



# St. Francis House

*Creating New Futures for Children and Families*

## Annual Report

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### 2020





### 2020 IN REVIEW:

*“Nobody told me there’d be days like these.” ~ JOHN LENNON*

That’s 2020 in a nutshell. Because of your support, St. Francis House served single women and families with children at 100% of our shelter capacity in 2020. Our unsheltered homeless continued to receive meals and support services without interruption.

#### OUR 2020 COVID CHALLENGES

- 🌀 Increased cost for PPE expenses.
- 🌀 Relocation of our daily meal service to outside to safely accommodate the maximum number of homeless.
- 🌀 Increased food and food-supply associated costs.
- 🌀 Per CDC guidelines, reductions in our ability to accept in-kind donations of clothing, blankets, etc.
- 🌀 Reduction in our volunteer force. Following CDC and HUD guidelines, we suspended our in-house volunteer programs. This resulted in a loss of \$259,200 in volunteer-provided services.
- 🌀 Church donations decreased by 20%.



*Lauri Schiffbauer, Executive Director*

#### OUR 2020 REASONS FOR GRATITUDE

- 🌀 Nationwide granted us \$20,000 to help offset unexpected COVID-19 expenses.
- 🌀 United Way helped us support individuals/families affected by COVID-19 with rent/utility assistance.
- 🌀 Best Restoration built and donated a temporary shelter for our outdoor meal service.
- 🌀 Community volunteers followed CDC guidelines and continued to deliver (but not serve) evening meals for the women and families with children in our shelter.
- 🌀 Alachua County granted us \$175,000 through the CARES Act to offset additional COVID-19 expenses and decreases in donated essential items for our homeless guests. Additionally, CARES Act funding provided an infrastructure for us to provide virtual learning and program opportunities, as well as a permanent structure for our outdoor daily meal service.
- 🌀 Individual giving increased by roughly 15%. Thank you!!!!
- 🌀 We have a new look! We updated our website and logo thanks to professional donated services.
- 🌀 St. Francis House served 108 families with 159 children through all programs, and 97% remain permanently housed.
- 🌀 Arbor House provides affordable transitional housing for very low-income and homeless single women and single women with children. In 2020, 85% of the residents secured permanent housing upon exit of the program.
- 🌀 Sunrise Residence Inn provides affordable permanent housing for homeless and very low-income single men and women. Through a partnership with Alachua County Housing Authority, 31 out of 33 residents receive housing vouchers. Residents pay no more than 30% of their income toward rent and utilities. In 2020, 100% of the residents remained permanently housed.

#### OUR 2020 NEW INITIATIVES

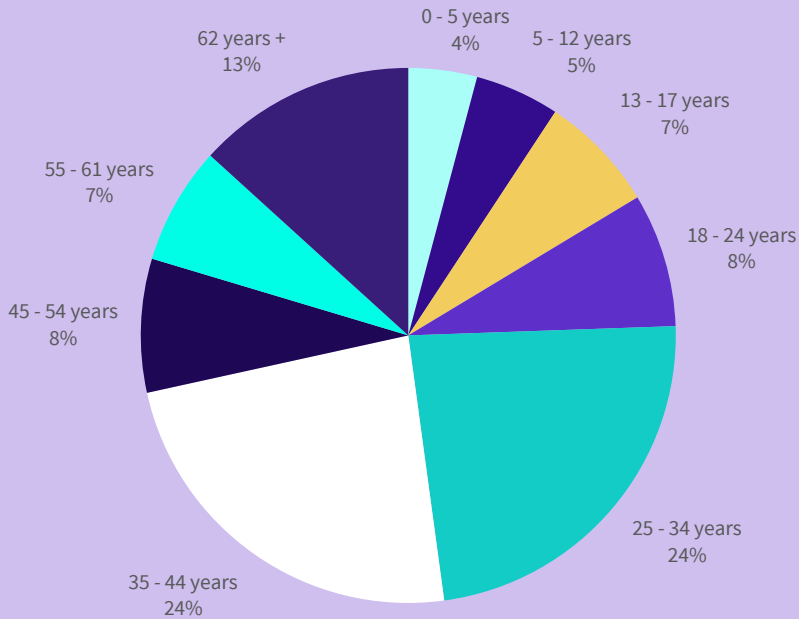
- 🌀 Our tenant-based rental assistance program is a partnership with Alachua County schools, United Way, and Alachua County Housing Authority. This partnership provided 25 homeless families with housing vouchers.
- 🌀 Our rural street outreach program serves the rural counties surrounding Alachua County. In just 3 months we assisted 45 homeless individuals/families with permanent housing or becoming document ready for permanent housing.

**While 2020 brought many challenges, our reasons for gratitude far outweigh our challenges. The flexibility and understanding shown by the community are overwhelming thank you so much to our community supporters and partners for being there when we needed you most. Because of you, we were able to continue to serve our homeless and hungry in 2020.**

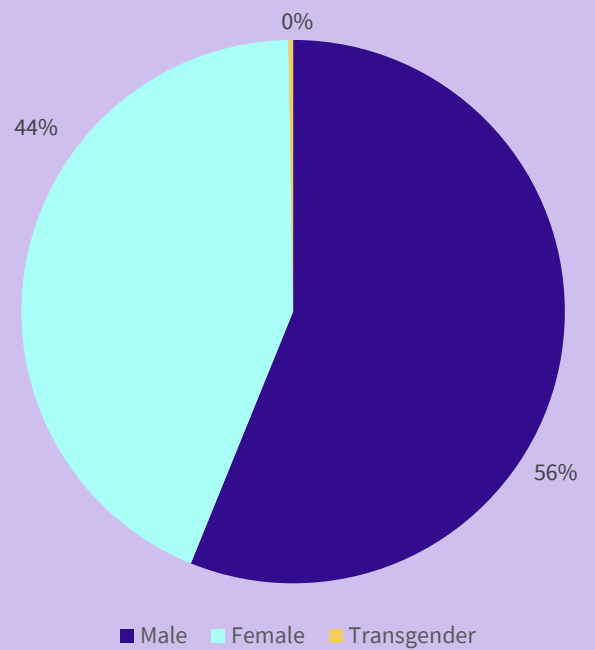


## HOMELESSNESS IN OUR COMMUNITY

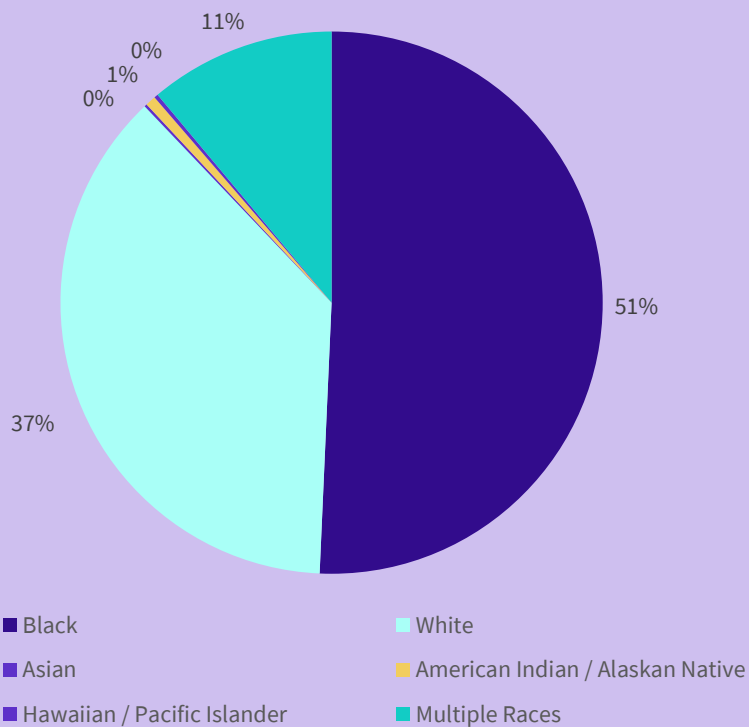
**Ages**



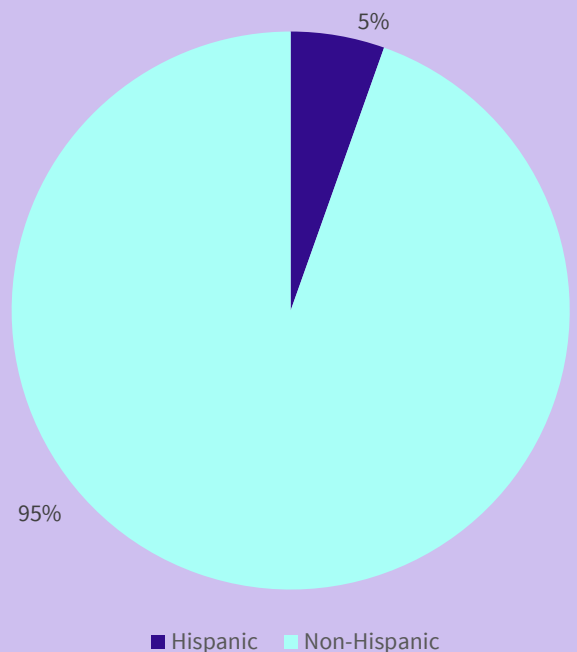
**Gender**



**Race**



**Ethnicity**

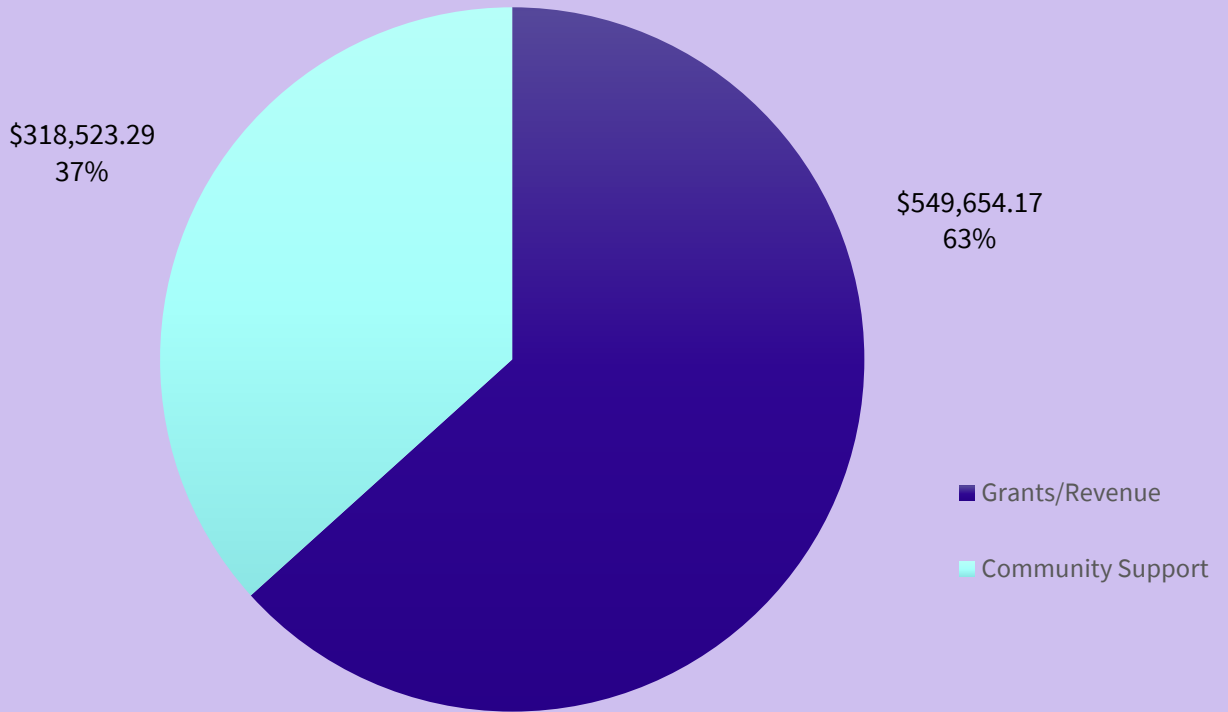


*\*based on guests served by St. Francis House in 2020*

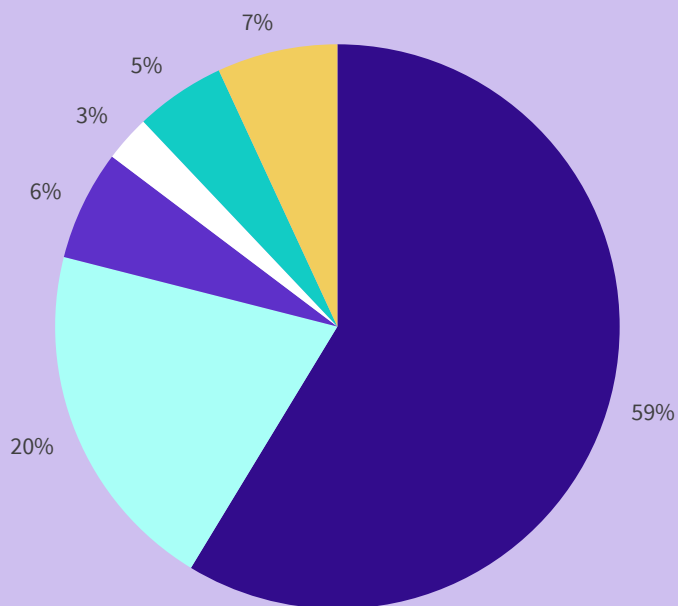


## FINANCIALS

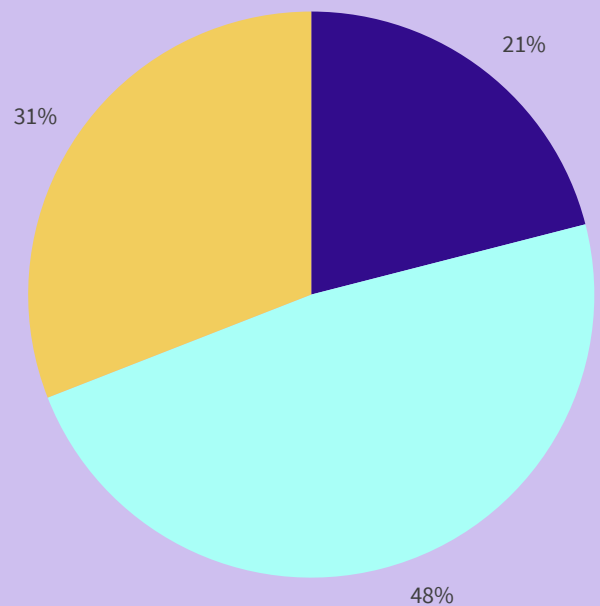
Total Revenue



Direct Community Support



Grants & Program Revenue



■ Individuals   ■ Foundations   ■ Churches  
■ Businessess   ■ Trusts   ■ Board Contributions

■ United Way   ■ Grants   ■ Program Revenue



## COMMUNITY IMPACT



1,457

TOTAL GUESTS ASSISTED



61,970

MEALS PROVIDED



126,356

SERVICES ACCESSED



108

FAMILIES HOUSED



159

CHILDREN SERVED

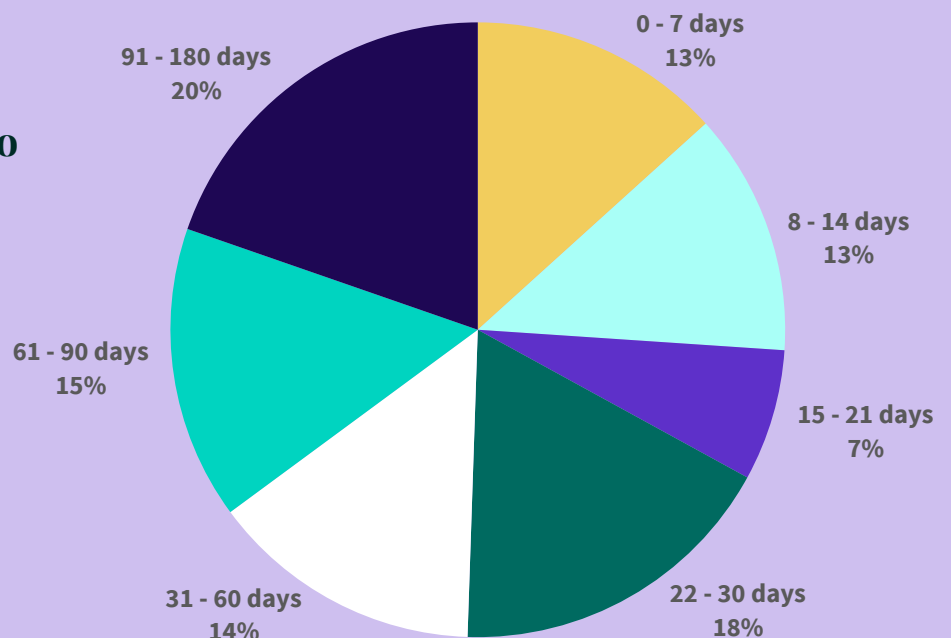


97%

REMAIN IN PERMANENT HOUSING

Based on results from the annual Point-in-Time count that is conducted each January by Continuums of Care across the nation, it is estimated that there are over **150 homeless families** in Alachua County on any given night. In the state of Florida, there are almost **7,100 families** facing homelessness. Approximately **80%** are encountering homelessness for the first time.

**Families who stayed at St. Francis House moved into permanent housing within:**







## THE BENEFITS OF CASE MANAGEMENT



Assisting guests in gaining work opportunities

Encouraging families to set realistic goals and overcome obstacles



Establishing individualized case management plans



Helping guests find permanent, stable housing



Partnering with community providers to offer guests resources



Providing children and families safe and secure shelter



Reducing the number of families living in places not meant for habitation



Supporting our community by providing daily public meals and services





## SUCCESS STORY

### *A NEW START*



Jennifer and her husband, Frank, arrived at St. Francis House when her complicated pregnancy and subsequent medical bills caused them to lose their housing. Frank quit his job of over ten years to take care of Jennifer and their 8-year-old son, Louie, who was homeschooled. As Jennifer's pregnancy complications worsened, so did Frank's mental health. The family was able to survive on their savings for a few months, but they were evicted from their home just before Jennifer gave birth. Their son, Andrew, was born two and a half months early. Plans were made for their older son, Louie, to be temporarily housed with family members until they could get into a shelter. The family's case manager from the hospital referred Jennifer and Frank to St. Francis House.

Jennifer and Frank moved into St. Francis House and were reunited with Louie one week later, while Andrew needed to stay in the NICU at Shand's Hospital until he became stable enough to be released. While at St. Francis House, the case managers helped Frank discover that he qualified for SSVF (Supportive Services for Veteran Families) and was eligible to receive assistance for his disability. The family moved out of St. Francis House and into permanent housing a few weeks after their son, Andrew, was discharged from the hospital. Both Jennifer and Frank still receive follow-up case management from St. Francis House, which they say is a benefit for them and their boys. It helps guide them through confusing situations that they never had to deal with before. Jennifer has resumed homeschooling Louie, who is now in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Andrew is receiving physical therapy to help build his strength. The staff at St. Francis House know the family will continue to thrive in these tough times together.

*\*fictional names*







## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2021...

St. Francis House is continuing to follow the local, state, and federal procedures concerning COVID-19, therefore the suspension of in-house volunteer opportunities has been extended until it is safe to resume again. Please make sure to follow us on Facebook ([@stfrancishousegnv](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancishousegnv)) and on our website ([stfrancishousegnv.com](https://stfrancishousegnv.com)) for the latest updates concerning volunteers and donations.



If you are interested in providing an evening meal to our overnight shelter guests, please contact Katelyn Drummet at [katelynd@stfrancishousegnv.com](mailto:katelynd@stfrancishousegnv.com) or 352-378-9079 x317 for more information.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS:



Gainesville.  
Citizen centered  
People empowered



St. Francis House





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[stfrancishousegnv.com](http://stfrancishousegnv.com)

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