

the**Women's** HOUSING COALITION



2016

Annual Report

opening doors to change since 1979

A Letter from Leadership

"The only thing that is constant in life is change." Change can be exciting, scary, intimidating, and even rewarding. It is often all of these at once! Even when change is negative and overwhelming, it can lead to a brighter future. Your gift was a factor in creating positive change! Your support this past year allowed us to help change the lives of our residents. It will also help them as they prepare for change as they plan their next steps toward stability for the rest of their life.

As the Women's Housing Coalitions enters its 38th year, change remains all around us. Our role is to help our residents acknowledge negative changes, embrace the positive and work toward a newer, brighter future. 2016 presented us with many unexpected changes, and we challenged ourselves to change how we deliver our mission. Why do we work so hard? ... because there are no throw away people!

As obstacles arose during 2016, we as an organization learned to adapt and found ways to push forward ...with the help of our supporters.

What has changed? Through our work with residents last year, we emphasized the interconnectedness of health and one's ability to remain stably housed and become one's best self. Our population oftentimes does not have the time, motivation/ understanding, accessibility or income to participate in an active fitness program. To lessen these barriers, we opened gyms in two of our buildings and launched the EveryBODY gym program, providing monthly activities and workshops for our ladies and offering a safe, accessible, "judgment-free," supportive space for the women. Women who were not willing or able to make it up a set of stairs to their room are now taking walks to the Inner Harbor from our Bennett House and climbing stairs.

Similarly, we purchased refurbished computers in order to update our computer labs in all of our buildings. Updated computers mean our residents have better access to resources for their own well-being and to potentially expand their job search and career skills. It is our hope to add computer training to our list of offerings next year.

Beyond gyms and computers, we continue to offer a wide variety of programming to our residents throughout the year such as: audio book clubs focusing on women empowerment, a ten week mindfulness class known as SHINE, programming on relationships, financial workshops, personal safety classes, acupuncture, nutrition classes and transportation to shopping locations that provide opportunities to purchase healthy, budget conscious items. We also recognize that fun can be just as therapeutic as life skills training, which is why we have worked to provide our residents with events such as an ice cream social, a holiday awards ceremony, giveaways and even game and movie nights.

In the fall of 2016, the Women's Housing Coalition completed the roll out of Housing First to 100% of our units when we adopted this concept in all of our Single Room Occupancy (SRO) or shared living residences. The Housing First model emphasizes low barrier, permanent, affordable housing for people experiencing homelessness. Housing first; supportive services second. New residents coming through the Housing First initiative have more acute needs and mental health issues and have limited life skills, which has presented its own unique challenges and requirement for change.

With the increased needs of our residents and the unique challenges of Housing First in a shared living environment, we hired six part time Resident Counselors to work in the evenings and on weekends. This investment in staffing will enhance the resident experience and support our current case managers as they struggle with an increased workload under Housing First. We are excited to face the challenges of Housing First head-on and to be proactive rather than reactive.

Because of your support, we are able to continue opening doors to change for the women and children we serve at Women's Housing Coalition. Thank you for being a valuable part of our community. It is with your help that our women are able to change and grow, learning how to lead stable lives. It is with your support that we can tackle change with a positive and hopeful outlook.

Gratefully yours,

Beth Benner

Beth Benner, Executive Director



93% of women and families remained stably housed

with Women's Housing Coalition or moved on to independent housing

90%

of residents increased or maintained their income level

98%

of our residents met at least 2 of their goals within 6 months of setting them

17

people moved on to other safe affordable housing

98%

of residents participated regularly at appropriate levels in activities such as

volunteering, education, employment, parenting classes, nutrition classes and workshops

2016 Contributions & Support

\$20,000-\$75,000

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DeVito Family Trust
The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation
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\$5,000-\$19,999

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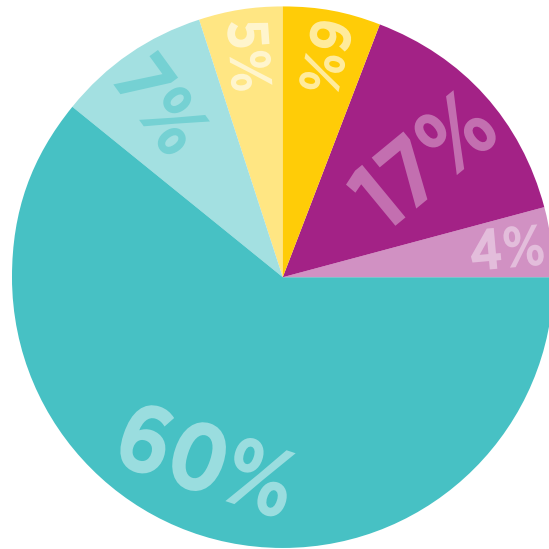


2016 Financial Position

2016 Revenue

Contributions	6%
Foundations	17%
Special Events	4%
Federal	60%
Real Estate Related	6%
Other Revenues	7%

Total Revenue **\$1,465,715**



2016 Expenses

Program Services	78%
Management & General	12%
Fundraising	11%

Total Operating Expenses **\$1,511,455**

Net Loss

before consolidation
& depreciation

(\$45,740)



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Services

IN-HOUSE SERVICES:

Long-term affordable housing
Intensive case management and
one-on-one life skills coaching
Individualized service plans that
guide women through steps to
reach their goals
Medical/Mental health services
co-payments
Summer camp tuition and
transportation
Matched savings program
Employment readiness training
Budgeting and financial workshops,
as well as entitlement assistance
Emergency needs funding
Parenting classes
Support group and community
living
Nutrition workshops

SERVICES THROUGH EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS:

Employment and educational
programs
Medical and mental health services
Substance abuse counseling and
relapse prevention programs
and support groups
Legal services
Clothing for employment and
everyday
Individual and family counseling
Visiting nurses and therapists

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Manager

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Assistant Program
Coordinator/Case Manager
for Scattered Sites

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Dachon Carroll

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theWomen's
HOUSING COALITION

Opening doors to change

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