

S  **SOJOURN**  **HOUSE**

A Safe World and a Better Future for Refugees

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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SOJOURN HOUSE

OUR MISSION

To provide a safe place and create an inclusive environment where refugees are supported and empowered to pursue a life in Canada.

OUR VISION

A safe world and a better future for refugees

OUR CORE VALUES

- Social justice: we advocate respect for human rights in the face of oppression and discrimination.
- Diversity: we encourage and celebrate differences and inclusion.
- Compassion: we support clients in a caring, rational and informed manner.
- Mutual respect: we treat others with dignity and hold one another accountable for how we act and behave.
- Client-centered approach: we focus on inclusive, culturally-sensitive programming that values the right of self-determination and promotes independence.
- Collaboration: we promote thoughtful partnerships and agreements that engage the broader community.
- Integrity/transparency: we hold a privileged position of trust with our stakeholders. We act with honesty and professionalism, guided by the highest standards of ethical conduct.
- Entrepreneurial spirit: we seek opportunities to learn, innovate, change and grow.

Sojourn House provides Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing services to refugees coming from all parts of the world. We provide a safe environment for newcomer refugees who have undergone difficult and traumatic pre-migratory experiences, including exposure to war, torture, violence, targeted persecution, forced migration and family separation. We are dedicated to provide the best possible care, services and programs tailored to effectively address their particular needs. Sojourn House has served thousands of refugees over our more than 30 years of service. With decades of experience, we take pride in being one of the first and largest refugee housing agencies in Toronto and a leading organization in refugee care.



In 2019 we served people coming from 44 countries including:

Afghanistan	Egypt	Gambia	Morocco	Rwanda	Uganda
Bahamas	China	Ghana	Nicaragua	Saudi	Yemen
Bangladesh	Colombia	India	Nigeria	Somalia	Zambia
Brazil	Congo	Iran	Pakistan	Sudan	Zimbabwe
Burundi	DRC	Iraq	Panama	Syria	
Burkina Faso	Eritrea	Kenya	Poland	Tanzania	
Bulgaria	Estonia	Lebanon	Romania	Trinidad	
Cameroon	Ethiopia	Mexico	Russia	Turkey	

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



DEBBIE HILL-CORRIGAN
Executive Director

Following a rather unprecedented first quarter of 2020, its almost hard to remember how Sojourn House moved through a very quiet yet productive 2019, Including the completion of a new strategic vision.

We continued to see a steady flow of refugee arrivals from abroad and from the US as well as secondary migration from Quebec. The Shelter program report gives an over view of where people were coming from but predominantly, as has been our experience, mostly from the African continent. The 24/7 shelter program remained at capacity throughout 2019 and maintained a long wait list of refugees waiting to get into our refugee specific program.

We also continued to see a very high percentage of separated youth, arriving in Canada alone with no family supports to assist them in navigating a complex immigration process or

their initial settlement into a new country. Youth face many barriers in accessing appropriate education, housing and health and mental health services. For those lucky enough to call Sojourn House their first home, they receive excellent care through our Skills for Life program. This has been a highly successful program in supporting youth to gain education or training, part time or full time employment and counselling to address issues of social isolation and grieving for their families abroad. Many experience heightened levels of anxiety from having to support their families abroad financially while continuing their education. Funding for this program through the provincial Newcomer Settlement Program comes to an end in March 2021 and we will be advocating strongly for the continuance of this much needed program. Hana's story in her own words of her Sojourn House experience really says it all.

2019 also saw the emergency family program become a permanent shelter program at the Grange Hotel. We are grateful to the City of Toronto, Shelter, Support and Housing Department for working with us to establish and fund this much needed refugee specific program. Many new local partnerships were recognized in the Queen and Spadina neighborhood to support the families and children. The Family Shelter report clearly shows the success of this program in transitioning families from the shelter into the community and not just in Toronto as you will read of a very successful story of a single mom who moved to Sudbury.

Thank you to all of our generous donors and community partners for supporting Sojourn House to be the exceptional agency that it is and to the management team, staff and Board of Directors for their ongoing commitment of being there for newly arrived refugees. In the true spirit of humanity.

2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

BUILD on our successful programs and **ADD NEW** programs to meet emerging needs of refugees



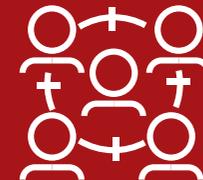
MAINTAIN our current funding and **DEVELOP** new funding to support organizational growth and enhancement



ADVANCE our leadership and advocacy in refugee care



STRENGTHEN our organizational infrastructure to ensure sustainable growth



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019

Natalie Reisman Breger
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VP Legal, The Rose Corporation

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Patrick Bizindavyi
Member

Communications & Community Relations
Officer, Centre Francophone de Toronto

Things have happened over the past few months of 2020 that seemed previously unimaginable. Many clients of Sojourn House leave countries in turmoil to find peace and security in Canada. However, sometimes turbulence spreads across the world leaving no country unaffected. Yet even when the world seemed upside down, the Sojourn House team banded together with a sense of teamwork, commitment, and passion that I think exists in few other organizations.

In 2019, as a board, we sent well wishes to departing members Suja Suntharalingham, who relocated for a new job opportunity, Gabriela Polanco, who is making space in life to welcome her second baby, and Patrick Bizindavyi, who actually both joined and departed in the same year. We welcomed two additional new board members, Denise Parada, CPA and former director of accounting at Yamana Gold, and Ryan Simchison, colleague of departing member Gabriela, and marketing manager at LoyaltyOne. Their accounting and marketing skills, respectively, have been a great asset to our board already. The board spent much of the latter half of 2019 setting out a new strategic plan to set the course of Sojourn House over the next three years. We, in conjunction with management, conducted key informant interviews of people across the industry, client focus groups, staff surveys, and reviewed strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for the organization. Using that information, we developed a four-part plan to achieve our vision of creating a safe and a better future for refugees. First, we will build on our successful programs and add new programs to meet emerging needs of refugees – including maintaining at least 400 beds by 2022, developing outreach support programs and services, and develop a peer support program. Second, we will maintain our current funding and develop new funding to support organizational growth and enhancement, including initiating a capital campaign for a new residence, and finding a new long-term funding partner. Third, we will advance our leadership and advocacy in refugee care, including developing more of a brand for Sojourn House, executing a government relations plan, and sharing our approaches to refugee care more broadly. Lastly, we will strengthen our organizational infrastructure to ensure suitable growth, including preparing for leadership transition, investing in our staff development, upgrading our IT systems. The strength of the team at Sojourn House, from the leadership of management to the tenacity of front line workers to the dedication of fellow board members, continues to amaze me. Whether conceiving and implanting the components of a strategic plan, or facing a global pandemic head-on, this is a group of humans truly devoted to our mission of inclusivity, support, and empowerment. While I am sure I am not alone in hoping the next twelve months are a little less eventful than the last, I know that no matter what, we will tackle it together.



NATALIE REISMAN BREGER
President of the
Board of Directors

*We will build on
our successful
programs
and add new
programs to
meet emerging
needs of
refugees*

SHELTER PROGRAMS

JUSTIN'S STORY

"Home" one of the most difficult words for thousands if not millions of refugees to define. What is home? Or what makes you feel at home? These are questions that I've grappled with for nearly a decade. My name is Justin Rugira and I was born in a small village in the Democratic Republic of Congo. After years of struggling and wishing to find a place I would call home and a place where I would feel safe, I eventually found myself here in Toronto, Canada. Canada has welcomed me with open arms, and I can finally say that I have found a place where I feel happy and safe; I have found a home.

Sojourn House was my first real home in Canada. The staff were incredibly welcoming and helpful. The housing workers were accommodating and always willing to listen and provide support when it came to my concerns and fears about moving into the community and integrating into Canadian society. Since leaving Sojourn House I'm pleased to say I have applied for my PR, I was able to find work, attend school and pursue my creative passion of photography and videography. Staff at Sojourn House played a major role in my life by instilling me with the confidence I needed to take risks and dive head on into my new life in Canada. Sojourn House will always be home to me.

By Fatima Saliu - Ediagbonya

The year 2019 saw a dramatic increase in the number of refugees coming to Canada from many countries. As many, made their way to Toronto, Sojourn House as an expert in refugee resettlement for over three decades promptly responded and welcomed 313 asylum seekers to its shelter program. We had twice as many refugees on our waiting list throughout the year as we admitted to our program. Our clients came from 44 different countries, of which 80% come from 10 Countries: Uganda, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kenya, Mexico, Tanzania, Eritrea, Sudan, Gambia, Ruanda and 61 clients claim from other countries. The top three countries are Uganda, Ethiopia and Nigeria.

The majority of asylum seekers who came to Sojourn House had experienced refugee related trauma in their home countries. In addition, coming to a new country, their needs become multi layered, and as such, Sojourn House responded to their needs by providing them with holistic, supportive, and specialized services. Sojourn House's shelter serves as a one stop shop for the clients, providing nurturing services and a welcoming environment.

For health and well-being, Sojourn House's in-house clinic in partnership with Women's College Hospital and regent Park CHC provides our clients with initial health assessment upon their arrival and continues to monitor and manage their health up until they secure their own family doctors. In addition, Sojourn House continues to train staff to acquire a certain skillset in the area of trauma informed care, to assist the clients in managing their trauma.

The settlement counselors with their extensive skills and knowledge of refugee determination processes and settlement in general, assisted the clients to navigate the complex immigration system. The settlement counselors with their effective community resource skills were able to source other services needed for the clients. The clients were provided with individualized services as planned through case assessment upon their arrival. The settlement counsellors also provide practical support to

the clients as needed. Along with diversity of country comes diversity of language as well but, due to the multilingual nature of our staff members and in partnership with Multilingual Community Interpreter Services (MCIS), service delivery to the clients was made easy and more efficient.

The average number of days a client spent with us in the shelter in 2019 was 95 days. Based on the housing situation in Toronto, our housing department did magically well in housing clients. Housing continues to be the biggest challenge for the clients but

with the assistance of the hardworking Housing Workers and Housing Stabilization Social Workers, 220 clients were housed. The housing team who were very creative and resourceful used other housing resources such as Transitional Housing for the youth and private market housing for others. However, access to housing for clients dealing with mental health challenges continues to be problematic. The housing team continues to develop new relationships with private landlords and housing companies to assist the clients.

The Outreach Program provided on-going support to exiting and transitioning clients as needed, starting from when they secure housing by conducting community mapping to ease the clients' transition into the larger community. The services included follow-ups and referrals to other community services for clients with emotional, mental, and physical health issues.

DURING 2019 WE SERVED



313 PEOPLE

238 MALES 

75 FEMALES 



**FROM
44
DIFFERENT
COUNTRIES**

FAMILY SHELTER

By Abeye Mamo, Manager

Thanks to the extensive leg work done by the senior management team, 2019 realized the expansion of the family program to 75 units. The program also became permanent in partnership with the City of Toronto, Shelter, Support and Housing department. This has enabled us to respond to the increasing influx of refugee families throughout the year, serving nearly 200 families with a total population of nearly 600. Families from all over the world have made Sojourn House their temporary home as they navigate through the refugee determination process with the expert guidance of our settlement counselors and housing staff as well as local community partnerships for health and education services.

Staff have given priority to supporting the children of these families by making sure that each and every

child has access to proper education as well as appropriate health services. We have also hosted an unforgettable trip to Niagara Falls with all 75 families as well as a Christmas dinner catered by the food services department of Sojourn House.

As some of our families attest in their letters for this publication, the team at the family program, with extensive support from management, has lived up to the reputation of Sojourn House as one of the preeminent refugee settlement providers. Our housing department has demonstrated, despite many barriers, with the support and commitment of dedicated staff that families can be transitioned into the larger community successfully. On average 12 families were assisted to move into the community each month.

Our success in settling so many refugee families

in such a short time is also in part due to the tremendous support and collaboration we have received from our community partners. We are very grateful to our community partners and in particular our partners at Ontario Works, Ryerson Public School, Queen West Community Health Centre, Scadding Court Community Centre and Cecil St. Community Centre; all have played important roles helping us successfully transition so many families into the community.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our clients and the children in particular for teaching us the meaning of resiliency and for inspiring us to look beyond adversity. I also want to thank the staff and management for making our work possible. Finally, I once again, thank our community partners for supporting our clients as they journey through a very difficult life experience.

SHARON'S STORY

My name is Sharon, I am from originally from South Africa and I came to Canada as a refugee. When I arrived in Toronto, I was placed in a shelter called Sojourn House in downtown Toronto. My children and I lived there for approximately 4 months as we did not have accommodation.

The staff at Sojourn House were always very friendly and respectful of everyone there, no matter what nationality or religious group you belonged to, they treated us all the same. The settlement workers at Sojourn House assisted all of us with many things that a new-comer to Canada would need, i.e., helping our children to get enrolled in schools, helping us with getting daycare for our young ones. They also assisted with making sure that we have all the correct information with regards to finding help in terms of lawyers for our

immigration cases and so forth. My kids and I lacked nothing when we were at Sojourn House, whatever you needed the staff was always there to assist us.

We finally got approved for housing in Sudbury and it would not be possible if it wasn't for the help we received from our Housing Counsellor, helping us every step of the way to apply for housing. Since I left Sojourn House, things have been great for us, I went for my hearing and I am now a Conventional refugee and I'm also a College diploma graduate, my children are thriving at school all because in the beginning of our journey here in Canada, my housing counsellor and the rest of the team at Sojourn House made sure we were well taken care of and they made sure also our transition to our relocation to Sudbury was smooth and they never

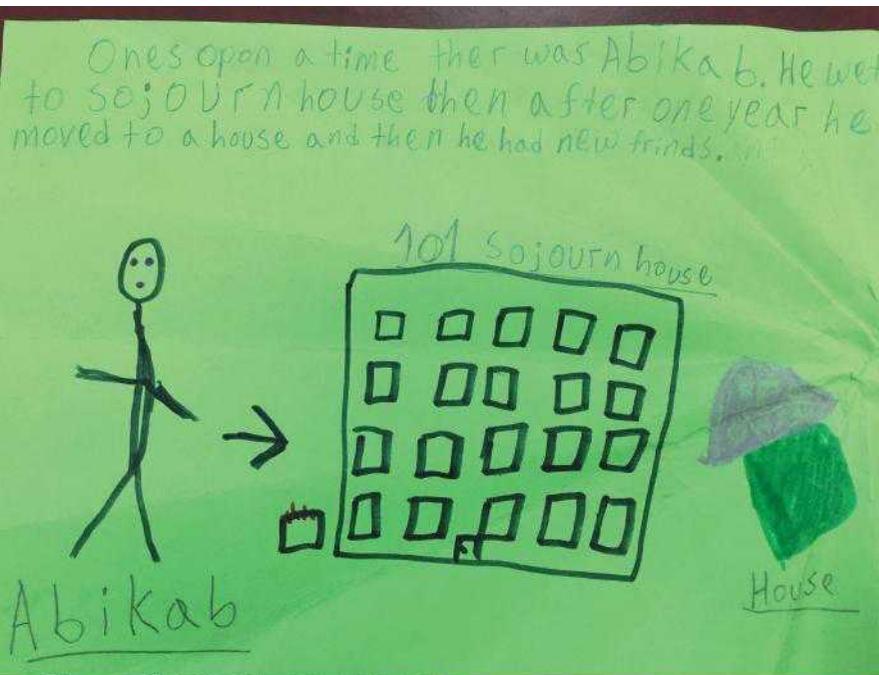


stopped to checking in on us.

All in all, the team at Sojourn House made all this possible for us with all the resources they afforded us to fit in and be productive members of society here in Canada. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the help, love and respect you have shown to us.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM

By Angela Oni, Interim Coordinator



The Transitional Housing program consists of 52 furnished apartments at 101 Ontario St.; 24 single bachelor units (single occupancy), 12 double bachelors (2 occupants) and 16 two-bedroom apartments for families. A specific referral process is in place where organizations and shelters who serve refugees may submit applications for the program. The Transitional Housing program is a two -year subsidized and supportive housing program offered to high trauma refugees in need of stabilization services to enhance their transition from shelter to more permanent housing. In 2019 clients came from 32 countries with different cultural backgrounds. This past year also saw an increase in the number of separated youth that we have housed and assisted. We have provided settlement supports and services to a total of 40 youths making up 22% of the 181 clients who passed through the program in 2019. We have also observed an increase in single mother led families

With the dedication and combined effort of the team of social worker's, settlement counsellors and youth workers, holistic care approach, extensive community building, numerous community partnerships and integrated service delivery, we are able to provide housing stability that is tailored to address the complex needs of the clients. Clients received a range of specialized support services which includes individualized case plans and settlement counselling to assist them with their refugee and immigration cases as well as referral to medical and legal services, information on education and employment and orientation to life in Canada. At Sojourn House we do our best to support and facilitate a balance between the various cultures of clients and main stream Canadian life. In addition, the program offers music and art for children, women's programs and recreational programs for families' children and youth. We have an in-house homework club, to support the school aged children with their education and a Skills for Life Program to prepare the youth for independent living. We have also been able to seek the assistance of volunteer teachers and the IREACH student group to provide one on one tutoring to our youth and adults who are enrolled in ESL and post-secondary education.

Staff in the transitional housing program ensure that our clients feel as if they are part of a community here and one of the ways in which they are able to achieve this is by hosting a monthly social gathering for residents. During these gatherings residents are able to mingle with other residents and staff while enjoying a delicious meal, music and games. We realize for many that Sojourn House is their first stable and safe home and therefore we prioritize the needs of our clients to ensure that they feel a sense of security and community.

**DURING 2019
WE SERVED**

181 PEOPLE

44 FEMALE ADULT, 23 MALE ADULT, 17 FEMALE YOUTH, 22 MALE YOUTH, 1 TRANS YOUTH, 74 CHILDREN

72 MOVED IN **74 MOVED OUT**

FROM 32 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES



PAULINA'S FAMILY STORY

I came to Canada as a refugee in 2018 very ill and traumatized, with no family close by and two young children to take care of. I was fortunate to be accepted into the Sojourn House transitional housing program where my children and I received immeasurable support. And I feel very opportune to have benefitted from such benevolence.

Hitherto coming to Sojourn house, I had never experienced such a degree of kindness; Sojourn house is 'family' with friendly and humane staff who are always willing to assist and never too busy to give a listening ear or lend a helping hand.

Sojourn house gave me succor and encouragement when I had very little hope. Through their help, I was able to access laudable medical attention and care at no cost to me. After regaining my health, they encouraged and effectively supported me through the IRB process. They facilitated my children's admission into a very good school and my children were able to participate in community programs such as the Regent Park School of Music. They ensured that we never felt alone or left out by making our Christmas, birthdays and other festive days beautiful and memorable, they never forgot 'Mother's Day' and always gave us gifts and ensured the kids had fun. In addition to this, my children have immensely benefited from their various resources and programs for kids such as their musical lessons, arts and crafts as well as yoga and homework clubs.

Through their mentoring and encouragement, I was able to set goals for myself and achieve milestones. I successfully pursued and completed the Institute of Law Clerks of Ontario Certification program at George Brown College. I was also able to successfully complete my assessment as an internationally trained lawyer by the Federation of Law Societies of Canada (FLSC) and secure admission to pursue the law licensing program which will enable me to be called to the Canadian Bar and be eligible to practice law in Canada.

Words cannot express my gratitude to the management and staff of Sojourn house and from the bottom of my heart, I say 'Thank you', for with your kindness and support, my children and I can look at the future with a smile again.



PAULINA AND KIDS

SKILLS FOR LIFE PROGRAM



The Skills for Life Program was created for youth ages 16-24, who fled to Canada with no family or support. It is an experiential life skills program that employs one Social Worker and one Youth Worker who organize weekly activities and workshops to attend in support of their settlement. There were 173 programming events for youth this year which included workshops on various topics such as cooking, budgeting, education, financial literacy, mental health and the refugee determination process. In addition, youth in the program are able to create friendships while participating together fostering a peer to peer learning environment. The Skills for Life program is open to all refugee youth in both our shelter and transitional housing program in addition to those staying in shelters across the GTA.

Both the Social Worker and Youth worker are available to meet on an individual basis for counselling and support. Further, they act as advocates within the settlement process, to speak about any issues they may face and act as supports for their school, Ontario Works and medical appointments. On average about 100 one-one sessions take place each month which includes counseling, immigration support, academic planning and employment support. In 2019, 14

youth successfully moved out into the community; of those, 4 were accepted to Post-Secondary studies, while 3 were completing their last year of high school. The remaining youth were focusing on their immigration or were employed.

The Skills for Life team was available to meet 89 new youth in 2019, some moved into transitional housing while others were met through our shelter or outreach. Outreach services included work/study and PR applications, student loan applications and immigration support. In addition, services included employment supports such as referrals for employment programs, resume building and practice interviews.

The Skills for Life program continues to foster important relationships with community partners to help support youth. These relationships include the Toronto Public Library, Sherbourne Community Health Centre, the University of Toronto, Toronto Youth Partnerships and Employment (TYPE), Women's Health in Women's Hands, Partnership to Advance Youth Employment (PAYE), Hospitality Training Centre, Tropicana Youth Services and Women's Health Collective.

HANNA'S STORY

There are always unexpected, and unbelievable things in your life. One of the special things that happened in my life was being a part of the Sojourn House family. Besides the place I was born in and my parents, Sojourn house is my second home and family. I was at Sojourn House from the age of 17 to 20. I can say that it is the place I grew up emotionally, and the place I had gained the most experience in my life.

At the beginning when I joined Sojourn House youth housing program, I was excited and really worried at the same time. Since it was my first time living without my parents, I did not know how to live alone. However, Sojourn House taught me many things including how to cook healthy food, how to take care of myself, my apartment and manage stress. There were a lot of different youth programs which helped me to acquire and gain a lot of life skills. There was a program that helped me to improve my speaking skill, cooking skill, computer skill and a lot of other programs. Also, during these programs I was able to find friends that ended up giving me the family love that I lost since I came to Canada. Since that time I am able to have the longest lasting experience and skills for my whole life.

Sojourn house is the place where I had most of my achievements with all youth staff support. Thanks to them I started and finished high school. In addition, I was able to score high marks in my school by having a tutor and homework help from them. I want to be a doctor and they always gave me hope and energy to be strong during the pursuit of my dream. Moreover, Sojourn House connected me with doctors, medical students, and nurses to network and ask questions. They all supported me from the beginning and motivated me to never give up on my dream and showed me that I am strong enough to be successful. I have been accepted into a nursing program at university and I am ready to start the pathway to make my dream come true.

Sojourn House always makes my life more enjoyable by providing fun programs including trips, movie nights, and game nights. When I think about this program I am always grateful. One of my reasons is because it gives happiness to a lot of youths. They always offer the opportunity to see special places in Toronto such as Canada's Wonderland, CN tower, museum and restaurants. Additionally, these programs helped me to reduce my stress. For instance, I might have an exam and have to study hard, but there is always a youth fun program where I can go and relax.

Beside all important programs, the youth staff have the main role in my life. They are always trying their best to make sure me and other youths get all the help we need. All the youth social workers are very nice and always happy to help me. They make me feel comfortable, strong and hopeful. With all their help now I am able to have confidence and believe in myself.

In conclusion, all the programs are very helpful and they are all my favorite. They helped me gain a lot of skills and knowledge. I am always grateful that I got a chance to join and had the Sojourn House family. Also I want to say thank you so much to all Sojourn House family members and staff.



HANNA (RIGHT) WITH STEPHAN AND THURKA, YOUTH PROGRAM STAFF

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO OUR DONORS, SUPPORTERS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

**WHO'S CONTRIBUTIONS
HAVE SO POSITIVELY
IMPACTED THE LIVES OF
REFUGEES RESIDING AT
SOJOURN HOUSE**



CORE FUNDER

City of Toronto

GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
- Newcomer Settlement Program

CITY OF TORONTO

Shelter Support and Housing Administration
Homeless Partnership Strategy

FOUNDATIONS

The M.E.H. Foundation, Northern Lights Relief
Foundation

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Mindshare Canada, Inter Tassembledo Business,
Market Square Social Club, The St. Lawrence
Supper Club, Toronto Star, Promise Convenience
and Take Out Catering, Toronto Police Service
Auxiliary 51 Division, Youth and Philanthropy
Initiative (YPI) Canada, Bruce Fair Project
Management

INDIVIDUALS

Charles Bowles, Dr. Edith Lorimer, Trevor and
Jennifer Levere, Christopher and Marie Elmsley,
Collin Johnson, Hugh Connolly, Madeline Radic,
Keith Weaver, P.A. Lipsett, Ann Yanovsky, Virginia
Martin, Sheila Vandenberg, Lindsay McIver, John
Fraser, Samira Mubareka, Gloria Nafziger and
Stephen Allen, Adam Sadinsky, Aaron Leyser, Bryan
Johnston-Lemke, Jumah Kamis, Mark Nelson,
Randy James, Oscar Strawczynski, Cassandra
Elmsley, Elenore Chestnutt, Mark Rosenblatt, Parviz
Kassam, Jamil Karim, Diane and DC Heggart,
Nicola Mansworth, Graysanne Bedell, Angelo
Colussi, Katie Lynes, Neda Basharat, Dr. Vanessa
Redditt

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Huge Inc., York Heritage Quilt Guild, The Shoebox
Project

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Alexander Park Early Learning Centre, Brands
Canada, Cecil Community Centre, CultureLink

Settlement and Community Services, Daily Bread
Food Bank, Kids Up Front Foundation, Parents for
Better Beginnings, Queen West Community Health
Centre, Regent Park Community Health Centre,
Regent Park School of Music, Ryerson Public
Elementary School, Scadding Court Community
Centre, Second Harvest, Sherbourne Community
Health Centre, St. Stephen Community House,
The Create Institute (Art Therapy Education),
The Furniture Bank, Toronto Bail Program,
Toronto Public Library, Women's College Hospital,
University of Toronto's Medical School Outreach
Program, Central Tech high school, New Circle
Clothing bank, TD Bank, New Moms Project,
COSTI, Children's Aid Society, St. Marcellinus
Secondary School, the University of Toronto,
Toronto Youth Partnerships and Employment
(TYPE), Women's Health in Women's Hands,
Partnership to Advance Youth Employment (PAYE),
Hospitality Training Centre, Tropicana Youth
Services and Women's Health Collective

NEW DEPARTMENT MANAGERS

Sojourn House welcomed new managerial positions for the Family program at 165 Grange Ave and the 24/7 shelter program at 101 Ontario St. in 2019.

The agency was very pleased to have two long standing employees, Fatima Saliu-Ediagbonya and Abeye Mamo accept the positions of 24/7 Shelter and Family Program Manager respectively.

Fatima began her career journey with Sojourn House 18 years ago as a relief counsellor and has maintained positions as a Settlement Counsellor, Housing Stabilization Social Worker and Transitional Housing Coordinator. Fatima was born and raised in Nigeria. She completed her studies in sociology, social work and immigration and settlement earning graduate and post graduate degrees at York and Ryerson Universities following her settlement in Canada.

Abeye has been with Sojourn House for 14 years in the position of Settlement Counsellor. He was born in east Ethiopia. He left Ethiopia to pursue his continued education in the US at Tuskegee University in Alabama where he completed his BA in Social Work. From there he moved to Florida to attend the International University where he received his MSW. Abeye came to Canada as a refugee claimant in 2004 and was granted permanent residence status. He joined Sojourn House in 2005. In 2018 Abeye took on the challenge of coordinating a new emergency refugee family program which lead to a permanent arrangement supported by the City of Toronto in 2019.

We look forward to their experience and expertise in providing programs and supports to our newly arrived clients as we welcome them to the management team.



ABEYE MAMO AND FATIMA SALIU-EDIAGBONYA

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2019

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	2019	2018
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash	\$ 1,030,743	\$ 922,804
Designated Cash	\$ 522,412	\$ 355,848
Guaranteed Investment Certificates	\$ 558,353	\$ 513,807
Designated Guaranteed Investment Certificates	\$ 944,137	\$ 954,648
Amounts Receivable	\$ 80,848	\$ 44,009
Due from City of Toronto	\$ 30,283	\$ 28,444
HST Recoverable	\$ 70,903	\$ 46,471
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 332,076	\$ 182,773
Total Current Assets	\$ 3,569,755	\$ 3,048,804
Capital Assets:	\$ 9,439,431	\$ 9,695,257
TOTAL CURRENT AND FIXED ASSETS	\$ 13,009,186	\$ 12,744,061
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$ 659,034	\$ 243,747
Due to City of Toronto	\$ -	\$ 11,174
Current Portion of Mortgages Payable	\$ 164,670	\$ 160,526
Deferred Contributions	\$ -	\$ 287,010
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 823,704	\$ 702,457
Long-Term Liabilities:		
Long-Term Portion of Mortgages Payable	\$ 5,987,986	\$ 6,152,660
Deferred Capital Grant	\$ 2,234,980	\$ 2,323,980
Deferred Capital Donations	\$ 238,818	\$ 248,206
Deferred City of Toronto (HPS)	\$ 312,920	\$ 321,464
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 9,598,408	\$ 9,748,767
Net Assets:		
Designated		
Contingency	\$ 473,056	\$ 473,056
Internally Restricted Reserve	\$ 1,466,549	\$ 1,310,496
Invested in Capital Assets	\$ 500,057	\$ 488,421
Unrestricted	\$ 971,116	\$ 723,321
Total Net Assets	\$ 3,410,778	\$ 2,995,294
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:	\$ 13,009,186	\$ 12,744,061

Full Audited Financial Statements Prepared by Pennylegion|Chung LLP
Chartered Accountants are available upon request from Sojourn House.

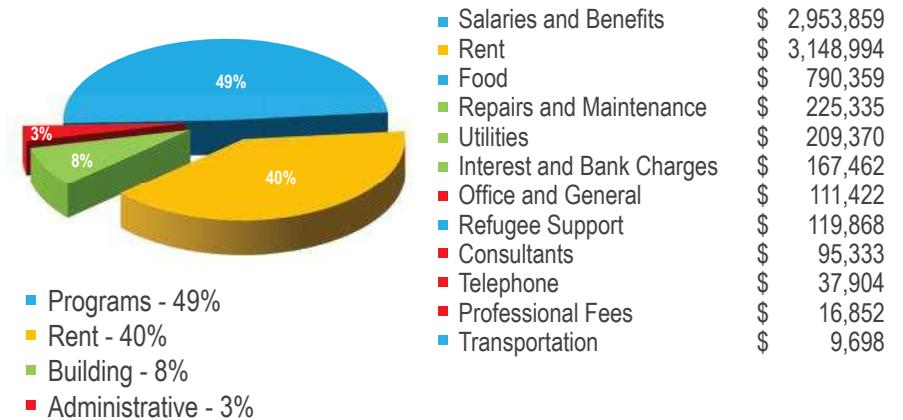


FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2019

	2019	2018
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS		
REVENUE:		
Government Funding	\$ 8,045,271	\$ 6,091,968
Donations and Other Revenue	\$ 414,853	\$ 354,594
Total Revenues	\$ 8,460,124	\$ 6,446,562
EXPENSES:		
Programs	\$ 3,873,784	\$ 3,096,041
Rent	\$ 3,148,994	\$ 1,897,574
Building	\$ 602,167	\$ 780,577
Administration	\$ 261,511	\$ 191,680
Total Expenses	\$ 7,886,456	\$ 5,965,872
Excess of revenue over expenses before non-operating revenues and expenses	\$ 573,668	\$ 480,690
Non-operating revenues and expenses:		
SCPI capital grant recognized	\$ 89,000	\$ 89,000
Investment income	\$ 54,721	\$ 36,712
Amortization	\$ (301,905)	\$ (298,794)
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	\$ 415,484	\$ 307,610



TOTAL EXPENSES



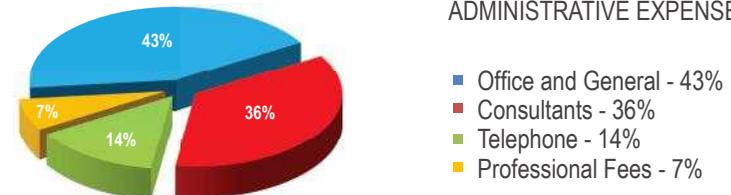
PROGRAMS EXPENSES



BUILDING EXPENSES



ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES



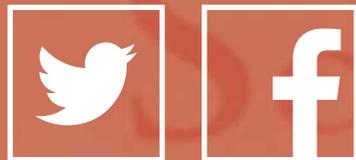
SOJOURN HOUSE

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Getting involved

Sojourn House believes in the power of the community, we believe in working together with partners, volunteers and friends to build an inclusive community where we can all thrive together. If you would like more information about how you can get involved with us contact Sojourn House at info@sojournhouse.org or visit our website.

Follow us on



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Charitable Registration Number 890053192RR0001

101 Ontario Street, Toronto, ON M5A 2V2

Telephone: (416) 864-9136 | Fax: (416) 955-0533 | info@sojournhouse.org