there was once a girl who loved glass. She was mesmerized by the way sunlight danced off its pure surface and hypnotized by its fragile beauty.

Just then, the sun emerged from behind the clouds, and the tree erupted in a spectacular rainbow of colors. Captivated, the girl wished more than ever that she were made of glass.

So that night before she went to bed, she closed her eyes and whispered,

“Oh Gods of glass I pray to thee, a crystal girl I wish to be.”
MISSION

Founded in 1987, Alternatives For Girls helps homeless and high-risk girls and young women avoid violence, teen pregnancy and exploitation, and helps them to explore and access the support, resources and opportunities necessary to be safe, to grow strong and to make positive choices in their lives.

The next morning, at the crack of dawn, she jumped out of bed and ran to the window. She took a deep breath. "One, two, three!" she said, and drew the curtains.

'One Two Three!'
Dear Friends:

We are proud to have successfully come through the difficult financial period of this past year, supported by our powerful and committed community of friends and supporters. We are inspired as always by the hard work and perseverance of so many girls and women who will not be daunted by the obstacles in their paths.

In our last annual report, we announced that we were facing our most compelling challenge — the need to diversify our funding base. Indeed, during this past year, with support from private foundations and generous individuals, we have created and begun to implement our business plan aimed at doing just that. We are gratified that philanthropic and business leaders have stepped forward and made a commitment to do what it takes to ensure that AFG will be here, and financially stable, in the long term: We will raise funds to create an endowment and a working capital reserve fund, and to fund our critical programs, as part of the campaign to Secure AFG’s Future.

We invite you to enjoy our Annual Report, and in particular to share in the joyful stories of girls and young women you’ll find herein—their struggles and triumphs are the future that AFG is building. Thank you for your steadfast commitment to making a positive future a reality for each one of them and for thousands more who need us—all of us.

Amanda (Amy) L. Good
CEO

Joya Harris-Sherron
Board Chair
PROGRAMS

PREVENTION
This is where girls and young women learn to find self-esteem, get help to improve their GPAs, reject drugs and alcohol, choose abstinence, connect with a mentor, and even discover untapped talents. Whether they’re with us for a short period or for many years, using summer and after-school programs, study groups and girls’ clubs, the AFG Prevention program supports girls 5 to 18 years of age and helps them build a foundation of positive choices.

AFG STREET OUTREACH
This is where women of all ages find the lifeline they desperately need to get off the streets and remove themselves from harmful situations and activities. To help improve their well-being, AFG volunteers provide harm-reduction kits, transportation to AFG and other safe places, referrals, and direct links to lifesaving and support services.

AFG SHELTER/TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENT LIVING
This where lives change forever. For the many homeless girls and young women who face extreme adversity and overwhelming obstacles, AFG provides the assistance and encouragement they need to stand on their own feet again. From finishing diplomas and advancing toward degrees, developing a strong work ethic and gaining financial literacy, to finding self-esteem and support for young or expectant mothers to improve their parenting skills, this is where AFG participants redefine themselves.

She looked at her hand but could not see it. She looked at her legs but could not see them. At that moment she realized that her dream was no longer just a dream. She had become...the glass girl.

She had become...the glass girl.
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS 2009-2010

THE AFG SHELTER
• Sheltered 104 homeless young women and their children
• 5 young women graduated from high school, 18 enrolled in an educational program, and 7 were accepted into college
• 64 young women obtained permanent housing

THE AFG PREVENTION PROGRAM
• 70% of girls and young women participating in after-school workshops maintained a 3.0 GPA or increased their GPA by half a point
• 100% of young women old enough to graduate from high school not only graduated, but went on to college — 10 years, running
• 93% (90 of 97) of girls and young women participating in after-school workshops remained drug-free

THE AFG OUTREACH PROGRAM
• 3,215 youth and women on the streets and in the community received information and resources
• 100% of leadership training attendees self-identified their own strengths, increased their leadership skills, and developed self-appreciation and self-respect

“100% of our Prevention participants old enough to graduate from high school not only graduated, but went on to college”
And then she fell to the floor. At first she thought she had tripped. She stood up and decided to go and wake her mother. But as she began to run, her fragile legs started to splinter and she fell again.

Standing up warily, she carefully made her way out of the room.

"Mommy, look! I’m a glass girl! A beautiful, delicate…glass girl." Her mother turned to look in her direction. “But…look at my legs! What should I do, mommy?” the panic-stricken glass girl asked, tears rolling down her cheeks.

“Mommy?” the glass girl cried. But her mother didn’t respond, looking past her as if she didn’t exist.
FINANCIALS STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 2010

Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets:
Revenue:
  Donated goods............................................................................................$80,149
  Contributions............................................................................................$103,566
Grants:
  Federal................................................................................................$1,657,667
  Local.......................................................................................................$38,615
  Special events (net of direct expenses of $98,325)..........................................$205,234
  Investment and rental income..............................................................................$75
  Total Unrestricted Revenue.......................................................................$2,085,306
  Net Assets Released from restrictions...........................................................$982,747
  TOTAL UNRESTRICTED REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT..............................$3,068,053

Expenses:
Program Services:
  Transition to Independent Living................................................................$1,330,351
  Southwest Detroit Prevention Program...........................................................$534,737
  Outreach and Education Program..................................................................$397,720
  Total Program Services.............................................................................$2,262,808
Supporting Services:
  Management and General............................................................................$383,192
  Marketing and Development........................................................................$245,730
  Total Supporting Services............................................................................$628,922

  TOTAL EXPENSES......................................................................................$2,891,730

  Net Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets..........................................................$176,323

Changes in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets:
  Contributions............................................................................................$775,880
  Net Assets Released from restrictions...........................................................($982,747)
  Net Increase (Decrease) in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets.........................($206,867)
  Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets...........................................................($30,544)
  Net Assets, Beginning of Year.....................................................................$3,548,339
  Net Assets, End of Year.........................................................................$3,517,795

Note: Alternatives For Girls owns a 32,000-square-foot building that was financed by a capital campaign. Alternatives For Girls does not fund depreciation on the building.
## Financials

**Statement of Financial Position**

**As of September 30, 2010**

### Assets

#### Current Assets:
- Cash and cash equivalents: $212,523
- Investments: $18,119
- Grants receivable (no allowance considered necessary): $400,274
- Pledges receivable—current portion (net of allowance of $60,181): $94,004
- Prepaid Expenses: $21,607

**Total Current Assets**: $746,527

#### Other Assets:
- Assets held for endowment: $79,718
- Pledges receivable (net of current portion) (net of allowance of $26,931): $8,137
- Fixed assets (net of accumulated): $3,107,975

**Total Other Assets**: $3,195,830

**Total Assets**: $3,942,357
Feeling helpless, the glass girl left her house and began to wander the streets, hoping that someone would be able to see her.

But nobody did.
**FINANCIALS**  
**CONTINUED**

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

**Current Liabilities:**
- Accounts payable ....................................................................................... $108,957
- Accrued payable and related liabilities ........................................................... $21,298
- Accrued compensated absences ..................................................................... $84,815
- Deferred grants .......................................................................................... $17,556
- Lease payable—current portion........................................................................ $999
- Mortgage payable—current portion................................................................ $18,538

**Total Current Liabilities ...........................................................................** $252,163

**Long-Term Liabilities:**
- Lease payment (net of current portion).................................................................. $0
- Mortgage payable (net of current portion)............................................................ $172,399

**Total Long-Term Liabilities ...........................................................................** $172,399

**Total Liabilities.......................................................................................** $424,562

**NET ASSETS**

**Unrestricted:**
- Invested in capital assets, net of related liabilities............................................... $2,916,039
- Designated for endowment............................................................................ $79,718
- Undesignated.............................................................................................. $59,821

**Total Unrestricted Net Assets.........................................................................** $3,055,578

**Temporarily restricted....................................................................................** $462,217

**Total Net Assets...........................................................................................** $3,517,795

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets..................................................................** $3,942,357
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2009 – 2010

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Trinity Health

Luther Keith**
AriseDetroit

* Served in 2009
(first part of fiscal year)

Princella Graham, Vice Chair*
Princella E. Graham, LLC

Hon. Leonia J. Lloyd*
36th District Court Judge

+ Served in 2010
(second part of fiscal year)

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School of Law

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University of Michigan

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Bulls-Eye Consulting, LLC

Lawyna Sherrod**
Youth Board Member/
Community Activist

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St. Joseph Mercy—Oakland

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Bank of America

CHAIRS EMERITI

Joseph Dillon**
Dillon & Associates, PLLC

Catherine LaMont
LaMont Title

Nida Donar*
Wayne State University

Shirley Stancato
New Detroit, Inc.

Not Mr. Winkley, her neighbor. Or
Rufus, his dog. Not Mrs. Ezekeil,
her teacher. Or even Nicole, her
best friend.
**HONOR ROLL**

**$25,000+**
- The Carls Foundation
- City of Detroit Planning and Development Neighborhood Support Services
- Detroit Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery
- Hudson-Webber Foundation
- The Kresge Foundation
- McGregor Fund
- Michigan State Housing Development Authority
- The Skillman Foundation

**$15,000-24,999**
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- National AIDS Fund
- United Way Community Services

**$10,000-14,999**
- Bank of America Charitable Foundation
- City Connect Detroit
- Comerica Charitable Foundation
- DeRoy Testamentary Foundation
- Metro West Chapter of Credit Unions
- National Community Development Institute
- Peter and Dorothy Solomon Foundation
- The Lovelight Foundation

**$5,000-9,999**
- Anonymous
- Charter One Foundation
- Combined Federal Campaign Metro Detroit
- Detroit Derby Girls
- Detroit Free Press Charities, Inc.
- General Motors Corp.
- GMAC Financial Services
- Agnes Hagerty
- Live Nation
- Michigan Women's Foundation
- Jim and Ann Nicholson
- Peter & Dorothy A. Solomon Foundation
- Michael & Peggy Goldberg Pitt
- PVS Chemicals, Inc.
- St. John Health
- James Scott Taylor
- The Elizabeth, Allan & Warren Shelden Foundation
- The T.J.X. Foundation, Inc.

**$2,500-4,999**
- AAUW Grosse Pointe Branch
- Anonymous
- Scott and Lesley Atton
- Christ Church Cranbrook
- Christ Church Grosse Pointe
- Dollar General Literacy Foundation
- Episcopal Diocese of Michigan
- Fidelity Investments Charitable Gift Fund
- Mildred Gaddis
- Frederick and Karen Henderson
- Japan Business Society of Detroit Foundation
- Joint Employment & Procurement Advisory Board
- Linda Kent
- Mark Malin
- Janet McAuliffe
- MGM Grand Detroit Casino
- Penske Corporation
- Prevention Michigan, Inc.
- Protestant Episcopal Church Diocese of Michigan
- Right Management Consultants
- Vivek and Amy Sankaran
- Mae L. Skidmore
- The Roeper School
- Trinity Health
- Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

**$1,000-2,499**
- Anonymous
- Ashley Capital
- Autodesk Inc.
- Susan J. Berman
- Charity Motors
- City of Troy
- Joan Cleland
- Comerica Bank
- Community Foundation for Southeast MI
- William and Kathleen Cosgrove
- Gary and Kay Cowger
- Rob and Cathy Denious
- Leslie Desmond
- Detroit Industrial School
- Diamond Wire Spring Company
- Joseph Dillon
- Nida Donar
- Fifth Third Bank
- First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
- Flagstar Bank
- Edward and Justine Good
- Karl and Margo Hannum
- Health Alliance Plan
- Henry Ford Health System
- Allen C. & Marcella S. Holmes Independent Medical Billers, Inc.
- Jack and Jill of America
- John Jacobs
- JCD Advisors
- Peggy and Jared Klein
- Albert and Bonnie Koch
- Linda Kohlenberg
- Mary L. Kramer
- Richard L. & Mary Susan LaMont
- Lamont Title Corporation
- Bernadette Lane
- Susan Lilienfield
- Gregory Gamalski and Lori Lutz
- Maddalena Design
- Donald and Michele Manvel
- Masco Corporation Foundation
- Eugene & Lois Miller
- Minerva Education and Development Foundation
- Molina Healthcare, Inc.
- Marilyn Morehead
- Lynn Myers
- Salwa Guindi and Nathan Branch
- William G. Parker
- Lisa Payne
- Anita Penta
- Jesse and Jane Polan
- Glenda Price
- Robert and Susan Rahaim
- Vicky and Ricardo Reyes
- Pamela Rodgers
- Ronald McDonald House Charities of SE Michigan
- Steven and Linda Ross
- Phyllis G. Rozof
- Bryce Rudder
- Rosemary Sarri
- Schechter Benefits Advisors
- David Seibert
- Sigmund & Sophie Foundation
HONOR ROLL CONTINUED

Sojourner Foundation
St. Blase Catholic Church
Ronald & Maria Szymanski
Stuart and Barbara Trager
James Trask
Trinity Episcopal Church
U.S. Census Bureau
Jackie Victor
The Village Woman’s Club Foundation
Michael and Helen Vlasic
William Beaumont Hospital
Zonta Detroit II

$500-999
AAUW Dearborn Branch
Sarah Allison
Robert & Catherine Anthony
Barbara L. Arrigo
Arvin Meritor Headquarters
AT&T United Way Employee Giving Campaign
Michael Balloch
Carolyn Barth
Richard and Nancy Blieden
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
Bona Sera Supper Club
Audrey and Melvin Bornstein
Cheryl & Dale Brunette
Charles J. Carson
Virginia Cassar
Rabbi Adam and Ms. Alison Chalom
James Cotelingam
Keith and Paige Curtis
Detroit Girl Friends, Inc.
Jann Devereux
Agnes F. Dombrowski
Blondell Doughty
Randy and Trayce Fenton
First Presbyterian Church of Farmington
Judith Florian
John Forte
Michael Friedman
Antonia Gasperoni
Janet Gekiere
Virginia B. Gordan
Mario and Michele Grech
Judy A. Gruner
Mary Baker and Lynn Grunza
John Gryniewicz and Sophie M. Dobriansky
Mary Ellen Gurewitz
William Jay Hartman III
Heather Hewitt
Carol Hollenshead and Bruce J. Wilson
Deverlyn Hurston
George G. Johnson
Amy Krings
Debra & Harry Kuptz
Local 1796 UAW
Katherine Locker
Lost and Found Vintage
Margaret Marchak and Mark Schréier
Jack & Cathy Marshall
David Martyn
Michigan First Credit Union
Microsoft Giving Campaign
Markeisha Miner
Paul T. & Merle B. Mooney
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
Network For Good
Thomas Neumann
Marilyn Nix
Oakland University
Laura Parker
Bob Pettapiece
Pewabic Pottery
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gift Program
The Jenuwine Companies Quality Fresh Cigars, Inc.
Stephen and Agnes Reading
Reliance Court Reporting
Donna Ridella
Phyllis & Dan Riina
Patrick and Lisa Riley
Rosemary Rivera
Chrystal Roberts
Angela Ryan
Kristen Sarri
Don A. Schiemann
David Schon
Kathleen Straus and Walter Shapero
Maureen Sheahan
Patricia O’Kelly and Glenn Sheets
Tim Smith
St. Andrew Catholic Church
St. James Episcopal Church Women
St. John’s Episcopal Church-Plymouth
St. Mary of the Hills
St. Paul’s United Methodist Church
Shirley R. Stancato
Susan Steigerwalt, M.D.
Strategic Partners, Inc.
Judy Tatum
Taylor Rotary Club
Towers Watson Corporation

Kerrie A. Trompics
Marianne Udow-Phillips
University Presbyterian Church
Wilmont Wheeler Foundation Inc.
Sandra Winkler
Ray G. Young

$250-499
Effie K. Ambler
Clarice Amerson
Anonymous
David Arsen
Diane S. & Patrick Arsenault
Avalon International Breads
John Baines
Baker/Peck Family
Julie Barton
Shirley Belchunas
William and Joan Beutel
Biker Bob’s Harley-Davidson Motown
William and Olivia Birdsall
Vera Blackburn
Terese E. Blask
Keith and Ina Bornstein
Nancy Brigham
Nancy Brownnig
Calvary Presbyterian Church
Nancy Combs
Mary Conway
Ann Cornelius
Julia D. Darlow
Detroit Association of Black Organizations
Detroit Fire Fighters Association
Cynthia L. Dewitte
Catherine Dineen
Bill and Julie Dunifon
Ronda E. Fare
Janet Findlater
Terry and Linda Fiscus
Mary M. Fisher and Mr. Michael McGee
Anne Fleming
Linda Forte
Arlene Frank
Joanne K. & Joseph F. Galvin
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Immanuel Congregational Church
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Grace B. Rising
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Jessica Roberts
Margaret A. Rosenthal
Allen Salyer
Kathryn L. Savoie
Cynthia L. Sevilla
William Sherron IV
Les and Ellen Siegel
Silvique Jewelry
Christianne Sims
Barbara Sloat
St. Michael's Church
Ann Maury Steglich
Jason and Sharon Stoner
Andrew Sulich
Margaret A. Talburtt
Wanda Tanis
Arthur and Jacqueline Tarnow
Ann Curry Thompson
John and Richelle Tragge
Truist
United Way of Washtenaw County
University Liggett School
Urban Science
Margaret Van Meter
Frank & Mary Ellen Vaydik
Village Community Credit Union
Villani Eye Center
Elliot and Wendy Wagenheim
Wanda & Bill Wheeler
Charles Wilbur
Rebecca Williams, MD PLC
Dave & Vicki Williston
Gary Winkler
Wylie E. Groves High School
Alan Young

Everyone looked at her, but no one saw her. What was she to do? She was alone, she had no one to turn to and nowhere to go.
“Now that my life is back on track, I have set high goals for myself and I plan to accomplish each and every one of them.”

My name is Adrienne, and I’m 18 years old. I’ve been a resident in AFG’s Shelter for about 6 months. Before I came to Alternative For Girls, my home life was pretty chaotic. My family was having really bad financial problems. Because of that we moved from place to place. Life was very unstable. Before I came to AFG, my life was a total and complete mess.

When I first came to AFG and I saw the building for the first time, I was shocked because I had never heard of AFG and also because it didn’t look like a shelter. I thought it was a huge apartment building and believed I had the wrong address. Since then, I’ve come to be at home at Alternatives For Girls. Yes, I said “home” because to me AFG is home.

A home is where people care about you and love you and there are people that you can depend on. At AFG I get all that in one plus I found a family that I could be proud of. Now that my life is back on track, I have set high goals for myself and I plan to accomplish each and every one of them. I’m set to graduate from high school this June, which could have never been possible without the help, love and support from Alternatives For Girls. Before, I barely had a 2.5 grade point average, and I now have a 4.0 GPA. When I graduate, I plan to attend Wayne State University this fall for college where I have already been accepted and I plan to major in Obstetric Nursing. Being here at AFG has gotten me focused.
MY STORY

MARIA

Being a part of AFG has been amazing! We all come here to work together and make a difference in others as well as ourselves. Being a part of Young Women Changing Communities has been extremely beneficial. I’ve been able to build relationships and gain trust with the girls in YWCC. We talk to younger girls and show them a more positive way to be, using our own experiences and the knowledge.

Being able to change someone’s life with just your words means a lot to me, and there aren’t many young women that take the time out to interact with the youth of today. That’s why I appreciate the girls I work with so much because without forethought they enjoy putting a smile on the young girls’ faces and actually becoming a role model for them. And they do this because they want to, not for the recognition. As a member of YWCC, I’ve learned positive engagement, better leadership skills, networking, honesty and being more open and friendly. I hope to continue being a part of the agency for a long time to come, because being here makes it possible for me to connect with others and give them as much as I can offer.

“I’ve learned positive engagement, better leadership skills, networking, honesty and how to be more open and friendly.”

That night, before she slept on a park bench, she closed her eyes and whispered, “Oh Gods of glass I’m as broken as can be, please, please, please change me back to the girl I used to be.”
My name is Chasity. I am 18 years old and a Peer Educator Team Leader at Alternatives For Girls. My life before Alternatives For Girls was filled with nothing but idle time. So I kind of stayed in trouble. I met my first love, my first heartache, and was into risky behaviors. While all of this was going on, my home life was chaotic. My mom has a drinking problem, and my sister has mental health issues. My other two sisters just seem lost in it all. I became depressed and isolated. I contemplated suicide on several occasions.

But that was two years ago. Since then, I’ve become involved in Alternatives For Girls’ Peer Education program, where I speak to young ladies my age about self-esteem, the dangers involved with drug use, conflict resolution, violence prevention, and many more things. Honestly, when I first was introduced to Alternatives For Girls, I didn’t know what I was getting into. But now I’m proud of what I do. I’ve learned plenty of new ways to communicate effectively and how to respect myself, mind, body, and soul. I’ve become more focused, independent, timely, and developed a great work ethic. I’ve learned to lead with my eyes open, actually practicing what I preach, inspiring others to learn all they can about what’s going on in the world, and how to be safe.

I graduate from high school this year. After high school, I hope to attend the International Academy of Design and Technology, working towards becoming an interior designer, graphic designer, or fashion designer. Thank you for continuing to support AFG. It gives girls like me the tools we need to create a positive future.
She said, "...and then I came here. A most wonderful place with the most wonderful people."

"But, you were made of glass too," said the glass girl. "How did they see you?"

"Simple," the old lady answered. "They'll see what I saw - how wonderful you really are."