SHELTER
HELP
HOPE

BETHLEHEM INN
Gratitude Report 2022
**mission**
Transforming Lives Together
Through Shelter, Help and Hope

**vision**
Ending Homelessness in Central Oregon
Together

**part of the solution**
We thank you for being part of the solution.
Through contributions of time, resources, skill, compassion, and hope, you are making a difference. Positive change is possible. We see it every day at Bethlehem Inn; individuals making the choice to live for a better future.

**land acknowledgment**
The land on which Bethlehem Inn operates is part of the homeland and traditional territory of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.
As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with immense gratitude for the unwavering dedication and partnership of our community as we continue to address the challenge of homelessness. We share our gratitude with all who work together to support this effort. Each and every contribution, whether it is financial, food, or in-kind items, along with time and compassion, makes a positive impact and strengthens our community.

During the height of the pandemic, the Inn’s empathetic and resilient staff enabled the organization to dramatically manage operations to ensure that the vulnerable population we serve remained safe and healthy.

Last year, the Inn seized a new opportunity provided by Project Turnkey/Oregon Community Foundation, Deschutes County and the City of Redmond to expand life affirming services in Central Oregon. With your support the Inn’s case management staff in Bend and Redmond provided effective services employing a trauma-informed lens and motivational techniques resulting in over 4,000 person-to-person resident meetings.

Last, but not least, I thank each of you who partnered with us during this year’s journey. We are humbled by your commitment to the Inn’s mission and are deeply appreciative of your support. We invite you to embark with us on another year together as we continue to pursue innovative solutions to end homelessness.

Gwenn Wysling
Executive Director
“Never in a million years did I think I would be homeless,” says Rick, “but then one day I was.” The Oregon native, father of grown children and former Marine has always had a job. He’s an architectural designer. He’d left Oregon for Montana and worked for a custom home builder who, in Rick’s telling, didn’t pay people on time, a bad situation for folks like Rick living paycheck to paycheck.

The number one reported reason for homelessness in Central Oregon is “economic”.

So he headed back to Oregon where he had secured a job. On the way, his vehicle and all his possessions were stolen. He eventually got to Bend with no transportation and no savings to use toward a rental. And he became homeless.

The irony of it: a homeless designer of homes. Rick learned about Bethlehem Inn, called and was welcomed.

“I was safe and I had a space I could call my own,” says Rick. “They know your name. They’re there for you.” During his stay at the Inn, Rick worked for one of the region’s largest home builders. He was able to start saving. He found a place to live and got a car.

Rick wants people to know about his experience, which he says had nothing to do with crime, drugs or mental illness. He says, “I really want to help people know and understand this side of homelessness. It was not a shining moment but it is part of my life.” And now part of Rick’s life is his job helping design affordable housing which just might prevent other folks from facing possible homelessness.
Amber

"I thought she was a friend." Amber is telling the story of being dropped off at what she was told was a bus stop in Bend on a winter’s evening by a “friend” who told her she’d keep Amber’s belongings safe while Amber made a short trip to Portland. She wasn’t a friend. It wasn’t a bus stop. Her belongings were stolen. Amber was now homeless and going nowhere while the winter night grew colder. Then, a kind worker from a nearby fast food place told Amber that Bethlehem Inn was just up the road and she could get a coat and other essentials there. Amber stopped by the Inn but did not stay. She turned to couch hopping with folks she knew. Then came trouble with the law and jail time. Once out of jail, Amber went back to the Inn, this time to stay.

This year 27% of people experiencing homelessness in Central Oregon are families.

Recently, Amber and her partner welcomed a baby boy, Marques. Inn staff has helped her find resources like access to a housing voucher and Early Head Start for Marques. Amber says, of the Inn and staff: “totally awesome... so very helpful...understanding... accommodating... absolutely non-judgmental.” Amber, her significant other, and baby Marques are headed soon to their own place and a new start on life, thanks to some very real help.
Our Case Managers focus on helping individuals become more self-sufficient, as well as being "rent ready" to ensure they have all the proper documentation and information needed to apply for housing in this tight market. Self-sufficiency looks different for each individual, but encompasses common themes such as housing, safety, income, mental health, and well-being.

This year, staff and residents have come together in 4,010 person-to-person case management meetings. These meetings resulted in an increase in self-sufficiency scores across 70% of our residents. With an increased sense of safety and stability, people at Bethlehem Inn have found new jobs, developed skills, and increased their ability to find housing in Central Oregon.

With your support, our second shelter location in Redmond opened in the Spring of 2022, equipped to support 88 of our most vulnerable neighbors. Residents began utilizing our case management services, receiving three nutritious meals per day, and have a safe, warm bed during their stay.
OPERATING FINANCIALS
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022

Revenues $2,698,407
- Individuals and Businesses 64%
- Government Grants 19%
- Meal Program (In-Kind) 7%
- Foundation/Non-Profit Grants 7%
- Program Contracts 3%

Expenses $1,638,840
- Program Services 67%
- Admin, Tech, Training 23%
- Fundraising 10%

Above financials pending final audit.
PART OF THE SOLUTION

the Bethlehem Inn has been an inspiring and wonderful opportunity for anyone who utilizes the services that they offer. I'm blessed throughout these hard times to have a warm bed and a safe place to lay my head to get to where I need to be.