

Domestic Violence Survivors Need Stable Housing to Move Forward after Abuse

For survivors of domestic violence, escaping their abuser can be just the first hurdle to a safe and stable future. Too many of the survivors that come through Synergy's domestic violence shelter are denied housing due to evictions, unpaid utility bills and even criminal records that are the direct result of abuse.



Meet Judith*. She was evicted from HUD housing when her abuser continually showed up at her apartment, against her will. She is a student in a work-study program, so doesn't have full-time income; but if she can complete the program, she will be guaranteed full-time employment with excellent wages—wages that she needs to create a better future for herself and her 10-year old daughter, Zoe. Unfortunately, her eviction prevents her from getting a Section 8 voucher, which is the only way she can afford safe housing while she completes the program.

To overcome these barriers, Synergy launched the Domestic Violence Housing program last month to help families like Judith and Zoe. The program provides housing and support services for up to two years to enable survivors the chance to catch their breath and lay a solid foundation for future stability and success.

"Clients like Judith are often forced to shelter hop because they are continually denied housing," said Christina Cherry manager for the new program at Synergy. "My hope is that we can end this cycle and provide these clients and their children with low-barrier housing, along with the case management and therapy services they need to move forward."

Judith and Zoe are one of four families currently housed through the new program. Thank you for your support which enables us to bring together the mix of programs and services needed to create "safe todays and strong tomorrows" for struggling families throughout our community.

*Name changed to protect privacy

News & Events

Best Bake Sale Ever

Kudos to [UMB Bank](#)'s Consumer Card Underwriting and Continuous Improvement teams for their creative fundraising effort--a modern day take on the traditional bake sale! Team leaders used their exceptional cold brew coffee and biscotti making skills to brew up more than \$4,000 to benefit Synergy clients. UMB's amazing and ongoing support makes a big difference for the families Synergy serves!

Mother's Day Drive Breaks Records

The long-standing annual Mother's Day Drive by the [Kiwaniis Club of Kansas City, Missouri](#) was a record breaking success this year! Young parents from Synergy's Teen Parent Support program rely on the diapers and other baby supplies this drive provides annually. While always amazing, this year exceeded all expectations with nearly \$5,000 in merchandise and cash collected!

Fixer Upper

HGTV's got nothing on the dedicated volunteers from [NorthPoint Development!](#) When they spent the day at our DVC recently, they rolled up their sleeves and got right to work making the shelter more beautiful and functional. They did it all--from painting to installing flooring and bathroom fixtures. The women and children staying in shelter appreciate the cheery new surroundings!

Girl Power

The Girl Scouts of Troop 1126 gave the kids at Synergy's Children's Center a special treat last month when they helped fill eggs for a special Easter egg hunt. What a fun and fabulous surprise for them! On top of that, the girls collected items for the center's clothing closet. We love Girl Scouts!

Calling All Golfers

Whether you're a scratch golfer or just looking for a good time with friends, Swing Fore Synergy is a great excuse to sneak in a round of 18, since every dollar raised goes to support Synergy's [Street Outreach](#) team! This year's tournament is July 22 at the Nicklaus Golf Club at Lionsgate. [Sign-up your team of four](#) to compete in a scramble format for bragging rights and prizes. No matter how you finish, breakfast, lunch and ice-cold beer are provided.

Off the Cuff with Wayne Brady

We are so excited and proud to host Wayne Brady for the 13th Annual Stand Up for Synergy. Don't miss this stand-out event that includes an exclusive cocktail reception, dinner, one-of-a-kind live auction and Brady's brilliant off-the-cuff comedy! Join us on November 2, 2019 at the Argosy Casino Hotel & Spa. [Reserve your spot today>>](#)

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