



# Your Gift Matters

## FISCAL YEAR 2020 IMPACT REPORT

**HEARTS OF GRACE**, the Women's Network of Outreach Community Ministries, is comprised of faith-filled women committed to helping vulnerable women and their families in DuPage County. The Hearts of Grace mission is accomplished through financial support, prayer and acts of service for the women and children served at Outreach.

*Thank you for providing hope and opportunity in our community!*



### Because of Your Generosity in Fiscal Year 2020...



100% of residents at Jubilee Village and Hawthorne House were employed.  
71% obtained their employment after entering the program.



100% of Jubilee Village graduates secured housing, have stable employment, owned a car and had stable childcare upon exiting the program.



306 households received assistance to secure or maintain their housing and utilities.



1,580 households were provided information and/or referrals to access needed services.



78% of clients who received counseling reported a decrease in symptoms or distress.



91 children at the Outreach Community Center received a new book on their birthday, personalized card and treat bag through the Books for Birthdays ministry initiative.



For ways to engage with the Hearts of Grace ministry,  
visit } [outreachcommunityministries.org/heartsofgrace](https://outreachcommunityministries.org/heartsofgrace)



**Outreach**  
Community Ministries



## Transitional Housing

The Transitions Program at Hawthorne House serves young homeless women ages 17–24 and Jubilee Village serves single mothers ages 18–24. Both programs provide safe housing for up to two years with the shared goal of stable independent living.

**Our Impact:** In FY20, Outreach provided transitional housing to 28 women and 21 children.

## Family Stabilization

Counseling is available for individuals, families and couples at the three Outreach Community Counseling Centers. Case managers walk alongside families to address emergency financial challenges, food insecurity and housing needs with the goal of achieving long-term stability.

**Our Impact:** In FY20, 719 individuals received counseling services, and more than 2,400 individuals received case management services at Outreach.

## Youth Development

The Outreach Youth Development Program walks alongside students at various stages of life to enhance their academic achievement, spiritual growth and community engagement. Christian teachers, tutors and mentors make an indelible imprint on these young lives.

**Our Impact:** In FY20, 618 elementary, middle school, high school and college students participated in youth development programs at our four neighborhood resource centers.

*On behalf of every person whose future is made brighter because of your generosity, thank you!*



## Your Gift Matters to Giselle

AS A YOUNG TEENAGER, Giselle's family moved several times before finding their way back to Wheaton, where Giselle graduated from Wheaton North High School. Late in her senior year, at just 17 years old, Giselle discovered she was pregnant. Teen Parent Connection, a sister organization to Outreach Community Ministries, offered her support throughout the pregnancy and referred her to Jubilee Village at a time when she needed it most. She confided, "At the time, my home life was not ideal."

But it was not an easy decision for Giselle, "I just didn't know how I was going to do it with a two-year-old by myself in my own place." She considered herself to be a little shy but found that having people to talk to that were in a similar situation was comforting.

She also counted on her house parents and case manager who were always there for her, saying, "My case manager helped with my finances and applying for FAFSA—with anything, really."

This supportive environment allowed Giselle to shape a new future for herself. She completed her culinary degree at College of DuPage and is pursuing a career in an industry she loves. Giselle was recently hired by Northwestern Hospital as the Assistant Cook. Her boss is mentoring her in her quest to become an Executive Chef and one day own her own restaurant.

Living in Christian community at Jubilee Village brought Giselle to faith in God. Her house parent, Emily, played a part. "Emily was involved in my faith journey just by caring, for starters. Then she would voice her faith and talk about God, and we would always pray before communal meals. That always got me thinking, 'I should probably read the Bible,' you know, get into it, see what it's all about, because I never got to do that. And then something about the Bible that really got to me was knowing that I was loved by God. That is a feeling that nobody else can give you. So, that was very special to me. That's why I got baptized last December."

Giselle credits her success and her faith to her time at Jubilee Village and to the people who invested in her as she pursued opportunities to become fully independent.