

# The Road Home 2015 Annual Report

Helping people step out of homelessness and back into our community.



# Our Sincere Appreciation to each of you for making what we do possible!

We have built upon our success in 2015, and set some ambitious goals for Fiscal Year 2016. With your support, we will continue to progress and move forward in our mission to help people overcome homelessness.

For a complete list of FY15 donors, please visit:

www.theroadhome.org/about/ annual-reports/thank-you-to-our-donors/

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#### Dear Friends of The Road Home,

#### "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." – Winston Churchill

Thank you! In this report you will read about the continued efforts of The Road Home to help people step out of homelessness and back into our community. You will also see the names of many who make this work possible by making financial contributions. Unfortunately, it is not possible for this report to be long enough to capture the still larger group of volunteers who give themselves and their time to serve those in our community who are homeless.

I express my gratitude for each of you who have demonstrated the courage to follow through on your decision to help those who we serve as they progress from Help to Hope to Home.

While I am extremely grateful for the work of The Road Home over the last year, as well as all of those who made it possible, I believe the most important (and best) days for The Road Home are still ahead of us.

In addition to our main shelter in Salt Lake City and the growing pool of supported housing units, an important piece of our future story is the new Winter Community Shelter (replacing a 1940's celery warehouse) in Midvale that provides emergency shelter for families during the winter months. It is a strange sensation to build a new building while hoping and praying that it gets used as little as possible. However, I'm grateful for the City of Midvale, donors, architects, and construction personnel that all decided to act so that it will stand as a beacon of hope for anyone who needs it.

I'm grateful for the courage of those who will seek temporary refuge within its walls as part of their road home.

Thank you, each of you, for your support and service to those most vulnerable in our community. I am confident that as we continue to serve others The Road Home will be better, our community will be better, and we will each experience a well-lived life.

With appreciation, Matt Willes FY15 Board President



#### Dear Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to provide you a brief update regarding a few of our agency's key accomplishments over the past year. We have made some measurable progress.

We have a **new Community Winter Shelter** located in Midvale. This facility provides refuge for families seasonally each winter. We are deeply grateful to Hogan Construction and NJRA Architects for their dedication and wisdom throughout the course of construction.

This year, we also completed the renovation of the **Wendell Apartments**. We want to extend a special thanks to the thoughtful experts at VCBO Architects and Kier Construction for their efforts in making this possible. Over the past two years, Wendell has served as permanent supportive housing for people who lived in our shelter or on the streets for years.

With both of these efforts, we provide people an opportunity to overcome adversity, to begin again and to heal. In shelter, our agency can provide immediate relief to a person's homelessness crisis. In housing and with supportive services, we can help people leverage their skills and overcome homelessness. Both are critical: shelter providing immediate relief and housing offering a permanent solution.

Thanks to our efforts in creating permanent housing opportunities, our agency has turned a very important corner in our development:

On any given night, we have more people residing in housing throughout Salt Lake County than we have residents staying with us in the downtown shelter. This is critically important when realizing that across America, almost 60 percent of homeless people in families are children (U.S. HUD AHAR, 2014).

Additionally this past year, our agency participated in the commissions led by Salt Lake City and Salt

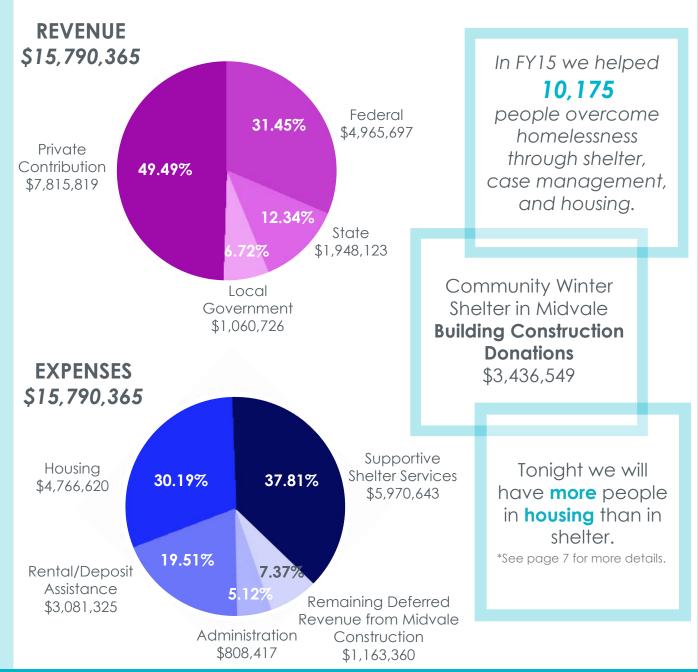
Lake County to examine the location and service delivery systems of homeless service providers. We are grateful to be a part of these discussions and look forward to continuing the work of improving homeless services for our community.

Serving our community requires vigilance and agility. Moving forward, our primary goal remains the same: to help people find a place other than shelter that they can call home. As we continue our work with this goal in mind, we have you to thank for our success. Thank you for your support. Thank you for the lives you have changed.

Sincerely, Matthew Minkevitch Executive Director



#### FY 15 - Financials



#### FY 15 Shelter Numbers at a Glance

The Road Home sheltered 7,216 individuals including:

679 Families including1,029 Adults and1,328 Children

1,238 Single Women **3,747** Single Men

We served two fewer family households than in FY14

We served **263 additional** single women than in FY14

We served **63 fewer** single men than in FY14

The number of families served in FY15 is

257% higher than 10 years ago

The number of single women served in FY15 is **151% higher** than 10 years ago The number of single men served in FY15 is **58.4% higher** than 10 years ago

Shelter is a critical first step in a person's journey back home.



### Reaching Out to the Street

In 2014, The Road Home was awarded funding (contributed by cities in Salt Lake County through the Council of Governments) for the creation of a Street Engagement Team (SET). SET is a four member team, focused in the Depot District, primarily the Pioneer Park area and the area around The Road Home. SET canvases the Depot District engaging with individuals on the street to ensure they are connected to appropriate services and to help maintain that connection. Team members are working closely with other outreach teams, housing teams and local police to ensure a high level of coordinated services.

SET is instrumental in connecting the most vulnerable individuals in our community with appropriate housing resources. They accomplish this by assisting individuals in accessing identification, birth certificates, and other needed documentation that are required prior to any housing intervention or assistance. Another important function SET serves is to assess vulnerability of individuals living on the streets to be prioritized and included in our community housing process. Having SET as part of this continuum of services has connected 408 clients to the broad range of homeless services, including housing interventions that are available in Salt Lake County.





## Rebuilding our Community Winter Shelter in Midvale

Over the past 16 years, our Community Winter Shelter in Midvale has provided critical shelter for people we serve during the coldest winter months. The building, an old celery warehouse, provided much-needed shelter but was in serious need of repairs. In 2014, we were able to purchase the building, but quickly determined that repairing the building was not enough; we needed to rebuild.

In partnership with NJRA Architects, we completed a new design for the shelter. On March 24, 2015 we demolished the building, and through the hard work of our contractor, Hogan Construction, we completed construction mid-November 2015. We are thrilled to have rebuilt this critical, life-saving shelter!

Over the past five years, our Community Winter Shelter in Midvale has served: 1,739 Families including 2,499 Children.



# Housing Numbers at a Glance

In FY15 we served:

2,760 individuals with housing in1,301 households.



570 families with housing including 1,198 children.



Currently we serve **281%** more households in housing than we did 10 years ago.

On any given night, we serve an average of

1,600 people with housing compared to

1,000 in shelter.

### Renovating Wendell Apartments

On May 22, 2013, The Road Home purchased the Wendell Apartments. Wendell was built in 1924 and has served as a housing unit since. The building has 32 apartment units, 25 studios and seven one bedrooms, as well as an office space for case management. The Wendell is currently home to some of our formerly chronic homeless population and Veterans.

We partner with the Salt Lake County Housing Authority, Salt Lake City Housing Authority, and Veterans Administration, to provide rental assistance vouchers to many of the Wendell's tenants. These program vouchers truly help each individual stabilize and succeed in their new home.

During acquisition, the need for some important improvements became evident. In October 2014, Kier Construction started the renovation project, including an upgraded fire suppression system, updated electrical, installation of security cameras, upgrades in the units and resurfacing of the asphalt in the parking lot. Along with the new safety upgrades, the Wendell also received a much needed makeover. The old carpet was replaced with plank flooring and brightly-colored accent walls were painted in each unit, giving the building a very fresh look. The renovations were completed in January 2015, and have truly helped with the overall well-being of our Wendell residents.



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from HELP to HOPE to HOME

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