











# Cincinnati Union Bethel

2013 Annual Report

# Our MISSION

The mission of Cincinnati Union Bethel is to provide supportive services and education that assist urban women, children, families, and communities to realize their greatest potential

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#### Dear Friends,

#### If you want a happy ending, that depends, of course, on where you stop your story.

#### ~Orson Welles

We know kindergarten isn't the end of the story for the children in our early childhood education program. An education at Cincinnati Union Bethel's Early Learning Academies is the foundation and kindergarten is the next step on their educational journey, and one, we hope, that will take them through college. But children must be ready for kindergarten to have a better chance of getting to college. We are helping them do that.

The residents of the Anna Louise Inn will have a new home to be completed in 2015 and that is a very happy ending. The women have seen the drawings of their new rooms and can't believe how beautiful they are! They are truly grateful and excited about their new home at the Anna Louise Inn.

For those of you who have been able to attend an *Off the Streets*<sup>®</sup> graduation, you know that happy endings are possible. During the ceremony, the graduates talk about their journeys from living on the streets to lives of sobriety and stability. Grace, who graduated in 2013, says, "*Off the Streets*® teaches you how to keep your self-esteem up. It taught me how to take care of myself, to respect myself. Everything about here really changed my life. I would tell any lady out there that needs this help that they need to come here because it's really safe here."

For us, every day is filled with happy endings and new beginnings, but 2013 also had its challenges. This year, we felt deeply the effects of sequestration, a reduction in Head Start funds, but we were determined to start school on time in the fall, and we made that happen. Our students deserved that time in the classroom. We also felt the effects of two years of litigation over the Anna Louise Inn. We recognized that ending our dispute was necessary in order to move forward. Our first concern was always our mission for our residents and this allowed us to preserve our funding and ensure that safe and affordable housing would continue at the new Anna Louise Inn.

There is no question that we are still recovering from these challenges, but we are resilient and sturdy because we have people like you in our corner. You know that a quality preschool matters; you know women deserve safe and affordable housing; and you know that women deserve a chance to make positive life changes. You know happy endings are possible. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Stephen T. MacConnell

President & CEO

Charley Milton

Chair, Cincinnati Union Bethel Board of Directors

# **Early Childhood Education**

Preparing 3-5 year olds for kindergarten

Rylinn has a beautiful smile. On her five-year old face, it's wide and makes her eyes crinkle at the sides. She has reason to smile: she is going on to first grade, skipping kindergarten altogether. Her mother says that Cincinnati

We are a premier preschool experience in Cincinnati, and we can prove it.

Union Bethel "truly did a job in helping equip her with a foundation that she needed to go on to first grade."

Our program is educational, not daycare. We are a premier preschool experience in Cincinnati because our children are prepared for the next destination, kindergarten.

The community goal is that 85% of children assessed will be ready for kindergarten. This is a *goal*, something to aspire to, because reported data tells us that only 58% of kindergarteners entering Cincinnati Public Schools are prepared. But for years now, we have reached the goal or we have been very close. In

2013, 84% of our children assessed as ready for kindergarten. Of course, we are working hard every day to reach 100% by following the natural curiosity of our children and by hiring and developing a fantastic staff. All of our preschools are Step Up To Quality rated and 100% of our lead teachers are degreed in the Early Childhood Education field.



Our early childhood education program is also unique because we provide transportation and we provide support to families through our Family Service Workers. No parent or guardian is alone through this journey.

We help establish the best educational environment possible at home and at school. We have, for example, gone to doctor's appointments with our Spanish-speaking parents to help translate. We have hosted cooking classes and we conduct bi-annual home visits. We recognize how important the family is in educating a child.

761 children were served in the 2012-2013 school year

84% of children assessed as ready for kindergarten

47% of children take the CUB bus to school

99.5% of children are fully immunized or are on track to be immunized

100% of lead teachers are degreed in the early childhood education field







## **Anna Louise Inn**

Providing safe and affordable housing for women

Catharine and Margaret like to sit on the front porch of the Anna Louise Inn and just take in the day's activities. They are two residents who have lived at the Inn for more than a year, which makes up 35% of the total residents in the building. They are thrilled about the new building; they almost cried when they saw the pictures. Rachel and Rita are equally thrilled. In the lobby, they are already talking about how they plan to decorate their rooms.

Over 90% of the residents live on incomes less than 100% of the poverty rate (\$11,750)

The new Anna Louise Inn will offer residents a heightened level of comfort, convenience, privacy, and hope. Over 90% of the residents live on incomes less than 100% of the poverty rate (\$11,750). They aren't used to joyous occasions, but the plans for the new Inn have made them happy.

In the new Anna Louise Inn (located at the corner of Kinsey and Reading Road) residents will have efficiencies with their own bathroom and kitchenette, unlike the dormitory-style rooms the Inn currently has. The new Inn will have a computer lab, laundry rooms, an exercise room, and garden. In addition, there will be a service coordinator on-site to link the residents to any services they may need and provide overall support to help them maintain their housing and independence.

The 85 efficiency units will make up the top three floors of the four-story residential building. On the first floor, 12 two-person rooms will be reserved for women in *Off the Streets*®.

The new location offers a new community in Mt. Auburn that has embraced the Inn and its mission, and it retains the residents' convenient access to public transportation. This is critical to their ability to seek or maintain employment, do their grocery shopping, and obtain other services.



165 women received a private, furnished room at the Inn in 2013

61% of women used the Mobile Medical Van to address health issues

53% of women received case management to address conditions that may contribute to housing instability

## *Off the Streets*®

Helping women who have been victims of human trafficking and involved in prostitution find safety, recovery, and community reintegration

Like so many agencies and law enforcement departments, we are seeing the effects of a community-wide heroin epidemic. It has created new challenges for our clients and it has changed our intake process. While all drugs are highly addictive, heroin requires trained medical attention through the detox phase. That means more women must first go to drug treatment before coming to *Off the Streets*<sup>®</sup>. In our community's overwrought system, this often means women have to wait for a bed at a treatment facility, which can derail plans for recovery. Under these conditions, the number of our overall clients has gone down.

Our 30-day retention rate has exploded from 58% in 2011 to 80% in 2013.

However, in 2013, we focused our priorities on retaining women in the program for at least 30 days, a key measure, because women who stay at least 30 days have a much better chance of success. Our 30-day retention rate has exploded from 58% in 2011 to 80% in 2013. The result is that we have maintained an average rate over the past six years of 53 women every year who reach the 30-day mark, despite the drop in overall clients coming

through the door.

66 women served

100% received one-on-one sessions with a peer facilitator

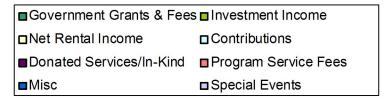
Continuing Care meetings are offered every week for graduates for relapse prevention

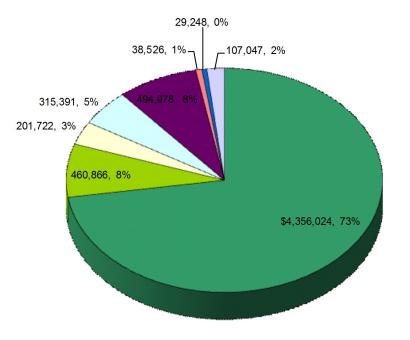
Of the women who stayed at

least 30 days and exited the program in 2013, 86% of them reported no substance abuse, and 91% reported no victimization. Emma is a good example of a 2013 client. A waif-like blond, you wonder how she survived on the streets. But this young girl is now sober from her heroin addiction. She has reunited with her parents, who came to her graduation from *Off the Streets*<sup>®</sup> in June, and she is working at a local retail store. She is committed to staying sober one day at a time.

# 2013 OPERATIONS

## **Agency Revenue**

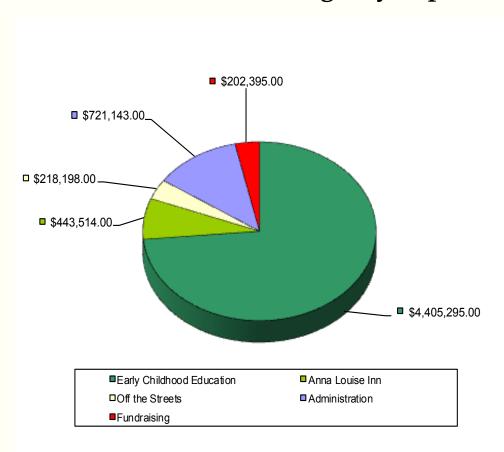




Government Grants and Fees	\$4,356,024
Investment Income	460,866
Net Rental Income	201,722
Contributions	315,391
Donated Services/In-Kind	494,978
Program Service Fees	38,526
Misc.	29,248
Special Events	107,047
	6.003.802

# 2013 OPERATIONS

## **Agency Expenses**

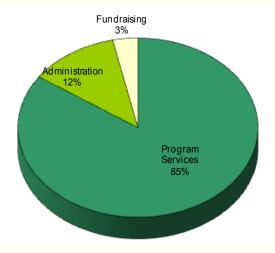


#### Net Assets

Beginning of the Year: \$3,460,284

Change: -\$258,436

End of the Year: \$3,201,848



Program Services \$5,067,007

Administration 721,143

Fundraising 202.395

\$5,990,545

### THANK YOU, DONORS!

The following individuals, corporations, businesses, and foundations made a financial contribution to Cincinnati Union Bethel in 2013. We thank all our donors for their generosity and the privilege of making a difference in so many lives.

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