

2018

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

SOJOURNER
HOUSE

2018 STATISTICS

Sojourner House:	53	women received treatment
	57%	stayed longer than 90 days
	113	days, average length of stay
	25	adults who graduated
	42	children served
	4	children reunited with their mothers
	100%	children screened and assessed (under 5)
Drug of choice for women:	75%	opioids
	.8%	alcohol
	11%	crack cocaine
	.2%	marijuana
	.4%	methamphetamine
Ethnicity of women served:	13%	African America
	83%	Caucasian
	1%	Biracial
	.4%	Hispanic
MOMS Programs:	47	adults received housing and supportive services provided by MOMS
	27	adults received housing and supportive services provided by outside sources
	82	children received services provided by MOMS
	43	children received services provided by outside sources
	19	parents attended school or worked
	94%	parents who maintained legal custody
	11	children reunified with their parents
	19	children participated in academic programming and attended school regularly
	15	youths enjoyed MOMS camp
	97%	children made honor roll and were promoted to the next grade



Joann Cyganovich
Executive Director

FOR 12 YEARS, I have had the gift of being a part of the transformation of recovery from the disease of addiction for mothers. Women, especially mothers, have been neglected and not provided opportunities for treatment and childcare. In fact, very few studies have been done about the impact of addiction on women (as opposed to men) and even less on parental addiction.

I can't tell you how proud I am of Sojourner House. From the incredible women (and men) who thought of and founded this program, to the many wonderful people and organizations that continue to support its work. It is a unique, family-centered program. Mostly, I love that mothers are respected and not judged for their disease. In fact, we applaud them. Their recovery journey is complex. It's not just about them; it's about their children.

The greatest magic that I have ever witnessed is the love that shines from a mother's eyes when she is with her child(ren). Watching a mother and child be reunified or seeing a healthy baby born to someone who used opiates during her pregnancy is a joy.

As I near my retirement in June 2019, it is not without sadness. I will never forget this fulfilling experience and the incredible people I have met during these past 12 years.

Thank you.

Blessings to Sojourner Always,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joann Cyganovich".

Joann Cyganovich

JANUARY

CHATHAM

UNIVERSITY'S *Words Without Walls* program began its sixth year of visiting Sojourner House each week every semester to teach writing to residents. Each semester ends with a public reading by residents at a local gallery or another location, as well as publication of the residents' work. Resident **Kari Childs** graciously offered to share her work in 2018.



A Stand

*Look at her she chose
to just leave. She preferred
to be with a man
that beats her. Shame
& Guilt consume her
not even heroin from
that deadly disease-infested
needle could kill her.
She takes a stand, fights
back & comes back with
all her prayers living free
of that devilish life. Stand
up you're worth the fight.*



Residential Supervision

Program Aides provide 24/7, awake, supervision of residents' daily, evening and weekend activities.

- Facility Maintenance
- Supportive Services
- Quality Assurance

Sojourner House is blessed to receive support throughout the year from churches, foundations, corporations, organizations, educational institutions, and individuals. In February, Point Park University was one such educational institution when the university's Wood Street Communications initiative created a video, "Sojourner House Program Aides: An Overview," for Sojourner House's Human Resources department.

FEBRUARY



Sojourner House's **14th Annual Victorian Tea** fundraiser on April 15 proved to be bigger, better and more successful than ever. Gorgeous hats and fascinators filled the Priory with more than 300 guests in attendance. Nearly 50 silent auction and raffle items lined the Great Hall. Emcee **Shannon Perrine** introduced musicians **Eric Granata** and **Nina Sainato**, who performed a beautiful rendition of "Here Comes the Sun" while guests enjoyed tea sandwiches, teas and various pastries. Soon thereafter, **Henry Horn-Pyatt** from the Office of Mayor William Peduto proclaimed April 15 "Sojourner House Day." A reading by a Sojourner House graduate followed by a video about Sojourner House and Chatham University "Words Without Walls" collaboration brought tears to many guests' eyes, while Pearl of Hope recipient **Lynne Chadwick** and honorary chair Sabika Jewelry Founder and CEO **Karin Mayr** offered words of inspiration.

APRIL



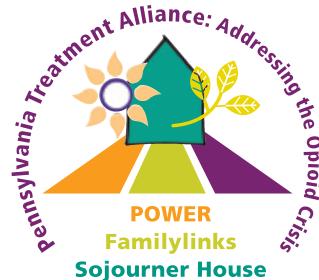
Tea chair Nancy Davis, Pearl of Hope honoree Lynne Chadwick, Honorary Chair Karin Mayr, and Executive Director Joann Cyganovich



*Rosa Davis, Joann Cyganovich,
Claire Smyth, Fred Massey*

Creation of Pennsylvania Treatment Alliance

In an additional response to the opioid epidemic, three community leaders in effective recovery treatment – including Sojourner House Executive Director **Joann Cyganovich** – joined forces to increase awareness and advocacy for those combating addiction, especially women with children. Cyganovich, along with **Rosa Davis**, Executive Director of POWER, and **Fred Massey**, President and CEO of Familylinks, formed the Pennsylvania Treatment Alliance, an innovative approach to advocacy, and recruited Claire Smyth as the Alliance's Government Relations Coordinator. Since its inception, the Alliance has made great strides in providing insight and assistance to state and federal legislators and to the government agencies that oversee addiction services. The Alliance's visits to Harrisburg and Congress have produced important changes in procedures for providers and support for greater funding to address the devastation of addiction.



JUNE & JULY

Summers at Sojourner House are always full of indoor and outdoor activities, whether it's summer camp offered to our children, family field trips to the Pittsburgh Zoo, summer picnics for staff, or residents and neighbors.





Sojourner House founder Peggy Reding was one of many generous friends who made donations to support the newest Sojourner House MOMS endeavor, an apartment building offering early recovery support housing for families in a healthy, drug-free environment for up to a year. Families began occupying the six three-bedroom units that can accommodate two-parent households and up to four children. Many thanks to all of the foundations, churches, and individuals who helped to make this greatly needed program a reality, including **Eden Hall Foundation, Opportunity Fund, Pittsburgh Foundation, Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church, Shadyside Presbyterian Church, Sewickley Presbyterian Church, and Southminster Presbyterian Church.**

AUGUST

"Girls' Nights" was hosted at local nonprofit **Treasure House Fashions**. During this evening, our residents enjoyed a catered dinner in a private room at the North Hills-based women's resale clothing shop. Then, alongside their individual "personal shoppers," Sojourner House residents chose clothing and accessories. Thanks to all who make our summers so special.



OCTOBER

The *Pittsburgh Business Times* separately honored Sojourner House board president **Liz Harrington** and Executive Director **Joann Cyganovich** in October for the outstanding work they have done for Sojourner House, as well as for the community. Joann was honored as a “Health Care Hero,” while Liz was honored as one of the “30 under 30” honorees.

Shadyside Presbyterian Church Retreat

Associate minister and motivational speaker **LaNita Butler** shared her story with Sojourner House’s residents during **Shadyside Presbyterian Church’s** Annual Retreat for our women and children on Saturday, October 27. Following breakfast, residents went to hear Baker’s presentation, “New Year – New Book.”

“A new year is like a blank book,” she said. “The pen is in your hands. It is your chance to write a beautiful story for yourself.”

While Butler shared her words of wisdom, residents’ children enjoyed various activities with church volunteers. The retreat concluded with a lovely lunch that residents and volunteers shared. Many thanks to Sojourner House board member **Lisa Iadicicco**, who also is a member of Shadyside Presbyterian, for coordinating the inspirational day.



LaNita Butler



Liz Harrington (inset). Joann Cyganovich speaking at Health Care Heroes reception (above).

NOVEMBER



Gearing up for Tea – Honorary Chairs

Sojourner House's 2019 Annual Victorian Tea was already proving to be a stellar one by November: Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Executive Director **Harris Ferris** and his wife, **Janet**, a former Sojourner House staff member, graciously accepted an invitation to be the 2019 tea honorary co-chairs.

The Ferrises have been recognized for playing prominent roles in not only the arts community, but also in the local philanthropic community. Janet, who is now Controller for Las Vegas-based JLD Living Trust, previously worked in Sojourner House's Finance Department.

Community Forum

Sojourner House was one of multiple organizations that participated in "Hopeful Responses to Addiction" community forum on Nov. 19, at the Jewish Community Center in Squirrel Hill. Organized by **Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania** and the **Center for Loving Kindness and Civic Engagement at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh**, the forum featured local religious leaders, County representatives and organizations such as **Prevention Point Pittsburgh** and **Sojourner House**. The audience of approximately 50 people listened to Sojourner House graduate **Shannon McNeil** bravely share her story. Sojourner House founding Executive Director **Dana Gold** also was a guest speaker. Break-out discussions focused on addiction and its impact on the community, as well as pathways to hope.



Sojourner House graduate Shannon McNeil sharing her story on Nov. 19, 2018.

DECEMBER

After 10 years as president of the Sojourner House MOMS board, **Maelene Myers** chaired her final board meeting on Dec. 12. "Maelene has been an unwavering advocate of Sojourner House MOMS since the very beginning. Having her at the helm placed us on solid ground since out outset. We'll be forever grateful to her," said Sojourner House Executive Director **Joann Cyganovich**. Also seen are board members **Gloria Brown, Tammy Thompson, Christie Smith, and Yodit Betru**. Because of her longstanding efforts, Myers was chosen to be Sojourner House's 2019 Pearl of Hope honoree at the 15th Annual Victorian Tea.



Gary Cirrincione, Joann Cyganovich, Gloria Brown, Maelene Myers, Tammy Thompson, Christie Smith, Yodit Betru



Pittsburgh-based **Tickets for Kids** has been supporting Sojourner House by donating tickets to our families since the 1990s, allowing our families to participate in such activities as going to baseball games and ballet performances, and visiting the zoo and museums. TFK graciously invited their nonprofit partners and donors to a holiday open house on Dec. 6 at their Blawnox headquarters. Celebrating were, left to right, Executive Director **Jason Riley**, Program Director **Carolyn Falk**, and Sojourner House Volunteer Coordinator **Liz Wasel**.

Many thanks to ALL of the organizations and churches that support us each holiday season.

New Board Member, Director of Clinical Services Join Sojourner House in 2018



Lauren Marzullo joined the 2018-19 board. Marzullo, a senior attorney for Morgan Lewis Law Firm, earned her bachelor's degree from Duquesne University. Lauren graduated from University of Cincinnati's Law School.

Meghan Briggs was hired as Sojourner House's Director of Clinical Services. Briggs graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a BA in Criminology, minoring in Sociology. She also earned an MA degrees in Criminology from IUP. In addition, she earned drug and alcohol counseling diplomas from IUP.



Briggs most recently worked as Director of Aftercare for Foundation of HOPE. She also worked for Allegheny County Jail and state correctional institutions. Briggs is an adjunct professor at Community College of Allegheny County and teaches for the Liquor Control Board.

SOJOURNER HOUSE STAFF

Joann Cyganovich, Executive Director

Administration

Meghan Briggs, Director of Clinical Services
Lindsey Hayakawa, Administrative Assistant
Kholsen Hightower, Human Resources Generalist
Susan Orr, Director of Development
Steven Renfro, Property Maintenance Director
Matt Lewis, Director of Finance + Operations
Dominic Zappa, Assistant Director of Finance + Operations

Sojourner House Team

Stephanie Eisel, Program Assistant
Tina Hippler, Family Support Specialist
Latina Jenkins, Family Support Specialist
Dolores Mitchell, Operations Coordinator
Erin Ramsey, Clinical Supervisor
Elizabeth Wasel, Child Development Specialist + Volunteer Coordinator
Darlene White, Life Skills Worker

Sojourner House MOMS Staff

Gregory Armstrong, Family Support Specialist
Rita Hill, Lead Family Support Specialist
Stephenia Leavy, Family Support Specialist
Dena Naughton, Peer Recovery Specialist
Karen Upsher, Family Housing Manager
Kyona White, Program Manager
Gwendolyn Williams, Family Support Specialist

Sojourner House Board

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Sarah Mayer, Vice President
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Yodit Betru, DSW, LCSW
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Christie Smith
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Gloria Brown, Interim President
Dr. Staci Flint, President Elect
Christie Smith, Treasurer
Tammy Thompson, Secretary
Yodit Betru, DSW, LCSW
Gary J. Cirrincione, RA

Annual Report 2018 Financials

REVENUE:

Government grants:	\$1,297,887
Program:	\$1,390,156
Other grants & public support:	\$307,278
Special events & investments:	\$73,656

EXPENSES:

Program:	\$2,476,896
G&A:	\$563,870
Fundraising:	\$98,706

Foundations & Community Organizations

\$50,000 or more

Richard King Mellon Foundation

\$20,000-\$49,999

Southminster Presbyterian Church
Pittsburgh Foundation

\$10,000-\$19,999

Shadyside Presbyterian Church
PNC Charitable Trust

\$5,000-\$9,999

PNC Foundation
UPMC/UPMC Health Plan
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\$100-\$249

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Sherry Anderson
Jeffrey Anderson
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Arthur Murray Dance Center
Bethlehem Baptist Church
Big Burrito Restaurant Group
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Cynthia Bradley-King
Betty Braxter
Marianna Breffell
Brett James Salon

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