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How to Get Involved



2022 Staff:

Kristy Weinberg, Executive Director*

John Roherty, Case Worker

Becca Cohen, Nonprofit Support Coordinator

Megan Hartwick, Interim Executive Director*



Nicolle Muskevitsch, Interim Director of Case Management*

*was employed for a portion of the year

2022 Board of Directors:

Jessie Dugan, President (pictured to the right) Elena Levy-Navarro, Vice President Mary Rogers, Secretary

Amy Zahn, Treasurer

Don Norman

Kristen Prock

Jim Winship

Al Stanek

Jenna Singer

Harry Penington

Barb Penington

Linda Steinhoff

Tom Duval

Julie Caldwell

Amy Houwers

Robin Sdano

Julie Letellier

Dave McDonald, ex-officio member





OUR STORY SO FAR

Our Mission

Bethel House is an ecumenical nonprofit providing hope and housing to families in the Whitewater community.

Who We Help

- Bethel House serves families with children under age 18 who are in their care at least 50% of the time.
- Families must live or work within the Whitewater Unified School District area.
- Families must be facing homelessness to qualify for financial assistance.
- To qualify for assistance with an electric bill, families must have applied for Energy Assistance.
- Families must provide a current lease, bill, or statement for assistance, and all assistance is paid directly to the vendor (landlord, utility company, etc.) on the client's behalf.



Our Programs

Transitional Housing Program:

Bethel House utilizes seven private housing units where families can live for up to one year, while working on the issues that led to their homelessness.

Case management services:

includes budgeting, debt repayment, job searching, resume building, life skills, emotional support, connection to other resources, etc.

Emergency Financial Assistance:

Bethel House can give emergency financial assistance to families one time per year to help prevent homelessness.

4x4 Car Donation Program: The 4Wheels4Families Program helps families in rural Whitewater with transportation needs by providing a safe and suitable donated vehicle. All donations are tax deductible.

Total number of families helped in 2022.

2022 CLIENT IMPACT -EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Many times, a small amount of financial assistance can mean the difference between housed and homeless. Treating homelessness is much more costly, both in monetary terms and the emotional impact, than preventing homelessness. When possible, Bethel House can help prevent a family from becoming homeless by providing a one-time payment towards rent or utilities.

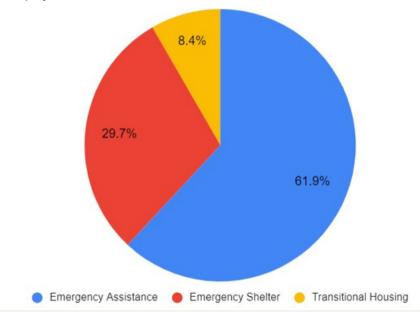
Total amount of financial assistance given:

\$21,113.94

This chart to the right shows the annual breakdown of client contact based on the type of service requested



In 2022, we were able to provide 56 families with financial assistance. The majority of giving was for homelessness prevention; by providing emergency assistance to eligible families, we were able to prevent these families from becoming homeless by helping them with rent and utility bill payments.





2022 CLIENT IMPACT -TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Our transitional housing program enrolled five new families in 2022, which filled up all of our housing units!

To break that down: ten adults and nineteen children lived in our houses in 2022.

"In a time of need, with no one to reach out to, Bethel House has been a blessing to me and my children" - Transitional Housing Client

What is the process of our Transitional Housing Program?

- During the first month, the case management director helps families manage the initial crisis of homelessness; the focus is primarily on immediate needs such as food, clothing, basic income, and locating other services.
- Starting in the second month, the case management director helps families dig into their finances, establish a budget, and prioritize debts. A resume is written and families are often able to find higher paying jobs or enroll in a school program. The case mgmt. director helps families reestablish positive habits that will help them long after they have left Bethel House.
- After six months, families work with the case mgmt. director on an exit strategy. The case mgmt. director
 helps families find affordable housing, save for a security deposit, and transition from Bethel House. Most
 families leave Bethel House with a sizable amount of savings, significantly less debt, and valuable life
 skills; but more importantly, families also leave with a renewed sense of dignity, strength, and hope for the
 future.

We pay all the expenses and do all of the repairs/maintenance for these housing units; sometimes, we're lucky enough to have volunteers to help us!

\$2,886.25/mo



Average monthly cost of all property expenses*

1

If you are interested in volunteering with us, please see the last page for our contact information and other ways to get involved!

CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

"They helped me take my life back..."

"I don't know where I would be without Bethel House and its genuinely supportive and dedicated team members. When I had nowhere else to turn they were there for my son and I and helped me restore my sense of independence and self worth.

After an ugly end to my relationship, my son and I were left homeless. With no family to turn to and almost two months left of his school year, Bethel House made it possible for my son to finish the year in his district and for me to become financially self-sufficient.

Bethel House is an absolute blessing and we will forever be grateful it exists. They helped me take my life back after my son and I were left homeless.

Such a wonderful, beautiful thing. Bethel House not only kept my son and I from going homeless but they also took the time to meet with me to help keep me on my track of independence.

Seriously Kristy, you guys are the best and I really don't know where I'd be without you, but it almost certainly would not be anywhere close to where I'm going now-as a business owner. Thank you for making my life beautiful again and giving me a chance to grow!"

- Transitional Housing Client

"Bethel House has been a lifesaver and the community needs it."

"Bethel House is amazing. The biggest strength is the support from the people running the program. The understanding and support for us (from Kristy) and the unbiased nature of the people who work here really helped us to feel comfortable. It was and is very hard to ask for help, to admit that you're struggling, to feel the shame of not being able to support your family and it is so nice to have people who are willing to help you and not pass judgment.

Bethel house has been a lifesaver for people and the community needs it. Bethel house also offers ideas and can outsource resources and emergency assistance that is extremely important mostly because of the limited resources families who live here have. This is a college town, so renting a home is very hard to find and if you are lucky enough to find it it is extremely expensive so having people who are knowledgeable in this area and who have connections to other agencies who may be able to help is important and good for the community."

- Emergency Assistance Client

"I came from not having a place to live, no belongings besides clothes and trying to take care of kids. Now I'm able to focus on getting back on my feet. I am looking for that ideal job that is able to support me and my children, pay off my debt, and save up enough money to get a place when I'm done with the program."

- Bethel House Client

"I think it is very important for multiple reasons. The first reason is that there are not many resources in Walworth County, let alone Whitewater, for people struggling with housing or homelessness. Bethel house has been a lifesaver for people and the community needs it. Bethel house also offers ideas and can outsource resources and emergency assistance that is extremely important mostly because of the limited resources families who live here have. This is a college town, so renting a home is very hard to find and if you are lucky enough to find it it is extremely expensive so having people who are knowledgeable in this area and who have connections to other agencies who may be able to help is important and good for the community."

WHY IS BETHEL HOUSE IMPORTANT?

- Bethel House Client



"I saw the impact firsthand of housing insecurity as a teacher. I had students who were homeless...two in particular, were under 18 and for different times, totally on their own. I needed to do something tangible...Also-Bev asked me!"

- Jessie Dugan

"I had helped out in the early days of Bethel House and my family doctor, Ken Kidd, had recruited me to paint one of the houses. My wife volunteered us to help out and serve as church 'reps.'"

BETHEL HOUSE EVENTS



This was our first year tabling at the Whitewater City Market! The market was a great way to get more people in the community talking about Bethel House and increasing awareness about our mission.

In the summer of 2022, we also held 2 Happy Hour events at the Black Sheep. These events were a great time to mingle, sip some Bethel House inspired cocktails, and support our mission.





Our annual Fall Benefit Dinner event was our largest turnout to date, raising over \$20,000 in support of our mission. The generosity of our attendees was humbling!

OUR 2022 TOP DONORS

Bethel House receives no government funding and has been recently impacted by changes in available local grant funding. Our organization is heavily reliant on the generosity of our donors & supporters, and we couldn't be more appreciative for the kindness and gifts that continue to be shared to support our mission. Your gift TRULY makes a difference in the lives of others.

GOLD

Tom Ganser and Bev Bonge-Ganser Ron and Marilyn Binning Aurellio and Diana Callope Virginia Coburn Kathryn Drexler Mike and Laura Grubb Richard Halvorson Dorie Hanson Elvira Kau Ken and Susan Kidd

Nancy and Bernie Labovitch
Everett and Ellen Long
Robert and Sharon McCullough
Soren H Miller
Mark and Germaine Olm
Steve and Wendy Prater
Carole Scharinger
Chuck Taggart
David and Marcia Yochum



James Bronson
Michael Czerwionka
Dawn Kienbaum
Peter and Lisa Koss
Nick and Janet Lesar

Harry and Barb Penington Russ and Mary Rogers Robert and Margaret Schramm Bernard and Linda Tangney Chuck and Barb Taylor

BRONZE

Violet DeWind Jerry Grant Gaylon and Hannah Greenhill Paul and Charlotte Kuenning Rod and Sue Scherer Patrick and Jenna Singer Marjorie Stoneman and Joe Kromholz Ellen and Bob Triebold Jane and Bill Wagie Roberta Jo Wedl

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to say THANK YOU to all of the following organizations and individuals for not only supporting Bethel House, but also helping us make an impact in our community:

Supporting Churches

Community of Christ the Servant
Congregational Church U.C.C.
The Chapel Church
First English Lutheran Church
First United Methodist Church
LaGrange United Methodist Church
Living Word Fellowship
St. Patrick's Catholic Church
Richmond United Methodist Church



Organizations

We Energies Foundation
Whitewater Kiwanis
Whitewater Lions Club
United Way of Jefferson and N. Walworth Counties
United Way of Walworth County

All of our donors and supporters for believing in our small nonprofit and providing us the means to make a difference in our community.

Our volunteers for helping us make our client houses feel more like homes.

FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR PROGRAMS







"Like" our Facebook Page 😝 and Follow us on Instagram 🧧

• Stay in the know about all things Bethel House by liking us on Facebook! We post client updates, event information, current needs, and so much more!



Subscribe to our Newsletter

 We are bringing back our quarterly newsletter! If you are interested in joining our mailing list, be sure to check our website and sign up!



Donate or Host an Item Drive!

- Collect and give un-used, unopened toiletries to a family who needs them.
- Be sure to check our social media and our website for our current needs flyers
- Consider donating your used vehicle to a family in need through our 4x4 Program.



Attend or Sponsor our Events

- Be on the lookout for more information about our upcoming events:
 - o May 24, 2023: Spring Raffle Fundraiser 841 Brewhouse 5:00-6:30pm
 - November 3rd, 2023: Fall Benefit Dinner Staller Winery



Volunteer Your Time

- Like getting your hands dirty by painting or cleaning? Talk to us about our next volunteer work day!
- Reach out to us about joining our Board!



Get Your Workplace Involved

 Inquire about your company making a donation; get a group of employees/coworkers together to volunteer; hold a raffle or other fundraiser in support of Bethel House



How to Donate?

- Visit www.BethelHouseInc.org and click on the "Donate" tab or mail directly to our office
- We also accept donations of toiletries, furniture, and vehicles.