APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER



Our Vision

To end homelessness among women in the Dayton, Ohio area.

Our Mission

Linda Vista provides housing and a high-quality program that teaches self-sufficiency to homeless women ready for a change. Linda Vista provides the women with a clear vision to the future for themselves and their children.

"Surround yourself with people who are going to motivate and inspire you"

Unknown

THE LINDA VISTA

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR CARMEN GOODEN

We began this journey nearly 20 years ago, and it is unbelievable that so much time has passed. Throughout this we have assisted hundreds of women and children move into permanent housing and most importantly, assisted them with the tools to create the life they truly desired.

The Linda Vista Inc. has a three-step process for entry into the 2 year program - prescreen and eligibility, pre-admission and final interview and admission. Once a resident is approved, they are admitted into the program and usually have no financial support, few personal belongings and no access to transportation.

The effects of homelessness on the family include the development of poor eating behaviors, low-self-esteem and an increase in mental health symptoms. Statistics show that physical and mental well-being are necessary for a person to be able to achieve a higher level of economic self-sufficiency. This is why our program focuses on the needed tools to change course. Our newsletter provides an opportunity for families to share their stories and the difference Linda Vista has made in their lives.

I didn't know that we would be in such demand in 2023 or fully understand the impact our program would have on our children. I often get calls and text messages from moms and now adult children. I've grown as much from them as they have from us. What a blessing!

Community contributions and individual donations allow us to continue to support our women and families. Please scan the QR Code to join the Linda Vista team.



Jasper is not your ordinary cat he is a friend and family member. Getting an emotional support animal incorporated into my existing therapies has helped me to notice how I am feeling.

He assists me in keeping a routine and helps move me away from my depression while caring for him. Jasper makes sure to get me out of bed even when I don't feel like it and lets me know that sometimes we both need rest. I am especially grateful that The Linda Vista has been very supportive of this method of therapy.

One family's journey

When I came to Linda Vista, I was homeless and I didn't have my children. I was filled with self-doubt, fear and trauma. I found a safe haven at Linda Vista and a home where I could grow, where I was encouraged to be the best version of myself. I was given structure and support through trauma-based groups, individual therapy and case management. Ms. Gooden guided me with patience and love.

I gained custody of my children. I would have lost them had it not been for this program. They have started tutoring at Linda Vista and have excelled in school. They are happy and have a support network including Ms. Gooden and Living Word Church youth ministers.

God answered my prayers in my darkest hour. I am so grateful to Ms. Gooden for accepting me into the Linda Vista Program. I have confidence in myself. I am a better mother and now I look forward to the future.

Coming to Linda Vista has made me learn to appreciate the little things in life.
Coming here was scary at first, I didn't know what this place had to offer. Now I know all it had to offer was love. This place gave my mom the opportunity to get us back and our family is reunited. I am so blessed God put Linda Vista Program in our lives.



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Hello, I am Nathaniel. I've been staying at Linda Vista for a couple of months and it has been a wonderful experience. I used to be in foster care and in many homes. I know I'm in the best and safest environment. Not only did Linda Vista Program change my life and my future, the tutoring kids receive here is absolutely the best for their education. I was never focused in school and frankly never wanted to do work and just slept in class. Being in a wonderful place and supported by the director and my tutor, I passed my old self and started my new self. I think without the motivation and hard work Linda Vista brought me, I wouldn't be as focused and hard working as I am now. I advise anyone that needs help or is in search of stability that this is a great start and opportunity. Age 15