



2 HOME OF SOMERSET COUNTY, INC. 2

ANNUAL REPORT

From the Executive Director



Our network continues to rise to meet the changing needs of our community. Our ability to adapt and assist in removing barriers that improve human dignity remains one of our top strengths. This is done through advocacy and action. HOME empowers our community by providing the simplest basic needs. This is life-changing for families who are grappling with trauma, poverty and homelessness. Through diverse programming that addresses housing and financial instability, families who seek our help have the unique opportunity to find support from their entire community. We are tasked with providing these services 365 days a year, regardless of the circumstances. For example, our 30th Anniversary Gala was a testimony to the many helping hands that have led to our successful, longstanding mission. We thank all who value and contribute to our mission! It is only with the support from you, this community that HOME continues to thrive.

With much gratitude,
Alyssa Martini
Executive Director



Message from the from the Board of Trustees

When I think of HOME, I think of our diverse community working together to support other members who have fallen on hardships that have led to temporary loss of shelter.

Our organization, Home, is truly that, a COMMUNITY... each member is unique, comes from a different place in life's journey, and with their own point of views. Yet, when partnering for HOME, we willingly come together to share our talents and offer our time, always with a smile. We are all uplifted at the end of the day because we are united in our purpose to support these special families. Our diversity brings us strength.

Over the last year, as we re-ignited the Emergency Shelter program, we found strength in our volunteers, congregations and supporters who "made it work." Although, sometimes imperfect, we always are compassionate and heartfelt. We each do in our own way what we could to make each day better and a little easier for our families in need.

We heard many personal success stories at our 30th anniversary celebration this past October where we honored our founder, Kathy Savo, the parishioners of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, long-time benefactor the Arthur E. and Elizabeth B Roswell Foundation and our miracle maker Chris Perini of Drivers Tire and Service Center. We continue to be inspired by their commitment and generosity.

This generosity extends to our staff -- Alyssa, Karen, Kayla, Elyse, Gregio and Roberta-- who continue to be an inspiration; their dedication to our families is immeasurable as they pave the way so independence is in within reach.

If you are new to HOME and are still learning how you can contribute to this thriving community, I encourage you to read this report. We have many opportunities for volunteers to help our agency grow.

I'm confident you will find your place at HOME.

Dottie Driscoll
President, Board of Trustees



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Our Volunteer Impact

In 2022, you responded to the needs of 44 families in our emergency shelter and continuum of care programs.

Shelter

- 18 Host congregations
- 20 Support congregations

Resources

- 595 Nights of shelter
- 8,000+ Meals

Community Outreach

- Food security assistance
- Basic needs support
- Housing supplies
- Clothing & furniture
- Transportation assistance
- Tutoring services
- Back-to-school supplies
- Holiday support

Time

- 2,500+ volunteer hours
- Over 1,000 volunteers



Our Continuum of Care Empowers



Safe Shelter

Our Emergency Shelter provides housing, meals and basic needs through interfaith congregational hosting and support. Case management, financial counseling, mental health evaluation and community resource referrals are offered to families to increase life skills and access to resources.

- 3 families served
- 7 individuals, 3 children
- 1,517 hours of case management



Transitional Housing

Sunrise House, located in Bridgewater, accommodates families who were previously in our Emergency Shelter and have prepared themselves for independence but find themselves stalled by the search for permanent, affordable housing. Individualized case plans are created, and basic needs are subsidized as families work on educational and employment goals.

- 2 families served
- 2 adults, 3 children
- 1 adult completed an Associate's degree
- 1 adult maintained full-time employment
- 607 hours of case management



Supportive Services Phase 2 offers 18 months of continuing case management and support to clients who have transitioned to independent housing. This fills an identified gap in services to support newly housed families and prevent relapse back into homelessness.

- 20 families served
- 55 individuals, 31 children
- 16 single mothers
- 12 adults employed
- 911 hours of case management

Rapid Rehousing serves clients who have achieved independent housing but are considered at high risk of relapse back into homelessness. Clients receive individualized case management, financial counseling, basic needs support and mental health services.

- 2 families served
- All adults employed
- 29.50 hours of case management

Sound Minds provides all clients, children and adults, with a psychiatric evaluation, mental health counseling and crisis intervention. Our counselor provides direct services to clients at our host congregations, as well as in-home counseling. All adults and children have access to mental health services and participate in consistent counseling. Eleven families participated in family therapy.



Daycare Plus funds children, infant through age five, to attend licensed and age-appropriate childcare and preschool at the Somerville YMCA at no cost to the parent(s). We offer this program service in partnership with the YMCA, which provides 50% of tuition scholarships to our referred children. HOME funds the additional 50% while offering case management and transportation from the program. Due to Covid-19, no children were placed at the YMCA in 2022.

Neighbors In Need provides families living independently with case management and financial counseling resources that are aimed at housing and family stability. Mental health services, basic needs and food security supplementation help these families remain independent.

- 17 families served
- 37 individuals, 20 children
- High focus on food security and mental health services
- 535 hours of case management





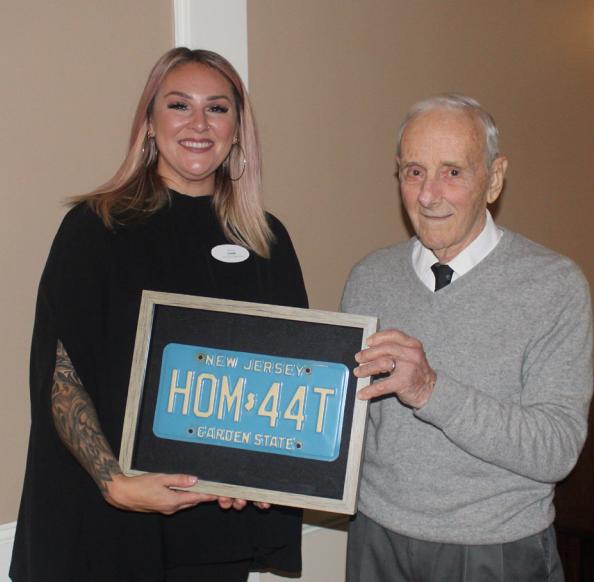
Clients Who Inspire

After having to pause our emergency shelter due to the pandemic, HOME was excited to reopen for new family intakes in June 2022. Grieving the recent passing of their mother, sisters Nicole and Francesca found themselves suddenly homeless and living in their car with their dog, Tyson. After contacting HOME and sharing their journey, it was immediately apparent that this was where they were supposed to be. Both women quickly become employed and staff coordinated a safe temporary home for their beloved dog so that they did not have to lose another family member. Nicole and Francesca took every opportunity to meet volunteers, share stories and truly gain a second family through HOME. They secured independent housing, were able to bring home Tyson and continue in our Phase 2 program.





30th Anniversary Gala



On Thursday, October 13, 2022, HOME celebrated 30 years of serving at-risk families in Somerset County. This milestone was joyfully celebrated with a gala held at the Raritan Valley Country Club. It was an evening filled with familiar faces, inspiring action and community hope.



Our honorees for the evening included:
Beacon Award Chris Perini, Drivers Tire and Service Center;
Inspiration Award The Arthur E. and Elizabeth B. Roswell Foundation;
Faith In Action Award St. Bernard of Clairvaux Roman Catholic Church;
Bill Jonat Memorial Award Kathy Savo.





A Community That Cares



Our partnerships throughout our community continued to benefit our at-risk families in 2022.

Shimon and Sara Birnbaum Jewish Community Center in Bridgewater generously offered five of our HOME children summer camp scholarships to provide enrichment and recreation during the summer months.

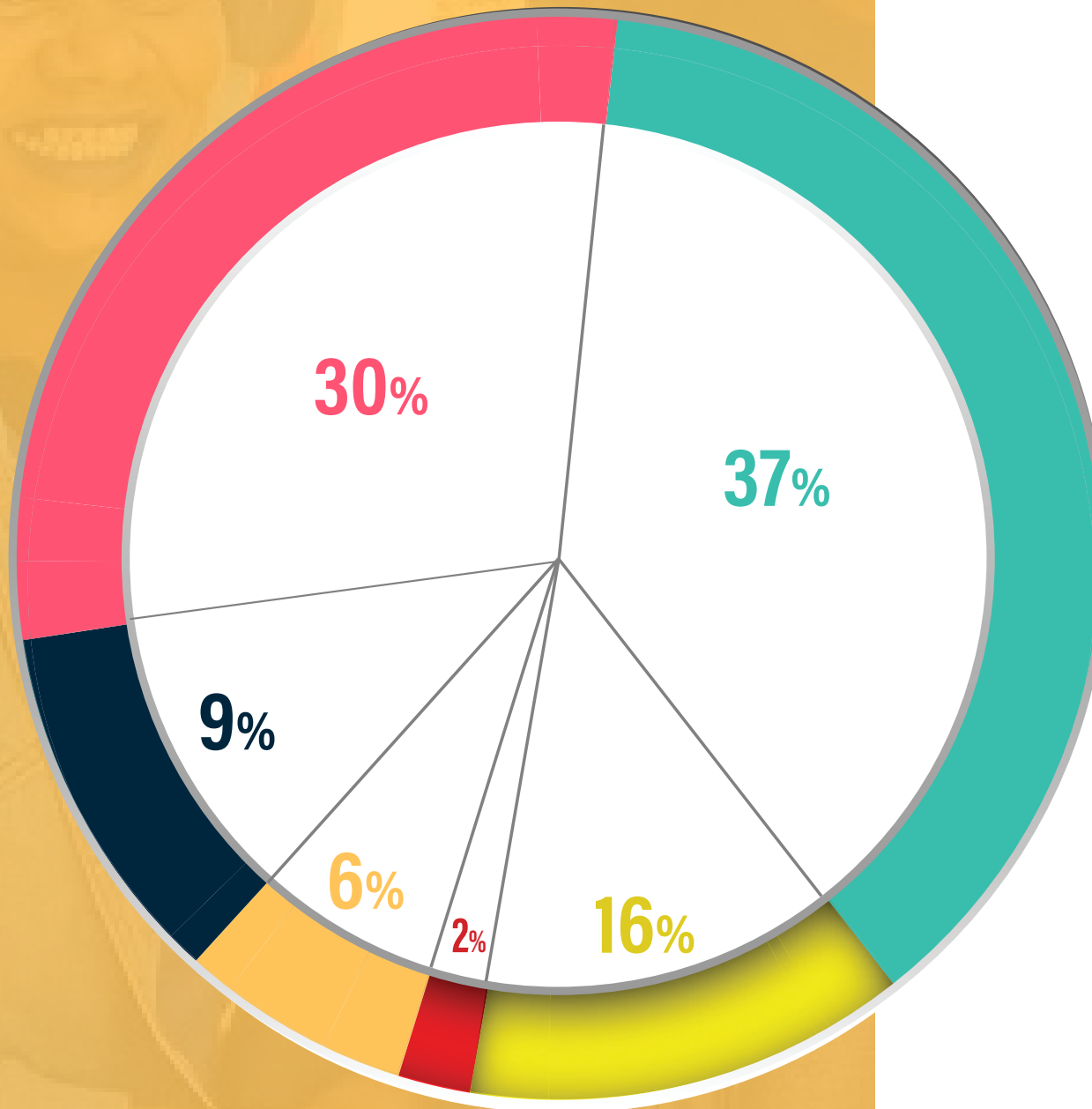
Manville Shop with a Cop provided a community connection for children and local law enforcement, as they shopped for holiday gifts together.

Gateway Gives Back! ensured that all of HOME kids were well-equipped for the school year.

Our food security initiative remained an important focus as several community groups including Bound Brook Presbyterian Church and Share My Meals donated resources on a weekly basis.



2022 Funding Sources



Our Financial Contributors

- Corporate
- Individuals
- Religious Orgs
- United Way
- Government
- Client Self Help

