



## **Emergency Shelter**

Our Emergency Shelter is available to individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis. Shelter residents receive one on one case management to establish and work towards goals, addressing barriers to obtaining employment and stable housing. Our twelvebed shelter is unique in that we have two family suites with private bathrooms, as well as two shared rooms for individuals. Residents have full access to our kitchen and great room. Our shelter is professionally staffed 24/7.

#### Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing is for individuals or households who have experienced chronic homelessness with a documented disability. PSH provides case management, goal setting, and referrals to help clients become more independent and stable in their housing. PSH units are apartments in the State College area; participants pay a portion of their income as an occupancy fee. After achieving and maintaining stability for a period of time, clients are assisted in the moving-on process and are able to take over the lease for their residence independently.

#### CE Walk-In Access Site

We serve as the only physical Coordinated Entry Access Site in Centre County, providing onsite assessment to those experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness to coordinate access to programs and services throughout the county.

## **Transitional Housing**

Transitional (Bridge) housing provides a home for households that are currently experiencing homelessness. Residents work with the case manager to set goals, access resources, maintain stability, and grow into a more independent lifestyle. Residents pay a portion of their income as a program fee applied towards rent and have up to one year to secure permanent housing.

### **Supportive Services**

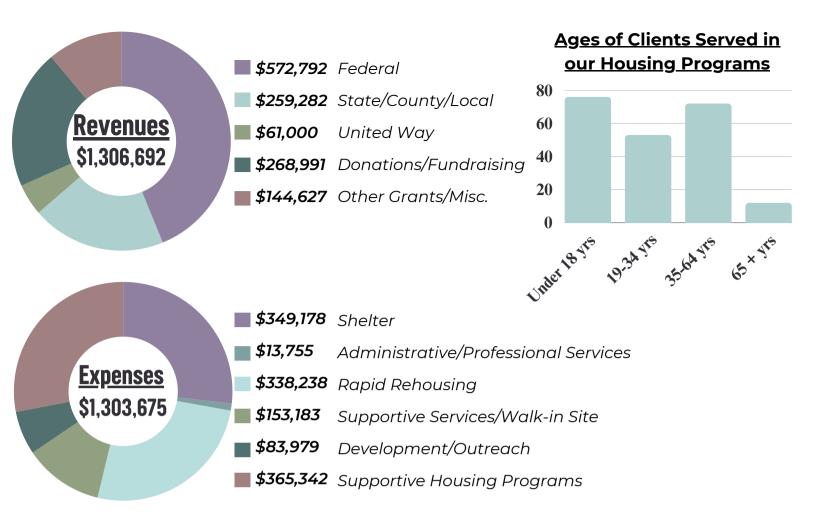
We provide on-site supportive services to multiple affordable housing properties within the community. Tenants are connected with community resources to help maintain stability, and our Supportive Services Coordinators help build and maintain a sense of community amongst residents at the properties by planning monthly activities and on-site, in-person supports.

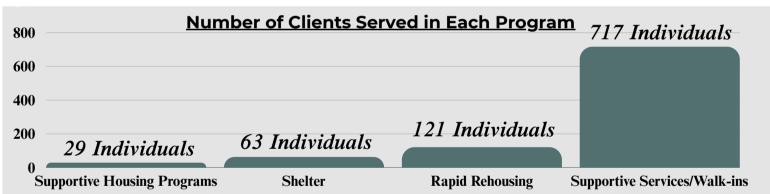
## <u>Emergency Food Pantry</u>

Our Emergency Food Pantry is available to any Centre County resident and can be utilized up to once per month. County residents can call ahead to schedule a pickup time between 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM daily, and we can provide enough shelf stable food items to get their household through several days, the weekend, or until the food bank is open again.

## Rapid Rehousing

Our RRH program assists persons and families experiencing homelessness to secure their own lease in Centre County by providing advocacy, financial rental assistance, and case management in order to reduce the amount of time unhoused, with support along the way toward independent, stable housing and ongoing stability.





"I was a single dad living with my grandmother to help her around the house. She passed away last year and her house was not something I could afford to take over. We bounced around from family member to family member but it was never quite home. Eventually we ran out of resources and ended up using our last couple hundred dollars on a hotel. A family member told me about Housing Transitions and within days we were enrolled in their shelter. While in shelter they helped connect me to employment, enrolling my child in school, setting up after school care and getting us into

permanent housing. We now have the stable foundation needed to make this new place our home."



"At the age of 71, I lost my husband of 25 plus years. The house was left to his children from his first marriage. I had nowhere to go, and I ended up sleeping in my car for a few days. Thankfully I was referred to Housing Transitions. I spent time in their shelter until they helped me get into my own apartment. Their staff is so helpful and compassionate. I do not know where I would be without them."



Throughout 2024, we have been celebrating 40 years of serving those experiencing a housing crisis in Centre County. Housing Transitions was started by a group of community members representative of business owners, faith-based organizations, local governments and other caring people. It served families from the very beginning. At our 40 Year Anniversary Celebration in May, I learned that even when we only had a couple of apartments in which to provide shelter, we had a young mom who struggled to feed her children anything healthy for dinner. We were committed to helping clients develop the life skills needed to find stable housing solutions and have continued to build programs that do exactly that.

We estimate over 6000 individuals have called our Centre House Shelter "home" for some length of time over those 40 years. On average, 25% of those would be children under the age of 18 with their families. We are honored to be able to serve Centre County with our work and thank you for helping us to realize our mission of ending homelessness everyday for individuals and families.

Sincerely, Morgan Wasikonis Executive Director

# **Our Mission**

The mission of Housing Transitions is to assist families and individuals to achieve a more independent lifestyle by providing a continuum of effective and well-managed housing related services. Ultimately, Housing Transitions strives to end homelessness in Centre County.

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