



HOUSE OF TULIP

IMPACT REPORT

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A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friend,

It's hard to believe it's been less than three years since we founded House of Tulip. During those first few harrowing months of the pandemic, Milan Nicole Sherry, my longtime friend and now Director of Community Support & Outreach for House of Tulip, and I witnessed our community members face food and housing insecurity exacerbated by global crises. We did what Black trans women have always done—joined together to aid our community's survival.

But providing emergency assistance during the early days of the pandemic wasn't enough. Even before the pandemic, one in three trans

and gender nonconforming respondents to the 2015 US Trans Survey reported experiencing homelessness at some point in their lives. One in eight respondents experienced homelessness within the previous year, and one in three reported some form of housing discrimination in the past year, such as being evicted from their home or denied a home or apartment because of being transgender.

As Black, trans women who had experienced employment discrimination that made it nearly impossible to operate within the formal economy, coupled with housing discrimination that shut us out of safe and secure housing, we knew what our community needed. Our community required care—the kind of care that provides stability and builds confidence as folks make their way in the world. The kind of care that so often goes without notice in more privileged communities—free housing while folks are in school or starting their careers, access to physical and mental health care, and supportive communities invested in their growth.

Almost three years after Milan and I first called on our community to help some of our most vulnerable, I am proud to say that we're seeing our community blossom. Our community members are working and going to school while finding a home in our clean, comfortable, no-cost, long-term housing. They're saving money and forging their own paths towards the futures of their dreams.

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR, CONTINUED

But our community has needs beyond House of Tulip's long-term housing. Too often as trans and gender nonconforming people, we face disrespect and discrimination navigating systems such as employment counseling or healthcare. Attempting to access these services can be traumatizing, and as a result, we go without.

This November we opened House of Tulip's stabilization center, a place that provides safety and comfort and a jumping off point for folks to build the lives they desire. At the center, community members can enjoy a hot meal, bathe, rest, and map out their goals. The center is a first-of-its-kind facility founded by and operated by Black trans women who have faced so many of the same issues that clients face.

"The services and presence of House of Tulip have not only helped me to survive, but even to thrive and set new goals for what is possible for me as a Black trans young person."

– **COMMUNITY MEMBER**

As we enter the next year, I am so excited to see how the House of Tulip team continues to grow and care for our community. Like so many Black women before us, we have continued to make a way when there seemingly was none. And as trans and gender nonconforming communities have done for decades, we continue to look out for each other and build families so that we can embrace each other with all the care and compassion we deserve.

Thank you for your partnership. Your support is helping to build a world where trans and gender nonconforming folks not only get to dream their own dreams, they get to live out those dreams through long and fulfilling lives.

**WITH CARE,
MARIAH MOORE
HOUSE OF TULIP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



2022 Highlights



"The team is available for community members no matter what time of day it is. They are truly dedicated to each and every one of us."

- COMMUNITY MEMBER

BUILD

We've built a community through our HoT Wednesdays where we welcome community members into our space (both physical and virtual) to talk, learn, and deepen relationships. In November we marched in honor of those we've lost and celebrated our community's strength during the Trans March of Resilience. We marked the beginning of the holiday season with a Friendsgiving meal where we welcomed over 120 of our community members and allies.

GROW

In November we opened the doors to our stabilization center, a first-of-its kind resource open to all trans and gender nonconforming people. Our community members can dine at the center, bathe, rest, and be connected with affirming services all from the safety and comfort of our stabilization center.

SUPPORT

This year we hired a licensed social worker to provide support to our long-term residents and folks who access House of Tulip services through our stabilization center. Our social worker will provide counseling as needed and serve as a bridge to gender affirming services throughout the city. They'll work with our clients as they chart their own path towards the future of their dreams.

SUSTAIN

We've expanded and are now operating two long-term housing sites. We've welcomed 11 long-term residents and supported community members while they attended school and built careers.

Our Impact: Programs & Partnerships

11

community members
welcomed into long-term
housing

> 50

businesses committed to
creating, affirming, and
inclusive spaces

85

community members
and allies joined HoT
Wednesdays

> 1000

community members
and allies joined the
Trans March of
Resilience

110

community members
accessed the community
closet

> 1200

community members
and allies attended
Friendsgiving

185

meals served at
stabilization center

Thanks to Our Supporters

\$75,000 AND GREATER

Stardust Fund

For The Gworks

\$50,000 - \$74,999

Solidaire Network

Women Donors Network

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Greater New Orleans
Foundation

Foundation for Louisiana

Grantmakers for Girls of Color

Highlander Research and
Education Center

Borealis Philanthropy

Silicon Valley Community
Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

WeWork

AIDS United

Groundswell Fund

Rockefeller Philanthropy

House of GG

The Calamus Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Danielle Obanion



2023 & Beyond

ENGAGE

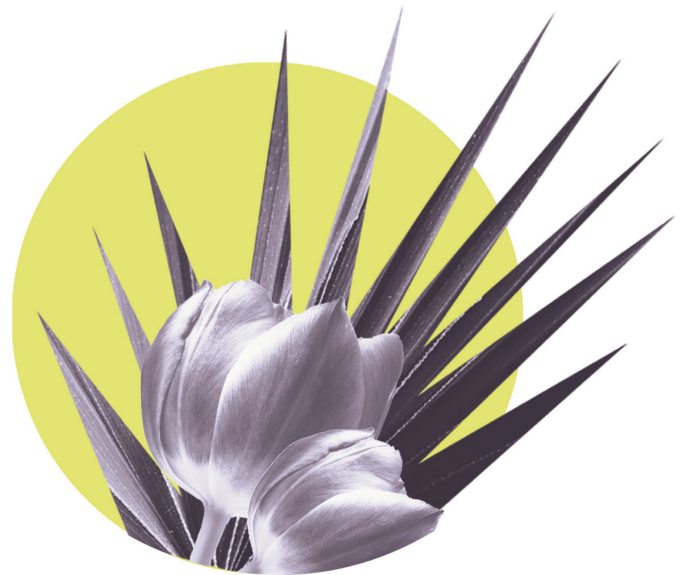
Too often trans and gender nonconforming folks face discrimination in the job hunt and prejudice in the workplace. Over the last three years, we've intentionally forged relationships with allies and created a guide of local businesses that are gender affirming and provide safe spaces for members of the trans and gender nonconforming community. In 2023 we're looking to deepen our relationships and help create more affirming spaces throughout the city.

RETAIN

By hiring a full-time social worker and expanding our stabilization center hours, we'll be uniquely positioned to provide individualized support for a variety of community members including those with immediate needs and those with more long-term, specialized needs. As our community members' needs evolve, House of Tulip will be there to offer continued support.

"This is one of the most important orgs to the survival and road to thriving for trans people in the South."

– **COMMUNITY PARTNER**



ALIGN

As we enter 2023, we're looking to further align our offerings with our community's needs. By extending our stabilization center's hours, we'll be able to better serve our community and respond to needs as they arise. By formalizing a transportation service for our community, we'll be able to ensure they can safely make it to appointments, job interviews, and more.

TRANSFORM

Under the leadership of Black trans women, we seek to transform the region through building bridges between communities. By deepening our relationship with allies and supporting community members as they build the lives of their dreams, our work aims to transform New Orleans into a safer, more equitable place for trans and gender nonconforming people.





**I FEEL SUPPORTED IN A WAY I
HAVE NEVER FELT BEFORE.**

– COMMUNITY MEMBER



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