



Covenant  
House  
Missouri

# ANNUAL REPORT FY21



*Guiding youth from homelessness to hope.*

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### Chief Executive Officer

Jessica Erling

## Dear Friends of Covenant House Missouri,

In the early months of 2020, it was difficult to see past a few days, let alone a year and beyond. In the face of so many challenges, we find strength in each other. Young people who come to Covenant House Missouri face many challenges, all heightened by the pandemic. Living with fear and uncertainty is not new to them. Nonetheless, they choose to rise each day and, following their example, so do we. We have the privilege of walking beside them as they overcome each obstacle. We feel pride as they reach new heights. Practicing our core values of Unconditional Love And Absolute Respect (aka ULAAR), we know that together we can do great things.

Looking back over the past year, we feel hope and gratitude. We have watched young people graduate, gain employment, move into stable housing for the first time, and achieve things they never thought possible. We have seen them take hold of their lives and transform their futures.

This happens because we at Covenant House choose to see their potential and invest in their success; and because you do, too. Thank you for choosing to empower the young people who turn to Covenant House Missouri. Your support, belief, and commitment is visible in every accomplishment achieved and challenge overcome.

We are excited to share the outcomes we achieved together in fiscal year 2021. We hope you will feel our gratitude and know that you played a pivotal role, making it possible for young people to see a brighter future. Looking back, we see all we accomplished. Looking forward, we see endless possibilities.

Sincerely,



Jessica Erling



Brad Partridge



# Strategic Plan: Year Two



**Grow Housing Opportunities**



**Expand Employment and Education**



**Develop Human Capital**



**Increase Investments**

When Covenant House Missouri's three-year strategic plan launched in July 2019 we did not know we would spend the majority of that time in a global pandemic. Thankfully, the plan set the foundation for our work and provided a clear map to navigate an ever-changing and evolving landscape. Keen focus on four key priority areas - Grow Housing, Expand Employment and Education, Develop Human Capital, and Increase Investments - moved our organization forward in spite of the challenges we faced. Today we are serving young people who come through our doors with greater purpose and promise. We will highlight outcomes in each key priority area throughout this annual report.

The numbers show that we are working on our plan and achieving our goals. Beyond that, the pride and determination that comes to life in each young person we serve represent the greatest achievements of all.

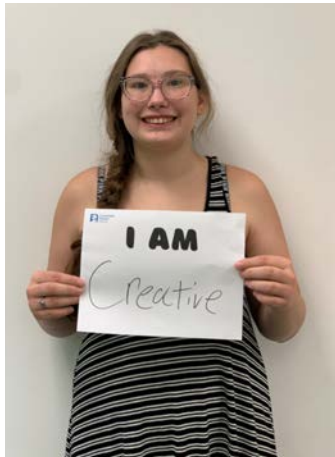


# Grow Housing Opportunities

Providing safe, stable housing has been even more crucial during the pandemic. With the onset of COVID-19, the need for our services increased significantly. We quickly increased the number of beds from 36 to 40 and maintained a 96% occupancy rate throughout the past year. We kept our doors open, our beds full, and our love abundant. We stayed committed to the young people who needed us, never decreasing the number of beds or pausing intakes.

We continue to provide care to young people who departed Covenant House Missouri to long-term stable housing, with 58% moving to independent living. Through the enhancement of our aftercare program, we acted with intentionality in supporting the longitudinal success of Covenant House alumni. This past fiscal year we stayed connected for six months or more with 72% of those who moved into stable housing.

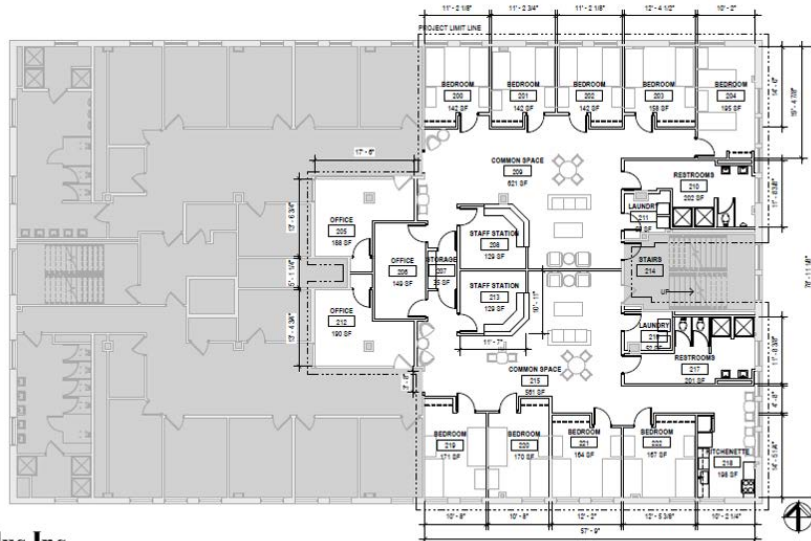
We completed critically important capital projects including tuck pointing and re-purposing portions of our lower level, paving the way for future expansion. We created the Cov Closet, where youth gain life skills by experiencing a typical shopping environment and selecting items to meet their hygiene, clothing, and other essential needs. Covenant House Missouri has secured funds from an Emergency Solutions Grant to complete additional capital projects that will expand our housing. This funding, along with ongoing donor support, will enable us to maximize the use of our existing campus.



# Groundbreaking Growth

In line with our strategic plan and with the full support of the board, we have identified two unfinished spaces on campus that will be transformed to provide housing for more youth on their journey from homelessness to hope. We will increase occupancy from 40 to 58 beds.

The spaces have been designed by Oculus, Incorporated. Impact Strategies will complete the construction. Included in this project is a new ten-person household for males and an eight-person household for females. The project is scheduled for completion in late 2021, providing more housing opportunities for youth by early 2022.



**Oculus Inc.**

ARCHITECTURE | STRATEGIC PLANNING |  
INTERIORS | MOVE MANAGEMENT  
13 MEMORIAL DRIVE | SUITE 1000 | ST. LOUIS, MO  
63102 | 314.367.4700

SCHEMATIC PLAN - REVISION 2

3127 N. GARDENWAY BLVD  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63113

PRELIMINARY | DRAFT

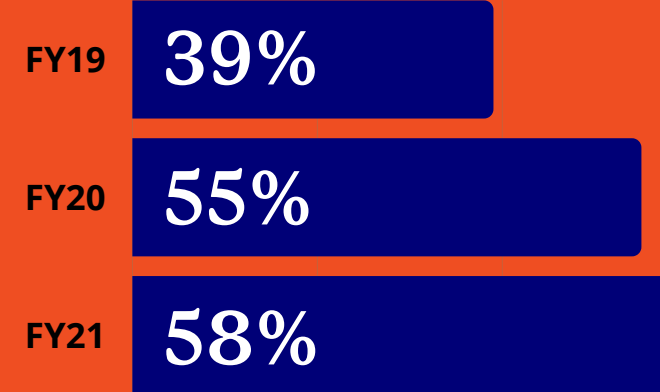
12/16/2020

SR120-PP01



## Key Performance Indicator

### Exits to Stable Housing



**13,113**

**Nights of housing provided**



**129**

**Youth in mental health services**



**29,000+**

**Meals served**



**100%**

**Unconditional love and absolute respect**

# Expand Employment and Education



Housing alone will not solve the crisis of young people being unhoused in our community. Our mission is to provide the tools and supports young people need to live successfully and independently. We work to create individualized solutions through our Employment, Education, and Wellness services.

Last year, we successfully launched a HiSET (High School Equivalency) program at Covenant House Missouri in partnership with Saint Louis Public Schools. We celebrated Jade, our first graduate, and look forward to many more. In addition, youth completed the LaunchCode and BUD (Building Union Diversity) programs. Graduates of these programs are now fully employed and living independently!

Covenant House Missouri's Career Services team has increased from two to four, doubling our efforts and determination to support young people along their journey to independence.

The newly renovated Wellness Center opened in the fall of 2020, enhancing our capacity to meet the mental, physical and emotional wellbeing of each young person we serve. The space provides a holistic approach to support overall health. Young people have access to individual and group therapy provided by Covenant House Missouri clinicians, a nurse practitioner through The Institute for Family Medicine, and psychiatric services through Washington University - all on our campus.



# Meet Jade

How do you graduate from high school during a global pandemic while overcoming homelessness? By having courage and perseverance like Jade! With the support of the Career Services team at Covenant House, Jade was able to earn her diploma through the HiSET program. Thanks to a partnership with St. Louis Public Schools, young people at Covenant House are able to attend classes right on our campus. While living at Covenant House, Jade worked diligently to complete the curriculum and graduate. She is eager to enter the workforce as a Medical Assistant. She has always had a passion for helping others, which inspired her dream of working in the medical field. By her own volition and with encouragement from our Career Services team, Jade is now proudly enrolled at Saint Louis Community College.

*"I'm thankful for the instructors and staff at CHMO who helped me with this process."*

*-Jade*



## Key Performance Indicators

### Number of Youth Engaged in Career Center

FY19 80

FY20 163

FY21 191

### Number of TLP\* Youth Employed or in School

FY19 70%

FY20 72%

FY21 85%

\*Transitional Living Program

# Develop Human Capital



Covenant House Missouri relies on team members who are dedicated to our mission and the success and well-being of the young people we serve. The Cov is full of individuals who choose Covenant House as the place they want to lend their talents and make a difference.

Develop Human Capital was chosen as a key priority area, demonstrating our goal to be a work place that is more than just a job. Covenant House strives to support the development of all team members and endeavors to be a place people want to work and share their gifts. We value the diversity of our team and benefit from sharing a variety of ideas and experiences. Staff participated in our first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) survey, providing feedback regarding ways to improve the quality of our work environment. Acting on a suggestion, we developed “Cov Conversations”, where all can come together, learn, and share. We also developed the Employee Advisory Board, a designated group of non-leadership staff, who influence company culture and serve as a voice for all team members.

We work to recognize and celebrate our team spirit. The ULAAR (Unconditional Love And Absolute Respect) of the Month Award is an employee recognition program that invites all staff and youth to nominate team members who exemplify the ULAAR spirit. This program saw its second full year with more monthly nominations than ever before. Beyond Covenant House walls, we want our community to know the strength and dedication of our staff. KSDK’s “Rise up for Heroes” featured three members of the Covenant House team.

Our work with young people is possible thanks to dedicated, talented, and passionate team members. Behind every success story is a devoted team who believes in each young person, sees their potential, and knows they have the power to build a better life.



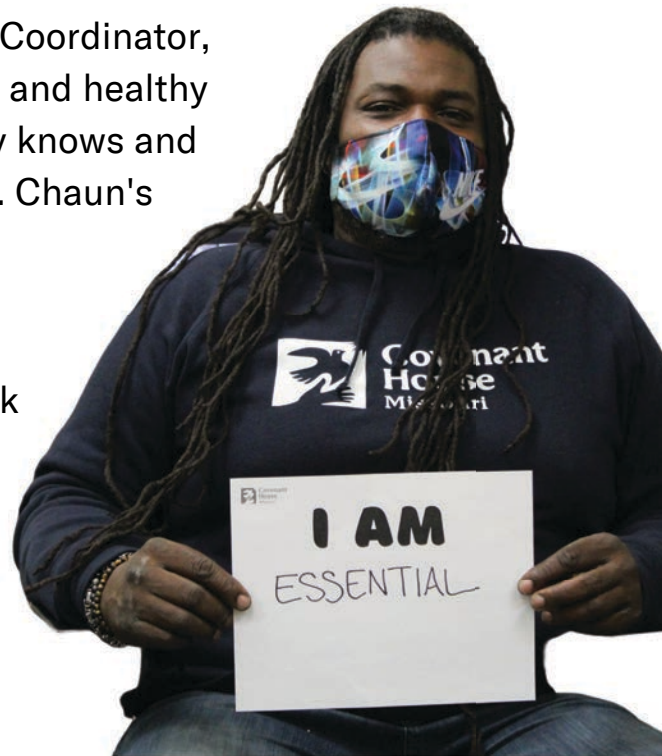


# Meet Chaun

Chaun Lewis joined the Covenant House team in November 2019. His journey began as a case manager, working directly with youth to help them establish goals and to guide them along a course for success during their time at Covenant House and beyond.

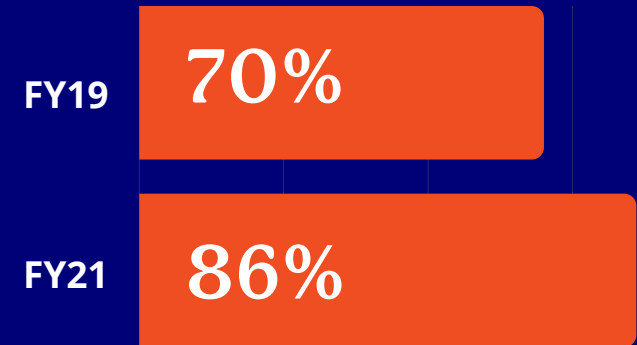
As Chaun was dedicating himself to helping guide the lives of our residents each day, we identified the need to improve the nourishment and meal experience for youth. Spending the past ten years as the owner of a catering company, Chaun knew that the opportunity to use his expertise as a caterer for the benefit of youth was a perfect fit for him.

With his promotion to Food Services Coordinator, Chaun prepares and serves delicious and healthy meals to the young people he already knows and has formed strong relationships with. Chaun's passion and commitment are shining examples of the dedicated team that carries out our mission every day. Without ULAARs like Chaun, our work would not be possible. We are committed to making sure that all employees feel valued and appreciated as they create the best possible experience for youth.



## Key Performance Indicator

### Improve employee satisfaction



**% of employees who agree or strongly agree with job satisfaction survey question**

\*No survey in FY20



**Team Members - all displaying unconditional love and absolute respect**

# Increase Investments

The pandemic's impact reached beyond the physical health of our community. It threatened financial stability. Individuals faced challenging circumstances and hard decisions. Organizations and corporations did, too. We managed our challenges well, thanks to the community around us who believe in the youth, the mission, and the work we do every day. That support did not waiver throughout the fiscal year.

For a second consecutive year, our revenue covered our expenses. We increased our reserves, engaged more corporations and foundations, and saw our signature Sleep Out event surpass its goals. We secured funding to expand our capacity to serve, connected with new supporters, and engaged more donors than ever before. Our over 50 volunteers showed us unconditional love and absolute respect by providing 270 volunteer hours, and we are forever grateful.

Today we can imagine a future in which we continue to meet the needs of our community. Our future financial outlook significantly improved this year when our parent organization, Covenant House International, relieved us of \$1.8 million in future mortgage obligations. We now outright own the space where our mission comes to life. They have faith in our work and in our team. That commitment and belief in our efforts gives us a sense of security as we focus on the well-being of young people who call Covenant House home. As we enter our next chapter, we do so with strong financial footing.



# A Million Thanks

In June, Covenant House Missouri received the largest single private gift in our organization's history. Tim and Robin Wentworth donated \$1 million to Covenant House Missouri in support of the organization's campus expansion.

Tim and Robin, pictured below, are expanding their support of Covenant House at a time when homelessness among youth is skyrocketing. The Wentworths have supported the mission of Covenant House since 2015 and remain actively engaged.

*"We fully support Covenant House Missouri's mission and operations. The staff works around the clock to provide holistic services at a critical time in young peoples' lives."*  
-Tim Wentworth



## Key Performance Indicators

### Increase the Number of Individual Donors

FY19 1,900

FY20 2,225

FY21 2,477

### Increase Corporate Support

FY19 \$35,000

FY20 \$163,700

FY21 \$245,000

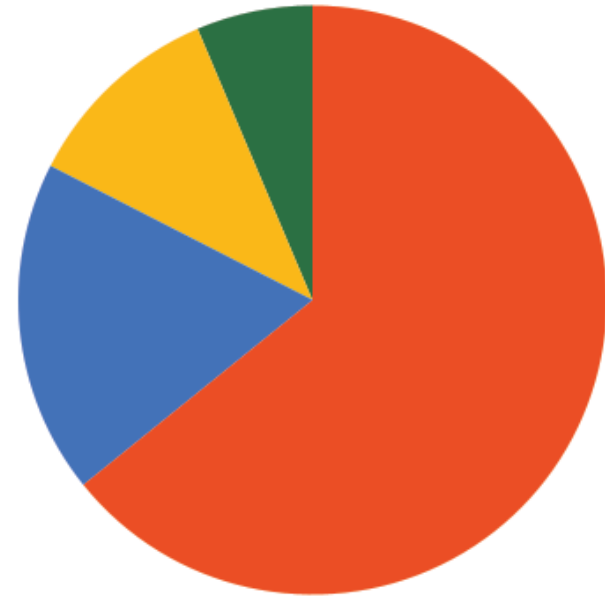
# 2021 Financial Report

## REVENUE \$6.53 million



- Contributions (\$2,310,793)
- Extraordinary Income\* (\$1,800,000)
- Government Grants (\$1,268,515)
- Branding Dollars from CHI (\$614,000)
- Events (\$535,992)
- Other (\$4,486)

## EXPENSES \$3.94 million



- Residential Services (\$2,532,883)
- Supportive Services (\$722,348)
- Management and General (\$437,611)
- Fundraising (\$251,809)

\*Extraordinary income is relief of a long-term liability (mortgage debt) from Covenant House International (CHI).

# Our Donors

Covenant House Missouri relies on the generous investment of individuals, foundations, grantmakers, and corporations to keep our doors open and provide critical services to youth in need. The following list reflects cumulative donations of \$250 or more between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. We want to thank every donor who gave time, talent, and treasure to support youth on their journey from homelessness to hope in fiscal year 21.

## **\$100,000+**

Anonymous Family Foundation  
Berges Family Foundation  
City of St. Louis - CoC  
Department of Economic Development, Nonprofit Relief and Recovery  
Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families  
Mental Health Board  
St. Louis City, Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act  
St. Louis County, Children's Service Fund  
Tim and Robin Wentworth  
Wells Fargo Foundation

## **\$25,000-\$99,999**

Affordable Housing Commission  
Ascension Health  
City of St. Louis - CDBG  
Dana Brown Charitable Trust  
Emerson Charitable Trust  
Episcopal Presbyterian Health Trust  
Express Scripts  
Marillac Mission Fund  
St. Louis County, COVID-19 Humanitarian Response Program  
TD Ameritrade  
United Way of Greater St. Louis  
U.S. Department of Labor, Education and Training Administration, Job Corps Scholars Program

## **\$10,000-\$24,999**

Ameren Missouri  
American Direct Marketing Resources LLC  
Diane Compardo and Ron Wienstroer  
Hallmark Stone Co.  
Gerard and Jen Hempstead  
Herman T. and Phenie R. Pott Foundation  
John and Holly Hesemann  
Chris and GERALYN JACOB  
Jefferson Foundation  
Jess L. and Miriam B. Stevens Foundation  
Joyce Meyer Ministries Inc., St. Louis Dream Center  
Janet Newcomb  
Jon and Cheryl Nienas  
Norman J. Stupp Foundation  
John Pirollo

Joseph and Mary Stieven  
Raskob Foundation For Catholic Activities, Inc.  
Saigh Foundation  
Vassia Foundation  
World Wide Technology

## **\$5,000-\$9,999**

Jim and Norma Anderson  
E. Walter Hausstette Charitable Foundation  
Shawn Eaker  
East Missouri Foundation  
Jessica and Jason Erfling  
Josh and Mitzi Foster  
Daniel and Wendy Geraty  
Eugene and Carol Gervino  
John and Ellen Gifford  
Hellyer Group LLC  
Gerry Hempstead

Impact Charitable  
Foundation  
Incarnate Word  
Foundation  
JMG Foundation  
JP Morgan Chase  
Foundation  
Leonard Knobbe  
Bernard and Kathleen  
Laune  
William and Paula  
McKinney  
Greg and Stephany  
Miller  
Kevin Miller  
David and Cori Nieters  
Pettus Foundation  
Kevin O'Connell  
Tony and Kathy Phipps  
Edward and Cynthia  
Potter  
John and Kathy Qualy  
Robert J Dollar  
Revocable Living Trust  
Michael Rupinski  
Mark and Kathy  
Schuchardt

Tower Grove  
Neighborhoods CDC  
Scott and Sarah  
Underwood  
Vatterott Foundation  
Bob Viragh  
Skip and Colette Wrape  
John Wright  
  
**\$2,500-\$4,999**  
Accenture  
Anonymous  
Edward and Kimberly  
Austin  
Tony Berg  
Leah Burton  
David Calabotta  
Cardinals Care  
John Castillo  
Thomas and Sally Cohn  
Drury Displays, Inc.  
Mary Ellis  
David and Kathryn  
Erickson  
Fifth Third Bank  
James Xavier Flynn III  
Yasmine Gali

Thomas Goes  
Andrew and Marty  
Hereford  
Rosemarie Hughes  
Carl and Nancy Jung  
Kennedy Capital  
Management, Inc.  
Bill and Neena Koop  
Sharon Larkin  
Mesa Lewchalermwong  
Andrew Lich  
Janssen Longenecker  
Brian McClure  
Moneta Group Charitable  
Foundation  
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Kevin Reardon  
Jeff Reeter  
John Ruhl  
Shaw Neighborhood  
Improvement  
Association  
TCG Services, LLC  
Simon and Mary Tonkin  
Tulsa Community  
Foundation  
Union Avenue  
Christian Church

Doly Vasquez  
Emily Williams  
  
**\$1,000-\$2,499**  
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Arkansas Community  
Foundation  
Bob and Mary Jo  
Blankemeyer  
Jeanine Blaskiewicz  
Allison Bollinger  
Robert and Yvonne  
Brossette  
Scott and Emily  
Brown  
Joseph Cacchione  
Perry and Mary  
Cawein  
Commerce  
Bancshares  
Foundation  
Cornerstone  
Insurance Group  
Derek Covert  
Helena Crowder  
Tom Dankenbring  
Dorothy Paulik  
Endowment  
Jim Doyle

Drury Outdoors	Mark and Katherine	Gerald and Louise	Harry Schumacher	Jane Wilson
John and Kathryn	Hayes	McNeive	Theodore and Patricia	R. Stephen
Dubuque	Robert Henkel	McPheeters and	Siegel	Wintermann
Steven Dugal	Richard and Gayla	Rickard Family Fund	Barry Smith	Daniel Witte
Stephen and Deborah	Heppe	Tom and Lori Meyer	Benjamin Smith	Melody Yount
Finder	Kristen Hoelzer	Missouri Works Initiative	Sean and Mary Smith	Tom and Sharla
Mike and Janet Ford	Bradley Hornburg	Scott Monette	James and Margaret	Zasadny
David and Elizabeth	Joseph and Tamsen	Martin Schwarze and	Storey	Robert Zbylut
Foshage	Impicciche	Janet Musial Schwarze	Kenneth Stricker	
David and Paula	Sharyn Jacobsen	Steve Neville	Suburban Journals Old	<b>\$500-\$999</b>
Friedman	Mark and Janet Johnson	Robert and Kathleen	Newsboys	Joe Ackerman
Neal and Vivian	Keeley Companies	O'Brien	Rhonda Taylor	Bradly Anderson
Gaston	Joseph Koenig	John and Mary O'Neill	Anthony Tersigni	Donny and Melissa
Rodney and Vera Gee	Thom Kuhn and Dianne	Peter Ostdiek	The Fischer-Bauer-	Anthon
Mike and Karen	Marie O'Connell	Andrew Pettit	Knirps Foundation	Lloyd and Dee Aubrey
Gibbons	Steve and Kathy	Matthew Plocher	The Marian	Bradley Bakker
Edward Goedeker	Landmann	Ruthe Ponturo	Foundation	Naeem Bari
Great Southern Bank	Arthur and Nora Leibold	Christopher and Taryn	The Sidener	Mark Barner
Richard and Ellen	Peter Leibold and	Pulliam	Foundation	James Barone
Greubel	Elizabeth McCloskey-	Nicholas Ragone and	Scott and Donna	John Bayer
Groundwork Mortgage	Leibold	Chiung Ting Tan	Thielker	Nick Beary
David Gund	Benjamin Lipman	Regions Bank	Robert Tomaso	Mike and Sandy
Eugene and Kathie	Kyle Lopez	Sean and Selinda	Kevin Travers	Becker
Hanneke	Patricia Martens Balke	Rezentes	Paul and Julia Treece	Beckwood Corporation
Sandra Harding	Angie McAlone	Nancy Russell	Triad Bank	Amit Bhagat
Brady and Yvonne	Matt and Stephanie	Kevin and Clare Ryan	Brian Vacek	Theresa Bichsel
Hare	McAvin	Philip Sarnecki	Jason and Aimee	Jaime Bierk
David Harris	Matt and Jen McHugh	Michael Schuler	Wheatley	Chris Blankinship
Shevon Harris			Jeff Wheatley	

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Colleen Daum	Handley	Luebbert	Tom and Susan	Michael Tessler
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Davison	Chandler Heath	Magner	Helen Riechmann	Josh and Marlana Toso
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Sara Wildhaber	Bomkamp	Rudolf and Virginia	Celestia Gaudreault	Julian and Bette Hess
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Marvin and Susan Wood	Michael and Elaine	Richard Dolson	George and Kimberly	Sid and Julie Holthaus
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Joseph Wysocki	Madeleine Breen	Kevin Dooley	Layne Gish	Mark Howard
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	Kelly Brooks	Shelley Dressel	David M. Godar	David and Angie Jung
<b>\$250-\$499</b>	Peter Carpenter	Joseph and Donna	Daniel Goeddel	John and JoAnn
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Kermit Almstedt	Amanda Clifford	Harry Dunn	Hali Gray-Batton	Jason Keeton
Rhonda Anderson	Marlena Renee Cole	Rick Effer	Kimberly Grbac	Kevin Kenny
Brittany Anderson	Allan Connolly	James Eisenhart	Donald and Jo Ann Gregor	John and Deborah
Michael and Terry Argir	Brian Cooper	Enterprise Bank &	Joanne Gresavage	Killmer
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		Susan Evers	Mike and Donna Haines	Daniel Kleypas

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Maureen Magner	Nicole Perry	Katherine Schankman	Paul and Charlotte Tenting	Mark Woerz
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Meg McElroy	David Puettmann	John and Amy Schulte	TIAA	Rebecca Worrell
Alicia McMachan	Emily Pulitzer	Dave Schulz	George and Kathleen Timpe	William and Patricia Zickel
Scott McPherson	Lyle and Jennifer Ralston	Joseph Schweppe	Nancy Totland	Eric and Kathryn Zimmerman
Deborah Merritt	Michael and Susan Raney	Ryan Sedlak	Thomas and Elizabeth Tracy	
James Milonas	Henry Rapp	Richard Seitz	Samuel and Susan Tremont	
Cheryl Mothes	Thomas and Amy Ratzki	Bradley Selinger		
	Joseph Reinberg	Daniel Shaughnessy		

# Get Involved

## Book a Learning Session or Campus Tour

Discover ways you can support the youth at Covenant House. For more information, please visit [covenanthousemo.org/how-to-help](http://covenanthousemo.org/how-to-help).

## Participate in our Events

Create your own Sleep Out, participate in our Executive or Community Sleep Out events, or attend our annual Trivia Night.

## Volunteer

Volunteer as a group or individual in a variety of departments on our campus, including Career Services, Wellness Center, and facilities.

## Join our Community Leadership Council

Community Leadership Council uses their time, talent, and resources to advocate for Covenant House Missouri's mission and commits to treating all youth facing homelessness with unconditional love and absolute respect.

## Donate

Give a meaningful gift of any size and know that it supports young people - today and tomorrow.

# Cornerstone Legacy Society

The Cornerstone Legacy Society is comprised of the treasured people who have remembered Covenant House youth in their estate plans. If you would like to receive more information or plan to include Covenant House Missouri in your estate plans, please let us know. We want to thank you for your generosity and welcome you to the Cornerstone Legacy Society.

For more information please call Nancy Totland at (314) 450-7674 or visit [covenanthousemo.org/plannedgiving](http://covenanthousemo.org/plannedgiving)

## Wish List

new clothes

shoes

jackets/coats

hygiene items

cleaning products

teen/young adult books

duffle bags

household items



# Stay Connected

## Together, we change lives!

The stories of expansion, highlights, and the progress shared in this annual report are made possible with your support and devotion. We hope that our work together, with a shared commitment to end youth homelessness, will continue.

## Subscribe

Subscribe to our email list to receive encouraging youth stories and stay up-to-date with giving, volunteering, and event opportunities. Visit our website [CovenantHouseMO.org](http://CovenantHouseMO.org) and sign up on our homepage.

## Follow

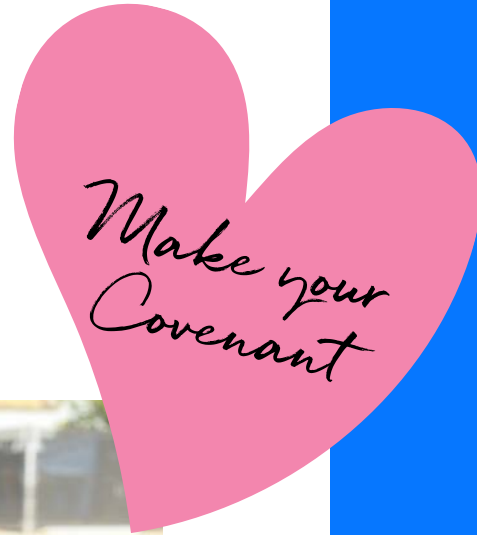
Follow us on social media to read youth stories, learn more about our work, and meet our team. Find us @covenanthousemo or /covenanthousemo.



# Our Mission

Covenant House Missouri welcomes youth who are runaway, trafficked, at-risk, or experiencing homelessness with unconditional love, absolute respect, and a place to call home.

Beyond shelter and basic needs, we deliver transformative solutions to help young people ages 16 to 24 build productive, independent and sustainable lives.



Proud partner of



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