



The Bridge

Over Troubled Waters



P.O. BOX 3488
PASADENA, TEXAS 77501
713-472-0753

24-Hour Crisis and Referral
Hotline 713-473-2801

*The Mission of The Bridge is to offer support, provide safety,
and prevent domestic and sexual violence.*

2009 ANNUAL REPORT BREAKING GROUND



Dear Bridge supporters,

2009 was literally a groundbreaking year for The Bridge. In October, years of planning resulted in one of the agency's greatest achievements: the groundbreaking ceremony at our new comprehensive crisis center. Construction began in January 2010, and completion is slated for December 2010.

Women, many times with children, attain safety and stability at our emergency shelter. Empowered by services offered by The Bridge, they not only survive their circumstances, they thrive over them. As we look toward the future, we envision the effect our agency's expansion will have on our clients.

With an increase to 100 beds from 75 and additional prevention/education programs and trainings offered, our agency will rise to meet the needs of our community. With your help, we are taking the steps that will break the cycle of violence.

With warmest regards,

Deborah Moseley, LBSW
Executive Director



How does domestic and sexual violence affect our community?

According to The Women's Resource of Greater Houston and the Harris County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, an estimated 6,935 women will be sexually assaulted and 52,560 domestic violence incidents will be reported in Harris County this year (Texas Council on Family Violence reports that 35% of domestic violence incidents will go unreported).

Domestic violence is not only physically, emotionally, psychologically and socially harmful; it impacts financial stability and is a leading factor in homelessness. To achieve the goals of breaking the cycles of homelessness and violence to rebuild lives, The Bridge offers client-centered services. The agency's philosophy focuses on empowering women and children to make healthy decisions to lead productive lifestyles.

**No socioeconomic level of society is free of domestic and sexual violence.
Age, race nor background influence the incidence of abuse.**

MARY'S STORY

With her eyes sparkling and a continual smile, Mary Shanta talks about her future. Mary's plans include passing the state board exams to become a licensed massage therapist (she recently finished her training), moving into a house with her four children and volunteering at The Bridge emergency shelter. She says her family cannot wait to be able to give back to The Bridge. Two years ago they sought refuge at the shelter. Currently, they live at Destiny Village, the agency's long-term housing facility.

"With my first marriage, it was physical. I thought *that* was abuse. But (with my second relationship) the emotional and financial abuse, that is what, to me, has been harder to get over.

The physical abuse goes away. If you asked, I couldn't tell you where I got hit, but the emotional abuse, well, that was like taking my soul. That takes a lot to get over and fix."

In 2008, after a hotline call and client assessment, Mary entered the shelter with Charlie, 10; Grace, 7; Elijah, 6; and Essie, two-months.

Mary said she thought she was "just a dumb woman." "If I wasn't in counseling, I wouldn't know what name to give (the abuse). I thought I was crazy."

She is grateful that the Bridge staff knew how to talk to her and how to get her to come to the shelter. "Cynthia (Sullivan, Women's Program Manager) explained what abuse *is*. She said, 'You didn't ask for this.'"

During their recovery, Mary and her children have utilized the spectrum of services offered by The Bridge including childcare, advocacy, and family and individual therapy. She credits Bridge staff members for noticing that one of her children displayed the signs of a developmental disorder. She said as a single parent, and being in the state of mind she was in, there were things she could not do on her own.

"At the shelter, I had stability. I knew if I messed up; there would be someone there to help me."

Going into the shelter was "scary," but Mary said it was actually the beginning of the end of being afraid.

"It was a false fear. After being through such traumatic situations, I needed the rules and guidelines and a resident advocate that was there 24 hours a day. I knew I was safe, and my kids were safe."

As for her children, she said they are "totally different" now.

"They are healthy-mentally and physically. I am not just being a proud mama. Everywhere we go, someone says something nice about them. They just shine."

If (someone) is ready to make a change and get away from the abuse and hurt, The Bridge is a place to be safe and heal. I know if I am scared, or just worried, somebody's there to listen. The Bridge is my sanctuary.

AGENCY SERVICES

What is The Bridge doing to end domestic and sexual violence?

2009 Services and Activities

Emergency Shelter 369 women + 445 children = 814

Days of Shelter Provided: 23,646

Long-term Shelter 59 women + 104 children = 163

Days of Shelter Provided: 48,958

Case Management Participants (resident)	274
Case Management Participants (non-resident)	232
Non-resident Assessments	444
Hotline Calls	7,161
Hotline Recipients (family members benefiting)	11,134
Support Group Participants	497
Accompaniments	114
Persons Contacted via Police Reports	1,449
Persons Attending Education Programs	5,907
Volunteers	975
Volunteer Hours	7,297

75-bed emergency shelter

24-hour crisis and referral hotline

24-hour advocacy and accompaniment to hospitals, schools, police stations, courts and other agencies

41 units of long-term housing for women with disabilities and children in their care

8 units of transitional housing for single women

case management/support groups

parenting classes

community prevention/education

community resource referrals

Children's Program:

on-site childcare

age-appropriate support/education groups

individual sessions with family therapist

personal safety plan development/implementation

Services are confidential, and available in English and Spanish.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS Jan. 1, 2009 - Dec. 31, 2009

REVENUES

EXPENSES

Government Grants	\$2,219,287
Non-government Grants and Contributions	889,137
In-kind Donations	352,809
Fees	79,834
Auxiliary Activities	40,407
Interest and Other Income	17,412
TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,598,886

Program Services	\$2,895,098
Supporting Services	500,145
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,395,243

CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Cash, cash equivalents and certificates of deposit	\$709,851
Receivables	469,838
Inventory	25,933
Prepaid expenses, deposits and other assets	21,657
Fixed Assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	775,747
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,003,026

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$76,565
Accrued wages and expenses	112,063
Other current liabilities	0
Long-term notes (12 month portion)	46,350
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$234,978

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	\$1,506,584
Temporarily Restricted	261,464
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$1,768,048
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$2,003,026

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

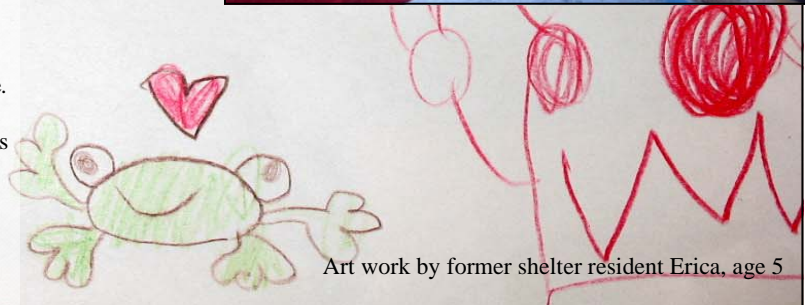


CHILD ADVOCACY-Within 72 hours of entering The Bridge emergency shelter, each family meets with a child advocate. Needs such as clothing and medical referrals are addressed. Children four years and older meet individually with an advocate.

"Sometimes children may tell something they wouldn't when mom is present," Sharon Walker, Emergency Shelter Children's Program Manager, said.

If the child says he/she suffered abuse, reports to Children's Protective Services and therapy referrals are made.

"In all of the shuffle, with mom in crisis, children are often overlooked. Child advocacy is a voice for the children."



Art work by former shelter resident Erica, age 5

The following are foundation, corporate, government and clubs, churches and other nonprofit entities sources of support at a level of \$2,500 or above. While every effort is made to include all applicable sources, omissions are possible. We apologize in advance for any exclusions. All support is greatly appreciated.

Foundation Sources

- Alice Kleberg Reynolds Meyer Foundation
- Avon Foundation/Baylor College of Medicine
- Boeing Houston Employees Community Fund
- Dow Chemical Foundation
- ExxonMobil Foundation
- Houston Endowment Inc.
- Houston Children's Charity
- Rockwell Fund, Inc.
- Spindletop Charities, Inc.
- Stanley and Joyce Rawley Foundation
- St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities
- Swalm Legacy for Safe Families Endowment Fund
- The Brown Foundation, Inc.
- The Clayton Fund, Inc.
- The Lubrizol Foundation
- The Simmons Foundation
- United Space Alliance
- Valero Energy Foundation
- Wal-Mart Foundation

Clubs, Churches and Other Nonprofit Entities

- First Baptist Church Pasadena
- Houston Food Bank
- Seabrook Lucky Trail Marathon
- Toughest 10K
- United Way of Greater Houston
- Valero Texas Open Benefit for Children Golf Classic

Government Funding Sources

- Child Care Council of Greater Houston, Inc.
 - Emergency Shelter Grant
- City of Pasadena
 - Disaster Housing Assistance Program
 - Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program
- FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program
 - Phase 27 & Phase AR
- Harris County Community Services Department
 - Emergency Shelter Grant
- Office of the Attorney General
 - Other Victim Assistance Grant
 - Sexual Assault Prevention and Crisis Services (State and Federal)
- Office of the Governor
 - Victims of Crime Act
 - Violence Against Women Act
- Pasadena Police Department
 - Victim Witness Grant
- Texas Department of Agriculture
 - Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
 - Emergency Shelter Grant
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission
 - Family Violence Grant
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - Supportive Housing Program
- U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women, Transitional Housing Assistance Program

Corporate Sources

- United Space Alliance
- Target
- Wells Fargo

Thank you to The Bridge's funding sources at all levels. All sources, including the many individuals who support the agency mission, are integral to what the women and children achieve through agency programs. Without such support, none of what we accomplish would be possible.

2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The Faulk Foundation felt that partnering with The Bridge Over Troubled Waters was a good fit for both organizations. The Bridge gave our volunteers an opportunity to see first hand how blessed we are so we can make a difference in other peoples' lives.

Carolyn Faulk

The Faulk Foundation President, Founder

The Bridge Over Troubled Waters, Inc.
24-Hour crisis and referral hotline 713.473.2801
 Web site www.tbotw.org

The Bridge is a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in 1978.