REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2019–2020



Housing Opportunities is a community-sustained nonprofit that resolves and prevents homelessness in Porter and LaPorte counties.

We prevent homelessness by coaching clients on the road to self-sufficiency. We resolve homelessness for adults, children, and seniors in our community by offering emergency housing and affordable rentals. Above all, we provide hope to clients experiencing homelessness and its effects.

Housing challenges can affect people of any gender, age, or socioeconomic status—including adults who go to work every day and kids who go to school.

More than 1 out of 3 clients living in affordable rentals is 55 or older.

3 out of 5 have a diagnosed disability.

Housing Opportunities is resolving and preventing homelessness by:

- + Creating and managing affordable housing units
- + Offering permanent supportive housing for individuals with disabilities
- + Providing emergency housing during transitions
- + Offering rapid rehousing support to help get families directly into housing
- + Giving comfort and support to individuals living on the street
- Coaching clients with caring support to help them set goals and achieve long-term success

IMPACT in the 2019-2020 fiscal year:



Clients housed in our Safe Recovery
Site (for those who are homeless
and affected by COVID)= 31

11 new Affordable Rentals added at Beverly Apartments

In Waiting...

Housing Opportunities collaborates with 7 local nonprofits to apply a fair and uniform assessment process for individuals and families who need homes.

Waiting list for people and families desperately seeking housing:

1 in 3 people housed this year was a child.

Fall 2020:

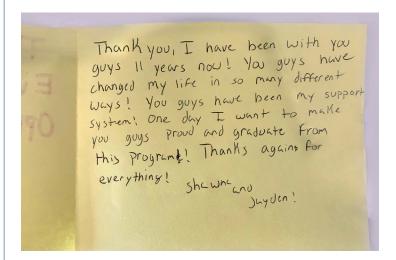
1 in 5 NWI residents is unemployed.



of renters in Indiana are at risk of eviction

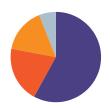
"You guys have changed my life..."

Thank you notes from clients, like this one from a client in the permanent supportive housing program, are one of our biggest joys. When generous donors like you give, moms like Jayden find hope and overcome obstacles to build a brighter future for themselves and their families!



Financials

2020 Revenue \$3,957,000



58% state & federal grants 20% program revenue 16% other grants/misc. 6% contributions

2020 Expenses \$2,894,768



86% programs
7% fundraising
7% supporting services

Figures represent audited financials for the fiscal year ending 6/30/2020. Housing rehab expenses are capitalized and thus not fully reflected in 2020 expenses. We believe in the mission: 100% of staff and board members donate to Housing Opportunities.

From the Leadership

New challenges have arrived for all of us in this past year. Our charge to resolve and prevent homelessness has become a more ambitious calling than ever before, as economic hardship has hit hard for many people across the nation and in our community. Job loss, inability to pay for housing, food insecurity, illness, and changes in schooling have pushed many families into turmoil. But together with your help, we face these challenges head-on. As the bar is raised, so too are our efforts.

We are proud of the ways in which our staff quickly revised models of service to be responsive in March. We congratulate our team members for forging through complexities to provide support for clients at risk, clients in healing, and clients in crisis.

We are overwhelmed by the generosity of our gracious supporters, who have stepped up to meet the crucial need in the community. The daily outpouring of donations of food and essential supplies has meant more than we could ever express. We are so grateful for this grassroots support.



We are inspired by our clients, who stepped up in new ways with acts of kindness to support each other. (We hope you've watched John's video about "acts of kindness" on our Facebook page.)

We commit, always, to a focused, agile response to our community. Most recently:

- + We pulled out all the stops to keep the emergency housing service safely in operation.
- + In collaboration with many partners, we've opened a Safe Recovery Shelter, where people experiencing homelessness can quarantine safely. "I really like that we're providing opportunities for this at-risk population at a time when they might have been denied services.... It makes our whole community safer," said Shelter Coordinator Abby. "The biggest victory is when we're able to take a client in and not just quarantine them, but get them connected to the resources they need" - resources like telehealth, healthcare services, shelter/housing. and insurance.
- + We've collaborated with community leaders, Bill Durnell and Jesse Harper, to start virtual Community Conversations, engaging our citizens in meaningful problem-solving dialogue.



 We're working closely with the State of Indiana to help implement needed relief and recovery programs.

At this time last year, we delineated the housing gap and the high number of families in Porter and LaPorte counties who were housing insecure. Under the lens of a pandemic, this concern only grows. This year, Housing Opportunities earned recognition as a Community Housing Development Organization, expanding access to funding to strengthen our community's housing resources.



- + On June 1, 2020, we were happy to open the doors to Beverly Apartments, creating newly rehabbed affordable housing in Valparaiso.
- + This year, Housing Opportunities won a grant from the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority to build up to 30 affordable, singlefamily homes in Michigan City.

These are important steps, with many to follow.

Supporters and staff missed the opportunity to gather together this year at favorite community events like Trivia Night and the Masquerade Ball. Still, we see the hand of community compassion hard at work.

In the words of Matthew Desmond, "It is hard to argue that housing is not a fundamental human need. Decent, affordable housing should be a basic right for everybody in this country. The reason is simple: without stable shelter, everything else falls apart." To each of you who has taken the time to read this message, thank you for caring. Thank you for your support!



We can't thank you enough!

A special thank you to everyone who generously supported the mission this year!

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