



TALBOT INTERFAITH SHELTER

More Than a Shelter...

SHELTER  STABILITY  SUPPORT  SUCCESS

“

Thank you... This is an opportunity that I wish everyone in our shoes had, and I'm grateful to be here.

”



Annual Report 2022-2023

TALBOT INTERFAITH SHELTER IS DEDICATED TO ENDING HOMELESSNESS ON MARYLAND'S MID-SHORE BY PROVIDING SHELTER, STABILITY, SUPPORT, AND A PATH TO SUCCESS FOR FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN NEED.

A message from our Executive Director...

Every single day at Talbot Interfaith Shelter, we meet men, women, and children who have been through incredible pain and trauma and are seeking a path to a better life. And every single day, men, women, and yes, children, from this community step forward to help pave that path for them. It is truly humbling to stand united with each and every one of you in the fight against homelessness.

Over the past few years, the challenges our neighbors face have been amplified, and the need for our services has continued to increase. Since opening Evelyn's Place to assist single men and women, our operating expenses rose from around \$650,000 to more than \$1 million in just one year.

Due to a convergence of inflation, the end of pandemic era assistance, and additional staffing needs, our budget has now increased to \$1.3 million for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Your generosity has enabled our continued expansion, so that we may provide more of our neighbors with the help they so desperately need.

More challenges await in the year(s) ahead. Low-income housing has always been sparse in our community, but with the steep rise in housing costs, it is now essentially non-existent. This presents two concurrent dilemmas: Not only is this triggering more demand for our services, but those who participate in the S4 Program (Shelter, Stability, Support, Success) have nowhere to go when they are ready to graduate.

We are grateful for our new private landlord partners and our recently formed partnership with Chesapeake Neighbors, both of which will allow more of our guests to move into transitional housing. In addition, we continue to make our voices heard in the quest for more low-income housing in our community.

There are no words to properly express the gratitude felt by everyone here - from our staff and Board of Directors to our guests, who are constantly overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity you show. The pages that follow are filled with successes that YOU made possible!

With warmest thanks,



Julie Lowe, Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023

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KEY STAFF

Julie Lowe
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DeWayne Camper
CASE MANAGER

Fran Doran
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Roland Groce
CASE MANAGER

Laura Richeson
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING

Exciting News This Year...

ONE YEAR AT EVELYN'S PLACE

Our singles shelter, Evelyn's Place, opened on June 6th, 2022. Since opening day, we have assisted 35 people - 13 men and 22 women - who would not otherwise have had access to safe housing. 3 of our singles moved into our transitional housing program. One mother, who stayed at Evelyn's Place while our case managers helped her reunite with her children, is now in transitional housing with her family. 4 more guests moved directly from the shelter into their own housing. 14 found employment, 2 purchased transportation, and 10 graduated from life skills classes. Here's to many more years of Success at Evelyn's Place!



CHESAPEAKE NEIGHBORS PARTNERSHIP

As we work to expand transitional housing for our guests, we continue to seek out new community partners. Chesapeake Neighbors, a division of the Arc of the Chesapeake, is dedicated to purchasing and building affordable, accessible housing in our community. We are now partnered with Chesapeake Neighbors to lease a portion of all the apartments they build or lease. This includes 2 units in the Port Street Commons project, which broke ground in June 2023.



AFTER-SCHOOL FUN!

A teacher from Easton Elementary School has launched an after-school program for the kids staying at Easton's Promise. The program started in Spring 2023, and will continue throughout the summer. From 4:00 to 5:00 pm three days a week, our teacher or a volunteer will engage the children with art projects, games, and more!



TRANSITIONAL HOUSING EXPANSION

With the opening of Evelyn's Place, more families and individuals are participating in the S4 Program (Shelter, Stability, Support, Success), necessitating an increase in the number of off-site transitional apartments available to our guests. This year, we have established new housing partnerships to grow our transitional housing program. We now have partnerships with the Housing Commission of Talbot County, 3 private landlords, Chesapeake Neighbors, and have a total of 15 transitional apartments this far.

Guests are invited into transitional housing after achieving certain milestones while staying in one of our shelters.

They begin by paying a portion of the rent, while we subsidize the rest.

While in the apartments, guests continue to receive rigorous case management and participate in life skills training. Over time, their portion of the rent increases until they take over all expenses. This program allows them time to learn important habits while receiving support to weather setbacks.

What You Made Possible...

WHO WE SERVED

110	TOTAL GUESTS
33	SINGLE INDIVIDUALS
35	FAMILIES
42	CHILDREN
NEWBORN	YOUNGEST GUEST
68 YRS	OLDEST GUEST

"This feels like home... A place I can stay and get help back to getting on my feet. I'm doing much better with saving now than I did beforehand. [There's] not really much I can say except thank you. It's appreciated."



THE S4 PROGRAM

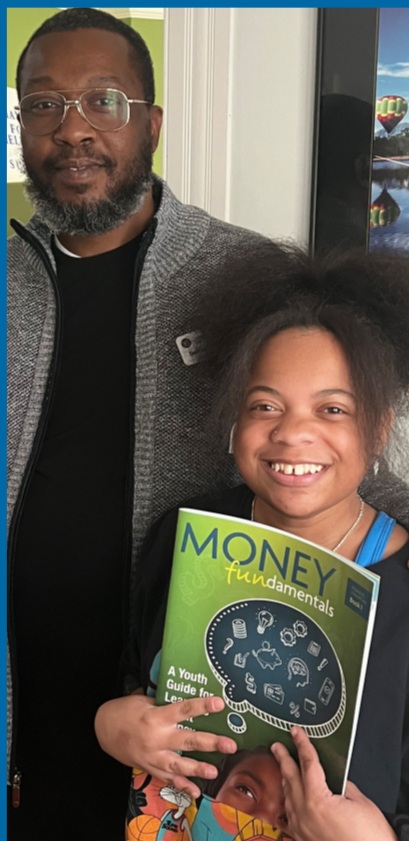
S4 (Shelter, Stability, Support, Success) is a long term, comprehensive program designed to guide guests step-by-step from homelessness to self-sufficiency. This is accomplished by providing safe shelter, rigorous case management, life skills training, connection to necessary services, and transitional housing.

**Background designed by a child at Easton's Promise*

GUEST SUCCESS

In the S4 Program, the journey to self-sufficiency is hard work. There are many successes, big and small, that our guests celebrate along the way. Read a few highlights from the past year below.

6	TRANSITIONS FROM SHELTER TO APARTMENTS
4	MOVED INTO THEIR OWN HOUSING
3	FAMILIES RECEIVED HOUSING VOUCHERS
18	SECURED EMPLOYMENT
3	PURCHASED OWN TRANSPORTATION
23	ENROLLED IN HEALTH, DENTAL, OR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



CASE MANAGEMENT

Each guest in the S4 Program works with a Case Manager to create and implement a personalized plan for Success. Case Managers connect them with the necessary service partners and provide guidance and encouragement throughout their time in the program.

CASE MANAGERS HELP WITH:

BASIC NECESSITIES
OBTAINING LOST DOCUMENTATION
COMPLETING PAPERWORK
HEALTH AND DENTAL SERVICES
SECURING EMPLOYMENT
MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT
FOOD STAMPS/SNAP
TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE
RENTAL AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE
CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIPS
SSI DISABILITY APPLICATIONS
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELP
FAMILY REUNIFICATION
HOUSING VOUCHERS

....AND MUCH MORE!

DAYS OF SHELTER AND SERVICE

7,300	EASTON'S PROMISE
9,045	EVELYN'S PLACE (1 MONTH)
10,955	TRANSITIONAL APARTMENTS
27,300	TOTAL DAYS OF SHELTER & SERVICE

LIFE SKILLS CLASSES

Guests are required to participate in life skills training, including:

GETTING AHEAD IN A JUST GETTIN' BY WORLD

Learning about poverty, "hidden" societal rules, identifying and maximizing available resources, and more.

CHARACTER COUNTS FOR ADULTS

Discovering the 6 pillars of character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

MONEY MANAGEMENT

Identifying and changing spending and saving habits, learning how to choose priorities and make smart financial decisions.

STAYING QUIT

A relapse prevention program for guests in recovery.

ANGER MANAGEMENT | JOB READINESS

PARENTING | MENTAL HEALTH 101

CONGRATS TO OUR LIFE SKILLS CLASS GRADUATES!

6

FROM "GETTING AHEAD IN A JUST GETTIN' BY WORLD"

8

FROM "MONEY FUNDAMENTALS"

8

FROM "UNTANGLING RELATIONSHIPS"

6

FROM DSS PARENTING WORKSHOP

6

FROM "CHARACTER COUNTS" FOR ADULTS



Talbot Interfaith Shelter is fortunate to receive generous support from our community, without which we could not carry out our mission.

While we receive some funding from government entities, the vast majority of our operating revenue comes from individual donors, local charitable organizations, our business and faith communities, and events.

TIS fundraising events are community-centered, with the goal of engaging new areas of our community with our mission. This year's Lip Sync

Battle had a record number of teams participating from across the community, and raised a record \$80,000.

TOTAL INCOME

\$1,181,018

24.3% FOUNDATION & TRUST GRANTS

3.5% GUEST RENT (APARTMENTS)

44% INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

.2% NONPROFIT DONATIONS

.8% BUSINESS PARTNERS

14.4% RESTRICTED & GOV'T GRANTS

5.3% FAITH PARTNERS

7.5% FUNDRAISING EVENTS

TOTAL EXPENSE

\$1,066,713

.8% ADMIN/ OPERATIONS

13.8% SHELTER FACILITIES

10% FUNDRAISING COSTS

12.3% APARTMENT COSTS

6.3% BUSINESS COSTS

56.8% STAFFING COSTS

The increased cost of goods and services has greatly impacted our guests. Compounding the problem, pandemic assistance programs like SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and rental assistance have been significantly reduced or terminated. This combination has led to delayed progress for some guests and increased expenses for TIS. We have hired several new staff members this year to run our expanded programs. Combined with the cost of living increase, this has caused notable growth in our staffing expenditures.

Due to these factors, our budget for the 2023/2024 fiscal year is approximately \$1.3 million, close to a 100% increase over two years ago, prior to opening Evelyn's Place.

Welcome New Staff!



LAURA RICHESON - DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING

Laura has 16 years of experience in nonprofit development. Before joining Team TIS, she was the Development and Marketing Associate for Talbot Hospice. Along with assisting the with fundraising strategy, messaging, and donor cultivation, she also spearheaded several successful events for Hospice. Laura has done a phenomenal job in her first year, leading the charge to raise more than \$1 million in support of our mission.

"Every single day, I show up for work and witness lives being changed for the better, including mine," Laura shares. "It is truly a blessing to be a part of this special group of people, who are doing such extraordinary work."

DEWAYNE CAMPER - EVELYN'S PLACE CASE MANAGER

DeWayne has his Associates Degree in Human Services and Mental Health, Bachelors Degree in Youth and Family Administration and Masters Degree in Mental Health Administration. He joined us in late 2022, and works with the single men and women at Evelyn's Place, helping them with everything from acquiring basic necessities to SSI disability applications and family reunification.

"I vow to do my best at all times," DeWayne says. "Talbot Interfaith Shelter is an organization of great people with a great mission, and I'm glad that they are allowing me to help do my part in carrying out the mission."



ROLAND GROCE - TRANSITIONAL HOUSING CASE MANAGER

Roland was born and raised in Caroline County, and traveled the world during many years of service in the US military. He experienced homelessness for himself upon his return home. He worked for 20 years as a property manager for transitional housing programs, and is currently completing his degree in Social Work and Sociology. Roland joined TIS in January 2023 to assist the guests in our transitional apartments as they adjust to new habits and responsibilities and work towards financial independence.

"The people here at TIS are good people who inspire me toward service *and* change," says Roland. "I hope to grow with the team and share as much as I can contribute!"

NANCY CUMMINGS - VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Nancy was a volunteer early in TIS' history, when we were a cold weather shelter rotating between faith communities. She comes to TIS from Temple B'nai Israel, where she worked for 10 years as the Administrative Assistant for Rabbi Hyman. Nancy's duties include coordinating existing volunteers and identifying new groups of volunteers from houses of worship, local businesses, and beyond.

"The knowledge that in my own small way, I am making a positive impact on our most vulnerable population," inspires Nancy's work. "TIS is giving hope, dignity, and opportunity to people just like you and me, and we are doing it with grace and compassion."



PLEASE ALSO WELCOME:

Ke'Shaune DeShields - Evelyn's Place Evening/Overnight Supervisor

Nancy Giuseppe - Evelyn's Place Weekend Daytime Supervisor

DeJahmir Camper - Evelyn's Place Evening/Overnight Supervisor

Cindy Covington - Part Time Marketing and Development Associate

Alex Burleson - Part Time Marketing and Development Assistant

We are so proud of our dedicated, compassionate staff!

We Can't Do It Without Your Support!



TEAM TIS IS TERRIFIC!

Hundreds of volunteers sit at the shelters, answering phones, taking donations, and more so that staff can work uninterrupted.

Volunteers and local restaurants provided more than 16,000 meals this year!

Your donations of supplies, clothes, and more saved TIS tens of thousands of dollars this year!

If you are interested joining Team TIS as a volunteer, contact Nancy Cummings at 410-690-3120 or nancycummings@talbotinterfaithshelter.org



Introducing the **SEDLACK SOCIETY**

In late 2022, we launched the Sedlack Society to recognize the ongoing support of our most generous donors. The Sedlack Society is named after TIS' founder, Evelyn Sedlack. Evelyn's unwavering belief in our mission and ability to galvanize people from all walks of life to work toward a shared purpose built a strong foundation for our organization. Sedlack Society members receive special TIS news reports throughout the year, as well as invitations to Sedlack Society events. Our first such event was held at the Tidewater Inn in Easton on December 15, 2022. Attendees enjoyed wonderful food, music, photos with Santa, and an update on the work that their generosity made possible.

THERE ARE FOUR SEDLACK SOCIETY LEVELS:

SHELTER – An annual gift of \$1,000 to \$2,499

STABILITY – An annual gift of \$2,500 to \$4,999

SUPPORT – An annual gift of \$5,000 to \$9,999

SUCCESS – An annual gift of \$10,000 or more

To learn more about the Sedlack Society, contact Laura Richeson at 443-786-6962 or lauraricheson@talbotinterfaithshelter.org



Special thanks to the **TIS Promise Keepers**, those extraordinary donors who set up recurring monthly or quarterly donations in support of our mission. Promise Keepers was established in 2015, shortly after the opening of our first permanent shelter at Easton's Promise. Recurring donations ensure that we can fulfill the promise that we made to our community when we began our permanent year-round operations – that we would provide a safe and stable environment for our guests, and that they would have access to the time, knowledge, resources, and tools they need to achieve lasting self-sufficiency.



TALBOT INTERFAITH SHELTER

More Than a Shelter...

SHELTER 🏠 STABILITY 🏠 SUPPORT 🏠 SUCCESS



“ Thank you for providing such a beautiful place. We're safe, it's clean...It just feels like home. And I just want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart. ”

For more information about Talbot Interfaith Shelter and how YOU can help, contact Julie Lowe at julielowe@talbotinterfaithshelter.org, call 410-310-2316, or visit talbotinterfaithshelter.org.

PO Box 2004 🏠 Easton, MD 21601

talbotinterfaithshelter.org

