25 years! Can you believe it? As The House DC celebrates 25 years, we celebrate more than just a building standing firm in one of the most disadvantaged communities in Washington, DC. We celebrate 25 years of breaking cycles, 25 years of feeding both the stomachs of those who are hungry and the souls of those who are hopeless. We celebrate 25 years of walking side by side with the lost, and 25 years of standing hand in hand with those in despair. We celebrate 25 years of never giving up, and 25 years of never losing sight of the mission of The House DC. We celebrate 25 years of building futures, and 25 years of lifting the Kingdom of God higher.

As a former student at The House DC, I had the profound privilege of witnessing firsthand the power of God moving within its walls. With dedicated staff who served with love and humility, I watched as the hearts of youth were forever changed. The House DC cared so deeply for our futures and was unwavering in showing each teenager who walked through its doors the love of God. Not only did I see lives being transformed left and right, but my own life was also completely changed. Once a young, broken teen mom who came to The House DC hopeless and looking for a meal, I have grown into a, God-fearing wife and mother. That baby boy I once thought I could never be a “good mother” to is now graduating 8th grade with honors.

As you dive into this newsletter, you will catch a glimpse of some of the lives The House DC has impacted. You will hear about the accomplishments of once at-risk youth and how the power of God intervened. As we celebrate 25 years of The House DC, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our donors. Your love and commitment to The House DC are evident and a true testament to our success.

Here's to 25 years of miracles, growth, and unwavering faith. Here's to 25 more years of transforming lives through the love of God.

Britney Smith,
Director of Advancement & House DC Alumni
Dominique Williams
IT Professional
- Husband and Father
- Joined the U.S. Marines

“The House DC impacted my life as a teen by allowing me to come into a safe space to learn the word of God but also provided guidance and leadership to me and my peers who were in need.”

Michelle Foster
Assistant Teacher, Kipp DC

“When I think of The House I think of FAMILY. A lot of The House employees turned out to be like family to me. I had many experiences one of which was the first time I flew on a plane!”

Dera Mills
Pediatrics Telehealth Registered Nurse
- 2002 Salutatorian of Anacostia High School
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

“The House DC is a Safe haven that kept loads of us off the streets and kept us inspired in a positive way. It led many of us to Jesus and also helped a lot of us that had trauma heal.”

Channel Stocks
Operations, Kipp College Prep
- Cheerleading coach
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Starting a mentoring program called “Grounded in Trust” for teens

“I loved it and the staff was amazing. The House had strong leadership, open communication, consistency, continuous learning, and offered a safe space.”

Andrea Timmons
First Grade Teacher, Ward 7
- Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood Education
- Master’s Degree in early childhood education

“The House is a dynamic after-school program that kept kids off the streets through a variety of interactive activities, such as job hunting and attending church and gospel events. The House provided a supportive environment for personal growth.”

Donnell Wainwright
Dean of Student Culture and Climate, Eagle Academy Public Charter School
- Dedicated Husband of 10 years and a father to three children

“The House DC was a great second family. A family who have helped push my love for God, helping others, and not to be selfish.”
Alexis Foster
Certified Medication Technician

- Providing Care at home for her Mother

“The House DC gave me a safe place to go after school when I didn’t want to go home.”

Japan Spells
Pharmacist

- Attained college degree in an accelerated timeframe of less than two years

“The House DC greatly influenced my life as a teenager by giving me a strong sense of belonging and support, which was crucial for my growth. The various programs and activities helped me form valuable relationships with mentors and friends who inspired and guided me.”

Damien Rose (Damo)
Floor Specialist, Mary’s Care Center Healthcare

- Master of 4 trades

“The House DC was a safe haven for young folks. It’s an outlet from the turmoil of the streets of Southeast DC. We were given a place of peace to develop ourselves and have folks that love us.”

Danielle Gamble (& daughter)
Support Worker, Safe Passage DC

- Certification in Brick masonry, Pipe laying, and Plumbing
- Daughter headed to college

“The love and safety the staff provided gave me a sense of security and helped build my confidence as well as my faith in Christ. The House DC has been a part of my support system since stepping through their door in the ninth grade.”

Andre Duckett
CDL Truck Driver

- A Loving husband & father
- Starting his own trucking company coming in 2025!

“The House DC saved my life. The staff taught us the power of prayer and how to pray for ourselves and each other. They supported me not only in High school but in college as well. The House also aided in me receiving my CDL and now I have a successful career as a Truck Driver.”

Erica Brown
Supervisor at the Department of Veteran Affairs

- Professional Photographer

“The House supported me during my teenage years by giving me an outlet. My first Go-go band was formed at The House DC. Many of us experienced incredible opportunities through The House, such as going on retreats and college tours, and they made praying cool for a lot of us.”
Michonda Twyman  
**Technician**  
- Tier 2 IT Specialist

“The House DC gave me a new look at my relationship with God. It gave me a comfortable atmosphere to learn the Word. I was able to learn how to cook and pray in the same place. They help me with my prom and college acceptance and getting to school.”

Jacob Johnson  
**Manager of Audio Engineering, The House DC**

“The House DC represents the turning point in my life that made it cool to strive to be great. My gifts and passions were all unveiled while I was a student there. This organization taught me that at the very center of all my success as well as my failures lie the one and only, the same GOD that was there for me in my darkest hours.”

Tija Odems  
**Johns Hopkins University’s Master of Arts, International Studies**  
- Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science.

“I honestly don’t know where I would be without The House DC, I can go on and on about The House. Long story short The House DC changed my life.”

Kyniah Graham  
**DCPL Worker**  
- Founder, Restorative Justice organization for youth

“The House DC helped me identify my triggers and helped me figure out my future. The House DC wasn’t a recreation center for me. I was pregnant at 16 years old. It was a safe haven that helped me mentally, physically, and financially. At The House, you have your own community of no judgment. The staff can relate to us on multiple levels.”

Aleia Pearson  
**Deputy Sheriff**  
- Degree in Theology & History  
- Served as Minister & Youth Pastor

“At The House DC I experienced love, peace, assurance, kindness, patience, friendship, and security. I was also introduced to Theology and changed my behavior for the better. I grew to learn who I was and the purpose and plans for my life. I grew to learn about God.”

Bryan Harris  
**Licensed Massage Therapist**  
- Founder & CEO  
- Partners with Professional Sports Teams

“The House gave us a safe space to be after school. People my age were selling drugs, in gangs, being murdered, arrested, stealing, or just from really destitute family situations. The House was a Switzerland of sorts amongst the chaos.”
Nate Graham
Chief Engineer

- Poet and World Traveler
- Published Author

“The House DC gave me confidence and prepared me for interviews and a career. I learned how to tie a “tie” at The House, I also learned my value based off of what God has for me. The House DC saved me from going down the wrong path.”

Keith Wright
Maintenance, NASA

- Nine years in career

“The House was like family. It was a benefit to the community, a place to keep you out of trouble and a place to enjoy yourself while you can.”

Chantayle Barber
Grants Analyst, NASA

- Wife & Mother

“The House was my home away from home, my saving grace. My experiences there made me part of the woman I am today! I work extra hard and strive for greatness to this day because I never wanted the morals and values instilled in me from The House to be in vain. I’m forever indebted to The House DC.”

Dominick Hill
Supervisor, Marshalls

- Married for 10 years
- Photographer

“The House DC made me a better young man, showed me what it means to be a family man and well-rounded within the community.”

Ayana Smith
Executive Assistant to the CEO, Sure Dwellings Inc.

- Bachelor of Science, Psychology
- MBA Business Administration

“Coming to the House all the way from Hyattsville, Maryland was something I was excited to do. I was introduced to God at The House and learned how to spend time with him when we went on retreats. The House has shown me what family is and how family is supposed to love one another.”

Davonte Cross
Violence Interrupter, J&J

- Community Worker

“The House DC truly impacted my life. I have a passion for music and they allowed me to perfect my craft as an artist. I also learned how to volunteer and give back to my community. Today I am doing outreach community work, giving back and decreasing the violence.”
Thank you to our committed sponsors.
There’s still time to be a sponsor.
Contact: events@thehousedc.org

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Newsletter Designed by Britney Smith

There’s still time to be a sponsor.

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