The Gathering Place offers services to combat poverty and address the impacts of marginalization and oppression that often contribute to poverty or homelessness. By providing low-barrier access to a broad range of basic necessities and wraparound care options, TGP guides women, transgender folx, and children living in poverty from a place of crisis and instability to one of stability and security.

As we reflect on the past year and the history of The Gathering Place (TGP), it is very clear that this community continues to show up and address challenges head on while adapting to meet the changing and important needs of the most marginalized.

When TGP was founded in 1986, we were a small, one-room facility located on Santa Fe Drive that served 25 to 35 women a day. We provided a place for women and children experiencing homelessness to come and shelter and have a meal during the day. Fast forward to today, and we have seen exponential growth. Over the years, we have scaled our services to meet the need of the community and expanded the population we serve to include transgender, non-binary and gender non-conforming folx as we have seen that these, as well as women and children, are populations that are disproportionately impacted by poverty and homelessness. We have also grown our programming and services to not only address individuals' immediate, emergency needs, but also provide services that support people on their path to personal stability.

It is difficult to overstate the collective grief, exhaustion and trauma that Covid-19 and the impacts of the pandemic have brought. Yet, this year also brought clarity and positive growth, and instilled a renewed sense of hope and commitment to the mission of TGP and the community we all serve. Together, we can continue to grow and meet the needs of this deserving community, and our strength will be reflected in the equitable future we are forging for all.

The contributions from our collective community made all the difference this year. Thanks to a generous grant from Colorado Health Foundation, TGP was able to expand our Education and Job Readiness program as well as our Wellness program, allowing us to serve more members. We also received two planned gifts that we are investing in building infrastructure and reserves which will ensure that we can maintain, and even continue to expand services during times of economic hardship, when our community needs us most.

TGP also launched an on-site early childhood development education course through the Community Based Education in Nurturing Parenting (CBENP) program’s Nurturing Parenting® series for parents and caregivers. The 90- to 120-minute lessons in the series are available in English and Spanish and help caregivers replace potentially abusive and/or neglectful parenting methods with positive, nurturing skills. Topics covered include understanding and appropriately processing feelings, promoting alternatives to physical discipline, and early childhood development. When participants attend classes, they are able to access TGP’s full suite of services as well as assistance with child supervision.

This year also brought clarity and positive growth, and instilled a renewed sense of hope and commitment.

As we look to the years ahead, I am filled with gratitude and inspiration for the dedication and commitment of this community. You continue to show up, to look towards the future, and to fight for women, transgender individuals and children to have a path to stability and equity in Denver. While we still have a lot of work to do, it’s really inspiring to reflect on the impact that the collective community has had on so many lives. Please join me in taking a look at the member journey with TGP and how your support made a difference.

In gratitude and solidarity,

Julia Stewart
President and CEO
The Gathering Place

As we reflect on the past year and the history of The Gathering Place (TGP), it is very clear that this community continues to show up and address challenges head on while adapting to meet the changing and important needs of the most marginalized.
Education, housing, healthcare and employment policies over time have led to deep inequities, racial disparities, and systemic racism among people experiencing poverty and homelessness. The most marginalized communities—Women, LGBTQ+, and BIPOC individuals—experience poverty and homelessness at disproportionately higher rates than others.

When Denver’s women, transgender individuals and their children are faced with these circumstances—they turn to TGP.

While we know a person’s journey isn’t linear, TGP works to provide wraparound support to meet people where they are and support their choices along their path to recovery and achieving their goals. We understand that when someone is hungry, needs a shower, needs to brush their teeth, or needs a fresh pair of socks and underwear, they cannot focus on things like finding a job, enrolling in insurance, or engaging with other supports. Many members’ journeys begin with accessing basic needs and continue into utilizing other long-term supports.

A Member’s Journey from crisis to stability

MEALS & FOOD ASSISTANCE
Bethany was able to access three freshly prepared meals (breakfast, lunch and snack) every day in the community dining room. Our chefs prepare nutrient rich foods and offer vegetarian options as well as ensuring that the meals meet the daily USDA nutrition standards.

94 MEALS / $275

JOBS & EDUCATION CASE MANAGEMENT
Through our Jobs and Education Program, Bethany was able to move from working multiple part-time jobs to a transitional employment program. After completing the program, case managers helped Bethany obtain full-time employment where she is still employed today.

13 MEETINGS / $2,253

CLOTHING
Bethany was able to find new clothes for a job interview at Bridget’s Boutique. Members can access Bridget’s Boutique once every month and select from a range of tops, bottoms, accessories, jewelry, and shoes to build or supplement their wardrobe. The Boutique emphasizes providing choice in styles and sizes to ensure that, no matter why members visit, we can help meet their need.

4 ITEMS / $87

SEPT 31, 2021 TO PRESENT DAY
WHERE SHE IS NOW
Bethany is still housed in her apartment and maintaining stable employment. She says that she is healthier and has a positive outlook for the future, having already made new savings goals for herself.

A Member’s Journey from crisis to stability

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We all have the opportunity to restore hope, pride and dignity in others. The ripple effect of supporting a member’s journey goes beyond the walls of TGP. When members move from a place of crisis to stability, we see them go on to support their families and communities, lifting others up and referring those in need to TGP.

Total cost of member journey $6,033
OUR IMPACT

Supporting health, home, purpose and community

We provide members a continuum of services, always at no cost, to support their choices as they journey from crisis to stability. This flexible model is critical in meeting members’ basic needs while also providing programming and resources to support the four pillars of recovery: health, home, purpose, and community.

EMERGENCY SHELTER
Our 24/7 non-congregate emergency shelter provides residential-style shelter in a former motel.

GENERAL SERVICES
Members have access to showers, hygiene supplies, laundry facilities, a nap room, mail delivery, telephones, computer lab, family area, and a rooftop playground.

NAVIGATION SERVICES
Resource Advocates are able to meet one-on-one, introduce members to services, and refer to external resources such as overnight shelter, transportation, and partner agencies.

BRIDGET’S BOUTIQUE
Our clothing bank helps seek essential seasonal clothing and work attire. Our Family Program offers clothing for infants and children, and vouchers for local thrift stores.

MEALS AND FOOD ASSISTANCE
Freshly prepared meals are served on site three times daily. Our Food Pantry also distributes bags of food. Each member can access up to 30 pounds every month, while families can access up to 90 pounds.

HOUSING-FOCUSED CASE MANAGEMENT
Case Managers address barriers to obtaining housing, and support members as they transition into stable housing.

NURTURING PARENTING® PROGRAM
Trained, certified facilitators offer education in English and Spanish. Topics include understanding and appropriately processing feelings, promoting alternatives to physical discipline, and early childhood development.

ESSENTIAL BABY PRODUCTS
Diapers, wipes and formula are available to families, and Resource Advocates can help get car seats, strollers and other essential infant care items as needed.

WELLNESS PROGRAM
Community health partners come on site to deliver behavioral health services, preventative medical care, dental care, COVID testing and vaccines. A Peer Recovery Program and Arts and Wellness activities are also available for members.

EDUCATION AND JOB READINESS
Education and Job Readiness offers job search, resume and cover letter assistance, and hiring events, case management, and GED classes.

3,344 ADULTS VISITED OUR DAY CENTER
111,341 MEALS SERVED THROUGH OUR FOOD PROGRAM
243 ADULTS ACCESSED OUR WELLNESS PROGRAM
769 CHILDREN SERVED BY OUR FAMILY PROGRAM
27 CAREGIVERS PARTICIPATED IN OUR NURTURING PARENTING PROGRAM
42 HOUSEHOLDS ACHIEVED LONG-TERM STABLE HOUSING
115 PEOPLE ON AVERAGE STAYING AT 24/7 EMERGENCY SHELTER PER NIGHT
154 PARTICIPANTS IN EDUCATION AND JOB READINESS
11 ADULTS OBTAINED EMPLOYMENT

52% INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Individual Contributions $2,833,834
Foundations $956,559
Grants $836,332
Donated Goods & Services $286,222
Donor-Advised Fund $157,964
Community Organizations $131,619
Businesses $123,543
Workplace Giving $67,231
Religious Organizations $21,028
Other $1,826

TOTAL REVENUE $5,416,157

62% MEETING BASIC NEEDS
Program $1,524,343
Administrative $209,016
Fundraising $177,585

TOTAL EXPENSES $3,082,167

38% SUPPORTING STABILITY
Program $934,274
Administrative $128,107
Fundraising $108,642

“TGP is a safe haven for people. It’s such a good community.”
—Sonja, Member and Volunteer
Board of Directors

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Tasha Small, Human Services Supervisor, City and County of Denver, Department of Human Services
Elissa Soden, Impact Consultant, The New Search Collaborative

“Our kids can play, we can support each other, and we can go from surviving to thriving. It takes time, but the community helps so much.”
—Jennifer, Member and former Board Member