



Beginnings



Lifehouse
Maternity Home

“A cord of three strands is not easily broken.” Ecclesiastes 4:12

When a woman contacts Lifehouse it is often because she feels hopeless and broken. Her relationship with family or friends is strained or non-existent. She has nowhere else to turn. She is hurting, feels unsafe, and believes she can no longer do this alone. She is seeking something to grab onto – a lifeline.

Ecclesiastes 4:12 reminds us that “a cord of three strands is not easily broken.” Three elements—woven together—offer strength far greater than one or two alone. At Lifehouse, this three-strand cord becomes a powerful metaphor for the lifeline we extend to moms in crisis: your faithful partnership, the transformative Lifepath program, the unshakable hope of Christ.

United, these strands create a bond strong enough to lift a mother from despair to a new life braided with hope, courage, and stability.

You are are critical strand.

Your partnership is a critical strand in this cord. Right now, your dollars are more powerful than ever. **We’ve been blessed with a \$50,000 matching challenge: every dollar you donate will be matched, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$50,000!** But we are aiming higher—praying God’s people will rally to hit 2.5 times that match, raising \$175,000 for Unity for Life 2025!



Here’s how your lifeline gift changes lives:

Lee* arrived at Lifehouse after rehab, a single mom facing an uncertain future. Starting as a restaurant cashier, she’s now an Assistant Manager with dreams of becoming General Manager. She recently graduated from Lifehouse, and she and her daughter—who loves her rainbow unicorn room—are thriving in their own apartment. Lee credits Lifehouse with saving their lives.

Neve* came to us after an accident totaled her home – the car where she and her infant son slept. A shelter offered temporary safety, but it wasn’t enough for a child. Now at Lifehouse, Neve has a job, a warm bed for her and her baby, and fierce determination to build a better life.

Lauren* will graduate from nursing school this Spring. After rehab, she and her son found stability at Lifehouse, where she now lives in a Phase Two transitional unit. She’ll start working as an OR nurse in June, saving for a home while dreaming of moving closer to family in Georgia. Lauren sees God’s hand in leading her to Lifehouse, grateful for a fresh start.

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Remembering Andrea Hammond: A Faithful Servant and Beloved Mentor

Lifehouse staff, leadership and participants are mourning the passing of beloved House Mentor, Andrea Hammond. Andrea joined Lifehouse in 2024, and quickly won the hearts of all those that interacted with her. Andrea was “no nonsense” when it came to loving, guiding, and caring for the Lifehouse moms and children. She always brought laughter and peace to Lifehouse, and she will be greatly missed by all of us.

We ask for prayers for her family, and we hold tightly to the fact that Andrea heard the very beautiful words from our Lord, “Well done, good and faithful servant!” from Matthew 25:21.



The Lord Leads and Equips

By Dolli Neikirk, CEO
dneikirk@lifehouiselouisville.org

Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.
Ecclesiastes 4:12

In early March, I celebrated six years as part of the Lifehouse family. It's hard to believe how quickly time has passed since my second day on the job, when I came home and told my husband, "God picked the wrong person for this." That afternoon, I'd sat in on my first interview with a prospective program participant—a seventeen-year-old girl who had endured unimaginable trauma and abuse from family, foster homes, and group homes. Yet there she was, determined to keep her baby and give it the love she'd never known.

Listening to her story broke my heart, and I still don't know how I kept my composure. That day taught me a profound lesson: God doesn't always call the equipped, but He equips those He calls. Six years later, I'm still leaning on Him to guide and teach me.

The Changing Struggles of Our Moms

Over these six years, the stories and struggles of Lifehouse moms have evolved. When I started, most of the pregnant women reaching out to us were battling addiction or seeking recovery, desperate for help to get sober. We'd connect them with treatment centers, promising a bed at Lifehouse once they were on the path to healing. Then came COVID—a challenge unlike anything we'd faced. Jobs disappeared, daycares shuttered, and

keeping everyone healthy in a shared living space felt like an uphill battle.

Today, our biggest hurdles look different. Many of the women we serve are housing insecure or homeless, unable to afford skyrocketing rents. Another pressing issue is safe, reliable childcare. Post-COVID, numerous daycare centers have never reopened, and many others have since closed. On top of that, the current generation of Lifehouse moms—shaped by past trauma, cultural influences, or lingering fears from the pandemic—hesitate to entrust their children to strangers. Whatever the root, we've recognized a critical truth: for these moms to achieve sustainable stability, they need to work, and to work, they need a place where they feel their children are secure.

This realization spurred Lifehouse leadership into action. Over the past year, we explored off-site childcare options, researched licensing requirements, and calculated renovation costs. After careful consideration, we concluded the most feasible option is childcare must happen on-site at Lifehouse.

From Need to Vision to Reality

To make this vision a reality, we've mapped out the necessary steps. For safety, an additional staircase needs to

be added to the lower level, where the childcare space will be located. Security cameras and recording equipment need to be installed to ensure everyone's safety. The space will need supplies and we will hire additional staff to care for the children of our participants. This new **Child Life Center** will be a haven—overflowing with love, laughter, learning, and Jesus. We'll read Bible stories, sing "Jesus Loves Me," and share God's love with children of all ages, free from restrictions.

Unity for Life is Your Opportunity to Help Provide Safe, Loving Childcare

You can help turn this dream into reality through your generous support of **Unity for Life**. Lifehouse grows because of your faith in our mission, the proven impact of our **Lifepath** program, and God's abundant blessings on this ministry—three strands woven into a strong cord, lifting moms toward safety and stability. Our Unity for Life goal is \$175,000, which includes a \$50,000 matching challenge, meaning we need \$125,000 in contributions to get there. I trust in God's generosity, shown through His faithfulness and His people. Thank you for your prayers and your giving during Unity for Life.

May God bless you and keep you; may His face shine upon you and give you peace.

3 Easy Ways to Give



Mail your gift in the reply envelope provided



Call 502-897-1655 to give by phone



Give online quickly and securely

Aim your camera here and click to give.



LifehouseLouisville.org

House Happenings



Celebrating Program Graduate

A “Celebration of SUCCESS” was held for program graduate M.S., who completed the entire 4-year duration of the Lifepath program. Staff, coworkers, and peers joined together to celebrate M.S.’s accomplishments at Lifehouse and cheer her on as she embarks on her journey.

M.S. has dedicated her time in the program to creating the life she desired for herself and her daughter. She has persevered through the growing pains and challenges of completing the Lifepath program. Participants often look to her as a source of inspiration, that they too can make it through the program.

Although M.S. is transitioning from the program, Lifehouse will continue to be a community resource that she can rely on for support.



Financial Empowerment

Financial education and empowerment continue to be areas of focus within the Lifepath program. To remain innovative in teaching financial stewardship, Case Manager Alle participates in different trainings to learn more about financial literacy.

Recently, KAPCA (The Kentucky Association of Pregnancy Care Centers) offered a Financial Discipleship course provided through Compass Financial Ministry. This course gave Alle an enlightened perspective on “Navigating Your Fincances God’s Way”. This was the workbook’s title that was utilized throughout the course, along with scripture breakdown, practical videos, and weekly group prayer/reflection time.

The course was highly impactful as we strive to lead participants by being an example.

Alle is now implementing one of the Compass workbooks, “Making Ends Meet” with participants in case management sessions.

The Compass workbooks are filled with helpful templates, open discussion questions and short videos related to each chapter. This is a great way to expose participants to financial principles that have proven to be successful and engage participants in their own ideas about managing finances.



Spring Door Decorations

Our program staff have been thinking of ways to embrace the community and to help every woman feel welcomed. When receiving feedback from participants, one idea that came up was a door decoration contest.

Interested participants can decorate their door for each season and be entered in a contest. Lifehouse provides essential items to decorate, and participants get creative with adding their personal touch.

Door decorations for Spring are popping up! Participants are even getting their kiddos involved in the fun. Staff members have also joined in. Looking at everyone’s creativity brightens the atmosphere a bit more.



Thank You & Welcome: Lifehouse Board Updates

Lifehouse would like to express its deep appreciation to Martina Young for her three years of service to our Board of Directors. We would also like to thank AW Buie for his two years of service to our Board of Directors. They both brought great insight and input to our leadership team. Lifehouse welcomes to the Board of Directors, Holly Cooper and Pastor Jamelle Jones. We are looking forward to their guidance during their terms.

Pelvic Health Seminar

Program participants had the opportunity to meet Dr. Jane Grant, PT, DPT. Dr. Grant is a pelvic health specialist, full-spectrum doula, and holistic professional. She specializes in pelvic floor rehabilitation, sexual wellness, and pregnancy and postpartum mobility.

Known for her integrative approach, Dr. Grant combines traditional physical therapy with a variety of holistic modalities, including herbalism, somatic healing, and mindfulness, to address the full spectrum of pelvic health and reproductive wellness. As the owner of Invigorate Holistic Wellness, she uses education, accessible wellness solutions, and advocacy to help her patients take control

of their health and thrive at all stages of their reproductive health journeys.

Dr. Grant led an interactive session and presentation on pelvic health for expecting and postpartum mothers.

She provided information related to the female anatomy, prenatal and postpartum exercise coaching, and practical ways to maintain pelvic health. Participants enjoyed practicing different pelvic exercises, engaging in open discussion, and gaining knowledge about their pelvic health.



Lifeshouse Staff attends Educational Conference

Lifeshouse Program Director, Shannon, Case Manager, Alle, and CEO, Dolli attended the first annual National Christian Conference on Sexual Exploitation held in Louisville. This conference provided education on human trafficking, focusing on recovery, trauma-informed care, residential programming, and more. Lifeshouse continues to receive calls and serve trafficking survivors. Lifeshouse also recently became a member of the Kentucky Secretary of State's Businesses Against Trafficking initiative. Lifeshouse is committed to providing the appropriate care and support for women and children who have survived this horrific trauma.



Join the Lifeshouse Team: Be a Light in the Lives of Moms and Babies

Lifeshouse is seeking 3–4 compassionate women to be a part of our team – women with a heart for the Lord and a passion for nurturing, encouraging, mentoring, organizing, teaching, praying, and loving babies and moms.

If you love to mentor, lead meaningful conversations, share devotionals, pray with others, and bring peace and order to a home setting, this could be the perfect place for you!

Some positions, such as House Mentor, are part-time, paid positions with flexible hours.

To apply, visit <https://lifeshouselouisville.org/who-we-are/application-for-house-mom/> or click the QR code.



Thank You For Being The Heartbeat of Lifeshouse

Lifeshouse is grateful for the churches, businesses, organizations and individuals who support the moms and babies served by Lifeshouse. We want to give special recognition to those gifts made in honor or memory of loved ones.

Foundations/Grants:

Good Samaritan Ministries

Corporate/Organizations

Acts II Mission Fund

Candy for Caring, Inc.

Christ Church United Methodist

Classic Worship Family

Holy Family Church

Knights of Columbus

SMM Council 15979

Midlane Park Presbyterian

The Marian Center

St. Edward Catholic Parish

Southeast Christian Church

Chapel in the Woods

Louisville Downtown

Lions Charities

Kroger

Memory/Honor

In Memory of Charles

& Betty Jansing by

Charlene Distler

In Honor of the Henson

family by Mr. & Mrs.

Mark Taylor

In Honor of Dolli Neikirk

by Mr. & Mrs. Charles

Lynch

Every effort has been made to account for these gifts. Please notify us of any errors or omissions and we will make a correction.

Welcome to our Newest Team Member

Lyssa Castor joined the Lifehouse team in February as Chief Development Officer, bringing more than a decade of nonprofit experience in the areas of development, marketing, and communications. With a passion for Lifehouse's mission, Lyssa is dedicated to spreading awareness of the essential resources we offer to pregnant and parenting women in the Louisville community, while securing the funding needed to sustain these efforts. She is thrilled to be a part of the Lifehouse family and ministry.

Lyssa lives in Oldham County with her husband Matt. They have three grown daughters and are enjoying their recent empty nester life. In her spare time Lyssa enjoys coaching volleyball, hiking, and traveling. Her favorite bible verse is Romans 8:28: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."



Thursday Disciples Class Provided Double Blessings to Lifehouse

Women from the Thursday Disciples class at Christ Church blessed Lifehouse with a wonderful donation of much needed household items. They returned a few weeks later to host a Saturday brunch for Lifehouse moms and babies, and have a tour. They even brought cake and cupcakes to help celebrate the birthdays of one of the moms and one of the children. We are grateful to the Thursday Disciples, and to Christ Church United Methodist, for their loving support of Lifehouse and our moms and children.

**PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY--
LIVES DEPEND ON IT.**



Give now.

From Mother's Day to Father's Day, **every dollar doubles up to \$50,000**, driving us to \$175,000.



A Cord of Three Strands...continued from page 1

Deena* has a complex journey, one that involves possible trafficking by a family member—a grim reality in over 40% of minor trafficking cases. When she left after the birth of her first child, Deena returned to an unhealthy living situation—but Lifehouse welcomed her back with grace when she reached out again, pregnant a second time. Today, Deena's safe, improving her English, earning her diploma, and watching her children thrive.

Unity for Life

This year, our Unity for Life campaign runs from **Mother's Day to Father's Day 2025**—May 11 to June 15—honoring the vital roles of women and men, united with God, in nurturing life. Your generous donation during this time is one of those strands, alongside Lifehouse's Lifepath program and Christ's redemptive power. Together, they form a cord strong enough to change lives!

May 11 to June 15

Unity FOR Life
to benefit Lifehouse Maternity Home

The number 7 holds great Biblical significance. It occurs hundreds of times across scripture. It is tied to God's covenant, His promises, and His nature. We have set our Unity for Life goal of \$175,000 as a 7% increase over last year's total.

Help us keep the lifeline strong for the mothers and children with your gift of any amount. If you gave during last year's Unity for Life, prayerfully consider if you can increase your gift by 7%. If you are a monthly donor, thank you, and please pray about donating an additional gift during this time. This small sacrifice keeps the Lifehouse lifeline taut for moms and children.

We have three easy ways to give:

- Securely Online at www.LifehouseLouisville.org/donate
- With the enclosed envelope
- Use your phone camera to scan the QR Code:



Please join us in this daily prayer for our Unity for Life campaign:

Heavenly Father, bind us as a three-strand cord—Your people, Lifehouse, and Your Son—woven together, unbreakable in purpose. We seek Your provision—ability, peace, and a trust that you will increase your abundant blessings upon us. Multiply our resources as You intertwine with us, while lifting these mothers and children to new life, in Jesus' name, Amen.

Thank you for being a strand in this lifeline cord.

**Some situations may represent a composite of participant stories. Names are changed to protect participant privacy.*



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Maternity Housing
COALITION

"A cord of three strands is not easily broken"

Ecclesiastes 4:12

Share our Mission



A Lifehouse Wish List

Thank you for helping us with much needed household items. These and other items may be found on our Amazon Wish List, and shipped directly to Lifehouse. Go to https://www.amazon.com/registries/gi/guest-view/13XDDHJ20RCXK?ref=gr_search_page_result

Help through Kroger Community Rewards

Did you know that you can select Lifehouse to be a Community Rewards recipient, receiving a percentage of your shopping purchases **without any additional cost to you**? It is a simple way to help Lifehouse, and only takes a few minutes of set up time.

- 1) Sign into your account at Kroger.com
- 2) Go to My Account and select Community Rewards from the left-hand menu
- 3) Search for Lifehouse Maternity Home and click Enroll

It's that easy. In 2024, we received just under \$1000. We hope to significantly increase the amounts in 2025. Many nonprofits are generating thousands of dollars. If you have any questions on how to sign up, give us a call at 502-897-1655 and we can help you!

Hand Soap
Dish Soap
Soap for the dishwasher
Body Wash
Scrubbing Bubbles Cleaner
Napkins
Kleenex
Dish Cloths
Dish Towels
Lysol Spray
Clorox Wipes
Detergent (Free & Clear)
Dreft
Dryer Sheets (Free & Clear)
SOS Pads

Standard Size Light Bulbs
Scotch Sponges
Paper Towels
Garbage Bags
Copy Paper
Stamps
Kroger Gift Cards
Walmart gift cards
Baby Tylenol
Baby Motrin
Adult Tylenol
Ethnic Hair Care Items
Women's Razor's
XL Ponytail Holders
Size 4, 5, & 6 Diapers



Amazon Link

Other ways to help Lifehouse:

- Include Lifehouse in your will.
- Add Lifehouse as beneficiary on your life insurance policy.
- At age 70 ½ or older, an individual can donate up to \$100,000 from their IRA to a charitable organization. Making a Qualified Charitable Distribution meets the Required Minimum Distribution requirement dollar for dollar.

Always consult with your tax advisor before taking any steps described above. Please let Lifehouse know if you are taking any of the steps above.

Learn more at LifehouseLouisville.org • 502.897.1655