

# The Harbour Inc.



# Annual *report*

OFFERING YOUTH SAFETY TODAY  
AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR A SUCCESSFUL TOMORROW

2010

## OUR MISSION

*The Harbour offers youth  
safety today and opportunities  
for a successful tomorrow*



Since 1971, The Harbour has provided housing and social services to community girls in crisis with nowhere else to turn. Since our founding hundreds of girls have passed through our doors who were deflected from homelessness, graduated from our programs and are now living independently, are employed or in school (or both), and who contribute to the community.

*Dear Friends of The Harbour,*

With another fiscal “New Year’s” beginning, I feel such gratitude as The Harbour approaches its 40th anniversary. Many in our community have felt the challenges of the recent economic crisis—and The Harbour is no exception. Thanks to the incredible dedication of our community supporters, we were able to maintain all existing programs and provide 93 youth with shelter, safety, and support this past year.

One of the greatest blessings of serving as the Executive Director for The Harbour is having the daily opportunity to witness the impact that community support makes possible. While our annual report reflects our data in figures and percentages, I’m grateful to be able to see all the tangible results: the girls that reunite with their families after crisis intervention, the young women that find employment and move into their own apartments, and the young mothers who grow into positive role models for their children.

We appreciate the choice you’ve made to support The Harbour, and we don’t take this lightly. We took some hard measures this past year to ensure that your dollars have maximum impact for youth. On behalf of everyone at The Harbour, thank you—and know that your generosity has made all the difference in the world for our youth.

Warm regards,

*Randi M. Gurian*

**Randi M. Gurian, LCSW**  
*Executive Director*

# PROGRAMS

## SAFE HARBOUR EMERGENCY SHELTER

The Safe Harbour Emergency Shelter provides emergency shelter, counseling, crisis intervention, educational support and placement for girls ages 12-21. The goal of this program is to provide safe short-term shelter while the staff in our program works with the girls and their families to stabilize their situations and ensure that they receive necessary services. *The Shelter program prevents family violence and child abuse by providing crisis intervention, services to ameliorate family problems, and referrals to long-term supportive community resources.*

## TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM (TLP)

The Transitional Living Program provides housing and services for homeless and abused girls ages 16-21 in a supervised setting while they make the transition to self-sufficiency. Girls come to our TLP as a result of being locked out by their family, escaping an abusive home situation, maturing out of foster care, or failed adoptions. Very few girls of this age have the skills or resources to begin living independently. Our TLP provides supervised living for these girls while they receive life skills training, educational support and employment skills development.

## INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM (ILP)

The Independent Living Program serves 16-21 year old homeless young men and women as they establish a stable housing situation and achieve economic independence. Youth in the program live in their own apartments, while The Harbour provides a gradually decreasing rent subsidy, case management, instruction in adult living skills, and training in education and employment skills.

## SUCCESSFUL TEENS / EFFECTIVE PARENTS (“STEPS”)

The STEPS program provides transitional living and social services for the special needs of pregnant and parenting homeless youth ages 16-21. Youth and their children live in their own apartments, while The Harbour provides gradually decreasing financial assistance, parenting and child care related support, and case management. *We are the only agency in the north suburbs and the north metro area providing residential services to pregnant and parenting girls.*

*Each program was created to fill an unmet community need, providing safe shelter, transitional housing, and comprehensive services to homeless youth. We continue to evaluate the impact of our services to meet the changing needs of our client population.*

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

## BET ON THE HARBOUR

**We celebrated the achievements of our youth at our annual spring benefit on May 15, 2010. “Bet on The Harbour” featured cocktails, a DJ, casino entertainment, and a live & silent auction. We were pleased to present our honorees with their well-deserved awards:**

### **Trista Gunderman—The Harbour Beacon of Success Honoree**

*Trista came to The Harbour at 17 years old after her family experienced unemployment, homelessness, and familial dysfunction. Within eight months of living in The Harbour’s Transitional Living Program, Trista obtained her CNA certification and found a job at a nursing home near her school. During her stay, she saved a significant amount of her earnings towards college tuition and went on to study English Secondary Education at Northeastern Illinois University with high marks. After obtaining her Bachelor’s, Trista plans on gaining employment at a local high school and enrolling in a Master’s program. Today, Trista is a confident, self-aware, independent woman who credits The Harbour for helping her overcome her past obstacles and build a strong foundation for her future.*

### **Diane Primo—Bobby Mayer Commitment to Youth Honoree**

*Diane Primo serves as Co-Chairman of the Primo Center for women and children, a 120-day interim housing model for homeless women and children. In addition to her impressive professional resume serving as Co-Chairman of IntraLink Global and Executive Advisor for Capri Capital Partners, LLC, Ms. Primo also holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BA from Smith College in Massachusetts. She also serves on the Chicago Women’s Network as well as President Obama’s finance committee.*

## FY 10 CHALLENGES & PROGRESS

We are proud that the majority of our youth continue their education after high school, particularly given that *even one year of post-secondary education cuts the poverty rate in half for single women in Illinois*. As our outcome statistics note, however, this year has seen a slight decline in the number of youth pursuing post-secondary education. The current economic climate has significantly impacted our youths’ ability to pursue post-secondary education. Available employment tends to be demanding, making it more challenging for clients to attend school and work full-time. We are dedicated to providing a safe living environment for our youth as they get on their feet.

**JUST ONE YEAR OF  
POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION  
CUTS THE POVERTY RATE IN HALF  
FOR SINGLE WOMEN IN ILLINOIS**



As financial problems add stress and conflict at home, we have seen more youth pushed out after turning 18. **To meet the changing needs of youth, we’ve changed the licensure for our Emergency Shelter program to accept youth up to 21 years old, and to allow them to stay for longer periods while awaiting placement.**

# THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

## SAFE HARBOUR EMERGENCY SHELTER

- 24 girls were cared for at the Safe Harbour Emergency Shelter
- 548 nights of care were provided
- 100% of parents of minors were successfully contacted within 72 hours of the girl's admission to the Shelter
- 100% of family of minor girls placed more than 72 hours participated in services
- 100% of girls with a planned discharge reported feeling safe while at the Shelter
- 100% of girls did not miss more than one day of school due to placement
- All girls were kept in their home school
- 100% of girls reported being satisfied with the services of the program
- 93% of stays resulted in a planned discharge
- 57% of minor youth were reunited with family
- 100% of girls with a planned discharge were successfully linked to community resources
- 81% of girls with a planned discharge remained in their discharge placement at 3-month follow-up

## TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM

- 41 girls were served in the Transitional Living Program (TLP)
- 7,955 days of care were provided by the TLP
- 100% of girls with a planned discharge reported feeling safe while in the program
- 100% of girls increased their independent living skills as measured by the Ansell-Casey instrument
- 58% of girls had completed high school or equivalency at discharge
- 32% of girls had been employed continuously for 6 months at discharge
- 16% of girls successfully graduated to independence
- 100% of girls with a planned discharge reported satisfaction with program services
- 100% of girls with a planned discharge were successfully linked to community resources

## INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM

- 10 youth were served in the combined Independent Living Program (ILP)
- 1,437 days of care were provided by the ILP
- 7 youth left the program with a planned discharge; 3 were continuing in the program at year end
- 42% of youth with a planned discharge were economically self-sufficient for at least 3 months prior to discharge
- 63% of youth with a planned discharge had maintained a stable living situation for at least 6 months prior to discharge
- 100% of parenting youth maintained custody of their children
- 100% of youth with a planned discharge reported being satisfied with program services
- 100% of youth with a planned discharge were linked to aftercare services and community resources

## SUCCESSFUL TEENS - EFFECTIVE PARENTS ("STEPS") PROGRAM

- 18 pregnant or parenting youth were served by the STEPS program
- 4,566 days of care were provided by STEPS
- 4 youth left the program with a planned discharge; 12 were continuing in the program at year end
- 100% of youth were linked to essential services (WIC, TANF, parent education) within 6 weeks of program entry
- 100% of youth with a planned discharge had maintained a stable living situation for at least 6 months prior to discharge
- 100% of parenting youth maintained custody of their children
- 100% of youth with a planned discharge reported being satisfied with program services
- 100% of youth with a planned discharge were linked to aftercare services and community resources



*“You guys were just like best friends...”*

## STORIES OF OUR YOUTH

*While our outcome statistics help us identify trends and improve our programs accordingly, the personal success stories of our youth speak volumes.*

As a high school senior, Lauren\* was faced with a frightening reality: after both of her parents passed away, her childhood home was foreclosed on, leaving her homeless. During her 32 day stay in the Safe Harbour House, Lauren received counseling, maintained stability, and remained in her home school. The Harbour located Lauren’s aunt, who today provides the family support that each youth so desperately needs.

Ellie\* came to our Safe Harbour Emergency Shelter when she was 18 years old after being kicked out by her mother. After efforts to work things out with her

family were unsuccessful, Ellie transferred to our Transitional Living Program where she attended school, worked and saved money to live on her own. After several months, Ellie graduated to our Independent Living Program, where she receives counseling, declining rent subsidy, and start-up assistance, as well as life skills training. Presently, she works full-time and attends classes at a local community college. Ellie is doing well and preparing to achieve the goals each of us want for the young people in our lives.

Audrey\* was just 17 when she came to The Harbour. She had been living with her mother and step-father, but things were so contentious in the home that Audrey often stayed out overnight, drifting from friend to friend. When friend’s homes were not options, she would hang out at the mall or library until closing, sometimes sleeping in bus terminals or train stations until dawn. One day, someone told Audrey about The Harbour. Audrey began in our Safe Harbour Emergency Shelter and transferred to our Transitional Living Program when efforts to reunite her with her family proved unsuccessful. During her stay, she obtained employment and finished her last year of high school. She recently left The Harbour to attend a 4-year university after earning a scholarship, and was driven to campus by one of The Harbour’s own staff members.

*\*Names have been changed to protect clients’ privacy.*

# FINANCIALS

## Revenue

State Contract	\$ 1,191,075
Private Contracts	24,169
Government Grants	420,008
Local Government Grants	83,167
State Grants	151,488
United Way	44,149
Public Support	269,906
Special Events	46,860
Interest	1,358

**Total Revenues** **\$ 2,232,180**

## Expenses

Safe Harbour Emergency Shelter	\$ 172,331
Youth in Transition (Transitional & Independent Living for state wards)	1,122,159
Transitional Living Program - Community	329,490
Independent Living Program	63,843
Successful Teens/Effective Parents	229,041
Administration	245,432
Development	116,068

**Total Expenses** **\$ 2,278,364**

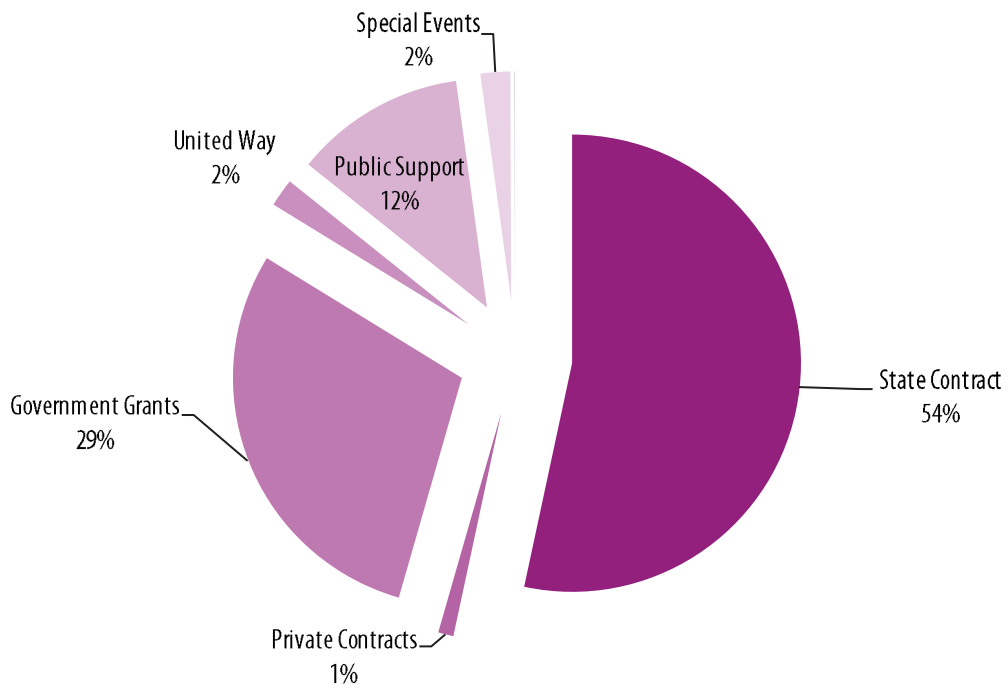
**Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets** **\$ (46,184)**

## NOTE OF FINANCES

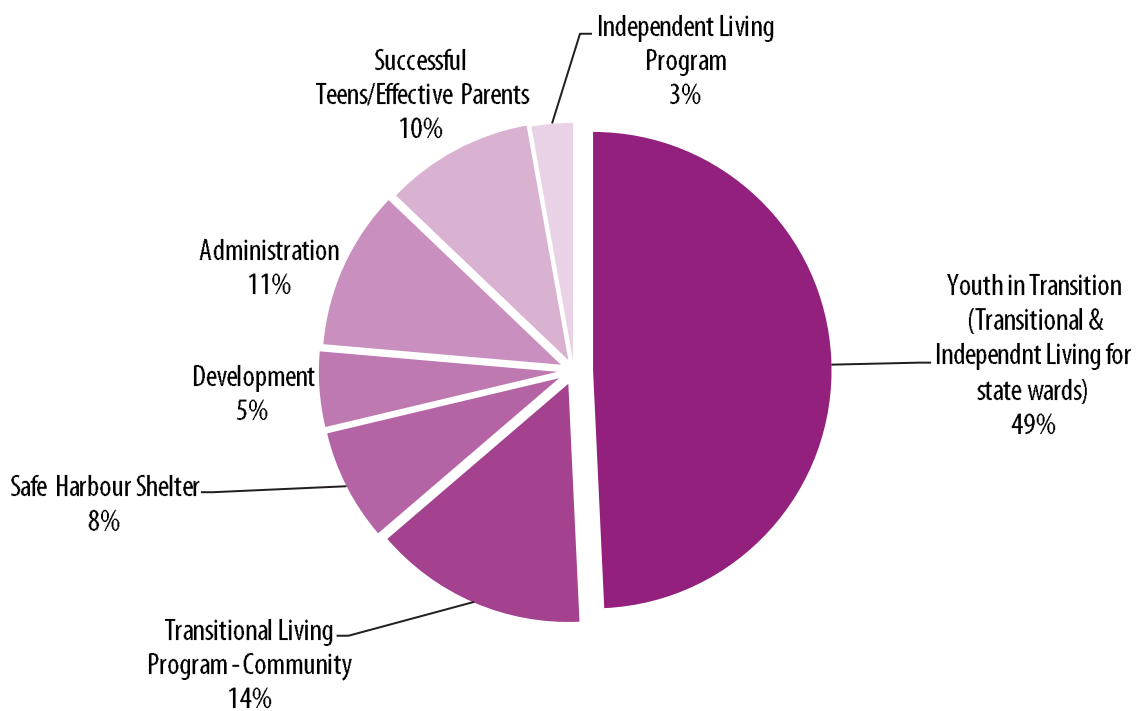
*While we ended FY10 with a small deficit, our financial position has significantly improved since. We have taken cost-saving measures including reducing the Executive Director position salary by 15%, freezing staff salaries for the fiscal year, and implementing insurance copay. Our FY10 budget was reduced from that of 2009 by over \$450,000, and our FY11 budget from that of 2010 by \$95,000.*



## WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM



## WHERE OUR MONEY GOES



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT

*The Harbour thanks the following for their generous support from July 2009 - June 2010*

## CHAMPIONS - \$20,000 AND OVER

Andrew & Alice Fischer Charitable Trust  
The Bufka Foundation  
Anonymous

## BENEFACTORS - \$10,000 - \$19,999

VNA Foundation

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The Annoyance Theatre and Bar  
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Attic Playhouse  
The Bagel Restaurant & Deli  
Black Ensemble Theater

Blue Man Group  
Bob Chinn's Crab House  
Cara Bouslog  
Century 12/CineArts 6  
Charlie Trotter's  
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Chicago Gray Line/American Sightseeing  
The Chicago Wolves  
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Joanna Taylor  
Timeline Theatre Company  
Tru  
US Department of Health & Human Services  
USG Foundation

*Every effort has been made to report contributions fully & accurately. We apologize for any errors & ask that you forward any corrections to our Office Manager, Molly Jacobsen, at (847) 297-8540 or [molly@theharbour.org](mailto:molly@theharbour.org).*

*Thank you for your understanding and generosity to The Harbour!*

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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Randi M. Gurian, LCSW**

*The Harbour is licensed as a Child Welfare Agency by the Illinois Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS), and is accredited by the Council on Accreditation ([www.coanet.org](http://www.coanet.org)). All of our programs are conducted in accordance with the Best Practices Standards of the Child Welfare League of America and the Council on Accreditation.*

*The*  
**Harbour** Inc.

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