



The Providence Perspective

*A Place of Refuge,
Strength, and Growth*

www.ProvidenceHouseNaples.org

Newsletter

Fall 2025



Save the Date

Celebrating 20 Years

of Restoring Lives, Renewing Hope, and Rebuilding Futures

Join us for our Annual Luncheon
Saturday, November 1

Grey Oaks Country Club

Doors Open: 11:30 AM

Donate Online

Please consider making a donation to Providence House. Your gift truly impacts the lives of women and children. Visit ProvidenceHouseNaples.org.

Providence House

Our Mission: To provide a faith-based, transitional housing and self-sufficiency program for motivated women with young children who are homeless or at risk of being homeless.

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ProvidenceHouseNaples.org



In Her Own Words

Program Participant

When I became a single mother, life felt overwhelming. After Andy was born, I tried to hold everything together on my own—paying rent, the car, insurance, my phone, and childcare on minimum wage. I tried renting a small apartment for \$1,000 a month, but on my pay I couldn't make all the bills. Without family nearby, I felt alone. I thought about going back to Mexico, but it felt unsafe and uncertain. I didn't know how we would make it.

Thankfully, I heard about Providence House at the WIC office. When I got the call that they had an opening, I cried tears of relief. That call changed the direction of our lives. I lived at Providence House for nearly two years with Andy. They helped cover daycare so I could work, save money, and pay down debt. I learned the importance of saving—especially as a single mom. Andy was able to go to a better school while we were there and experience new things with kids his age, which made him so happy. Thanks to the time and support I had at Providence House, I studied and became a U.S. citizen and am grateful to have the opportunity to stay in this country. Providence House also helped me travel to Mexico to see my father while he had cancer, and being with him during that time meant everything to me. They helped me apply for a Habitat for Humanity home; when I was approved, I finally felt the stability I always hoped for. I just want to say that if it wasn't for Providence House, my life could be very different at this time.

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In Her Own Words

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I now live in my own Habitat home and I was able to bring all of our furniture from the Providence House apartment to start fresh. A generous donor gave us \$1,000 to buy what we needed at that time – and now I can take care of everything on my own. My career moved forward quickly. Three months after leaving Providence House I became a Patient Service Manager and a year later I was promoted to Food Service Operations Manager II at the David Lawrence Rehab–Mental Center. In 2023, I was promoted again to Director of Food Service at Naples Community Hospital. I even began a Bachelor's degree in Health Care Administration, which I paused because of work responsibilities, but that dream is still alive.

Life as a single mom is challenging. My schedule makes it hard to get Andy to activities like karate, and without nearby family, I carry a lot on my own. But I am strong, and I keep going for my son. We have stability, a home, and a hopeful future.



“*...I finally felt the stability I always hoped for.*”

From my heart—thank you to everyone who supports Providence House. Your generosity gave me strength, resources, and hope when I needed them most. You changed my life, my son's life, and our future. I carry deep gratitude, and one day I will give back as a donor to help other women facing what I faced. I won't stop until I do.



Thoughts...

From Carol Hollander
Executive Director

On behalf of the mothers and children of Providence House

As Providence House celebrates twenty years of service, I find myself reflecting on how far we've come. Founded as Collier County's first transitional housing program for women with young children, Providence House was born from the compassion of Nancy Farren and Audrey Messick, who witnessed the growing crisis of homelessness among women and children in our community. They refused to stand by and watch families struggle without support, and their vision continues to transform lives today.

During my time at Providence House, I have watched mothers arrive with little more than hope and determination, then celebrated with them as they earned degrees, built careers, and moved confidently into their own homes. Their children have flourished alongside them, learning that perseverance creates possibilities and that hard work leads to real change. Through our comprehensive two-year program, families



For more information about our program or how you can become a volunteer at Providence House, please email us at info@providencehousenaples.org.

receive safe housing combined with counseling, education, life skills training, and a supportive community that makes lasting change possible.

Your partnership has made every one of these victories possible. From individual donors who believe in second chances to volunteers who show up week after week, to the generous hearts who keep coming back to help from local businesses that invest in our community to churches that live their faith through action - you have created a network of support that changes lives in ways that ripple far beyond our campus.

Please join us on Saturday, November 1st as we celebrate our 20th Anniversary at Grey Oaks Country Club in Naples. I look forward to sharing this special milestone with our community that has made it all possible.