



# LA LETTRE DE LA MAISON MAGDALENA

«I have set before you life and death... Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live. » Deuteronomy 30:19

## Choose Life! Every Day at Maison Magdalena

As 2025 draws to a close, we take a moment to give thanks and celebrate all the beautiful things experienced this year at Maison Magdalena. "Choose Life", our hymn of celebration, resonates in the hearts of everyone – the women welcomed here, the support team, and the volunteers. Life is made of contrasts: beauty and sadness, challenges and promises, love and mystery. Each day, we must once again choose life.

This year, several members of the Board of Directors were invited to renew their mandate after three years of service. When Fabienne, our President, came to gather our responses, my "yes" was obvious. These three years on the Board have been for me a journey of inner transformation, nourished by **the life that springs forth in this house**. Truly, it is good to be here. As our hymn reminds us: "Life is life, defend that of the meek."

At our open house day, a friend of the Maison Magdalena, who came to deliver a generous donation, shared these moving words: "I was able to speak with some of the women welcomed here. What struck me was the joy and life so present in those who had managed to escape their hell."

Thank you, dear donors and volunteers, for everything you make possible at Maison Magdalena: rest after years of hardship, renewed trust in tomorrow, the joy of finding housing, access to training, timid first steps that become leaps of confidence. Thanks to your generosity, a vast network of support is woven day after day, enabling the women welcomed here – as well as all those who accompany them – to choose life with courage and hope!

Vidéo about

Merry Christmas

Mary Frances



the house



# Our Mission

The Maison Magdalena is a home of healing and hope for victims of prostitution. Where compassion and courage light the path to new life.

#### Life is an opportunity — open your arms to seize it

After a long and difficult journey, Sogonan shares her deep gratitude for the chance to live today at Maison Magdalena. Her story is a powerful reminder of how a place of welcome can truly transform a life.

« Before, I slept on the street. I could stay a few nights here and there, but never for long. It was so complicated... I was afraid, constantly anxious. It was exhausting always having to search for food and a place to sleep. »

Since arriving at Maison Magdalena, Sogonan has finally found rest, safety, and dignity. She is also discovering the joy of learning and imagining a future filled with possibilities:

« I'm learning to read and write. I'm learning so many things: riding a bike, gardening, making candles, drawing, creating mosaics. By doing and learning, I'll start to have ideas for training later, to find a job. » Her generosity already extends outward, as she dreams of helping others:

« I would also like to volunteer with the Red Cross. We must always look for ways to help others. » Sogonan's journey is a testament to resilience, hope, and the power of community. At Maison Magdalena, she has not only found refuge but also the courage to embrace life and share it with others.

# CHOISIS LA VIE!



# Life is sadness, but you can overcome it

Three months ago, Charity chose to move into the Maison. At our October seminar, she was deeply touched by the story of Martha Kaiser, who lovingly cared for her husband Philippe, born with cerebral palsy. Charity shared:

« She loved Philippe with all her heart, because without true love it would have been impossible to care for him the way she did. After his death, she felt so alone. She was so sad and no longer wanted to go on, but she chose to continue. She is a strong woman. »

Charity, you too are a strong and resilient woman.

«...Over time, I am adapting to life here. Now it's going well... I work with candles. Sometimes I take a photo of my work, and when I look at it, I say to myself: 'Wow, that's beautiful, you did a good job...' I'm learning French. It's difficult, but I'm making progress. I can read and write now. I don't speak very well yet, but I try... I'm beginning to think about the future. I always hope for the best. That's why I'm still alive, you know, I'm managing. Now, with God, everything is possible. »



#### Life is love, a source of joy and peace

Since arriving at Maison Magdalena, Juliet has experienced a true inner transformation. In September, she chose to be baptized — a powerful gesture that reflects her journey and her renewed faith.

She shares with emotion:

«Many things have changed since I came to Maison Magdalena. Before, I didn't pray, I didn't speak to God. It seemed useless. God didn't answer my prayers, and I even wondered if He existed. Over time, I discovered many reasons to believe in God. I was baptized. Today, everything is going well in my life, and I am very happy.» Juliet continues with touching confidence: «I don't know how to explain it, but now I know that everything will be fine. Even if things don't always go as planned, or if He doesn't answer my prayer exactly as I asked, it is His will, not mine, and He will open another path, another opportunity. I sincerely believe that everything will be fine. He will be with me.»

Her testimony reminds us that faith can be reborn where we least expect it, opening doors to deep and lasting peace.





Life is mystery, endlessly unveiling its secrets

«I am the way, the truth, and the life»: A path to the Father!

«I am the Way»: Jesus does not simply point out a path — he himself is the path. The Christian journey is a living relationship: moving forward by relying on his Word, imitating his love, and allowing the Spirit to guide us. «I am the Truth»: In saying «I am the Truth», Jesus declares: If you want to know who God is, look at me. His way of loving, forgiving, and giving himself even to the cross — this is the truth about God... and the truth about humanity. In him, everything becomes clear: what leads to life and what destroys it.

«I am the Life» The life Jesus speaks of is not merely biological life; it is fullness of life, life without end, the life of God communicated to those who believe. With him, life becomes inhabited, transformed, and oriented toward the Light.

Jesus spoke these words at the moment when his disciples were afraid, just before his Passion. He revealed to them that everything passes through him:

- the way to move forward,
- the truth to discern,
- the life to stand firm.

By giving himself, Jesus becomes the passage to the Father, the one who opens for us communion with God.

Père José+

Priest for the Pôle Missionnaire de Fontainebleau.

### Life is a challenge — face it, do not be afraid

The various testimonies gathered throughout the interviews move us and reassure us about our mission. Community life brings certain tensions that we might prefer to avoid. Yet knowing that the essential ingredients are present — enabling the women welcomed here to find a home where they feel at ease and can build a better future — touches us deeply.

Alexis and Laurence Roy

Couple Responsable for the Maison Magdalena

#### Message from the Treasurer



#### Life is Wealth, a Treasure to Preserve

The many testimonies shared through our newsletter, during our events, and at candle sales, bear witness year after year to the widening circle of those who support us. Thanks to your generosity, donations bear fruit and transform lives. These fruits reflect the fraternal spirit and kindness that reign in our large family home.

This year, careful management of our expenses allowed us to calmly undertake several maintenance and renovation projects on the old buildings. Residents and volunteers enthusiastically joined in painting projects and various improvements, further strengthening the sense of belonging and solidarity. Your loyalty gives us the strength to continue our mission of warm welcome and support in the best possible conditions.

As the year draws to a close, we extend a heartfelt thank you to our donors: your generosity will allow us to close the 2025 budget with serenity and prepare for 2026. Be assured that each of your gifts is a seed of hope, destined to bear beautiful fruit for all who cross the threshold of our Maison.

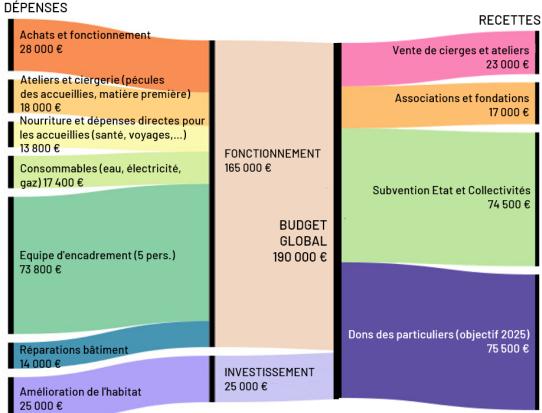
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Key Figures 2025

2 680 overnight stays in 2025
22 women welcomed
50 volunteers,
Offering more than 6 300
hours of service

Cost of care 62€/per night 500€/per week 1847€/per month

We're counting on you!







#### WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

By donating €150 to Maison Magdalena, your gift will actually only cost you €37 after tax reduction (thanks to a 75% deduction, up to 20% of taxable income)

You can DONATE ON LINE

https://www.maisonmagdalena77.fr/don/