



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Our Mission: Coburn Place opens a door through which women and children fleeing domestic violence can find safe haven. Coburn Place transforms battered lives by healing painful emotions, teaching valuable life skills, and fostering financial independence and long-term self-sufficiency.

When did Coburn Place open?

- December 1996

What is the history of the building?

- Originally it was Henry P. Coburn School, I.P.S. #66.
- It became housing for people with disabilities in the 1980's.
- Martin Luther King Community Development Corporation rehabbed the building, and it became Coburn Place Safe Haven in 1996.

How many apartments do you have?

- 35 apartments
 - 15 one-bedroom apartments – houses a woman alone or with one child
 - 15 two-bedroom apartments – houses a woman and up to 3 children
 - 5 three-bedroom apartments – houses a woman and up to 5 children

How many women and children have you served?

- As of March 20, 2010 - 492 women and 809 children

What are the admission criteria?

- All survivors must be homeless because of domestic violence.
- All survivors' income must fall within Section 42 guidelines for low-income tax credit housing.
- All survivors must be able to sign a lease.

How are applicants referred?

- Emergency shelter staff
- Other service providers
- Police
- Hospitals
- Churches
- Friends and Family
- Self

What is the admission process?

- A woman completes and submits an application.
- If there is an open apartment to accommodate her/her family, she is called in for an interview to determine eligibility.
- If there is no open apartment, she is contacted and put on a waitlist, if desired.
- This process can take from a couple of days to a couple of weeks if not on the waitlist.

How long do the women and children stay with you?

- A survivor signs a six-month lease upon entering the program.
- After her first six months, she may sign another six-month lease; opt for a month-to-month lease; sign a one-year lease; or find permanent housing.
- A survivor may stay at Coburn Place for up to two years.

What is the average length of stay?

- 9.3 months for all residents (those leaving the program 12/96-03/11)
- 11.7 months for 2007-2011 residents (those leaving the program 1/1/07-03/20/11)
- Our data show that the longer a survivor remains in the program, the more success she has in attaining her goals.

What are the goals for the women in your program?

- To increase independent living skills
- To achieve a greater level of economic independence
- To obtain permanent safe housing

What supportive services do you provide?

- Individual advocacy
- Individual and/ or family therapy
- Individual and group economic education
- Childcare
- Financial coaching
- Court advocacy
- Employment readiness
- Job skill development
- GED tutoring
- Health/wellness education
- Business ownership training
- Substance abuse therapy
- Domestic violence support groups
- Comprehensive on-site children's services
- Direct assistance for basic needs
- Follow-up services (3 months post exit)

Are residents allowed to have visitors?

- Yes, each resident has a visitor list, approved by her advocate.
- Male visitors are not allowed.
- Each visitor must be supportive of a resident's goals.
- Visitors must show I.D., a copy of which stays on file.
- Abusers are not allowed on visitor lists or on the property.

Is there a curfew for residents?

- No, they are free to come and go as they wish, 24 hours a day.

Diversity of all Coburn Place residents (12/96-08/09)

- | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-------|------------|------------|
| • Race/ Ethnicity | | | • Age | |
| ○ African American | 313 | (64%) | ○ Average | 32.3 years |
| ○ Asian | 4 | (1%) | ○ Youngest | 18.3 years |
| ○ Biracial | 7 | (1%) | ○ Oldest | 58.5 years |
| ○ Hispanic | 6 | (1%) | | |
| ○ Other | 9 | (2%) | | |
| ○ Part Native American | 5 | (1%) | | |
| ○ White | 148 | (30%) | | |

Change in income and average length of stay of those leaving the program (12/96-03/11)

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|-------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| • Increased | 141 (31%) | 13.6 months |
| • Decreased | 130 (29%) | 9.1 months |
| • No change with job | 96 (21%) | 6.9 months |
| • No change without job | 89 (19%) | 5.3 months |

Destination and average length of stay of those leaving the program (12/96-03/11)

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|---|------|-------------|
| • Homeownership | 7 | 24.0 months |
| • Unsubsidized rental housing | 147 | 12.0 months |
| • Section 8 or other subsidized rental housing | 55 | 11.3 months |
| • Moved in w/ family or friends- permanent | 47 | 8.2 months |
| • Alternative supportive housing | 15 | 7.5 months |
| • Moved in w/ family or friends (permanent or temporary not tracked at that time) | 24 | 7.3 months |
| • Moved in w/ family or friends- temporary | 61 | 7.0 months |
| • Emergency shelter | 12 | 5.7 months |
| • Unknown or disappeared | 87 | 5.1 months |
| • TOTAL | 455* | |

*Not including one resident who died.

How are you funded?

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Individuals | • State of Indiana |
| • Civic Groups & Faith-Based Organizations | • Office on Violence Against Women Recovery Act |
| • Businesses | Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for |
| • Private and Family Foundations | Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, |
| • City of Indianapolis | Stalking, or Sexual Assault |
| • HUD’s Supportive Housing Program | |

What type of donations do you accept?

- Cash
- Checks
- VISA & MasterCard (phone, mail-in, online)
- Please see our current Wish List
- New Linens
 - Full & Twin Sheet Sets
 - Pillows
 - Blankets
 - Towels & Wash Cloths
- New or Gently Used Household Items
 - Sets of Dishes
 - Silverware
 - Pots & Pans
 - Bowls
- Gift Certificates
 - Grocery
 - Wal-Mart
 - Target
 - Walgreens
 - CVS
- Small Appliances
 - Microwaves
 - Vacuum Cleaners
 - Irons
 - Toasters
 - Cable Ready TVs, VCRs, DVD Players
 - Computers 2 years old or newer
- Miscellaneous
 - Used Cell Phones
 - Cleaning Supplies
 - Batteries

ITEMS WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT

- Clothing
- Used Stuffed Toys
- Computers older than 2 years
- Candles
- Wine Glasses