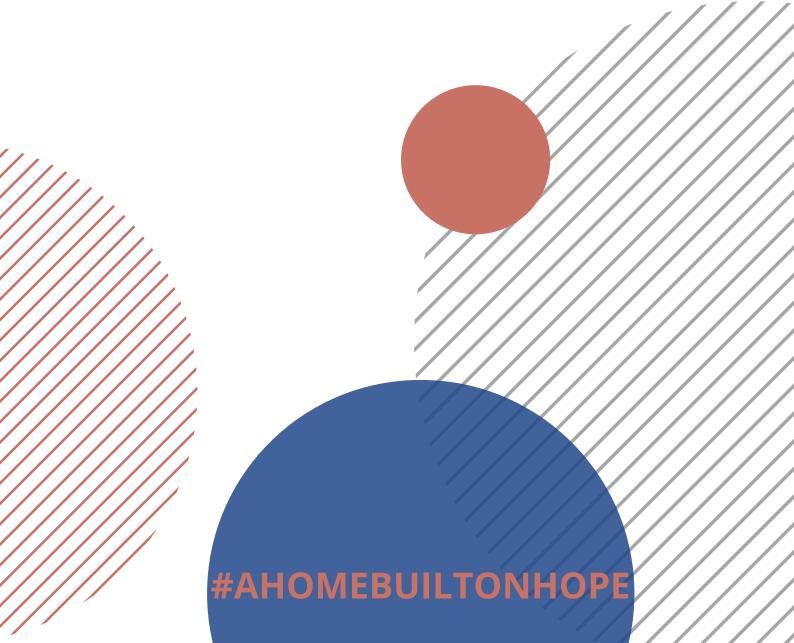
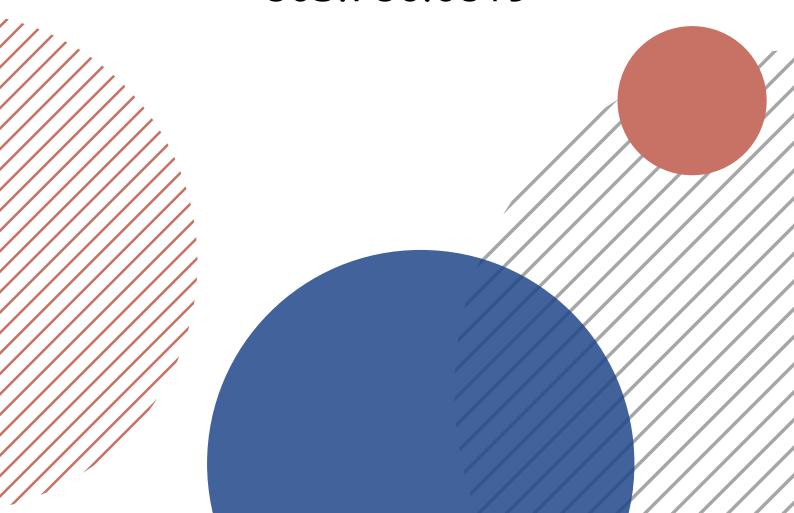


## ANNUAL REPORT

2021



# WWW.PALMETTOPLACE.ORG PO BOX 3395 COLUMBIA, SC 29230 803.786.6819



#### 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### **OFFICERS**

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SARAH GUTHRIE, JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB APPOINTEE\*

CAROLINE DUNCAN, JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB APPOINTEE\*

\*AS THE FOUNDERS OF PALMETTO PLACE, THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE
JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB HOLD VOTING BOARD SEATS.



# **Our Story So Far:**A letter from the Executive Director

Our impact is a testament to the commitment and compassion of our partner agencies, our financial supporters, our volunteers, and our staff. As we continue to navigate through this global pandemic, the mission of Palmetto Place Children and Youth Services —to provide a safe and supportive environment for children and teens who have faced abuse, abandonment, neglect, and/or homelessness —is more relevant and urgent than ever. Since our inception in 1977, we have been a haven and home for more than 7,500 youth. Since 2012, we have provided a safe and nurturing home preparing more than 540 homeless youth for independence and self-sustainability. As I read through the following annual report, I am struck by what has been achieved in the past year. However, it is not our accomplishment alone. We thank all who have contributed to our success!

92% Positive Housing Outcome for youth in Residential Programs. The question is, where do we go from here?

In 2021 we added apartment-style transitional housing for youth ages 18-21. In 2022, our goal is to increase our scattered-site housing options for unaccompanied youth.

This past year, our village showed tremendous resilience and responsibility and resolved to support our youth, and I am proud of our work together.

Shawn Caraballo Executive Director

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# ABOUT PALMETTO PLACE

Palmetto Place Children & Youth Services has provided a safe and supportive environment to more than 7,500 children and youth who have been abandoned, abused, neglected, and/or experienced homelessness since 1977.

Palmetto Place provides three key programs to South Carolina's most vulnerable population that include:



21 COUNTIES SERVED
127 UNDUPLICATED CLIENTS

#### UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH PROGRAM

YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS AGES 16-21 ARE
PROVIDED RESIDENTIAL HOUSING AS WELL AS WRAP-AROUND
SERVICES SUCH AS MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE,
INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS, EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT, CAREER
READINESS, AND RECREATIONAL

#### PREGNANT & PARENTING TEEN + EMERGENCY GROUP HOME

PREGNANT OR PARENTING TEENS ALONG WITH THEIR BABIES IN FOSTER CARE
THROUGH THE SC DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ARE PROVIDED
RESIDENTIAL HOUSING AND WRAP- AROUND SERVICES SUCH AS MEDICAL (PRE& POST-NATAL) AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE, INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS,
PARENTING CLASSES, AND RECREATIONAL OUTINGS.

#### TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM

WE PROVIDE A MORE INDEPENDENT SETTING FOR YOUTH WHO ARE WORKING TO GAIN SELF-SUSTAINABILITY AND PERMANENT HOUSING.

#### **AFTERCARE PROGRAM**

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH WHO EXIT THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM RECEIVE ONGOING CASE MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE NAVIGATION FOR UP TO 12 MONTHS. THIS PROGRAM ALSO PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO YOUTH AGES 16-24 EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY ASSISTING IN SECURING PERMANENT HOUSING.

### UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

**PROGRAM** 

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY – 95 DAYS OR 3 MONTHS ACTIVITIES.



90%
POSITIVE
HOUSING
OUTCOMES

TOTAL YOUTH SERVED



#### **Program Highlights:**

#### **Education**

7 Clients graduated High School or Completed their GED

12 Clients were enrolled in GED Programs

100% of High School students completed Grade Level

\*\*POSITIVE HOUSING OUTCOME – POSITIVE OUTCOME DEFINED AS NOT RETURNING TO THE STREET, PLACE NOT MEANT FOR HABITATION, HOTEL, OR UNKNOWN.



27 TOTAL YOUTH SERVED

POSITIVE HOUSING OUTCOMES



#### **Program Highlights:**

- **5** Clients obtained their Permit
- 4 Clients obtained their Driver's License
- 5 Clients attended Driver's Training

## TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM



TOTAL YOUTH SERVED







#### **Program Highlights:**

#### **Employment:**

**90%** of clients found employment or enrolled in Full-Time Education programs.

**95%** of Clients that were at Palmetto Place for 14+ days found employment or enrolled in full-time Education Programs.

# AFTERCARE & RAPID REHOUSING PROGRAM

#### STORY FROM OUR YOUTH:

Sabrina lived in her car for 11th and 12th grade and experienced hardship since her early teens. This unaccompanied youth found Palmetto Place in the Spring of 2021.

Here are a few of her words,

"I want to thank Palmetto Place for helping me get back on my feet and getting my own place and being able to come home and not have to worry. Palmetto Place helped me with supplies I needed - even my first month and security deposit. I am truly grateful for all her help. Their belief in me has really grounded me & helped me stay on track. I must say I honestly don't know where I would be without her support. Thank You for everything. I greatly appreciate it."



Additional youth ages 18-24 found permanent housing through our Aftercare Program in 2021.

#### Aftercare Youth Receive:

- Wraparound services such as resource navigation and support Financial housing assistance through HUD-funded Rapid Rehousing program.
- Furniture & household supplies.
- Monthly Independent Living Skills.
- Workshops and Dinner.

# THANK YOU, PHILANTEERS!

#### phi· lan·teer

noun a philanthropic volunteer who donates time, talents, or monetary gifts to Palmetto Place to make an impact.

In 2021, despite adjusting all volunteer efforts to comply with covid-19 precautionary measures, 152 Philanteers provided over 791 hours of their time to our youth. 146 dinners were provided, affording our staff valuable time to work one-on-one with our residents to develop lasting relationships with a trusted adult. Countless donations were provided to the shelters, including hard-to-locate items such as toilet paper, diapers, and cleaning supplies.















# PALMETTO PLACE