

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



A NOTE FROM SUSAN

he world has changed dramatically in the last two years. LifeWorks remains a fearless advocate for youth and families on their pathways to self-reliance, and our unwavering commitment to Housing, Counseling, and Education and Workforce opportunities provided support to 2,848 individuals in their journeys in 2021.

Last year, I reported that we had helped 745 youth and young adults experiencing homelessness achieve permanent housing. As I write, we stand on the cusp of reaching the milestone of 1,000. Our community's success in the movement to End Youth Homelessness surpasses any other.

The story of last year is one of listening to and learning from our successes, the challenges of a world that continues to change, and to the experiences of the brave people we serve.

As a result, we launched new programming. Impactful Voices is a program that embeds young people with lived experience-including former clients -as apprentices in key areas of programming and administration.

The SHIFT (Sexual Health Information for Life Transitions) Program was funded by the St. David's Foundation to support youth across the organization, including providing peer and group support for expecting and parenting youth in Housing. Forty percent of our Rapid Rehousing clients are young parents, who are facing challenges with finding childcare and employment that will sustain a family.

Two years ago, we sheltered or housed 167 youth on any given night. Tonight, that number stands at 212, a 27% increase. Still, there are challenges.

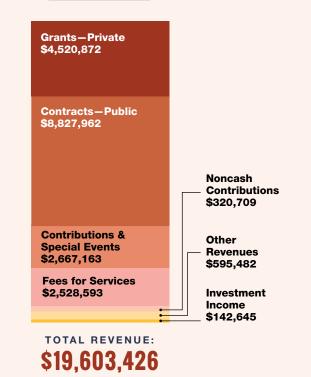


Rents in the area have soared by 40%, making the availability and sustainability of housing a crisis. Recently, LifeWorks Board of Governors approved a Strategic Plan focused on our commitment to helping youth measurably achieve the results they set themselves. A top priority of this plan will be to develop more housing. Our City and County's leadership bodies have indicated affordable housing as a priority, so please stay tuned for news of our progress in developing a project tentatively titled "The Works III."

I am proud to present the 2021 Annual Report. It represents the brave, compassionate, and tenacious work of hundreds of staff, Board, volunteers, and supporters. As you read, please know that your support helped make this possible, as your continued commitment will take us forward.

MY THANKS TO YOU, Susan McDowell, LifeWorks CEO

REVENUE



LIFEWORKS PROGRAMS

HOUSING & HOMELESS SERVICES CLIENTS SERVED

The goal of LifeWorks Housing Services is to provide a continuum of support that will help transition vouth from homelessness to permanent housing and independence.

- Street Outreach
- Rapid Rehousing
- Diversion
- After Care Transitional Services • Best Single Source Plus (BSS+)
- Homelessness Prevention
- Young Parents Program
- Emergency Shelter
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- PORT (Permanency through **Outreach & Rapid Transitions)**
- Family Unification Program
- Transitional Living Program

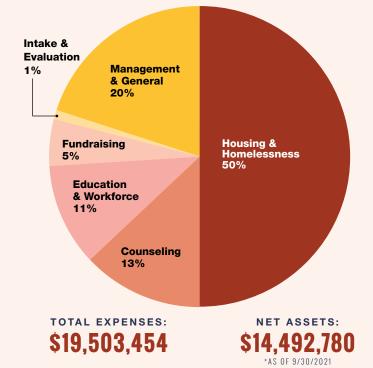


LifeWorks Education and Workforce Division is focused on developing the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the challenges of adolescence, move toward independence, and break the cycle of poverty.

- REAL Talk
- Workforce Development & Supported Education
- Life Skills Training
- GED & Literacy classes
- Teen Parent Services
- SHIFT

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

EXPENSES



EDUCATION, WORKFORCE,

COUNSELING SERVICES

CLIENTS SERVED

LifeWorks Counseling provides support for individuals and families who are struggling with issues such as family conflict, abuse, trauma, anxiety, depression, and the stress of everyday life.

- Youth & Adult Counseling
- Resolution Counseling
- Peer Support
- Community-Based Counseling
- Psychiatric Services

HIGHLIGHTS

\$110 million TO CREATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Travis County Commissioners Court earmarked significant funding to catalyze community organizations', including LifeWorks, efforts to develop a pipeline of affordable and supportive housing, setting the tone of the work to be done in 2022. A historic allocation for the city.



SET THE AGENCY'S PRIORITIES

and strategic themes-mission performance, ending youth homelessness, and fiscal strategy-for the next three years as part of the planning process.



LAUNCHED IMPACTFUL VOICES

the agency's first apprenticeship program for former clients. Former clients can become a specialist for a program or department at LifeWorks. Specialists will work with LifeWorks staff on tasks and projects, learning new skills all while sharing their input on areas for improvement.



HIRED MORE THAN 60 STAFF in roles across the agency to expand our service to clients.



ESTABLISHED THE SHIFT PROGRAM

The Sexual Health Information for Life Transitions Program is a new family planning program for clients who are not yet parenting, would like to become parents, or who are already parenting. The program provides reproductive life planning, family peer support, sexual health education groups, and groups for expectant and parenting youth. It is intended to promote planned, healthy pregnancies, positive birth outcomes, and overall health and well-being.

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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LLUSTRATIONS BY MIKE REDDY

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Gifts of \$1,000+

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Donald A. Zielinski

MEET JOSEPH AND JARED, 18

LifeWorks Transitional Housing Program Clients

The twin brothers recently received their housing voucher and are searching for their first apartment together. Joseph is a natural at acting. He hopes to attend a trade school and pursue acting on the side. Jared is a talented songwriter and guitarist and is looking forward to attending school to earn his automotive technician certification.

"Having a place together has been our dream, and it's coming true. It's a blessing to see that we have this opportunity with this housing voucher," -JOSEPH

Sasse

"LifeWorks really made my life work. They got everything moving quicker in a healthy fashion and are helping me make this transition to adult living by guiding and supporting us. It's a big step into not only a new chapter, but a new storyline for us." -JARED

Sara and Seth Ackland Patti and Andy Adkins Laura Agnew and Hill Abell Mary Ainslie Danielle and Kyle Ali Brad Anderson Robbie and Tom Ausley Sharlene and Gene Austin Shelly and David Bain The Barilla Foundation Crystal Barone Beverly Barr Alissa and Shon Bayer/ milk + honey spa Iacob Bear Kim and Jason Belew Melanie Belt and Demetrius McDaniel Nancy and Glenn Birnbaum Esther and Edward Blackwell, Jr. Cyndi and Bill Bock Deric Bownds Pam and Jeff Brown Sandra and Kevin Brown Teri and Kevin Brown LuAnn and Anthony Bundrant Jayna and Barry Burgdorf Rosa and Kevin Byrne Cathy and Rick Cabrera Peyton and Jon Callahan Sara and Brandon Canaday Allyie and Wes Carberry Mary Sullivan and Greg Casas **Castleview Productions** Amy Catherine Chibib Deborah and Bruce Clark James "Cinco" R. Cocke, Jr./ Huffman Builders of Central Texas Colin Corgan Michael Craigue and Jason Craft Charlyn and Gerald Daugherty Amy Davis Courtney and Adam DeBower Susan and Dan Dimitrijevic Phylis and Robin Donelson Lori and Dennis Donley, Jr. Lisa and Matt Dow Karen and Pat Driscoll Meredith and Patrick Duncan Maureen and Greg Engle Kimberly White Erlinger Patty and Michael Erspamer

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To make a donation, visit lifeworksaustin.org/getinvolved

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"LifeWorks has been a cutting edge youth & family resource in Austin for many years. A place where young people know they will be respected, families find the crisis intervention services they need, and the community can count on for fearless advocacy." –JACK & LIZ NOWICKI

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"It was most helpful having an adult you can count on and knowing you can trust your case manager, being able to vent, and just talk about other ways to better myself for the future." -A LIFEWORKS CLIENT

in the After Care Transition Services Program

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