

TRANSITION HOUSE • 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



2016 Financials

SERVICES AND OVERHEAD

Program	\$2,333,833
Management & General	206,092
Fundraising	187,467
Total	\$2,727,392

INCOME AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Individuals	\$447,232
Foundations	433,500
Corporations	82,305
Federal Government	421,809
State/Local Government	256,031
Churches	30,910
Rental Income	376,975
Fundraising & Events	215,905
In-kind	451,944
Total	\$2,716,611

Transition House Board of Directors

2016

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2017 *new*
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In 2016, Transition House served 199 families with children in our emergency shelter, transitional and permanent supportive housing programs.

Our goal each year is to give homeless families the tools to achieve housing stability by providing life skills and financial literacy training, even as the economic environment changes.

This year, affordable housing remained increasingly hard to come by and public housing assistance in all forms decreased. Still, the number of families we served in our shelter program was larger, along with successful housing outcomes, thanks to our ability to forge connections with landlords who are willing to rent to our clients. Our Rapid Rehousing program, combined with effective, trauma-informed case management and career development services, provided landlords with the assurance that families we refer to their units are receiving support once they move back into the community.

We ended 2016 on solid financial footing and began to build our own safety net by growing the *Transition House Tomorrow Fund*. Our Board of Directors worked diligently to adopt a new investment and spending plan for the *Fund*, and to maintain our greatest assets—our facilities. We completed renovation work at our Casa Marianna apartments, installed air conditioning in the shelter, and secured funding to do modest but necessary upgrades to our offices and classrooms.

In spite of our gains in 2016, we have concern for the future. Looming reprioritization of federal funding with cuts to HUD and FEMA homeless programs stand to wipe out a significant portion of our shelter operating budget if passed. Worse, proposed cuts to safety net programs including healthcare and housing will result in more families becoming homeless, just as safety net cuts in the mid-1980s led to a spike in homelessness, causing local community volunteers to found Transition House.

We hope that our accomplishments in 2016, including improving program effectiveness in the face of increasing challenges, and building our sustainability with thoughtful and careful management of our assets, put us on the best footing possible to respond to potential increases in the number of impoverished families losing their homes. We are grateful for the overwhelming support of our volunteers, our donors, and our local government agencies in our fight against family homelessness.

—Kathleen Baushke, *Executive Director*





Volunteers

In 2016, Transition House had 683 volunteers give over 17,000 hours of time to help families in our program.

Transition House depends heavily on volunteers to make sure our programs run smoothly. One important way that volunteers contribute is to provide dinners and lunches for 70 shelter residents every single day. This adds up to over 50,000 meals every year! These volunteers come to us from various faith and community groups. Volunteers also serve in critical positions in the shelter to provide structure and support to families; tutor school aged children; and do fun activities with the children. Other volunteers organize holiday activities. For example, for Halloween a Girl Scout troop decorated the shelter playground and did a costume drive so every child who wanted to could dress up, and Oceanhills Covenant Church organized an Easter egg hunt at Alice Keck Park Memorial Gardens. We can honestly say that Transition House would not be able to do our work without these critical partners.

SHELTER DINNER PROVIDERS

- Alto Lucero
- All Saints-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church
- Amie Parrish
- Brownie Bunch
- Caley and Friends
- Calvary Chapel of Santa Barbara
- Carpinteria Community Church
- Comfort Food Cooks
- Congregation B'nai B'rith
- Cottage Hospital, 5 South
- El Montecito Presbyterian Church
- First Congregational Church
- First Presbyterian Church
- Feed Your Soul
- Free Methodist Church of Santa Barbara
- From The Heart
- Goleta Presbyterian Church
- Kathy Bailey & Friends
- Knights of Columbus
- Live Oak Unitarian
- Living Faith Church
- Embracing the World
- Friends of Transition House
- Jacob, Linda and Friends
- Montecito Covenant Church
- Nick, Laura, and Friends
- Ocean Hills Covenant Church
- Old Mission of Santa Barbara
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
- Our Lady of Sorrows Church
- Pascucci's Restaurant
- Melinda Rogers
- Santa Barbara Church of Christ
- Santa Barbara Women's Dharma Circle
- Society of Friends, the Quakers
- Space for Dinner
- St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
- St. Anthony's Community Association
- St. Mark United Methodist Church
- Trinity Episcopal Church
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- UCSB Community Affairs Board (CAB)
- UCSB Lions-Club
- Unity of Santa Barbara
- Vedanta Society



In His Own Words...

"For more than fifteen years I have had the pleasure of coordinating the efforts of All Saints-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church parishioners to make second Sunday of the month dinners and sack lunches at the shelter enjoyable and nourishing experiences for shelter residents. An important reason for my desire to continue working with Transition House is the uplift I feel from interacting with your staff members at all levels. Without exception in my experience, they are most personable and highly motivated to do the right things for residents and the organization."

--David Boyd



Family Success Stories in 2016

Nearly 82 percent of families succeeded in transitioning into stable housing, including those who moved to our second stage program, Firehouse.

74 percent of heads of households became employed (or maintained employment) as a result of participating in our program.

45 percent of families saved over \$1,000 towards security deposits and first month's rent; 30 percent of these saved over \$2,000.



Family Emergency Shelter

In 2016, Transition House served 116 families in the emergency shelter.

Families receive safe housing for 90-120 days as well as three meals a day, including dinners and lunches provided by 50 faith and community groups. Case managers and our employment specialist meet with clients weekly, helping them create a monthly budget, manage expenses, save money, and develop skills that increase their earning potential. We offer free professional clothing as well as classes that focus on English as a Second Language, parenting, computer skills, and career development.

Thirty-one percent of successfully housed families moved into a long-term shared housing situation. Given the high cost of rental housing in Santa Barbara, many families find that sharing an apartment or house with another family is the most cost effective way to live. The number of families making this choice increased by 10 percent between 2012 and 2016.

In Her Own Words...

"I thank God for putting [Transition House staff] in my path. They have offered me support, not only financially but also moral support. They have helped me secure many necessities such as new glasses for my poor vision. They also assisted in obtaining needed dental work for [my daughter] Fernanda. Not to mention all the daily necessities, and above all a sense of security. Transition house has welcomed me into their family and they have given me the security and resources needed to move forward. Thank you for encouraging me to move forward because without your unconditional support we would not have made it this far."

-Fernanda



Firehouse and HOMES

Transitional and Permanent Housing

Through our second stage program, Transition House offers six months of transitional housing at the Firehouse for up to six families at a time. When families move to Firehouse from the shelter, they continue to work on education and employment, and participate in the mandatory savings program. Eligible families may then continue to our third stage program, HOMES, where they can live for up to two years in one of 33 Transition House-owned apartments while receiving case management and employment support.

In 2016, Firehouse and HOMES supported 48 families (165 individuals) with affordable housing and case management.



In Her Own Words... *"I would like to heartily thank Transition House for helping me and my sons in our time of need. My boys and I came to the program scared and uncertain of what was to become of us, and even a bit embarrassed of needing help. I came to find out that not one person there judged us or our situation. You gave us the resources to have my boys seen for counseling, which has helped them tremendously. You all helped me to be more confident, and gave me the [attitude] of 'I can do this.' I received the tools to save for emergencies. I am now teaching each of my boys the importance of saving. My boys and I currently are in a three-bedroom house in the community. Thank you for lending an ear to listen when I needed it the most. Bless Transition House and all you have done for my family as well as countless others."*

—Maribel Barrios, HOMES Graduate



In 2016, 44 families moved to permanent housing with the help of Rapid Rehousing assistance.

Rapid Rehousing

Transition House provides families with security deposits and rental assistance to return them to housing quickly. Six months of case management focused on financial literacy is required after they move into housing.

Success Story... *Some tough setbacks brought Barbara and her teenage daughter, Amanda, to Transition House. Barbara's mother had become terminally ill, so Barbara left her job to care for her mother, spending most of her money in the process. Barbara found Transition House, full-time employment, and help in her search for housing from the Landlord Liaison Partnership (LLP), a non-profit that operates under the fiscal sponsorship of Transition House. The LLP found a landlord willing to rent to Barbara, and Transition House's Rapid Rehousing Program provided one year of case management and six months of rental assistance. Barbara maintains an excellent relationship with her landlord and continues to work full-time as a customer service representative for a local company, where she has repeatedly earned employee of the month honors. Amanda continues to excel in advanced placement classes, earning straight-As as a high school senior and is applying to college to become a medical assistant.*

In 2016, Transition House served 375 children through all of our programs, including 228 who resided in our shelter.

29 of the 37 infants in our Infant Care Center received scholarships or other forms of financial assistance.



Children's Programs

Children make up 60 percent of the people living in our emergency shelter. Statistics show that homeless children are twice as likely to have learning disabilities and emotional problems as other children, and less than one in four homeless children graduate from high school. Our programs address these challenges by providing enriching activities and academic support for the children during their stay. Each evening children attend our Technology and Literacy for Children (TLC) program, which engages them in reading through fun books and interesting activities that are relevant to their lives. We offer a weekly teen program with facilitated discussions, artwork, dance, and academic support. Volunteers tutor school aged children four nights a week as well. One of the most important services we offer is free and low-cost care through our licensed Infant Care Center, allowing parents to work full-time knowing that their children are receiving high quality care that responds to the particular challenges these babies face.

In Her Own Words... *"I was a resident of Transition House about 20 years ago. Being a 13-year-old girl and homeless was incredibly challenging. I wanted to be like the other girls, but felt ashamed of being different and didn't want anybody to judge me for being the homeless kid living on welfare. My life in every way was incredibly precarious and everything was out of control. Twenty years ago, if Transition House did not exist, I truly don't know where I would be today, because the other option was to be on the street. I now have everything that I ever hoped and dreamed for, plus so much more. I am very proud that last year, my husband and I accomplished the huge milestone of home ownership. I attribute my success to a combination of hard work, an unwavering determination to succeed, a little luck, great mentors, and many helping hands like Transition House along the way. Transition House is not just a safe place you can sleep. It's really a launching pad equipping families with the right tools to help them succeed on their journey after they leave. I'm blessed to have been able to call it home. Thank you for everything!"*

– Donna Ibarra, Wealth Management Advisor, Merrill Lynch



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