



Gratitude Report 2020

SOJOURNER TRUTH
HOUSE
est. 1997





REFLECTIONS RIPPLES & REALITIES

Sister Peg Spindler, CSA, Executive Director

Every year I look for the tulips to poke through last year's dead leaves. It's a sign for me of new life, new hope after whatever the last year was for us. Those green shoots are there again, despite the incredibly challenging year of 2020! Like everyone else, we had to shut down until we figured out how to continue serving those whose experience of COVID-19 was catastrophic. Staff and volunteers deepened their flexibility and commitment. Rearranging furniture and schedule enabled us to re-open for clients. Some projects slowed down due to supply chain problems and COVID protocols. We learned Zoom quickly and used it to serve our clients remotely and to hold meetings. During this year, we were still able to move 27 families into housing. During the worst months, we served between 5000-6000 in our drive thru pantry. The Missionaries of Charity allowed us to hold classes at the shelter when clients couldn't come here. Lake County funders helped with monies for PPE, local groups sewed masks and you, our faithful donors, came through more generously than ever. Now, as we mask, distance and get vaccinated, I see the green shoots defying all odds and rising to the sun. Thank you for helping us survive and learn how to thrive differently this year!

Recovery

Through Healing & Wholeness



Rosa's alcoholism had cost her pretty much everything—her job, her family, and her apartment. Rosa was living in her car when she came to see us. As bad as it was, Rosa's addiction was only a symptom of the real, underlying problems in her life. The first job was to help Rosa get sober. After spending time with a case worker, she was referred to one of our treatment support groups. We then tackled her deeper issues of hurt and rejection that caused Rosa to act out. We were able to help her understand the steps she needed to take to get her life back on track. Rosa took responsibility for her life and we held her accountable to her recovery plan. When she was

ready to re-engage with her family, we supported and encouraged her through the entire process. The information, encouragement and compassion she found at Sojourner Truth House helped her move beyond her alcohol abuse, and into a healthy and rational life with her family.

As you likely know, Sojourner Truth House provides "emotional triage" every day. It is only with support from our generous donors that we can bring healing and wholeness, one person at a time. Thank you for changing Rosa's life and helping her on the road to recovery.

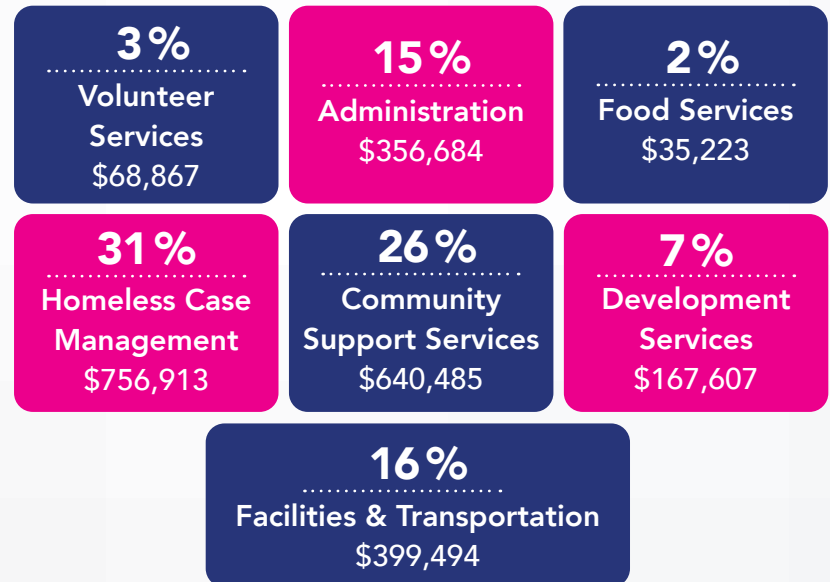


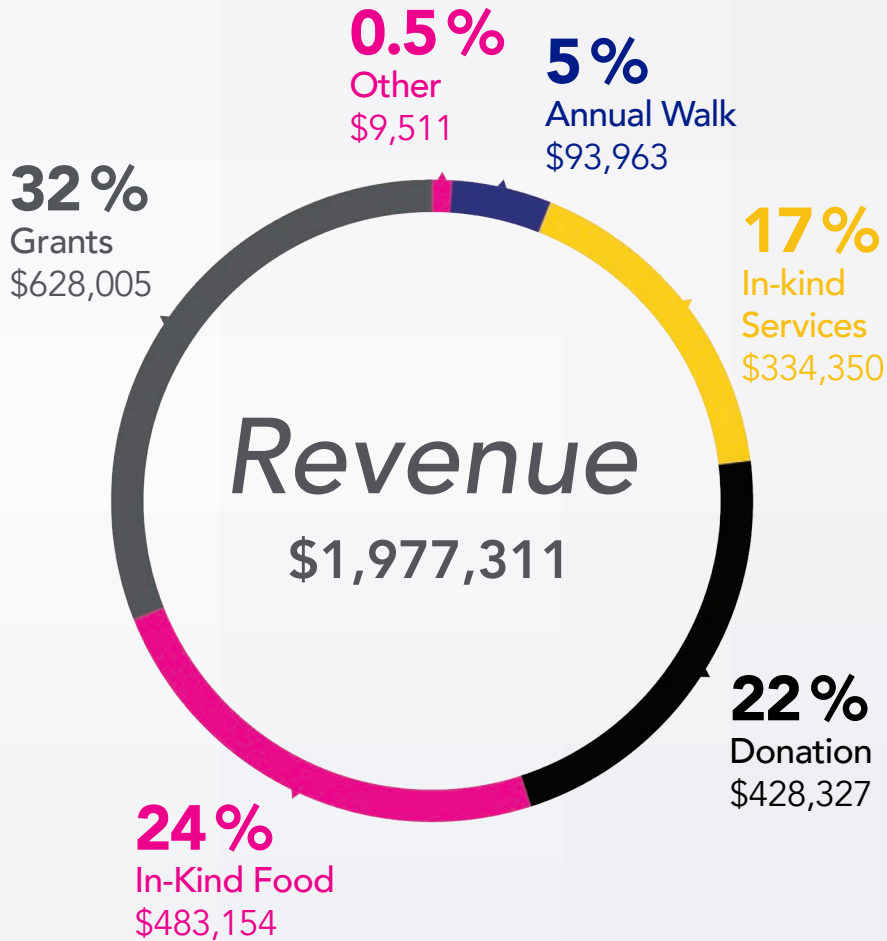
FINANCIALS 2020

Sojourner Truth House (STH) is a ministry founded in 1997 and sponsored by The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. For over 20 years, The Poor Handmaids have provided a significant grant each year to support the needs of the ministry and the clients served by STH. In 2020, they graciously gave \$679,989 to help underserved members of our community. Their generous yearly support will not see much growth so we rely on our faithful donors more than ever. Invite your friends and family to learn more about STH programs and mission.

Expenses

\$2,425,273





YOUR GIFTS = **IMPACT**

In 2020, your generosity allowed us to:

Provide supervised enrichment
to **226** children

Modify our traditional food
pantry to a drive-through food
pantry program. We distributed
365,187 pounds of food to
43,365 individuals.

Serve an average of **3,741**
clients each month, an increase
of **40 percent more** than in
2019.

Move **45** individuals experiencing homelessness into
safe housing despite a pandemic.

Keep **70** clients
housed with rental
and utility assistance

Make **444** home
visits to clients in the
Gateway Supportive
Housing program

Serve **6,892** meals
from our kitchen

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Evelyn the Entrepreneur

Evelyn is all smiles today as she reflects on her journey at Sojourner Truth House, which started a couple years ago. Today she is preparing for a new journey, one that will lead to independence and success. She is proud of her accomplishments and she says that she owes it all to STH. Evelyn is an entrepreneur, planning to start her own nonprofit organization to help other children who were born with disabilities - just like hers. Evelyn is excited with all the attention she is receiving from interviews and speaking opportunities at community events. Amid all the glamour she is humble and still attends our day center program. Evelyn supports the mission of STH as she serves as a positive role model who encourages newcomers to stay with the program and keep a positive outlook. She has not let her past nor her disabilities hinder her. Instead she found the strength to make them the bridge to get her to the other side.



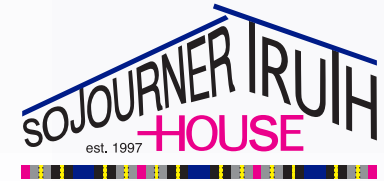
Thank You!

Sojourner Truth House is tremendously grateful for your loyalty in 2020. Our work is only possible with the support of our community through grants, businesses, and our individual donors. To view a complete listing of our 2020 donors, please visit our website: www.sojournertruthhouse.org

OUR MISSION

Sojourner Truth House is a ministry of hope and help for homeless and at-risk women and their children sponsored by The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. Through hospitality, advocacy, integrative services and collaboration, participants improve their quality of life and that of the community in a safe, trusting environment

Sojourner Truth House is a ministry sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ



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