



FY 2022

THE GATHERING PLACE

ANNUAL REPORT

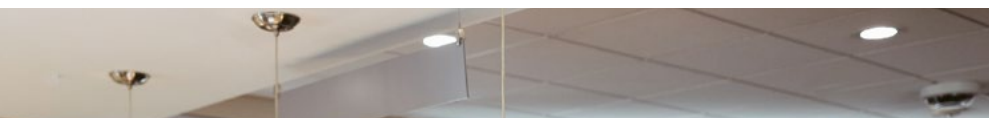


The Gathering Place®
a refuge for rebuilding lives

DEAR FRIENDS,



Dear Friends of The Gathering Place,



Returning to The Gathering Place (TGP) as Interim CEO 17 years after my initial role here as Capital Campaign Coordinator, I was immediately struck by how the unique culture of TGP remains intact and thriving. When a member asked me for the Wi-Fi password on my way to my office, I apologized for not knowing yet, as it was my first day on the job. She said it wasn't a problem and then started to walk away before turning around to call after me, "Welcome to the gathering!"

TGP is a community of members, staff, volunteers, and community partners who embrace a sense of belonging that reflects the nature of the space as their gathering place.

The members who visit our High Street day shelter to join the stitch circle, connect with parenting resources, or relax in the rooftop garden choose to be here because it is a space of radical acceptance, dignity, and hope.

And that same culture extended to our emergency shelter, known as Rodeway. Members tended a bountiful vegetable and flower garden where the hotel pool used to be. They were able to live in a safe environment with their beloved pets. Staff celebrated each success residents had as their own. TGP recognizes the whole person, as they choose to share themselves with us, as a beautiful and valuable part of this Denver community.

It has been an incredibly rewarding and inspiring experience returning to TGP after all these years. This organization attracts some of the most passionate and skilled community advocates I have ever witnessed in action. When I think of the possibilities for how TGP can continue to expand its influence in Metro Denver, I can think of no one better suited to lead us than our new CEO, Megan Devenport. I have had the pleasure of working with Megan in the past and believe her skills, talents and values are the perfect match for this organization.

This is TGP's time to fully embrace its role as a community leader and advocate for systems that treat all

people with dignity and humanity. It has been an honor to rejoin this community over these past several months. And I cannot wait to see how the next chapter unfolds.

Lydia McCoy
Interim President and CEO
June 2022 - February 2023

DEAR COMMUNITY,

“ The Gathering Place has given me a place where I can come and feel safe, take showers, and be free from the world.

- Yonnice, 30 years old, Member



From the moment I assumed the role of President and CEO of TGP in Feb. 2023, I knew I was becoming part of something extraordinary. In the months since, I've come to realize that my journey here is more than just a position; it's an immersion into a microcosm of society itself. Within these walls, a mosaic of diverse experiences, needs, passions and skills converge into a single vibrant community.

Our community, much like all of Denver and broader society, has navigated monumental transitions and weathered daunting challenges over the past few years. In the face of a pandemic that tested the limits of resilience for most, its impact was exponentially harsher for those without sanctuary for social distancing or a haven for recovery.

Our community's perseverance has been sustained by your unwavering support. Through your generous contributions, we generated an impressive \$4,642,735 in funding for 2022. Your generosity translated into tangible progress in our fight against poverty and homelessness. Side by side, we're supporting people as they pursue their own aspirations.

Yet, as remarkable as our progress has been, the cyclical nature of our mission persists. The tides of change won't shift entirely until policies and resources align to forge a landscape where affordable housing flourishes, barriers dissolve, and specialized support stands available for women, transgender and non-binary people, and children. Shockingly, nearly one in two Denverites teeter on the edge of poverty, just one

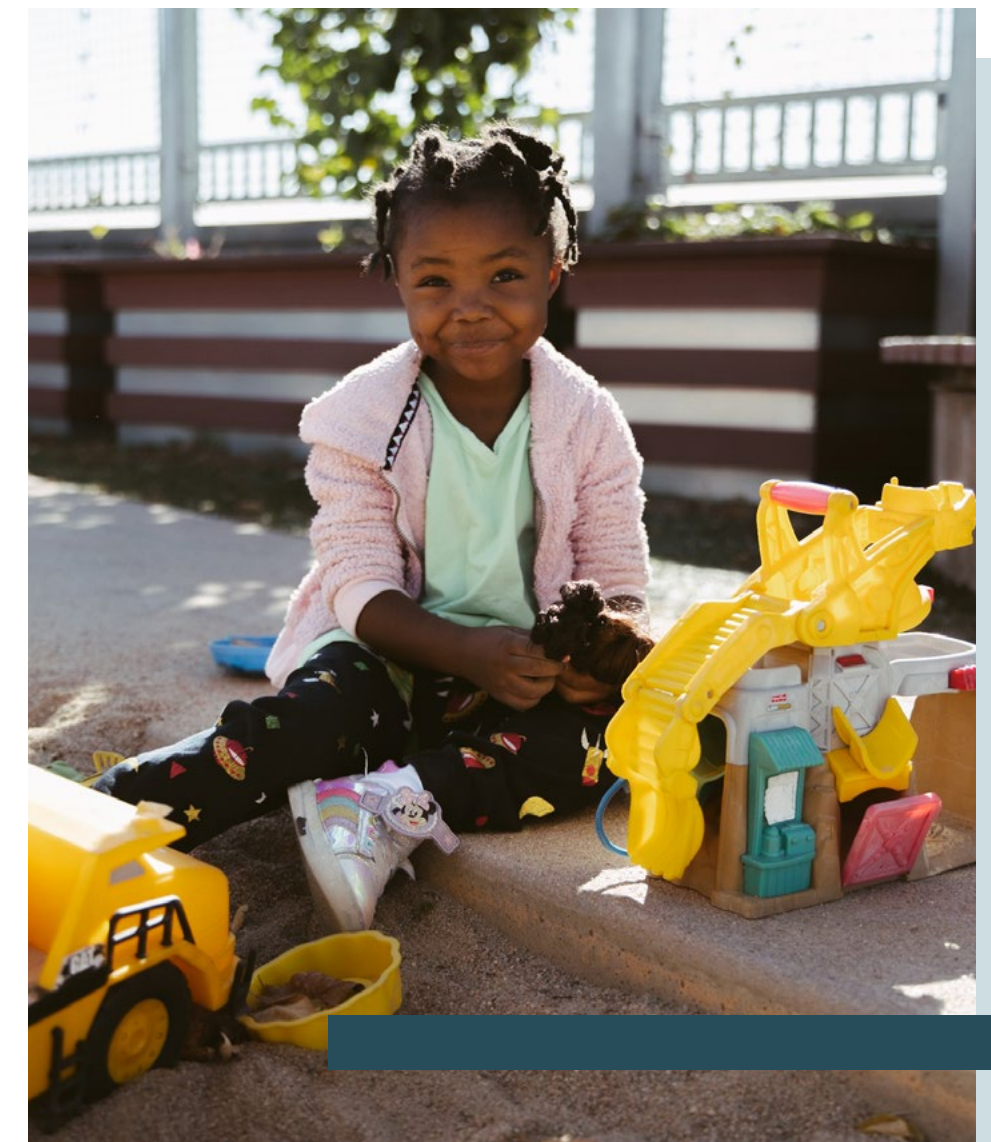
missed paycheck or unforeseen crisis away from the precipice. The statistics surge in parallel with an alarming rise in the homeless population. The path ahead for Denver urges us to take a stand and fight for a better tomorrow.

This juncture demands nothing short of our unwavering commitment to transformation. We must invest in initiatives that transcend mere numerical growth, guiding us from potential to palpable impact. The heartbeat of change resonates here, pulsing with the rhythm of collective effort and compassion.

I invite you to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with us as we push ahead. Together, let's rewrite the narrative of adversity into one of empowerment. Our future hinges on the tenacity of our shared purpose and the resounding belief that together, we are architects of a better Denver, and by extension, a better world.

With unyielding gratitude and determination,

Megan Devenport
President and CEO





CHALLENGES INTO OPPORTUNITIES

Since its founding in 1986, TGP has been driven by an unwavering commitment to the Denver community and to its members. Over the years, we have transformed challenges into opportunities, building a legacy of responsive and impactful programming. As we reflect on the events of 2022, a year defined by the continued adversity of the pandemic, our dedication to those most in need remains resolute.

In the wake of a world reshaped by the ongoing pandemic, the inequalities that permeate our society have become even more pronounced. The most marginalized among us – those disproportionately affected by the impact of COVID-19 – found themselves grappling to recover. In a disheartening surge, Denver’s homeless population grew by an alarming 31.7% from 2022 to 2023. Meanwhile, the cost of living soared, and inflation tightened its grip on our city. This year, we also faced the closure of the Rodeway Inn — our 24/7 shelter serving more than 70 women, transgender and non-binary people experiencing homelessness on any given night – after the City of Denver decided not to renew the lease on the space. In these challenging times, the urgency of TGP’s mission reached new heights. We view all



of these challenges as opportunities to reflect on lessons learned and apply those lessons toward future efforts.

Fueled by an unyielding commitment to our community, TGP took bold steps to align our efforts with the pressing needs of the hour. We recognized that listening is the cornerstone of effective action, and so we redoubled our commitment to understanding the pulse of our community. Through a carefully crafted, low-barrier approach, we revolutionized our programming to be more inclusive and responsive.

Our expanded case management team and the addition of a dedicated child-focused advocate ensured that every member of our community had the tailored support they deserved. Recognizing the richness of diversity that defines our community, we also elevated our commitment to culturally appropriate food options, nurturing both body and spirit.

Central to our transformation was the empowerment of our incredible staff. We invested in their development, fostering a team even more equipped to create lasting change. A testament to our values, we championed staff well-being by implementing pay raises, reaffirming that our people are at the heart of everything we achieve.

Guiding our every move was a shift toward true inclusivity. We amplified the voices of our members and staff, transcending traditional power dynamics. Our decision-making is becoming a tapestry woven with the threads of community insight, ensuring that our actions are aligned with genuine needs.

Our 24/7 non-congregate shelter provided refuge to more than 70 women, trans and non-binary people on any given night.

Our journey through 2022 was also marked by the generous support of our donors – donors like you. Your unwavering belief in our mission fueled our progress and encouraged us to do more. We are deeply grateful for your financial contributions, which have enabled us to create a real impact where it is needed most.

In the spirit of continuous improvement, we embarked on a participatory budgeting process, tapping into the wealth of knowledge within our staff. Their insights formed the bedrock of our achievements in 2022, reinforcing our commitment to shared power and collective expertise. It makes sense that the insights of our staff’s voices should shape the programmatic priorities for the upcoming year.

As we cast our gaze towards the horizon, we recognize that our work today is the cornerstone of a brighter future. Every step we take is a testament to our dedication to an equitable and just Denver. We stand united in our mission to empower, uplift, and transform lives. Together, we are weaving a tapestry of change, enriching lives and building a community where all thrive.

OUR IMPACT

FY 2022 FINANCIALS



4,296 ADULTS VISITED
33,708 TIMES

1,355 CHILDREN VISITED
4,025 TIMES

240

PEOPLE SERVED AT RODEWAY

118,755

MEALS PROVIDED THROUGH THE KITCHEN AND PANTRY



2,124

MEALS WERE SERVED TO CHILDREN



456

INDIVIDUALS USED THE JOBS AND EDUCATION PROGRAM 1,695 TIMES

113,770

TOTAL POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THE PANTRY

16,920

OF THOSE POUNDS WERE DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THE FAMILY PROGRAM

OVER 500

CONTAINERS OF FORMULA DISTRIBUTED, DESPITE THE FORMULA SHORTAGE

527

CAREGIVERS RECEIVED FORMULA, MEALS AND GROCERIES THROUGH THE FAMILY FOOD PROGRAM

65,460

DIAPERS WERE DISTRIBUTED

582

INDIVIDUALS USED WELLNESS SERVICES



AT LEAST 93

HOUSEHOLDS TRANSITIONED INTO STABLE HOUSING (RODEWAY AND HIGH ST COMBINED)

263

INDIVIDUALS OR HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVED CASE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT TO ADDRESS HOUSING

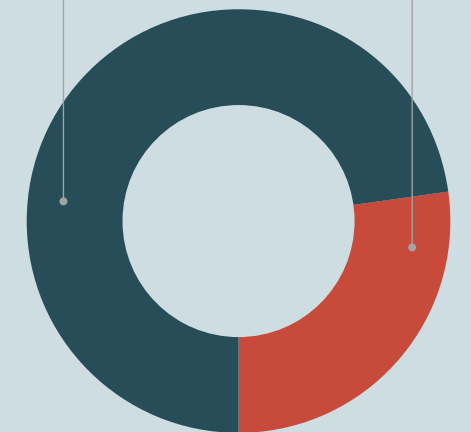
REVENUE

Individual Contributions	\$1,308,301
Business Contributions	\$84,393
Foundation Contributions	\$1,083,858
Donor-Advised Fund Contributions-Operations	\$194,508
Religious Orgs. Contributions	\$57,083
Community Organization Contributions	\$44,491
Workplace Giving	\$56,943
In-kind Donations/ Professional Services-Operations	\$13,640
In-kind Donations/Tangible goods-Operations	\$370,312
Program Service Income	\$1,416,864
Other Income	\$12,342
TOTAL REVENUE	\$4,642,735

EXPENSES

73% MEETING BASIC NEEDS

27% SUPPORTING STABILITY



MEETING BASIC NEEDS

Program	\$2,734,428
Administrative	\$357,330
Fundraising	\$265,270
TOTAL	\$3,357,028

SUPPORTING STABILITY

Program	\$1,011,758
Administrative	\$132,216
Fundraising	\$98,152
TOTAL	\$1,242,126



The Gathering Place[®]
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Board Members FY 2022

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