



INTENTIONAL GIVING. RELATIONSHIP BUILDING. MENTORSHIP.

Houston Angels: Changing the way children, youth, and families experience the foster care system.

Houston Angels is a local chapter of National Angels, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to wrapping community around children, youth, and families experiencing foster care by offering consistent support through intentional giving, relationship building, and mentorship.

National Angels began in Austin, Texas in December 2009 when Founder and CEO, Susan Ramirez, decided, along with her friends, to volunteer once a month. In 2010, while working full-time in the real estate industry, Susan was invited by one of her clients to attend a conference called "Together for Adoption." Susan attended the conference and was encouraged by her client to go to a presentation on foster care. After initially telling her client that she wasn't interested because she didn't feel called to foster, Susan decided to attend that workshop, and her life and career were changed forever. At the presentation, Susan heard the words that have now become National Angels' mantra: "Not everyone is called to foster, and not everyone is called to adopt, but anyone can make a difference in a child's life."

Houston Angels was started in 2019 by women who had heard Susan on a podcast telling a powerful story about 2 young boys in foster care and how their outcomes were influenced by the level of support they had - or didn't have at all. One of the boys' stories ended in suicide, and hearing this compelled the Houston Angels founder to open a chapter in Houston to change the negative statistics of foster care.

The Angels' programs utilize a trauma-informed, wrap-around service model that strengthens relationships between youth, foster families, and bio families. They have several programs that cultivate their core values of community, empowerment, and hope. The Love Box Program provides foster families with community and holistic support so they can continue to do the important and meaningful work of being a foster parent. The Dare to Dream (for youth ages 15-22) and Dare to Dream Jr. (for youth ages 11-14) programs offer an opportunity to individually serve an aged-out or at-risk to age out youth in foster care.

Founder and CEO Susan Ramirez says, "We surround community and intentional support around the families who are doing the hard work."

Houston Angels' vision is to see every family in the Greater Houston foster care system supported by a Love Box group and every youth supported by a Dare to Dream mentor so that every single child in foster care will be supported and empowered to succeed.

For more information about Houston Angels, visit www.houangels.org