

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



BREAKING THE CYCLE
OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
40 YEARS



FLYING FORWARD | 40 YEARS OF IMPACT

“...The People of WINGS are Angels.”

Sangeeta, one of WINGS 2024 David K. Hill Award recipients, shares her journey:

“I was surrounded by silence and hate,” Sangeeta shares.

After enduring years of isolation and silence, Sangeeta bravely walked out of her husband and in-law's home.

Her husband's family had **taken her phone, passport, and connection** to the outside world. For more than two years, **she lived without hope.**

“When the pain was too great, I had to do something.” Sangeeta snuck out to a neighbor's house, and they contacted the police who later referred her to WINGS Safe House.

“...**And THAT was the moment my life changed,**” Sangeeta says.

WINGS provided Sangeeta with a safe place to stay, food, clothing, counseling, legal assistance, and English lessons. She shares, “I truly believe the people of WINGS are angels. Step-by-step, they helped me rebuild my life...”

“...Today, I speak English. I have a small apartment close to my son. I have a job. I learned to drive. I have my citizenship. **And most importantly, I have my self-worth.**”



“Thank you for everything YOU do for WINGS”
- Sangeeta



Hear Sangeeta share her story in her own words



Dear WINGS Family,

**This year marks an incredible milestone:
WINGS 40th anniversary.**

Throughout four decades, we have stood together in support of survivors of domestic violence. Thanks to your unwavering commitment, we have continued to grow to meet the rising need for our services.

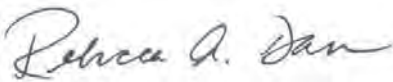
This year, we have continued to spread our wings. Together we have:

- **Expanded our Hospital Program and Survivor Lifeline Program into Chicago**, providing lifesaving access to support services for survivors. With a new million-dollar grant from the City of Chicago, WINGS launched services to patients at UI Health who are experiencing domestic violence.
- **Won a national award for our Housing Programs**, proving WINGS integrated approach and high-quality services are exceptional. By providing long-term housing options after emergency Safe House stays, WINGS provides a path forward. The success rate is remarkable: 100% of Housing Programs graduates do not return to abuse.
- Successfully completed a **Traumatic Brain Injury Pilot Program** with Northwest Community Hospital. With funding from the Michael Reese Health Trust, WINGS led a coalition of domestic violence agencies and medical experts to utilize lessons learned from the pilot to create an innovative program to provide services to survivors who have experienced a brain injury.
- **Honored 13 survivor graduates and their children** at our Celebration of Courage, our annual graduation ceremony. Each year, families take the step to the next leg of their journey away from abuse and pain to happiness and freedom.

Thank you to everyone who has given their time, talent, and treasure this year.

YOUR GENEROSITY POWERS OUR MISSION.

Warm regards,



Rebecca Darr
President & CEO
WINGS Program, Inc.



REBECCA DARR
President & CEO

In Memory of Carline

This year WINGS lost an incredible leader and dear friend Carline.

For more than nine years, Carline ran WINGS Metro Safe House and its on-site extended stay apartments. She led through the COVID-19 pandemic and oversaw the implementation of WINGS Chicago Rapid Rehousing Program. Always ready to help anyone who needed her, Carline's loss is deeply felt.



WINGS Impact

Fiscal Year 2025



1,365

Total Survivors Served

12% increase over last year



118,761

Nights of Shelter

11% increase over last year



\$404,313

Worth of Products

Donated to Survivors

8% increase over last year



95%

reported not returning to their

abuser upon exiting WINGS

Safe House or Housing Programs

Children & Family Services



544

Children Served

10% increase over last year



12,138

Hours of Services

Provided



97%

of children could name
actions to take to feel safe

Housing

Emergency Safe Houses *416 served*

2 Safe Houses • 3 Extended Stay Units

Transitional Housing *151 served*

3 Shared Living Homes • 54 Independent Apartments

Permanent Housing *237 served*

2 Homes

18 Apartments | 10 Citywide • 8 Suburbs

82 Rapid Rehousing Units | 55 Citywide • 27 Suburbs

**95% OF
SURVIVORS**

graduating
from WINGS
Housing
Programs
moved to
secure housing

Community Based Services *561 served*

21% increase over last year

Counseling

240 Adults Served • 7,685 Hours

Including

Foglia Family Resource Center

117 Adults Served • 62 Children Served

Hospital Program

84 Patient Consultations

671 Medical Staff Trained

1,125 Counseling Hours

Completed a Traumatic Brain Injury Pilot Program
with Northwest Community Hospital

A New Direction *Beverly - Morgan Park*

Education • Legal Advocacy • Referrals

53 Served • 983 Hours of Service

Mentoring

Survivor Lifeline • ALAS

85 Served • 1,275 Hours of Mentoring Services

Extended Services for Graduates

Pantry • Gifts for Holidays • School Supplies

\$19,054 Worth of Items Distributed

WINGS Recognized with Two Prestigious National Domestic Violence Awards

WINGS received two Purple Ribbon Awards from DomesticShelters.org: **Interdisciplinary Team of the Year: WINGS Housing Programs** and **Intern of the Year: Samantha Holmes**. These awards are judged by a national panel of leading domestic violence professionals.

Out of 76 Purple Ribbon Award winners, only five agencies were selected to win an accompanying \$5,000 grant. **WINGS Housing Program was one of the five exemplary winners.**

WINGS Housing Programs have **more than 150 housing units in five different housing program models**, allowing the agency to match survivors to a program that best fits their individual needs. Dedicated and highly effective, many of WINGS Housing Program staff have decades of experience. This programming has helped create **new beginnings for thousands of survivors.**



WINGS Housing Program staff gather with Purple Ribbon Award



Intern of the Year: Samantha Holmes

Samantha Holmes won Intern of the Year

Samantha (Sam) Holmes has completed two internships with WINGS: one as an Intake Line Intern and later as an Adult Counseling Intern.

"One quality that stands out most about Sam is her ability to **genuinely connect with people...** **Sam's professionalism, warmth, and drive have left a lasting mark on WINGS,**" Megan, WINGS Director of Clinical Services shares.

Additional Nominees

Individual Honorable Mentions:

- **Denise Urban** for Executive of the Year
- **Yulizet Mojica** for Hopegiver of the Year
- **Sheila King** for Lifetime Achievement
- **Senator Cristina Castro** for Outstanding Legislator

Chicago Program Expansions

Hospital Program

WINGS received a new grant from the City of Chicago to expand the agency's Hospital Program to Chicago. **UI Health – University of Illinois at Chicago** is the first medical system in the city for this programming.

This program is funded by the City of Chicago's Homeshare fund, which was established in 2018 as a two percent surcharge on shared-housing units or vacation rentals.

As a result, **24-7 bedside consultations** are available to patients who disclose feeling unsafe. Hospitals are often the first point of care for domestic violence survivors. Providing safety planning to survivors on-site saves lives.



TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY TOOLKIT COMING SOON.
Compiled and refined this fiscal year, check WINGS website for more updates.



Martha

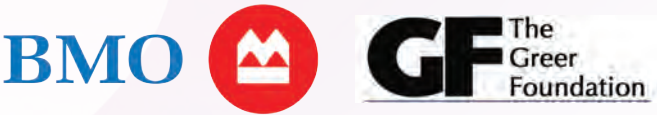
WINGS Survivor Lifeline
Coordinator in Chicago

Survivor Lifeline

Through generous funding from BMO and The Greer Foundation, WINGS has expanded our award-winning Survivor Lifeline Mentoring Program. This year WINGS hired an additional Survivor Lifeline Coordinator who is focusing on matching survivors with mentors in Chicago.

Since the launch of Survivor Lifeline in 2021, the program has **paired 147 survivors with mentors who are also survivors of domestic violence**. These volunteers provide **experience, strength, and hope** as they have previously “walked in their shoes.”

WINGS is grateful for the long-time support from **BMO** and **The Greer Foundation** who made this expansion possible.



WINGS Board of Directors

Rebecca Darr PRESIDENT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Terence Banich	Jessica McCarihan
Rita Canning BOARD CHAIR EMERITUS	Janet Boyle	Wanda McKenny
Elaine A. Sambo-Reyther CHAIR	Katie De Runtz	Shanna Nikolic
Matthew Baumann IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Rick Deyhle	Dina Ninfo
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	Karen Klein	Yolande Wilson-Stubbs
	Dr. Mia Layne	Jill Zweigbaum
	Maudell Lewis	

Honorary Leadership Council

Greg and Anna Brown	Ron and Christina Gidwitz	Richard and Peggy Notebaert
John and Rita Canning	Douglas and Ann Grissom	James and Ellen O'Connor
Michael and Elizabeth Cole	Francia Harrington	Larry and Corky Richman
Kent and Liz Dauten	David Herro and Jay Franke	Glenn and Jackie Tilton
Merri Dee – In Memoriam	Jack and Marty Higgins	Msgr. Kenneth Velo
Craig and Janet Duchossois	John Krehbiel and Karen Gray-Krehbiel	David and Marilyn Vitale
Rahm Emanuel and Amy Rule	Felicia Middlebrooks	Norm Winer and Wendy Rice
Vince and Pat Foglia		

Councils

WINGS is supported by many of Chicago's most influential citizens and philanthropists. These groups assist through advocacy, volunteering, fundraising, awareness, and more.

- Northwest Suburban Leadership Council
- Metro Leadership Council
- Metro Associate Council
- AND Leadership Council
- North Shore Leadership Council
- Miami Leadership Council

Learn more about events put on by the AND Leadership Council, North Shore Leadership Council and Miami Leadership Council on pages 12 and 13.

LEARN MORE ABOUT WINGS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COUNCILS:
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [WINGSPROGRAM.COM/BOARD-OF-DIRECTORS](https://wingsprogram.com/board-of-directors)





WINGS Board of Directors and Leadership Council members at the Purple Tie Ball



AND Leadership Council



WINGS Board of Directors and Executive staff at WINGS Annual Meeting

Flying Forward

40 Years of WINGS Impact

Over 40 years, WINGS has evolved from a small grass roots organization to the largest provider of domestic violence services in Illinois. Throughout the years WINGS has served thousands of survivors who have healed and grown up to soar to incredible heights.

WINGS graduates have:

- Served in public office
- Organized flower donations to domestic violence shelters on Valentine's Day
- Become board members of WINGS
- Become counselors to assist others
- And much more!

If you are reading this, you are someone who has made an impact on our agency and is a part of our history. Thank you for believing in our mission. Together we can end domestic violence.

2025 WINGS celebrates 40th Anniversary

For more information on WINGS History
wingsprogram.com/our-history



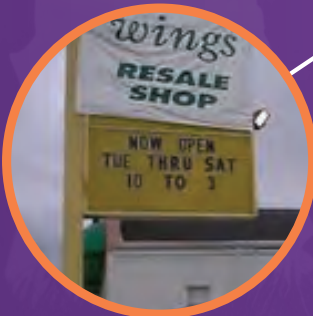
1985:

Volunteers from St. Marcelline Church in Schaumburg respond to the needs of women & children



1990:

First residence opens in Des Plaines, IL



2000:

WINGS first resale store opens in Palatine



2005:

WINGS Suburban Safe House Opens



BREAKING THE CYCLE
OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

40 YEARS

2025:

WINGS celebrates
40th Anniversary



2010:

WINGS Resale store in Palatine is
destroyed in an electrical fire



2016:

WINGS Metro Safe House opens
on Valentine's Day



2021:

WINGS surpasses one million nights
of safe housing milestone



2023:

Foglia Family Resource
Center opens

Financials

Consolidated Statement of Activities for the Year Ended June 30, 2025

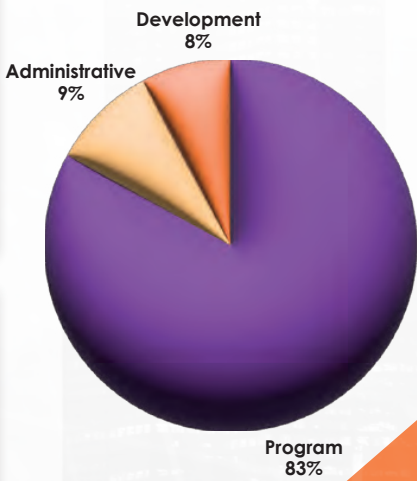
	Without Donor Restriction	
Revenues	2025	2024
Contributions (cash and in-kind)	4,443,095	2,906,590
Special Events (net of direct costs)	1,395,242	1,264,737
Resale Income	5,503,668	5,381,840
Government Contracts	7,956,177	6,584,753
Other	1,369,542	964,928
Total Revenue	\$20,667,724	\$17,102,848
Expenses		
Program		
Safe House	1,943,912	1,701,203
Safe House at WINGS Metro	2,079,177	2,098,327
Transitional Living	2,332,832	1,743,229
Community Based Services	1,790,600	1,937,559
Permanent Supportive Housing	2,878,064	1,098,828
Resale Stores	5,600,788	5,456,635
Administrative	1,869,016	1,492,038
Development	1,577,098	1,229,322
Total Expenses	\$20,071,487	\$16,757,141
Surplus (deficit)	\$596,237	\$345,707

WINGS financial statements were audited by Plante & Moran, PLLC.

Consolidation includes WINGS Program, Inc. and WINGS Metro LLC entities.

Full Statement of Activities, which includes donor restrictions, is available on our website.

FY25 Consolidated Expense Allocation



Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2025

Assets	2025	2024
Current Assets	7,932,019	6,473,713
Fixed Assets	11,432,709	11,749,112
Other Assets (endowment investments, new market tax credit loan)	9,069,093	8,848,300
Total Assets	\$28,433,821	\$27,071,125
Liabilities & Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	2,211,397	2,108,553
Long-Term Liabilities	4,750,641	5,380,574
Total Liabilities	\$6,962,038	\$7,489,127
Net Assets		
Net Assets without Donor Restrictions		
Undesignated	9,889,570	9,647,209
Board Designated Reserve	1,747,939	1,394,063
Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	9,834,274	8,540,726
Total Liabilities	\$21,471,783	\$19,581,998
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$28,433,821	\$27,071,125

WINGS Resale Assists Survivors with a Fresh Start

WINGS Resale provided nearly **\$60,000 worth of essential clothing, furniture, and housewares to survivors** this year.

WINGS Resale assists survivors of domestic violence at critical times in their journey:

- **Arriving at the Safe House:** Many survivors flee to WINGS with only the clothes on their back. WINGS Resale provides clothing and other immediately needed items, typically within a few hours of getting a request from WINGS staff.
- **Moving into Housing:** Families moving into transitional housing programs select furniture and houseware items...including a one-time free delivery within 48 hours of their shopping appointment.

Thank you to our donors, customers, volunteers, and staff for making this high-level of service possible!



Store Locations and Hours



\$2,410,591 in Sales

Items Include

689,008 ITEMS SOLD
21% increase over last year

198,568 Clothing Pieces
214,597 Housewares
4,821 Furniture Items



This year, WINGS Resale Store in Niles expanded its storefront by 4,000 square feet. The ribbon cutting took place in September and allows for a larger furniture section.

WINGS Events

24th Annual Purple Tie Ball

For the second consecutive year, **WINGS Purple Tie Ball** raised over **\$1 million** to support survivors of domestic violence.

Set against a breathtaking Winter Wonderland backdrop, guests were moved by two heartfelt speeches from WINGS graduates.



Purple Tie Ball Co-Chairs, Shanna Nikolic and Katherine Banich

Domestic Violence Summit

Hosted by **The Chicago Bar Association, WINGS Program, Inc., The Illinois State Bar Association, DuPage County Bar Association,** and **Women’s Bar Association of Illinois**, the Domestic Violence Summit had a full day of expert speakers including activists Denise Brown and Mark Wynn.



From Left: John Sciacotta, Denise Brown, Rebecca Darr, and Mark Wynn

AND Fundraiser

Thanks to generous sponsors and attendees, **A New Direction’s (AND) Fundraiser** raised over **\$52,000**. These funds will stay in the AND community to support vital services like education, counseling, legal advocacy, and more.



2024 Andi Award Recipient, Jessica McCarihan with Rita Ryan

21st Annual Sweet Home Chicago

WINGS Sweet Home Chicago (SHC) featured a Polar Express theme and raised more than **\$683,000** for WINGS services to survivors.



SHC Host Committee, from left to right, Meghan Norton, Sheila King, Jessica Canning, Shea Mausser, Beth Canning Lupo, Mrs. Claus, Train Conductor, Rebecca Darr, Santa, Maria Braham, Kristina Baker, Bradley Dehaan, Allie Svigos, and Elizabeth Denison

Miami Luncheon

WINGS Miami Luncheon inspired attendees and highlighted the growing support to bring vital domestic violence services to survivors in the Miami-Dade community.

Special thanks to **The Miami Woman's Club** and **WINGS Miami Leadership Council** for making this event possible.



From left: Metris Bates Coley, Rebecca Darr, Denise Brown, States Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle, and Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall

40th Anniversary Celebration

At **WINGS 40th Anniversary Celebration**, guests enjoyed delicious culinary creations, a live cooking demonstration, and a moving speech from a WINGS graduate.

Special thanks to **Middleby Residential** for sponsoring this unforgettable evening.



WINGS staff celebrate the agency's 40th Anniversary

2nd Annual BLOSSOM Fashion Show

WINGS BLOSSOM Fashion Show raised over **\$100,000** to empower survivors.

The evening featured powerful stories, a runway show hosted by Nigel Barker, a heartfelt tribute to Whitney Reynolds, and stunning fashion by Janet Mandell.



Five domestic violence survivors walked the runway and posed at the finale. From left: Yashi James, Lauren Lein, Tracey Mayer, Whitney Reynolds (Honoree), Nicole Kneedy, and Janet Wagner

North Shore Ladies Luncheon

WINGS 4th Annual North Shore Ladies Luncheon was a sold-out success, with over 250 attendees and more than **\$115,000** raised to support families escaping domestic violence.



From left to right: Ann Marie Allman, Maria Shideler, Rebecca Darr, Katherine Banich, and Shelby Hasten

WINGS Pantry

As WINGS serves more survivors, the need for everyday household items and food continues to rise.

This year, WINGS provided **\$404,313 worth** of products donated to survivors, an **8% increase** over last year, and welcomed Pam and Judy to oversee these donations and distributions.

As a result of generous donors:

- **223** children received **school supplies and new shoes**
- **1,430 coats and winter items** were distributed
- **337 spring baskets** were distributed
- **2,835 gifts** were distributed during the **holidays**
- **210 moms** and **7 fathers** received gifts for Mother's/Father's Day
- **116** households received Thanksgiving turkeys and sides

These items provide peace of mind to survivors who are often recovering from financial abuse.

VIEW NEEDED
ITEMS AT
WINGS PANTRY





New coats ready to be distributed to survivors

Clients Share:

"WINGS took a ton of pressure off this single mother to keep her kids warm during these tough transitional times. We deeply appreciate the care and support. Thank you." ~Mother at the Coat Store

"I never imagined being independent without abuse. You all have blessed my kids and me so much...It feels good to know kindness and generosity are real." ~Mother at the Holiday Store



FOOD DRIVE



SPRING BASKETS



Meet Pam & Judy
WINGS Pantry Supervisors



WINGS Pantry Supervisors, From left: Judy Laut and Pam Dagen

Volunteers



Award Winning

This year WINGS won the 2025 Volunteer Organization of the Year from the Village of Schaumburg. The award came at an apt time as WINGS was started by volunteers from Schaumburg 40 years ago.

More Accolades...

Congratulations to WINGS volunteer **Mary Hahn**, who this year was selected for the Governor's Volunteer Service Award for Outstanding Senior Volunteer in Cook County. Mary volunteers at WINGS Suburban Safe House as a hostess and assists with administrative and gardening tasks.

Mary shares, "I try to treat every guest as though they are my family. I know they would do the same for me."

Additionally, this year WINGS honored **Carmella Patke** with its Volunteer of the Year award. Carmella started volunteering in 2021 and has consistently volunteered more than 500 hours per year. At 93, Carmella brings so much energy and passion to her work at WINGS Resale in Arlington Heights.



WINGS Manager of Volunteer Services, Bruna Srb with Schaumburg Mayor, Tom Dailly



Mary Hahn, with the Governor's Volunteer Service Award



Carmella Patke, with the Volunteer of the Year Award



EXPLORE
VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES

* The value of all such services is not directly estimable, which aligns with GAAP accounting principles. The amount shown represents the hours multiplied by a published industry standard hourly rate to demonstrate overall value of volunteer program.

Partnership Spotlight:

Jewel-Osco

For a decade, Jewel-Osco has been supporting WINGS with generous grants, gift cards, and in-kind product donations that help create change for survivors.

This year, WINGS received a \$20K grant from the Jewel-Osco Foundation as part of the MOMents campaign: a Jewel-Osco initiative that recognized deserving moms with groceries, gift cards, and a Galentine's Gala for 100 lucky winners.

Additionally, the Jewel-Osco Foundation awarded WINGS an incredible \$25K during the company's annual F.A.B. (food and beverage) Women event celebrating local women owned and led businesses.

Thank you, Jewel-Osco!



WINGS receives a generous grant from the Jewel-Osco Foundation during the annual F.A.B. (food and beverage) Women event

Advocacy in Action:

Spotlight on Illinois State Senator Cristina Castro

Illinois State Senator Cristina Castro, representing District 22 in northwest suburban Chicago, was an honoree of the national Purple Ribbon Awards for Outstanding Legislator for her steadfast support of domestic violence survivors.

For the past several years, Senator Castro has advocated for WINGS to receive increased funding for critical operating expenses.

This year, Senator Castro was instrumental in the passing of Karina's Bill. This legislation protects survivors by requiring police to confiscate guns from abusers when an order of protection is in place.

Pushing the legislation to move out of committee, Senator Castro was a strong voice in defending the bill.

"Senator Castro is always there to answer the phone when a challenge arises and does so much behind the scenes for survivors," Rebecca Darr, WINGS President & CEO shares.



Illinois State Senator Cristina Castro speaking at the Domestic Violence Summit held October 2024

Align your Financial and Philanthropic Goals

While Making an Impact and Leaving a Legacy



Ways to Give



Donor-Advised Fund (DAF)

A DAF is like a charitable giving savings account that you can contribute to anytime while receiving immediate tax deductions. You can then recommend DAF grants to WINGS and support survivors of domestic violence.



Stock and Securities

Donating appreciated assets avoids federal capital gains taxes and provides a federal income tax deduction for the current market value of the gift. In most states, similar benefits apply to state income tax. Importantly, you will be helping to end the cycle of domestic violence.



IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions

For those 70.5 or older, IRA gifts present a powerful way to save while you help change lives. Gifts made from an IRA can help reduce your future tax burden and satisfy the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) if you are 73 or older.



Cryptocurrency (crypto)

Skip the capital gains tax and make a larger impact when you donate crypto to WINGS. You may also receive a federal tax deduction against your income for the full value of the gift.



Estate and Legacy Planning

Everyone should have an estate plan to support their future desires and protect what they love. Including WINGS as a beneficiary in your will, trust, and/or non-probate assets, lets you create a legacy that supports our mission (and yours) for future generations.



WINGS Butterfly Club

Monthly support can transform lives. Whether through monetary or non-cash assets, this consistent stream of donations is vital for WINGS services.



Mission

The mission of WINGS Program, Inc. is to provide housing, integrated services, education and advocacy to end domestic violence.

Vision

WINGS Program, Inc. will help create a society in which every domestic violence survivor has a voice and the resources to break the cycle of domestic violence.

Diversity and Inclusion

Our Foundation for Ending Domestic Violence

WINGS Program, Inc. understands that Diversity and Inclusion are a vital part of our mission. Together we will continue to foster an inclusive culture that supports, values, connects and honors the diverse voices and needs of our employees, clients, board and volunteers, donors and customers, and partners.

Leadership Team

Rebecca Darr,
President/Chief Executive Officer

Denise Urban,
Executive Vice President/
Chief Financial Officer

La Tonya Walker,
Chief Program Officer

WINGS Program, Inc.

P.O. Box 29309
Chicago, IL 60629

P.O. Box 95615
Palatine, IL 60095

Phone: 847-519-7820

24-Hour Crisis Line: 847-221-5680

www.wingsprogram.com

