



The mission of Newhouse is to break the cycle of domestic violence by providing the tools that allow women to make positive choices and lead self-sufficient lives.

Newhouse History

Newhouse, originally N.E.W.S., has its roots in an ecumenical community service in the Northeast area of Kansas City, Missouri.

- **1971:** N.E.W.S. becomes incorporated and purchases a Neighborhood House. Programs included youth group, emergency assistance, legal aid, and a mother's club.
- **1979:** Rev. Sharon Garfield convinced Methodist Bishop Robert F. Goodrich of the urgent need for shelter for battered women and their children. He appoints her as the first Executive Director and helps make the shelter a reality.
- **1983:** Children's Program begins
- **1986:** Shirley Collins becomes Executive Director of N.E.W.S.
- **1988:** Hallmark Cards renovates a neighborhood house
- **1989:** N.E.W.S. begins a collaborative court advocacy program with three other Missouri shelters; this program has been expanded to include all six domestic violence shelters.
- **1991:** The first comprehensive substance abuse treatment center for battered women in the shelter begins at Newhouse.
- **1992:** N.E.W.S. becomes Newhouse in June 1992.
- **1993:** Colleen Campbell becomes Executive Director
- **1994:** Chaplaincy program is started and transitional housing is acquired for residents leaving shelter.
- **1995:** Outreach program is expanded to include outreach case management to further help women in the transitional process. In addition, the Bridge Project, a collaborative effort of Newhouse and Truman Medical Center is established in an effort to assist, educate and offer alternatives to domestic violence victims in the emergency room. The PRYDE program is developed in conjunction with Juniper Gardens as a way to research the impact of domestic violence and substance abuse on children 3-8 years of age.
- **1996:** Leslie Caplan begins as President/CEO.
- **1999:** Newhouse moves into a renovated 86-bed facility purchased through a \$1.5 million community capital campaign.
- **2000:** New Food, a catering business is created. At the end of 2002, the business is put on hold.
- **2003:** A Health Care Advocacy program is developed in collaboration with the other metropolitan shelters. This program is now called Bridge SPAN (Safe Patient Advocacy Network)
- **2005:** A Substance Abuse program in collaboration with Renaissance West and Veronica's Voice began.
- **2006:** Agency marks its 35th year of providing comprehensive services to residents in greater Kansas City.
- **2007:** Kansas City Young Matrons, long-time supporters of Newhouse, host a gala to benefit Newhouse. A total of \$138,500 is raised for new playground equipment, furniture, flooring and general operations.
- **2008:** During the nationwide economic downturn, Newhouse experiences a financial crisis and considers a possible merger with another agency in the Northeast neighborhood. A generous, anonymous donation allows Newhouse to remain a free-standing agency.
- **2009:** Newhouse serves an unprecedented number of women and children (an increase of 20% since 2007) and is debt-free for the first time in fifteen years.