



DAWNING
Family Services

PARTNERSHIP

to end **FAMILY**

HOMELESSNESS



A LETTER FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Since our beginning in 1981, Dawning Family Services has been successfully serving vulnerable families facing homelessness throughout Hillsborough County.

Over the past four decades, we have changed our name (formerly Alpha House of Tampa), expanded our mission to more relevantly address family homelessness, added new services, and moved to be centrally located to the clients we serve. But our work is far from finished, and we know we cannot achieve our mission alone.

Dawning Family Services has a strong history of partnerships with individuals, corporations, and foundations that share our vision: A community without homelessness where all families can live and thrive.

As you know, today's families face even greater challenges with rising housing costs and less affordable housing options. With your support, we can prevent families from becoming homeless, and assist families currently experiencing homelessness to quickly achieve housing stability.

Please review our partnership opportunities and let us know how you can help us create life-changing moments for our most vulnerable families.

As our partner to end homelessness, you will be the steward of positive social change as a visible corporate leader for our community. Most importantly, you will be helping to change the trajectory of these families' lives for generations.

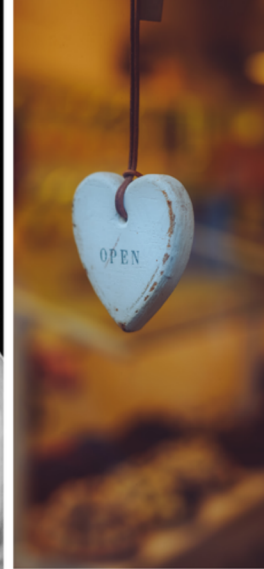
Thank you for considering this invitation to become a partner with Dawning Family Services.



Tammi Casagni
Tammi Casagni
Chief Executive Officer



Jamie Whitehurst
Jamie Whitehurst
Director of Development



OUR HISTORY

1981



Volunteers open a crisis pregnancy office. First residence opens with 7 beds on S. Empedrado. Offered shelter and support services to only pregnant women and women alone with small children – the “maternity home” model.

1987-1988



Acquired property on S. Tampania Avenue to build a 20- bedroom maternity home.

The Grand Opening of maternity home was on December 15, 1988.

1994-1995



Agency name officially changed to Alpha House of Tampa, Inc.

Acquired two homes on S. Tampania Avenue to be renovated as transitional housing for women who did not have a safe place to go after the birth of their babies.

Alpha Village program opened at North Boulevard Homes to provide 18 apartments for transitional housing.

2005



Property at 201 S. Tampania Ave is acquired. Existing house is demolished to make way for the Village Green and other expansion plans. Acquiring this property completes the Alpha Village campus on South Tampania Ave.

The Rosalie Center opens its doors to homeless mothers. Semi-Independent Living Program is opened for foster care teens that are parenting their babies.

2018



Alpha House renamed Dawning Family Services. Board of Directors approved a new mission to reflect the agency's desire to address the growing need to serve all families, extending all support beyond our historic core population of serving single homeless mothers.

2019



South Tampa property sold and DFS purchases and moves to the current Armenia campus.

2021



DFS launches the Family Homeless Prevention program to provide basic needs and essential support in partnership with the Children's Board of Hillsborough County.

Employment Program launches in partnership with United Way Suncoast.

New Family Welcome Center opens its doors to the community serving as a hub for families seeking services. This center houses our case management teams, food pantry, client resource center and computer lab.



Family Welcome Center
6718 N. Armenia Avenue
Tampa, Florida

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Emergency Bridge Housing

Families experiencing homelessness are provided shelter. Each family works with their case manager to develop a plan to secure permanent housing. After families exit emergency shelter, case managers provide post shelter support to ensure stability and continued progress.



Housing Services

Our Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) program focuses on providing short-term rental and utility assistance to families who are currently experiencing homelessness.



Employment Support Services

This program assists families with job search, job placement and provides workshops in job readiness skills and training opportunities. The DFS team also partners with local employers to develop career paths for family members.



Family Homeless Prevention

This program assists families who are at risk of losing their housing. By providing solution-focused, strength-based case management services to families in crisis, we prevent families from entering the homeless system.



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WHY we need help *and* HOW WE'RE UNIQUE

Homelessness Crisis in Tampa Bay

Hillsborough County is experiencing a homelessness and housing crisis. As the fastest growing county in Florida, and the number two housing market in the country, vulnerable families are being forced out of their homes, as rent is increasing by 50-100%. **Combined with record-high inflation and limited resources many families are facing unsheltered homelessness for the first time.**

According to the National Center on Family Homelessness, children that are homeless are more likely to have physical and mental health issues and are targets of violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and exploitation. **Dawning Family Services is breaking this cycle by providing families with the support they need to become stably housed and successful.** As families become stabilized, physical and mental health outcomes improve significantly, children's academic success and school attendance increases, utilization of emergency services decreases, and socioeconomic vulnerabilities are lessened.

What Makes Us Different

Dawning Family Services stands out for our commitment to serve diverse families with children, especially those who cannot access services elsewhere. **We ensure that our services are low barrier and accessible to families so they are not denied services because of the challenges they may be facing such as, substance misuse, mental health diagnoses, involvement with child protective services, or criminal history.** We understand each family is unique, and we do not unilaterally impose mandatory participation requirements.

Dawning Family Services is the only known emergency shelter in Hillsborough County that serves all types of families, regardless of their makeup, preventing them from experiencing the all-too common trauma of being separated. We accommodate large families, same-sex couples, single parents, cohabiting households, and multi-generational families, allowing natural support systems to remain in place while working to provide housing stability for the entire family.



HOUSING PARTNERS



The most meaningful benefit is the unique and rewarding opportunity to help parents break the cycle of homelessness, see their children grow in a safe environment, and be part of real change.

We are grateful for your commitment to our families.

Champion \$15,000

Provides emergency shelter for 16 families for one week

- Name listed on the DFS Partner Wall in the lobby of the Family Welcome Center
- Name and company logo included in Partner listing on DFS Website
- Name and logo included in Partner listing in DFS Annual Report
- Special recognition on DFS's social media accounts (4,000+ followers)
- Donor Spotlight in our electronic newsletter (3,000+ readers)
- Volunteer opportunities for your employees
- Exclusive article created for your company's newsletter

Friend \$10,000

Helps 6 families move from shelter into their own home

- Name listed on the DFS Partner Wall in the lobby of the Family Welcome Center
- Name and company logo included in Partner listing on DFS Website
- Name and logo included in Partner listing in DFS Annual Report
- Special recognition on DFS's social media accounts (4,000+ followers)
- Volunteer opportunities for your employees

Supporter \$5,000

Prevents 2 families from becoming homeless

- Name listed on the DFS Partner Wall in the lobby of the Family Welcome Center
- Name included in Partner listing on DFS website
- Name and logo included in Partner listing in DFS Annual Report
- Special recognition on DFS's social media accounts (4,000+ followers)

Advocate \$2,500

Provides 5 families with food staples and household essentials

- Name listed on the DFS Partner Wall in the lobby of the Family Welcome Center
- Name included in Partner listing on DFS website
- Name and logo included in Partner listing in DFS Annual Report

A SINGLE MOTHER'S JOURNEY

forced on the streets from soaring rent

“I can’t believe the rent is going up this much”, Cheryl thought, as tears fell. She shook her head in disbelief. She had worked hard, taking side jobs, starting a new career, and finally having a safe and secure home with her two young children. It all seemed to be fleeting with the notice of a rent increase. **“How can they do this to me after we have worked so hard?”, Cheryl thought.** It was the ordinary things that meant so much to Cheryl;



Having a kitchen to prepare dinner, falling asleep to the hum of the clothes dryer, and dreaming of a better life for her children. “Will I ever get ahead?”, she thought, as Cheryl watched her children sleep. Cheryl’s journey with Dawning Family Services (DFS) started several months prior when she and her children were sleeping on the streets. Although Cheryl was working full-time, there was never enough money to cover rent, food, and utilities.

With Dawning’s help, the family moved into our Emergency Shelter and achieved permanent housing within two months.

Now, less than a year later, Cheryl felt that she was back at the starting point, facing homelessness again. She reached out to Dawning Family Services and the team quickly stepped into action, extending their Rapid Re-housing services and searching for a more affordable home. Cheryl also worked closely with the DFS Career Services Program and was offered a full-time job with better pay and benefits. Thanks to the Dawning Family Services team the sun is shining again for Cheryl and her family.

Read more success stories on our website: dawningfamilyservices.org



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Family Services

We embrace diverse families with children touched by housing instability or homelessness and support their transition to a safe and stable home



To speak with Dawning Family Services
about becoming a partner,

**Email our Director of Development
Jamie Whitehurst**
jwhitehurst@dawningfs.org
or call at (813) 875-2024

To learn more about us, please visit
DawningFamilyServices.Org



@DawningFamilyServices