



ANNUAL REPORT 2011

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 explore and access the support, resources, and opportunities necessary to be safe, to grow strong, and to make positive choices in their lives.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

AMY GOOD

Dear Friends:

As ever, thank you for your support in ways both big and small this past year. You supported Alternatives For Girls in ways too numerous to count – from spending time volunteering in our Nicholson Library, to digging up vegetables in the AFG garden with our Rise 'N Shine summer camp participants, to writing a check that allowed us to advance our mission of helping homeless and at-risk girls and young women. We appreciate all that you do and are grateful for this opportunity to report back to the community about the past year's achievements – and achieve we did! Not only did AFG achieve programmatic success, working with thousands of girls and young women on our campus and in the streets, but we also saw financial achievements, as we were able to pay off our mortgage thanks to a donation from two incredibly generous donors.

That gift has made AFG a debt-free organization and as such, we feel able to move forward more boldly than ever before, ensuring that our desperately needed programs will be sustained for the girls and women of Detroit, now and in the future. To that end, we have organized a group of committed community members who have tasked themselves with raising funds in order to establish a significant endowment for AFG, a working capital reserve fund, and additional operating dollars to support current and future programming needs. We are inspired by the dedication of this group and look forward to including you in this exciting endeavor in the near future!

Like the girls and young women AFG has served since 1987, AFG is committed to positive change and hard work. In the following pages, you will see evidence of this commitment through the success stories of our participants, the annual statistics that reflect the work we do here every day, and the latest chapter in the financial story of the agency. We invite you to enjoy our annual report, and, in particular, the incredible stories of the girls and young women you will find herein. Their stories inspire our renewed commitment to AFG's mission and give purpose to our daily work. Thank you for all that you do to contribute to their success.

Amanda (Amy) L. Good

CEO

Joya Harris-Sherron

Board Chair



1 IN 50
CHILDREN ARE HOMELESS
THAT'S 1.5 MILLION CHILDREN

AFG addresses this issue by providing shelter, counseling, and life skills training to 100–150 homeless young women each year.



PROGRAMS

PREVENTION
SHELTER
OUTREACH

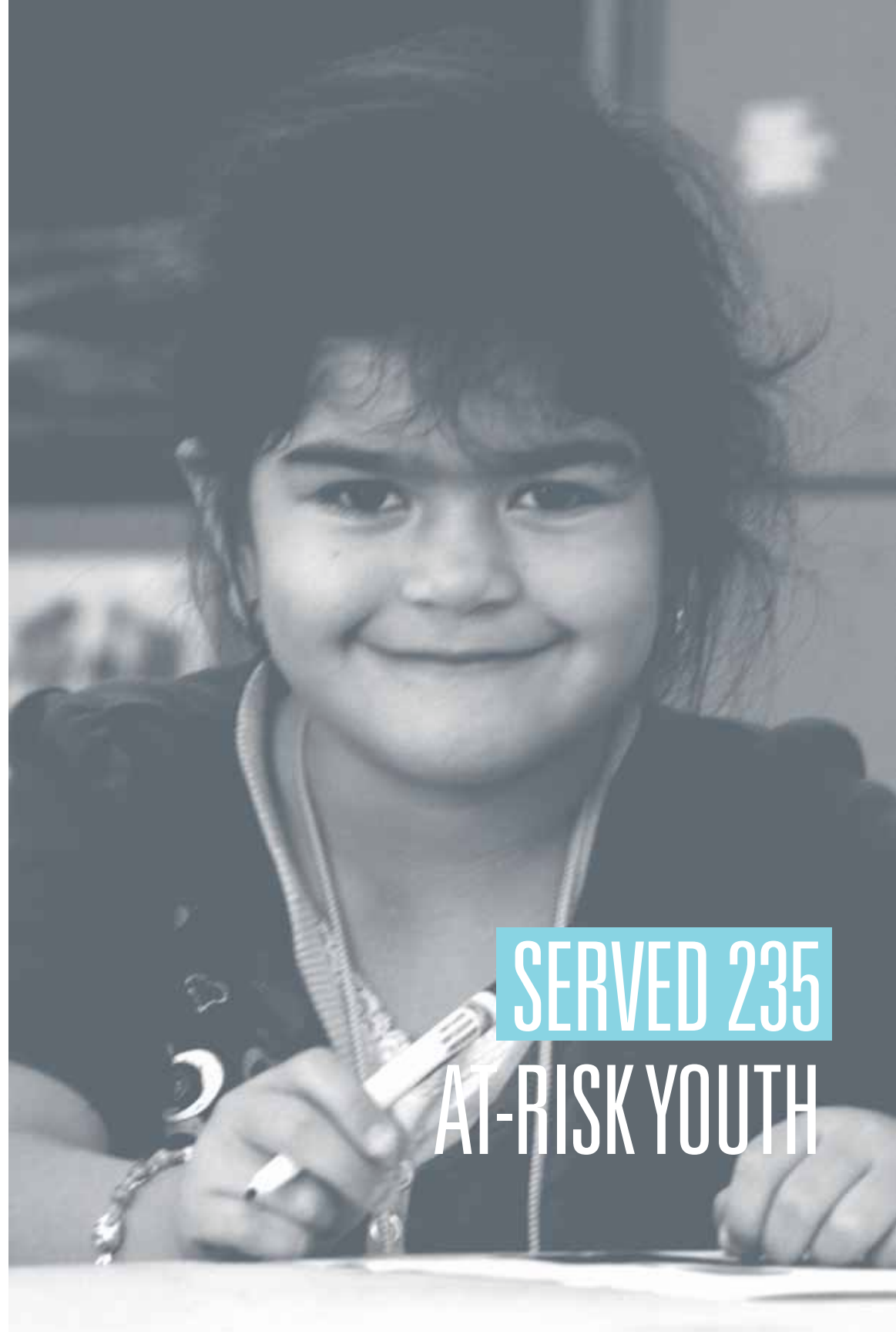
“I am making myself a better person, and a stronger woman. It has begun with building healthier relationships with myself as well as with others, getting my Certified Nursing Assistant license, working to defeat obesity, and finding employment. I have overcome my fears and I am becoming a prosperous, happy, and healthy adult.”

Latrina, former Shelter/TIL participant

PREVENTION

This is where girls learn to find self-esteem, get help to improve their GPA, 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.

- Served 235 at-risk youth
- 96% of girls and young women participating in after-school workshops reported an increase in self-esteem
- Over the past 11 years, 98% of the girls who were served through their high school senior year graduated from high school and went on to college
- 100% of young women participating in after-school workshops refrained from joining a gang

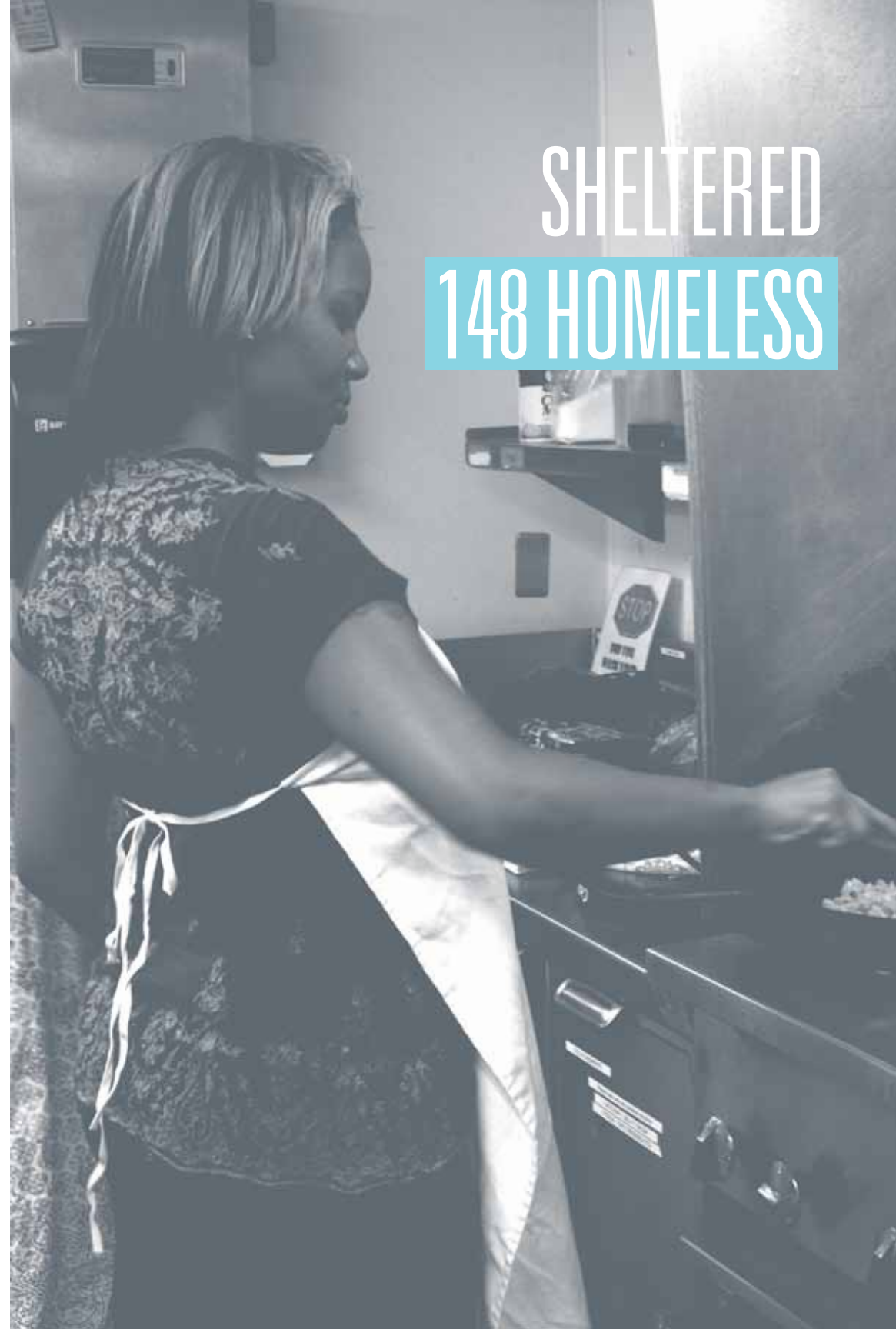


SERVED 235
AT-RISK YOUTH

SHELTER

This is where lives change forever. For the many homeless 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, helping them develop a strong work ethic and gain financial literacy, to finding self-esteem and even supporting young mothers or those who are expecting improve their parenting skills, this is where participants redefine themselves.

- Served 148 homeless young women and their children
- 100% of our young women who completed the life skills development program demonstrated the financial capacity to support themselves and obtain housing
- 95% of minors served (ages 15 to 17) were reunited with their families upon leaving the AFG Shelter
- 91% of the homeless girls and young women served in the shelter succeeded in securing safe, stable, and suitable housing



OUTREACH

This is where many young and adult women 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 life-saving and support services.

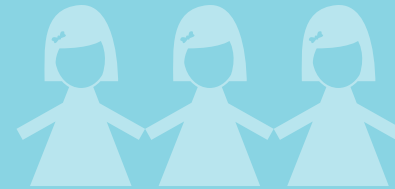
- Served 3,771 at-risk girls and women on the streets and in the community
- Provided 867.25 hours of street outreach resulting in 3,722 total contacts
- 75% of women actively participating in New Choices, a program for girls and women who want to exit “commercial sex work,” obtained or maintained legitimate and safe housing
- 72% of the high-risk youth served in the Youth Peer Educator program decreased specific high-risk behaviors, such as using drugs and alcohol or engaging in unsafe sexual activity, after six months of participation



PROVIDED
867 HOURS
OF STREET
OUTREACH

MY STORY

KEE'JANAE (PREVENTION)
CASANDRA (SHELTER)
AKEILA (OUTREACH)



“I realized that I have a voice
and I can really stand up and
make a change.”

Kee'Janae, Young Women Changing Communities

MY STORY: KEE'JANAE (PREVENTION)



My name is Kee'Janae. I am seventeen years old and a high school junior. I am a member of my school's dance team where we express art through various forms of dance. Currently, I maintain a 3.2 grade point average and I aspire to become a student at the University of Michigan where I will major in Education and minor in Accounting.

I have been a part of the Alternatives for Girls family for over 10 years. During my many years at AFG, I have blossomed into the young lady you see standing before you. At the age of 6, my mother enrolled me into the Prevention summer program called Rise N' Shine, and since then, I have been an active participant of Young Women Changing Communities and Heart of Detroit youth leadership groups.

Growing up with a place like Alternatives for Girls close to home has really had a positive effect on my self-esteem with various self-improvement workshops and mentoring opportunities. I had a wonderful opportunity to be a part of a group called Young Women Changing Communities where we had a chance to express the issues we had within our community and try to make a change.

For example, one issue we had was abandoned buildings. It had been reported that girls had been taken into the abandoned buildings and assaulted. Knowing that something could be done about it, we knew that we couldn't just sit back and do nothing. To solve that problem, we set up a meeting with Mayor Dave Bing and some of the city council staff to ask them if we could get the buildings we thought were extremely dangerous torn down. The Mayor said yes and worked with us on that issue. The moment he said yes, I realized that I have a voice and I can really stand up and make a change for what I believe in.

Today, I can actually say that a group of young girls motivated me because I saw how passionate each and every one of them were. Before joining Young Women Changing Communities, I thought I was the only one who saw the issues my city had and wanted to actually make a difference. Now I know that I can make a difference using the tools and people that surround me.

“I realized that I have a voice and I can really stand up and make a change.”

MY STORY: CASANDRA (SHELTER)



My name is Casandra. I'm eighteen and a shelter resident at Alternatives For Girls. When I was five years old, my siblings and I were taken from my parents due to drug-related issues. We were then placed in foster care; my oldest sister adopted the six youngest children.

Growing up with my sister wasn't the easiest. I had to take care of my younger siblings along with her two little girls when I was just a little girl myself. I don't really remember being a child; my life has always been all work and no play.

Having to do this at such a young age, I grew up to believe I was grown because I had taken on grown-up responsibilities so young. I grew up to resent my sister. We started to argue about everything. The littlest things would set me off. She kicked me out at the age of sixteen. That was the first time I was identified as homeless.

That's when I realized I deserve better than what she was doing to me and how she treated me. In May of 2010, I was introduced to AFG.

They helped mold me into the woman I am today. They became my family when I had no family. I learned that it was okay to accept help from others instead of depending on myself all the time. When I first came to AFG, I felt like I had no one and that my life wasn't worth living. They helped me realize everybody has a purpose. They have given me the support I never expected to get from anyone.

Since being here, I've enrolled at Henry Ford Community College, majoring in Culinary Arts. Being at AFG has taught me structure, communication skills, healthy relationships, anger management, and most of all independence and how to take care of myself before I try to take care of anybody else. Being here has given me the opportunity to meet a lot of positive, hardworking, and supportive people.

MY STORY: AKEILA (OUTREACH)



Hi! My name is Akeila. I'm 17 years old and a senior in high school. I have been involved in Alternatives For Girls for two years. In the past two years of being a Peer Educator, I have gained so many lifelong values and matured into a young woman who tries to make a positive impact on my community.

As I have grown older, I have developed a passion for knowledge. When I came across Alternatives For Girls, I instantly wanted to be in their Peer Education program. Peer Education allowed me to feel important in the community. I have been able to lower young women's risks and give them the tools to be safe. I feel like I make a difference in my peers' lives. There have been many times when young women have committed to lowering their risks at the end of our workshops led by me and my teammates.

My involvement with Alternatives For Girls turned my life around.

My involvement with Alternatives For Girls turned my life around. I stopped involving myself in high-risk activities like using illegal substances or getting into fights. I have cleared my mind and become a positive person. I'm so grateful that I found this organization. AFG is always there for me through the rough times with support, positive energy and inspiration. I enjoy wonderful and unforgettable memories that have been created at AFG.

My future plan is to become a criminal justice prosecutor. I'm going to graduate this June, and I'm applying to Howard University and Wayne State University.



FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

“They’ll help you if you want the help ... Now, I have more respect for myself and respect others as well.”

Della, former New Choices Peer Leader

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Statement of activities for year ending September 2011

CHANGES OF UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS:

Revenue:

Donated Goods.....	\$62,613
Contributions.....	\$616,776
Grants.....	\$1,798,297
Special events (net of direct expenses of \$48,048).....	\$147,592
Investment and rental income.....	\$21,184
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED REVENUE.....	\$2,646,462
Net assets released from restrictions.....	\$1,108,127
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT.....	\$3,754,589

EXPENSES:

Program Services:

Transition to Independent Living.....	\$1,408,701
Southwest Detroit Prevention Program.....	\$677,799
Outreach and Education Program.....	\$550,506
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES.....	\$2,637,006

Supporting Services:

Management and general.....	\$332,336
Marketing and development.....	\$302,987
Total supporting services.....	\$635,323
TOTAL EXPENSES.....	\$3,272,329
Net Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets.....	\$482,260

CHANGES IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS:

Assets:

Contributions.....	\$1,700,804
Net assets released from restrictions.....	(\$1,108,127)
Net increase (decrease) in temporarily restricted net assets.....	\$592,677
Net increase (decrease) in net assets.....	\$1,074,937
Net assets, beginning of year.....	\$3,517,795
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR.....	\$4,592,732

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Statement of financial position as of September 30, 2011

ASSETS:

Current Assets:

Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$328,888
Grants receivable (no allowance considered necessary).....	\$439,108
Pledges receivable – current portion (net of allowance of \$44,652).....	\$94,004
Prepaid expenses.....	\$18,492

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS..... **\$1,092,834**

Other Assets:

Investments.....	\$20,170
Assets held in Working Capital Reserve.....	\$397,641
Pledges receivable (net of current portion) (net of allowance of \$3,251).....	\$252,487
Fixed assets (net of accumulated depreciation).....	\$3,010,719

TOTAL OTHER ASSETS..... **\$3,681,017**

TOTAL ASSETS..... **\$4,773,851**

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities:

Accounts payable.....	\$53,179
Accrued payable and related liabilities.....	\$41,087
Accrued compensated absences.....	\$75,353
Deferred grants.....	\$11,500
Lease payable – current portion.....	\$0
Mortgage payable – current portion.....	\$0

TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES..... **\$181,119**

Long Term Liabilities:

Mortgage payable (net of current portion).....	\$0
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TOTAL LIABILITIES..... **\$181,119**

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted:

Invested in capital assets, net of related liabilities.....	\$3,010,719
Designated for Working Capital Reserve.....	\$397,641
Undesignated.....	\$129,478

TOTAL UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS..... **\$3,537,838**

Temporarily restricted..... \$1,054,894

Total Net Assets..... \$4,592,732

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS..... **\$4,773,851**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“The services you provide for others help you gain leadership skills. It helps you help others rather than thinking about yourself all the time.”

Breanna, YWCC member (Young Women Changing Communities)



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New Detroit, Inc.

* Served in 2010 (first part of fiscal year) + Served in 2011 (second part of fiscal year)



HONOR ROLL

“AFG helped me change my life, so now I want to be able to help others change their lives.”

Aliana, former Shelter resident



HONOR ROLL

\$25,000+

Bank of America Charitable Foundation
 Big Brothers Big Sisters
 City of Detroit
 City of Detroit—Bureau of Substance Abuse
 Department of Human Services, State of Michigan
 Federal Emergency Management Agency
 Frederick and Karen Henderson
 Hudson-Webber Foundation
 A.W. Keros
 The Kresge Foundation
 McGregor Fund
 Jim and Ann Nicholson
 The Skillman Foundation
 United Way Community Services
 US Department of Health and Human Services
 US Department of Housing and Urban Development
 US Department of Justice
 Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency
 Prevention

\$15,000—24,999

The J. Ferrantino Charitable Foundation

\$10,000—14,999

Anonymous
 Combined Federal Campaign Metro Detroit

DeRoy Testamentary Foundation
 John Jacobs
 Eugene and Lois Miller
 PVS Chemicals, Inc.
 Rand Corporation

\$5,000—9,999

Albert & Doris Pitt Foundation
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 Charter One Foundation
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 Comerica Charitable Foundation
 Health Alliance Plan
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 Mercedes-Benz Financial Services
 Metro Solutions
 Metro West Chapter of Credit Unions
 Ronald McDonald Children's Charities
 Ronald McDonald House Charities of SE Michigan
 Peter and Dorothy Solomon Foundation
 St. John Health
 The Suburban Collection
 The Lovelight Foundation
 The TJX Foundation, Inc.
 Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

\$2,500—4,999

AAUW Grosse Pointe Branch
 Anonymous
 Scott and Lesley Atton
 Comerica Bank
 Dollar General Literacy Foundation
 Episcopal Diocese of Michigan
 General Motors Corp.
 Agnes and Dennis Hagerty
 Henry Ford Health System
 Japan Business Society of Detroit Foundation
 Kelley, Casey & Moyer, P.C.
 William & Geraldine Lovejoy
 Mark Malin
 Merck Partnership for Giving
 MGM Grand Detroit Casino
 Penske Corporation
 Pfizer Foundation Matching Gift Program
 David Seibert
 Ronald and Maria Szymanski
 James Scott Taylor
 Trinity Health
 Village Community Credit Union
 The Village Woman's Club Foundation
 Young Woman's Home Association

\$1,000—2,499

Anonymous
 Armstrong-White, Inc.
 Avalon International Breads
 Mel and Audrey Bornstein
 Ryan Bremner
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 Compuware Corp.
 William and Kathleen Cosgrove
 Gary and Kay Cowger
 Detroit Industrial School
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Microsoft Giving Campaign
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\$500—999

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Strategic Partners, Inc.
Truist
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University Presbyterian Church
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HONOR ROLL

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Alternatives For Girls is happy to thank everyone who donated to the program this year. With the help of the community around them, the girls at AFG will continue to grow up in a healthy and safe environment. The success of the Prevention, Shelter, and Outreach programs depends on the contributions from donors and volunteers, whose efforts will ensure stability for years to come.