults participated in Adult Basic Skills/GED (offered in both English and Spanish), English Language Learning, and Citizenship classes over the course of the year. 221 children benefitted from our onsite childcare.

The Urban Careers Institute Financial Opportunity Center works with clients to determine their employment and financial needs. Our staff works with participants on an individual basis to create positive work habits and ethics, to teach proper communication skills, and to increase financial literacy. In 2015, 304 participants benefitted from FOC services and 110 people were placed in jobs. Journey House served as a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site filing 528 FY2015 tax returns free-of-charge for community residents.

Journey House’s Youth Development programs include academic offerings to bring skills up to grade level and to encourage continuing education; gender-specific leadership programs to build positive life skills; athletics to incorporate healthy, physical activity, character building and family participation; and arts programs to offer participants the chance to enrich their lives.

OVER 800 YOUTH TOOK PART IN OUR ATHLETIC LEAGUES AND PROGRAMMING AT THE CENTER AND 1,751 STUDENTS ATTENDED OUR FIVE COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS.

Through our Family Engagement activities we are helping our participants with practical advice, empowerment strategies, helpful tools, and family fun. 3,152 community residents took part in our activities over the course of the year including our three big annual celebrations: the Halloween Spooktacular, Thanksgiving dinner, and Winter Wonderland.



top left: Girls in the House Juniors create pottery tea set and plates for Journey House Gala silent auction / top right: Journey House participants take part in the UNCOM Walk for Wellness, one of our Family Engagement events / bottom left: ELL students and their children take part in a Lego workshop / bottom right: Citizenship student



BELIEVE IN HOLIDAY MAGIC

Journey House hosted its annual Winter Wonderland celebration on Saturday, December 19 at the Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics. Over 1,200 community residents joined us for the festivities.

Highlights of the day included a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, holiday crafts, refreshments, and a distribution of toys to attendees 12 and under with teens (ages 13-17) receiving gift cards. Special thanks go to the Young Milwaukee Charitable Organization, Inc. for donating 2,000 toys for the event and for helping to underwrite the celebration.

Journey House received a special gift at this year’s celebration, a \$25,000 check from the Coca Cola Foundation. This gift is a grant to support Journey House’s youth baseball and football leagues. The iconic Coca Cola Polar Bear was on site with all attendees receiving Coke products to take home and enjoy over the holidays.



top: The Young Milwaukee Charitable Organization presents check and 2,000 toys

bottom: The Coca Cola Polar Bear was at the Winter Wonderland celebration for the check presentation



GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR/ MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

YouthBuild

LOCAL INITIATIVE SUPPORT CORPORATION (LISC)

Financial Opportunity Center

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (MPS)

Community Learning Center

- Bay View Community Learning Center
- Humboldt Park K-8 Charter School 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

Summer Violence Reduction Grant Initiative

The Sherman Park Community Association Inc.

Clarke Square Neighborhood Initiative Housing Survey

UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS OF MILWAUKEE

Helen Bader Cultural Arts Grant

Employ Milwaukee (formerly MAWIB)

UNITED WAY OF GREATER MILWAUKEE AND WAUKESHA COUNTY

Adult Education

Financial Education

Urban Careers Institute

WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD

Adult Education and Family Literacy Program

Civics/English Literacy



Dr. Bria's Marquette University Blue House Roommates and Marquette University President Dr. Mike Lovell and his wife Amy Lovell celebrate Journey House at the 2015 JH Gala. Pictured from left to right: Ron and Clare Spaulding, Kathy and Bill Simonaitis, Dr. Michele Bria, Amy and Mike Lovell, Susie Murray, and Dawne and Ray Manista.

2015 JOURNEY HOUSE

DONOR REPORT

(Contributions by constituent)

\$50,000 or Greater

Anonymous
Charles E. Benidt Foundation, Inc.
Northwestern Mutual
Zilber Family Foundation, Inc.

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Jeanne and Greg Herrle
M&I Foundation
United Way of Greater Milwaukee
and Waukesha County
WaterStone Bank Fund
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\$10,000 to \$24,999

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Lisa Zweifel

IN MEMORY OF

Lucille Bria
Doris Schlais
Barbara Browning Schmeckpeper

IN HONOR OF

Chris Calvelli's birthday
Shoa-Lin Chen
Jeanne and Greg Herrle's birthdays
Sarah Jelencic
John Miceli's retirement
Nancy Rodriguez, Leslie Rodriguez,
and Natalyn Orama

2015 JOURNEY HOUSE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION DONOR REPORT

(Contributions by constituent)

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Kathie and John Buono
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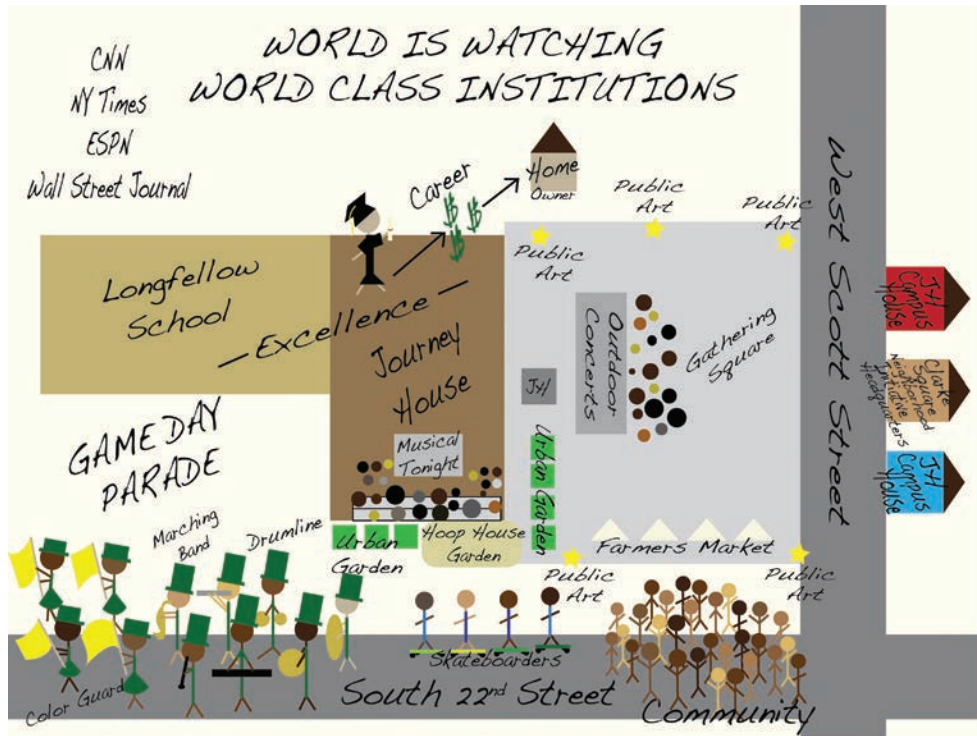
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