

Our mission at Big Mama's House is to protect vulnerable child and youth populations and spread awareness about preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).







Our agency was founded with a strong desire to make a positive impact on the lives of vulnerable children and young adults. Our founder, Ashley Patterson, was inspired by personal experiences and saw an urgent need for a safe haven where these children could find comfort, support, and a chance for a better future. Being a Memphis native, she has a deep understanding of the challenges and obstacles that our communities and children face. With her passion for helping others, Ashley brought together a team of individuals who shared her vision, and they worked together to create a sanctuary where these children could build resilience and flourish.

#### Our Vision

At Big Mama's House, our vision is to create a world where every child can grow up in a safe and nurturing environment, free from the negative impacts of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) on them and their communities. We are dedicated to decreasing ACEs through education and forming solid partnerships in the community. We work to foster hope, facilitate healing, and provide holistic care for our children.

## Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)



When you think about the number 35 million, it might not seem like a lot compared to the grains of sand in a sandbox or the snowflakes on a snowman. But when you realize that this number represents the amount of children in the United States who have experienced trauma, it becomes an astonishing and concerning statistic. Almost half of all children in the US, which is over 35 million, have gone through at least one traumatic event in their lives. Even more concerning is the fact that almost a quarter of these children (nearly 23%) have experienced multiple types of traumatic events. Unfortunately, if these children do not receive proper support and help, they may face a lifetime of poor outcomes and risks. It is important that adults in their lives take action to address and counter the impact of these adverse experiences on their well-being.

The ZIP code of a child's birth should not be one of the most determinant factors for his or her success or failure in life.

~William C. Bell

### Our Services

We are thrilled to offer our compassionate assistance to vulnerable children and youth at BMH. Our professional staff is well-equipped to handle various challenges, and we pride ourselves on providing a safe and trauma-informed environment. Our homes offer 24-hour supervision, and we work collaboratively on care plans to ensure each child receives the individualized attention they need.

Additionally, we offer life skills training and a variety of therapeutic outlets to provide a holistic approach to care. We feel

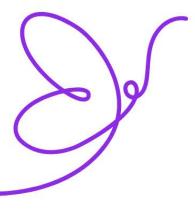
honored to assist young adults transitioning from foster care with guidance, resources, and tools for longterm success. We aim to be a beacon of hope and a source of healing for these children, ensuring they have a strong foundation for a bright future.

#### Esther House

We are made for a time such as this.



BMH believes every child deserves a safe haven and strives to provide that to as many children as possible.



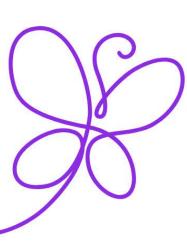
Esther House is a therapeutic family home environment for young women aged between 12 and 17 years who have experienced sexual exploitation through trafficking. At Esther House, we provide a safe space for girls to receive healing, hope, and holistic care.











Resilience thrives on hope, which is not a passive feeling. It needs to be nurtured and developed to the point of conviction. True hope is the firm determination that motivates you to keep moving forward, even when the darkness obscures the light you know is just around the corner.





For children to effectively work through their trauma and start the healing process, they require a safe and stable environment. This involves having a parent or caretaker who is emotionally consistent and reliable. When a child trusts that a caring adult will always be there for them, it helps them feel secure and supported.

At BMH, we provide holistic services beyond addressing a child's mental, physical, and spiritual well-being. We also prioritize their environment and work towards reinforcing systems and structures that affect them, including strengthening support networks and advocating for policies that benefit vulnerable children and families.



# Facts on Tenneessee's Vulnerable Children & Youth





41.3% of TN children have experienced at least one adverse ACE

33.7% TN's Foster Care instability rate

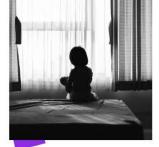
18.1% of TN children live in poverty

77.1% of TN youth experience mental illness and do not receive care.

#### Tennessee Human Trafficking Facts

- In 2022, TBI processed 1,268 tips on human trafficking (HT), 621 involved minors.
- In 2022, TBI received 546 HT referrals for the TN Dept of Children's Services.
- One of the most common types of child sex trafficking in Tennessee is familial trafficking. Familial trafficking is the hidden process of exchanging a family member for goods, substances, rent, services, money, or status within the community.
- An average of 94 reported children are sold for sex online in Tennessee monthly.







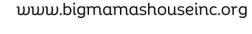




Join us in the fight to protect vulnerable child and youth populations

Click on the link below or Scan the QR code to Make Your Donation

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