

LEGACY CIRCLE HIGHLIGHT: TRISH HIGGINS AND LARRY CASTRO



Interview with Trish Higgins

Tell us about yourself and how/when you were introduced to My Sister's House and their work.

I am an attorney with Shaw Law Group and have been involved in various ways with a variety of nonprofit organizations dealing with domestic violence and sexual assault for decades. In terms of my involvement with My Sister's House, I've been on the board for 3 years. I was first introduced through the 40 hour volunteer training. In thinking about the best way to contribute to My Sister's House work, Nilda suggested that I serve on the Board, given my experience on boards.

What motivates you to give to My Sister's House?

I support the mission. Domestic violence and sexual assault are such pervasive problems in our society; they impact not just the people who are involved today, but can have generational effects that perpetuate and manifest themselves in detrimental and widespread ways.

With My Sister's House, I am very impressed with the focus on providing culturally appropriate services, in language for the clients and services that are respectful to the cultural expectations of those who may not otherwise utilize our services (i.e., they might otherwise feel uncomfortable or be unable to access services).

Besides making a contribution, how else are you engaged with the organization?

When we used to have events (before the pandemic) I would get involved that way. I am also supporting their Social Enterprises, My Sister's Cafe and My Sister's House Treasures.

How do you envision your gift commitment supporting/impacting the clients we serve?

My gift is unrestricted. I have confidence that the organization will use it in a way that will be most effective at the time. I feel that I do not want to put any limitations on the gift. Who knows what the most pressing need will be when the bequest is transferred: whether it be a safe house, or legal services, or maybe even something that we don't do now. I have enough confidence that the leadership at that time will best determine how the gift might benefit our community.

Why should others join the Legacy Circle?

To support a very good cause and to make a worthwhile contribution with whatever wealth they have acquired. Yes, I do want to leave money for my family, but I also want to make an impact on my community. My Sister's House is one of three organizations that I've made this commitment to. You can't take your wealth with you when you go, so you should make a commitment to benefit the broader community.