



it's not what you know,

it's who you know

St. Stephen's Human Services

2010 Annual Report

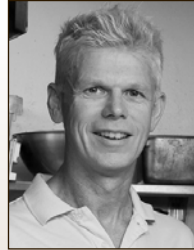
St. Stephen's Human Services Board of Directors



John Sauer,
Board Chair



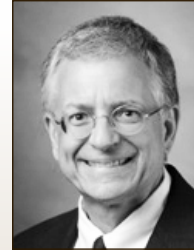
Jane Borden



Henry Bromelkamp



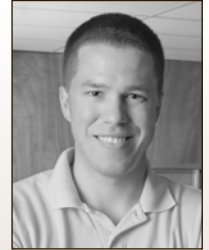
Kelsey Dawson



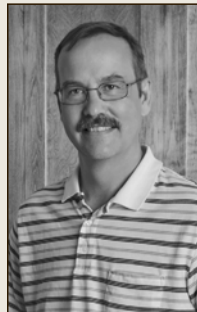
Paul Dorn



Veronica Noess



Jim Nikolai



In Memoriam

Bob Hampson died this year while a member of St. Stephen's Human Services' Board of Directors.

Bob was passionate about fighting for the homeless, people with mental illnesses, and those suffering the excesses of the criminal justice system.

Bob openly brought his own experiences to these issues as a means of fighting for those as yet unable to share their own stories of struggle.

We miss Bob's energy, sense of humor, and compassion. Our work here is stronger for having known him.

it's who you know.



**Mikkel Beckmen,
Executive Director**

Human beings are complex. This also makes us endlessly fascinating. One of the interesting things about us is that we are built to care about things and people we know.

Unfortunately it's hard to find opportunities to know people experiencing homelessness. Indeed, sometimes the only glimpse we have of people who are homeless is through the windshield of our car or in random encounters on street corners.

St. Stephen's strives to be a meeting place for everyone. We collaborate, invite and engage the entire community in our work to be a place for all to know one another, not divided by income, race, class, or fear of the unknown.

This past year was one of growth for St. Stephen's. This was the direct result of the community seeing the value in our efforts and responding to hard times with increased support. We helped 33% more families leave shelter, created three more housing teams to secure housing for people who are long-term homeless, and added zAmya Theater Project to our community education programming. Our ability to respond to community needs means that:

You know St. Stephen's. You know we can be trusted with the community's well-being through the effective use of contributions and the ability to inspire the public resolve to end homelessness.

You know and care about people who are homeless. By your caring you understand that there is a more complicated story —like those in these pages— than what a glimpse can tell you.

You know that St. Stephen's knows how to end homelessness by addressing each unique circumstance with the best solutions, unruffled, uncondemning, undeterred.

Caring relationships are everything to us at St. Stephen's. As long as we stand with one another we will be able to continue to respond with fearless advocacy and service. Hard times ask a deeper relationship of us; our shared humanity will flower because of it.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mikkel". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping 'M' and a trailing end.



Cassandra



Poverty and homelessness don't have a face. Hardworking individuals like myself? It doesn't matter. Educated people like myself? It doesn't make sense. I've always been employed. Currently I make \$9.00 an hour and it's hard to find someone to rent to you on that, so I started working with St Stephen's Employment and Family Services Program.

I was living in Maplewood and working in Minneapolis, taking four busses. I was also having relationship problems and the stress of being a single mom, you know. I just wanted to go away. I was attending school down here and I thought I'd transfer to the Duluth campus and find work there. I moved up there without doing my research and I found it wasn't what I wanted. I made a poor decision. I should've gone to Duluth first, but like I said, it was stress. I came right back, but the landlord gave my apartment away.

Currently I sleep at friends' places, the shelter, my car. My five-year-old lives with my mom, but it is very crowded there with other relatives. As long as my son is comfortable it's fine, and I can make do.

I go to classes evenings after work with one more year to get my bachelor's degree. My goal is to become certified as a management accountant. One of the qualifications is you have to have some experience, but it's hard to find an entry level position...so how are you supposed to get the experience?

I have experience with six different softwares, I type sixty words per minute, 12,000 keystrokes per hour. All of these skills, and I have not been able to land a good job. Jobs are so scarce. The people who were getting the better jobs are now taking the entry-level jobs.

For one of my classes I wrote a paper called Getting the Community Involved in the Fight Against Homelessness. There so many ways people can help. Some of us get overwhelmed by the struggle, like me looking for work when I already have a 40-hour-a-week job and go to school. There are ways everyone could be helping to solve the problem.

Peter



I had been more or less a functional alcoholic all of my adult life.

The housing problems kind of started when I was running a furniture store in Edina and I injured my shoulder and couldn't work. I began drinking heavier, I was getting unemployment and didn't have much else to do.

One day I was literally playing chicken in the traffic, running head-on at a city bus driving down Nicollet Avenue. I smacked my head right into it. They say it was suicide. I was drunk out of my mind.

A counselor told me, You've got severe depression and bi-polar. I said, I'm trying to recover as an alcoholic and now there's *another* diagnosis I have to manage and deal with? I was devastated. As far as I was concerned my drinking was my medication. It was also my identity. I was probably eleven years old when I started drinking.

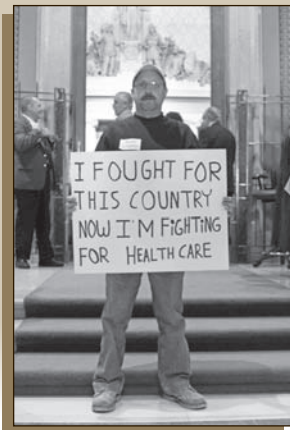
I've spent a fair amount of time in and out of shelters, getting arrested, being homeless...little do I know but all this is getting documented. Tickets for drinking in public, visits to rehab... I was in the workhouse and ten days before I got released somebody showed up from St. Stephen's FUSE program that targets "frequent users" of the services, and said they wanted to house me.

I'm sober now so we'll see if I can keep this apartment. It's working so far. When I drink it's like Jekyll & Hyde. My record's full of assault cases. I think I just get so angry and mad at myself. It's like a hatred: *You are such an idiot. How can you continue to do this?* I've heard from people all my life: Peter, you can do this, you could've been that, you're smart enough to do anything... But I don't feel it.

I study my Bible. I keep my tool belt with my hundred dollar hammer in case I find work. I think I'm doing OK, though I can't tell if I'm lying to myself or not. Do I want to be sober or not? I think I do, but I believe my own lies. They're believable, you know.



Programs



Alliance of the Streets connects people experiencing homelessness or poverty to essential resources, such as representative payee services, birth certificates, and the *Handbook of the Streets*, enabling them to effectively navigate their way through challenges.

Employment & Family Services assists families transitioning from government assistance to self-reliance in securing permanent, livable-wage employment.

Ending Long-term Homelessness Programs work with single adults who have been homeless over many years and are stuck in a cycle of shelters, jail, treatment programs, and living outside. The programs work intensively to connect people to permanent housing with supportive services.

Free Store offers lightly used clothing and small household goods to people in need.

Housing Services works with families to move from shelters to permanent housing. We also provide prevention assistance for people in danger of becoming homeless and specialized support for newly released ex-offenders who would otherwise have no place to live.

Human Rights Program engages people experiencing homelessness and other members of the community in advocating for systemic change in the ways homelessness is addressed. We offer *A Day in the Life*, giving participants an opportunity to learn directly from people experiencing homelessness.

Kateri Residence provides sober transitional housing to American Indian women recovering from chemical dependency. Kateri blends traditional recovery methods such as AA and 12-step with a focus on American Indian culture and spirituality. Housing for long-term homeless, American Indian single adults and families is also provided by two Housing First components.

Shelter provides safe & sober refuge and basic services to forty-four adult men every night while we work with them to access housing and support services. Our Shelter Employment Program works with people staying in south Minneapolis shelters to secure or improve employment.

Street Outreach provides the first contact for individuals living outside and for the community members concerned for them. Partnering with law enforcement, probation offices, and other stakeholders, this intensive outreach connects people to housing and other services.

zAmya Theater Project works with housed and homeless people to create and act in performances that address homelessness. They perform around the metro for schools, faith communities, workplaces, and other community groups.





Janice



Right now I live for my children, that's all.

I was into drugs and alcohol since I was the age of eight. My mom and dad are alcoholics, my grandpa, grandma. My mom lost us when she was drinking—she was hung-over when she had me. I went straight to foster care for thirty days, where my sister and brother were already. So my grandma went to treatment and cleaned up for us, to get us. We were with her our whole lives.

At 21 I got into harder drugs and transferred custody of my two oldest children to their father because he was in a more stable life than I was. I was so into using that I was like, Let them go, they're going to be in a better place.

I got pregnant again and was still using. Child protection asked if I wanted to go to treatment. I was like, I'll just do it so I can keep my baby and then go back to the same lifestyle. Thank god they let me take my baby to treatment because, wow, everything changed. I wanted to feel some feelings, I wanted to be there for my kids. While I was there and at Kateri after that I knew I could do it for my children.

In the beginning I didn't like Kateri—too many rules. I was tired of rules, people telling me where and when I can go, curfew, but I got used to it. They have a reason for that and it was good experience for moving into my own place. I've been in my apartment for nine months. Me and the neighbors, we really click.

I'm on MFIP [Minnesota Family Investment Program] and trying to get into school to improve things for us. I don't really tell my kids my experiences yet. I want to be their best role model. Eventually I'll teach them what I did and what the outcome was. I want them to know how I became who I am now.

Yvonne



I had never been homeless, ever. I was in the family shelter due to two evictions from not being able to pay the rent. Also, fifteen years ago I was in trouble with the law. Since I was considered a bad situation they assigned me to work with St. Stephen's Housing.

All this time I was dealing with my diagnosis of agoraphobia, social anxiety. Me being homeless wasn't helping. I stopped driving ten years ago. I have to have someone else come with me to ride the bus. And even if someone else is driving I can't go over bridges. It's still bad, but I have to do what I have to do. Sometimes I just gotta get me across the river. I'm on high doses of Zoloft and I take Xanax when I feel it coming on, but Xanax makes me so out of it that it's hard to want to take it.

I'm able to get myself to school where I'm studying to be a medical assistant. I really like it, it gives me peace of mind and I'm learning at the same time. You can't beat that!

My therapist wanted me to go into day treatment instead of school. I know I have an illness I have to fix, but I've got to fix things beyond fixing myself. I can't just work on me when I might be facing homelessness for my family again. I don't ever want to put my family through homelessness again so I know I need a career, not just a job.

I have five kids: 19, 18, 15, 12, 9. When I went to the shelter my older kids were too embarrassed so they went to relatives. The young ones came with me.

Shelters do all they can to make you feel comfortable, but in the morning as a parent, you wake up and look at your kids and the feelings inside you...you drag around all day like a heavy weight is in you. It doesn't go away. You feel like everyone knows that you're homeless, like it's written all over you. The shame, the shame.



OUR MISSION: TO END HOMELESSNESS BY...

...serving the most vulnerable

All people (unduplicated) assisted by our programs	6,478
Adults	4,355
Children	2,123 (52%)
Individuals assisted by Street Outreach (unduplicated count).....	1,420

...creating housing opportunities and preventing homelessness

Households helped to secure housing and support services	1,164
Households prevented from eviction or foreclosure.....	343

...building capacity for self-support

Job placements by Employment and Family Services and Shelter Employment Program	205
Families increasing income to exit government support (MFIP).....	28
Handbook of the Streets distributed.....	28,305
Women learning self-sufficiency skills in Kateri Programs.....	91

...engaging the community

Participants in our learning and theater programs.....	1,869
Hours volunteered at St. Stephen's Human Services..... (Hours volunteered equivalent to 6.2 full-time employees)	12,847

...using resources wisely as stewards of the community's will to end homelessness

Savings to taxpayers from housing people.....	\$3,582,687*
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*Households housed x \$972 single or \$2550 family cost of one month in emergency shelter plus \$13,000 savings to shelter, detox and jail x individuals housed who frequently use services plus Street Outreach calls x \$120 for two hours police time.

financial statement of activities

for the twelve months ending June 30th, 2010

support and revenue

government contracts	6,002,302
foundations, churches, organizations	892,202
individual donors	734,413
united way	97,499
fees	167,914
in-kind	115,282
total	\$8,009,612

operating expenses

shelter	511,326
ending longterm homelessness	2,289,412
housing services	2,052,184
kateri residence	1,081,358
employment and family services	375,328
free store	108,674
street outreach	454,073
alliance of the streets	119,346
human rights	78,548
zAmya Theater	20,822
administrative	571,928
fundraising	229,794
total	\$7,892,793

other income

changes in fair value of investments	118,427
temporarily restricted support and revenue	295,841

change in net assets **\$531,086**

statement of financial position

as of June 30th, 2010

assets

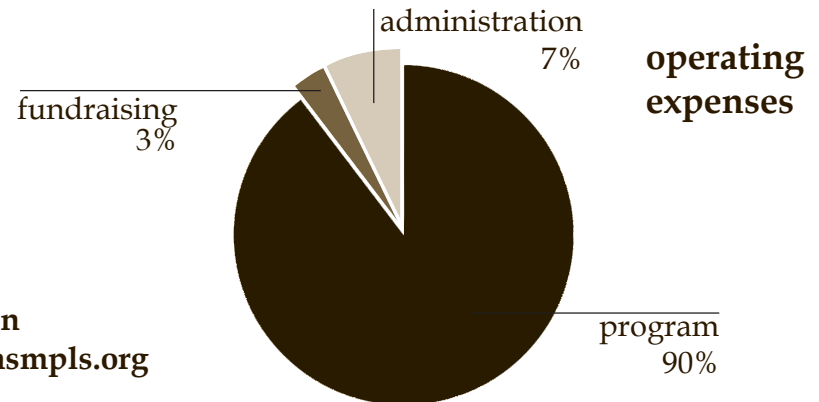
cash and equivalents	1,401,476
participant deposits	346,301
investments	429,104
accounts receivable, prepaid	55,474
grants receivable, government	437,540
pledges/commitments	74,005
leasehold improvements	279,334

total assets **\$3,023,234**

liabilities and net assets

accounts payable	146,362
deposits and advances	536,456
accrued expenses	251,836
unrestricted net assets	1,320,679
board designated endowment	429,104
temporarily restricted net assets	338,796

total liabilities and net assets **\$3,023,234**



For more information
visit www.ststephensmpls.org

ending homelessness

st. stephen's HUMAN SERVICES

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