



NH | new horizons

June 2022 - July 2023



Dear Community,

This last year, New Horizons saw an increased number of young people seeking services and ended the year with our highest numbers in recent memory. In the face of a rising homelessness crisis in King County, we recognize the need to adapt and expand our efforts to meet the ever-growing needs of young people in our community.

With the collaboration of dedicated staff and volunteers, we took concrete steps to address these challenges. We expanded the Nest on 3rd Shelter, extended shelter hours, and began serving hot breakfast Monday through Friday. This expansion of services is an important shift that helps ensure young people in our community have greater access to essential resources and support. We are deeply committed to provide a safe space where young people can be known, build relationships, and find the support they need to find housing and employment stability.

The path to housing is not an easy one for any of the young people we serve. There are significant barriers, past traumas, and an overtaxed homeless service system that make the road to stability difficult to navigate. It is our opportunity and commitment to meet young people at this point of crisis, provide safety, support, and resources as they move towards stability. When they have someone in their corner, cheering them on, encouraging them, and helping them in practical ways like connecting them with housing services, it is much easier for young people to overcome barriers to long-term stability.

Our community's support has been instrumental in making all of this possible, and together, we are effecting positive change in the lives of young people and working toward ending homelessness, one young person at a time.

Sincerely,



Rob Stewart







WRITER



Fueled by coffee



Scotty's Story

From a young age, Scotty's life took a turbulent path. He was raised by his aunt in Chicago, but she kicked him out of her house at only nine years old, leading him to join a gang. By 14, he was sentenced to six years in juvenile detention due to his gang involvement.

At 21, after serving his time, Scotty came to Washington to start fresh and found New Horizons. He has been working closely with a case manager for the past five months, hoping to find stable housing and income, even applying for an apprenticeship through New Horizons.

Scotty was recently referred to Rapid Rehousing, which will assist him in a search for an apartment and help subsidize part of his rent over time. His case manager, Josh, describes him as "super communicative, thoughtful, and great at thinking about his long-term and short-term goals, both relating to housing and otherwise."

Despite his difficult past, Scotty found strength in his faith. When asked how he holds his head up high after such a traumatic upbringing, he says, "You have to have God in your heart."



Extended Hours and Return of Hot Breakfast

After several years, New Horizons welcomed the return of hot breakfast and extended morning hours for young people staying overnight at the Nest on 3rd Shelter. Adequate sleep and a nutritious breakfast contribute to better improved physical and mental health, reduced risk of chronic illness, and increased morale.

Extra sleep and a hot, nutritious breakfast are a first step toward stability for many unhoused young people. When their basic needs are met, they may be more receptive to accessing services, gaining and maintaining employment, and transitioning into permanent housing.

These services help restore their sense of dignity and social inclusion. It sends a message that society values their well-being and recognizes their humanity, which is empowering and motivating. Ultimately, we hope that these measures can contribute to a pathway out of homelessness and a more inclusive and compassionate society.



Volunteer Impact

This year, 175 volunteers and 32 food groups contributed more than 6,004 hours of time, energy, love and even more prayers supporting unhoused young people through New Horizons.

In the nearly 8-months' worth of generous hours of support:

- Nearly 500 young people were served breakfast, lunch, and dinner from 32 volunteer food groups and 56 individuals.
- More than 400 young people engaged with 22 direct service volunteers during Day Programming.
- Young people were met with clean clothes and shoes thanks to generous donors and eight dedicated volunteers who took care of laundry and other duties assigned in the shelter.
- Young adults were welcomed into a clean environment thanks to the 89 volunteers who completed projects at New Horizons.

We can't thank donors enough for their time, thoughts, prayers, seasonal clothing, self-care hygiene products, backpacks, and pet supplies.

Paths to Stability and Hope

In the heart of our community, New Horizons stands as a beacon of hope for young people facing the harsh reality of being unhoused. Through personalized support, we crafted pathways to stability tailored to each person's distinct circumstances and were able to help 184 individuals to step into stable housing. Additionally, New Horizons diverted 34 individuals from homelessness, demonstrating our commitment to preventing the cycle from perpetuating.

These remarkable achievements bear witness to the profound impact our community has on the lives we touch. By acknowledging the distinct narratives of those we serve, we have not only provided shelter, but also sown seeds of self-worth, resilience, and hope.

Re-envisioned Apprenticeships

The apprenticeship program at New Horizons exists to provide job training opportunities for the young people we serve. It is a four-month program that aims to build apprentices' resumes, teach collaboration, and provide specific job training skills.

The Day Programming Apprenticeship is an opportunity for young people to work during drop-in hours on keeping the space clean and organized, facilitating different types of programming (such as creative space), and working on interpersonal and leadership skills.

The Coffee Apprenticeships are provided through New Horizons' social enterprise coffee shop, Street Bean, that operates as a store front in our building. It builds barista and production skills, interpersonal growth, and new tactical skills for future employment opportunities.

Both apprenticeships are steppingstones that prepare each apprentice for new jobs. They are supervised by the Engagement Services Coordinator and work regularly to set goals for the future. Last year, 39 young adults apprenticed through Street Bean, 67% of which completed the program.

Most young people stay for the duration of their apprenticeship, but some are able to find other employment before finishing the full four months. Because the goal of these apprenticeships is to prepare young people for long-term employment, New Horizons and Street Bean staff encourage apprentices to move on to other opportunities when they arise.





Expansion and Reopening of The Nest on 3rd

For nearly a decade New Horizons operated two shelters in our one location. We operated the Nest Shelter, offering 12 private and 'resident' spaces for young people, as well as Cedar Street, a congregate style shelter for young people looking for night-by-night beds. In 2020 we completed a full remodel of the Nest Shelter, creating dramatically enhanced private rooms.

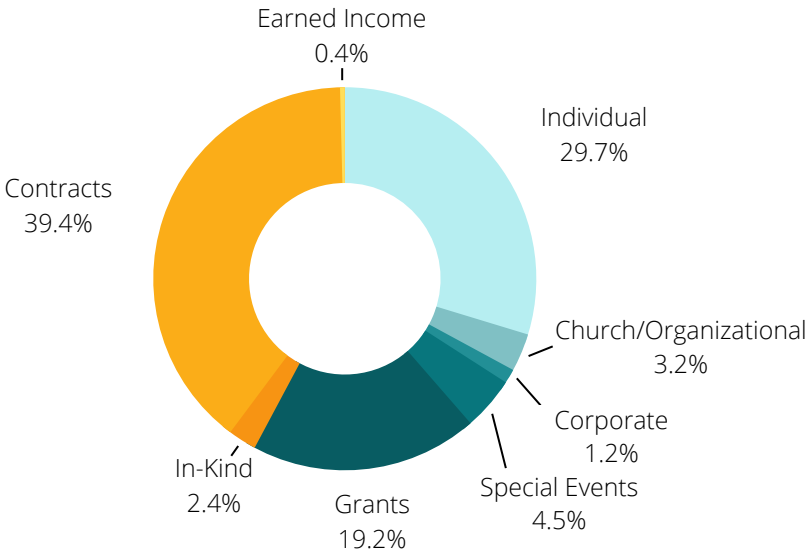
However, in 2023 we realized a long term vision to offer private rooms to every young adult in shelter. We completed construction on the Nest on 3rd Shelter, which offers 30 private spaces for young people seeking shelter. These spaces offer more safety and greater dignity during this traumatic period.

Last fiscal year, 514 young people walked through our doors to access services with us, 294 of whom stayed in shelter. We have continued to receive positive feedback as the importance for young adults to have privacy, comfort, and dignity is essential and creates a pillar of stability for folks on their journey to permanent housing and a bright future.



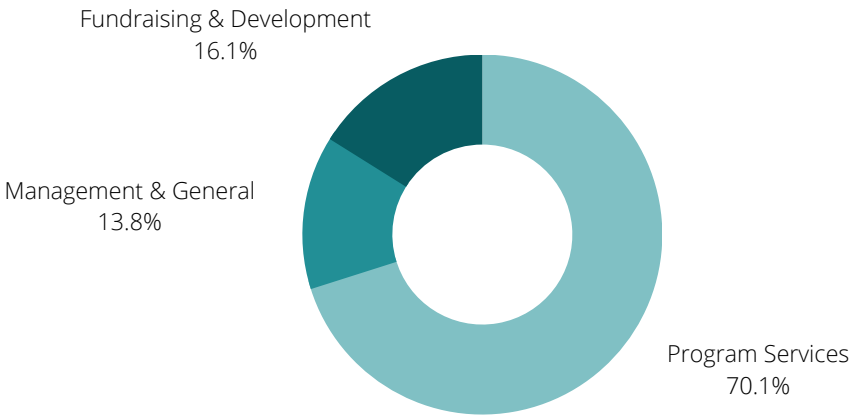
Revenue

\$3,190,205



Expenses

\$2,718,725



We feel a deep gratitude for the community who year in and year out supports our work. Your financial contributions make our lifesaving work possible.

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