



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Rooted in Community • Expanding Our Reach
Deepening Our Commitment

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Now that I have fully stepped into this role, I find myself reflecting deeply on what we have built together over the past year. What stands out most is not just the scale of our work — but the roots beneath it: the consistency, compassion, and commitment that ground everything we do.

Across our programs, our team has shown up every day to meet complex and evolving needs. From providing safe housing and supportive services to delivering case management, workforce development, and health and wellness support, our efforts have remained rooted in dignity and opportunity. We have not only responded to immediate challenges — we have helped clients put down roots toward long-term stability.

This year also called on us to grow in new ways. We responded to emerging needs with urgency and care, ensuring that those who turned to us — many for the first time — found not just services, but a community to root themselves in. At the same time, we strengthened our partnerships, recognizing that collaboration is essential to expanding our reach and helping more individuals and families take hold.

Equally important, we have continued to center the voices of those we serve — empowering them to advocate for themselves, shape their futures, and influence the systems that affect their lives. That commitment remains at the heart of who we are.

Because of this collective effort, we have been able to provide stability, hope, and opportunity to hundreds of individuals and families. These outcomes are not accidental — they are the direct result of dedicated staff, committed partners, and a community that believes in what is possible.

As we look ahead, we know the work will not become easier. The landscape is shifting, and the need continues to grow. But what gives me confidence is knowing that we are building not just programs, but a strong, resilient foundation — one rooted deeply enough to weather what's ahead, and flexible enough to meet the future with clarity, purpose, and innovation.

Thank you for standing with us, for investing in this mission, and for helping us grow a future where every person has the opportunity to thrive.

With gratitude,
Shena McFadden-Brimage
Executive Director

WHO WE ARE



Community Family Life Services is rooted in the belief that every woman and family deserves the chance to grow toward stability. We walk alongside those facing homelessness, domestic violence, reentry, and unemployment — offering trauma-informed, client-centered support that helps people move from crisis toward safety, healing, and lasting self-sufficiency. When immediate needs arise, clients turn to CFLS for food, clothing, hygiene supplies, transportation, and wellness services in a space designed to feel like home. For those returning from incarceration, our Starter Kit and Reentry Services Program provides the case management, wellness education, and housing and employment referrals needed to reconnect with community and reduce the likelihood of recidivism.



Just as roots draw strength from the ground beneath them, our clients draw strength from community — and CFLS is committed to being that steady ground. Family-centered services help parents strengthen relationships and work toward reunification, while our Employment & Entrepreneurship Program — including our Grow with Google Certificate partnership — gives clients the job-readiness training and industry-recognized credentials to grow toward financial independence. Together, these services don't just meet immediate needs; they help clients put down roots that hold through life's next season.

PROGRAM IMPACT OVERVIEW



- **38%**
Continuing Clients
- **62%**
New Clients



220
Clients
Enrolled
in Case
Management

EMERGENCY SERVICES

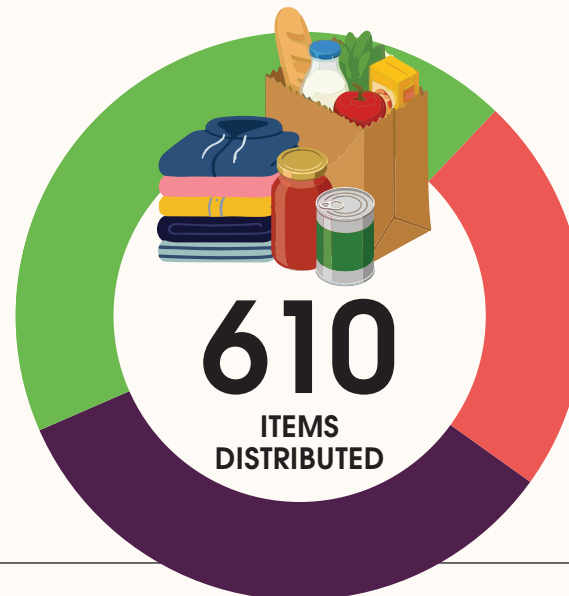
278
Clients
Served

66
Children
Served

3,495
Diapers
Distributed

932

Volunteer hours donated by 32
volunteers, averaging 29 hours each



- **267** Other Materials
- **138** Clothing Items
- **205** Food Items



HOUSING SERVICES

- **23** Reentry DBH Housing
- **10** Emergency Housing
- **2** Scattered Housing
- **32** Milestone Housing
- **11** Financial Literacy Housing
- **17** Trinity Arms Housing

FINANCIAL LITERACY

56
Clients Coached

11
Clients Housed

11
Workshops Hosted

\$58,495
Collective Savings

+34 pts.
Average Credit Score



FAMILY & LEGAL SUPPORT

83
Parenting Program Clients Served

74
Legal Support Cases Opened

REENTRY & STARTER KIT PROGRAM

60 Clients Served

35 Starter Kits Distributed



EMPLOYMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

36 Clients Served

17 Found Employment

35 Job Readiness Training

11 Employment Clinics

Grow with Google

23 Participants

91 Course Enrollments

39 Courses Completed

476 Study Hours

MISSION IN ACTION

CLIENT STORY

Throughout 2025, clients across CFLS programs demonstrated extraordinary resilience and perseverance overcoming barriers. The following stories reflect the strength and courage of those served and the progress they made toward healing and brighter futures.



‘The Day My Life Changed’ - Ms. Donna

“After having a stroke in August of 2021, I ran into a woman named Ms. Vee at a bus stop on my way home from a doctor’s appointment. She noticed my condition and helped me onto the bus. At that time, I had to use a walker to get around. On the bus she asked more about what happened to me and I told her about my stroke and how it completely incapacitated me. After I was relieved from work my daughter and I lost our apartment, I was homeless living post to post with no hope in sight.

She then told me about Community Family Life Services. I immediately gave them a call and spoke with someone who could finally help me. I wasn’t able to physically meet with someone because of the pandemic, so they set me up with someone over Zoom. Not even a week later I received a call back from Ms. Shena and her colleagues, they asked me some questions, got some info and within three weeks I was accepted into the program and housed at Nannie Hellen Burroughs and to my surprise Ms. Vee was there too.

It all happened so fast, one day I was homeless with nowhere to go, the next I had a roof over my head with warm showers and food at the table. This place was much more than just a place to stay; we got gift cards for clothes once a month, transportation assistance and a wonderful community where I met dear friends. After 3 years in the program, I’m now living comfortably in my own apartment. To this day the people at CFLS call me to this day to assist and help me, sometimes even just to check in. I’m forever grateful for the help from those who truly care to help people.”

MISSION IN ACTION VOLUNTEERS

With the array of services and resources provided by the Drop-In Center, implementing such services required adequate staff capacity to coordinate and deliver efficiently. Volunteers were an essential part of the Drop-In Center's ability to serve the community effectively.



Zach Angerthal

What inspired you to volunteer with CFLS?

Being in a space that applies trauma-informed care, genuine and tangible support for others.

What has been the greatest moment you've had at CFLS thus far?

I like that CFLS doesn't just say, they do things... they actually do them. They look out for each other and for everyone in the community.

What advice would you share with persons interested in CFLS?

I would say to be open to accept their help and /or guidance. CFLS truly wants to be there in your journey, and there is no catch.

MISSION IN ACTION **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

Our comprehensive and diverse offering of programs seeks to provide short-term crisis and emergency assistance; and to empower individuals and families to successfully change their lives.



Unmute the Mic

We hosted “Unmute the Mic Night” at Busboys and Poets Brookland. The evening was designed to provide a trauma-informed creative space for survivors of domestic violence, incarceration, and homelessness and their supporters to gather, listen, and share their powerful stories. It was truly a remarkable occasion filled with healing and hope.

Client Advocacy Committee

Many of the laws and policies that are developed by our legislatures come directly from issues raised by the community. We therefore must invest time and energy in making our voices heard.

This program empowers clients with the tools needed to execute comprehensive advocacy campaigns that advance our mission of supporting DC residents directly impacted by incarceration, domestic violence, and homelessness.

We believe in the tremendous power of leading with lived experience. Our distinguished graduates lead the charge as an ambassador throughout the community.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

FISCAL 2025

\$138,174.75

Contributions Received

\$3,424,418.22

Government Grants

\$113,454.84

Other Income

\$4,020,379.50

Total Revenues

\$1,999,946

Total Salaries & Benefits

\$3,751,000.57

Total Expenses

\$269,378.36

Net Income

CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION FUNDERS



THANK YOU

SUPPORT US

Join Community Family Life Services in building stronger pathways to housing stability, healing, and opportunity for women and families across Washington, DC. Your support helps CFLS continue providing safe housing, reentry support, victim services, workforce development, emergency assistance, and advocacy for communities facing some of life's greatest challenges.

GET INVOLVED

- Donate to support housing, emergency assistance, and life-changing programs.
- Volunteer your time and skills to support community outreach and client services
- Become a community or corporate partner to help expand opportunities and resources for the families we serve
- Advocate alongside CFLS to elevate the voices of women, survivors, and justice-involved individuals across the District.

JOIN US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@cflsdc

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