

## OUR HEARTFELT THANKS!

A special thank you to everyone who supported our mission this year.

### Donors of \$1,000 or greater

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 Unity Foundation  
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 Urschel Laboratories  
 Walter & Ruthanne Wangerin  
 Wesley Barnes Family

### THANK YOU FOR THE GRASSROOTS SUPPORT!

**\$5,604 raised** through the Strack & Van Til Checkout Challenge. Thank you, every shopper!

**\$3,480 raised** by Target Circle shoppers through their 60,362 votes for Housing Opportunities

**\$17,000 raised** by members of Real Life Church designating Housing Opportunities for a holiday offering

**\$3,784 raised** by Ella Jayms and Fluid Coffee Roasters

**\$3,350 raised** by 6 individuals who launched personal Facebook fundraisers

**174 donations** through individuals and groups that held food drives

### Housing Opportunities

2001 Calumet Ave.  
 Valparaiso, IN 46383

2706 Franklin St.  
 Michigan City, IN 46360

219.548.2800 | www.hoi.help

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Schedule a personal visit and learn more.

Donate to support our mission.

2020-2021



**HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES**  
 Serving Porter County & LaPorte County

## REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

**Housing Opportunities is a community-sustained nonprofit. We work tirelessly to resolve and prevent homelessness in Porter and LaPorte counties.**

We serve adults, children, and seniors in our community by creating affordable housing options, helping families stay in their homes, and offering emergency housing during transitions. We provide comfort and hope to clients experiencing the trauma of homelessness and its effects.

### HOUSING INSECURITY: BY THE NUMBERS

More than 4 out of 5 low income Porter County and LaPorte County residents spend more than half of their total income on housing.

- National Low Income Housing Coalition

### HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES is resolving and preventing homelessness by:

- + Creating and managing affordable housing units
- + Providing rental assistance to keep families in their homes
- + Connecting individuals living on the street with resources
- + Providing permanent supportive housing for people with disabilities
- + Providing rapid rehousing support to get families directly into housing
- + Providing emergency housing during transitions

### IMPACT IN THE 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR



**1 in 3 people** housed this year was a **child.**

HOUSING CHALLENGES CAN AFFECT PEOPLE OF ANY GENDER, AGE, OR SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS.

Up to **6 out of 10** Americans are living paycheck to paycheck.

(USA Today, 2021)

In Indiana, **9% of** households say they don't have enough food, and **17%** are still not caught up on rent.

(Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Oct. 2021)



From the Leadership

The strain of the pandemic revealed the economic fragility of many in our community—families who were living paycheck to paycheck, families who were already struggling to pay rent, and families who had no cushion when jobs were lost. What's more, families who felt economically "safe" saw their finances disrupted in ways they never imagined possible.

We see moms and dads who lost their jobs simultaneously and are still trying to catch up. We see families wondering where they will go when they lose their homes—and some who've already, painfully, crossed that bridge.

We've had to double our capacity in response to the COVID crisis. We've devised new ways to serve: re-imagining emergency housing and its staffing, operating an isolation center to curb the spread of COVID, temporarily opening the Resource Center overnight to protect people from the elements on the coldest nights, and hiring and training new staff to distribute \$12 million in rental assistance to keep people in their homes...to name a few.

In short, we've continued to reinvent ourselves. We've doubled down on our singular focus: **housing**. People cannot thrive without this basic human need. In contrast, homelessness and even fear of homelessness are traumas with far-reaching, lifelong effects on individuals and on communities.

The challenges are steep. Today, we have families living in emergency housing who have the financial support to move into affordable housing, but there are no units available. They can't move on. The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness explains: "When housing costs are more affordable and housing opportunities are more readily available, there is a lower likelihood of households becoming homeless, and households who do become homeless can exit homelessness more quickly and with greater likelihood of sustaining that housing long-term."

Creating affordable housing is a goal we embrace with every resource we can harness.

Progress takes time, and progress continues, with extraordinary support from many community and state partners. After rehabbing and opening affordable rental units at Beverly Apartments last year, we're now opening another in the Hilltop neighborhood of Valparaiso. We're excited to continue with affordable housing projects in the works in Portage and in Michigan City.

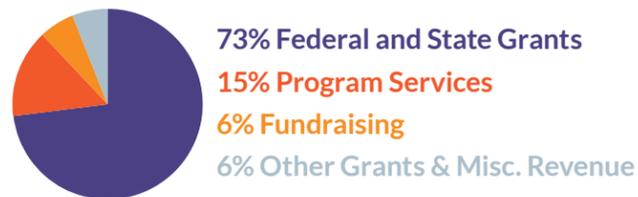


We continue to face a funding gap, especially for the day-to-day services that offer support and hope to those hardest hit. During this past year, we've had donors tell us they had to pull back due to their own circumstances. We've had to cancel scheduled fundraising events. Yet kudos to sponsors who converted their sponsorships into donations and ticket holders who chose to wait. Kudos to everyone who supported our shared mission with ever-more creative, grassroots efforts. Kudos to the retail organizations that opened pathways for shoppers to lend support; it all adds up!

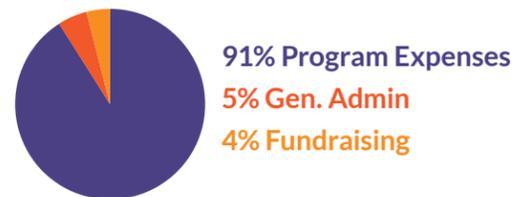
We are incredibly grateful for the acts of kindness that surround us. We believe in the power of community to take care of its own. We are on a mission together, and your caring is its heart and soul.

Thank you for your extraordinary support!

2021 Revenue \$5,293,505

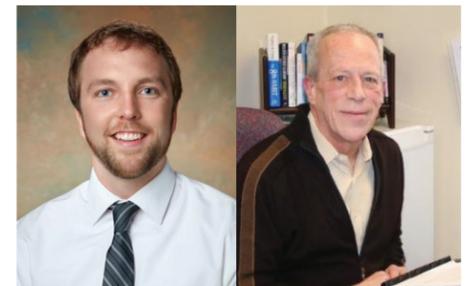


2021 Expenses \$3,957,441



Figures represent audited financials for the fiscal year ending 6/30/2021. Housing rehab expenses are capitalized and thus not fully reflected in 2021 expenses.

We believe in the mission: 100% of staff and board members donate to Housing Opportunities.



Jordan Stanfill, CEO Jim Starin, Board Chair