



MERCY CENTER  
*for* WOMEN

**Transforming Lives**

**2015-2016 Annual Report**

## Board of Trustees

### Officers

Laura Lewis - Chair  
Kathleen Quinn - Vice Chair  
Cynde Goldberg - Secretary  
Dan Levstek - Treasurer

### Directors

Kathryn Buesink  
Michael Grab  
Renee Horton  
Mary Machuga  
Nancy Marchini  
Sr. Joan McCabe, RSM  
Frances McCormick  
Caitlin Snizek  
Noreen Stegkamper  
Sr. Patricia Whalen, RSM

### Sponsorship Council Member

Mary Zenner

### Ex-Officio Trustee

Christine Tombaugh

## Mercy Center for Women

1039 East 27th Street  
Erie, PA 16504  
814-455-4577  
[www.mcwerie.org](http://www.mcwerie.org)

**Sponsored ministry of  
the Sisters of Mercy NYPPAW**



## Mission and Vision Statement

### Our Mission:

Mercy Center is a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Mercy New York, Pennsylvania and Pacific West Community and is committed to enhancing the dignity of each person it serves through the healing of body, mind and spirit.

### Mercy Center for Women Provides:

- Safe and supportive transitional housing, education and counseling for homeless women with or without children.
- Connection with social service agencies and volunteers to form a network of ongoing support, mentoring and education to our residents and women in the community.
- An environment based on spirituality and ethical values.

### Our Vision:

For women to restore hope, wholeness and stability for self and children.







Dear Friends,

Welcome to our annual review of a year in the life of Mercy Center for Women, and the women and children we serve. Our theme this year recognizes the important work we do every day... *Transforming Lives*. Our clients come to us broken and discouraged, maybe they've lost custody of their children and are desperate for change. Each woman's story is different and the amount of time it takes them to find healing and self-sufficiency is different. Some women come with determination, having realized the steps they need to take, and are ready to hit the ground running. Others come more tentatively, hoping against hope that this time they'll make it. As you may be aware, Mercy Center has encountered some struggles with funding sources we have historically been able to rely on, as government priorities have changed. We know that many of our clients need several months of supportive housing before they are ready to be out on their own. Those who are working with the Office of Children and Youth often need more time with us in order to reduce the time required to regain custody of their children. I hope you will stand with us as we navigate the changing landscape of funding resources.

We are so grateful for your support as we help transform our clients into beautiful "butterflies". Whether you have volunteered at Mercy Center or Dress for Success® Erie; brought donations of clothing, household goods and furniture; supported our events; given financially; or simply prayed for us throughout the year, please know that we appreciate your partnership with us. We could not do all that we do to bring about transformation in the lives of the women and children we serve, without your faithful support.

Thank you for all you do and please remember to help us with your gifts of time, talent and treasure as we *Transform Lives with a Touch of Mercy!*

Many blessings,

Chris Tombaugh

## Mercy Center Administrative Staff

### Executive Director

Christine Tombaugh

### Director of Client Services

Angela Tadda

### Development Director

Shirley Schell

### Financial Manager

Diane McQuaid

### Volunteer/Program Coordinator

Kim Church

### Grant Writer

Joel Tuzynski

## Mercy Center Direct Care Staff

### Advocates/Case Managers

Phyllis DiNicola

Megan Fogle-Phillips, MSW, LSW

### Child Development Specialist

Alison Vanwinkle

### House Managers/Childcare

Jackie Jordan, Anita Kraut,

Mary Jo Brunner, Kimberlee Berdis,

Mary Tobin, Floretta DeFoy, LuAnn Gossett

### Maintenance

Jim Rzomp

### Mercy Heritage House Manager

Joan Fye

### Dress for Success® Erie

### Program Director

Mary Graziano

### Dress for Success® Erie

### Assistants

Toni Barry, Renee Triana

### VISTA Volunteer

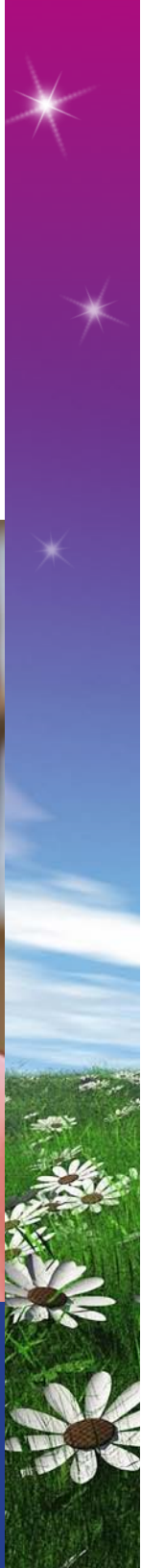
Rachel DuChateau

# Mercy Center for Women 2015-16

Transforming Lives



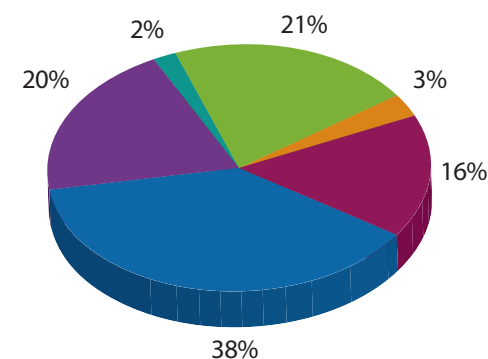
*When I arrived at MCW I was broken,, shattered. Currently, I have my own apartment. i'm staying on my path to recovery, working in a professional field and not only advocating for myself but for others as well.*



## Funding:

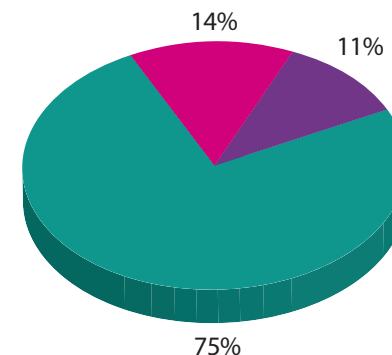
### Sources

Gifts	\$266,195	20%
Grants	487,197	38%
Contributed Services & Facilities	208,742	16%
Client Service Fees	44,358	3%
Special Projects & Fundraising	267,225	21%
Investment Return	-24,244	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,249,473</b>	<b>100%</b>



### Distribution

Programs & Services	1,085,303	75%
Administration	166,490	11%
Fundraising	204,400	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,456,193</b>	<b>100%</b>



### Government Grants

HUD - Project REACH	\$161,662
City of Erie Emergency Solutions Grant	15,669
Erie County Office of Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities	43,724
Erie County Office of Drug & Alcohol Abuse	115,176
PA WorkWear	122,072

### Private Grants

Going Places Network	\$18,699
Erie Community Foundation	4,400
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority	2,345
Other Grants	3,450





## OUTREACH SERVICES

Life Skills Classes	678
"Your Daily Threads" Boutique	1,016
Dress for Success® Erie Clients	553

## WOMEN AND CHILDREN SERVED

Women in Families	14
Single Women	21
Children	19
Shelter Nights	7,070

## OUTCOME-BASED RESULTS

Obtain Employment/Income Source	97%
Obtain Permanent Housing	84%
Reduce Debt	73%



APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS:

**393**

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER HOURS:

**7,215**

APPROXIMATE VALUE OF DONATED HOURS:

**\$163,275**

When we talk about transforming lives at Mercy Center, we often use a butterfly as our illustration. This little story, as used by one of our clients, beautifully describes the metamorphosis of our women. "Allow me to tell you a story about a butterfly. As it nears the end of its metamorphosis, its chrysalis becomes clear. A woman noticed one such clear chrysalis hanging on a milkweed plant at the back of the garden. Fascinated, she watched the butterfly as it rocked its little home, struggling and struggling, but unable to split its shell. Time and again it would stop in exhaustion, only to try again. Thinking she had to help, the woman carefully cut open the chrysalis, smiling as the wet, weak butterfly crawled out onto its branch. It never moved from that spot, where the woman later found it dead! It turns out that the butterfly needs the struggle. That is what develops the tiny muscles it must have to spread its wings to dry. Only then can it fly, feed and fulfill its purpose." Likewise, Mercy Center's clients have to experience some struggles as they grow, we can't make it so easy on them that they never learn how to do what it takes to be transformed.

# Event Sponsors



No matter where my daughters and I have been in our lives, whether up or down, the staff at Mercy Center have always been there and been an absolute positive role model for us.

## Triple Crown Event Sponsor Lincoln Metal Recycling

### Alumnae Dinner

Lincoln Metal Recycling  
ECGRA  
Erie Community Foundation

### Purse & Pearl Luncheon

Lincoln Metal Recycling  
Presque Isle Downs & Casino  
Sisters of Mercy NYPPAW  
Wal-Mart Foundation  
Great Lakes Institute of Technology  
First Niagara Foundation  
The Plastek Group  
CMI Energy  
UPMC Health Plan  
Amy Cuzzola-Kern  
Erie Community Foundation  
Erie Insurance Group  
LECOM  
National Fuel

### Table Sponsors

DFSE  
Linda King  
Linda Stevenson  
Linda Unger  
James & Maureen Chadwick  
Stairways Behavioral Health  
Mercyhurst University  
National Fuel  
Eriez Mfg Co.

### In-Kind Sponsors

Breakiron Jewelers  
Thomas Lee Printing & Mailing, Inc.  
Les Crago Jewelers  
Joel's Flower Shoppe  
Premier Jewelry  
Allburn Florist  
Hobby Lobby

### Women Making History

Lincoln Metal Recycling  
Knox Law Firm  
UPMC Health Plan  
Dynamic Alumnae Sponsorship  
Erie Community Foundation  
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield  
Scott & Amy Cuzzola Kern  
Dr. Mike & Mary Machuga DDS  
Al & Peggy Richardson  
Sisters of Mercy NYPPAW  
Cathedral Prep & Villa Maria  
ECGRA  
National Fuel  
Northwest Savings Bank  
United Way  
UPMC Hamot

### In-Kind Sponsors

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center  
Mercyhurst College  
Paragon Print Systems  
Paul Lorei Photo Studio  
Dahlkemper Jewelry Connection  
Millcreek Mall  
Presque Isle Winery  
Signs Now  
Erie Beer

### Chances Are

Polish Falcons Nest #610  
Barbara Loucks

### In-Kind Sponsors

Abby's Hallmark  
AutoZone  
Bonded Services  
C.A. Curtze Company  
Calamari's Squid Row  
Dairy Queen



Delta Sonic  
Dr. Mike & Mary Machuga  
Erie Bayhawks  
Erie Children's Museum  
Erie Otters  
Erie Philharmonic  
Erie Promotions  
Erie Seawolves  
Erie Zoo  
Fairview Evergreen Nursery  
Hair Affair on the Avenue  
Hoss's Steak and Sea House  
Jack Paluh  
Joe Roots Grill  
Junior's Last Laugh  
Lake Erie Ballet  
Moniuszko Club  
North Coast Flight School  
Paragon Print Systems  
Pat Martin  
Plymouth Tavern  
Potratz Nursery  
Pulakos Chocolates  
Romolo Chocolates  
Scott Enterprises  
Splash Lagoon  
Stan's Garden Center  
Teresa's Deli  
Texas Roadhouse  
Valerio's  
Victoria's Salon & Spa  
YMCA

All donors to Mercy Center for Women are listed on our website at [www.mcwerie.org](http://www.mcwerie.org)



# Memorials & Honorariums

## In Memory

Barbara Drobish & Betty Abbott  
 Victoria & Richard Abbott  
 Janet Hymiak  
 Carol Hymiak  
 Betty Greulich  
 Kathryn Greulich  
 Deceased Mothers of Members of the  
 Society of the Holy Trinity  
 Society of Holy Trinity  
 Her mom  
 Marilyn Ricker  
 Mary A. Oncea  
 Lois Bartos  
 Clifton E. Adams  
 Nick & Karen Tech  
 Marie Kantor & Mary Desser  
 Marie & Joseph Desser  
 Josephine Carbone  
 Sean & Rebecca Dugan  
 Carolyn Chmielewski  
 John & Sandra DiMattio  
 Buddy Clark  
 Beverly Clark  
 Karol Clement  
 Polly DeDad  
 Rosemary Cochran  
 Dennis & Barbara Hart  
 Janet R. Cornwell  
 Evan & Rebecca Adair  
 Jessie Thompson  
 Northwest Commission  
 Katherine Wyrosdick  
 Diane D'Annibale  
 Mary Ann D'Annibale  
 Janet Gilbride & Darlene Martter  
 Joan Martter  
 Helen Devitt Herring  
 Pat & Pete Benekos  
 Helen E. Ropelewski  
 Anne Marie Ropelewski  
 Mary Eisert  
 Charles Eisert

Helen W. Climpson & Faye L. Vetter  
 Don & Carol Climpson  
 Geraldine Fields  
 Tressa Yusten  
 Barbara & James Kowalski  
 Cynthia Saurwein  
 Rick & Louise Smerick  
 Barbara Gerenser  
 Ali Fuhrman  
 Alice Fuhrman  
 Alfred Jimerson  
 David Lanagon  
 Betty Jones  
 Barrie Nolan  
 Victor J. Kaliszak  
 Gerry & Tom Hoffman  
 Anita Serafin  
 Evelyn & Jim Kiehlmeier  
 Mary Ann Kiehlmeier  
 Andrea Kolpack  
 CVCC Women's Golf Committee  
 Mary Kuhn  
 Patricia Lacey  
 Grace Long  
 Patricia Long  
 Rita M. Byrne  
 Jay & Corrine Cassa  
 Jean M. Schuerman  
 Dell Becker  
 Catherine Marusiak  
 Gen Murray  
 Sophie Borio & Mary Walczak  
 Linda Graham  
 Elaine McAndrew  
 P. Barry McAndrew  
 Blanche McGrath  
 Elinor D. Nally  
 Jeannine Miller  
 Darleen Wilkinson  
 Mary Margaret Moon  
 Mary Moon  
 Art Murosky  
 Wilhelm & Peggy Maier



His Dear Wife, Marion Pihl  
 Wayne Pihl  
 Catherine Pirrello  
 Earl & Jay Mittelmeier  
 Katherine Donnelly & Regina Collman  
 Nancy Donnelly  
 Marie Ropp  
 Marianne O'Day  
 Charlotte Shultz  
 Delta Kappa Gamma -  
 Alpha Iota Chapter  
 Sr Maura Smith, RSM  
 Patricia Connolly  
 Arlene Webb  
 Darlene Feeny  
 Sr Mary Charles Weschler, RSM  
 Sisters of Mercy  
 Linda Sobczak  
 Anne Zinna  
 Deborah Chris  
 Joan Callista  
 Scott & Mary Soltis

## In Honor

Barbara Abbott & Jennifer Eschenbach  
 Victoria & Richard Abbott  
 Freda Hymiak  
 Carol Hymiak

All Center Workers  
 June Smith  
 Commercial Auto Processing Section  
 of Erie Insurance  
 Mary Pettys  
 Srs. Mary Agnes Zore &  
 Paul Marie Westlake  
 St. Patrick School Mission Club  
 Her Daughters-in-Law  
 Nancy Marchini  
 Emily Maier & Darlene Robinson  
 Wilhelm & Peggy Maier  
 Deb & Pete Birthday  
 Don & Patricia Apel  
 Peg & Tom Bly  
 Accudyn Products, Inc.  
 Wayne & Nancy Cunningham's  
 Wedding  
 Marilyn Tuberson  
 Sharon Davenport  
 Bill Carney  
 Marilyn Dougherty  
 Thrifty Clean, Inc.  
 The Employees of the  
 Erie PA Lottery Office  
 Donna Rush  
 Tom Felion  
 Kathryn Felion  
 Rose Herbstritt  
 Kathleen Kahn  
 Violet McKinley & Patricia Hoyle  
 Dr. Brian & Krista Jones  
 Kathy Hull  
 Carl Hull  
 Jean Joyce's 85th Birthday  
 Jean McMillin  
 Srs. Paul Marie Westlake,  
 Rita Kartavich, & M. Agnes Zore  
 House of Mercy  
 Sally Sullivan  
 Kathryn Greulich  
 Helen M. Anderson  
 Catherine Anderson  
 Jane & Ken Stepherson's Marriage  
 Dudley & Susanne Kelsey  
 Anne Scalise  
 Anonymous  
 April Edwards

Christopher & Sarah Nord  
 Maureen Barber-Carey  
 Lauren Glass  
 Sandra Nelson  
 Lisa Slomski  
 Mary Zenner  
 Leanne Roberts  
 Julie Kiehl  
 Nancy & Barry Agostine  
 Dean & Sheila Schoenfeldt  
 Lisa & Ramon Watkins  
 Valerie Jones  
 Jane Lamb  
 Mary Dwyer  
 Mary Beth Pinto  
 Darlene Babcock & Melinda,  
 Laurena & Lainie Valahovic  
 Diane Valahovic  
 Patricia Mihalak  
 Janet McIntyre  
 Patricia Patterson  
 Joel & Amanda Burlingham  
 Debbie Peterson's Birthday  
 John & Bonnie Caretti  
 Linda Stevenson  
 Sue Speer  
 Donna Rush  
 Chris & Vickie Lampe  
 Jessica Teperow  
 Naomi Teperow  
 Melissa Thompson  
 Cynde & Aron Goldberg  
 David & Kathy Belczyk  
 Her mother Elizabeth Venesky  
 Phyllis DiNicola  
 Ruby K. Waugh  
 Becky Fechner  
 Sr. Paul Marie Westlake's 60th Jubilee  
 Sisters of Mercy of  
 the Americas NYPPAW  
 Mary Lou Wiczorek  
 Mary Graziano  
 Mary Lessig McCutcheon  
 Lisa Baumgardner



**Mercy Center for Women**

1039 East 27th Street  
Erie, PA 16504  
814-455-4577  
[www.mcwerie.org](http://www.mcwerie.org)



Thank you for your generosity

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ERIE PA  
PERMIT NO. 22

