



Report to the Community 2016



THE SHARING COMMUNITY, INC. began in 1983 as a community-based soup kitchen and homeless shelter in space borrowed from local churches. St. John's Episcopal Church-Getty Square and St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church led this faith-based effort by community and religious groups to address the rising tide of poverty and homelessness in southwest Yonkers. Since becoming an independent 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation in 1984, THE SHARING COMMUNITY is now one of Westchester County's largest minority-controlled organizations.

Over the years that original soup kitchen and shelter moved into its own space and developed a broad array of supplemental services to meet the changing needs of our community. We believe, then as now, that truly helping the homeless requires addressing the factors that may have contributed to their becoming homeless. We currently offer three shelter programs, permanent and transitional housing, HIV/AIDS prevention education, and case management- all in addition to the kitchen and shelter with which we began. In collaboration with several neighborhood institutions and other providers, we are also able to offer on-site health and mental health clinics. We have constructed two new housing facilities, renovated our central service center, and currently operate out of four separate locations.

Our Mission

The Sharing Community, Inc. is a non-sectarian **COMMUNITY-BASED** organization that racially and ethnically reflects the community we serve.

We seek to inspire **HOPE** where often pain, depression, and feelings of hopelessness are real for people who are ill, or have no home, inadequate food supplies, no job, or who lack job training.

We **BELIEVE** in the **DIGNITY** of every person, and therefore accept the **RESPONSIBILITY** to **CARE** for and **NURTURE** those in need,

by **PROVIDING** housing, community shelters, and meals, along with the widest possible array of outreach and supportive services, delivered according to the highest professional standards;

by **LINKING** those in need with supportive services available elsewhere;

by **DEVELOPING** new resources and programs to address the unmet needs in our community, as they may from time to time be identified;

by seeking to give **VOICE** to the concerns and needs of the downtrodden; and

by working to enable people to live **RESPONSIBLY** and independently with the ability to **SPEAK CLEARLY THEIR OWN CONCERNS**.

Our Service Continuum: FOOD SERVICES

Since our founding, The Sharing Community has provided food to people in need. As with many of our programs, our food services have expanded and evolved in the past two decades. This past year we served more than 80,491 meals. As is the case all over the country, the need for Soup Kitchens and food banks has risen greatly during this prolonged economic downturn. Our menus are carefully prepared and supervised by a nutritionist.

Our Programs:

shelter

- transitional shelter
- emergency/overnight shelters (2)

food & nutrition

- soup kitchen
- meals for supportive housing clients

supportive housing

- Travers House
- Locust Hill
- Broadway Manor
- rent subsidies

HIV/AIDS

- Outreach & Education
- harm reduction
- counseling & testing
- transitional case management
- medical case management

homeless outreach

- H.O.S.T. Program

health care

- Mt. Vernon NHC Primary Care Clinic
- nutrition counseling

mental health

- WestCARES Scatter-Site Apartment Program
- St. Joseph's Satellite Mental Health Clinic

Soup Kitchen

Until September of 2016 our commercial kitchen at 1 Hudson Street provided a hot, nutritious, midday meal seven days a week, 365 days a year, to 100 to 200 community residents each day—a total of more than 49,381 meals annually. Beginning in September of 2016, meals are served 5 days a week due to inadequate funding. We begin serving at 12:30 p.m. and continue until approximately 2:00, until everyone has eaten. Religious or community groups provide many of the soup kitchen meals (see below), supplemented by private contributions and fund-raising. The Soup Kitchen has NEVER been closed. On holidays, during blizzards, hurricanes, no matter...our dedicated staff and volunteers have opened the doors and served lunch every day as scheduled. *(Funded by generous donations from local individuals, groups and churches. Special thanks to the Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation, Michael and Robin Psaros Family Foundation,, and the Food Bank for Westchester.)*

Meal Services

Our soup kitchen also provides meals to the residents of our transitional housing facilities, and our shelter at 1 Hudson Street 365 days per year. Additionally, whenever the temperature is 32 degrees or lower, our drop-in center remains open 24 hours and provides Breakfast and Dinner meals to up to an additional 100 people a day. *(Funded in part by the Westchester County Department of Social Services, and New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance)*

Holiday Meals

Each year we provide special Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for more than 300 homeless and hungry guests. (See photos below.) Along with “all the holiday trimmings” we also provide entertainment and a friendly place to help provide a sense of community and family on these special days. These dinners could not be accomplished without the efforts of more than 100 local volunteers; a shining example of a community pulling together to not only feed people, but to let them know that people *care* about them. *(Funded in part from many community donations.)*



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Our Service Continuum: SHELTER

Providing “shelter” continues to be an important part of our efforts, as it has been since our founding in 1983. Although “shelter” now takes on many different forms, the common thread for all of these efforts is the need for people to take refuge, and feel safe and supported. The goal of our programs are to use supportive services to help clients conquer issues that may have led to their being homeless, while trying to move people along a continuum towards more stable housing (emergency, transitional, and on to permanent housing.)

Transitional Shelter

Over our thirty-four years of providing shelter to homeless single individuals, we have developed a service-intensive shelter model, in which not only a bed, but case management, mental health, health, substance abuse, and housing counseling—as well as three nutritious meals each day—are all available under one roof. Current shelter capacity is 19 beds. Each guest is provided an array of supportive services to assist them in addressing issues which caused or contributed to their becoming homeless. *(Funded by the Westchester County Department of Social Services.)*

Emergency Shelters

The Sharing Community has the capacity to provide overnight accommodations for individuals who need shelter on an emergency basis and do not have access to the county’s contract shelter system (individuals who are undocumented, sanctioned, new to the system, or otherwise ineligible.) We operate two such facilities – on the ground floor at Broadway Manor, and at our main site on Hudson Street. In 2016 an average of 67 people used these three sites each night, for a total of 24,000 safe nights’ sleep. *(Funded by the Westchester County Department of Social Services.)*



Permanent and Transitional Housing

We offer a variety of permanent and transitional housing options—over 120 units in all—for individuals and families with special needs. Each provides housing for a slightly different target population, with specialized programs and supportive services to meet their needs. *(Funded by rent payments, the Westchester County Department of Social Services, New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, the Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Municipal Housing Authority-City of Yonkers.)*

Locust Hill

Sixteen studio apartments — all permanent housing — for single homeless individuals, plus four family units. Case management and support services are also included (photo top left).



Travers House

24 one-bedroom shared apartments; 14 transitional and 30 permanent beds for single individuals. Case management and support services are also included (photo at left).



Broadway Manor

A historic building currently under renovation will provide 25 permanent SRO-type rooms. This facility also provides a 30 bed Emergency overnight drop-in shelter (photo bottom left).

Our Service Continuum: OUTREACH

The Sharing Community reaches out into the community to actively seek out individuals that need help with homelessness, substance abuse, mental health and variety of HIV/AIDS issues — we offer resources, including education and prevention, designed to reduce risks to their health. We seek out those who are engaged in high-risk activities and provide them with HIV education and prevention strategies and assist them in getting into treatment. Other teams assist unsheltered homeless individuals in finding the solutions they need to cope with life on the streets until they are ready and able to seek shelter.

Homeless Outreach Service Team Project (HOST)

As the number of people facing job loss and eviction grows there is a resurgent need for outreach into the community. Our HOST Project continued to work to help homeless people re-enter the service system. They engage unsheltered homeless individuals and provide rapid assessment and advocacy to help provide them with shelter or food, admission to medical or psychiatric care, or referrals to substance abuse treatment, or immigration issues. In 2016, our team assisted more than 900 area residents. This program was discontinued in May 2016 due to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development funding policy changes and annual Federal funding cuts to their budget. *(Funded by the Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the NY State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance.)*

HIV Outreach & Prevention Education

The Sharing Community has enhanced HIV initiatives to help battle the spread of the HIV pandemic. Prevention education is now delivered in single and group presentations...



Women's Initiative

We engage sexually active individuals to reduce the possibilities of contracting sexually transmitted diseases. Our Health Specialists offer group interventions designed to reduce risky behaviors among heterosexual African-American and Latino women and teaches them the importance of being tested for HIV and hepatitis. We also provide couples counseling and one-to-one harm reduction interventions to those who require a more individualized setting to enable them to be linked to community services. The Sharing community collaborates with the Westchester County Department of Health, C.O.P.E., and Hudson Valley Community Services, for HIV and HepC testing on site. *(Funded by the New York State Department of Health, AIDS Institute)*



Case Management

All of our programs—from permanent housing to street outreach—have case management components to assist our tenants, clients and guests in navigating the increasingly complex system of social services, health care, treatment, and community resources. Our case managers often assume the role of advocate for the people we serve; assuring that the system is responsive and is providing the full measure of support that is required or possible.

Please Support The Sharing Community

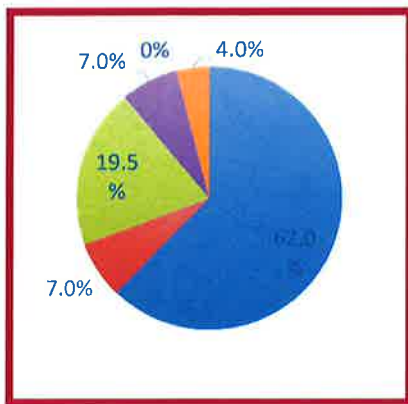
As you might imagine, it has been a challenging year for us, as it has been for many people in our community. As unemployment remains high, there are more people in need of food, shelter and support. Much of our funding comes from state and local governments, which have their own difficult budget issues to face. What that means is that we've had to learn how to "do more, with less." In these times, we need your help to continue to meet the increasing demands for our services. Please be generous. We use *every dollar* of private support for direct services to our guests and/or clients. This means that **100%** of your contribution is applied to services for the people we serve.

Send your tax-deductible contribution to:



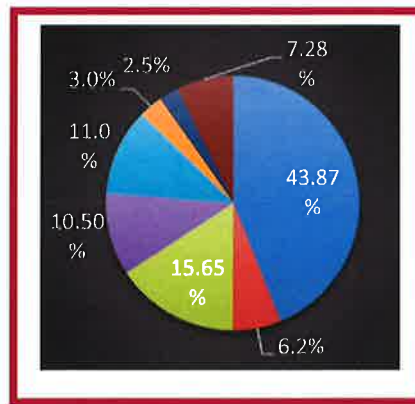
If you prefer, you can donate on-line by visiting us at www.thesharingcommunity.org and click on "Donate".

Sources of Our Support and Where It Goes



2016 INCOME

62.0% - Westchester County
 7.0% - New York State
 19.5% - Federal
 7.0% - Generated Revenues
 0.0% - City of Yonkers
 4.0% - Contributions



2010 EXPENSES

43.87% - Salaries & Wages
 6.2% - Food & Program Supplies
 15.65% - Taxes & Fringe Benefits
 10.5% - Rent & Utilities
 11.0% - Rent Subsidy/Eviction Prevention
 3.0% - Professional & Contract Services
 2.5% - Maintenance & Repair
 7.28% - Office & Telephone

The Sharing Community is a not-for-profit organization incorporated under the laws of New York State, and is a tax-exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3).

The Sharing Community received its major funding in 2010 from contracts with county, state and federal government agencies: Westchester County's Department of Social Services; the Westchester County Department of Community and Mental Health; the Westchester County Department of Health (with federal Ryan White funds); the New York State Department of Health-AIDS Institute; the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance; the Center for Disease Control, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The City of Yonkers provides federal "pass-through" dollars from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, as does the City of Yonkers Municipal Housing Authority.

No contract, however, provides total funding for our programs. We rely on support from private sources such as our local religious communities, service groups and from the generosity of individual contributors and friends to fill the gaps. This is especially true during this economic recession, as government agencies cope with their own budget shortfalls. Our programs are also supplemented by many donations of goods and services, not only at the holidays, but throughout the year.

We exist to help people in our community, so we spend the majority--well over 80%-- of our budget on meeting the needs of our clients. Much of this is in the form of direct service personnel— case managers, client care workers, counselors, cooks, outreach workers, educators, drivers and the like. The majority our staff come from the community, so, in a very real way, we are creating economic development for southwest Yonkers.

A word about this year's Report to the Community: In many past years the printed report was much longer. We reduced it to 8 pages again this year as part of an overall "belt-tightening" to cut expenses in these difficult times. Our staff has worked hard all year to cope with budget cuts while still addressing the greater demand for our services. Although this report is smaller, our efforts were not! One of the things we left out of this report was our lists of generous donors (of much needed funds as well as of goods and services.) We wouldn't exist without this support. Please know that each and every contribution is greatly appreciated, and that we count on your continued support.

Our Dedicated Volunteers

The Sharing Community came into being due to strong local volunteer support. Without this support we never could have begun, and without the continuing generosity of our volunteers and friends, we could not have accomplished what we have. One day each month the following religious and community groups provided midday meals for our soup kitchen:

Ardley United Methodist Church
Christ Church, Riverdale
Church of the Annunciation, Tuckahoe*
Church of the Immaculate Conception, Irvington
Hastings Helps the Hungry
Holy Trinity, Yonkers
Korean New Hope Reformed Church
Our Lady of Sorrows, White Plains
Parish of Christ the King

Sacred Heart Church
St. Bartholomew's Church
St. Eugene's Roman Catholic Church
St. Gabriel's Church, Riverdale
St. Patrick's Church, Yorktown*
Temple Beth Shalom, Hastings
Temple Israel, White Plains
Temple Mishkan Ha'am
The Reformed Church of Bronxville



* - Note: The Church of the Annunciation and St. Patrick's, Yorktown, provide two (2!) meals each month.

The following individuals volunteered several days a week: Alicia Edwards and Alexander Cruz.

In addition, this past year the Westchester Association of Retarded Citizens volunteered three days each week. . A sincere 'thank you' to all!



In 2016 at The Sharing Community...

Last year, more than 400 different single homeless individuals found shelter or housing with supportive services; including nutritious meals, medical care, mental health and/or substance abuse counseling, as well as case management services.

400+

More than 80,491 nutritious meals served by our kitchen at 1 Hudson Street—over 7,458 *each month*-- were prepared and served to soup kitchen guests, shelter clients, and residents of our housing facilities. Unfortunately, the soup kitchen is now only open 5 days a week instead of 7 due to funding and budgetary constraints.

80,491+

160

On average, 160 people came to our Soup Kitchen each day during 2016. The need for these meals has grown by more than 30% since the start of the recession in late-2008. The kitchen was able to open EVERY day last year, including on the days in which we had major storms. However beginning in September of 2016 we were forced to reduce meal service to 5 days a week.

900+

More than nine hundred different unsheltered homeless individuals were engaged by our HOST workers on the streets of southwest Yonkers or at our Hudson Street site, 916 to be exact. Our workers provided shelter referrals, domestic violence interventions, detox and medical referrals, food pantry and food stamp assistance, and entitlements advocacy.

12,190+

1

The number of days since The Sharing Community first opened our doors to help those in need in 1983. Every one of those days built on the combined efforts of staff, volunteers, supporters, and the community as a whole.

As in "one at a time." In reality, this is the key number in how we try to help people. One meal, one bed, one referral, one person, one mission....one community.

#1 Hudson Street - 914/963.2626
Broadway Manor - 914/476.4864
Travers House - 914/963.4063
Locust Hill - 914/378.1739

THE SHARING COMMUNITY INC.
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