

## Breaking Generational Cycles of Homelessness and Poverty



Dear Friends,

As Albuquerque emerges into a new decade, we continue to be confronted by homelessness. The daily interactions and the newly reported HUD data must be addressed. From 2018 to 2019 New Mexico reported the largest percentage increase in homelessness in the nation. In addition, The New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness reports that 700 families with children encountered homelessness in Albuquerque over the past year. Albuquerque Public Schools reports homelessness is experienced by 3,000 children at any given time over the course of a school year. We can do better.

**Saranam is an organization dedicated to ending homelessness for families by offering a combination of housing, education and community. This allows families to break the cycle of homelessness and create empowered futures.**

Since 2004, Saranam has served 132 families in Albuquerque: including 152 adults and 272 children. These lives are permanently altered for the better. *Families leaving the program have an 80% success rate transitioning into permanent, safe and stable living situations.* These successes result in families where the adults are fully supporting their family on their own income. Saranam's life skills education program ensures that families achieve and maintain incredible outcomes. In order for the next 10 families to enter in the summer of 2020, we will require \$300,000 to cover operational costs.

Saranam's "Building Foundations for Life" campaign goal is to break multigenerational cycles of homelessness and poverty. I chose to chair this committee, because the families that Saranam selects are interested in becoming empowered and accountable. Families must take classes to learn how to parent, budget, and further their education in order to exit the program as contributing members of the Albuquerque community. This results in durable and meaningful change unlike any I have seen in this vulnerable population. The statistics on Albuquerque's homeless saddened me; the statistics Saranam reports inspire hope, and more importantly, longitudinal outcomes.

You may choose several ways to donate as explained in the additional information enclosed. Saranam greatly values all contributions whether money, time or service. Together we can break the cycles that limit the future and end generational homelessness and poverty. I ask you to please give in any manner and at any level you are able.

With much gratitude,



Lindsay Walker

Building Foundations for Life, *Annual Campaign Chair*