



2025 Impact Report

'By the Sea, I'm alright'

Letter from the Executive Director



Dear Friends of Mary's Place by the Sea:

Every day at Mary's Place by the Sea, we have the extraordinary privilege of witnessing something that never ceases to amaze us: hope returning.

When a woman arrives, she often carries far more than the physical weight of cancer. She is exhausted, overwhelmed, and searching for something she can't quite express. After months of treatments and caring for everyone else, many women no longer know what they need themselves.

But something remarkable happens here.

Through compassionate care, nourishing meals, holistic services, meaningful connection, and moments of quiet reflection, we nurture the whole person—mind, body, and soul. By the end of that first evening, there is a visible shift. The laughter returns. Shoulders relax. Hope begins to replace fear. Watching a woman rediscover herself is the greatest gift of our work.

In 2025, nearly **1,000 women** experienced healing and renewal at our Ocean Grove home, while another **900 women** found support through our Virtual Services Program. Behind every number is a woman who felt seen, cared for, and reminded that she is not alone.

None of this would be possible without you. Your generosity ensures that every retreat, every holistic service, every nourishing meal, and every moment of comfort is provided completely free of charge. Thank you to our donors, volunteers, Board of Trustees, staff, and community partners for making this mission possible.

As you read this report, I hope you see more than numbers. I hope you see lives transformed, hope restored, and the extraordinary impact we create together.

Much love and gratitude,

Michele

Founder & Executive Director

Our Mission in their Words



"There are places and people that cross your path and imprint love in your soul. The Mary's Place women are some of those people. Their selfless gift of time, talent and treasure have made these two days a memory I will treasure forever."



"Cancer may have brought us together. Mary's Place made us Sisters for life. Thank you for the amazing memories."



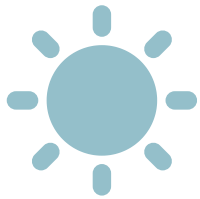
"Words can't express what Mary's Place did for my mental health after this dreadful medical journey. When I left it felt like I was finally back on track after life had blown me so off-course. From the bottom of my heart, thank you to everyone who participated in the retreat that weekend."



"What a beautiful place and experience I was lucky and blessed to find. This was the first time I felt like myself in seven months, and I am forever grateful for this experience."

Our Impact:

women served



306

Day Retreat
Guests



613

Two-Night
Retreat Guests



968

Active Virtual
Users



403

Virtual Classes
Held



"My retreat at Mary's Place by the Sea, gave me such a break. Everything calmed within and I healed in ways that allowed me to release pain, disappointment, anger rejection, and trauma. My heart and purpose was renewed It was quite a moving and empowering experience."

~ Guest of Mary's Place by the Sea

at a Glance

This Impact Report demonstrates one year at a glance at Mary's Place by the Sea, ranging from January through December 2025. This report shows the number of women with cancer we have served through our in-person and virtual programs, as well as the variety of integrative services they have participated in. Thank you for YOUR part in making this impact in the lives of our guests-your support offers them a place to press pause.



minds renewed



bodies refreshed



souls restored



Our Finances

Mary's Place by the Sea provides two-night retreats, day retreats and virtual services to women with cancer. Since our founding, we have never had to charge a guest a single dollar to participate in our program. All accommodations, meals and services are provided at NO COST to our guests, thanks to the generosity of our Mary's Place by the Sea community. You can find our most recent audited financials and our IRS Form 990 on our website. Below is a snapshot of our financials.

\$1,000

Cost of hosting a guest
for a two-night retreat

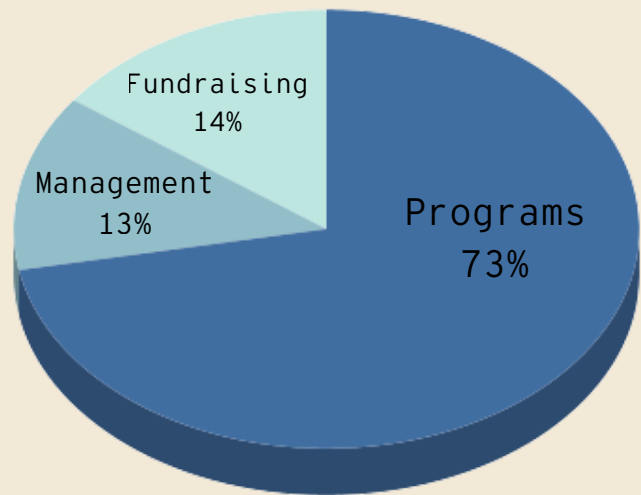
\$500

Cost of hosting a guest
for a one-day retreat

\$0

Cost to our guest

2024-2025 Expense Breakdown



How Can You Help?



Donate

73 cents of every dollar directly supports our guests with services, meals and accommodations that help them on their road to healing: mind, body and soul. We receive support largely through individual donations, corporate support and foundation grants. We also gladly accept matching gifts from employers.



Volunteer

This year, 3,245 volunteer hours were dedicated directly to helping our guests in our home. This translates to a \$117,274.30 cost savings in New Jersey, where the current value of a volunteer hour is estimated to be \$36.14.



Stay Informed

Our Guests have come to Mary's Place by the Sea from 41 states. If you would like to stay informed about our mission or know someone who would benefit from a stay at Mary's Place, please sign up for our email newsletter at marysplacebythesea.org

Our Mission

Our mission is to support women with cancer mind, body and soul through wellness retreats and integrative services that build transformative connections at no cost to guests.

Our Vision

We envision a world where every woman with cancer has a PLACE to feel whole.

Our Values

Hope, Kindness, Humility, LOVE, Fairness, Creativity, Innovation,
Progress, Integrity, Respect, Compassion, Humor, Patience,
Authenticity

Board of Trustees

Mary Ann LaSardo, Board Chair
Dr. Alison Ankiewicz, PT, Vice-Chair
Charles H. Jones III, Ed.D., Treasurer
Dawn Edwards, Secretary
Ginny Whipple Berkner, Trustee

Jill Govel-Gwydir, Trustee
Mark Wolfe, Trustee
Linda Roma, Trustee
Beth Fitzgerald, Trustee



Mary's Place by the Sea

Home Address: 22 Main Avenue, Ocean Grove, NJ 07756

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 86, Ocean Grove, NJ 07756

732-455-5344 | info@marysplacebythesea.org

marysplacebythesea.org



Mary's Place by the Sea, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization operating on donations. | EIN: 26-4736451



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