

A close-up photograph of several hands of different skin tones stacked on top of each other in a circular arrangement. The hands are wearing various colored sleeves: orange, yellow, red, blue, and brown. The background is blurred, focusing attention on the hands.

# VISTA MARIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

## FULL CIRCLE:

Journeys of Hope and Healing



## OUR MISSION

We foster restorative relationships and deliver innovative care, treatment, and education so that vulnerable youth and families believe in their worth, heal, and build the skills for success.

## OUR VISION

Youth and families are empowered to be agents of change in their own lives and build healthier communities for the next generation.

## A LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on 2024, I am filled with gratitude for the unwavering support and shared spirit that powers Vista Maria's mission: to foster restorative relationships and deliver innovative care, treatment, and education so that vulnerable youth and families believe in their worth, heal and build the skills for success.

Amidst ongoing shifts in the residential care landscape, our dedicated team has remained focused on our core values—zeal, mercy, compassion, and reconciliation. We've deepened partnerships with MDHHS, elected officials and community allies to ensure the highest level of care for the youth entrusted to us.

This year, our youth experienced powerful breakthroughs. From improved coping skills and stronger relationships to joyful adoptions and family reunifications, each success is a testament to trauma-informed care and the dedication of our staff.

No matter the challenges ahead, we remain guided by our vision: that youth and families are empowered to shape their own futures and build healthier communities. Over 900 volunteers contributed 4,000+ hours. Our community showed up in beautiful ways — proving to our youth that they are valued and loved.

Thank you for walking alongside us. Together, we'll carry this momentum into 2025 with renewed purpose and enduring hope.

Warmly,



Greg Spinazze,  
Chair, Vista Maria Board of Directors

## CORE VALUES

The root beliefs which serve as our guiding light

### Zeal

#### DEFINE IT:

Love and kindness

"We won't settle for limitations others set, and we will pursue new ways to find answers and possibilities."

### Individual Worth

#### DEFINE IT:

One's own worth

"All people, no matter their background, history, or actions, have value. We will help each other to heal, grow, and achieve a life filled with possibilities."

### Reconciliation

#### DEFINE IT:

Restoration of relationships

"We're constantly learning and growing and modeling how each person can put their courage, love, and vision to work."

### Mercy & Compassion

#### DEFINE IT:

Love that pardons

"We continuously support each other and strive to meet our goals for each youth, family, program, and employee."

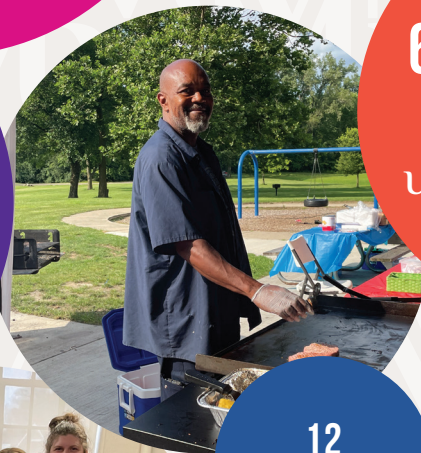
**406  
TOTAL  
CLIENTS  
SERVED**

**4,129  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS**



**18  
MENTOR-  
MENTEE  
pairs matched**

**6  
FUNDRAISING  
EVENTS**



**6,000 WATER  
BALLOONS  
used in summer  
field days**



**12  
ADOPTIONS**

**6 FIELD  
TRIPS &  
COLLEGE  
TOURS**

**79 YOUTH  
PARTICIPATED  
IN DREAM**



**584  
HOLIDAY  
gifts  
wrapped**

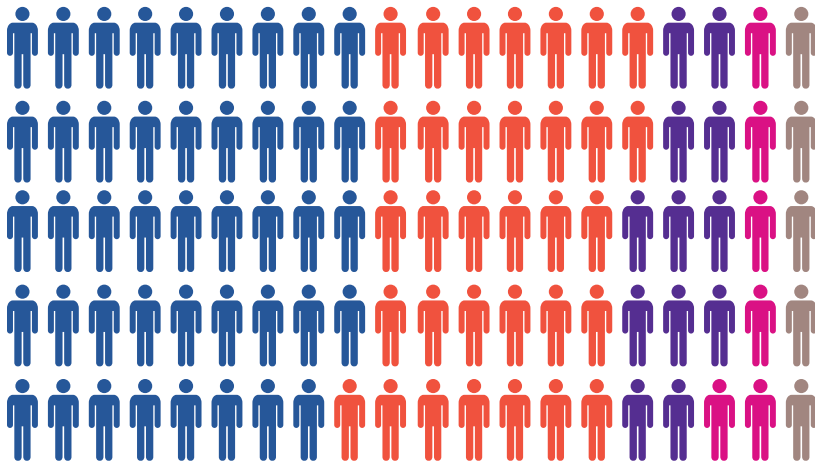


**25 FAMILY  
REUNIFICATIONS**

**26 YOUTH  
RECEIVED  
MENTORING**

# 2024 MISSIONAL IMPACT

## 406 Total Distinct Clients Served



179 (44%) Foster Care

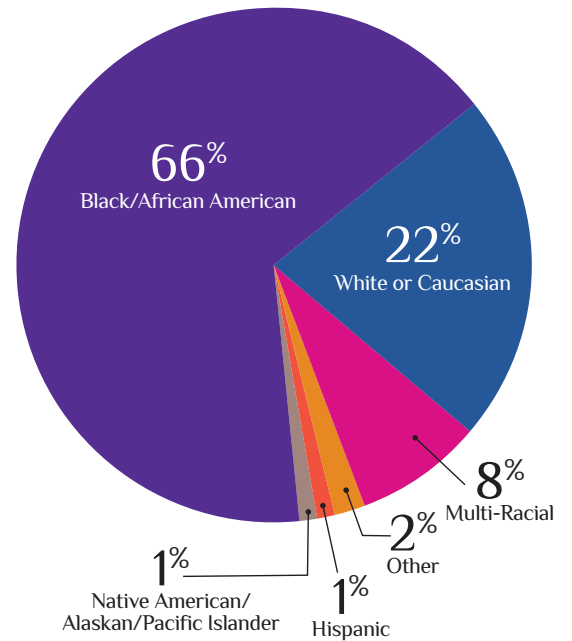
135 (33%) Residential Mental Health & Human Trafficking Treatment

46 (12%) Community Independent Living

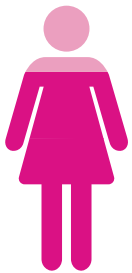
25 (6%) Shepherd Hall Transitional Living

21 (5%) Wraparound

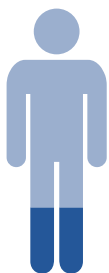
## Clients Served, by Race (all programs)



## Clients served, by Gender (all programs)



73%  
Female



27%  
Male

## Journey to Success

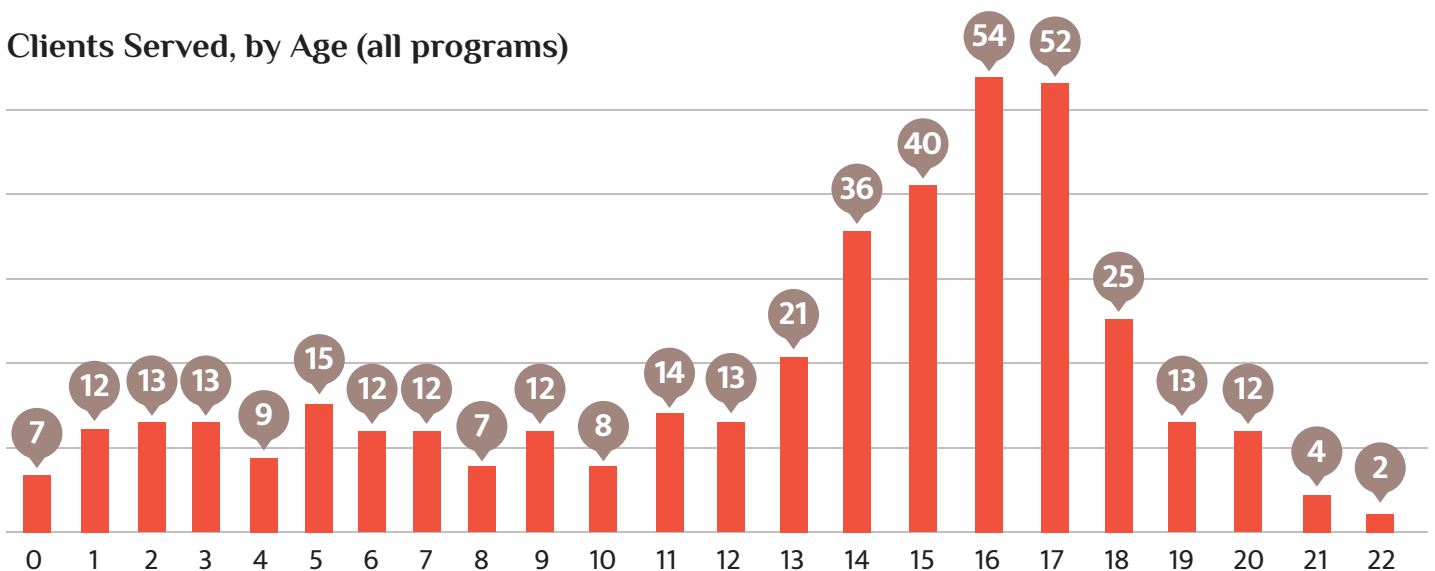
74% of clients reported positive outcomes from the Journey to Success program, including stronger relationships, better health, and improved coping and academic skills.

## Residential and Aftercare

The Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) is a tool used to evaluate how well young people are functioning in key areas of life, such as school, home, and community, while managing emotional, behavioral, or substance use challenges.

In 2024, 69% of clients showed improvement in their CAFAS scores, indicating statistically or clinically significant therapeutic progress among the youth in our care.

## Clients Served, by Age (all programs)





# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



## Pavilion Ribbon Cutting

The new Donald and Mary Kosch Foundation Pavilion is officially open. Located at the heart of Vista Maria's campus, this beautiful outdoor space is already bringing people together for joyful family visits, peaceful staff breaks, and outdoor programs for youth. It is a symbol of the connection, healing, and generosity that makes our work possible.



## Family Engagement and Parent Support Groups

This year, Vista Maria deepened its commitment to families by hosting 11 engagement events focused on connection, trust, and healing. A summer highlight at Red Oaks Waterpark brought together 83 youth and family members for a joyful day of togetherness.

Parent Ambassadors provided one-on-one support to caregivers, helping them navigate challenges and work toward reunification. The Parent Advisory Council helped shape impactful programming, including the launch of monthly Parent Support Groups that offer encouragement, resources, and a space to be heard.

Vista Maria strengthens families at every step, knowing that when parents feel supported, their children are more likely to thrive.

## Safety-Care

Vista Maria adopted Safety-Care, an evidence-based behavioral safety training focused on prevention, de-escalation, and minimal physical intervention. Built on Applied Behavior Analysis and positive interventions, it offers a safer, trauma-informed approach that supports diverse cognitive and communication needs, reinforcing our commitment to youth-centered care. 234 staff members participated in this training, reinforcing our commitment to youth-centered care.



## Lego Robotics

Curiosity filled the room as Vista Maria residents took part in a Lego Robotics workshop, thanks to Bosch and The Robot Garage. As part of our Journey to Success program, youth combined creativity and engineering to build hopping Lego robots, learning prototyping, problem-solving, and teamwork.

One resident, Jade\* (15), was inspired, and we helped ensure her new school had a robotics team when she left care.

Experiences like this do more than teach. They empower youth to build brighter futures, brick by brick.

## Quarterly Dental Wellness Fairs

Vista Maria helps foster families access health services through quarterly Oral Health Fairs with Portable Smiles Consulting, providing on-site dental care and education.

At a recent event, 30 youth and caregivers participated. One parent said, "I was able to get my foster child the dental care they needed on time, thanks to case manager support with transportation."

To overcome financial and transportation barriers, we provide Uber rides, gas cards, and bus passes. As a result, all participants reported feeling more comfortable with dental visits and better informed about oral health.

# CLIENT STORIES

## Client Story: Alana

Healing is deeply personal, which is why Vista Maria offers expressive therapies like art, music, writing, dance, and theater.

For Alana\*, healing meant the stage. She wrote, directed, and designed *Moment of Truth*, an autobiographical play about her journey. She also selected costumes, built the set, and led rehearsals with full creative control.

When the lights dimmed, the play became more than a performance. It was an act of courage and self-expression.

Some youth heal through painting or poetry. Others, like Alana, find their voice by stepping into the spotlight and sharing their truth.



## Alumni Story: Precious

At 8, Precious lost her mother to gun violence and experienced unstable housing before coming to Vista Maria, where she received housing, therapy, and care. She was later placed with a foster family and adopted.

Now 20, Precious is in her third year at Wayne State University, studying Sports Management and Broadcast Journalism. She's on the cheer team, chairs the NAACP Health Committee, and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She also benefits from Vista Maria's Scholarship Program.

Reflecting on her journey, Precious said, "Vista Maria has shaped me into the girl I never thought I would be... It showed me that just because someone has a tough childhood doesn't mean they can't be successful in life."



## Independent Living Client: Josie

Josie entered foster care as a child, was adopted, then lost her placement when parental rights were terminated. Nearing adulthood, she joined Vista Maria's Shepherd Hall Transitional Living Program. There, she found the support and tools she needed. In June, Josie earned her high school diploma and plans to pursue a career in criminal justice.

Kind and energetic, Josie is determined to move forward. As she says, "It doesn't matter what type of past you have, you can always be successful."



## Foster Parents: Courtney & Scott

When Scott and Courtney agreed to care for a medically fragile infant recovering from suspected shaken baby syndrome, they said yes without hesitation. At just five months old, he had endured more than most children should and hadn't even learned to hold a toy.

With four children already, they thought their experience would prepare them, but foster care was different. It meant opening their hearts to a child who'd never known safety or consistency or even the job of a birthday party.

Three years later, the boy is thriving, and their family bond is stronger than ever. Scott and Courtney say, "Foster care isn't about one moment. It's about a lifetime of moments."

It's the daily care, small wins, and simple joys like letting a child stay up late to listen for reindeer. It's the quiet magic of showing up every day.

At Vista Maria, we support families like theirs, helping children heal one moment at a time.





# 2024 FINANCIALS

## CURRENT ASSETS

Cash & Cash Equivalents - Undesignated Funds	\$7,231,487
Investments	\$33,380,945
Receivables:	
Programming Fees	\$7,222,606
Promise to Give - Net	\$726,625
Other	\$221,689
Prepaid Expenses	\$638,628
Building, Improvements, and Equipment - Net	\$17,529,746
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$66,951,726</b>

## LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

### Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$510,613
Accrued Liabilities	\$2,274,312
Other Liabilities	\$8,000
Notes Payable	\$1,197,333
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$3,990,258</b>

### Net Assets

Without Donor Restrictions:	
Undesignated	\$43,024,853
Investment in Capital Assets - Net	\$16,332,413
Board Designated	\$2,448,340
With Donor Restrictions	\$1,155,862
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$62,961,468</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$66,951,726</b>

## REVENUES

Direct Care/Programming Fees	\$28,144,611
Care Management Org./Service Rev.	\$12,074,172
Contributions & Programming Grants	\$3,368,323
Rental Income	\$285,386
Other Supportive Services	\$68,770
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$43,941,262</b>

## EXPENSES

Direct Care/Programming	\$32,739,478
Supportive Services:	
Management & General	\$4,678,631
Fundraising	\$1,101,734
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$38,519,843</b>

**Change In Net Assets From Operations** **\$5,421,419**

### Other Changes in Net Assets

Capital Campaign - Net	-
Investment Gain - Net of Fees	\$3,872,666
Capital Grants/Donations - Net	\$817,624
Gain on Disposal of Assets	\$500

**TOTAL CHANGE IN NET ASSETS** **\$10,112,209**

**NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR** **\$52,849,259**

**NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR** **\$62,961,468**

## 2024 DONORS

Thank you to our generous donors and partners. Your support makes healing and hope possible for the youth we serve. Please visit [vistamaria.org](https://vistamaria.org) to view our full list of 2024 contributors.

## 2024 EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

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Chief Executive Officer

**Kathy Regan**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Meredith Reese**  
Chief Operating Officer

**Kim Tyle**  
Chief Development Officer

**Jayne Diorka**  
VP of Finance and Corporate Controller

**Amy Scurlock**  
Director of Human Resources

**Rachael Druyor**  
Director of Quality

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President & Partner, Wealth Strategy Partners (Board Chair)

**Donna England**  
Retired, Chief Accounting Officer, DTE (Vice Chair)

**Harold Dubrowsky**  
Financial Consultant (Treasurer)

**Carol Taylor**  
Retired, Amerisure Insurance (Secretary)

**Sr. Carmel Irving**  
Sisters of the Good Shepherd (Representative)

**Jayashree Ishwar**  
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**Tony Hollamon**  
Executive Vice President, Epitec, Inc. (Member at Large)

**Mary Williams**  
Senior Account Executive, Insurance Exchange Agency (Member at Large)

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SVP IT, Penske Corporation



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Founded by the Sisters of  
the Good Shepherd

## OUR PROGRAMS

### Foster Care & Adoption

Vista Maria supports youth ages 0 to 25 through foster care and adoption services. We walk alongside families and offer training, resources, and guidance so every child has the chance to experience the love and security of a nurturing home.

### Residential Mental Health and Human Trafficking Treatment

Vista Maria provides trauma-informed care, intensive mental health services, and on-campus education to help young people heal and reclaim their lives. Each treatment plan is personalized so every child feels seen, valued, and supported.

Our Wings Program offers specialized residential care for adolescent female survivors of human trafficking, delivering critical services from emergency stabilization through mental health treatment to community reintegration, all focused on healing, wellness, and lasting restoration.

### Intensive Aftercare

Vista Maria's Intensive Aftercare program begins the moment a youth enters our care. Our team partners with families from the start, providing guidance and continued support for six to 12 months or more after a youth completes treatment and returns to the community.

### Community Independent Living

Vista Maria's community-based living programs support youth aging out of foster care with safe housing, life skills, and caring guidance. This foundation helps them navigate adulthood and move toward independence with confidence, stability, and hope.

### Shepherd Hall Transitional Independent Living

Located on campus, the Shepherd Hall Transitional Living Program offers a stable home and a path forward for young adults aging out of foster care or facing homelessness. Through guidance, healing, and skill-building, residents gain the support they need to grow, thrive, and achieve independence.

### Wraparound

Vista Maria's Wraparound program supports youth and families in making meaningful changes by building on their strengths and honoring their choices. This voluntary, community-based program offers personalized support for education, employment, counseling, and life skills, helping families move toward their goals.