

Steadfast

FOR GENERATIONS TO COME



The
**DWELLING
PLACE**

For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.



PSALM 100:5

The *Impact* of Domestic Abuse

ABUSE TOUCHES EACH OF OUR LIVES IN SOME WAY.

Survivors of domestic abuse are often isolated from support networks and financial resources by their abusers, which puts them at risk of becoming homeless. Often, perpetrators use abuse to keep victims economically dependent and vulnerable. As a result, they may lack steady income, employment history, credit history, and landlord references.

Women who are victims of domestic abuse are faced with the horrific choice of staying with an abuser or becoming homeless with her children in tow.

According to multiple studies examining the causes of homelessness, among mothers with children experiencing homelessness, more than 80% had previously experienced domestic abuse. Across Minnesota this past year, nearly 20 thousand calls for help have been received, and 8 million days of paid work lost as a result of partner violence. Across the country, 10 million adults experience domestic violence annually. The impact of domestic violence on our communities feels overwhelming, enormous, and at times impossible to rise from.

The issue of domestic abuse is a complex one that requires deep healing and unfortunately, the needs are only growing. Calls for help to our organization are increasing, addiction is on the rise and leading to more abuse, and children are struggling in school daily as a result of trauma.



Healing begins at The Dwelling Place

With nearly 25 years of experience, The Dwelling Place exists to break the generational cycle of abuse by equipping and empowering women and their children through the love of Jesus so they can experience lasting freedom.

The Dwelling Place provides women and children with a safe place to live, surrounded by a supportive community that includes our highly trained staff and other survivors of domestic abuse. These components are the foundation of our program to successfully restore hope, strength, and dignity to our families. In addition to housing, The Dwelling Place provides trauma-informed programs, supportive services, and Christ-centered education.

COMPREHENSIVE WOMEN'S PROGRAM:

- Individualized support through Case Management;
- Support Groups which allow residents to move toward healing; such as classes on Financial Education, Life Skills, Healthy Cooking, Parenting, Health Care, Home Care;
- Bible Study;
- Advocacy for employment and housing search;
- Domestic Abuse Education Courses for both the women and children;
- Individualized Therapy with a local mental health organization;
- Referrals and community resources, as needed.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM:

We strive to eliminate the generational cycle of abuse through education and by showing children they are loved and valued.

We promote healing from trauma and opportunities for growth in social, emotional, and cognitive development. Programs include support groups, tutoring, mentorship, Bible studies, age-appropriate activities, and assisting mothers with parenting.

ALUMNI PROGRAM:

To build on our residential program, we formalized an Alumni Program offered to women once they are ready to live independently. The Alumni Program provides ongoing support and community to previous residents. More specifically, it provides: regular connection points for alumni and their children, mentorship, one-on-one meetings with staff, monthly support group gatherings, and special event opportunities.

*I really changed my entire outlook
on things as I went through
The Dwelling Place.*



Steadfast.



The Campaign to Build and Sustain for Generations to Come

We need to increase the depth of the programs we offer in order to meet this critical and increasing need in our community. Unfortunately, our current spaces are not adequate to deliver the level of care to our families that we know is necessary.

- We receive more calls for help from women beyond the current number of bedrooms we have to house them.
- We have far surpassed our children's space as the program has grown.
- Our Alumni Program has outgrown its current space and is expected to grow exponentially in future years. Families enjoy coming back here as it was a safe haven for them, so keeping it onsite is essential.
- Upgrades and maintenance to our homes and facilities will allow TDP to be sustainable long-term and meet not only current needs, but long-term housing and program needs as well.



In late 2021, we purchased a property to help us address these needs. This additional property, along with creative reworking of our current spaces, will allow us to enrich and expand our programs.

1. ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL HOUSING MARIAN'S PLACE:

- Project includes: duplex purchase, renovations, handicap accessible entryway, furnishings, driveway, fence, and landscaping.
- This new home brings our potential capacity to 72 women and children by adding 10 bedrooms. As we continue to follow a trauma-informed care model, each family has their own bedroom(s) which greatly influences how many families will fit within the total 36 bedrooms available.

2. EXPANSION & ADDITION OF PROGRAM SPACE:

- Addition of 1,000 square feet of program space and accessory building.
 - ♥ This space will include a kitchenette and restroom for more practical use and can be divided into two separate classroom spaces.
 - ♥ Space for resident classes; support group, alumni gatherings, Bible study, Domestic Violence class, and other gatherings.
 - ♥ Expanded space for the children's program for tutoring, play therapy, learning activities, and childcare. The space to appropriately separate children by age group.
 - ♥ Climate controlled storage space in the accessory building to house basic needs supplies.

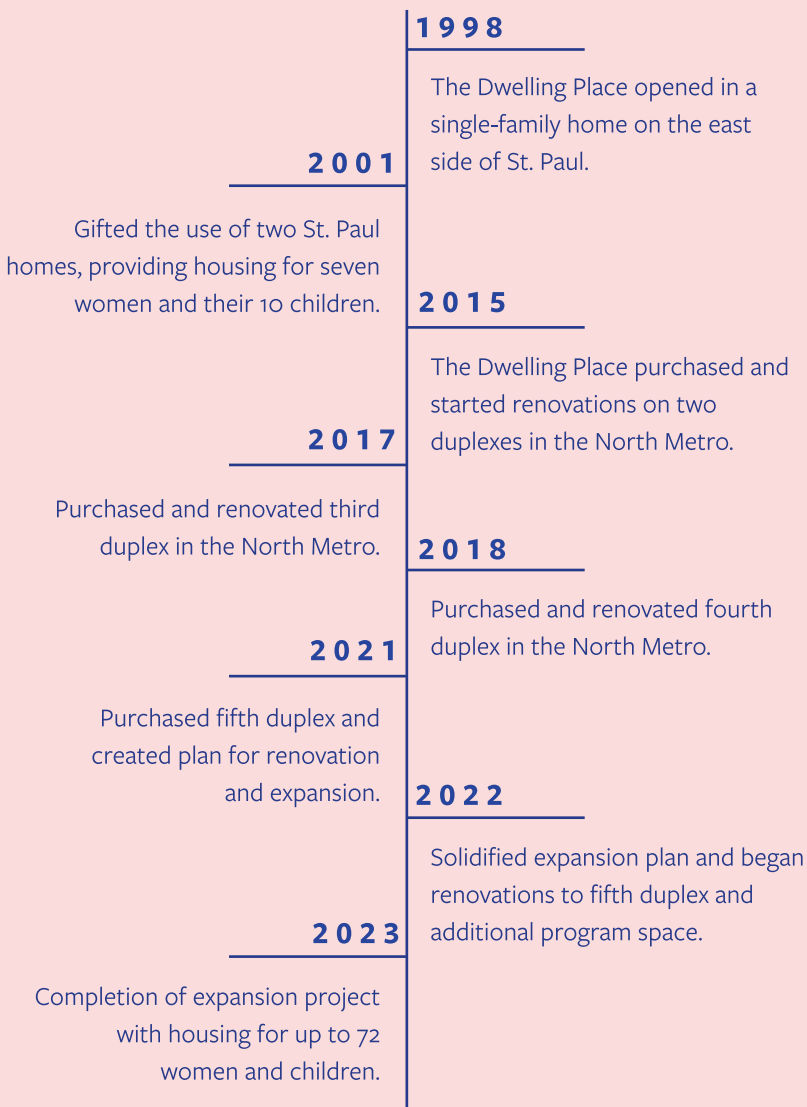
3. PROGRAM REPAIRS & UPDATES:

- Replace our Security System. The current monitoring system is not working properly, and we need additional cameras.
- Strengthen our IT system.
- Expand program staff to keep up with the growth.
- Create equity among all living spaces by making necessary repairs and updates to flooring, HVAC, appliances, and fixtures to older homes.

God is a God of the miraculous. He delights in removing the barriers to success in the women and children we serve. We, as staff, get to have a front row seat to watch this happen, but we couldn't do it without the generosity of our donors, partners, volunteers, and staff. Thank you!

History of The Dwelling Place

The Dwelling Place was established in 1998 to provide for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of a woman and her children after fleeing a violent partner. It was founded on the understanding that in order to help victims of domestic abuse heal from their emotional wounds, there needed to be a holistic Christ-centered approach; this belief is at the core of The Dwelling Place's mission.



Will you
help us provide
healing for
generations
to come?



thedwellingplaceshelter.org

Housing Office: (651) 776-4805

Business Office: (651) 221-0405