



MARIAN HOUSE HEART OF THE HOUSE

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Paulette

A Heart for Service: One Volunteer's Marian House Journey



For Paulette Ridgely, a dedicated volunteer, her journey with Marian House started through a friendship. Her good friend, Kelli Brooks who serves as the Volunteer/Event Coordinator first introduced her to the organization. She was inspired by Kelli's passion for the work being done at Marian House and the positive impact it has on the women and children we serve. That inspiration led her to become involved and find meaningful ways to help others.

Volunteering has always been part of Paulette's life. As a teenager, she served as a "candy striper" and continued volunteering throughout the years, especially while raising her children. She recalls those experiences fondly, noting that volunteering brought countless rewards and even lifelong friendships. Marian House became a natural extension of her lifelong commitment to serving others.

While Paulette has always been concerned about individuals experiencing homelessness, volunteering at Marian House has given her a more direct opportunity to make a difference. Through her service, she has found a deeper appreciation for the challenges others face and values the opportunity to contribute, even in what she describes as a small way. Paulette assisted with holiday adoptions and volunteered at Blingo, our Summer Flea Market, and is serving on our 5K Committee.

One of the things she appreciates most about Marian House is the welcoming environment. From her very first day, she felt respected, valued, and genuinely appreciated. "I am 100% treated with respect and love," she shared, adding that the warmth and kindness she experiences continue to make her feel like an important part of the Marian House family.

Reflecting on her volunteer experience, Paulette says it has made her more aware of the needs of others and more grateful for what she has. Most importantly, it has reinforced a valuable lesson: possessions are temporary, but relationships and human connections are what truly matter. She proudly recommends Marian House to friends and family and hopes others will join her in supporting the organization's mission. Her story is a powerful reminder that when people give their time and talents, they not only change the lives of those they serve but often find themselves changed as well.



MarianHouseInc



@marian.house



LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends of Marian House,

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I am honored to share an exciting moment at Marian House as we welcome Joscelyn Truitt, LMSW as our new President and Chief Executive Officer.



Carrie Schreiber

Before looking ahead, I want to express my deepest gratitude to Rebecca Perry, whose leadership as Interim CEO has been nothing short of exceptional. During this transition, Rebecca provided steady guidance, inspired confidence, and ensured that Marian House continued to thrive. Her dedication to our mission, our residents, and our community has left a lasting impact, and we are profoundly grateful for her service.

I would also like to recognize the entire Marian House team. Their hard work, compassion, and unwavering commitment have sustained our momentum and strengthened our programs throughout this period of change. Together, they have demonstrated the resilience and determination that define Marian House at its best. As we begin this exciting new chapter, we are delighted to welcome Joscelyn Truitt, LMSW as our next President and CEO. Her leadership experience, passion for empowering women and families, and commitment to community make her an outstanding fit for Marian House's future.

Reflecting on this opportunity, Joscelyn shared:

"I am honored to join Marian House and become part of a community that changes lives every day. I look forward to listening, learning, and building on the organization's strong foundation while working alongside residents, staff, volunteers, the Board and supporters to expand opportunities, hope, and lasting impact."

The Board is confident that Marian House is well-positioned for continued growth and success under Joscelyn's leadership.

We hope you will enjoy this newsletter and join us for our 18th Annual Race to Embrace Independence 5K on September 26. Our beloved 5K brings together residents, alumni, friends, volunteers, and supporters in celebration of our mission and community. It will also be a wonderful opportunity to meet Joscelyn in person, welcome her to Marian House, and connect with the inspiring individuals whose lives are touched by this work every day.

Thank you for your steadfast support of Marian House. Together, we are building a future filled with hope, growth, and powerful possibilities.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carrie Schreiber".

Carrie Schreiber
Board Chair
Marian House



Joscelyn Truitt, LMSW
President & CEO

BLINGO!



A HUGE thank you to everyone who joined us for Blingo 2026! At Marian House, we believe in the power of community and the impact of generosity. Blingo 2026 was an INCREDIBLE SUCCESS, and we couldn't have done it without our AMAZING donors, sponsors, volunteers, and friends! An extra special thanks to our emcee, Chris Brown!

From all of us at Marian House, THANK YOU for making Blingo 2026 a success!! We look forward to seeing everyone next year!!



18th Annual Race to Embrace Independence 5K

Register Today - 9.26.26

Get ready to lace up your sneakers and join us for the 18th Annual Race to Embrace Independence 5K, a cherished Marian House tradition that brings our community together in support of women and families working to build stable, independent lives.

Each year, runners, walkers, volunteers, sponsors, and supporters come together to celebrate the strength, determination, and success of Marian House residents while raising critical funds for our programs and services. The Race to Embrace Independence is more than a 5K, it is a powerful reminder that every step taken helps provide hope, opportunity, and a pathway to self-sufficiency. We are pleased to have the support of our championship sponsor McCormick and other sponsors. Register, sponsor, volunteer, or learn more at www.marianhouse.org/5K. We hope to see you at the starting line!



18th Annual
**RACE TO EMBRACE
INDEPENDENCE**
MARIAN HOUSE 5K RUN AND WALK

Please scan the QR code to register for the
18th Annual Race to Embrace Independence 5K!





Our Ravens Raffle Winner!

Marian House is thrilled to share that Sister Jane, SSND was the lucky winner of the Ravens Raffle, taking home the grand prize after holding the winning ticket. What makes the story even more special is that the ticket was purchased for her by Sister Sharon, SSND whose thoughtful gesture turned into an unforgettable surprise.

When the winning number was announced, excitement quickly spread as Sister Jane, SSND learned she had won. Thanks to Sister Sharon's, SSND kindness and support, a simple raffle ticket became a memorable moment filled with joy, laughter, and celebration.

Congratulations to Sister Jane, SSND on her big win, and thank you to Sister Sharon, SSND for making it all possible. Together, they gave us a wonderful reminder that acts of kindness can pay off in the most unexpected ways!



EVENT SPOTLIGHT:

Jazz in the Garden Concert

For our 44th Marian House Anniversary, we celebrated with a beautiful evening of the Jazz in the Garden Concert performed by the Todd Marcus Quartet. This amazing event was warm, joyful, and full of the kind of community spirit that has carried Marian House forward for more than four decades. Smooth jazz floated through the garden, while alumnae, residents, supporters, neighbors, and friends gathered to honor the women whose courage and resilience define our mission.

Forty-four years is more than an anniversary. It's a testament to every woman who has walked through our doors and every person who has stood beside them. This celebration reminded us just how powerful that collective love can be. Here's to the music, the memories, and the mission that continues to grow stronger. Cheers to 44 years--and to all the years of women empowerment and transformation still ahead.



Support Marian House
DONATE TODAY!

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT: BELLE

“I found safety, structure, and a new beginning at Marian House.”



Before coming to Marian House, I was already working hard on myself. I was clean and living at Powell Recovery Center, but I had reached a point where I had gotten all I could from that program. I felt like I was at a dead end and unsure about what came next. That is when I surrendered and asked God for help. I knew I needed more structure, more guidance, and a safe place where I could continue healing. Once I realized Marian House could offer that, I was on a mission to get here. From the moment I arrived, Marian House became more than a program. It became a place of mental safety, security, and peace—a place I could truly call home. The staff care about each woman as an individual. They know your name. They get to know your needs, your goals, and your story. I did not know I would love Marian House as much as I do.

In my first few weeks, I found something I had been missing for a long time: peace, trust, and room to breathe. Here, I can be vulnerable. I can be myself. When I am facing a problem, I know there is someone I can go to who genuinely cares. Marian House has also connected me with resources that help me move forward, including housing support, mental health care, education and employment opportunities through DORS, and outside resources that encourage me to continue my education and stay on the right path with my healthcare. Sometimes that support comes as a gentle push—a reminder to put myself first, practice self-care, and be good to myself. The stability and structure of Marian House have been life-changing. I know I am not alone, and I know I am not just a number. I know that I matter. Through individual therapy, group therapy, trauma therapy, trauma art therapy, and yoga, Marian House addresses both mental health and addiction. This support has helped me reconnect with my creativity and regain a sense of calm in everyday life.

When people support Marian House, they are supporting women who have been broken, let down, and brought close to losing everything. They are helping women get back on their feet physically, mentally, and spiritually. They are helping women move from dependence to independence, rebuild structure, calm their nervous systems, and learn how to laugh again. Because of Marian House, I wake up and look forward to another day. I have a schedule, responsibilities, goals, and hope. I am working, continuing my education, and dreaming about the future.

I work for HomeWell Care Services, where I provide healthcare support, daily living assistance, companionship, meals, and safety for my patients. My goal is to become a certified medical assistant and, eventually, a licensed practical nurse. Women come to Marian House carrying trauma, grief, heartache, and stories that are not easy to tell. Here, we are given the support and tools to face that trauma, breathe through it, and recognize how far we have come. Marian House is helping me heal—and helping me become the woman I was always meant to be.

VIRTUAL TOURS

**AUG. 13TH, SEPT. 10TH,
OCT. 8TH, AND NOV. 12TH**

4:00 – 5:30 pm
To register, email:

advancement@marianhouse.org

Support Marian House
DONATE TODAY!

Please scan the QR code to donate





MARIAN HOUSE

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Josceyln Truitt, LMSW
President & Chief Executive Officer

Tobi Morris
Chief Advancement Officer

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Register Today!

September 24 - 5K Packet Pick-Up

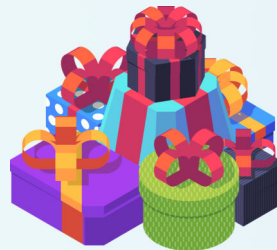
September 26 - 18th Annual Race to Embrace
Independence 5K

18th Annual Race to Embrace Independence 5K/1-Mile Walk

Saturday, September 26, 2026
Register at marianhouse.org/5k



Register Now!



Holiday Adopt-A-Family/Resident

Interested in helping make holiday wishes
come true for the women and children at
Marian House?

Email: advancement@marianhouse.org



MarianHouseInc



@marian.house

