

KELLY MICHEL

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Kelly, an alumna of Lotus House, began her transformative journey at the shelter when her son was just six months old. Now, at six years old, her son has flourished in an environment filled with joy, love, and growth. Over the course of his early years, Kelly's experience at Lotus House became a foundation for a brighter future, filled with support, encouragement, and the opportunities she needed to thrive.

During her stay, Kelly completed a Retail Training Internship with the Lotus House Thrift Store, where she quickly developed a deep appreciation for the work and the mission of the organization. Her dedication was evident early on, and within the first two weeks of her internship, her manager recognized her potential and extended an offer to hire her. After completing the four-week training program and earning her retail training certification, Kelly was hired at the thrift store just one week later.

While working at the thrift store, Kelly remained focused on her long-term goals. With a strong commitment to building a stable future for her family, she worked tirelessly, saving money to secure a permanent home. After eleven months at Lotus House, she found a beautiful and welcoming home for herself and her son, marking a pivotal moment in her journey toward independence and self-sufficiency.

Over the course of her three years at the thrift store, Kelly's hard work and dedication did not go unnoticed. She quickly earned a well-deserved promotion to manager, a position that allowed her to further develop her leadership skills. Kelly's ability to connect with and support her team—customers, donors, interns, and volunteers alike—was a testament to her commitment to the store's mission and her passion for giving back to the community.

After two years as manager, Kelly's career took an exciting turn as she accepted a new role with the National Women's Shelter Network. In this new capacity, she serves a broader community of

shelters, women, and children—an area that is close to her heart. Kelly's time at Lotus House ignited a deep passion for helping women and children who have faced similar struggles, and her new position allows her to amplify her impact on a larger scale. She is dedicated to ensuring that every woman and child in need receives the support, resources, and compassion they deserve. Kelly is committed to making their transitions as smooth and positive as possible, providing them with the opportunity to create a better future for themselves.

Through her journey, Kelly has demonstrated unwavering resilience, a strong work ethic, and an enduring commitment to empowering others. Her personal experiences have shaped her into the compassionate and driven professional she is today, and she continues to inspire those around her with her dedication to improving the lives of women and children in need.