

Sanctuary Women's Development Center

Offering safety and hope to homeless women and children

"Oklahoma City has a significant homeless problem and to make matters worse, many of our homeless are single women with children. I was amazed at the many services the Sanctuary offers to support these women and empower them to become independent again....The Oklahoma City Police Department also has a vested interest in assisting the homeless population and we fully support the work at the Sanctuary."

— William Citty, Oklahoma City Chief of Police



A Supportive Community Setting

Guests at the Sanctuary receive basic necessities — safety, hot showers, clean laundry, nutritious snacks — but also much more. The Sanctuary provides access to voicemail and computers — invaluable tools in applying for jobs and social services.

Case management is also available, as well as helpful classes including:

- Tackling the Tough Skills (life skills, anger management, self esteem and problem-solving)
- Domestic Violence Education and Healthy Relationships
- Women Helping Women
- Resumes
- Journaling
- Arts and Crafts

"Homelessness is not going to last forever!"

"The Sanctuary helps me to keep in touch with my family in OKC, helps me to be able to keep my clothes clean, take showers.... I can come visit with the other women and that makes me feel better. Homelessness is not going to last forever! I have been encouraged to move on."
— Elane C.

"I live on the street and I have nowhere to shower or clean up. I come here and shower and they provide me with everything I need.... I have gotten help with many things like a birth certificate and bus passes. If the Sanctuary wasn't here I don't know where I would go every day."
— "Mary"

"Sanctuary has helped me to organize things so that I can get things done that were very important — goals in my life, some group activities and a case manager. I can talk to all of the staff. They are like my family." — Shanna J.

"Ever since I have been coming here, everything looks better. Since my husband died in March and I moved to a shelter, the ladies at Sanctuary have been my support." — Susie C.

Your sponsorship makes the difference.

The Sanctuary Women's Development Center opened in April 2009. In its first six months, the center already had served 250 women and children, including 152 who were disabled; 98 who suffered with mental illness; 43 with substance abuse issues; and 108 victims of domestic violence. During that time, Sanctuary staff helped 28 women find housing. An average of 30 women a day access services. Many come with children at their side... and the numbers grow daily.

Proceeds from the St. Patrick's Grand Marshal Green Tie Gala make the Sanctuary possible. For more information about becoming a Green Tie Gala sponsor, contact Jane Moon at jmoon@catholiccharitiesok.org or 405-526-2319.

