



2020 Annual Report

Our Mission

St. Paul's Center is a community that strives to awaken hope and rekindle dignity in families that seek support, comfort and assistance in moving from homelessness to a sustainable future

Message from the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

To say that the pandemic made everything so much harder and, in some cases impossible, is of no surprise. What served as inspiration to Center staff are the many ways our caring community came to our rescue. Here are the many bright spots that came out of this year:

- The Center partnered with the County's One-Stop Employment Center to offer soft-skills training and a virtual job fair to shelter guests.
- Tutors virtually aided sheltered children with school work so they wouldn't fall behind.
- Volunteers continue to virtually meet with families to offer support when addressing the challenges of parenting during this pandemic, and encouragement to stay the course.
- The donation of items allowed us to furnish the nine apartments in our new housing program. Groups from Berkshire Hathaway Blake Realtors, Holy Spirit, Franciscan Heights Senior Community, Emmanuel Reformed Church, St. Michael the Archangel and generous individuals provided bedding, kitchen items, small appliances, and more to turn the apartments into homes.
- Donations of hand and foot warmers, hand sanitizer, masks, socks, hats, gloves, and hygiene products filled 100 "Blessing Bags" to support those living on the streets.
- We were awarded state, federal, and foundation grants permitting the Center to serve families experiencing homelessness with rental and financial assistance through 2022.
- A CDPHP grant enabled the Center to fill many gaps: food for families who relied on us over the last two years and presently, cleaning supplies and masks for shelter guests and housing tenants, and additional staffing to support families working to find housing.

The pandemic caused many to feel the loneliness of isolation. We were comforted and motivated by the many who supported our mission before and during this last year. We are thankful to those who will continue to stand with us in our work.


Tracy Pitcher, MSW

2020 In Review

Throughout 2020 and the public health crisis, St. Paul's Center continued providing life-changing services to families experiencing homelessness in our emergency shelter and community based housing programs.



Emergency Shelter

In addition to shelter, our team provides case management, nutrition education, employment support, crisis intervention, and budgeting services to mothers and children working to build a brighter future free from homelessness.

This year...

we sheltered and supported **87 mothers and children** making up **31 families**.



Lee Dyer Family Apartments

After years of hard work, phase one of the Lee Dyer Family Apartments opened its doors in October 2020. This 10-unit permanent supportive housing program provides affordable housing and wrap-around services for families with a history of homelessness.

This year...

3 families were housed and **all** continue to successfully participate in the program.



“

Finally, I can see the light at the end of the tunnel and I know I can build a brighter future. My kids deserve it and I'm determined to make that happen for them.

Terry, mom of four

”

Impact: Lynn's Story

After fleeing domestic violence and her abusive partner, Lynn found herself feeling hopeless with no one to turn to.

Underemployed and a single mom of four, Lynn didn't know what would happen to her family without a place to sleep at night.

That's when Lynn found St. Paul's Center. At the Center, Lynn began attending parenting classes, received emotional and physical support, and assistance securing additional income. With Lynn fighting for her family's future, it was time to find the family a home of their own.

After much hard work and dedication, Lynn and the team were able to find an apartment for the family. Now, Lynn and her children can't wait to move into their new home in the next few weeks, leaving the fear and uncertainty they once felt.



Financials

OVER \$308 THOUSAND RAISED IN 2020

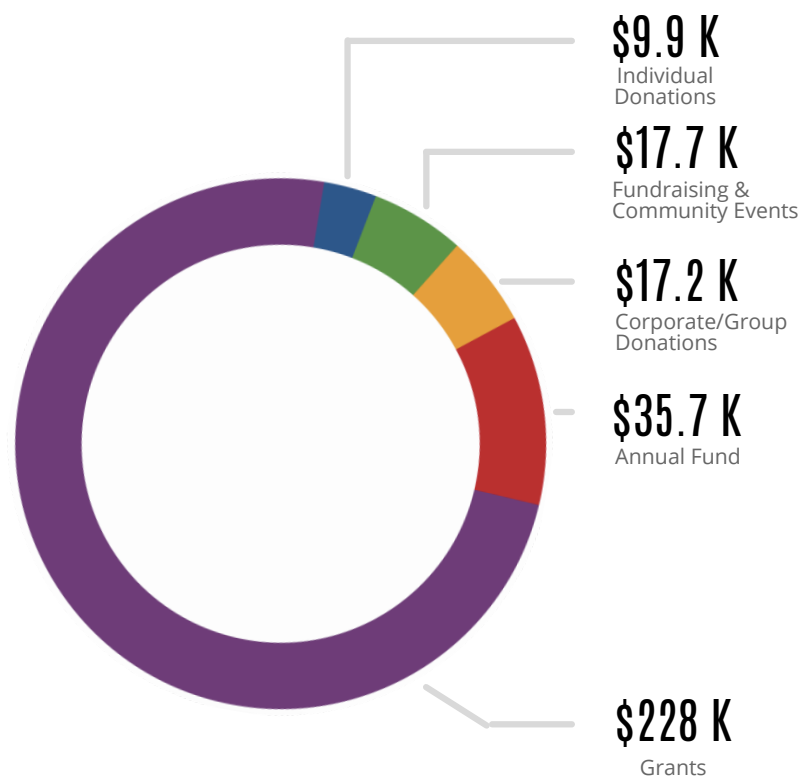
Donation Spotlight | Legacy Gifts

Legacy gifts are a powerful tool that makes a lasting impact on the future of St Paul's Center. Such gifts include donations made through wills and may include ongoing gifts through a living donor's annuity.

After receiving a bequest of over \$100,000 two years ago, the Center established a Board-designated Innovation Fund to provide seed money for important programs that advance our mission but are difficult to finance. The Fund proved helpful when our supportive apartment program, Lee Dyer Apartments, was under construction during COVID. The pandemic caused NYS expense reimbursement to be delayed by more than 30 days. The Fund allowed us to immediately pay the local small contractors who kept the construction going when the pandemic forced all other construction to cease. The Fund is also used to cover unfunded shelter stays for families.

A recent bequest of over \$48,000 was added to the Fund which we anticipate using to expedite our next supportive housing project to serve homeless seniors ages 55 and older. The Center is also evaluating numerous best practices for homeless housing that will prove essential to our mission however are not funded by grants or county reimbursements.

The impact of legacy giving provides a way to bridge gaps in funding, services, and to make lives whole again. Please consider making legacy gifts to the Center. Your support ensures the advancement of our mission to help move families from homelessness to a future of sustainability. Contact Tracy Pitcher for more information.



94% of donations provide direct support to our emergency shelter and community-based housing programs.

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