



# MARGINALIZED TO MAGNIFIED

2020–2021 Annual Report



REJOICE ALWAYS, PRAY CONTINUALLY, GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES; FOR THIS IS GOD'S WILL FOR YOU IN CHRIST JESUS.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18



GORDON

“ WHEN I CAME TO THE MISSION I WAS ALONE, AND DID NOT KNOW WHERE TO GO. I FINALLY FEEL SAFE, STABLE, AND HAVE HOPE. SUNDAY BREAKFAST GAVE ME A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE. ”

SAFE, STABLE, AND HAVE HOPE

## A LETTER FROM THE CEO



Rev. Jeremy Montgomery  
MBA/MA, President / CEO

# FROM MARGINALIZED TO MAGNIFIED

“IF WE REDUCE HUMAN BEINGS TO BEING SIMPLY PHYSICAL...OUR POVERTY-ALLEVIATION EFFORTS WILL TEND TO FOCUS ON MATERIAL SOLUTIONS. BUT IF WE REMEMBER THAT HUMANS ARE SPIRITUAL, SOCIAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND PHYSICAL BEINGS, OUR POVERTY-ALLEVIATION EFFORTS WILL BE MORE HOLISTIC IN THEIR DESIGN AND EXECUTION.”

— Steve Corbett, *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor...and Yourself*

Steve Corbett and his co-author Brian Fikkert didn't lay out a new path to Christians. They re-opened an overgrown path that too many forgot was there – that Christianity isn't about prosperity, it's about love. So, when you see my enthusiasm about our new Master Plan, please forgive my excitement for buildings and beds and blueprints and all of the rest. It's also that I'm watching the beginning of a new path toward permanent solutions, and I'm thrilled.

Jesus rarely calls us to walk an easy path. Like Corbet and Fikkert remind us, the easiest thing to do is simply to throw money at the problem. A homeless man will tell you that he feels scared and isolated, hopeless and depressed, powerless and ashamed. He doesn't want to live on the streets as much as you don't want to see him there. Yet the way out isn't clear. He'll tell you that a job would help, but he knows that riches are transient. He'll tell you that food would be great, but that a meal only fills his belly for a day. He'll tell you that a warm bed is wonderful, but unless he knows he won't be on the street tomorrow, it's useless.

And the Master Plan with all its bricks, steel and plaster – as important and expensive as it all is, it's just the shell. The food? The beds? The jobs? Those are just tools. Tools to help each to achieve their God-given potential by discovering stability and self-sustaining transformation.

As much as we work hard for all of that, it only counts if at the beginning and the end – the Alpha and the Omega – we show how the Love of Jesus transforms their entire being! **Will you join me as we walk with these men, as they move from marginalized to magnified?**





## “I FEEL HUMANIZED”

Rejected. Forgotten. Discarded. No, it’s not a broken appliance or worn-out car abandoned in the street. It’s a man, like Charles who moved out of the margins while at the Mission.

“There is something different and special about this place,” Charles shared with our homeless services team while walking down the hall. “You just don’t understand what you do for us!” Our CEO asked him if he knew why. Charles replied, “No. But it is different here.”

The next day Charles came back to the team and said, “I kept thinking about the question you asked me yesterday. It is different because you humanize us.” We believe that every person, rich or poor, is made in the image of God, and we should care for them with love, dignity, and respect. This is a restoration to God first and foremost, and a reconciliation to the rest of His Creation.



## MINISTRY SNAPSHOT

Emergency Shelter

Transitional Housing

Public Meal Services

Spiritual Care

Case Management

Housing Assessments & Placements

Resource Navigation

Health Screenings & COVID Testing

JeffHope Medical Clinic

Job Fairs & Placements

# EMPOWERMENT, TRANSFORMATION, AND STABILITY

Homeless Services do more than catering to a man's immediate needs. It gives the tools to stand on his own and assistance to remove barriers to housing stability while focusing on magnifying the voices, hopes, and goals of every man served.

"Each week our case managers, clinical chaplain, spiritual care coordinator and I discuss the progress of every single man in our Mission," Erin, Director of Homeless Services, explains. To guide their work, Erin implemented a Self-Sufficiency Matrix – an evaluation tool looking at 13 "domains" or holistic elements of an individual: such as Life Skills, Spiritual Formation, Employment, and Literacy, to name a few. The Matrix, a best practice, help staff assess whether the Guest is in crisis, vulnerable, stable, safe or thriving in each domain.



## TRIO UNITES OVER GOD'S LOVE

The Christian community at Sunday Breakfast allows friendship to bloom, especially for Angel, Steven, and David. "We knew it was the best shelter in Philly," Steven shared. "They care about you."

Angel struggled with homelessness throughout his adult life. David came because of strained family relationships. Steven arrived after incarceration. With the active support of the Mission's Homeless Services team, empowerment and transformation bloomed.

In January 2021, all three moved into a Southwest Philadelphia home. Grateful for their fresh start, these unlikely friends have a safe, stable, affordable place and a supportive Christian community. "We are working hard to do it on our own," Angel said, smiling.

1,142 MEN RECEIVED CASE MANAGEMENT

# SPIRITUAL CARE: FEEDING MEN'S SOULS



KEN

Our Spiritual Care program is designed to help men fighting homelessness become restored. Their needs are diverse and we strive to meet each person where they are with the love of God and the comprehensive services that can lead them to wholeness.

This past year, a significant and strategic initiative was launched - hiring our first Certified Clinical Chaplain to minister holistically to our Shelter Guests, as well as a Spiritual Care Coordinator. "A chaplain's role is to meet a person where they are and stay where they are, in their joy or misery, until they are ready to move," Chaplain Ken Cunningham tells us. "Whatever direction they go in, I'm there with them."

While Ken came to his new position with an M.Div. and training in clinical chaplaincy, it was his experience in hospital settings that made him right for men who come off the streets, especially offering trauma-informed care. As Ken and Spiritual Care Coordinator Joseph Gonzalez work on feeding the men spiritually through regular prayer groups and Bible study, they're part of a team looking at the whole man, not just one issue. Together the team helps men move from marginalized to magnified. Chaplain Ken observes, "I offer a ministry of presence, helping to process grief and name emotions in a non-judgmental, nonassuming and non-aggressive manner." We view this to be incarnational ministry modeled after Jesus himself.

“WHAT ATTRACTED ME TO SUNDAY BREAKFAST WAS OUR INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO HOMELESSNESS.”

- CHAPLAIN KEN

- 40 men engaged in spiritual formation program
- 12 men attending weekly Bible study
- 25 men attending weekly church service



# MAGNIFIED THROUGH A NEW MASTER PLAN

In the 1970's, City and State leaders were convinced that new interstates would bring great things to Philadelphia. **Smack in the middle of "progress" stood Sunday Breakfast** - an entire city block at 6th and Vine Streets - right in the path of today's Vine Street Expressway. **Sunday Breakfast took what was offered in exchange: the City's film archive building.** It didn't matter that it was a much smaller building, difficult to find, had cold, hard cinder block walls, and was built to house cellulose, not people. Our home was condemned and there seemed little choice. In retrospect, it sounds too much like the choices forced on the homeless men whom we serve.

THE VISION IS A RENEWED AND COHERENT CAMPUS TO ADDRESS A REAL AND CHRONIC PROBLEM BY OFFERING A SOLUTION OF PERMANENT RESIDENCES.



**The essence of the master plan is simple: renew and renovate** what we have, bringing the mechanical systems and building's structure up to today's standards for safety and homeless services, and create a new, supplemental building for expanded programming and permanent residences. **This plan magnifies our overall impact and future outcomes of spiritual recovery and restoration.**

We're already making exciting progress, starting with assessments and design plans. In partnership with the Community Design Collaborative, the Mission received the services of major professional architectural firms at probono rates to lay out a vision of what's needed.

ACTION, TRANSFORMATION, REJOICE  
ENGAGING, OPTIMISM, ABUNDANCE



Unique to the designers and planners was something that seemed obvious to us: magnify the voices of our guest by ensuring that homeless men give their thoughtful input to the design of the spaces meant to serve them. It was one of the most fruitful steps in the entire process.

Safety, stability, and support are essential for any man to recover from homelessness. The Master Plan calls for more than 70 housing units with either private or shared kitchen facilities. Sunday Breakfast will come back to Vine Street once again, too, with a new entrance facing Center City. With the new building sited on today's parking lot, volunteers and deliveries will be accommodated with an underground garage. And, maybe one of the most exciting features of the project will be a rooftop green space for the refreshment and renewal of guests, volunteers and staff alike.

THAT'S JUST A TASTE OF ALL OF THE CHANGES. WE LOOK FORWARD TO REPORTING OUR PROGRESS NEXT YEAR, AND PRAY FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP AS WE FULFILL OUR VISION FOR THE HOMELESS AND HURTING OF PHILADELPHIA.



# BRINGING GUESTS OUT OF THE MARGINS – A CLEAN SLATE

Chances are that you had a shower recently. Why? You wanted to get clean! Plus, it wakes you up, and leaves you feeling refreshed!

But what if the place you showered had broken tiles, a peeling ceiling and walls covered with mold? What if it was so open, that everyone could see you? Would you go in?

If you went in, would you clean yourself thoroughly, or jump in and out as soon as possible? It wouldn't be refreshing at all, but you would be wide awake - out of self-defense.



At Sunday Breakfast, that's all changed this past year. Here's just a few of the words that our guests use to describe our renovated showers...

“ TERRIFIC! PRIVATE!  
SANITARY!  
FANTASTIC!  
AWESOME! MODERN! A GOOSENO!  
ROOMY! WARMER! ”

With 16 individual stalls, each guest can take his time to get clean and come out feeling refreshed, just like people do in their own homes.

**Renewed, clean showers lead to clean bodies, and a clean slate for men's lives – and we pray each day for a clean start in their eternal journey with Jesus Christ.**

# HOMELESS SERVICES

“Homeless Services is emergency triage for homelessness much like ERs are for a hospital,” reflects the Director of Homeless Services Erin Linden. “You never know the needs of the person coming through the door. Food and shelter are just the start.” Everyday, our Staff helps men navigate out of their immediate crisis.

Then, there’s the ever-present threat of COVID-19 and other diseases. The city health department provided testing and vaccine services throughout the year.



IF YOU SEE SOMEONE ON THE STREETS IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, CALL THE HOMELESS OUTREACH HOTLINE: 215-232-1984

Beyond the threat of COVID-19, winter cold and summer heat are constant threats. “A lot of the homeless choose to stay outside in the winter because they can create a shelter themselves and control their breathing to maintain their body heat. But you can only take off so many clothes in the summer heat,” Erin informs us. “The extreme heat can kill just as easily as extreme cold. That’s when the City declares a ‘Code Red.’ We keep Sunday Breakfast open and air-conditioned.” Erin concludes. “The problems are unique to each person.” And that suits us well at Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission, because we are in the business of showing the love of Jesus as “Good Samaritans,” and that’s responding to unique urgent needs of each person, too.



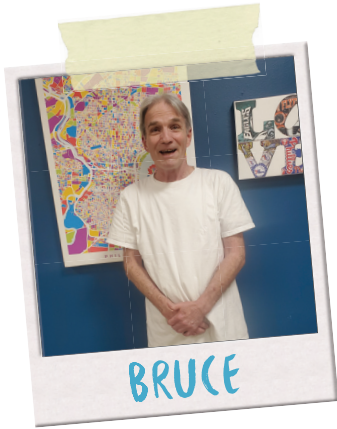
123,853  
Meals served

2,361  
Men stayed in the  
emergency shelter

127,723  
Loads of free laundry

# NEXT LEVEL PROGRAM

The NEXT LEVEL Program is a twelve-month transitional housing program for men seeking stability, spiritual development, and long-term success after staying in the Mission's Emergency Shelter. Case management and volunteering to serve at Sunday Breakfast are some of central components to the program. NEXT LEVEL provides them with a safety net as they navigated pandemic-related job loss and office closures of essential resources. Our Homeless Services Team work tirelessly to ensure that each man takes steps out of the margins of society and reaching the 'next level' of their life, including housing stability.



## AT THE NEXT LEVEL AND NOT LOOKING BACK!

After 14 years between prison and a half-way house, suddenly Bruce was released – into the middle of the pandemic. “They just gave me a bus ticket to Philadelphia,” he says, shocked even now. “I didn’t have any place to go but the street.”

“It was the Grace of God that took me to Sunday Breakfast,” he insists. “Once there, I couldn’t sit around watching other people work. I decided to help out.” Bruce stood out for his work ethic, making him a candidate for NEXT LEVEL - a program that helped Bruce to find housing, and stability for him as he committed to putting homelessness behind him.

With bank account, a job and a permanent place to live, Bruce isn’t looking back. Yet, he still enjoys coming here on holidays to spend time with his new Christian community.

“ SUNDAY BREAKFAST WAS WONDERFUL TO ME.  
I’LL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL. ”



## SENIOR LEVEL

SBRM completed the second year of its SENIOR LEVEL permanent **supportive housing program for men 65 and older** and provided housing to 3 senior citizens in the last year. One reality which COVID-19 has produced is how vulnerable all seniors are, especially those who are homeless. Offering our senior citizens a permanent home is a critical program to keep them safe while also allowing them to live in Christian community within the Mission.

### SENIOR LEVEL WISDOM FROM STEPHEN

“Everyone falls. You just have to pick yourself up,” which is from someone who’s seen a lot. Life got complicated real fast. Just off the passing of his mother, his daughter needed a kidney, he injured his back, his workplace closed, and then a divorce crushed him. “Mom’s house sold at a sheriff’s sale,” he tells us. “There was no place to go.”

At age 67, Stephen came to Sunday Breakfast. He began to volunteer. Soon he was tending the front desk, full time. Not long after, he was offered a place in the SENIOR LEVEL Program.



“I’M GETTING ON MY FEET AND ON THE LIST FOR SENIOR HOUSING,” STEPHEN TELLS US. “SUNDAY BREAKFAST IS HERE FOR EVERYONE. THEY GAVE ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO STAND UP AGAIN.” GOD IS GREAT!

# JULIO ARROYO - 2.5 MILLION MEALS SERVED



A GUEST NO MORE

“The worst thing in my life was stealing all her money and running when she was at 8 months,” Julio confesses. “I met a woman in rehab. After, we lived together in York. She got pregnant. I was still using. I was scared.”

Julio ended up in Florida. Different scenery, yes, but the same problems. “All my money went to buying drugs. I knew I was doing wrong.” Still, he couldn’t stop thinking of who he left behind – his baby girl. “I’d lay in bed thinking about her. I started talking to God. ‘Please! I want to get clean!’”

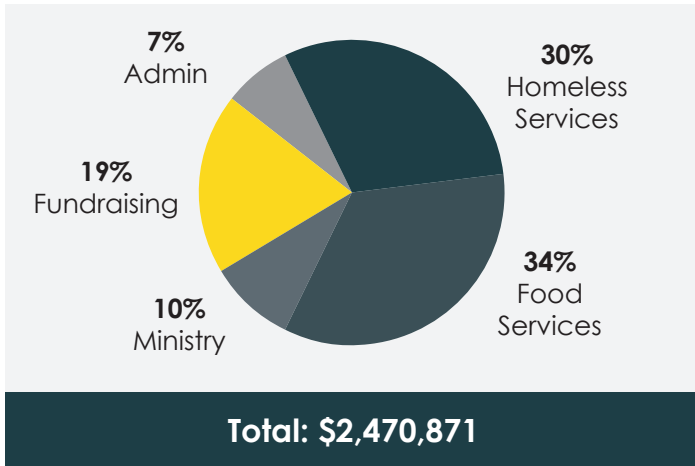
He took his last paycheck and bought a train ticket to Philadelphia – to get clean and see his daughter. But Julio’s commitment to Our Lord didn’t mean it was going to be easy. He was still using, and anytime he asked for help, he was told to go back to Florida. Without a Pennsylvania ID, nothing was open to him. That’s when he met a woman who changed his life – at Travelers Aid. She knew that Sunday Breakfast was where Julio could go. “She was put there by God,” Julio says.

**“The chaplain at Sunday Breakfast rescued me. He told me about a program where I could get a job and get clean. I started crying. I knew that God put me here! This was why the other doors were closed.”** Not long after that Julio was working in the kitchen. He was offered long-term housing on the 4th floor. By year’s end, he was hired full-time here at the Mission and found his own place to live.

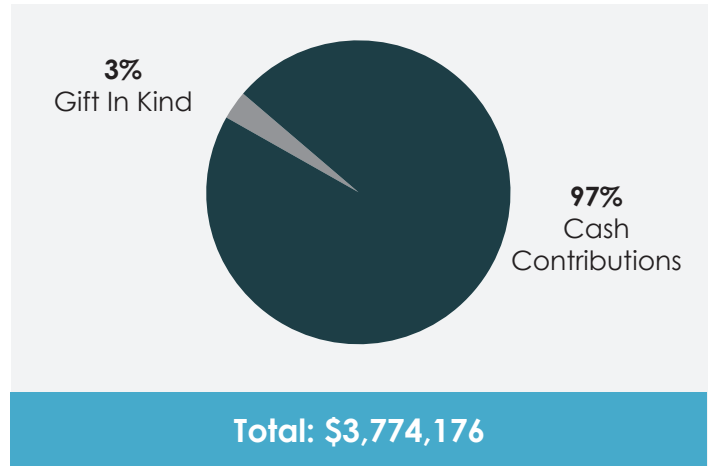
After serving as a crew chief for four years, Julio was recommended to succeed the retiring Food Service Director. **Today, he’s responsible for four cooks, all the procurement and prep for more than 2.5 million meals in his career. He also mentors several aspiring chefs a year – who get good paying jobs in the community.** Best of all, Julio’s formed a great relationship with his now teenage daughter – and without the fear of drugs in the way. “I was afraid to meet my girlfriend again, but she cried when she saw me. She thought I was dead. Now she’s like my sister.”

# YEAR IN REVIEW (FINANCIALS FROM 990)

## Expenses



## Revenue



For fully audited financial statements for FY2021 ending June 30, 2021, please visit our website at [sundaybreakfast.org](http://sundaybreakfast.org) and click on the financials tab.

CELEBRATE, ELEVATED, ACTION, TRANSFORMATION, REJOICE

# TOGETHER



## CONNECT & SHARE



@PhillyHomeless

## DONATE TODAY

Online: [www.sundaybreakfast.org/donate](http://www.sundaybreakfast.org/donate)

Call: 215-922-6400

Mail a check to:

Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission  
PO Box 297, Philadelphia, PA 19105

## VOLUNTEER

[volunteer@sundaybreakfast.org](mailto:volunteer@sundaybreakfast.org)  
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