2022
WINGS HOMELESS ADVOCACY

Impact Report
Wings
Letter from the ED

“Another world is not only possible, she is on her way. On a quiet day I can hear her breathing.”
– Arundhati Roy

People occasionally ask me “How do you do this work without getting overwhelmed and depressed? Nothing seems to get better”. And though it can feel like that sometimes, it isn’t true for the families and individuals that break the cycle. For them, everything changes.

We know that the 685 people we served last year only represent a small percentage of the total unhoused population. And we know we cannot afford to let that overwhelm us.

In the space of about 10 days in April, 2022, Wings volunteers made deliveries to 2 Afghan refugees, a CZU fire survivor family, 2 veterans and an 81-year-old woman with a physical disability. People need our services. And as long as they need them, we hope to be here.

We rarely know the stories of those that we deliver to or help to get documents for – but we do know that solving the overwhelming problem of homelessness is going to take the whole community working together and it happens one person and one family at a time.

In gratitude,

N. Caroline Mann, Executive Director
Thank you so very much for the basket! I loved and can use everything in it! I was just hunting for these things last weekend and was not very successful unless I wanted to spend more than I had planned. So I passed. All the items are such a blessing. Thank you for the kindness you show our community.

-Wings Client
Our programs are part of a pathway to housing:
At the front end of the journey out of homelessness is our Vital Docs Program. Lack of a birth certificate should never keep anyone homeless – but it can. We’re here to make sure that doesn’t happen.

On the other side of the journey is our Welcome Home Program. No one should be sleeping on the floor – but many people would be if it weren’t for our Welcome Home packages. Beds and essential supplies help people stabilize & thrive in their new housing.

181 Total households helped through our Welcome Home Program

52 Number of families with children under 18 in our Welcome Home Program

6 Volunteer Notaries & 3 Assistants spent 226 hours helping 410 people get vital documents
The Road Home
How Wings helped Darren on his journey out of homelessness and into housing

After getting injured, Darren couldn't work and was living in his car

Wings got Darren a **birth certificate**, so he could get a housing voucher

Darren got help from a case manager and found an apartment to rent

Darren needed a **ride** for his last surgery – so a Wings volunteer drove him the 90 mile round trip!

Wings gave Darren a **bed & basket** so he could make his empty new house feel like a home

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We think of our budget beyond programs and admin. We think of it in terms of sustainability – how well are we planning for the future of Wings and the people we will need to serve? How much of our resources go to managing our volunteers? Read on to find out.

Our Financials

Our total expenses, split into our two main services

- Volunteer Management
- Sustainability
- Operations

Program 95% funded by donations

- Vital Docs: $29,658
- Welcome Home: $113,632

It would have cost us *at least* $73,630 to recruit, train, employ, and manage staff to do what our volunteers get done!

Amount it costs us to manage our amazing volunteers

Every $1 invested in us does the work of $3

See our financials at www.wingsadvocacy.org/2022-impact
OUR COMMUNITY INVESTORS IN 2022

Adam & Cheryl Sweeney
Amanda Engeldrum
Magana
Apple
Applied Materials
   Foundation
Barbara Staepelaere
Becky Emerson
Benedum Family Trust
Beth Hyytinen
Betsy Jones
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Timothy & Sandi
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   Fellowship of Santa Cruz County
Vanessa Stafford
Whole Foods
   XL Construction

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We thank our local & small business sponsors for their support of our mission

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