

VISTA MARIA

We Protect. We Encompass. We Embolden. We Empower.

Annual Meeting & Recognition Breakfast

This year we celebrated Vista Maria's 2021 fiscal achievements safely outside at the Detroit Athletic Club. Congratulations to all who were recognized this year and to the staff and volunteers at Vista Maria for their "fearless heart" and steadfast commitment to youth and their families to realize a life beyond trauma and ignite a life of possibility.

[Check out our 2021 Annual Report](#)



Mentor of the Year - Mary Brown



Heartmovers Award - Brenda Jones



**Outstanding Volunteer Group -
Ford Purchasing Golf Outing Committee**



**Outstanding Board Member of the Year -
Tony Holloman**



**Good Shepherd of the Year -
Victoria Griffin - Futch**



**Outstanding Volunteer of the Year -
Martina Currie**

George Blaha's High Hopes Golf Invitational

As a member of Vista Maria's Advisory Board, Mr. George Blaha and his celebrity friends have built High Hopes into the exclusive event it is today.

As the longest running fundraiser in Vista Maria's history, this year we celebrated 33 years with a sold out event at Knollwood Country Club in West Bloomfield Township.

Guests enjoyed 18 holes of golf, a celebrity networking cocktail reception, dinner, live and silent auctions.

This year the High Hopes attendees raised \$150,000 for youth in our care.

We thank everyone who was able to attend and all of our sponsors for a wonderful day and evening!





High Hopes Sponsors

Platinum Auction Sponsors



Dinner Sponsors



Golf Favor Sponsor



mitchell | genex | coventry

Chairman's Cocktail Reception Sponsors



23rd Annual Celebrating Women

In its 23rd year, Celebrating Women is Vista Maria's premier event honoring the achievements of youth in our care, who have overcome tremendous barriers on their road to success.

For the second year, we held the sold out event outdoors at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester, Michigan. Guests were surrounded by the Tudor revival style mansion that is the fourth largest historic mansion museum in the United States. The open green spaces, forests and gardens that frame the mansion made this an ideal setting for our signature event.

The evening featured an exceptional dinner, silent and live auction with an inspiring program that truly celebrated the stories of our empowered and fearless youth at Vista Maria.

One of Vista Maria's core values is individual worth. As an agency, we recognize the uniqueness of every person. It is in that spirit that Vista Maria will change the name of the Celebrating Women event starting next year to the Fearless Heart Gala.

What has not changed is our commitment to celebrating the successes of youth and families benefitting from our continuum of care, which includes; children in our academic, foster care, human trafficking treatment, independent living and mental health treatment programs.

This year, with your unwavering support, we raised more than \$300,000 in support of Vista Maria's programs. Our uphill climb is made possible by your generous gifts and sponsorships. We cannot thank you enough for believing in us and believing in the future of the youth we serve.



It is your fearless heart that allows us to protect, encompass, embolden and empower our youth. Together, we can keep young people safe and help them grow to become strong.



Celebrating Women Sponsors

Presenting Sponsors

Donald and Mary Kosch Foundation



Platinum Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



whisker

Bronze Sponsors



Clara B. Ford Academy Class of 2022 Graduation

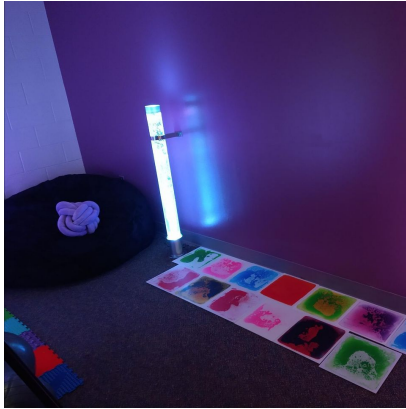


This May we celebrated Clara B. Ford Academy's 2022 graduating class. The small, but mighty class propelled themselves from trauma to triumph. These graduates not only

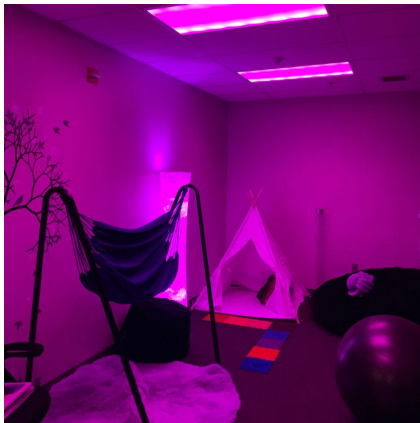
overcame their personal challenges, but all the obstacles COVID-19 brought to their last year of high school. Despite all the uncertainty, our staff and students showed incredible flexibility and resilience, making this an extremely successful academic year for all!

From all of us at Vista Maria, remember that you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think, and loved more than you'll ever know.

Beata Sensory Room

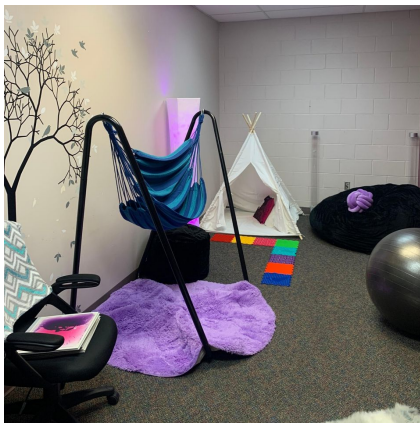


Vista Maria is always finding innovative ways to enable healing within each child and family we serve. Last year, we partnered with the Building Bridges Institute (BBI), a national initiative sharing best practices for sustained positive outcomes specifically for young people who have received residential services and their families.



For youth who have experienced trauma, developing self-soothing techniques to calm themselves is an important part of healing. Working with BBI, we piloted a project that provided youth with their own "Calming Box" of sensory tools. A therapist worked with each youth to build their own customized Calming Box, filled with a variety of stress balls, fidgets, aromatics, and other sensory items.

These items support self-regulation by engaging the senses. Connecting with our senses of sight, touch, taste, sound, and smell is a fast way to bring us out of our thoughts and into the present moment.



The Calming Box pilot project proved so successful that we are now installing full sensory rooms in each residential building. Designed to help clients use their 5 senses to de-escalate intense emotions and thoughts, each sensory room uses light, sound, color, and other sensory cues to calm and engage them. These sensory rooms help youth learn and apply coping strategies for self-care, self-regulation and self-soothing.

With one room fully constructed, we look forward to adding more of these enhancing rooms throughout campus in 2022.

Get ready for our Wish List !

Our Holiday Wish List Program is a fun and rewarding way to make the

holidays special for our youth. Volunteers generously go above and beyond to provide gifts and stocking stuffers for each young person, fulfilling individual wish lists, holiday shopping needs, and getting everything wrapped and festive in our Vista Boutique.



[Click Here](#) for more information about this year's Wish List programs and how you can get involved!

Or start your shopping early by visiting our [Amazon](#) and [Target](#) wish lists. Your gift will be delivered directly to Vista Maria (No sleigh required!).

Individual Wish Lists for 2022 will be available in early November. In years past, this individualized program has filled up quickly, so sign up with Jessica Marcetti today at: jmarcetti@vistamaria.org.

[Donate Now](#)