Mid Year Report 2018

Overview: Sheffield Place continues to pursue its mission of healing and self-sufficiency for homeless mothers and their children. The agency remains committed to the overall strategy of serving a larger portion of the overwhelming need in the community. The agency does this by serving more families with ever more intensive and effective programs and services.

Sheffield Place Programs

Residential Services: As of June 30, 2018, Sheffield Place served 59 families as compared with 102 families in all of 2017. By comparison, Sheffield Place served just 20 families each year as recently as 2010.

Residential & Aftercare Clinical Services: Sheffield Place remains committed to addressing severe and persistent trauma as the root cause of homelessness, mental illness, and addiction.

The agency requires mothers in the residential program to participate in one hour of therapy, one hour of case management, and at least 8 hours of life skills groups each week. As of June 30, 59 families benefitted from this program compared with 102 families in calendar year 2017. Children must also participate in the therapeutic children’s program that operates 21 hours each week. Children represent two-thirds of the agency’s clients. The goal is to break the generational cycle of poverty, homelessness, addiction and violence.

The aftercare clinical program has served 31 families to date in 2018 – the same number served in all of 2017. These families receive ongoing case management on an individualized schedule and other services (including therapy) as needed. These families are also encouraged to participate in social events that are held an average of at least once each quarter.
Sheffield Place has made two substantial enhancements to the clinical programs in 2018:

First, a case manager who focuses on the children has been added to the staff. His role is to assist mothers in securing services for their children, including educational, health, and mental health to ensure that the children’s needs are being met. Among other responsibilities, he creates partnerships with other youth-serving agencies so that the children have opportunities for enrichment activities such as summer camps and youth athletic activities. He has also initiated life skills training for the older children who have not acquired basic life skills due to homelessness.

Second, the agency has added a Corporate Partnership Specialist to develop relationships with employers who have an interest in hiring Sheffield Place clients. This position will build on the existing partnership with a local hotel that hires clients to work in the housekeeping department. The vision is to create relationships with other employers so that clients can find suitable employment quickly. The clients will also receive coaching and other support to help them maintain employment and be successful in their work life.

**Permanent Housing:** Begun in 2013 with one renovated house that was donated by the City of Kansas City, Missouri, this program has expanded through the years. Currently, Sheffield Place owns and operates ten fully-renovated houses. The tenth house is currently under renovation. These single-family homes are available to families in the residential program that have income and have been in compliance with the program requirements. The families pay adjusted rent and utilities.

In other developments, Sheffield Place received notice earlier this year of its second consecutive 4-Star Award from Charity Navigator – the highest award possible for transparency, effectiveness, and accountability. This national charity rating organization bestows this honor on only about 25% of eligible nonprofits. To be eligible, a nonprofit must have a budget of $1 million or more for two consecutive years. Sheffield Place first recently met that qualification at the close of the 2016 fiscal year.

Challenges for the agency include the fact that all space in the facility is now fully utilized. In addition, the high-need, high-barrier population the agency serves stretches staff capacity. The agency will continue to identify ways to use resources with maximum efficiency while serving a larger portion of the overwhelming need in the community. As a measure of need, 503 homeless mothers have called Sheffield Place from January 1 to June 30, 2018, seeking services as compared with 725 calls in 2017.

Sheffield Place deeply appreciates the longstanding partnership of the Kansas City community in the mission of healing and self-sufficiency for homeless mothers and their children. This support makes a difference each day in the lives of this community’s most vulnerable residents.