



MISSION

My Sister's Place (MSP) shelters, supports and empowers survivors of domestic violence and their children, while providing leadership and education to build a supportive community.

HISTORY

For over 40 years, **MSP has been an innovator** in changing lives by providing care through hotlines, domestic violence shelters, and continued aftercare to help survivors build independent lives. As **one of DC's oldest domestic violence shelters**, we have served as a cornerstone of the District's response to this pressing public health issue since 1979.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

MSP is unique in *offering a continuum of care* from emergency shelter through transitional-to-permanent housing. Our experienced team of case managers and residential counselors provide clinical counseling, case management, and comprehensive services to empower survivors to recover and thrive. *MSP also provides training, case consultation, and advocacy to engage communities to prevent violence and abuse.*

Sanctuary Plus - our 90-day emergency shelter for women fleeing domestic violence and their children. Home to 15 families, Sanctuary Plus provides residents with counseling, case management, daily coaching and referrals to enable them to successfully transition to permanent housing and independence.

Reaching Independence through Survivor Empowerment (RISE) and RISE Plus - our 1-year transitional-to-permanent housing program where staff provides case management and financial literacy resources aimed to empower participants. Families have the option to remain in the homes they have built for themselves after exiting the program.

Move-In Program - The Move-In program collects gently used donated furniture and other household items, so that when a client moves out of the shelter into transitional housing, they are able to move into a fully furnished and well stocked place they can truly call home.

Fresh Start Fund - The Fund has helped many families with one-time payments, such as security deposits, items clients need for their new homes, car repairs, educational opportunities, job certifications, and more. The Fresh Start Fund ensures that a small financial setback does not undermine all the progress a client has achieved.

Aftercare - clients exiting our housing programs receive ongoing contact with case-management staff to support them in their independence, including counseling, referrals to community-based services, and advocacy. Our goal is to provide active outreach and assist clients in building long-term supportive systems within their communities, to reduce the likelihood of future victimization.

Outreach & Education - our programs include regular community trainings and educational events to service providers and community members, as well as a Latino Outreach Program, which provides resources to DC's Spanish speaking residents.

160 survivors and **285** children served by MSP's programs.
1247 case management and counseling sessions were provided.

"When I came to My Sister's Place **I was scared, I was broken and my self-esteem was shattered.** I was homeless. Being a victim of domestic violence breaks your spirit, your mental health, any sense of hope. **But I'm here to let someone know that there's hope...** regardless of your situation you can surpass anything that you put your mind to. **Believe in miracles** because I went from substance-abuse caused by a domestic violence situation to becoming an independent and self-motivated business owner. Thank you!"

— T.P.*, MSP client and survivor

*Names and identifying details changed to protect client confidentiality

Interested in learning more? View our 2021 Annual Report on our website.