





# WHAT A YEAR WE HAD!

To say we are all survivors is an understatement. Here at WHC, we continue to support individuals and families who have experienced homelessness by providing stable, permanent, service-enriched housing to support 108 households. 2020 has been a challenging year in a lot of ways, but we are working hard to continue keeping our residents stabilized, increasing our services to residents, and improving our outcomes overall.

Residents continue to struggle with stress related to the pandemic...as many of us do. Mental health challenges continue to present themselves; we are patiently working to meet people where they currently are and we are holding space for residents as they process what is happening in the world. We are helping residents survive the pandemic both medically and mentally, and we are actively working to keep our residents hopeful about the future.

2020 has given us the opportunity to add programs to our service offerings around food insecurity and mental health/substance use supports. We believe that when we don't have the in-house expertise to serve our residents, we should partner with experts. This is why, in regards to food support, we have developed a strong in-house program by partnering with community-focused experienced professionals who understand the needs of the residents we serve. As a result, residents receive boxes of groceries twice a month.

We did not hold our annual event in April this year nor did we hold our Hops for Housing fundraising event this fall. We were able to sustain ourselves through COVID-emergency funding and a Payroll Protection Program loan that was forgiven in January 2021. Overall, it was a year of hunkering down as we focused on improving our one-on-one work with residents. We are proud that we kept our residents safe, despite having so many in shared living environments. We had very few instances of positive cases, and we have



kept everyone alive. Kudos go to our amazing staff and residents for responding, adapting, and working/ living in such difficult times.

We hope you and your loved ones are safe and continue to navigate the pandemic successfully. Feel free to reach out if you have questions, concerns, or if you'd like to offer your support.

Regards.

Beth Benner

Beth Benner Executive Director





During 2020, remote work became the norm for many organizations, and the Women's Housing Coalition was no exception. Our weekly staff meeting became our virtual gathering place and played an important part in how we stayed connected as a team. Our commitment to serving our residents never wavered, not even during a worldwide pandemic. Even though we were physically apart, we continued to work together.



## **NAVIGATING COVID TIMES** AND LOOKING **FORWARD**

In 2020, the first year of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, the Women's Housing Coalition continued to do what we have done for the past four decades: providing permanent housing to chronically homeless individuals and families in Baltimore; and delivering support services to those in our program through case managers, who work with residents to stabilize and improve their lives by identifying and meeting short- and long-term goals. Throughout 2020, keeping our residents safe, healthy, housed, and motivated to maintain their overall wellbeing during a very unstable and tumultuous time has been our ultimate focus. This meant finding new ways to address the challenges the pandemic was presenting, which included forging new partnerships.

WHC brought on three part-time residential counselors with expertise in areas our residents needed most, especially as the pandemic impacted their lives. Their specializations are substance use recovery support, life skills training, and mental health counseling support. These three roles are in addition to our full-time case managers, and, collectively, this team provides a depth and breadth of experience in human services that is absolutely invaluable to our residents.

As COVID cases increased throughout 2020, supply chain disruptions impacted food availability on supermarket shelves. Additionally, organizations that provided services to help people stretch their food

budgets were swamped by increased demand as people lost jobs and were unable to afford groceries. During the first few months of 2020, WHC kept a supply of food staples on hand to distribute to residents as needed. As the pandemic wore on, we officially partnered with *Bmore Community Foods*, a local food rescue organization, and volunteers from *The Junior League Baltimore* to package and deliver boxes of meat, produce, and food staples to all our residents twice a month.

Increases in COVID cases also meant schools shifting to online learning. This shift happened suddenly, with parents quickly having to figure out how to navigate new procedures for their children attending school. Access to high-speed internet and electronic devices appropriate for online learning has always been a challenge for the demographic we serve due to the costs involved. As a result, our case managers worked tirelessly to acquire electronic devices for all our students.

We also sought other ways to close the digital divide for our residents, as reliance on the Internet for everything, from applying for unemployment benefits and SNAP benefits to contacting various human services organizations, became the new normal. Thanks to funding partnerships with the Abell Foundation and the France-Merrick Foundation, we were able to wire our SRO buildings for internet access and purchase electronic devices for residents to use. We also helped residents living in scattered site locations get internet access through hotspots and Xfinity's low-cost internet-only service plan.

Keeping our residents safe, healthy, housed, and motivated to maintain their overall well-being during a very unstable and tumultuous time has been our ultimate focus.

On the financial side of our organization, we were unable to have our in-person fundraising events in 2020, which impacted our budget significantly. Fortunately, we were able to secure COVID-related emergency funding throughout the year, from several sources, including the state of Maryland and other funding partners. We were also able to raise money through a fundraising campaign where Dietz and Watson matched donations during the month of December. WHC also secured a Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan, which was fully forgiven in January 2021.

As we move into 2022, we will continue to weather the storm this pandemic has brought to all our lives. We will become more knowledgeable and compassionate as individuals and as an organization because of what we've faced. And we will continue to serve individuals and families in Baltimore who are experiencing chronic homelessness for as long as the need exists. We look forward to your continued support of our work.

#### **FUNDING PARTNERS:**



## ABELL FOUNDATION



## **WAYS YOU CAN HELP**

We keep people out of homeless shelters and off the streets, and help empower people to improve their lives through case management support, programming support, and other services based on our residents' needs. With your help, we can keep doing our important work.

#### **MATCHING GIFTS**

Many companies will match an employee's charitable contributions to non-profit organizations. These matches may be dollar-for-dollar or sometimes greater. If your employer matches your contribution, your donation will have an even greater impact. All you need to do is obtain the appropriate form from your company, complete your section, and send it to us! If you have questions, feel free to reach out to us at developmentdirector@womenshousing.org or call us at 410-235-5782, extension 108.

#### TAX CREDITS

The Women's Housing Coalition offers Community Investment Tax Credits for purchase. Any individual or business that pays taxes to the state of Maryland can donate \$500 or more to WHC and earn tax credits equal to 50% of the value of the donation to reduce their tax liability. The tax credits must be used against Maryland state taxes owed for the year in which the contribution was made - they may not be used retroactively for taxes from a prior year. These tax credits are in addition to the deductions on state taxes as a result of the charitable contribution and do not affect your ability to claim a federal charitable deduction. If you are interested in purchasing tax credits, reach out to us at developmentdirector@ womenshousing.org or call us at 410-235-5782, extension 108.



#### **WISH LIST**

We have a wish list on Amazon, and we update these to match the needs of the individuals and children in our program regularly. Check out our website at www.womenshousing.org for links to the lists.

#### SPECIAL PROJECTS

Women's Housing Coalition is always looking for ways to partner with community members - individuals and businesses/organizations alike. If you have an idea for a partnership that could help the work we do, we'd love to hear from you. You can reach us at 410-235-5782, extension 108, or at development director@ womenshousing.org.

#### DONATE

We accept online donations through our website at www.womenshousing.org/donate. We also accept checks mailed to our offices at 119 East 25th Street. Baltimore, MD 21218, or you can call us to give us a donation over the phone via credit card at 410-235-5782. extension 108.

You can also donate online by scanning the QR code.



## 2020 FINANCIAL POSITION

#### 2020 Revenue

Special Events 4%
Real Estate Related 4%
Contributions 17%
Other Revenues 5%
Foundations 10%
Federal 60%

Total Revenue \$1,717,376

## 2020 Expenses

Management & 13%

General

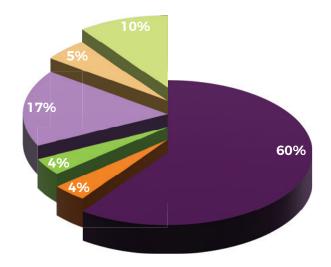
Fundraising 7%

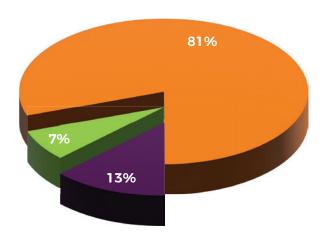
Program Services 81%

Total Operating \$1,783,664 Expenses

**Net Income** \$(150,948) as of 12/31/2020\*\*

\*\*NOTE: A Payroll Protection Program Loan WHC received in May 2020 in the amount of \$170,200 was not forgiven until January 2021 due to COVID-related processing delays.





## 2020 CONTRIBUTIONS & SUPPORT

### \$1-100

Katherine Allston Jesse Anderson 29 Anonymous Individuals Judith Arnold Yvonne Aspengren Adebowale Ayeni **Brittany Ayers** Robert Barron Daniel Bermudez Nan Billingslea Paula Braswell Steven Brooks Laura Brown Diane Butler Faye Chan

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Ikea donated kitchenware, bedding, and essentials to help our residents; including "Box of Smiles" to the children - with fill-in journal, scratch art, Kanoodle, Lego set, and a puzzle ball.

David Turban
Clifton Urquhart
Vicki Vaughn
Clarence Vincent
Karen Weber
Cacy Williams
Amy Wolfson
Eugene Wu

#### \$101-500

Alex Aaron Lauri Amy 2 Anonymous Individuals Cristino Arocho

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We will become more knowledgeable and compassionate as individuals and as an organization because of what we've faced. And we will continue to serve individuals and families in Baltimore who are experiencing chronic homelessness for as long as the need exists.

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**McArdleFamily** 

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## \$10K+

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## **THANKS**

We want to offer a special thank you to the organizations who provided emergency COVID funding, which was key to keeping WHC's residents housed safely throughout this year. We also want to thank our ongoing supporters who continued to stand with us with financial support during this difficult time.

**Abell Foundation** 

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# WOMEN'S HOUSING COALITION

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