

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Elizabeth Stone House

General Information

MISSION

The Elizabeth Stone House is committed to countering the effects of trauma and breaking the cycles of violence and abuse—one family at a time. Through residential and community support services, the Stone House helps families heal and women reclaim control over their lives.

HISTORY

The Elizabeth Stone House was founded in 1974 by Mary Raffini and a group of former mental health patients. Dissatisfied with traditional mental health care, they believed that by providing empowerment and peer support, women could overcome their emotional distress and trauma. This knowledge remains the core philosophy of the Stone House today. The work is based on the conviction that women, can and do, help themselves and each other.

The house is named after Elizabeth T. Stone, a life-long mental health labor activist. As a young woman in the 1840s, she was committed to an asylum for changing her religion from Methodist to Baptist.

The Elizabeth Stone House is a therapeutic community where residents establish and work toward practical goals while living in a supportive environment together with the staff and advocates. They take responsibility for creating a safe and supportive community.

PROGRAMS

The Battered Women's Program (BWP) is an eight-week program from women seeking refuge from violence in their homes. It provides a safe environment for women and their children while they look for long-term, safe, affordable housing. Following an initial telephone screening and a face-to-face interview, women may enter the Stone House anytime, day or night, on a space-available basis.

(more)

The Transitional Housing Program (THP) provides women and their children with a bridge from residential programs to independent living. Women may be accepted after successfully completing the Stone house's TC or BWP, or other area shelters and programs. Women can remain at THP for up to 18 months while they seek permanent housing, complete job training, save money, access day care, become secure in their emotional recovery and establish support networks.

Community Support Services are provided in the form of support groups such as Trauma, Domestic Violence, Relapse Prevention, Trauma Support and Anger Management. Community Education for Economic Development (CEED) is provided through programs such as the Personal Economic Program (PEP). The Stone House's Parent Child Center provides groups such as the Nurturing Program, Reunification, Mom's Support, Child Witness to Violence and the Teen Group.

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