



October 2021

# DAYLIGHT

Happenings at St. John Center for Homeless Men



## SHINE ON



It was such a treat to see Don come in the door. Don is formerly homeless, and as a participant in our Permanent Supportive Housing Program, his trips to the shelter neighborhood now are to attend Life Skills groups. On this day, he came bearing a gift.

Don handed me a beautiful brass candle holder. It has a handle on it, making it the kind of candle and holder one would use when the power is out and the house is dark and the blessed light helps to see a safe way forward. He proudly told the story of how he rescued it from a box set out for trash collection. His accompanying note read, "Thank you for helping all of us. May your light never go out, so as to allow you to keep showing us the way." I assured Don of the one thing I know to be true: it has been the gift of a lifetime to get to take my place as a staff member at St. John Center.



**"His accompanying note read, 'Thank you for helping all of us. May your light never go out, so as to allow you to keep showing us the way.'"**

St. John Center is proud to have helped advance a Housing First approach in Louisville and to have increased the availability of supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness. To have been part of this era is to have been rewarded richly with meaningful work and treasured friendships.

St. John Center's next phase of growth includes an expansion of permanent supportive housing dedicated to those who need the most intensive services. The future is bright because of our client-focused stance and because of your mission-

centered commitment. As long as we are working together, finding our way forward together, our light will never go out. Shine on!

  
**Maria A. Price**  
Executive Director

## WELCOMING RA'SHANN



On September 20th, St. John Center welcomed Rae Martin who will serve as our Executive Director. She brings new leadership to the organization during a time of growth.

"I spent my first two weeks learning along side Maria," said Rae. "We were focused on partnerships, community relationships, and strategies that are already at work to move St. John Center forward. Now I'm really focused on learning from each of the frontline staff. I want to understand the dynamics of each team and each of our three programs."

Staff, clients, and volunteers have all enjoyed the time getting to know Rae. And as she says, "It's been a really good first month, and there is so much coming up I'm excited about."

# HOW WE'RE RAISIN' THE RENT

Raisin the Rent 2022 will take place between January 15th and March 5th, 2022. Raisin' the Rent will provide a range of ways each of us can show up in solidarity with people experiencing homelessness. You can participate in *one or all* of the following ways:



## 1. Take a chance on amazing raffle packages!

- Tickets will go on sale on **January 15th at 12:01 AM** and be available until **11:59 PM** the night of **March 4th**.
- The drawing will take place on Saturday, **March 5, 2022**.

## 2. Host or join a Virtual House Party

- Hosts will invite friends, work colleagues, and others to join their House Party for a donation to St. John Center.

## 3. Bid on exciting Silent Auction Items

- The traditional Raisin' the Rent silent auction will be available online in 2022.
- You can bid on quality auction items between **February 26th at 12:01 AM** and **March 5th at 6:30 PM**.

## 4. Join us for our community celebration on March 5th at 7:00 P.M.

- This year, Raisin' the Rent 2022 will include a streamed event, shared in small gatherings across the city on **March 5th**.
- While we can't gather without masks in a large group of 500 strong – we can gather in smaller groups in the tradition of the original House Parties, where neighbors gathered to raise the rent of neighbors facing eviction.

**Learn more about hosting a gathering – virtual or in person – by contacting Jenn Young at [jyoung@stjohncenter.org](mailto:jyoung@stjohncenter.org).**



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## Thank You!

Thank you for the ways you responded to Give for Good 2021!



# 19

people have been part of the Permanent Supportive Housing program for over **10 years**



## Thank You

Thank you to Don Erler and Chris Dischinger who support St. John Center because **Housing is a Right.**



## Wish List

- Men's boxers or briefs (M, L, and XL)
- Reading glasses (2.0)
- Paper towels
- Copy paper

For more information, contact Jim Fulkerson at **(502) 398-3505** or [jfulkerson@stjohncenter.org](mailto:jfulkerson@stjohncenter.org)

# 2021



St. John  
Center



## ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2021 Outcomes

### Street Outreach

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

*Seeking help*

919

families or individuals were connected to **4,048** services by the Street Outreach Team

74

families or individuals served by Street Outreach moved off the streets and into permanent housing

31

different Louisville zip codes were reported as the most recent residence of those served by Street Outreach

*Finding hope*

### Day Shelter and Social Services Center

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

1,832

people visited the Day Shelter and Social Services Center **37,304** times

273

shelter guests moved off the streets and into permanent housing

95%

of shelter guests used social and support services in addition to accessing basic shelter, shower, phone, and mail services

10%

of Day Shelter and Social Services Center guests were veterans

71

Day Shelter guests increased their income as a result of **765** coordinated employment services and **73** Legal Aid services

31

Day Shelter and Social Services Center guests received **2,443** housing services

### Permanent Supportive Housing

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

*Moving home*

92

people participated in the Permanent Supportive Housing program

59%

of those in Permanent Supportive Housing gained or maintained income

98%

of those in Permanent Supportive Housing retained their housing for **12 months** or longer



# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



## Letter from our Executive Director



St. John Center opened 35 years ago because hundreds of Louisvillians opened their hearts to the people they encountered on the streets. Those asking for help, those broken by war, those struggling to make ends meet.

We didn't set out to stick around like this. The thinking at the time was that citizens all over the country would muster enough political will to create adequate affordable housing supply and support systems to meet the growing demand. But, as a community and a country, we did not respond in kind to the need. So here we are - April of 1986, when we opened our doors, and April 2021 look woefully similar.

The hearts of St. John Center volunteers and staff, having been broken open, made a long-haul commitment to the people we serve. Our never, never, never, never, never give up approach guides us to this day as we believe in and advocate for the people we serve. That long-haul commitment manifests today in our Street Outreach, Day Shelter & Social Services Center, and Permanent Supportive Housing programs.

Glen said it best when he told us, "You have loved me better than my family ever could." He was a shelter guest for many years, using our services to get through the day and connect to people who cared for him. He was thrilled to join

our Permanent Supportive Housing program, moving from homelessness to housing of his own. He genuinely believed, though, that he would eventually be evicted, like he had many times before when he tried on his own. Whether using or in recovery, whether seeking psychiatric care or not, St. John Center stood by Glen and helped him maintain his housing. He was amazed with St. John Center's commitment and said, "You are always in my corner. Thank you for loving me especially when I couldn't love myself."

When I reflect on the fiscal year behind us, I can't help but marvel at the strides we made toward accessing permanent housing for a record number of our homeless neighbors. We can't go back, as an agency or a community. Let's use this recent community success to fuel progress going forward. Let's expand our scope by increasing the kinds of affordable, supportive housing we are able to provide those who need it most. An enduring commitment demands it of us. Lives depend on it. We signed up for nothing less.

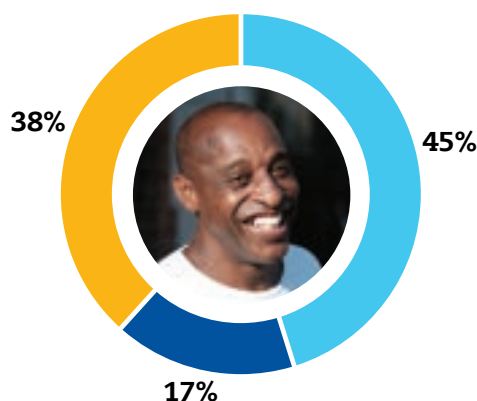


*Maria Price*

**Maria Price**  
Executive Director,  
September 2008 - September 2021

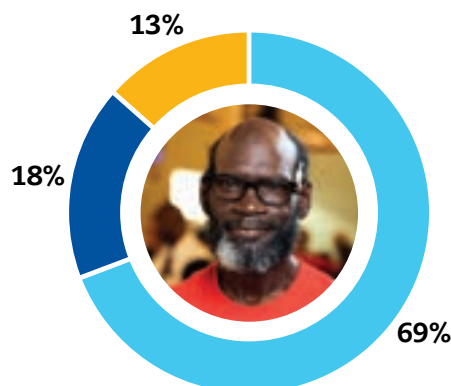
## Financial Information: FY 2021

### Income by Source \$3,260,378



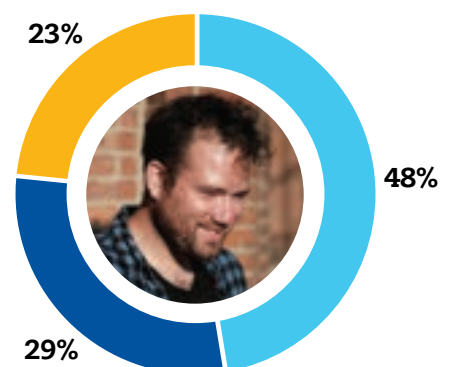
- Government Grants
- Special Events
- Donations from individuals, churches, synagogues, workplaces, community organizations, corporations, family foundations; investment activity

### Expense by Category \$2,388,304



- Programs
- General and Administrative
- Fund Development

### Expense by Program \$1,651,778



- Day Shelter and Social Services Center
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Street Outreach

To view our full annual report, including acknowledgements of donors, volunteers, staff, board, and partners please go to:  
[www.stjohncenter.org/2021-annual-report](http://www.stjohncenter.org/2021-annual-report)