



ANNUAL REPORT

2013

GOOD SHEPHERD HOUSING & FAMILY SERVICES





GIVING FAMILIES

THE TOOLS TO CREATE

THEIR OWN SUCCESS



Winner of the 2013 Washington Post Award for Excellence in Nonprofit Management.

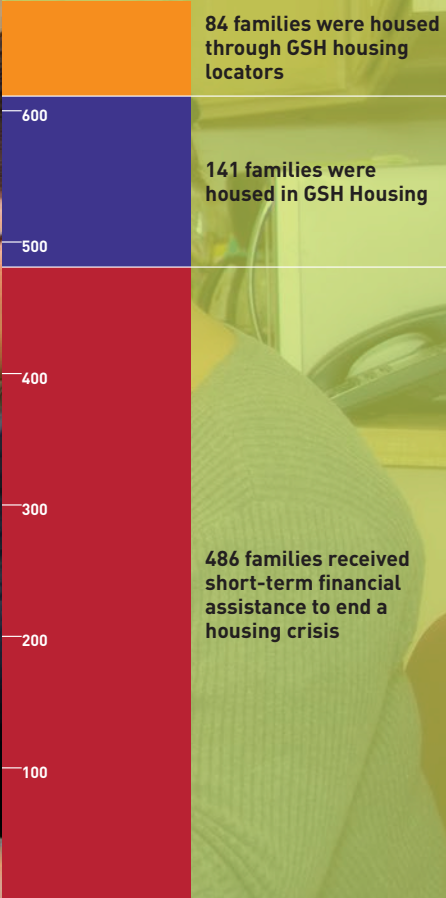
Former GSH Executive Director Shannon Steene and Board Chair Cheryl Ellsworth accept the 2013 Washington Post Award for Excellence in Nonprofit Management.



“The Selection Committee of experts was fascinated by Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services’ strategies and attention to practices including their strategic messaging initiative and their client-focused approach to housing,” said Center CEO Glen O’Gilvie.



711 FAMILIES RECEIVED HOUSING OR SERVICES FROM GSH IN 2013



PROGRAMS

APARTMENTS BUDGETING COUNSELING (ABC)

GSH provides an alternative to homelessness for people denied housing in their own name due to bad credit or a poor rental history. People rent from us and we help them clean up their credit and rental reference problems.

When Sharon applied to the ABC program she was on the verge of being evicted from her apartment and turned to Good Shepherd Housing for help.

Once Sharon was in safe and stable GSH housing, she began monthly budget counseling sessions. "When I saw how much money I spent on fast food, I went 'Oh no, there's something wrong here!' The plan was to keep receipts and records of everything I spent and when

I saw how much I spent on my cell phone bill and on fast food, it was exorbitant."

This was the first lesson Sharon learned as she began her journey toward financial freedom. Working with her volunteer Budget Counselor and her Community Case Manager, Sharon has set long-term goals such as one day purchasing a house. For the time being she is focusing on short-term goals. "I sat down with a budget

counselor and we talked about what I wanted. I talked about wanting when my bills come, that the balance due is zero and I just need to pay what is currently owed."

Good Shepherd Housing's role is one of support, understanding and guidance. This is what Sharon has found most helpful during her time in the ABC program. When a position as an office manager became available, Sharon was interested in the job, but was unsure if she would get it. "I had a meeting with my counselor and told her of my application and she said, 'What are your obstacles to getting the position?' We represented them with blocks and then we wiped them away as far as wiping away the obstacles to getting the position." Sharon got the position and she loves it.



Sharon is currently maintaining an affordable apartment for herself and her sons and has a savings account to cover emergencies. Now that she has found stability in her life, she can take her mind off of her expenses long to enough to stop and root for her oldest son as he plays his last season of college football. Her only regret is not learning the lessons she found here earlier. "I look back and say wow! I should have had these lessons and guidance when I was growing up before I made all the poor choices that got me to where I was."

"I feel like I'm on the road to financial freedom, and I'm teaching these lessons to my boys so they don't have to make the poor choices I did." -Sharon

PROGRAMS

HOUSING AS TOP PRIORITY

GSH offers a connection to affordable housing, along with guidance, support and some financial assistance to families facing homelessness. Services are aimed at breaking the family's cycle of homelessness.

Alfred was struggling. Despite having a day job through a temporary agency as a laborer, Alfred had been falling short on rent for two years. When a friend heard of his troubles, he referred Alfred to GSH. Alfred contacted GSH with little time to spare as imminent homelessness loomed over his head.

A GSH Case Manager quickly began working with Alfred to solve some of his housing

problems. After applying for county funding, at GSH's suggestion, Alfred enrolled in GSH's Housing as Top Priority (HTP) program to help him find affordable housing while his Case Manager offered valuable guidance and support.

For example, GSH helped Alfred enroll in basic computer classes and set up an email account so he could apply for jobs and email employers. "He came in, did a lot of resume

writing, job searching and learned basic computer skills. He really didn't know how to use a computer at all so I helped him set up an email account so he was able to receive job ads," said Alfred's Case Manager.

"After I applied at GSH and I started talking to a counselor, things got a lot better for me. They started having me take care of my bills and they gave me a chance to do computer classes, so for me they did a great big help," Alfred responded. Alfred's Case Manager praised him for his proactive, grateful and polite character- "He was a client that made an effort; I never had to call him, he was always calling me. He was very proactive and definitely wanted to help his own situation... he was continuing to work and continuing to show he was trying to increase his income."



In less than nine months of GSH assistance, Alfred found a new full time job in the construction industry that pays double his previous wage. Without GSH's help, Alfred stated, "I'd probably be in the streets to be totally honest with you. For me, GSH was a life saver... God bless them all."

"My experience with GSH has been extremely tremendous. It really has helped me a lot." – Alfred

PROGRAMS

EMERGENCY SERVICES

GSH provides grants of up to \$350 to prevent evictions and utility disconnections, or to help with first month's rent or security deposit.

Many Americans have been affected by economic changes in recent years. Eric was no exception. As a contractor on Andrews Air Force Base, Eric was laid off as his department was cut due to government furloughs. Eric filed for Virginia unemployment benefits, which began a whirlwind of complications.

Although Eric is a Virginia resident, he did not qualify for Virginia unemployment benefits because he worked in Maryland.

With the delay in filing for and receiving those benefits, Eric was unable to pay his gas bill on time. After being referred to Good Shepherd Housing by an associate, Eric met with a staff member to request assistance with his gas bill. Without this assistance, his gas would have been cut off and Eric's credit would also be hurt.

Although he is still navigating the job market, Eric is hopeful that one of his recent employment prospects will have

a positive outcome. Reflecting on his experience with GSH, Eric asserts, "Good Shepherd Housing is a dependable nonprofit organization that one in need

can rely on... they get my nod. If you're in honest need, I would recommend Good Shepherd Housing as a first alternative."

HOUSING LOCATOR PROGRAM

As part of the local implementation of the federal Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), GSH is coordinating and supporting a County-wide network of professionals that provides housing search assistance for people facing homelessness. The program is recognized by the National Alliance to End Homelessness as the first certified Rapid Re-Housing program in the country.

BUDGET COUNSELING

GSH provides financial education for low-income families and individuals in our ABC program. Participants clean up their credit history, learn new money management skills and gain financial independence.

CHILDREN'S RESOURCES

GSH ensures that children of families in our ABC program do not miss out on educational, social and recreational activities simply because their families have low incomes. The agency provides school supplies and winter coats, and pays for after school activities and summer camps.

"Things would be have been drastic had I not gotten help from GSH. They were very good at helping me at the time and moment." -Eric

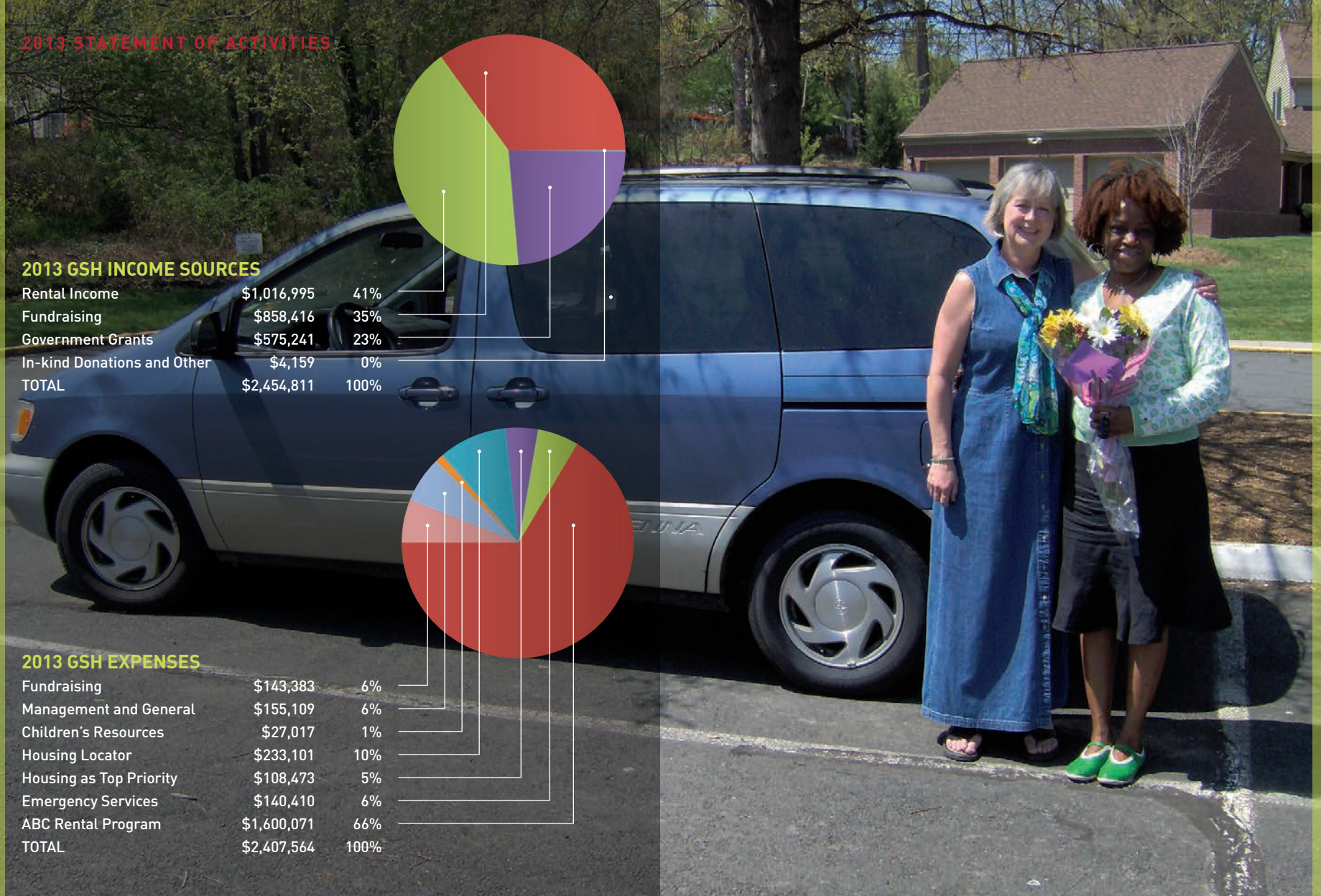
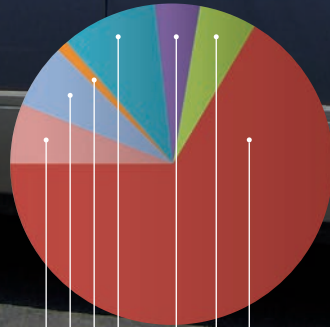
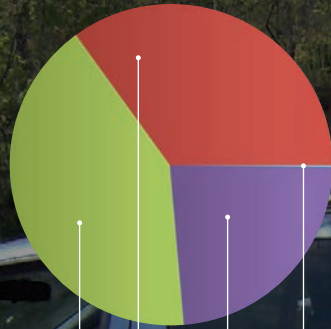
2013 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

2013 GSH INCOME SOURCES

Rental Income	\$1,016,995	41%
Fundraising	\$858,416	35%
Government Grants	\$575,241	23%
In-kind Donations and Other	\$4,159	0%
TOTAL	\$2,454,811	100%

2013 GSH EXPENSES

Fundraising	\$143,383	6%
Management and General	\$155,109	6%
Children's Resources	\$27,017	1%
Housing Locator	\$233,101	10%
Housing as Top Priority	\$108,473	5%
Emergency Services	\$140,410	6%
ABC Rental Program	\$1,600,071	66%
TOTAL	\$2,407,564	100%



MISSION

**THE MISSION OF GOOD SHEPHERD HOUSING (GSH)
IS TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS, INCREASE COMMUNITY
SUPPORT, AND PROMOTE SELF-SUFFICIENCY.**

Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services Board of Directors

- **Dick Alderson** - Business development and strategic programming for EMC Federal
- **Willie Bailey** - Fairfax County Firefighter, Retired Army Reserves
- **Kari Davidson** - Former Legislative Director, Affordable Housing Specialist at U.S. Dept of HUD, Deputy Staff Director for the Senate Subcommittee on Housing
- **Patricia Duffy** - Retired Senior Executive at U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- **Cheryl Ellsworth** - Attorney specializing in international trade, Customs and antitrust law
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- **Tim Wagner** - Nonprofit administrator, former real estate appraiser
- **Kimberly Young** - Secretary, Associate Pastor, Adams Inspirational A.M.E. Church and Director of Corporate Services for Council on Foundations

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