

TRANSITION HOUSE • 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Transition House is dedicated to the solution of family homelessness in the Santa Barbara community. Capable and motivated families with children are offered life tools and respectful, non-sectarian residential services designed to alleviate poverty and restore self-sufficiency and dignity.



Dear Donors and Friends,



2023 was an exciting year at Transition House! We received a large gift, opened three new housing units, formed a new service partnership, and welcomed back volunteers both old and new. Our staff continued to work as diligently as ever to help parents find employment and housing, and to help their children weather the difficult experience of homelessness.

We began the year with a bequest from long-time supporters Brigitte and Michael Seligman. For years, the Seligmans worked with Transition House to ensure that they could provide a legacy of transitional housing for families. The Seligmans left us their treasured family home to sell for this purpose. We sold it earlier this year, and the income provided the cornerstone for a transitional housing project purchase. This funding, along with a very generous gift from the Balay-Ko Foundation plus support from the City of Santa Barbara, was used to make an offer on a 10-unit apartment building in November of 2023. The property will be used for a two-year transitional housing program, just as the Seligmans had hoped.

In June of 2023, we completed extensive renovations on a three-unit complex which we named Buckley-Kelley Place after longtime volunteers Jim Buckley and Patty Kelley. Three grateful families now occupy those homes.

After operating our own onsite infant daycare for many years, we formed a partnership in July of 2023 with Storyteller Children's Center, a highly respected local non-profit that provides childcare for toddlers of homeless and low-income families. Storyteller assumed operations of our daycare center under their license. Transition House is providing our space to Storyteller free-of-charge. The partnership utilizes the best of what each agency has to offer.

Also in 2023, we reinstated the last of our volunteer positions that had been suspended due to the pandemic—our evening shelter screeners. Screeners support the work of case managers by meeting with clients twice a week, in between weekly case management meetings. Screeners gather information for case managers and pass on messages to families, helping to keep clients engaged in their case management plans.

As you will see elsewhere in this report, our donors were incredibly generous in 2023, and for that we are very grateful. As the rental property market continues to send rent prices skyrocketing, our work continues to be very challenging. Your support motivates and inspires us—and the families we serve—to keep striving for solutions to homelessness. We truly appreciate you!

Kathleen Baushke

— Kathleen Baushke
Executive Director



HOW IT WORKS

Transition House's target population is Santa Barbara area homeless families with children, and families and individuals at high risk for homelessness. Our programs include:

Three-Stage Family Housing

Program: The first stage begins with a 120-day stay at our 70-bed emergency shelter. At the shelter, families recover from crises, establish realistic goals with the help of a case manager, work on employment, and begin to save money. The second stage offers transitional housing for anywhere from six months to two years as families continue to gain education and improve employment, and participate in a mandatory savings program. Families with high barriers to stability may continue to our 36-unit, third-stage supportive permanent housing program.

Family Support Services: Our support services are critical to families' success in achieving permanent housing. Parents receive personalized case management and employment services. Parents also attend onsite educational offerings including classes in career development, English as a Second Language, computer skills, financial literacy, and parenting skills. Our program aims to increase wages, advance careers, and increase family stability. We provide referrals for mental and physical health services, recovery, and childcare services, if needed. We try to ensure long-term success by helping eligible clients apply for permanent low-income housing. We also offer emergency rental assistance and continuing case management after families move back to the community, if needed.

Homeless Children's Programs:

School children participate in evening enrichment programs—including a literacy program and tutoring help—that aim to break the cycle of generational poverty for children. Teens are provided a range of social and academic support including help applying for college and financial aid. Infants and toddlers receive free or subsidized daycare through our partnership with Storyteller.

The majority of families we serve cannot keep up with the high cost of rental housing, even if they are employed full-time. The average monthly rent for a two-bedroom apartment in our area is over \$3,800—it is not hard to imagine how a low-wage earner might struggle to remain housed. Transition House's anti-poverty services can change that.



2023 FINANCIALS

INCOME AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Individuals	\$1,124,136
Foundations	933,356
Corporations	91,790
Federal Government	153,659
State/Local Government	344,532
Churches	27,612
Rental Income	538,309
Fundraising & Events	361,674
In-Kind Donations	395,199

Total \$3,970,267

SERVICES AND OVERHEAD

Program	\$2,936,295
Management & General	292,918
Fundraising	296,563

Total \$3,525,776



Our onsite computer lab offers assistance with tasks such as enrolling for healthcare, signing children up for school, and searching for work or housing. In the photo above, the computer lab is open for tax prep assistance, including activities to keep kids busy while Mom and Dad work on filing their taxes.

In the evenings, clients attend onsite classes in career development, parenting skills, financial literacy training, and English as a Second Language. These three ladies just graduated from our employment class series called "Job Club Workshop," where they learned how to look for work, succeed in interviews, and advance in their career.

Compassionate case managers (above left) meet weekly with parents to help them set goals that will enable the family to return to housing. They teach clients how to write monthly budgets, meet savings goals, and juggle parenting responsibilities.



HOW YOU HELPED

590 VOLUNTEERS

You gave thousands of volunteer hours to help homeless families.



1,244 DONORS

Your financial support makes our work possible.

WHO YOU HELPED

82 FAMILIES STAYED IN OUR SHELTER

51 FAMILIES LIVED IN OUR APARTMENTS

89% LOCAL FAMILIES

Most families come from Santa Barbara, Goleta, and Carpinteria.



YOU HELPED 454 PEOPLE IN ALL, including 283 CHILDREN

THE IMPACT YOU HAD

75% SUCCESS RATE

The majority of shelter families succeeded in transitioning to stable housing.



92% EMPLOYED

Nearly all parents gained or maintained a job while in our program.

\$3,552 SAVINGS

On average, shelter families saved this amount toward move-in costs.



Transition House's two generation approach to addressing poverty includes offering a multitude of age-appropriate programming for infants, toddlers, school-aged children, and teenagers. Transition House staff members work with the school district and other social service agencies to provide resources children need to overcome the trauma and negative impacts of homelessness.



Comfort Food Cooks

DINNER PROVIDERS

(Date signifies year service began)

All Saints-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 1985
 Amazon, 2017
 Beatitudes, 2023
 Buen Provecho, 2019
 Cambridge Drive Community Church, 1984
 Comfort Food Cooks, 2015
 Congregation B'nai B'rith, 1984
 Cottage Hospital 5 South, 2014
 El Montecito Presbyterian Church, 1988
 Embracing the World, 2017
 Feed Your Soul, 2017
 First Congregational Church, 1985
 First Presbyterian Church of Santa Barbara, 1984
 Free Methodist Church, 2014
 From the Heart, 2015
 Goleta Presbyterian Church, 1984
 Good Food Cooks, 2023
 Knights of Columbus 1684, 1989
 Live Oak Unitarian Universalist, 1987
 Living Faith Church, 1988
 Montecito Covenant Church, 1986
 Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, 1990
 Ocean Hills Covenant Church, 2014
 Pickle 'N Friends, 2023
 Renegades Soccer Club, 2022
 Salud Supper Club, 2023
 Space for Dinner, 2015
 Spiritualist Church of the Comforter, 2018
 St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1991
 St. Anthony's Community Association, 1986
 St. Barbara Parish, 1985
 St. Mark's University Parish, 2018
 Team Tank Fillers, 2023
 Team Chumash, 2019
 Trinity Episcopal Church, 1984
 Trinity Lutheran Church, 1985
 Unity Church of Santa Barbara, 1984
 Vedanta Society of Southern California, 1985
 Waypoint Church, 2004

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In 2023, Transition House parents and children benefitted from community donations of time and talent.

Over 600 individuals and businesses helped Transition House deliver services and support to our residents—from meals to birthday parties, to back-to-school supplies and tutoring, along with clothing for work, and holiday celebrations. The community also brought enriching experiences to the shelter like the visit from Santa Barbara Therapy Dogs pictured above. Our residents and children also benefit from Career Days that include visits from local fire department, law enforcement, education and health care providers.



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