

**For women, for children, for good.**

**2022 ANNUAL REPORT**



**Saint**   
**Martha's**

**Safe places for women,  
for children, for good.**

A Catholic Charities of St. Louis Ministry

## 2022 Impact At a Glance



After staying at the shelter, **100% of women** said they **learned more about safety planning.**



After attending support group, **100% of participants** said they **felt more hopeful** about the future.



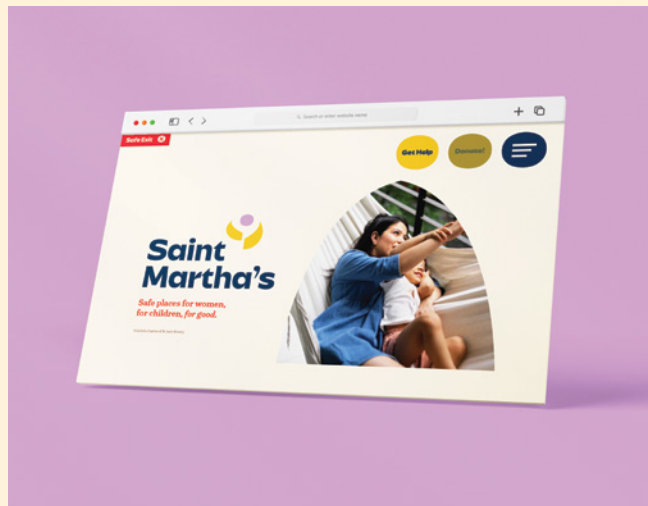
**100% of the women** who received housing assistance in the first half of 2022 **are still in stable housing.**

## New look. Expanded Services. Greater Impact.

Saint Martha's has a new look to represent our agency, and you're one of the first to see it!

In 2021, we finalized our strategic plan and set a bold 10-year vision: **Serve 1,000 women and their children each year** who are impacted by domestic violence + decrease violence by **educating 1,000,000+ people** at community outreach and education events. Our refreshed brand and new website will support our growth and commitment to fulfilling this vision.

Thank you for joining our movement to empower women and end the cycle of domestic violence—for women, for children, *for good.*



**Visit our NEW website!**  
[saintmarthas.org](https://saintmarthas.org)

- ✓ Quick access to our services
- ✓ Important news and resources
- ✓ Simplified online donations

## A letter from Jessica Woolbright



Dear Friends,

I am not usually a big fan of change. I prefer to know what to expect from my day. At Saint Martha's however, each day presents new and unexpected challenges. Finally have a minute to start tackling that to-do list? The crisis line rings and a family of five needs shelter. Ready to reply to some emails? A woman stops by the drop-in center and needs help revising her safety plan because her husband got out of jail.

I think the best way to respond to change is to see these challenges as *possibilities*, each a new opportunity to live our mission.

As you'll find in this 2022 annual report, we finalized our strategic plan, set a bold 10-year vision and developed a new brand to support our work. We implemented a "trauma-informed care" approach and hired additional staff to serve the women in our care. We opened our new drop-in center, fought for more Missouri funding for domestic violence and gave countless presentations to the community. And we're just getting started!

We're so proud of all we've accomplished this year but we couldn't have done it without your support. Thank you.

In 2022, Saint Martha's embraced change and all the possibilities that come with it. Maybe I am a fan of change, who knew?

Sincerely,

*Jessica Woolbright*

**Jessica Woolbright** LCSW  
Executive Director

### Staff

Jessica Woolbright, LCSW  
*Executive Director*

Diana Camren  
*Advocate*

Tina Courtois  
*Advocate*

Catherine Cox, LCSW  
*Advocate*

Sharie Day  
*Advocate*

Jenny Elliott  
*Finance Manager*

Cassie Esswein, LMSW  
*Program Director*

Mandi Gummels  
*Advocate*

Maura Jarboe, LMSW  
*Children's Advocate*

Gina Joly  
*Development Director*

Theresa Kenyon  
*Advocate*

Lejla Bukvic  
*Advocate*

Carla Maley  
*Director of Community Engagement*

Michelle Rhode, LCSW  
*Senior Program Director*

Daralyn Stayton  
*Advocate*

Vera Walker-Oates  
*Advocate*

Leanna Vannonh  
*Advocate*

Sue Zumbro, LPC  
*Advocate*

### Board of Directors

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*President and CEO Catholic Charities of St. Louis, Member, Ex Officio*

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Robert (Bo) Devereux

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Kathy Rehmer

Denise Riek

Elizabeth (Betty) Seliga

Libby Rohlfing

Chris Shea

Robert Springer

# 2022 Services

## Shelter

2022 brought significant change to our shelter with the addition of **new staff, new programs, and new services**. What remained constant was our commitment to creating a warm, welcoming and safe environment where the women and children we serve can find peace and healing.

## Trauma-Informed Care

A “trauma-informed care” approach recognizes the impact trauma has on the individual and seeks to create services that validate their experience and foster healing. While healing has always been our goal at the shelter, we started **reviewing and strengthening our policies and practices using a trauma-informed lens**.

## Increasing Our Advocates

We also made the decision in 2022 to increase our staff, **adding three new Advocates (so far!)**. These additional staff members will allow Saint Martha's to provide more support to women through our 24/7 hotline, referral services, and support groups.

## Employee Wellness

Bearing witness to trauma and oppression on a daily basis brings its own secondary traumatization. 2022 brought a renewed commitment to employee self-care with the **introduction of a wellness program** for the Saint Martha's team.

## COVID Preparedness

Staying abreast of the CDC recommendations unique to shelters, along with frequent pivots to our COVID protocols, we successfully **avoided widespread transmission of COVID-19** among the women, children, volunteers and staff.

## Drop-In Center

Saint Martha's expanded our services by **opening a Drop-In Center in January, 2022**, offering a safe, easily accessible space, free from the barriers—appointments, requirements and waitlists—that often stand between the women we serve and the care they need.

Visitors are greeted and brought to a private room free from noise or distractions. A dedicated space for children provides space to play while mom meets with an advocate. Drop-In Center staff are trained to address each woman's unique needs and to develop personalized safety plans specific to their situation.

## Surpassing Our Goal

Since opening the drop-in center, we have received **165 in-person visits and 612 calls, surpassing our goal for the year**. Our team provided crisis intervention, legal advocacy, information and community referrals and general support.

## Meeting Basic Needs

The greatest areas of need for those we serve are safe and affordable housing, emergency food and utility assistance, and in-person therapeutic counseling. In 2022, **we assisted four women and their children with rent and deposit on a new home and provided emergency utility assistance and gas/grocery cards 71 times**.

We also started a new partnership with St. Louis Counseling, offering in-person sessions at the center.

We attribute our success to our strong community partnerships, marketing efforts, our donors, and the unwavering support from Assumption Church.

## Advocacy

Saint Martha's Board of Directors **created an Advocacy Committee!** The committee provides the board with pertinent information on proposed state and/or federal legislation and any related calls to action related to the mission of Saint Martha's and the women and children we serve.

### Increased Funding

Appropriation bills maintain and/or increase funding for victim services grant programs and include new funds for a telehealth network for sexual assault victims.

#### HB3014 & HB3015

HB3014 and HB3015 were signed into law in the spring of 2022. **Funding totaling over \$23 million was allocated for domestic and sexual violence services.** Almost half of that amount is included in the FY23 budget for the Department of Social Service (DSS). The shelter receives roughly \$500,000 annually.

#### SB 775

Revisions to Missouri domestic violence laws were included in SB 775, which passed during the 2022 legislative session, including:

1. Revision of the Sexual Assault Survivors' Bill of Rights
2. Expands the rape shield law
3. Expands personally identifying information that can be redacted in court records
4. Clarifies notice of Orders of Protection

## Community Education

Saint Martha's has a long-standing reputation of providing valuable and informative community education to professionals, partner agencies and the community at large.

### Community Education Goals

1. Increasing awareness of Saint Martha's services
2. Increasing awareness of domestic violence and its impact on women, children, and the community
3. Educating our community about the dynamics of domestic violence and how to help.



In FY2022, **101 presentations** were provided to approximately **6,462 individuals.**

### Court Watch Project

Founded by Saint Martha's in 1997, the Court Watch Project continues its advocacy work to improve the responses of the justice system for victims of domestic violence utilizing the court to seek safety from abuse.

Over this past year, **28 volunteer monitors observed 34 order of protection dockets** in St. Louis County Domestic Violence Court and we continue to partner with judicial leadership on improving best practices.

# 2022 Revenue & Expenses

Revenues	2022	% of Revenue
Private Contributions	\$ 757,715	41%
Investment Income	\$(66,321)	-4%
Government Grants/ Contracts	\$ 858,875	47%
United Way	\$ 151,937	8%
Other Grants	\$ 125,732	7%
Other	\$ 4,171	1%



**Thank you to our  
2022 Donors!**

We're honored to receive strong support from so many committed donors. Scan the above QR code with your smartphone camera to see our donor list on our website, or visit:



[saintmarthas.org/give/  
current-supporters](https://saintmarthas.org/give/current-supporters)

Expenses	2022	% of Expenses
Fundraising	106,194	6%
Administration	334,131	19%
Programs	1,297,003	75%

Interested in making a 2023 gift to Saint Martha's?



[saintmarthas.org/give](https://saintmarthas.org/give)



Mailstop 472001  
PO Box 953745  
St. Louis, MO  
63195-3745

**Net Unrestricted  
Surplus** **\$ 94,781**

**Total Year End  
Net Assets** **\$ 2,736,893**



## Why I Work with Saint Martha's

“

**Diana,  
27 years**

Saint Martha's is filled with women who carry so much knowledge, wisdom, and passion. The love for each other and those they serve is unmatched. I can think of no place I would rather be. I am blessed to have spent over half my life along side such amazing people.

Through my own growth, I believe everyone has the right and potential to be the person they want to be. I work at Saint Martha's to support and uplift survivors who may be going through one of the most challenging times of their lives, looking to regain their strength and power as a woman.

”

**Leanna,  
3 months**



## Why I Give to Saint Martha's



**Diane  
Rabenau**

*Diane has been a friend of Saint Martha's since the very beginning. She has served on the board, volunteered at both the shelter and drop-in center, has hosted fundraisers, and generously donated.*

My association with Saint Martha's has been important and meaningful for me over the years. Since its beginning, Saint Martha's, a Saint Louis Catholic Charities ministry, has touched and mended the lives of countless women and their children by offering numerous services designed to enable women to rebuild their lives and their hearts.

The women who come to Saint Martha's are shown how to love and respect themselves by following the guidelines set in place for their healing and independence by the dedicated leaders and

staff. Their expertise, kindness, and compassion is a miracle of dedication. They are the best!

Saint Martha's also has worked tirelessly to educate the near and far communities of all ages on the issues and the effects of the topic of domestic violence.

How fortunate am I to have witnessed such goodness and to have known firsthand that lives have been saved because of Saint Martha's.



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## Save the Date 2.14.23



### Join Us for Giving Day 2023

Saint Martha's is back with our 24-hour fundraising event! Held on Valentine's Day (February 14, 2023), this one-day event provides important assistance to the women and children we serve.

**Every gift made during the 24-hour campaign will be quadrupled by our generous benefactors.**

We hope you'll join us in empowering women and ending domestic abuse.

- ✓ **24 hour fundraising campaign**
- ✓ **Every gift quadrupled!**
- ✓ **Provide critical support for victims of domestic violence**

To learn more, stay tuned to our Facebook and Instagram accounts or visit our website, [saintmarthas.org](https://saintmarthas.org).

