# TONI'S HOUSE

• HOLISTIC RECOVERY FOR THOSE IN NEED •

# TONI'S HOUSE

ANNUAL REPORT

Embracing a new decade of recovery

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# A letter from our leadership

#### Friends,

My husband and I simply did not know what we were going to do! This was the second time my stepdaughter was in rehab, and we knew that she could not come home. We were not equipped to deal with her recovery. But where would she go? When the liaison for the rehab said, "I have the perfect place!", our hearts sang and sank at the same time. What place would hold her accountable, not enable her, have structure, facilitate goals, show her how to work with others, and allow her to be a part of something bigger than herself? Our biggest fear was knowing that a recovery home can often be a fertile ground for continuing addiction. We were scared. This beautiful man (the liaison from the rehab center) spoke of a woman who operated a place that was a loving, structured, and well-managed home. Her name was Monique Westfield. We could not believe our ears, and our minds came alive. My husband grew up with Monique, and this was the most splendid news. After rejoicing, we shifted into gear knowing we still had some work to do to get her moved in. This was an adjustment for us all.

Toni's House not only provided my stepdaughter with safety and comfort, but also gave her responsibilities, accountability, and taught her how to share. She received guidance as to what services she could access that could open the gate for her to become a viable citizen and get her life back. BUT WAIT – she got angry with this new accountability and moved to another home. Well, it was not Toni's House, and it was short-lived. She was back on the streets for months. Eventually, she returned home and we, as two loving parents, were once again faced with doing our best in looking after an addict. For a while she lived a seemingly sober life and even held down a job. Until one day when she met a guy and the cycle started over.

Guess who took her back – Toni's House!

#### Relapsed again.

This time, Monique facilitated her acceptance into Salvation Army – a work program where she made an effort and stayed on for the extended program. She is now married to a former resident of Salvation Army and leading a productive life. She's a good citizen. I was captivated by the endless support provided by Monique and Toni's House. I had to get involved. I joined the Board and volunteer my services. I have grown to understand that we have choices in life, and sometimes we simply zig when perhaps we should have zagged.

My 19-year-old son lived his young years seeing the cycle of addiction and its consequences on a family. As a little boy, he saw his mother lock herself in a room to protect them from an 18-year old addict who was out of control and threatened to harm them. I wanted him to be part of his community and give back. We joined Young Men's Service League (YMSL), a four year program for moms and their sons to serve the community and instill a lifelong sense of giving. I was determined for him to understand that the best gift of all is your time.

Through YMSL, we gave back with our annual 'Ultimate Gift'. Toni's House was the recipient of this gift. We built gardens and a composting center, helped with firewood stacking, and participated in clean-ups. Now YMSL is a partner and continues to serve Toni's House with volunteers and fundraising activities. Community!

I work for a wonderful community-minded company, Playstudios, who inform their employees that they like to make contributions to local causes. I had the opportunity to pitch to them what I hold dear to my heart, and Playstudios has now donated not one but two sizable gifts to Toni's House. Community!

The most satisfaction I have gained while volunteering for Toni's House has been the time spent with the residents, and getting to understand that they are just like you and I, but may have zagged when they should have zigged. For instance, I met a lovely young woman who was educated as a nurse. She struggled with alcohol addiction and received a DUI. Then got a second DUI. Now she is facing having her license revoked. Choices. What does Toni's House allow this woman to do? Think, reflect, act, feel supported, stay sober and get her life back. Addiction is all around us, and it is finally being viewed for what it is, rather than being stigmatized.

"Whether you think that you can, or that you can't, you are usually right." – Henry Ford Toni's House helps you to see that you can.

Tonya Williams



## **Our impact**



#### In 2021:

The Men's House **served a total of 29 people**, the average stay was **4.5 months** and 22% of those who moved were prepared to move and moved into long-term housing.

Three of our male residents lived here for over a year.

The Women's House **served 27 people**, the average stay was **6.8 months** and 39% of those who moved were prepared to move and moved into long-term housing.

Five of our women residents lived here for over a year.

# Nothing grows without water

After many years of struggling with addiction and relapses, Stacy vows that her saving graces are communities and programs, as well as spaces like Toni's House where these are facilitated and supported.

While struggling with identity and societal pressures in high school, Stacy started using drugs to gain a higher sense of self and belonging. An unstable family environment enabled her for many years. Stacy received treatment and worked hard to enjoy 11 years of sobriety, gained a master's degree, and excelled as a counselor. Unfortunately, as she started neglecting herself and her programs, she found herself in an unhealthy relationship which led her to relapse. After her life began to spiral out of control again, she was arrested for shoplifting and possession, and she spent some time in prison which she explains was her "wake-up call". Thereafter she met her current boyfriend who referred her to Toni's House.

"To be surrounded with people who experience the same struggles, emotions and feelings is such a huge part of being sober."

At Toni's House, Stacy realized the importance of community and especially the value of forming women's groups. For her, having relationships with women and a recovery community are what keep her sober. The care and support shown at Toni's House reminded Stacy that simply working in the field is not enough. Rather, ensuring a consistent program where self-care takes priority, and where like-minded people can share experiences and knowledge is key.

"I reconnected with Toni's house, because I knew this is where I need to be, and I want to be with the newcomers and the ladies coming in here."

Stacy's invaluable experiences and knowledge acquired over the years have certainly not been lost. She holds women's meetings twice a week and is a counselor back at the same detention center where she was held. With her groups and patients she is an advocate for honesty, and shares her experiences deeply, assuring everyone that "nothing grows without water".

Stacy believes that everything happens for a reason, and she testifies that she is now a better person because of her tough past. Her relationship with her family is better than ever and her "favorite thing to be called is grandma."

# The sky's the limit for previous TH resident, Ciji Foote

According to former Toni's House resident Ciji Foote, a large part of the road to her recovery was the love and support shown by Monique Westfield and the rest of the team.



The tragic loss of Ciji's father at the tender age of 21 severely altered her life's trajectory. As a form of escapism, she found respite in alcohol and substance use. After a brief time spent in a Las Vegas treatment center, Ciji moved into Toni's House to seek further support. She attributes her time at Toni's House as a "real eye-opener". With the necessary space and time, Ciji recounts how she was able to self-reflect as well as equip herself with fundamental life-skills.

After her time at Toni's House, Ciji decided to work in the treatment field, undoubtedly passing on her knowledge and experiences. She subsequently found love and moved to San Diego where she pursued her dream of attending culinary school. We are happy to report that she graduated with a 4.0 GPA and racked up many Honor of Legion badges during her studies. She is now a personal chef, caterer and entrepreneur! Her business, Ebony Chef, has even created a "salt-free, all-purpose, handmade seasoning blend" called Sprinkle Me. Ciji's life has also been positively influenced by joining the Jehovah's Witnesses community, which she was baptized into in February this year.

We are so proud of Ciji's recovery, achievements and her overall zest for life. As she says, "the sky's the limit", and we continue to support her on her upward journey.

#### Unbreakable bonds at Toni's House

At Toni's House, many residents form unbreakable bonds during their time of growth and healing in the house. Enrique and Jeremey are prime examples of how these supportive relationships can foster healthy and lasting recovery periods.

Enrique joined Toni's House after admitting himself into Crossroads. He had struggled with alcohol addiction since his teenage years which was often aggravated by being uprooted from places of familiarity. After deciding to attend college, his focus shifted to academics and sports but after an injury, these were no longer distractions to keep him sober. Enrique ultimately





realized that checking into the full program at Crossroads was unquestionable. While there, he was introduced to Toni's House, which he admits was his saving grace.

"She makes it feel easy and safe with her kindness and respect" – Enrique on Monique Westfield.

His time at TH got off to a rocky start, but with the comfort provided and empathy shown by Monique, he settled in well. Although an introverted man, Enrique notes that the resources and responsibilities provided by Toni's House were conducive to start succeeding in his work and help him feel more confident in social environments.

At Toni's House, Enrique met Jeremy. Enrique recognized Jeremy as a companion who was also serious about rebuilding his life. They connected over this objective. Despite Enrique's preference of being left alone, the two became roommates. After Enrique moved out from TH to pursue a job opportunity, he had to undergo surgery. Jeremy was present and supportive throughout Enrique's recovery period, solidifying their friendship even further. Jeremy eventually also moved out of TH and was invited to move in with Enrique, where they excelled in their separate lives. After living together for a year, they are now moving on with their lives in different spaces but are still connected through their enduring friendship and admirable support for one another.

# Celebrating 10 years of community and recovery

In October, we did what we do best and threw a party to celebrate over ten years of operation! We wanted to acknowledge and thank all of the people and local businesses that have contributed to our success through their sponsorships, gifts and donated services and materials. Hosted at the TH Women's House, our anniversary event brought our community together with food, entertainment and in true recovery fashion, testimonies of residents' lives that have changed through successful recovery, rehabilitation and life planning. The celebration reminded us all of how far we have come as a recovery space, as a community, and as a growing organization. It brought excitement for our next phase, as we announced new programmatic goals for the decade to come.







### **Our supporters**

#### Individuals

Aarol Clinton Angie & David Westfield Ann Hatfield-Merritt Athena Shlien Bernie and Eugenia Bickerstaff Carl & Katie Amundson Carolyn Booker Darina Martinovic Darryl Johnson David Marlon Dawn Hume Dennis & Kim Mestas Dexter & Barbara Morris **Evelyn** Toliver Flory James Gerri Joiner-Thornton Jacklyn Rohlik June Gaskins

#### **In-Kind Donations**

Jacklyn Rohlik Karen and Frank Comfort Kim Reich

Karen & Frank Comfort Karen Gordon Kim Reich Kirby Wilson Linda Leach Lisa King Michael Douglas Network for Good Pam Smith Paula Morgan R.B.E.D. (Richard Mara) SanDrana Wilson Sheila Dixon Tahir Kazembe Todd and Lisa Jackson Tonya Williams Vickie Francovich Vivian Betts William Maupin

Linda Leach Todd and Lisa Jackson Tonya Williams



We would also like acknowledge the many indivdiuals in the greater Las Vegas community who have donated furniture and home goods. These items have helped our residents to supply their own homes when they're ready to move out.

# **Governance, Partners and Funders**

#### Board

Monique Westfield, Board Chair Ryan Ackley Vivian Betts Elliot Brittain Sheila Dixon Heather Glusman Nina Griffin Todd Jackson, MD Anita James, Assoc. Judge Darryl Johnson Gerri Joiner Thornton, DDS Linda Leach, LMFT Christian Martinovics Kim Reich Jacklyn Rohlik Evelyn Toliver Kenneth Westfield, MD Tonya Williams

#### **Sponsors**





**Partners** 



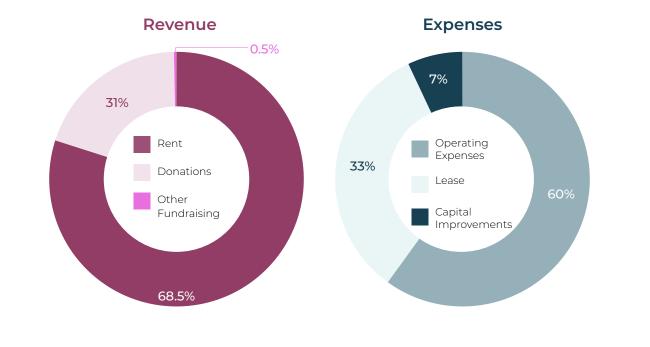
# A N K O R É

#### Revenue (\$) Donations 42,968.82 Expenses (\$) Other fundraising 102.58 Operating Expenses 80,867.46 Rent 93,849.99 Capital Improvements 9,386.52 Interest Income 0.15 Lease 44,400.00 136,921.54 Total Revenue (\$) Total Revenue (\$) 134,653.98

# Net Operating 2,267.56

Net Income (\$) 2,267.56

#### \*We saw a 142% increase in donations from 2020 to 2021.



# Financial Summary

# **Our Team**

Toni's House is led by a small team of dedicated individuals who make it possible for us to be a leading recovery home for the Greater Las Vegas community. Many of our team members are themselves former residents.



Monique Westfield Founder



**Kim Reich** Programs Manager



**Nina Griffin** Recovery Meetings Manager



**Esther Ackley** Women's House Coordinator



**Vivian Betts** Alumnus and Recovery Mentor



**Christian Martinovics** Alumnus and Recovery Mentor



**Jacklyn Rohlik** Alumnus and Recovery Mentor



**Floyd James** Alumnus and Maintenance Manager

