



Attitude of GRATITUDE

While we communicate our gratitude to Milagro House supporters regularly, it always means so much more when it comes from the women we serve. The following are expressions of gratitude from several of the women currently in our program for the ways Milagro House has benefitted their lives and the lives of their children. The impact of our holistic programming — housing, education, workforce development, case management and mental health services — is only possible with the support of our donors and volunteers. Thank you for helping make miracles possible!



I am thankful to Milagro House, not only because they provide a safe place for my children and myself to live while I pursue my education, but also because of the genuine support they bestow on me to grow as an individual.

– SHANIA

I am grateful to Milagro House for helping me find a way to earn my education. I am also grateful for the space to develop who I am and who I want to be, and for the support and guidance I would never have found on my own.

– RUBY



I am grateful to Milagro House for accepting me and my child when we were in a dark space in our lives. The support that we get at Milagro House is amazing. I love the fact that I can freely speak to any of the staff members without feeling ashamed, and that I have a unique relationship with each staff member. I have also been able to make a connection with each of the other women who live here. Being at Milagro house, I am able to work on a better me.

– LENA

Attitude of **GRATITUDE** *(continued)*



I am grateful to Milagro House for helping me **complete my education and pursue my career goal** of becoming an educator in cosmetology. **The next chapter of my life started the day I entered the program!** With the support of Milagro house, especially Ms. Chris, I was able to accomplish my goals. I've been able to make really good friends, learned from every mom around me and even cried on a few shoulders sometimes. **They have been family** and I will actually miss them when I move out. **I'm on my way to creating my first home with my daughter**, thanks to all my hard work and Milagro house always being on my side!

— NYDIA

I'm grateful to Milagro house for **giving me and my two kids a warm and safe place to live**. They have helped me day-to-day with many things and helped me get **resources and services that I needed** and that my son needed. Recently, someone close to me passed away and Milagro house has been supportive of me through this loss.

— EMILY



I am grateful to Milagro House for so many **reasons**. First is providing a place for myself and my daughter to live, **I don't know what would've happened to us without Milagro House!** Through Milagro House, I have the chance to earn my high school equivalency diploma. I'm working hard at this, it isn't easy. But when I have my doubts, I know **the staff at Milagro House believe in me** and they give me the support and encouragement I need. **I'm able to work toward my goals and dreams**, like owning my own home, and I know that all the sacrifices and lows will be worth it! **I'm thankful to all the staff members and to all the donors** who support Milagro House! Thank you for helping me and my daughter in so many ways!

— LISELOTTE



A Creative Way to

GROW YOUR IMPACT

BECOME A MIRACLE MAKER MONTHLY DONOR IN 2024!

This year, increase the impact of your generosity to Milagro House by becoming a Miracle Maker monthly donor. Our **monthly donors provide essential, reliable support** for the programming and resources we provide. This convenient, cost-effective way to give creates **a sustained impact** on our mission and **in the lives and futures of every mother and child we serve.**



The Monthly **DONATION DIFFERENCE**

\$25

MONTHLY DONATION = \$300 ANNUALLY
Provides diapers, toiletries and essentials to families



\$50

MONTHLY DONATION = \$600 ANNUALLY
Provides housing for one family



\$100

MONTHLY DONATION = \$1,200 ANNUALLY
Provides essential education and life skills training to the women we serve



HOW TO BECOME A MIRACLE MAKER MONTHLY DONOR:

1. **Fill out the enclosed donation envelope or visit the donation page on our website** (<https://milagrohouse.org/donate>)
2. **Select the 'Monthly Donation' option** This allows you to “set it and forget it.” Your donation will be automatically processed, saving you time and effort while ensuring your impact on our mission
3. **Choose an amount that fits your budget** and preferred payment method

Your commitment to monthly giving will make a big difference in the lives of the women and children of Milagro House!

QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE? Contact Kristy Gismot, 717-509-1401 ext. 104, Kristy@milagrohouse.org.

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF SECURING 50 NEW MONTHLY DONORS IN 2024!

Oh What a Night!



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF MEMORIES AND IMPACT

On October 6th, 300 of Milagro House's supporters gathered at Foundry48 (Lititz's newest event venue) to celebrate our 25th anniversary at our 2023 Evening of Miracles! It was an evening full of festivity, memories, generosity and inspiration.

WE TIME TRAVELED... Thanks to TAIT, the evening's Presenting Sponsor, our guests were immersed in the past, present and future of Milagro House. Our **BEGINNINGS** and history were illustrated through memorabilia, newspaper articles, photographs and even old blueprints that transported guests back to South Christian Street (where it all began in 1998). The journey continued through our early growth with the addition of the West Chestnut Street building, purchased in 2004. As an added surprise, Renee Valentine, Milagro House's founder, came to celebrate with us as we honored the idea she brought to fruition all those years ago.



PRESENT



Our **PRESENT** was beautifully told by the women we serve through authentic, firsthand accounts captured on video. Guests were invited into a special viewing room to listen to their stories chronicling how Milagro House changed their lives and helped them build brighter futures for their children.

Guests were able to walk into our **FUTURE**, with a real-life concept model of the residential suites planned as part of our upcoming organizational expansion.

The beautifully outfitted model provided guests the opportunity to experience how women and their children will feel when they live in the safe and welcoming space that is – and will continue to be – the essence of Milagro House.



FUTURE

\$148,000
IN SPONSORSHIP



\$118,000
NIGHT OF GIVING



\$50,000
CHALLENGE GRANT



OVER \$316,000 RAISED!

WE CHALLENGED... As a privately funded organization, Milagro House relies on the generosity of many to impact the lives of those we serve. This celebration surpassed all expectations and broke all of our records! Before the evening even began, five extraordinary families set the tone through a **challenge grant**, challenging and inspiring guests to match their generosity during the evening. What we never anticipated was that our guests would effortlessly achieve that and more! Together, the generosity of our challenge grant donors, event participants and 52 sponsors helped us raise a record breaking Evening of Miracles total to **support the vital programming and resources** Milagro House provides the women and children we serve.



WE DANCED THE NIGHT AWAY... It was truly an evening to celebrate, and this party was one to remember! The atmosphere was electric. **We promised a celebration, and the night delivered on this and so much more.** There were reunions with current and past residents. There were old friends with us from the beginning and new friends just discovering the essential services Milagro House provides to the Lancaster community. But the overarching success of the night was **the promise of a brighter future for every mother and child we serve** for many years to come!



Thank you to our Sponsors

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MIRACLE SPONSOR

William and Susan Murry

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AND MANY MORE GENEROUS INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE SPONSORS!

NEW in Educational Programming



Meet Our New Director of Education

Brooklyn Smith-Jones

Milagro House is thrilled to welcome Brooklyn Smith-Jones to our team. Brooklyn's educational philosophy closely aligns with Milagro House's mission; she firmly believes in the power of education to transform lives, in educational equity and in holistically preparing each student for a lifetime of success.

Brooklyn has served as a mentor, Teacher, Dean of Students and High School Facilitator in various educational institutions and nonprofit organizations including the School District of Lancaster, the KIPP Public Charter School network and Lancaster Country Day (Horizons program). She was the recipient of the KIPP Indianapolis Public Charter School Teaching Excellence Award for Academic Ownership, and was responsible for leading district-wide equity initiatives during her role as an Equity Working Group Facilitator. Brooklyn holds a Master's Degree in Teaching and a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology.

At Milagro House, Brooklyn will oversee the strategic and programmatic direction of the Milagro House Education Program, including academic and workforce development initiatives, educational staff supervision and the development of customized education goals that fit the needs of each woman in the program. She will also play a key programmatic role in Milagro House's planned expansion.

Brooklyn's passionate leadership, skills in effective program design, and her commitment to leverage the role education plays in poverty alleviation, make her the perfect fit for our Milagro House team. We are thrilled to have Brooklyn on board!

NEW EDUCATION CENTER LOCATION

Our Education Center — integral to the heart of our mission — has a new home at **Wheatland Place**, just a few blocks from our building on West Chestnut Street. This location is larger, providing more flexible space for teaching and learning. It also provides the space needed to grow our non-residential High School Equivalency Program, allowing us to serve more women in the Lancaster community.



MILAGRO HOUSE'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Selected to be a Baldwin Leader

The Lancaster County Community Foundation's Baldwin Leadership Program is a competitive grant opportunity focused on supporting effective nonprofit leaders in our community. Baldwin Leaders participate in an enlightening 18-month cohort focused on personal growth, leadership development and profound self-discovery. This year, Christina Duncan, our Executive Director, was selected to be one of ten passionate Baldwin Leaders that comprise the Baldwin Leadership Class of 2025.



In addition to the cohort, each Baldwin Leader designs and pursues a project meant to inspire personal and leadership growth. Christina will be embarking on a solo adventure to the Azores, Portugal, where she will spend one month immersed in creating a written connection between her past and present.

Congratulations to Christina and to all of the Baldwin Leaders in the Class of 2025! A special thank you to the Lancaster County Community Foundation for supporting and developing leaders who are inspiring and creating extraordinary impact in our community.



Christina Duncan
Executive Director



Welcome, Nadia Ben-Nasr Our New Administrative Assistant

Nadia came to Milagro House in July with essential project management and administrative skills to support the day-to-day operations and mission of Milagro House. Nadia also manages Milagro House's in-kind and Wish List donations. To arrange a donation drop off, please contact Nadia at Nadia@milagrohouse.org or 717-509-1401 ext. 102.





An **EXTRA** Thank you for your support!

Milagro House participated in the 12th annual ExtraGive — Lancaster County’s largest day of giving. **In just 24 hours, 553 donors** came together to raise **\$86,598 to support the women and children of Milagro House!** Milagro House was one of 453 organizations that participated in ExtraGive, and we ranked 14th in the number of donors and 14th in the amount raised.

We are only able to do this essential work through the generosity of our **EXTRAORDINARY community of supporters!** We are beyond grateful to everyone who came together to make an EXTRA difference in the lives of those we serve.

EXTRA GIVE



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