



Esther's Place of Grace

2022

ANNUAL
REPORT





A YEAR OF BEGINNINGS

Esther's Place of Grace in Newark, Oh opened its doors in the Summer of 2021. After weeks of cleaning, painting, moving furniture, and organizing, the first resident walked through our doors on August 1, 2021. Throughout the fall, dedicated volunteers provided daytime and overnight staffing, offered bible studies, cooked meals, provided maintenance and organizational support. By the holiday season, the start-up phase at the home was settling and we were adjusting to a more ordered cadence of day-to-day life emerging at the home.



PARTNERS IN GRACE



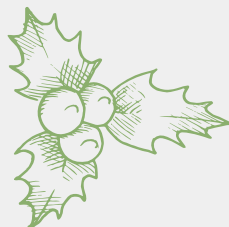
We debuted our donor program "Partner's in Grace" in the late fall/holiday season of 2021, and in December had our largest fundraising month to date. This program is to provide supporters, both volunteer and financial, a way to be involved as a unified body. Each new partner was given a "Partner's in Grace" welcome bag with a promotional coffee mug, membership card and other materials. The Partners in Grace program and a holiday reception to kick things off were underwritten by a local grant fund. This start-up program realized a tremendous outpouring of participation as we held the first gathering of supporters that included a bake sale in December at The Buckingham House in Newark. This event was to thank our contributors for their help in opening our doors.



It was clear that a vibrant, positive and caring body of volunteers and friends was emerging in the organization. Servant leadership was key to the unifying spirit as Mary Dow directed activities to flourish by encouraging the "gifts that differ according to the grace given" to each person offering their unique talents, time and individual contribution to the mission.



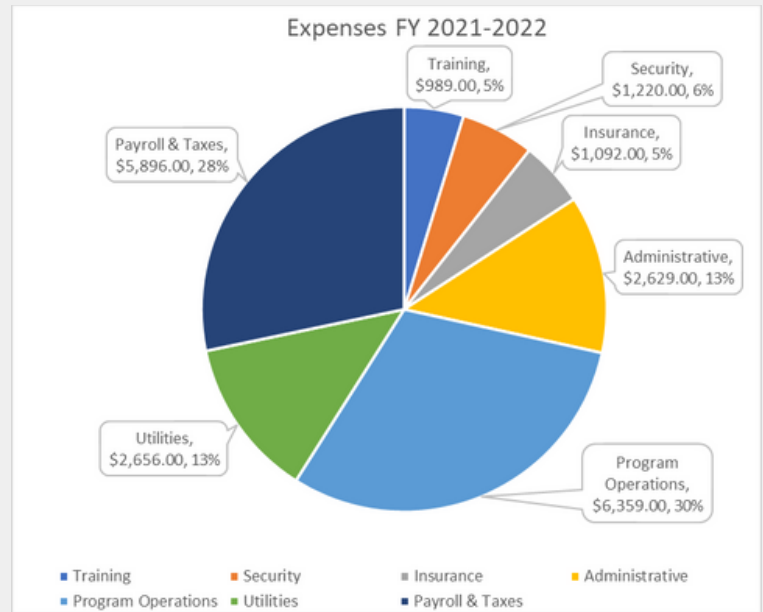
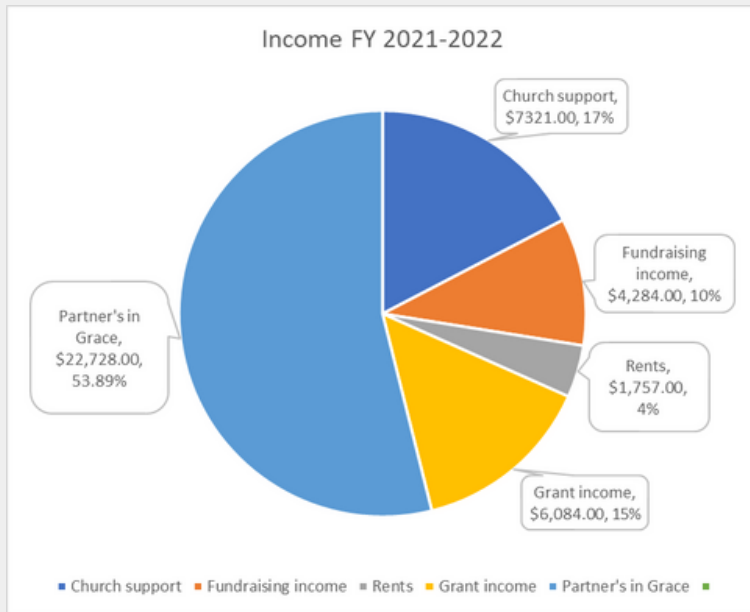
Our Partners in Grace logo illustrates that it requires the strength and unity of a group of individuals with various gifts, coming together to provide a home and support to moms and infants in need. Our financial partners and volunteers surround and mobilize Esther's Place of Grace to operate. We appreciate, pray for, and are grateful to each one joining together in this circle which makes it possible for Esther's Place of Grace to exist.



The Winter and Spring of 2022 found us with new residents arriving and others moving on. It was gratifying to witness growth in the lives of the young women to whom we had been providing hospitality. Mary Dow, along with two volunteer mentors, started an Embrace Grace support group in the Spring that met weekly. Embrace Grace is a program to: "inspire and equip the church to love and encourage single, pregnant women. Women experiencing unexpected pregnancies receive practical, spiritual, and emotional support through these groups."

The first year in operation of Esther's Place of Grace was filled with realization, blessing and community. It has been a faith-building journey to see how the Lord provided for our needs and helped us to participate in His plan. This year has encouraged us to look forward to what is yet come as we hope, pray and recall the blessings God has granted to shine the light of His kingdom here on earth.

FINANCIALS



CHURCH PARTNERS

We cannot adequately express just how much Living Hope Church of Pataskala's major support provided us with the means to start-up, thrive and operate during this first year of operation. The church allowed us to highlight Esther's Place throughout the month of December 2021, and also gave the gift of a love offering taken during their Christmas Eve service. We witnessed a bountiful outpouring of support from members and friends affiliated with Living Hope throughout this fiscal year. The church itself also provided us with monthly support beginning in July of 2021. In the Spring, we were happy to hear that Impact City Church of Pataskala wanted to mark their 2022 Mother's Day festivities by highlighting Esther's Place during their Sunday-morning service by gifting us with a financial contribution to our work. We do so appreciate our church sponsors and could not offer this community mission without their backing.

Esther's Place of Grace Accomplishments

Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022)

- Opened our doors on August 1, 2021
- 334 - Nights of Shelter, safe housing, and support provided to mothers and children this year.
- 8,016 - Hours remained open and available providing hospitality, support, and security for residents.
- 2,817+ Combined volunteer hours of overnight staffing, daytime-hour engagement with residents, administrative support, housing maintenance/home caretaking support, and all other services too numerous to mention.
- 37 - number of calls fielded regarding services to potential clients to either provide direct help or refer to other local agencies.
- 11 months of meals/food made available daily.
- Met resident transportation needs 100%.
- 50% of our residents received or attained educational advancement and job development.
- 100% of our residents maintained employment while with us when possible throughout pregnancy.
- 100% Board of Director participation in monetary support.
- Entirely painted, moved, organized, cleaned, and prepared our first home for living.
- Held our first Christmas Celebration.
- Launched a major Donor program - "Partners in Grace"
- Received three small Grants from CareSource and A Mother's Sanctuary.
- Received support from Living Hope Church and Impact City Church of Pataskala.
- Increased donated income by 181% from the previous fiscal year.
- Made way for paid staff positions and identified new persons to come aboard. These folks are essential to the smooth functioning of the home and ministry.

To our Partners, Friends, Staff, and Supporters:

*On behalf of the women and children who had safe housing and care at
Esther's Place of Grace in Fiscal Year 2022,*

Thank You

SPONSORS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Board of Directors and Staff

Mary Dow, Executive Director
Donna Dickson, Treasurer
Amy Cyrus, Board Member
Carmen Maierle, House Manager

Elizabeth Friend, Secretary
Pam Ianni, Board Member
Marie Chiocca, Development Associate

Community Outreach Partners

- CareSource
- Children & Families First Council
- HASFY - Housing Assistance and Support for Youth
- Heartbeats of Licking County
- Starting Strong
- Licking County Affiliation for Housing
- Licking County JFS
- Licking County Children and Families First Council
- Licking County Memorial Hospital
- Licking County Health Department
- Women Infants and Children (WIC)
- New Beginnings (Domestic Violence Shelter)
- Newark Digital Academy
- Vertical 196
- The Lookup Center

Awards, Affiliations & Memberships



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