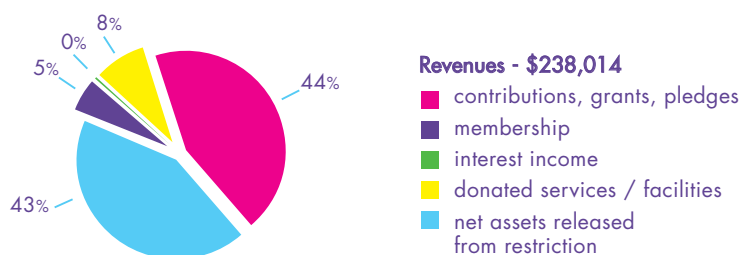


## who we are

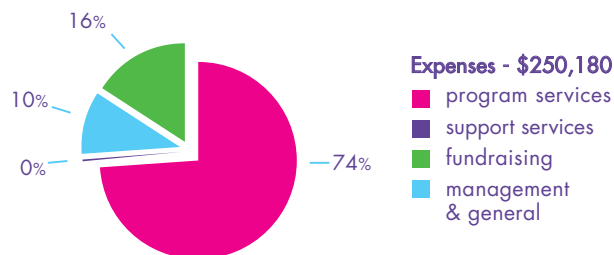
The Washtenaw Housing Alliance is a coalition of 35 non profits and government offices who are committed to ending homelessness in our community. WHA members joined together in 2004 with the cities of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti and the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners to create "A Home for Everyone: The Blueprint to End Homelessness". The Blueprint is our vision of what it will take to end homelessness in Washtenaw County. Through this Blueprint our members work together for four major goals: Prevention, More Housing with Services, Reforming the System of Care, and Engaging the Community.

2014 marks the 10-year anniversary for The Blueprint and while much has been accomplished, more work remains to be done. We know that strong communities are built when individuals and families have a place to call home and WHA continues to build a strong future for Washtenaw County by creating an efficient and effective system that moves people off the streets and into permanent housing with the supportive services they need to stay housed. As the only agency in Washtenaw County that facilitates, encourages, and monitors this work for our community, WHA is providing training and technical assistance to providers to support innovation and best practices, advocating for the needs of people experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness, and supporting the development of more permanently affordable housing.

## finances



Decreased in unrestricted assets \$12,166



## homelessness at a glance

4413 

4413 individuals experienced homelessness in Washtenaw County in 2013

41% 

41% were individuals in families with children under the age of 18

42% 

42% were experiencing homelessness for the first time

1250+ 

The WISD, Education Project for Homeless Youth served more than 1250 homeless school age youth during 2013

## our community's work

- Our member agencies provide services to many of the county's poorest citizens—those with incomes between 0 and 30% of the Average Median Income (AMI) for Washtenaw County.
- 94% of those who entered Permanent Supportive Housing **remained housed** for at least a year, and 67% maintained or increased their income.
- 15% of all those served increased their income from **employment** by the time they exited services.
- 28% of all those served increased their income from **sources other than employment** by the time they exited services.
- Housing Access for Washtenaw County (HAWC) responded to 2,389 housing related calls during the last quarter of 2013 (October – December 2013) and diverted 55 households from shelter by working with them to identify safe, temporary housing. During this time, HAWC also placed 99 households in residential shelter, and 302 individuals in non-residential shelter services. Many other people were provided with housing search assistance.

- During the last quarter of 2013 (October – December 2013), HAWC worked in tandem with Washtenaw County 14 A-1 and A-4 District Courts, and Legal Services of South Central Michigan on the Housing Consultation Court Project, to prevent evictions by conducting mediation and interventions between landlords and tenants in the court. 115 households received services through this project.
- In 2014, WHA partner agencies created a centralized housing list that indicates when permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing units are available. Through a Community Housing Prioritization workgroup supported by WHA staff, and made up of representatives from each shelter and housing agency, we are now using the centralized, community list to prioritize the most vulnerable and chronically homeless households for permanent housing.
- Through WHA leadership and facilitation, our community repurposed \$2.5 million in federal homeless assistance funds to create 198 new units of Rapid Re-housing for families and Permanent Supportive Housing for chronically homeless households experiencing homelessness.
- WHA serves as an advocacy portal to alert member agencies and the community of vital advocacy efforts. Through WHA and its partners' advocacy efforts, the Ann Arbor City Council voted to place half of any proceeds from a future sale of the Library Lot for affordable housing – this could mean more than \$3 million for affordable housing should the Lot be sold.
- With WHA providing the staff support, The Washtenaw County Task Force on Supportive Services launched a campaign to raise a private, community endowment to help fund critical housing support services. To-date, over \$2.1 million has been raised, with the goal to increase the endowment to more than \$5 million in the next few years.

## wha membership

Ann Arbor Housing Commission | Avalon Housing | Child Care Network | Wash Co. Community Support and Treatment Services | Project Outreach Team (PORT) of CSTS | Catholic Social Services | Community Action Network | Michigan Department of Human Services | Education Project for Homeless Youth | Fair Housing Center of S. E. Michigan | Faith In Action | Food Gatherers | Friends in Deed | Habitat for Humanity | HIV/AIDS Resource Center (HARC) | Home of New Vision | Housing Bureau for Seniors | Interfaith Hospitality Network @ Alpha House | Jewish Family Services | Legal Services of South Central Michigan | Michigan Ability Partners | MISSION | Neighborhood Senior Services | Office of Community and Economic Development | Ozone House | Peace Neighborhood Center | SAFEHouse Center | The Salvation Army | Shelter Association of Washtenaw County | SOS Community Services | Synod Community Services | Homeless Veterans Program of the VA Medical Center | Washtenaw Health Plan | Washtenaw Prisoner Reentry | Ypsilanti Housing Commission

## from the president

The world of housing and homelessness work continues to change dramatically as our community needs continue to increase. It's hard to believe that 10 years ago our community launched "A Home for Everyone: The Blueprint to End Homelessness in Washtenaw County". We have seen great success in working together to end homelessness for thousands of people in Washtenaw County by streamlining service delivery, reforming the system of care, and investing in proven best practice models that house and support our most vulnerable citizens. Still, we know there is much work to be done; the needs continue to grow and become more complex, and the local, state and federal resources become scarcer each day. The Washtenaw Housing Alliance continues to be at the center of this important work to end homelessness in our community. By working with our member agencies, we weathered the economic crash of 2008, kept our most vulnerable citizens safe during last winter's polar vortex, and this coming year we are engaging the community in a planning process to update our plan to end homelessness for the next five years.

This report provides you with the highlights of our work over the past year. We appreciate your support in the important work we do, and the partnership of our entire community in helping our most vulnerable citizens. Please remember, together, we can end homelessness.

Warmly,

Bob Guenzel



President of the Board

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