OUR MISSION

[ HELPING HOMELESS FAMILIES ACHIEVE SELF-SUFFICIENCY ]
IMPACT... 2015 was a year of Nicholas House expanding programs, strengthening our abilities and making a greater impact on the lives of homeless families with the help of our community and donors. Thank you!

Our Nicholas House strategic plan – called Growing Impact – calls upon the organization to expand its efforts. And we did.

Last year, Nicholas House set a new record by assisting 617 homeless children and parents, representing 187 homeless families, to achieve self-sufficiency – a 50% increase over the prior year. We provided temporary housing along with comprehensive services and case management that made a lasting impact for each family.

We launched two new programs to create a continuum of programs designed to address the needs of homeless families at different stages of need:

- **Home Again** – one of our new programs for families with enough income to pay ongoing rent but needing initial help, leasing advocacy or homeless prevention assistance due to temporary crisis.

- **Homeless to Homes (H2H)** – for families with some income but not enough to fully pay rent long-term, we obtain leases in their names as they pay 30% of their income toward rent and we provide a time-limited subsidy for the rent difference while we work to help the family increase income.

- **Boulevard Shelter** – for families with no income needing immediate shelter to help stabilize the family, provide basic needs and establish a plan and goals to move forward.

- **New Horizons** – one of our new programs for families with no income plus additional barriers, this permanent supportive housing program provides services to chronically homeless families with disabilities.

We continue our critical and unique role among homeless organizations by accepting any composition of family – single mom with children, single dad with children, couples with children, large families, and older teenagers. We keep families intact!

Meanwhile, Nicholas House continues to adopt best-practice models to ensure we fulfill our mission. Our efforts are more than ensuring housing. Our mission is self-sufficiency. We continue to show long-term impact with our two-year tracking data showing 80% of families remain stably housed on their own a year or more AFTER leaving our services!

Our impact was recognized when we were named the recipient of the Sue Wieland Embracing Possibility Award by the Atlanta Women’s Foundation for strong program outcomes improving women’s lives.

We are proud of our accomplishments thanks to the support of our donors, volunteers, friends, board and staff; but there is still work to be done. Thank you for your help in making an impact for homeless families and Nicholas House. We invite you to join us in continuing our efforts to end family homelessness!
I have prepared and served dinner to the families at Nicholas House every month for the last 16 years. The work I do at Nicholas House matters not just to the people I serve, but to me as well—serving at Nicholas House is part of my life. It's part of my family."

– OLLIE MOORE, JR, VOLUNTEER
FROM TRAGEDY

After the murder of her brother with whom she shared a home, Ms. Walton, a single mother, found herself unable to afford the cost of housing.

Her part-time employment was not enough to keep a roof over her son’s head without supplemental assistance from her brother. In the wake of such emotional loss, Ms. Walton quickly lost her home and became homeless.

Still grieving, Ms. Walton found herself living in her car with her young son, who struggled to understand their circumstances. She continued to work and send her son to school, but every day ended with them back in the car—and with Ms. Walton having to explain again to her son that they couldn’t go home. Every day was a struggle, but she kept searching for a way out.

Fortunately, Ms. Walton found the courage to approach Nicholas House. She was quickly enrolled in the Homeless to Homes (H2H) program, where she received a partial rental subsidy, along with intensive case management. Her case manager stressed the importance of proper budgeting and professional development.

Ms. Walton attended Nicholas House classes on financial management, upward career movement, and health. With her case manager supporting her along the way, Ms. Walton gained new confidence, established a plan for the future and applied for higher positions at her job. Within a few months, she received a promotion that not only offered full-time pay – it doubled her salary!

Today, Ms. Walton no longer needs Nicholas House assistance. She has been able to pay off debt and save more than three months of emergency funds. She is beginning the process of buying a home. She is proud of providing a safe home for her son, who is rediscovering the joy of being a kid again.

Like so many homeless mothers, Ms. Walton had the drive to succeed. She just needed some empowerment and guidance. This year at Nicholas House, more than 600 parents and children have received the same empowerment and guidance, and are making better lives for their families!
THE NEED

NICHOLAS HOUSE’S PROGRAMS ARE MORE NECESSARY THAN EVER AS THE DEMAND FOR HOMELESS SERVICES RISES

30% OF GEORGIA’S HOMELESS ARE FAMILIES

1,092 HOMELESS FAMILY MEMBERS ON A SINGLE NIGHT IN ATLANTA/FULTON/DEKALB

70% OF PEOPLE HOUSED BY NICHOLAS HOUSE ARE CHILDREN

300 CALLS MONTHLY TO NICHOLAS HOUSE SEEKING HELP

4X AMOUNT HOMELESS CHILDREN MORE LIKELY TO FAIL SCHOOL

HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Whether by serving dinner, teaching an adult education workshop, leading activities in our afterschool program, or being a chaperone on field trips, come volunteer your talents and passion! CONTACT OUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR at (404) 622-0793, ext.106 or Nnyhoff@nicholashouse.org

Donations of essential items, money, stocks, and property ensure that we can continue to support families in their journey to self-sufficiency. To help us fulfill our mission, CONTACT OUR DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT at (404) 622-0793, ext.105 or Ccherry@nicholashouse.org

ARE YOU READY TO MAKE AN IMPACT?

Become part of our Dream Builders giving society by pledging your support of $1,000 or more. Call (404) 622-0793, ext.105 or email Ccherry@nicholashouse.org

TO DONATE, VOLUNTEER OR LEARN MORE GO TO NICHOLASHOUSE.ORG
Thank You to Our Donors

Nicholas House is grateful to our hundreds of donors and supporters. Special thanks to those who gave $500+(*), $5,000+(**), $10,000+(***) over our last fiscal year (9/1/14-8/31/15):

* Indicates Dream Builders Society Membership

Dream Builders Society
We are pleased to have more than 100 individuals who have joined the Nicholas House Dream Builders Society to show their deep passion and commitment to helping homeless families. As a Dream Builders Society member, these individuals have pledged a significant, multi-year, unrestricted financial contribution to support our mission. The following have made a new pledge commitment during the past year to become Dream Builder members:

Erwine & Clinton Cummings
Peter Chronis
Richard Eskridge
Andrea Johnson
Judd Robbins
Tony Spry

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“I volunteer with Nicholas House because they’re fulfilling a need that no one else in Atlanta is. I am proud to be a volunteer in a place where families can stay together as they get back on their feet and where lives have truly been changed.”

– Courtney Lee, Volunteer
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2015-2016

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