



2021

# Annual Report



A Sanctuary for Survivors of Human Trafficking

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## Thank you...

...for your support. It's my pleasure to share our achievements in 2021 and ambitions for Sanctum House in 2022 and beyond. This has been a year of continual growth and change. One of these changes has been the honor of stepping into the role of President of the Board for Sanctum House.

With first-hand experience, as a survivor of trafficking, I am honored, and joined by other survivors, in helping to lead Sanctum House's future growth. My years of clinical work, my experience with the vulnerabilities and repercussions of my own trafficking, situate me as both an example, and a truly understanding advocate. Despite Covid-19 precautions, a rise in trafficking reports, and continued widespread poverty, Sanctum House has reached survivors, and provided the necessary care. Our community coming together made the difference.

As we step into an uncertain future, knowing there is much work to be done, it is our Survivors that have demonstrated the vigor and determination to succeed. Our Residents have blossomed, attending speaking engagements, sharing their stories, and participating like we've never seen before. Our Survivors are stepping up. With over 90 survivors helped since 2018, Sanctum House has built a lasting network of survivors, mentors, volunteers, and professionals, focused and dedicated to our mission.

There is more change to come. As we grow, as we bring in new survivors, our needs will continue to develop. If one thing has been certain, it is that our program will continue to evolve, learn, and embrace more survivors of human trafficking. Our pledge, and the pledge of our partners, is to manage that change, to enable the recovery and the development of our survivors. Each survivor we help, opens us to new perspectives, understanding, and compassion. Each volunteer in our community takes part in our Survivors' recovery. For many survivors of human trafficking, the best thing we can offer is the tools and time to create their own change.

Thank you for your support along this journey. As we look at the rest of 2022 and into 2023, please consider your power. We have the opportunity to use power for change. We can defend the names of the vulnerable. We can choose to see others in need. Celebrate freedom. And may I leave you with a prayer, some may know better than others:

“God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,  
courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference...”

Thank you for your loving kindness, your continued support, and your attention to the crime of human trafficking.

Joyce Dixon-Haskett LMSW, ACSW, SAP  
President of the Board of Directors

## Empowering survivors of human trafficking with skills to achieve a sustainable and independent lifestyle.

After years of research and planning, Sanctum House opened its doors in February, 2018. The house is a sanctuary for victims of human trafficking, providing comprehensive, Trauma-Informed Care, including mental and physical health service, job skills training, education, counseling, legal aid and an array of individualized services. Located in Metro-Detroit, Southeast Michigan, Sanctum House has served over 90 women.

“Everybody deserves respect,” says Shannon Brandt, Program Manager for Sanctum House, “[trafficking] could happen to any of us. Respect has been taken away from them, and I believe in second chances.”

Our comprehensive services are supported by partners and the community. As we learn more about human trafficking and its prevalence in Michigan and the United States, Sanctum House is ready to serve.

# Survivors Become Leaders

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## 90 women served

Sanctum House has provided services to over 90 women and counting as of December 2021

## 258 Women in Need

In 2020 there were 258 human trafficking survivors or victims, seeking services and aid in Michigan alone.

[HumanTraffickingHotline.org](https://www.humantraffickinghotline.org)

## Sanctum House Rebrand

Sanctum House rebranded our look, but also re-centered our Residents, sharing their stories

## Renewed Outreach

A Sanctum House Survivor joined our Board, new Partners have joined the mission, and our staff and Residents have begun to spread awareness again in our community



I've felt seen here at Sanctum House all the time, when I do something right, or I do something good, or just by being a leader. Nobody has to even say anything to me, I just feel seen.

## Irene

Irene and her best friend, Marina, have both reached the end of our program and move forward with renewed independence

**SANCTUM HOUSE**

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# Trauma-Informed Care

## a comprehensive suite of services

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### Healthcare

Sanctum House works with partner organizations to provide healthcare services and in-home therapies. With changing times, we've leaned on our community to supply new technology to provide newer options, like tele-health.

Trinity Health has been a longtime professional partner of Sanctum House. Whenever a Resident needs medical services, Trinity Health has served as a vital support network of professional healthcare practitioners and clinical services. They take care of our Residents. Trinity Health understands trauma-informed care, and the effects of human trafficking while, working with survivors to maintain their health.

Samantha



Rebecca

“ I got my teeth fixed, it might seem simple to some people, but it really has helped boost my self confidence. ”

- Samantha

With the help of Professional Partners Sanctum House provides care across a wide range of needs and services. Each Survivor is met with different challenges and our program delivers customized care and support along the path to recovery.

- Mental Healthcare
- Physical Healthcare
- Dental Care
- Vision Care
- Nutrition & Fitness

# Professional Services



Together counselors trained in both trauma and addiction lean in, to aid in the recovery of our Residents. Each Resident has unforeseen needs and our team of partners and service-providers adapt.

Traumatic experiences can cause people to see the world as a place of constant danger — resulting in fear, anxiety, depression, and anger. Many cope during and after their trauma with drugs, alcohol and other high risk behaviors. With the help of our partners we provided thousands of hours of clinical, legal, and other professional services.

- Trauma-Informed Care
- Substance Abuse Recovery
- Legal Aid
- Vocational Training
- Pet Therapy and more...

“

One of my therapists told me to not use failure in my vocabulary — that it is a time when I haven't succeeded. And so I feel like in life, I haven't succeeded just yet, but I'm working on that.

”

- Bianca

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# Continuing Education

Life skills training and education are critical to successful reintegration - by providing an array of services and opportunities, residents are able to build new skills and work experiences, to establish a foundation for independence.

Many Residents look to continue a paused education, or invest in new career paths and job prospects. Trafficking affects people from many backgrounds, this includes people completing a GED, or pursuing a Bachelor's or Graduate Degree.

- Job Training
- Financial Literacy
- Life Skills
- Survivor Leadership
- GED, Associate's, Bachelor's & other degree opportunities



Avery

# Reintegration

## Reunification for many, and others starting anew

Part of the healing process involves learning through community. We incorporate the community in everything we do, making reintegration more meaningful. Residents learn through the Sanctum House volunteers, the staff, and most importantly, through working with their peers.

Mentors and the ability to develop close bonds is something Sanctum House supports in both structured and organic ways.

For many survivors, family reunification marks success, but is also one of the hardest barriers to cross. Where possible, Sanctum House helps residents find loved ones, reconnect with parents and children, siblings and spouses.

Bianca



After 15 years of separation, Bianca has worked on her recovery and finally reunited with her children.

Volunteering

Relationship Building

Mentorship

Reunification

Community Action



# Frequently Asked Questions



Erica Watkins, Supervising Case Manager

## WHAT DOES A HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIM LOOK LIKE?

Vulnerability! Human Trafficking has many faces. There is no specific race, gender, age or socio-economic status. It is the face of anyone that is vulnerable and at risk of *Force*, *Fraud*, or *Coercion*. A disproportionate number of sex trafficking victims in the United States are women and people of color

## WHERE DOES TRAFFICKING OCCUR?

Trafficking happens everywhere. All around the globe, across the country, and right here in our neighborhoods. In Michigan, we see trafficking predominantly in urban areas and places with extreme poverty, but reports to the national Human Trafficking hotline show that it occurs in many suburban and rural communities as well.

## WHAT CAUSES HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Demand & greed lead to the *Force*, *Fraud*, and *Coercion* of people: in poverty, with unstable housing, with drug or alcohol dependency, and without access to education and job opportunities.

## WHICH SERVICES DOES SANCTUM HOUSE PROVIDE?

Sanctum House provides comprehensive case management in partnership with our community, including: physical healthcare, mental healthcare, legal services, educational opportunities, work readiness, life skill groups, substance recovery support, peer recovery coaching, and family reunification in a safe and loving home.

## WHAT IS THE DAY OF A RESIDENT LIKE?

Each resident is on their own journey but together they participate in morning group meetings, household meetings, and even a survivor-led session. They take part in Trauma Therapy, cooking meals together, and practicing life skills. Together they learn to support one another in a safe, community-based environment.

## WHAT DO THE STAFF AT SANCTUM HOUSE DO?

Aside from our daily responsibilities, we help Residents rebuild trust in others, and regain a sense of self-respect. The entire time, we focus on being consistent and present in our individual roles.



Shannon Brandt, Program Manager



# New Friends and Opportunities

by Marcela Sifuentes

Exciting things happened at **Sanctum House!**

We've partnered with the **University of Michigan-Flint** to help our residents identify and develop their **vocational interests**. Assistant Professors **Dr. Wendy Tremaine, Ph.D., OTRL**, and **Dr. Donna Case, Ph.D., OTL**, along with their students from the Occupational Therapy and Clinical Doctoral Program, lead a 6-week program.

The program aimed to help the residents identify occupational **interests and necessary training**. A **Leisure Skills checklist** was developed to help the residents understand different **outlets, hobbies, interests, and essential skills for living independently**. Through the program, residents and students **built a plan** to prepare for training in these interests and laid the foundation for **future growth and development**.

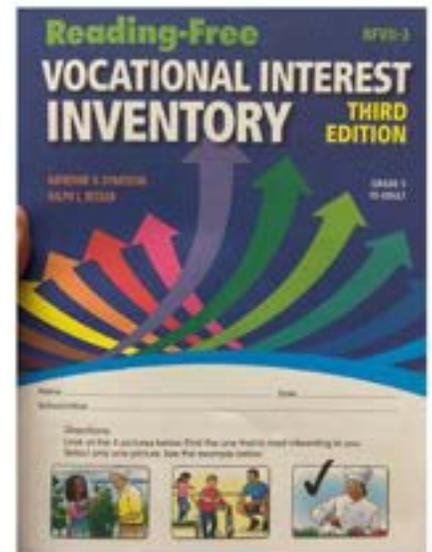


Assistant Professors Dr. Wendy Tremaine (bottom) and Dr. Donna Case (top) created the 6-week program to implement at Sanctum House.

"I feel like the women were so welcoming to the students and seemed genuinely excited to have us there," **Dr. Wendy Tremaine** says, "I'm just so grateful for them because it was such a positive experience for our students. To feel like people were excited to see them and work with them, and patient with them as they practice these skills. I'm really grateful."

Due to covid safety precautions, the last session of the 6-week program was done virtually which was a bummer to **Sanctum House** and our friends at the **University of Michigan-Flint**. However, assistant professors Dr. Tremaine and Dr. Case plan to reunite with the residents and begin **new programs in 2022**.

*"I enjoyed having U of M working here," Sanctum House resident Bee says, "With the career training we did, I got confirmation on what I want to do in the future. I'm looking forward to seeing them again in the Spring."*



*A visual Vocational Interest Inventory that students will guide residents through to determine their interest, social skills, leisure skills, communication skills, etc regardless of their reading and communication skills.*

# Wings of Courage

## \$120,000

Sold Out Silent Auction

33 Host Packages

192 Tickets Sold

A special thanks to Woman's Life Chapter 864 - Clarkston



Join us this year at the MI Concourse for the second annual, Wings of Courage Fundraising Benefit.  
Save the Date: Sunday September 25th 2022

# Capital Campaign

To Triple our capacity, Sanctum House has the opportunity to purchase the three-building healing campus where we currently rent space. Multiple streams of funding are needed to sustain both our expansion and subsequent operation, providing services for more survivors.

## Increased Capacity | Transitional Apartments for Graduates | Stable Housing



Karen Moore, our Executive Director testified before the Michigan State Senate's Health Policy and Human Services Committee (left)

Bipartisan support has gained momentum at the Federal and State level, for housing, and additional services. Championed by State and Federal lawmakers, including both Republican and Democratic supporters, we've been invited to share our expertise and knowledge about Human Trafficking.

### The Need:

**845 Reported Cases of Trafficking in Michigan in 2020**

[HumanTraffickingHotline.org](https://www.humantraffickinghotline.org)

# Thank you for your support

# \$321,065 Donated

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## \$10,000 +

### Individual Donors

Lori Wathen | Charles and Beverly Cooper

### Organizations

Frankel Health and Research Foundation |  
A.A. Van Elslander Foundation | Angels Saints & Stuff

## \$5,000 - \$9,999

### Individual Donors

Michael Pesendorfer | Jennifer Fulton Bryant | Laurie Cunnington | Maryellen Lewandowski

### Organizations

Huntington Bank | The Parker Family Foundation | Southeastern Michigan Academy of Family Physicians | John D. and Jean E. Dinan Foundation | Meijer, Livonia | First United Methodist Church of Plymouth | Detroit Catholic Central High School | Talbert & Leota Abrams Foundation | Forgotten Harvest | Christ Church Cranbrook | Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church

## \$1,000 - \$4,999

### Individual Donors

Thomas & Leslie Welbourn | Jeffrey Baker | Rudolph & Judith Shunta | Annette Raynor | Susan Sovel | Gordon Hollander | Sally Fedus | Joseph Conti | Josephine and Carl Sillanpaa | Radhika Shukla | Jamie Owens | John Ferry | Amy McCarty | Julie Cummings | Martin Pasquinelli | Shannon William | Danielle Sprecher | Cynthia and Edgar Jr. Church | Barbara Koppelman Ruskin | Ardelle Pickering | Karen Mellott | Richard Lacourciere | Danielle Baker | Jerry and Emily Doubler | James Garner | Bako Faysal | Michelle Schinke | Ellyn Davidson | Howard Schwartz | Doug Connolly | Richard & Alice Camarota

### Organizations

Matrix Insurance and Financial Services | LLJohns Aviation Insurance | Ignite Social Media | Howard & Howard Attorneys | Paathshala, Inc. | DHC | Woman's Life Clarkston - Chapter 864 | Centroid Systems, Inc. | Art of Living Communities Group | Strategic Solutions and Settlements, LLC | Richard and Mona Alonzo Family Fund | The Meyer and Anna Prentis Family Foundation | Panera Bread | Ascension Nurses | Mi Bank | Hilltop Nazarene Church | St. Nicholas Greek Church | Knickerbocker Group - Raymond James | Pearls of Great Price Coalition | CARES in Farmington Hills | Project Beautiful Inside & Out

# Annual Giving Partners

Survivors need individualized tools, treatments, and resources to succeed. Our partners help to cover myriad needs as they arise. Some partners raise funds, clean & landscape, fix our HVAC systems, or provide healthcare.

We measure our relationships by the results they bear. Working with survivors of human trafficking requires patience and commitment to stay. We measure gifts of time and talent and form long-lasting partnerships with those that demonstrate they are committed.

We reached people in communities all around the world. Sanctum House has learned to be flexible, launching Twitch Charity Streams with The Pretty Girls Army. We've also returned to giving speaking engagements, seeing a flood of new partnership opportunities.

Donors

Communities

Professionals

Educational  
Institutions

[Click here to read our full  
Partnership Package](#)

We network with organizations, businesses, institutions, and individuals, to improve our programming, source survivors in need of services, & educate our community. Most importantly, they provide critical feedback and best practices, ensuring that we provide properly resourced care, at the best of our ability.

Arvin Pearlman, Recovery Coach LLC  
Ascension Health System  
Chicago School of Professional Psychology  
Common Ground  
Meridian Recovery Center  
Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force  
Michigan School of Psychology

Personalized Nursing Lighthouse  
Survivor's Corner  
Trinity Health System  
University of Michigan  
Wayne State University  
Jodi Flanders, DO, FACOFP  
Odyssey House

SANCTUM HOUSE

# Financials

## Statement of Financial Position FY 2021

### ASSETS

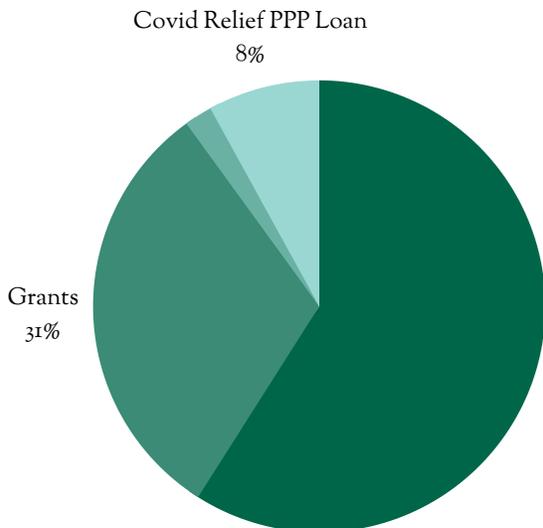
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$296,306.82
Fixed Assets	\$33,158.44
Other	\$3,750.00
Total Assets	\$333,215.26

### LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

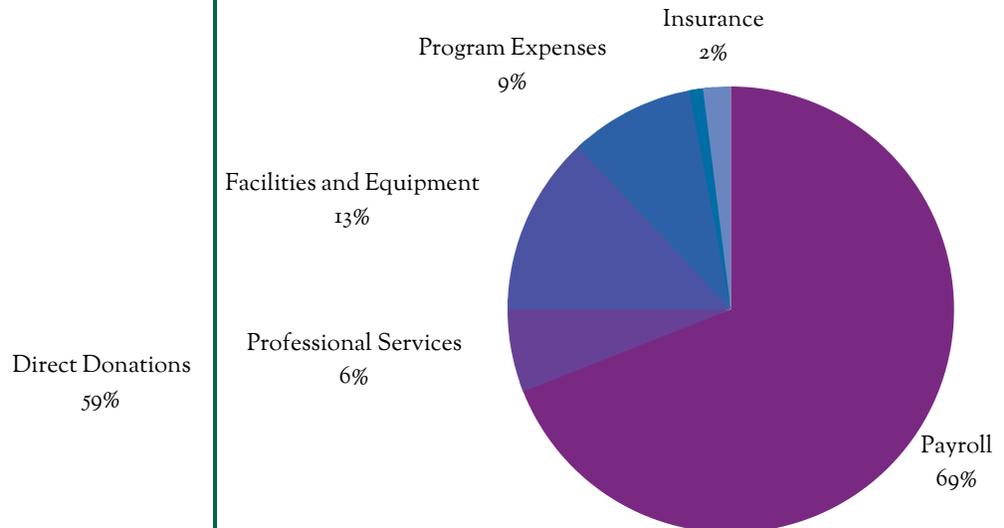
Credit Cards	-\$485.69
Payroll	-\$6,136.65
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$257,946.65
Net Revenue	\$68,646.27

TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES \$333,215.26

Income  
\$543,012.79



Expenses  
\$474,366.52



# Our Team

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## Staff

Karen Moore, Executive Director  
Jennifer Baenziger, CMO  
Shannon Brandt, Program Manager  
Erica Watkins, Supervising Case Manager  
Mary Ellen King, Volunteer & Intake Coordinator  
Dr. Jodi Flanders, Medical Director  
Dr. Kathryn Tucker, Clinical Support  
Dani Shields, Donor Database Manager  
Rose Beard, Residential Coordinator  
Oksana Fedorak, Residential Advisor & Grant Writer  
Abigayhl Miller, Residential Advisor  
Emily Ouilette, Residential Advisor  
Donyelle Williams, Residential Advisor  
Carrie Barodte-Xerri, Residential Advisor

## Board of Directors

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Edee Franklin  
Gail Schultz  
Brittany J. Mouzourakis  
Gail Stewart  
Helen de Avila  
Autumn Outman  
Tom Parker  
Deena Policicchio  
Wendy Reyes, Lt.  
Paige Stocchi-Forgette  
Frank Witt

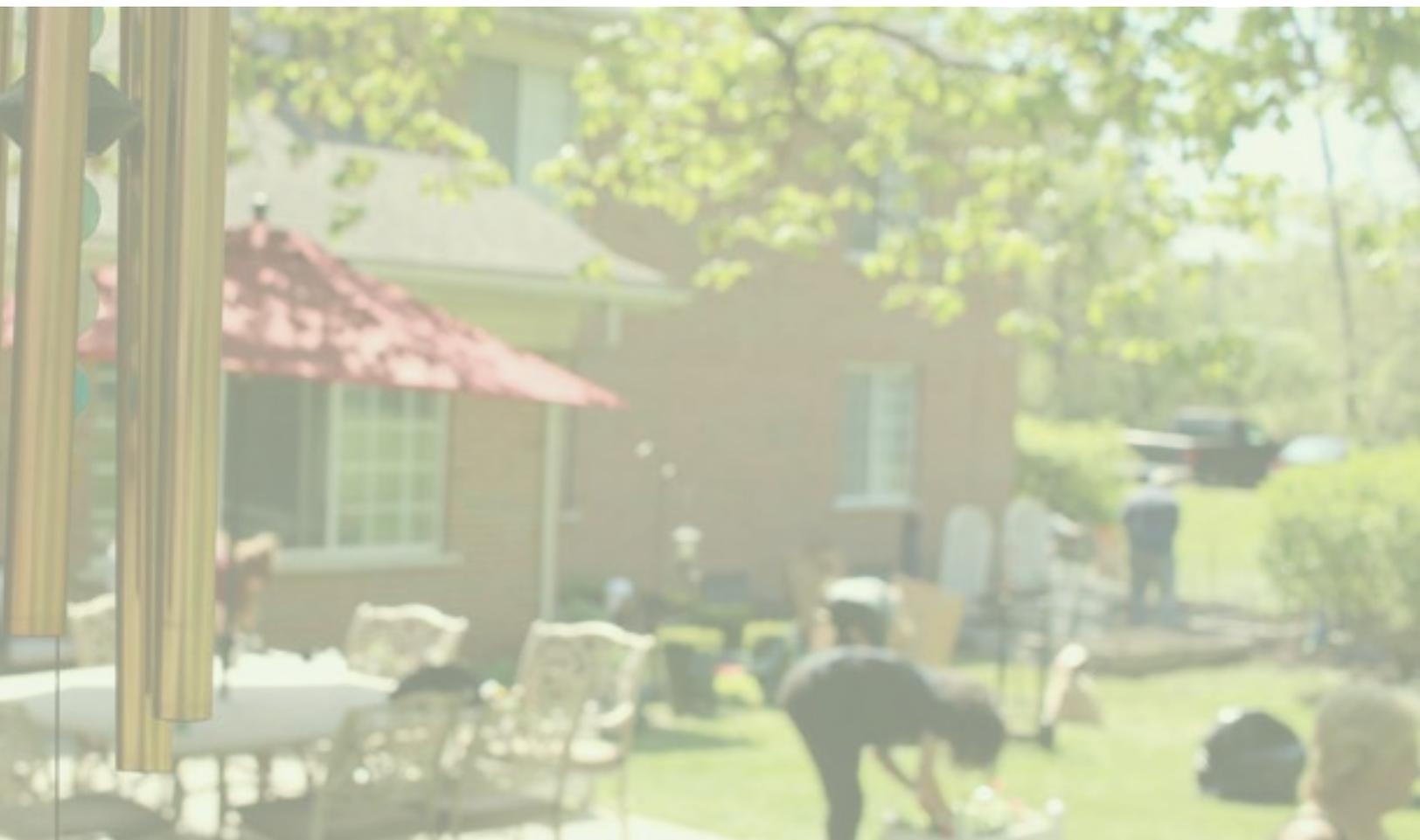


From Left to Right: Karen Moore, Erica Watkins, Mary Ellen King, Jennifer Baenziger & Shannon Brandt



# SANCTUM HOUSE

**A Sanctuary for Survivors of Human Trafficking**



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