



500 West Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48084
troymi.gov



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: July 29, 2025

To: Frank Nastasi, City Manager

From: Robert J. Bruner, Deputy City Manager
Chris Wilson, Assistant City Manager
M. Aileen Dickson, City Clerk

Subject: Request for Recognition as a Nonprofit Organization from Elli's House

History

Attached is a request from Elli's House seeking recognition as a nonprofit organization for the purpose of obtaining a charitable gaming license for fundraising purposes.

Financial

There are no financial considerations associated with this item.

Recommendation

It has been City Management's practice to support the approval of such requests.



05/16/25

City of Troy
City Clerk
500 West Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48084

2025 JUL 25 P 1:42

RE: Elli's House

Dear Mayor and City Council,

As the Treasurer of Elli's House, I am requesting that you recognize our Non-Profit is recognized in the community.

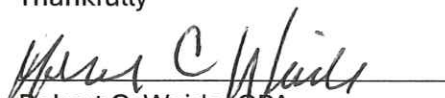
Elli's House is a 501(C)3 nonprofit serving homeless and runaway women involved in human trafficking in the city of Detroit. Our mission is to abolish sex trafficking in the City of Detroit through building relationships, offering safe shelter, and providing education. We currently have a two-year residential shelter program in our two homes, and we provide food, hygiene, and clothing to survivors weekly through street outreach.

The State of Michigan has granted our organization a one-time license for our latest event. But will not reissue a new license until we get recognized as a non-profit organization by our home City. The organization uses my business office address for ease of correspondence and donations. The bulk of our meetings take place at Faith Lutheran Church in Troy, of which Elli's House has recently become a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

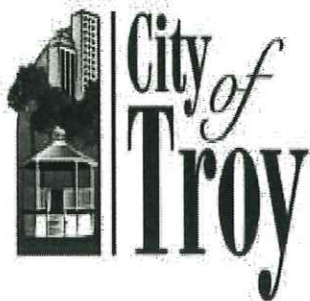
Please accept the attached data to be able to put the agenda to vote to recognize Elli's House as a local entity.

Thank you for taking this request and thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at #248.840.8055 or Debbie Ellinger at #586.242.9280.

Thankfully


Robert C. Weide, CPA
Treasurer of Elli's House


Debra Ellinger
Executive Director of Elli's House



CITY OF TROY

SOLICITATION – FUND RAISING

Date Received: _____

File the following information with the City Clerk's Office at least 21 days prior to the time when the permit is desired. TIME SPAN FOR PERMIT IS NOT TO EXCEED NINETY (90) DAYS.

Name of Organization: _____

Phone: _____

ELLI'S HOUSE

586-242-9280

Local Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

6960 ORCHARD LK RD #120 W. BLDG MI 48322

Home Address (if different): _____

City/Zip: _____

Name of Parent Organization: _____

Address: _____

Local Representative/Officers:

| Name | Title | Phone |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <u>DEBBIE ELLINGER</u> | <u>EXEC. DIR.</u> | <u>586-242-9280</u> |
| <u>KYLE SEIDEL</u> | <u>PRESIDENT</u> | |
| <u>JOSEPH CASIGLIA</u> | <u>DIRECTOR</u> | |

Person in Charge of Solicitations: _____

DEBBIE ELLINGER

How are funds solicited: _____

MAIL / PHONE / INTERNET

Locations/Dates/Times:

| Locations | Dates | Times |
|-----------|-------|-------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

To what purpose will you put these funds: _____

What is the requested amount for contribution: _____

[illegible]



Charitable Gaming Division
Box 30023, Lansing, MI 48909
OVERNIGHT DELIVERY:
101 E. Hillsdale, Lansing MI 48933
(517) 335-5780
www.michigan.gov/cg

LOCAL GOVERNING BODY RESOLUTION FOR CHARITABLE GAMING LICENSES

(Required by MCL.432.103(K)(ii))

At a _____ meeting of the _____
REGULAR OR SPECIAL TOWNSHIP, CITY, OR VILLAGE COUNCIL/BOARD

called to order by _____ on _____
DATE

at _____ a.m./p.m. the following resolution was offered:
TIME

Moved by _____ and supported by _____

that the request from _____ of _____,
NAME OF ORGANIZATION CITY

county of _____, asking that they be recognized as a
COUNTY NAME

nonprofit organization operating in the community for the purpose of obtaining charitable

gaming licenses, be considered for _____.
APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL

APPROVAL

Yeas: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

DISAPPROVAL

Yeas: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution offered and

adopted by the _____ at a _____
TOWNSHIP, CITY, OR VILLAGE COUNCIL/BOARD REGULAR OR SPECIAL

meeting held on _____.
DATE

SIGNED: _____
TOWNSHIP, CITY, OR VILLAGE CLERK

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

ADDRESS

COMPLETION: Required.
PENALTY: Possible denial of application.

BSL-CG-1153(R6/09)

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: MAR 28 2017

ELLIS HOUSE
2237 ORPINGTON
TROY, MI 48083

Employer Identification Number:
81-4363261
DLN:
17053023355027
Contact Person:
CARLY D YOUNG ID# 31494
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990/990-EZ/990-N Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
December-28, 2016
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Letter 947

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

ELLI'S HOUSE

Attachment

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

Elli's House is a religious organization affiliated with the Michigan District—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Our mission is to provide temporary shelter for runaway, homeless, or young girls involved in sex trafficking, in the city of Detroit, with family reunification as our primary goal. Currently, Elli's House has not begun to implement any of its proposed programs, as it is waiting to acquire more funding.

Elli's House initial program of interest is short term shelter, in order to provide safety, food, and clothing, in attempt to keep young girls, ages 11-17, from being homeless or involved in sex trafficking. We would come in contact with these girls from Detroit Police Department, local hospitals, foster care workers, and Wayne County Social Service organization. We would also make contact with runaway, homeless and sex trafficked girls using our street outreach ministry. Our street outreach involves teams, comprised of 3 or 4 people, to provide toiletries and food to homeless girls on the east side area of Detroit. Our outreach teams will be responsible for visiting the same location, once a week for one year.

Elli's House will provide a safe place, for girls to receive medical services, mental health services, educational assistance, and social service programs in order to rebuild a quality life, with a safe living environment. Elli's House will provide 6 beds, and provide shelter for 21 days. All residents will be required to attend school, receive medical treatment, when necessary, and participate in group therapy and/or individual therapy. Elli's House will provide transportation to all appointments.

Upon exiting the program, each girl will be assigned a case worker, who will follow up with the family or foster care family. The case worker will be responsible for developing an individual program to assist the family with conflict management, short term and long term goals, and any other assistance that is needed. The case worker is responsible for following up with the client, once a week, and eventually once a month, as decided by the case worker.

Article VI

The Corporation shall be operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. No director or officer of the Corporation shall possess any right or title or interest in the corporate property or earnings of the Corporation in his or her individual or private capacity, and no part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in the furtherance of the purposes set forth above.

Article VII

The Corporation shall not carry on propaganda or otherwise to influence legislation to such extent as would result in the loss of exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, nor shall the Corporation participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the Corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by: (a) a corporation exempt from tax under 501(c)(3) or the Internal Revenue Code; or (b) by a corporation, contributions, which are deductible under Section 170(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Article VIII

A volunteer director of the Corporation shall not be personally liable to the Corporation or its members for monetary damages for a breach of the director's fiduciary duty, except for liability.

- a) For a breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the Corporation or to its members;
- b) For acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
- c) For a violation of Section 551(1) of the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act;
- d) For a transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit; or
- e) For an act or mission that is grossly negligent.

If, after approval by the member of this provision, the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act is amended to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the personal liability of directors, then the liability of a director of the Corporation shall be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act, as so amended.

Any repeal or modifications of the foregoing provisions of this Article by the member of the Corporation shall not adversely affect any right or protection of a director or Board of Directors at the time of such repeal or modification.

Article IX

The corporation assumes all liability to any person other than the Corporation or its members for all acts or omissions of any volunteer director incurred in the good faith performance of the volunteer director's duties.

Article X

Upon dissolution of the Corporation, any property remaining after providing the debts and obligations of the Corporation shall be distributed at the direction of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501©(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or to the federal, state or local government, for a public purpose.

Article XI

Any reference in these Articles of Incorporation to a section of the Internal Revenue Code shall be interpreted to include reference to corresponding provisions of any applicable future Internal Revenue Law.



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide temporary shelter for runaway girls and/or young women caught in human trafficking in the city of Detroit; with family reunification as our primary goal, when possible.

OUR OUTREACH

Our street outreach team is committed to building consistent relationships. The teams are intentionally kept small and we require a 6 month or 1 year commitment so that our girls see the same team members working, and as a result develop deep friendships. Teams will reach out to young women who work on the streets and at times visit drug houses, to initiate conversation and build trusting friendships.

CONTACT

Tel 586-242-9280
 ellishouse313@yahoo.com
 www.ellishouse313.com

PROVERBS 31:9

"SPEAK UP AND JUDGE FAIRLY; DEFEND
 THE RIGHTS OF THE POOR AND NEEDY"

ELLIS HOUSE DETROIT



A SAFE HAVEN FOR THE YOUNG
 WOMEN OF DETROIT AFFECTED
 BY SEX TRAFFICKING



Ellis House

A BRIEF INTRO TO ELLI'S HOUSE

Ellis House is a Christian organization that is seeking donations to implement and support our mission. Our initial program of interest is short term shelter, in order to provide safety, food and clothing, in attempt to keep young girls, ages 11-17, from being homeless or involved in sex trafficking.

Ellis House will provide a safe place for girls to receive medical services, mental health services, educational assistance and social service programs in order to rebuild a quality life with a safe living environment. Ellis House will provide 6 beds and provide shelter for 21 days. All residents will be required to attend school, receive medical treatment, when necessary, and participate in group therapy and/or individual therapy. Ellis House will provide transportation to all appointments.

GET INVOLVED!

MORE INFORMATION:

To learn more about how you can get involved with Ellis House, or would like to learn more about our work, join our monthly meetings! Every 3rd Tuesday of the month, we hold an open-house meeting to those interested at Faith Lutheran Church beginning at 7 pm.

DONATE:

We are still accepting donations for our hygiene kits and snack bags for our Street Outreach program! If you are interested in donating, please contact Deb or Monica (monica.ellishouse@gmail.com) for a suggested list of items needed. If you are interested in making a donation, please make checks out to Ellis House and send to the address on the brochure. When we receive our determination letter, a tax receipt will be sent for your 2017 taxes.



**MINUTES OF THE INITIAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ELLI'S
HOUSE, INC.**

November 28, 2016

The first and organizational meeting of the Board of Directors of Elli's House, Inc., a Michigan nonprofit corporation (the "Corporation"), was held at Faith Lutheran Church in Troy, MI on the 28th day of November, 2016, a central location of the Board members.

Dated this 28th day of November 2016

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BY-LAWS OF ELLI'S HOUSE, A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION

ARTICLE 1: ORGANIZATION

Name: The name of the organization shall be Elli's House ("Corporation). The organization, by a vote from the Board of Directors, may change the name of the organization.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for religious, charitable, and educational purposes with the meaning of Section 501©(3) of the Internal Revenue code of 1986 or the corresponding provision or provisions of any subsequent United States revenue law (the "Code").

Elli's House is a religious organization affiliated with the Michigan District—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Our mission is to provide temporary shelter for runaway, homeless, or young girls involved in sex trafficking, in the city of Detroit, with family reunification as our primary goal. Currently, Elli's House has not begun to implement any of its proposed programs, as it is waiting to acquire more funding.

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other assistance that is needed. The case worker is responsible for following up with the client, once a week, and eventually once a month, as decided by the case worker.

Article III: GENERAL MEEETING

Section 1. Meetings

The Board intentionally establishes a basic structure for its Board meetings; the structure's purpose is to assist the Board and Executive Director in processing information in a way that allows them to maintain a policy-based orientation. Additional items can be added as needed, but the basic elements need to be maintained. The Board agenda structure shall work in tandem with the policy review and monitoring calendar.

The Board agenda structure shall consist of these basic elements:

- Board Education and Spiritual Growth. This will include time for devotion and prayer.
- Shorter-Term Activities. This will include informational updates on the financial situation of the organization, a review of key organizational actions taken since the last board meeting, and other reports and updates needed to keep the Board informed. It will also include time for shorter-term matters requiring Board decision or action.
- Longer-Term Activities. This will include reviews as needed of longer-term strategic plan elements, funding strategies and budget reviews. Items from the "Board Review Calendar," including policy-based governance matters, will also be included here. Time will be allocated for longer-term matters requiring Board decision or action.
- Other Items. Included here will be any other announcement and confirmation of the next Board meeting.

Section 2. Special Meeting

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of any board member. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board of Directors may fix any location, as the place for holding any special meeting of the Board called by them.

Section 3. Notice

Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least two (2) days in advance of the meeting by telephone, facsimile or electronic methods or by written notice. Any Director may waive notice of any meeting.

Section 4. Vacancies

Whenever any vacancy occurs in the Board of Directors it shall be filled without undue delay by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors at a regular meeting. Vacancies may be created and filled according to specific methods approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Powers of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall have charge, control and management of the business, property, personnel, affairs and funds of the corporation and shall have the power and authority to do and perform all acts and functions permitted for an organization described in section 541©(3) of the Code not insistent with these bylaws, the Articles of Incorporation, or the laws of the State of Michigan.

ARTICLE IV: SALARIES

The Executive Director shall hire and fix the compensation of any and all employees which he/she in their discretion may determine to be necessary for the conduct of the business of the organization.

ARTICLE V: REGISTRED OFFICE AND AGENT

The address of its initial registered office is 2237 Orpington, Troy, MI 48083, and the name of its initial registered agent at such address is Debra Ellinger.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section1. Board of Directors

The business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors, which is the governing body of the corporation. The corporation is organized on a non-stock basis.

Section2. Numbers

The Board of Directors of this corporation shall not be less than three (3) and no more than eight (8) and the number of directors constituting the initial Board of Directors is four (4).

Section 3. Election of Directors

The directors to be chosen shall be elected by the currently serving Board of Directors of this organization and they shall serve for a term of 2 years after which they may be re-elected for another 2 year term.

Section 4. Removal

Any director may be removed from office with or without cause at any annual or special meeting of the Board of Directors by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the directors in office.

Section 5. Powers and Tasks

The Board of Directors shall have the control of the affairs and business of this organization. Such Board of Directors shall only act in the name of the organization when it shall be regularly convened by its chairman after due notice to all the directors of such meeting. The Board of Directors sole official connection to the operational organization, its achievements and conduct will be through the Executive Director.

The Board will govern lawfully, observing the principles of the Policy Governance model, with an emphasis on (a) an outward vision rather than an internal preoccupation, (b) encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, (c) strategic leadership more than administrative detail, (d) clear distinction of Board and Executive Director roles, (e) collective rather than individual decisions, (f) future rather than past or present and (g) pro-activity rather than reactivity.

The initial officers of the organization shall be as follows:

- Chair: Jake Ellinger
- Vice Chair: Monica Mokrzan-Destefanis
- Committee Chair: Teresa Austreng
- Secretary: Tom Destefanis

The Chair shall preside at meetings, and shall:

- Develop meeting agenda and ensure all content discussed is according to Board policy and procedure.
- Ensures all members have an opportunity to openly share their views and opinions, if so desired.
- Assure deliberation will be fair, open, and thorough, but also timely, orderly and kept to the point.
- Arrange for an annual performance appraisal of the Executive Director
- Discuss and review any corrective action with Executive Director
- Act in all areas of Board management left unstated within these policies as long as this action is not in conflict with other Board policies.

The Vice-Chair shall in the event of the absence or inability of the President to exercise his office become acting president of the organization with all the rights, privileges, and powers as if he/she had been the duly elected president, shall:

- Preside at meetings of the Board of Directors of Elli's House in the absence of the Chair.
- Discuss and review any corrective actions with the Chair and Executive Director.
- Assume responsibilities delegated by the Chair.

The Committee Chair, in the absence or inability of the President or Vice-Chair to exercise his officer becoming acting president of the organization with all the rights, privileges, and powers as if he/she had been the duly elected president, shall:

- Keep Committee Heads informed of all policies, rules and guidelines established by the Board of Directors.
- Communicate meeting agenda and minutes to all Committee Heads.
- Liaison between the Board of Directors and Committee Heads.
- Reports any corrective action as it relates to the Committee Heads.

The Secretary shall keep the records of the organization in appropriate books, and shall:

- Record the official minutes of the Board's meetings and direct their distribution to the members of the Board, the Executive Director, and any others that ask.
- Preserve approved minutes.
- Preserve regular and special reports made to the Board and, at its direction, make summaries or copies of them available.

Officers shall by virtue of their office be members of the Board of Directors.

No officer shall for reason of his office be entitled to receive any salary or compensation, but nothing herein shall be construed to prevent an officer or director from receiving any compensation from the organization for duties other than as a director or officer.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

All committee of this organization shall;

- Observe that its responsibilities flow from the Board's description of its job, which shall be set forth in a formal written charge with an appropriate period for existence, and shall not impinge upon responsibilities delegated to the Executive Director.
- Have no decision making authority.
- Not make recommendations. Rather, it is to gather facts for Board decisions.
- Not manage any part of Elli's House.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be altered, amended, repealed or added to by an affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the members.

Adopted by the Directors of Elli's House January 12, 2017

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
CORPORATIONS, SECURITIES & COMMERCIAL LICENSING BUREAU**

Date Received

DEC 09 2016

ADJUSTED PURSUANT TO
TELEPHONE AUTHORIZATION
This document is effective on the date filed, unless a
subsequent effective date within 90 days after received
date is stated in the document

TransInfo: 21743290-1 12/07/16
Chk#: 2417 Amt: \$20.00
ID: DEBBE ELLINGER

FILED

DEC 28 2016

EFFECTIVE DATE: _____

Name

Debra Ellinger

Address

2237 Orpington

City

State

ZIP Code

Τρογ

ME

48083

Document will be returned to the name and address you enter above.
If left blank, document will be returned to the registered office.

71974D

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
For use by Domestic Nonprofit Corporations
 (Please read information and instructions on the last page)

Pursuant to the provisions of Act 162, Public Acts of 1982, the undersigned corporation executes the following Articles:

ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation is:

Eli's House

ARTICLE II

The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is formed are:

See attachment

ARTICLE III

1. The corporation is formed upon a Nonstock basis.
(Stock or Nonstock)

2. If formed on a stock basis, the total number of shares the corporation has authority to issue is

_____ If the shares are or are to be divided into classes, the designation of each class, the number of shares in each class, and the relative rights, preferences and limitations of the shares of each class to the extent that the designations, numbers, relative rights, preferences, and limitations have been determined are as follows:

2

ARTICLE III (cont.)

3. a. If formed on a nonstock basis, the description and value of its real property assets are: (if none, insert "none")
none
- b. The description and value of its personal property assets are: (if none, insert "none")
none
- c. The corporation is to be financed under the following general plan:
none
- d. The corporation is formed on a Membership basis
(Membership or Directorship)

ARTICLE IV

1. The name of the resident agent at the registered office is:
Debra Ellinger
2. The address of its registered office in Michigan is
2237 Orpington Troy , Michigan 48083
 (Street Address) (City) (ZIP Code)
3. The mailing address of the registered office in Michigan if different than above:
 _____ , Michigan _____
 (Street Address or PO Box) (City) (ZIP Code)

ARTICLE V

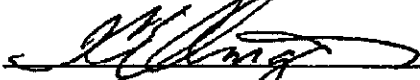
The name(s) and address(es) of the incorporator(s) is (are) as follows.

[illegible]

Use space below for additional Articles or for continuation of previous Articles. Please identify any Article being continued or added. Attach additional pages if needed.

See attachment

I, (We), the incorporator(s) sign my (our) name(s) this 1st day of December, 2017



Debra Ellinger

Monica Mah-~~SA~~

T-~~SA~~