



## **Mary's Place to Purchase its First Permanent Location in Burien**

*A unique philanthropic partnership will allow the agency to purchase its first permanent location to provide needed emergency shelter and services for families experiencing homelessness*

SEATTLE – May 28, 2018 – Mary's Place announced today that they had partnered with the Caputo Family of Mercer Island to purchase the former Lakeside Milam Recovery Center at 12845 Ambaum Blvd in Burien. Modeled after their successful family centers in North Seattle, Northshore, downtown Seattle, and White Center; the Burien location will provide housing and employment resources during the day and shelter for up to 200 moms, dads, and children each night.

Since 2010, Mary's Place has operated emergency family shelters by converting buildings awaiting development into shelter. The agency currently operates ten locations, including buildings on loan from King County, the City of Seattle, and Amazon, that provide 650 beds each night.

A committee of mostly volunteer real estate, property, legal, construction, and architecture professionals work regularly with the agency to help locate buildings and convert them quickly and efficiently into “home for now” for families experiencing homelessness. A “dream team” of firms, including Aspect Consulting, Buchalter, Cochran Electric, GLY Construction, Kinzer Partners, McCullough Hill Leary PS, McKinstry, Pacific Rim Environmental, Pacifica Law Group, Perkins+Will, Seneca Group, Snyder Roofing, and Talon Private Capital, came together to provide more than \$50,000 in in-kind and pro bono services for Mary's Place purchase of the Burien property.

“We are excited to be purchasing our first permanent home!” said Marty Hartman, Mary's Place Executive Director. “This building in Burien will help us to meet the needs of the growing numbers of families that we see coming from South King County communities. We are incredibly grateful to the Caputos for this partnership and opportunity!”

The building, a former drug and alcohol addiction treatment center with private rooms, a commercial kitchen, large common areas, medical facilities, and parking, will become a Mary's Place 24/7 Family Center to provide services for single and two-parent families experiencing homelessness in the community. The location will also be a home for Mary's Place Popsicle Place program, providing services for homeless families with medically complex or critically ill children.

A unique partnership between philanthropists Mark and Lisa Caputo and Mary's Place allowed Mary's Place to purchase the property for approximately \$5 million with a combination of a \$1 million gift and an interest-free loan.

“Homelessness is a persistent issue in Washington that has only grown more acute over the last decade,” said Mark Caputo. “In the Burien area, more than 6% of students in public school experience homelessness on a daily basis. We are gratified to partner with Mary’s Place to take one step in addressing this issue and provide children and families in our community with needed support services that create a foundation to build upon.”

Lisa Caputo added, “We hope that this innovative model of partnership with highly capable organizations like Mary’s Place can be replicated to serve the needs of other communities in Washington and elsewhere around the country.”

Mary’s Place will organize several volunteer work parties in the next few months and hopes to welcome families to the new shelter in July. Those interested in learning more about how they can help can email [volunteer@marysplaceseatle.org](mailto:volunteer@marysplaceseatle.org) for more information.

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Mary’s Place empowers women, children, and families to reclaim their lives by providing shelter, nourishment, resources, healing, and hope in a safe community. They operate nine family night shelters and a day center for single women experiencing homelessness that offer employment, housing, and wellness resources. More info is available at [marysplaceseatle.org](http://marysplaceseatle.org).

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