



The Gathering Place®
a refuge for rebuilding lives

ANNUAL REPORT 2018





SAYING GOODBYE

When I first started working at The Gathering Place in 1990, I was one of five staff members. Seven months later, I was promoted to Executive Director at the age of 32. I am amazed at how quickly my five-year commitment turned into 29 and how quickly serving 50 people each day turned into 250.

It is time for me to focus on different life priorities, and time for The Gathering Place to benefit from new leadership. I am overwhelmed with gratitude for being entrusted with leading this organization, and the opportunity to be part of so many individual stories.

I could not be more proud of The Gathering Place, or more confident about the future. We continue to provide the highest quality services, focusing our talents and expertise on our mission and our future.

Though I have said goodbye to countless people over the years, I have learned that no one really leaves us when they are part of our memory. Thank you to all of you who have expanded my world, who have made me kinder, stronger, and more aware, and who, I know, will continue to build TGP's future.

Gratefully,

Leslie R. Foster
Outgoing President of The Gathering Place



The Gathering Place®
a refuge for rebuilding lives

The Gathering Place, founded in 1986, is a community of safety and hope where positive relationships, choice, and essential resources transform the lives of women, transgender individuals and their children experiencing poverty or homelessness. We refer to those we serve as "members" and our generous donors ensure that our programs and services are provided free of charge.

We believe deeply in the power of our community and continually work to make it stronger. Our key values include recognizing individual strengths, building respect and trust, and offering unconditional acceptance.

SAYING HELLO

I have spent my entire professional career working for mission-driven organizations, and The Gathering Place stands out among all of them for the richness of its community and power of its impact on everyone who steps through its doors. I am honored and humbled to advance the mission of the organization as The Gathering Place's next President.

Leslie built this organization on the foundation of positive relationships and respect. I have every intention of building on this legacy and on these values, because it is at the heart of what makes us different.

In the coming years, we will expand our capacity to serve more people by continuing to streamline our operations. This means our Programs and Services staff will have more time for what matters: relationship building with our members. We will continue to build greater visibility, thanks to the tremendous work of our Resource Development team, and build partnerships inside and outside our community, with the support of our Executive Team. I look forward to finding innovative ways for us to shape our future.

With gratitude,



Julia Stewart

Incoming President of The Gathering Place



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Learn more in our
Resource Library
tgpdenver.org/news-events

WHO WE SERVE

Our members face a mix of challenges that can make it nearly impossible to meet vital survival needs, let alone find economic stability. Hunger. Safety. Unreliable transportation. No childcare. Mental and physical health issues. Living in shelter. Trauma. Often, a member faces more than one of these issues at any given time and sometimes chronically.



AGE

23% are newborn to 20 years old



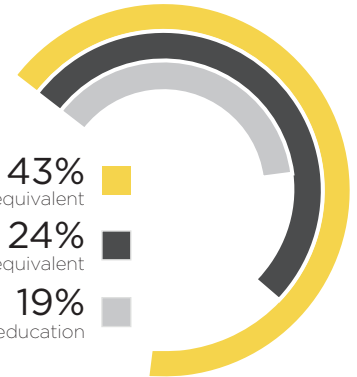
Nearly half are between the ages of 21 and 45

1/3

of members are 46+

EDUCATION

43% no high school diploma/equivalent
24% high school diploma/equivalent
19% some post-secondary education



RACE/ETHNICITY

45% White



36% Black/African American



11% American Indian/Alaska Native



4% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander



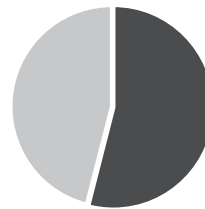
2% Asian



2% Other

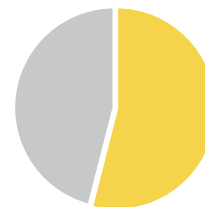


HEALTH



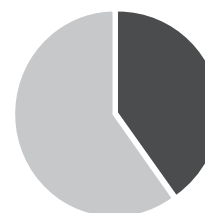
54%

have a mental or physical health concern



54%

have suffered some form of abuse

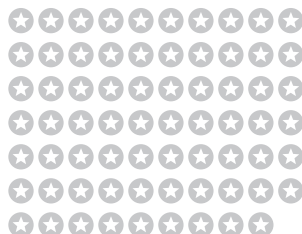


40%

report domestic violence as direct cause of their homelessness

VETERANS

69



MEETING BASIC NEEDS


Resource Advocates on the **Community Access Team** (CAT) respond to members' immediate needs with services that include showers, laundry, naps, mail service, locker storage, telephone access, and an extensive array of resources and referrals.

Like the CAT Team, the **Family Program** meets immediate needs with a focus on the unique challenges families face, and allows parents to participate in other services/programs at TGP, while their children are cared for.

Our **Food Services Program** provides meals (breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack) that include healthy and delicious options that accommodate most dietary needs. Our Food Pantries (Betsy's Cupboard and Family Program) provide healthy groceries (including baby food and formula), toiletries, and diapers.



MEMBERS SERVED

5,408 ADULTS
visited 50,818 times 

1,664 CHILDREN
visited 4,473 times 

BASIC NEEDS

60,759 meals 

6,027 showers 

17,670 diapers 

FOSTERING PERSONAL GROWTH

Our **Education and Job Readiness Program** helps members advance their education and improve their employment potential.

In the **Computer Lab**, members can utilize computers, access the Internet, print documents, and increase their computer literacy with the help of our volunteers. These tools help members stay in touch with their loved ones, apply for jobs or housing, and complete other necessary tasks.

Our **Physical and Mental Health Program** helps members access healthcare information, services, and referrals. The program regularly brings partner agencies and pro-bono health professionals on site to provide vital care to our members.

The **Arts Program** provides creative outlets such as making greeting cards, knitting and crocheting, open art, creative writing, and music. It is as much an opportunity for personal growth as it is for community building, and serves as a pipeline to our social enterprise, Art Restart.

Bridget's Boutique, our clothing bank, distributes clothing to members who have an emergency need for replacement clothes or need clothes for employment reasons. Professional stylists also provide free haircuts.

EDUCATION/JOBS

413 participated in job readiness programs

5 earned high school equivalency certificates

COMPUTER LAB

1,028 MEMBERS
visited 5,500 times



HEALTH

272 counseling sessions

571 medical screenings



ARTS



248
MEMBER-ARTISTS
8,756 cards sold

BRIDGET'S BOUTIQUE

22,858
clothing items



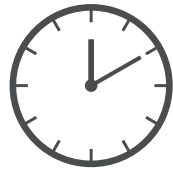
1,875
haircuts

BUILDING COMMUNITY

We host a robust **Volunteer Program**. Various opportunities are available throughout the agency, including roles with the Welcome Desk, Kitchen, The Card Project, Family Programs, and High School Equivalency Program.

VOLUNTEERS

17,000
hours



2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leslie Foster, *President*

Sandra Storey, *Chair*

Kendall Lindenbaum, *Chair-elect*

Tracy Birts, *Treasurer*

Rebecca Kisner, *Secretary*

Christina Saunders, *Immediate Past Chair*

Nora Ali

Geoffrey Bateman

Kathy Daly

Sue Engle

Lindsey Feitz

Jacquie Koewler

Michelle Murray

Allison Panter

Chirag Patel

John Ratcliff

Susan Rodger

Maren Simons

Maya Wilbourn

“We know that The Gathering Place is magical. That’s why we all commit our time, outside of our otherwise busy lives with family, friends, careers, and other pursuits to be a part of it all.”

Sandra Storey, Board Chair

PROMOTING
SOCIAL
ENTERPRISE



Our social enterprise, **Art Restart**, provides members with the supplies they need to create their own art. Select pieces become custom merchandise, such as printed cards, scarves, wedding invitations, calendars, journals and tote bags, from which the artists receive a royalty on every purchase made.

Find unique items for yourself or others, while also supporting The Gathering Place. Shop artrestart.org.

ART RESTART

\$26,779

in income for

102 artists



LOOKING AHEAD



Stay informed on everything
happening at The Gathering Place.
Subscribe to our newsletters at
tgpdenver.org/subscribe.html

Peer Navigator Program: In an effort to extend our staffing capacity and representation, we have developed a pilot Peer Navigator Program offering one-year, part-time positions to individuals who have personally experienced poverty, homelessness and/or mental health disorders. Navigators will receive mentoring from staff members, training related to professionalism and social work, and support in looking for future employment.

Improving Member Experience: We want to reduce the time that our members spend waiting in line. To do this, we will evaluate the costs and feasibility of technology upgrades in FY2019 that will make it easier and quicker for members to check into and/or make appointments for a variety of services, with a goal of rolling out changes in FY2020.

Partnership with Art Students League of Denver: In spring and summer 2019, the Art Students League of Denver will teach 36 weeks of classes for 15 members. Participants who complete the program will receive a certificate; and those who simultaneously participate in Art Restart, may see art as a viable source of income.

TOTAL REVENUE

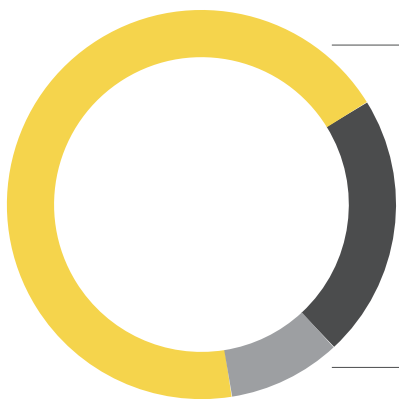
Individual Gifts	\$950,088 (34%)	
Foundation Grants	\$859,819 (31%)	
In-Kind Contributions	\$485,293 (17%)	
Donor-Advised Funds	\$151,712 (5%)	
Government Contracts & Grants	\$84,697 (3%)	
Workplace Giving	\$80,573 (3%)	
Art Restart (Social Enterprise)	\$72,646 (3%)	
Business, Religious, & Organization Donations	\$57,898 (2%)	
Other	\$26,847 (1%)	
Special Events	\$3,824 (0%)	

\$2,773,397

"I can't imagine a more wonderful place to support than The Gathering Place, a place that helps so many women in need, a place that I might well have needed only a few years ago."

Natasha, Donor

TOTAL EXPENSES



\$2,797,969

69% Meet Basic Needs	Program Costs	\$1,462,149	\$1,921,853
	Administrative	\$241,293	
	Fundraising	\$218,411	
22% Foster Personal Growth	Program Costs	\$461,898	\$612,744
	Administrative	\$79,177	
	Fundraising	\$71,669	
9% Social Enterprise	Program Costs	\$215,113	\$263,372
	Administrative	\$25,331	
	Fundraising	\$22,928	

“There is a lot of kindness in the world,
and I appreciate seeing so much of that
kindness here at The Gathering Place.”

Joan, Volunteer



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www.tgpdenver.org

303-321-4198

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October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018