

2023 ANNUAL REPORT





Table of Contents

03	Letter from the Executive Director	14	Strategic Plan Progress
04	Impact	15	New Funding
05	Awards	16	Financials
06	Lethality Assessment Program 2.0	18	Get in Touch: Board of Directors
08	Community Support	19	Get in Touch: Leadership Team
10	9th Annual PaDucky Derby		
12	Domestic Violence Awareness Month		

Unless specifically authorized, MHDCC uses representative names and photos to protect the dignity and safety of those we serve.

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Faithful Supporter,

Thank you so much for giving of your time, talents, and treasure to invest into the mission of saving, building and changing the lives of those affected by domestic violence. This time of reflection together is one of my favorite duties as the Executive Director. While there is simply no way to capture every highlight, or to convey every survivor’s story of resilience we have borne witness to this year, I invite you to celebrate the victories won, the hurdles cleared, and most importantly, the lives that were changed for the better ... because of our partnership with you. Partnered action. It is a simple way to convey that the load is lighter, the problem more manageable, and the success is just sweeter when we partner together to act in ways that create thriving communities. What a wonderful partner you’ve been! I’d like to leave you to review this report with the following testimonial from a client that I met while working out of the Marshall County Resiliency Center one afternoon. Her words are why our continued partnered action matters:

“Are you Mary Foley?” she asked. In my role, sometimes I hesitate to answer ‘yes,’ but I did. “Yes, I am, how can I help you?” She stood to her feet, and began to cry. She said, “No, you don’t understand. I would not be alive if it were not for the Merryman House and this staff! I just have to thank you! I mean it. I simply would not be here. You saved my life!” I moved toward her, and we embraced. I told her, “We exist for you, and we are honored to have shared your journey.” While the details of her story would initially break your heart, the strength of her voice and the resiliency of her spirit would remind you of how important the partnership we share truly is to her ... and the hundreds like her. I did and said what I thought you would say and do. How did I know? I knew because you embrace, encourage, and empower survivors through every faithful gift.

As you read, I hope you see what we accomplished together.

Dr. Mary E. Foley
Executive Director



Impact



792

Men, Women and Children Served

36 men, 628 women, 41 gender not collected / no single gender, 87 children



14

Adults and Children Utilized MHDCC Murray Transitional Housing



11,933

Bed Nights in Emergency Shelter



5,440

Hours of Services Provided



505

Crisis Calls

Includes Hotline Chat



7,130

Meals Served



48

Clients were Assisted with Obtaining IDs & Vital Documents



96

Clients on Housing Programs



213

Groups and Workshops Held

129 by Staff, 84 by Volunteers / Community Partners



821

External Referrals Made

Awards

We were THRILLED for our staff members and programs who received the following recognition for their distinguished work in 2023!

Dr. Mary Foley, Executive Director, received the United Way of Western Kentucky's LIVE UNITED Health Award and was recognized as one of 23 women VUE Magazine dubbed as being on the forefront of business, healthcare and education.

2023 Purple Ribbon Award in Three Categories & A Winning Nomination for One of Our Partners

Hotline Employee/Operator of the Year (Balinda Hudson, Safety Specialist)

Annual or Impact Reports of the Year (2022 Annual Report)

Outstanding Fundraising Event or Campaign (2022 PaDucky Derby)

Business Partner of the Year (Humana Healthy Horizons in Kentucky)

VUE Magazine's 40 Under Forty "Best of the Best" Young Professionals in Our Region

Jade Townsley, Housing & Stabilization Coordinator

Megan Counce, Community Engagement Ambassador



United Way of Western Kentucky's LIVE UNITED Health Award Winner, Dr. Mary Foley



Dr. Mary Foley, One of 23 Women VUE Magazine Dubbed as being on the forefront of Business, Healthcare and Education



VUE Magazine's 40 Under Forty "Best of the Best" Young Professionals Award Winner, Jade Townsley



VUE Magazine's 40 Under Forty "Best of the Best" Young Professionals Award Winner, Megan Counce



2023 Purple Ribbon Hotline Employee/Operator of the Year Award Winner, Balinda Hudson

Lethality Assessment Program 2.0



In September, MHDCC hosted representatives from the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) and area law enforcement agencies for training on the newly updated Lethality Assessment Program.

The Lethality Assessment Program (LAP), created by the MNADV, is an award-winning, nationally recognized practice to prevent intimate partner homicides and serious injuries. Its purpose is to save lives by connecting victims to life-saving, community-based services; hold abusers accountable; and create awareness of lethality factors within victims and communities.

Based on the research of Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell of Johns Hopkins University, MNADV developed the lethality screen and protocol, and implemented the program in 2005.

Law enforcement officers use the lethality assessment to screen and effectively identify victims of intimate partner violence who are at the highest risk of being killed or seriously injured by their intimate partners. Once a high-danger victim has been identified, the first responder asks the victim if they would like to be connected via a hotline call right then to the local domestic violence program for emergency safety planning and services. If yes, the first responder makes the connection on scene.

Merryman House and the Paducah Police Department partnered in 2014 and began using the LAP. Since then, additional law enforcement agencies across the Purchase Region have also partnered with Merryman House and begun to use the screen and protocol in support of this evidence-based practice.

Recently, the LAP was restructured to elevate strangulation as a risk factor for future serious injury or death of victims. The September “2.0” training provided updates on the restructure as well as information on a new database that will allow critical information sharing among agencies while also honoring the confidentiality of survivors. Merryman House staff and representatives from the Paducah Police Department, the Marshall County Sheriff’s Office and the Mayfield Police Department attended.

In 2023 alone, our partners connected with us 186 times after survivors’ on-scene assessments showed they were at high risk for serious injury or death. We are thankful to each agency partner and officer who takes the time to further listen to survivors’ stories, risk factors, and works to connect them with MHDCC services.

And in future news, Dr. Campbell has agreed to provide additional training to our staff and local partners in person in April 2024!



Community Support

THANK YOU, Community, for another wonderful year of support! We love to see your creativity and passion for our mission, and we feed off of your energy and desire to show up for survivors. Here are just a few highlights from the year!

281 volunteers gave us **2,275 hours** of their time and talents!

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints donated **9,000 lbs.** of food!

Brittany Wiggins Fitness hosted a Galentine's fitness class to benefit MHDCC and gathered physical donations all month long — **\$450 raised and more than 100 products donated!**

Shop & Share 2023 yielded **more than \$10,000 in groceries and monetary donations!**

The Beta Omega Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., celebrated its charter day donation drive for MHDCC's emergency shelter!

Independence Bank's Frontline Staff initiated and ran a **Women's History Month** donation drive for survivors!

The Nehemiah Project Conference returned for its second year and trained church leaders alongside victim service providers, mental health professionals and more individuals on the dynamics of domestic violence and tactics for community collaboration!

The Beta Club of Livingston Central High School fundraised throughout the 22-23 school year and used the proceeds to purchase items from our agency needs list!

Zerdali Dance Co. brought the international event, **Shimmy Mob**, to Paducah and raised money for MHDCC! Look out for this empowering event to come back in May!



Palma United Methodist Church gave a generous donation of **pillows, towels, sheet sets and more essentials** for our emergency shelter!

Immanuel Baptist Church blew us away when they came together, purchased items and **assembled amazing pamper baskets for every adult in our emergency shelter** for Christmas!

Paducah Beer Werks again **hosted a month-long donation drive** for our emergency shelter food supply and treated donors to appetizer discounts!

Jennifer McIntosh Lasher and her family brought back their annual **Merry + Bright Mother-Daughter Tea Christmas fundraiser** and truly outdid themselves! Thousands of dollars were raised and a multitude of young women heard about our services.

Captain Underpants came back to headline the **McCracken County Public Library's 7th Annual Drop Your Drawers giving campaign!** The library encouraged its patrons to drop off new children's underwear and socks, which were split between MHDCC and Paducah Cooperative Ministry. They collected **966 items!**

Paducah Professional Women hosted its annual Christmas Charity Luncheon to benefit MHDCC. The organization **gave more than \$2,000** to support our services!

Thank you, Community!

9th Annual PaDucky Derby

Speaking of support, we held our 9th Annual PaDucky Derby in October! You would think that after eight years, our staff would be over yelling, “Have you adopted your ducks yet?! \$5 to support survivors of domestic violence!” But- we are not, because of how supportive our community members are once they hear about our mission and what the race supports. You make this fundraiser fun for us because of your willingness to support it.

We are pleased to report that the race was supported by more sponsorships than we have EVER HAD! Thank you to the individual families, organizations and businesses that continue to support our race, and to those who jumped on board for the first time ever. This race would not get off the ground without you!

And so, we raced to get 20,000 ducks adopted yet again! While we did not reach our adoption goal, 15,251 ducks were adopted through more than 2,300 sales! When we reflect back to our first races of 6,000 and 8,000 ducks,

we are so grateful that you have helped us raise more and more money to support free services for survivors.

Once those determined ducks took their marks and Paducah Power dropped them into Montgomery Lake at Bob Noble Park, every duck swam its best and fastest race. Three emerged victorious to win cash prizes for their adoptive parents:

- \$2,500 | Benton Woman’s Club
- \$1,000 | Shivaun Sweet
- \$500 | Richard Scott

The 2024 race will be held on Oct. 26, 2024.

Follow our Facebook page for updates:
[Facebook.com/PaDuckyDerby](https://www.facebook.com/PaDuckyDerby).

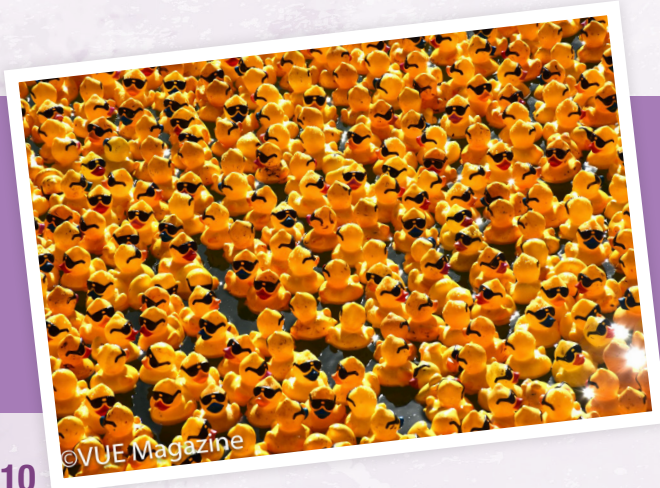


A huge quack and a thank you to our Presenting Sponsor, Humana Healthy Horizons in Kentucky; our Flight Sponsors, Paducah Elks Lodge 217 and Cornerstone of Hope; all of our volunteers, everyone who adopted, and every sponsor who helped us raise more than \$89,000 for survivors! We could not do this without each of you!

- Humana Healthy Horizons
- Cornerstone of Hope
- Paducah Elks Lodge 217
- Heartland Capital Investments, LLC
- Strawberry Hills Pharmacy
- Taylor Motors
- Baird
- Baptist Health Paducah
- COAD Toyota Paducah
- Crossroads Treatment
- Happy ZZZ’s Sit ‘n Sleep
- Neiswender Family
- Pella
- REB Architects, PLLC
- Stor-Mor Portable Buildings
- TAM International
- The Paducah Bank & Trust
- Universal Compressor Solutions, LLC
- Adventure Camper Sales

- Atlas Equipment Services
- Bacon Farmer Workman Engineering & Testing Inc. / Marcum Engineering, LLC
- Burkeen Appraisals
- Courtyard by Marriott, Paducah
- Craig Johnson Construction
- David Spicer Jewelers
- Denton Law Firm, PLLC
- HUB | Peel & Holland
- Independence Bank
- KeeFORCE
- Magpies Paducah
- Marshall County Hospital
- Mercy Health
- Occupational Therapy SOTA Club - Murray State University
- River Retriever Kennels, LLC
- Stanley Steamer
- VUE Magazine

- Williams, Williams & Lentz, LLP
- Wilson Office Solutions
- Branch Out
- Bridge Inn
- Dannenmueller Blinds, Shutters, & Closets
- Dawson Physical Therapy
- Home Floor & Kitchens
- Housman Partners
- Keuler, Kelly, Hutchins, Blankenship & Sigler, LLP
- McMurry & Livingston, PLLC
- Milliner Orthodontics
- The EPIC Group, EXP Realty
- Oasis Spirits
- Paducah Barge
- Paducah Rigging
- Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 184
- Quality Title
- Taylor Family Dental
- Trice Hughes, Inc
- West Kentucky Rural Electric
- Wyatt Bell & Co.
- Zebra Graphics
- WPSD Local 6
- Bristol Broadcasting
- Froggy 103.7
- AAA Stow-A-Way
- American Quilter’s Society
- Paducah Power
- City of Paducah
- Paducah Fire Department
- Banterra Bank



Domestic Violence Awareness Month



“Super Fly Karaoke for a Cause”

In 2023, we were so excited to benefit from a new-to-us fundraiser through the creativity and work of The Old Fashioned Cigar Bar - “Super Fly Karaoke for a Cause”! Thank you to Joaquin Hilton and Lisa Mead for putting on a groovy, 70s-themed karaoke fundraiser and auction. They raised and donated \$3,200!

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and it has quickly become one of our favorite times of year as we have watched businesses, organizations, churches and individuals jump in to help us raise awareness annually. Thank you to everyone who wore purple, who put up window clings, flyers and more. Here are just a few of the highlights from a month that saw so much community investment and conversation about our mission!

Businesses who ran DVAM specials:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Etcetera Coffeehouse | Kirchhoff's Bakery |
| Piper's Tea and Coffee | 5th & Main Coffees |
| The Old Fashioned Cigar Bar | Future Grounds Coffee |
| Artisan Kitchen | Shaffer Coffee Co. |
| Bricolage Art Collective | Cafe au Latte |
| Munal's Donut Shop | Polka Dots & Paisley |
| Craving the Curls | New Dawning Photography |



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Domestic Violence Awareness Month Awards

For the second year, MHDCC clients, staff and board members were invited to nominate and vote on community members they felt most characterized Advocacy, Empowerment and Transformation within the past year. Below are our 2023 winners, who were presented their awards in front of their peers and families. Thank you to all three of you for your efforts to save, build and change lives!

The winners are as follows:

Advocacy Award, given for advocating for funding of food and nourishment for the bodies, minds and spirits of survivors of domestic violence:

John Workman, Papa Johns Owner (Paducah)

Empowerment Award, given for directly benefiting survivors of domestic violence by supporting, inspiring and equipping survivors as they break through barriers on their journeys toward healing and restoration:

Alyssa Brookes, Senior Concierge Banker at Banterra Bank

Transformation Award, for directly benefiting survivors of domestic violence by providing profound leadership and resources that have transformed and secured the future of the Merryman House:

Meredith Schroeder, Co-Founder of The American Quilter's Society

Winners, thank you for your work on behalf of survivors!



Advocacy Award Winner, John Workman
Papa Johns Owner (Paducah)



Empowerment Award Winner, Alyssa Brookes
Senior Concierge Banker at Banterra Bank



Transformation Award Winner, Meredith Schroeder
Co-Founder of The American Quilter's Society

Strategic Plan Progress

In 2022, our Board of Directors and staff compiled our next three-year Strategic Plan for 2023-2025. We treat our Strategic Plan as our roadmap, and as an investor in our organization, we invite you to see the results of Year 1.

In 2023, we focused on Goals 2 and 4:

Goal #2

MHDCC will Refine its Client Services

- ✔ **Objective 1:** Hire an additional mental health staff member.
- ✔ **Objective 2:** Organize client intake and orientation.
- ✔ **Objective 3:** Create additional housing units with childcare availability on or near campus.
- ✔ **Objective 4:** Identify a team of volunteers who can create and lead holistic activities.
- ✔ **Objective 5:** Increase accessibility to services through transportation assistance, weekend and evening programming, and outreach counties.

⏸ Pending ✔ In Progress ✔ Completed

Goal #4

MHDCC will Prioritize Staff Wellness

- ✔ **Objective 1:** Increase competitive wages to match salary schedule.
- ✔ **Objective 2:** Develop continued staff training through quality assurance.
- ✔ **Objective 3:** Increase access to mental and physical health services in order to combat burnout.
- ✔ **Objective 4:** Develop a staff wellness board committee to monitor and support staff wellness.
- ✔ **Objective 5:** Conduct DEI training and development for staff.
- ✔ **Objective 6:** Increase staffing to meet current needs.

New Funding

As our Board of Directors and Leadership Team plan for and work to safeguard the health of our agency for the future, diversified funding is a consistent, urgent priority. In 2023, we were excited to be awarded funds from multiple new streams to support our mission!

National Sign Language Interpreting for Deaf Victims Service through **Activating Change**

Transitional Housing Assistance Grant for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Award through the **Office of Violence Against Women (OVW)**

Focus on Integrating Response, Screening, and Staff Training (FIRST) for Women in Kentucky through the **Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE)**

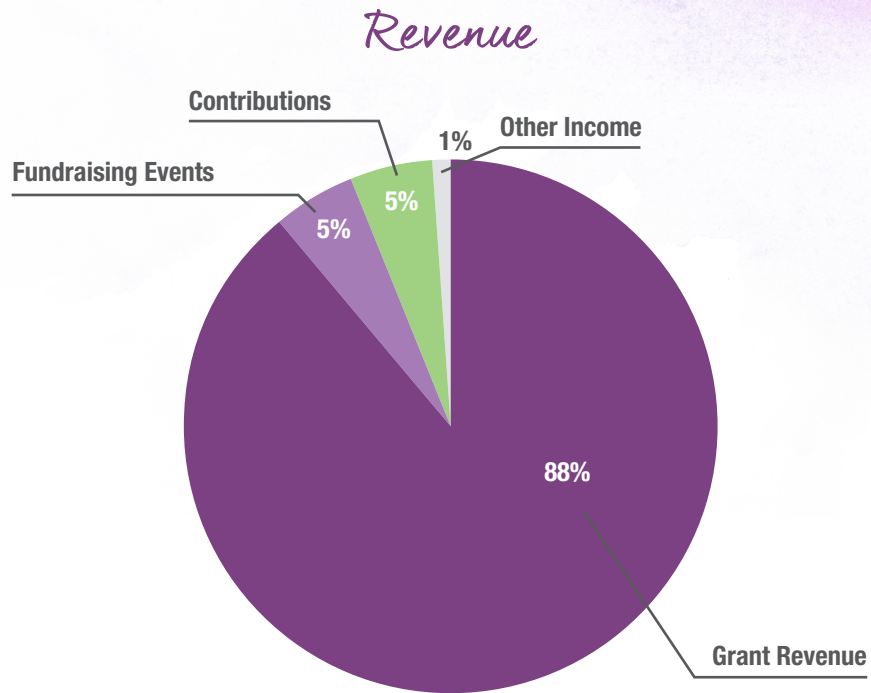
Nonprofit Assistance Fund Award through **Team Kentucky**



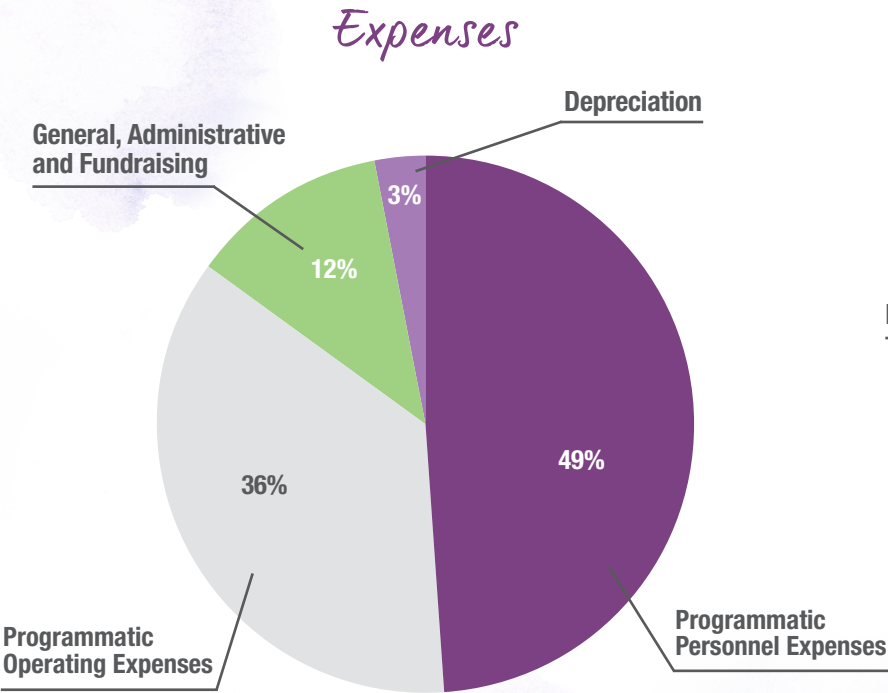
Financials

Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

The Financial Statements with Independent Auditor's Report for Year Ended June 30, 2023 is available upon request.

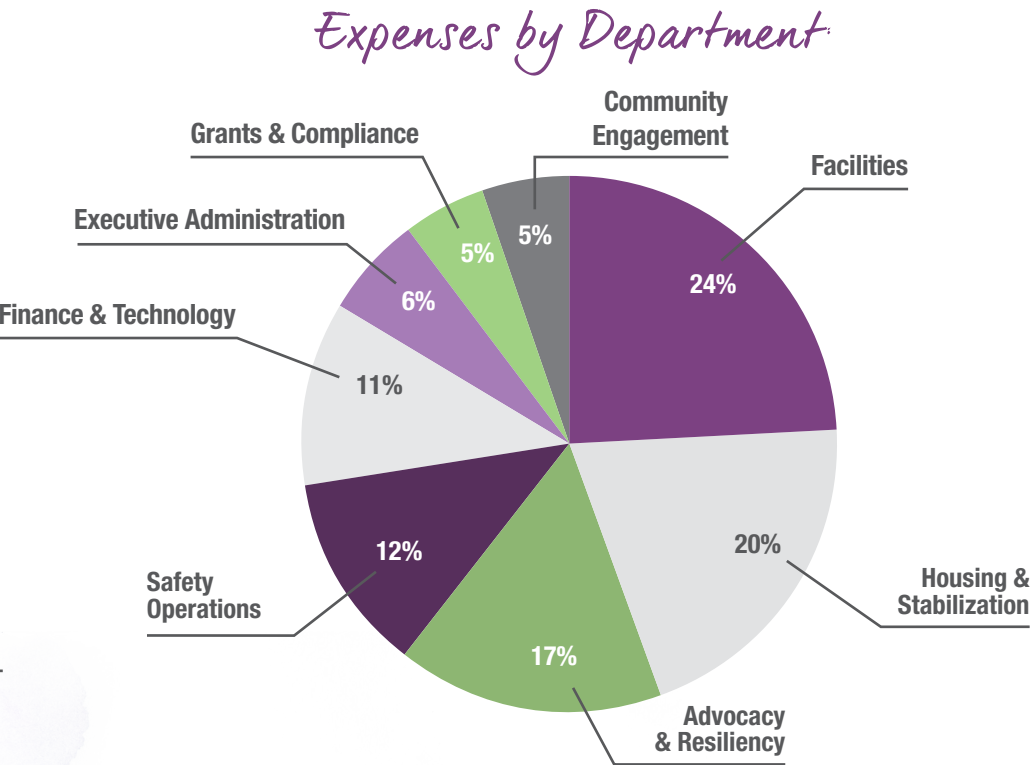


Grant Revenue: \$3,588,310	Not Shown in Graph
Contributions: \$189,410	Investment Income: \$49,959
Fundraising Events: \$201,380	Net Loss on Disposal of Assets: \$(2,520)
Other Income: \$46,928	
<hr/>	
Total Revenue: \$4,073,467	



Programmatic Personnel Expenses: \$1,903,523
Programmatic Operating Expenses: \$1,404,969
General, Administrative and Fundraising: \$444,545
Depreciation: \$127,908

Total Expenses: \$3,880,945



Safety & Operations: \$475,975	Grants & Compliance: \$183,813
Advocacy & Resiliency: \$635,794	Finance & Technology: \$423,733
Housing & Stabilization: \$785,426	Executive Administration: \$239,682
Community Engagement: \$201,600	Facilities: \$934,922

Total Expenses by Department: \$3,880,945

Expenses by Department include allocation of depreciation and other expenses.

Get in Touch: Board of Directors

Executive Committee



Jared Paschall
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The Paducah Bank and Trust
Senior Credit Analyst
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McCracken County Schools
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Michelle Gantt
Director of Advocacy & Resiliency
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Thank you to our
dedicated Board
of Directors!

Get in Touch

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24/7 Crisis Hotline
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merrymanhouse.org/hotline-chat

Donations can be made online at
merrymanhouse.org or sent to

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