

THOMAS HOUSE
FAMILY SHELTER



*Serving Homeless Families with Children
Since 1986*



35 YEARS OF EMPOWERMENT

ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2020-21

A FAREWELL NOTE: NATALIE JULIEN

Dear Thomas House Family,

For the last six years, it has been my pleasure to serve as the Executive Director at Thomas House. It has been an absolute blessing to be able to work for such an amazing organization, and the decision to move on was one of the most difficult decisions I have ever had to make. Although I cannot say my time at Thomas House was without challenges, it was by far the most rewarding position I have held to date. I looked forward to going to work every day because I knew we were making a difference for so many families (about 180 during my tenure). Being a part of each of their lives and seeing their progress every day motivated me. The smiles, laughter and hugs gave me purpose. It is hard to put into words how much I will miss them (and Thomas House).

Although it breaks my heart to say goodbye, I will forever be grateful for the light Thomas House brought into my life. And that gratitude extends to each and every person who cared about our mission and the families we serve

over the last six years. From my awesome staff and volunteers to our gracious volunteers and donors, your gifts of time and resources have impacted so many, including me. You have given me faith that there is still good out there, and you have continuously demonstrated to the families at Thomas House that there is an entire community that cares about what happens to them. Thomas House would not be where it is today without each of you. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.



Natalie Julien, MSW, MPA

NATALIE JULIEN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
THOMAS HOUSE FAMILY SHELTER
FROM 2016-2021

PASSING THE TORCH: SHAKOYA GREEN



Dear Friends,

In the following pages you will find information about the amazing work we have done over the years honoring the 35-year legacy of Mary and Bernie Selz. Thomas House Family Shelter's staff and our Board of Directors could not have accomplished so much without the generous support and commitment of donors and community members like you.

I am excited to take the reins of this incredible organization and I am grateful for the Board's confidence in me to carry-on the mission, vision, and values of Thomas House.

My life story is wrapped in social services, personally and professionally, and I genuinely believe that with the right support, individuals and families will thrive.

My heart smiles when families have the opportunity to reach their full potential. I look forward to partnering with you, our

staff, and the community to build upon Thomas House's 35-year legacy. Together, we will continue to empower families with children experiencing homelessness to heal and overcome situational homelessness and generational poverty.

Shakoya Green

MA, MSW, ACSW

SHAKOYA GREEN

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
THOMAS HOUSE FAMILY SHELTER**

OUR HISTORY

35TH ANNIVERSARY

1986

Thomas House Family Shelter is officially established by our founders, Mary and Bernie Selz.

1990

The County of Orange and the City of Garden Grove approve and aid in the purchase of two 8-unit apartment buildings.

1991

Sister Kathy begins 18 years of service as Thomas House's Executive Director.

2000s

Thomas House expands scope of supportive services with new Youth Development Program, Career Development Program, and counseling.

2009

Founder Bernie Selz is named Garden Grove Man of the Year, in recognition of his service to the community.

2018

Thomas House purchases neighboring apartment building, named "Selz Residence", increasing capacity from 16 to 22 apartment units.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER: MARY SELZ

Can it truly be 35 years since Thomas House opened its doors? The time seems to have gone by quickly and within it, incredible change has taken place.

The shelter has progressed from a dream to a reality; from the renting of one 3-bedroom apartment to the acquisition of three apartment complexes; from three families being housed in three separate bedrooms of one single apartment to one single family being housed in their own separate apartment. Now, that's what I call a change for the better!

Bernie and I scattered the seeds. They grew and flourished because of the hundreds of people who watered and cared for them with their love, prayers, financial support, and millions of volunteer hours.

MARY SELZ
FOUNDER

ABOUT US

OUR MISSION

To provide a safe, supportive environment and the resources necessary for homeless and at-risk families with children to remain together while empowering them to become independent and self-sufficient.

OUR SERVICES



Shelter & Supportive Services



Case Management



Career Development



Youth Development



Graduate Services

OUR SUCCESS

In 22 safe apartment units, we provide transitional shelter and supportive services to homeless and at-risk families in need. 90% of families who reside at the shelter graduate from Thomas House into permanent housing within 9-12 months.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nick Celotto - President
Deloitte & Touche, LLP

Kimberley Walsh
TJX/HomeGoods

Anna Choi
Cathay Bank

Sister Louise Ann Micek, CSJ
Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange

Brenda Burnett
Coast to Coast Escrow Services

Brian Cresap
W.L. Butler

Kris De La Pena
Ameriprise Financial

Ana Marie Del Rio
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First Republic Bank

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Lynn Nguyen
Pacific Premier Bank

Audrey Satoutah
Capital Group

Ken Vargha
HatchBeauty Brands

Juan Carlos Velez
Edwards Lifesciences

Emily Webb
Albert A. Webb Associates

IMPACT

BY THE NUMBERS

THOMAS HOUSE SERVED...

58 FAMILIES

45 Single Mothers

4 Single Fathers

9 Two-Parent Households

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS



53
CHILDREN

received supportive services including tutoring and counseling.



80%
IMPROVED

their academic standing since point of entry.



46
CHILDREN

benefitted from our Distance Learning Program.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT DURING COVID-19

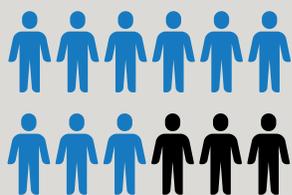
85%

of our residents were laid off from work when the pandemic hit.

100%

utilized our Career Development Program & quickly found employment.

WITH YOUR SUPPORT:



75% OF ADULTS

increased their employment wages since time of entry.



100% OF ADULTS

actively participated in mental health services and counseling.



90% OF FAMILIES

successfully graduated our program & obtained permanent housing.

A STORY OF HOPE: THE CAMPOS FAMILY



Jose lost his wife when his twins, Daisy and Jesus, were just five-months old.

Without her support, Jose struggled to find affordable childcare and could no longer afford their apartment. He found himself renting out a garage with no ventilation. Summer days were unbearable and winter mornings were frigid. He soon realized that the living environment was too dangerous for his young kids.

With nowhere else to turn, he reached out to Thomas House Family Shelter. With a safe shelter, food, and childcare, Here, he was truly able to restart his life and provide a new beginning for Daisy and Jesus.

Since being at our shelter, the family has begun to heal and thrive. Daisy and Jesus are active participants in our Youth Development Program and have successfully completed their first year of school. Jose expressed his desire to learn how to cook and a Thomas House volunteer responded with private one-on-one cooking lessons. Jose now cooks healthy meals daily for his children.

We are excited to announce that Jose and his family have moved on to our Second-Step Program and are working their way to Jose's ultimate goal: finding permanent housing.

With your continued support, we will continue to change the lives of homeless and at-risk families, just like Jose's.



MISSION-DRIVEN EVENTS

2020 VIRTUAL AUTUMN REFLECTIONS GALA

On Saturday, September 26, Thomas House hosted our annual Autumn Reflections Gala, virtually. Guests enjoyed prepackaged dinner and cocktails while supporting the transformation of our families, raising over \$100,000!

2021 "HELP THEM HOME" GIVING DAY

For another year, Thomas House partnered with Orange County Community Foundation and 20 other nonprofit homeless service providers to raise a collective goal of \$1,000,000. For every milestone hit, a member of our staff or Board of Directors was blasted with paint by the kids of Thomas House. With your support, Thomas House was able to surpass our goal and raise a record breaking \$200,000 in 24 hours.

2021 "ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE" SUMMER CONCERT

Thomas House Family Shelter hosted our first ever "Another Day in Paradise" Summer Concert featuring the Tijuana Dogs at the beautiful Paséa Hotel & Spa in Huntington Beach. Guests enjoyed the views of the Pacific Ocean and live music, while supporting homeless families with children. This musical night of giving raised over \$100,000.

SAVE THE DATES

2021 *Autumn Reflections Virtual Gala* **"35 Years of Empowerment"**

On Saturday, October 2, join Thomas House, virtually, for an inspirational evening honoring Mary and Bernie Selz and the legacy they built.

2021 *Holiday Appeal*

This December help us empower homeless and at-risk families with children by making a financial contribution to our holiday year-end appeal.

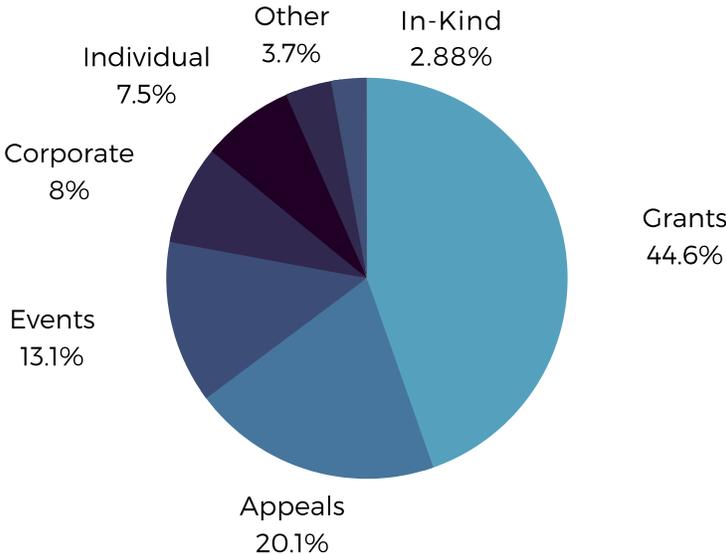
2022 *"Help Them Home" Giving Day*

On Wednesday, April 27, Thomas House will partner other local nonprofit homeless service providers for one purpose: to end homelessness in Orange County.

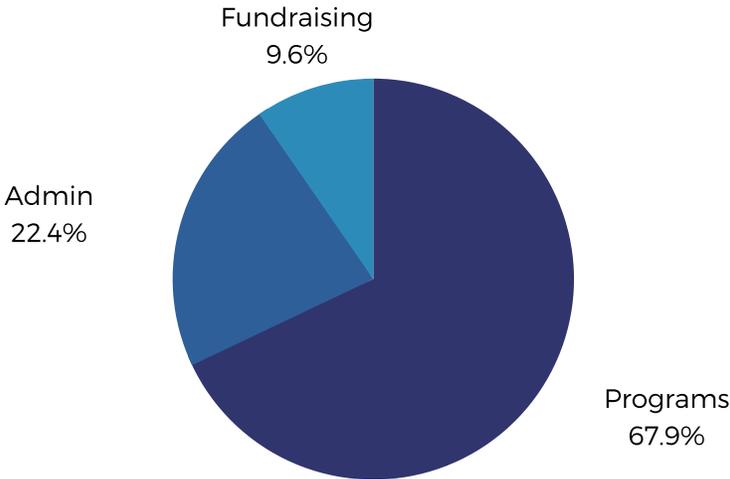


FINANCIALS & PARTNER RECOGNITION

TOTAL REVENUE \$1,361,075



TOTAL EXPENSES \$1,421,036



**In response to COVID-19, Thomas House increased expenditures to cover families' urgent needs.*



PARTNER HIGHLIGHT: NATIONAL CHARITY LEAGUE, INC.

Thomas House is excited to recognize the National Charity League, Inc. as our Partner Highlight in our 2020-21 Annual Report. Throughout the years, they have shown an immense commitment to the mission of Thomas House and the families we serve.

Their members have continuously supported our residents in fun and creative ways, including hosting on-site birthday parties, hosting different donations drives, gifting our families with amazing items, and even closing their TickTocker Thrift Shop several times a year to the public to allow the families of Thomas House to shop exclusively and expense-free.

Thank you for all that you do for our families. We look forward to continuing this amazing partnership with you and over 100 organizations who help us end homelessness!



THOMAS HOUSE
FAMILY SHELTER



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DONATE NOW



CONTACT US

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