

A TIME TO
Heal



2023 ATLANTA MISSION
ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends,

As we reflect upon the past year at Atlanta Mission, I am reminded of Ecclesiastes 3:11: “He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.” These words encapsulate the essence of our mission and the profound transformations we witness in the lives of those facing homelessness.

The journey from despair to hope, from fear to safety, and from helplessness to agency is a testament to the beauty that can emerge in the lives of individuals experiencing homelessness. This transformative process, however, takes time—a precious commodity often overlooked in the urgency to address the immediate needs of men, women, and children facing homelessness or addiction.

Homelessness is not merely a lack of shelter; it is a complex web of circumstances that includes trauma, mental health challenges, and societal disconnection. Ecclesiastes 3:11 teaches us that beauty unfolds in its own time, and so does the healing process for those facing homelessness. The trauma endured by these individuals requires a compassionate and patient approach.

Statistics tell a sobering tale: the number of those facing homelessness in Atlanta has increased by more than 30% in the last year.

This increase underscores the urgency of our mission and the pressing need for healing. Trauma, often an unseen companion of homelessness, further complicates the path to stability. The prevalence of trauma among the homeless population is staggering, emphasizing the need for a dedicated effort to provide the time and resources necessary for healing.

At Atlanta Mission, we understand that addressing homelessness goes beyond providing shelter and meals. It involves a commitment to walking alongside individuals on their journey to healing and restoration. It requires recognizing the profound truth that, just as Ecclesiastes 3:11 suggests, God has set eternity in the human heart—a longing for wholeness that transcends the immediate challenges of homelessness.

Our programs and initiatives are designed not just to meet immediate needs but to create an environment where individuals can experience the transformative power of time. Through counseling, vocational training, and community support, we provide the necessary resources for individuals to heal from the trauma that often accompanies homelessness.

In the last year, we have served 3,414 men, women, and children experiencing homelessness, an increase of 58% over 2022. We could not do this critical work without you. Thank you for your partnership, prayers, and generosity. I hope you grasp the incredible impact you made as you look through this annual report.

Gratefully,



Tensley Almand,
President & CEO





**Time flies.
Time waits for no one.
Time is money.
Lost time is never found again.**

Clearly, time is a precious commodity in our society. What we do with our short lives on Earth matters. It seems like we are always zooming around from one thing to another, trying to get as much done as we can. Our calendars are full, and we barely have time to rest.

This is even more true for those men and women facing homelessness or stuck in a cycle of addiction. They don't have enough time to adequately heal and make lasting change in their lives.

For the last few decades, the official policy in the US regarding homelessness has been a "housing-first" policy. This provides rapid re-housing for people experiencing homelessness. While it is critical that we provide housing for those seeking shelter, we recognize that we need more than just housing. Homelessness has actually increased by 11% nationwide (and 30% in Metro Atlanta).

"The problem is that people become homeless for a variety of reasons, and putting them into an apartment just moves their homelessness inside," says Mary Theroux, CEO of the Independent Institute. "They're still culturally homeless, they still have the same issues they had when they were living on the street, except now they're isolated inside, and they die at higher rates, actually, once they're housed." What people struggling with homelessness really need, she argues, is a holistic approach that combines housing with social support.

(<https://www.philanthropyroundtable.org/how-philanthropy-is-tackling-homelessness-through-holistic-solutions/>)

According to Isabel McDevitt, co-founder of Work Works America, in addition to housing, we need a multi-pronged approach to end homelessness. "What a lot of people don't necessarily understand is the complexity of how people end up experiencing homelessness," she says. "What I would hope is that we can have more of an open conversation about new, custom approaches to match the diversity of people in need. We haven't yet solved homelessness, so let's get creative. Policymakers should be looking at creative approaches that integrate people back into the community rather than keeping them separate in 'homeless housing' or doubling down on one-size-fits-all approaches."

Here at Atlanta Mission, we believe that this multi-pronged approach to healing takes time. In the face of increasing homelessness in our city, we believe that time is a powerful ally. It is the canvas upon which healing and restoration can unfold. It is a process guided by patience, compassion, and a steadfast belief in the beauty that can emerge from even the most challenging circumstances.

In this annual report, you will read about how clients pass their time in our program, from when they take that first courageous step to enter our doors, to Make Progress, to graduation ceremonies at Next Steps, to moving out into a place of their own. We could not transform lives and provide hope to these men, women, and children without your support. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the lives of those facing homelessness, helping them find the time they need to heal.

THE TIME IS NOW

7.1 million

American households experienced severe housing cost burden, which means that they spent more than 50 percent of their income on housing, in 2021. The number of severely cost-burdened American households is now 25 percent higher than it was in 2007. According to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, there is a deficit of 22,000 affordable and available units of housing to meet the needs of people impacted by low-income and homelessness.

"We've [The U.S. government] built over **200,000** new [permanent supportive housing] units for the homeless, as they're known, and, since 2013, the federal government has mandated the Housing First strategy nationwide. Yet since that nationwide mandate has gone into effect, we've seen street homelessness increase by almost a fourth."

"The data so far this year [on homelessness numbers] are up roughly **11%** from 2022, a sharp jump that would represent by far the biggest recorded increase since the government started tracking comparable numbers in 2007," The Wall Street Journal warned in a recent report.

**Homelessness has increased by 30%
over the last year in metro Atlanta.**

Client Engagement

YOUR 2023 IMPACT IN NUMBERS



231,316

NIGHTS OF SHELTER



693,948

MEALS PROVIDED



3,414

CLIENTS SERVED



13,928

VOLUNTEER HOURS

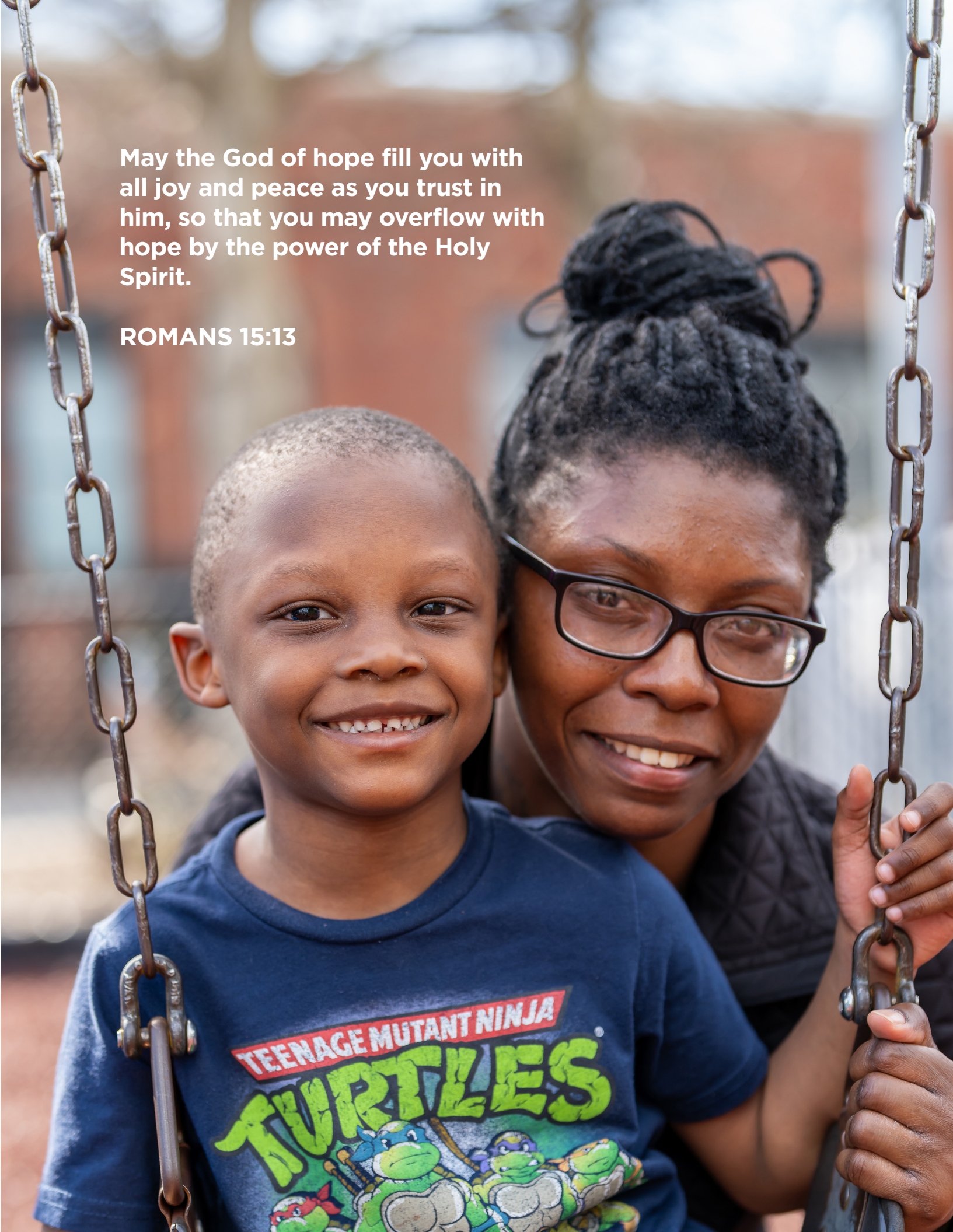


7,567

COUNSELING
SESSIONS

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

ROMANS 15:13



Atlanta Mission's Transformation Model

Our Transformation Model seeks to best meet the needs of a diverse population, walking with them on a journey to security, stability, and sustainability. We have structured this work into three distinct phases in order to maximize support for the client and increase milestones and celebration of success.

TRANSFORMATION MODEL STAGES



“This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17 (NLT)

2023 Client Progression

We strive daily for innovation, and continually pioneer successful new approaches to serve Atlanta's most vulnerable, leveraging a groundbreaking Transformational Model which addresses both physical and relational poverty.



3,414
TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED

EMERGENCY SERVICES (<30 DAYS)

Individuals courageously entered our doors to receive critical care and services such as meals and safe shelter.



888
Find Hope

TRANSFORMATIVE SERVICES (12-18 MONTHS)



Choose Help
1,451

Individuals took the next step to further engage in our services and explore the underlying causes of their homelessness.



Make Progress
790

Individuals participated in Make Progress, which offers comprehensive, holistic programming to address their needs.



Sustain & Grow
290

Individuals resided in our on-site transitional housing after graduating the program. They are in the process of searching for permanent housing.

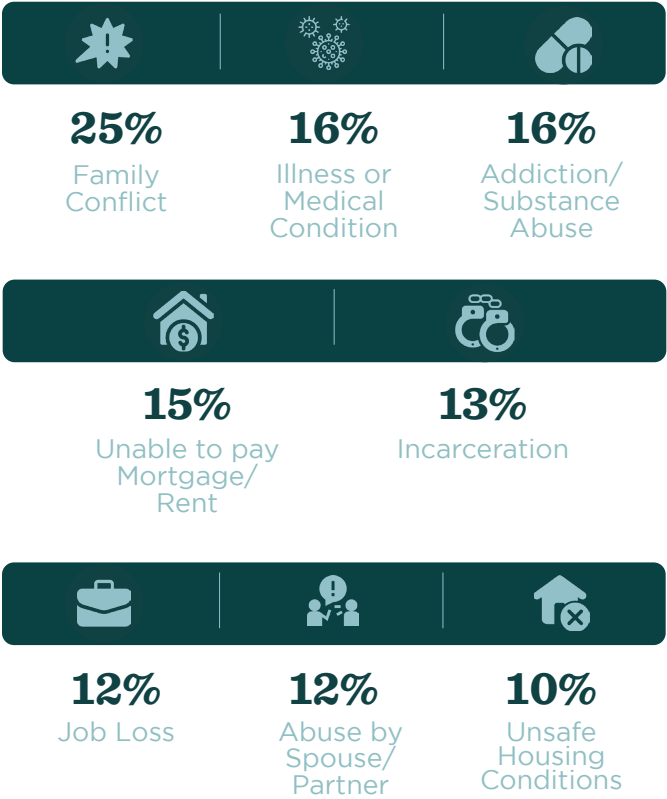
SECURED HOUSING

598



Living on the Streets

WHAT CAUSES HOMELESSNESS?



Experiencing homelessness is truly frightening. Not knowing if you will have a safe place to sleep, where your next meal will come from, or how to stay out of harsh weather conditions is exhausting and demoralizing. On top of this, many of those facing homelessness are treated inhumanely, with no one looking them in the eye or calling them by their name for weeks.

More than 80% of those individuals facing homelessness have experienced some sort of trauma in their life, either as a result of their homelessness or that led to their homelessness. These traumas are major barriers to healing. They often increase hopelessness and decrease individual agency.

Many men, women, and children we serve are also experiencing relational poverty, meaning they have no healthy relationships in their lives. Many of us have someone to turn to if we lose our job or are experiencing emotional trauma. The clients we serve usually have no one to ask for help or support. This relational poverty causes a profound sense of loneliness. Lacking connection can increase the risk for premature death to levels comparable to smoking 15 cigarettes a day, according to a new advisory from the U.S. Surgeon General. The physical consequences of poor connection can be devastating, including a 29% increased risk of heart disease; a 32% increased risk of stroke; and a 50% increased risk of developing dementia for older adults.

(<https://www.npr.org/2023/05/02/1173418268/loneliness-connection-mental-health-dementia-surgeon-general>)

Addressing this intense trauma and relational poverty takes a multi-layered and unique approach, which is why most of our programs are longer just 30 days. Men, women, and children need significant time to heal and move forward.



Meet Jesse.

I'm from Saginaw, Michigan. I grew up working in the fields with my family, and when I was old enough, I started working in factories. I have worked in all kinds of factories: an ice cream factory, container factory, car factory. It paid enough to support me and my four children. I attended an online college for two years to get a degree in audio engineering but had to drop out because I was working too many hours at the factory trying to provide for my kids.

In 2019, my 20-year-old daughter and I decided to move from Saginaw to Atlanta. She wanted to be an actress and thought this was the place to be. I wanted to support her dreams. I also knew there were major opportunities for songwriting and sound production down here. For about six months, we lived in an apartment together and worked odd jobs in the film industry as extras. But in March of 2020, COVID hit, and all those jobs dried up. I told her to go back to Michigan to live with her mother, but I wanted to try to make it work here in Atlanta.

I kept looking and looking for jobs, but no one was hiring, and I couldn't continue to pay the rent on our apartment. I had to move out and had no where to go, so I slept in my car for six months. That was a really rough time for me. I was embarrassed and depressed. I had to "shower" in public bathrooms and find a safe place to park my car at night.

I just kept asking God, "What do I do?". My hope was at an all-time low.

JESSE'S CURRENT EMOTIONS



AN "AVERAGE" DAY WHEN JESSE WAS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

- 6:30 am:
Wake up in my car and drive to a public park
- 6:45 am:
Sponge off in public park bathroom
- 7:00 am to 1:00 pm:
Sit in McDonalds, charge my phone, use their internet to job search, and buy lunch
- 1:00 pm:
Go to Social Security office and try to get unemployment benefits
- 5:00 pm:
Free dinner at local church
- 6:00 pm:
Charge phone at Starbucks and call my daughter
- 9:00 pm:
Find somewhere safe to park my car to sleep

HOPE LIVES HERE

Find Hope & Choose Help

It's a difficult decision to enter our doors. Many men, women, and children have been to shelters and had terrible experiences. Some have never experienced homelessness before and don't know what to expect. When they take the courageous first step to come to Atlanta Mission, we greet them with a smile and kind words. We look them in their eyes and call them by name. We want to ensure a sense of dignity, whether or not they end up staying with us.

Our Find Hope and Choose Help Services provide critical services to people coming in off the street. Individuals facing homelessness come through our doors to receive emergency services such as food, clothing, and shelter. Our teams assess each individual's overall needs and recommend a plan of care indicating the best next steps for an individual. Taking the next step to combatting homelessness, our clients engage in our services and explore the underlying causes of their homelessness. Those who just need to stay with us for thirty days while they get back on their feet stay in our Find Hope services. An individual can also choose to move into our Choose Help services, where they stay with us longer-term and embrace a more holistic program. Our teams work with each client to determine the appropriate service track for them, empowering them to take ownership in their recovery.



Meet Nateka.

I grew up in Atlanta, raised by my grandparents. My mother was always around, but I didn't live with her. I never lived with her, never knew my father. It was a pretty normal upbringing other than being raised by my grandparents instead of my parents. I've always had a job working in customer service and had my own apartment. And I never had drug or alcohol problems. That wasn't my thing. For me, my mental health has always been unstable. I would just have some days that I just didn't want to do anything but stay in bed. My social anxiety and depression have always been a problem. As I got older, I also started having health problems. In late 2021, I was actually on FMLA from the job I was working at that time, and I was in a relationship that ended and I couldn't afford the rent where I was. I ended up living in my car for about a month with my two youngest daughters, trying to drive for RideShare services to get money. But yeah, things got really rough. I couldn't keep anything together. I had high blood pressure. I was in and out of emergency rooms because of my health. My 17-year-old daughter told me that we needed to find a place to stay and start over. That's how we ended up at Restoration House.

I was really just at rock bottom, so I was open to whatever the process was. And I heard that so much throughout the program, trust the process, and that's literally what I did. I was pretty numb when we arrived at Restoration House, but I felt like this place was magical. The staff were all so kind, and I felt safe. I could take a deep breath. The first thirty days were really a time for me and my daughters to regroup and begin to de-stress. They could attend school and I could begin to think about what our next steps should be.

NATEKA'S CURRENT EMOTIONS



NATEKA'S SCHEDULE AT RESTORATION HOUSE

6:00 am:	Wake up, shower, and get the girls ready for school
7:00 am:	Breakfast
7:30 am:	Bus picks up the girls for school
8:00 am:	Morning devotion and announcements
9:00 am:	Meet with Social Worker
10:00 am:	Class with Ambassador to learn about trust
Noon:	Lunch
1:00 pm:	Inspire class to learn more about Atlanta Mission's programs
3:30 pm:	Girls arrive home from school
4:00 - 5:00 pm:	Help with homework
5:30 pm:	Dinner together
7:00 pm:	Bible Study
10:00 pm:	Lights out

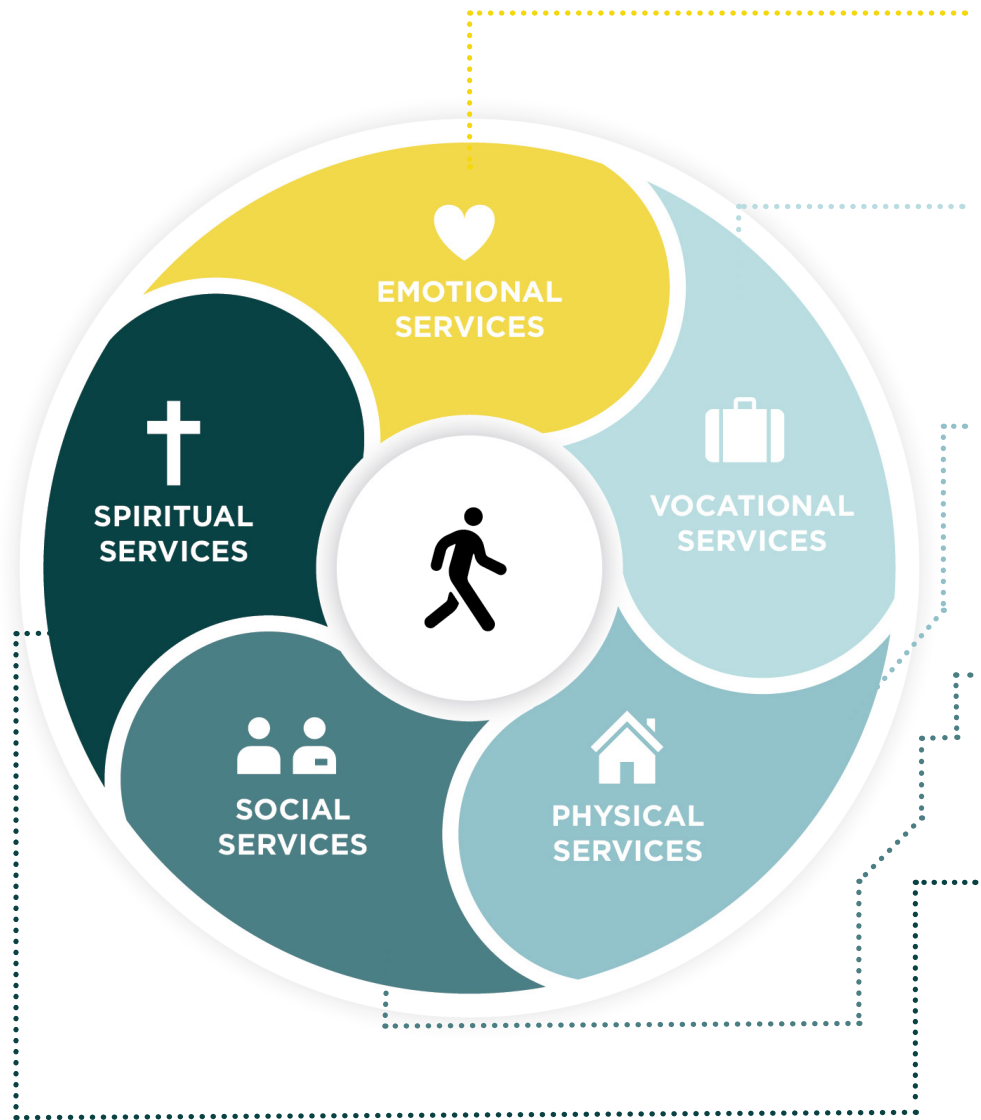
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So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

ISAIAH 41:10

Make Progress

When clients decide to continue our program after the first month, they enter our Make Progress services. During this phase, men, women, and children receive comprehensive services, including therapy, vocational and educational development, addiction recovery, and mentoring. Our trauma-informed approach enables our clients to break through barriers to finding healing and restoration. We offer personalized services in five key areas: physical, emotional, spiritual, social, & vocational.



EMOTIONAL SERVICES

Meeting the emotional needs of our clients is essential to their success. Most have undergone extreme trauma and stress. They have counselors and advocates available to provide one-on-one counseling (with trauma-informed care), clinical groups, process groups, and life-skills classes to meet their emotional needs.

VOCATIONAL SERVICES

During the first phase of our vocational program, clients engage in service activities (e.g. dining services). Here they will receive personalized coaching from our staff against five key workplace competencies: Time management, Communication, Professionalism, Conflict Management, and Teamwork.

PHYSICAL SERVICES

Our physical services address health barriers to employment and permanent housing. Our staff work with clients to make healthcare appointments and provide transportation to those appointments. Our Housing Social Workers help clients find sustainable living options. We promote financial literacy for everyone as a way to ensure their future success through financial management classes.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Community partners engage our clients in spiritual, educational, and recreational activities. Our clients are also encouraged to be involved in a local faith community that walks alongside them. For our children, we provide childcare during the day, after school programs, and summer activities.

SPIRITUAL SERVICES

We want every client who comes through our doors to Know Christ, Walk with Christ, and Live for Christ. We have daily devotions at each campus, as well as Bible studies, chapel, spiritual formation classes, and small groups. Our staff and volunteers share the light of Christ day in and day out in the way they love, encourage, and build up our clients.



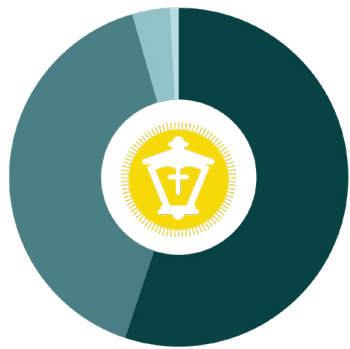
Children's Services

In 2023, Children's Services served almost 600 children! This is the largest number of children we have ever served in a year.

Atlanta Mission's children thrive in our program. Those under the age of five are served in our Children's Academy on site. Elementary age and above are enrolled at Centennial Academy charter school or engage in online programming.

This year, one of our high-school graduates was recruited by over five colleges with full scholarships! We are so proud of the hard work all of these children accomplish while they are in our care - both academically and emotionally. God has big plans for them!

AGES SERVED IN 2023



- 55% 5 - 12 years old
- 40% Infant - 4 years old
- 4% 13 - 17 years old
- 1% 18+ years old



583
Children Served
in our Children's
Services in 2023



4,164
Counseling
Sessions
in 2023



728
Life Skills
Classes Taken
in 2023

EXAMPLE CLIENT SCHEDULE IN MAKE PROGRESS

6:00 am:	Wake up and get ready for the day
7:00 am:	Breakfast
9:00 am:	Process group
11:00 am:	Conflict Resolution class
NOON:	Lunch
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm:	Work Assignment (clean or prep for dinner)
3:00 pm:	Counseling session
5:30 pm:	Dinner
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm:	Bible Study at a local church
10:00 pm:	Lights out





Once someone nears the end of their personalized Make Progress plan, they enter our vocational training program, called Next Steps. Beginning in June 2019, Atlanta Mission partnered with Cara Collective, a leading Chicago-based workforce development enterprise, to integrate their vocational training and job placement model. We train men and women in the following soft skills so they can both obtain and retain a job: time management, communication, professionalism, conflict management, and teamwork. Our program is important for our clients and the community because it specializes in workforce development for people who are ready to lift themselves out of homelessness. We do this through innovative personal and professional skills training and access to employment opportunities. Coupled with Cara Collective's workforce training and curriculum, and Atlanta Mission's proven model for ending homelessness, the Next Steps program has been able to impact the community through empowerment and self-sustainability.

In 2023, 212 students from Make Progress enrolled in our Next Steps program. Of those enrolled, all completed our Job Search Workshop (JSW) which includes how to develop a resume, navigate online applications, and manage their job search. Highly motivated clients then proceeded to Transformations, an intensive three-week course during which they built core competencies needed to obtain and retain jobs.

IN 2023

Next Steps Graduates

212
Next Steps
Total
Participants



100%
Completed
Job Search Workshop
(JSW)

67%
Graduated
Transformations

Employment Metrics



142
Jobs
Secured



\$15.82
Average
Starting Pay



51
Days to Obtain
Employment



61%
Retention
Rate



Jesse's Story, Continued

I finally had enough of living in my car. I looked up homeless shelters and Atlanta Mission was the first to pop up. I arrived at The Shepherd's Inn early in the morning and was the 11th person in line for a bed. They announced that they only had room for 5 people, and I was crushed. I sat there and just prayed. About 20 minutes later, they came out and told me they had room for one more. It was truly a miracle.

I've been at Atlanta Mission now for 8 months. My life has completely changed. I have so much more hope now. I have met amazing guys here. My Advocate and Counselor check in with me every day. When you're here, you feel like you accomplished something. I appreciate the classes that we had. It was a learning experience. So, it taught me some things about myself, some things that, not that I didn't know, but that I had buried, some things that I needed to let go of in my past, how to forgive, and really applying that. Even though I thought I did forgive, the classes helped me realized that I didn't fully because the pain was still there. The Next Steps program was exactly what I needed. I graduated from Next Steps and am currently job-searching. I also started a sound engineering degree online in January. My dream is burning brighter than ever. I know I am going to be a successful songwriter and have a production company one day. God has led me here, and he will continue to guide my steps.



JESSE'S CURRENT EMOTIONS



A TYPICAL DAY FOR JESSE IN THE NEXT STEPS PROGRAM

5:00 am:
Get up, meditate, and get ready for the day

7:00 am:
Breakfast

8:30 am:
Get on the bus for the Next Steps Program

9:00 am:
Next Steps Class on Conflict Resolution

10:00 am:
Mock Speed Interviews

Noon:
Lunch

1:00 pm:
Meeting with Atlanta Mission about possible housing options

2:00 pm:
Job search in computer lab

3:00 pm:
Head back to The Shepherd's Inn

5:00 pm:
Dinner

6:00 - 9:00 pm:
Online class for Sound Engineering Degree

10:00 pm:
Lights out



Sustain & Grow

After successfully finding employment, clients move into our transitional housing, giving them time to save money and make plans to seek affordable permanent housing. Our teams work diligently and creatively to find affordable housing solutions for our clients. Upon moving out, we provide clients with a Homecoming Kit containing items needed to furnish their new home, such as furniture, bedding, and kitchen supplies. A retention coach keeps in touch with them for the next year, helping them navigate any difficulties with their job. Just like they needed time to process their experiences in our shelters, they will need time to adjust to life on their own. Letting them know that they have people who care about them and that they can contact is imperative to their success.

A job and a house are not the only outcomes for the men and women we serve, and our clients’ transformation does not stop once they move into permanent housing. The goal of our services is that our clients would sustain the changes made in their time with us, and also continue to grow. This type of growth requires community support and nourishment. We support our clients so they become thriving members of our community.



Nateka’s Story, Continued

As I continued from Restoration House to My Sister’s House, I felt my hope beginning to grow. I still can’t believe that they gave us counselors for free. That helped my mental state so much. It also helped my teenage daughters begin to process what we had been through. I think the most important thing for me was the trauma class. So many other people that go through homelessness, they really just want immediate assistance and then they’re out of there. I thought about moving out after a month and not entering the Make Progress services, but I knew I’m just going to end up homeless again. It’s like a cycle that keeps repeating with me. I wanted to take the time to heal.

When I entered the Next Steps Program, I was nervous because you have to speak in front of the class, but it gave me so much confidence. They taught me how to dress professionally, be punctual, build a resume, take notes, and interview like a pro. One of the staff members, Ms. Juanita, really poured into me. She gave me a beautiful outfit that I wore to our graduation. Because of this program, I was able to get a great job at a local hospital working at the information desk. I’ve been here for about 14 months, and I love it. My daughters and I were also able to find a good apartment. My daughters are both in college and living independently now. I recently got married to a wonderful man, and I was proud to wear the graduation dress that Ms. Juanita gave me on my wedding day. My next big goal is home ownership.

NATEKA’S CURRENT EMOTIONS



NATEKA’S DAILY SCHEDULE AFTER GRADUATING

5:00 am:	Wake up, pray, and get ready for work
6:30 am:	Arrive at the hospital for work
11:00 am:	Lunch break
2:30 pm:	Get off work and stop by the grocery store
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm:	Relax
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm:	Make dinner
6:00 pm:	Daughters come over for dinner
9:00 pm:	Read and get ready for bed
10:30 pm:	Bedtime

Community Partners

Our vision is “a community united to end homelessness, one person at a time.” We cannot do this critical work without the support of our community. We are so grateful for our creative and generous partners, whose support allows us to serve our clients with excellence, dignity, and joy.

ATLANTA FALCONS

The Atlanta Falcons have been involved with Atlanta Mission for more than ten years. Having the Falcons on our campuses is always such a morale booster. It levels the playing field, meaning there is no such thing as staff or client; we are all just a bunch of Falcons fans cheering on our hometown heroes. In 2023, the Falcons volunteered at every campus, from our newest site (Restoration House) to our furthest site (The Potter’s House).

A few Falcons events from the past year:

- Jonnu Smith Served Dinner at My Sister’s House (MSH)
- Mike Davis Served Dinner at MSH
- Hometown Huddle – Falcons Legend players came to The Shepherd’s Inn (TSI) to serve a meal and provide a word of encouragement for the guys
- Falcons Special Teams provided and served dinner at MSH (along with Freddie the Falcon for our annual dance party)
- Grady Jarrett and Friends served dinner at TSI (along with Freddie and Cheerleaders for another dance party)
- Falcon Legends provided and served dinner at The Potter’s House (along with Freddie Falcon for a dance party)
- Falcons invited some staff and clients to the last home game of the season (vs. Colts)

► **Jonnu Smith, Falcons Tight End, expressed his joy and admiration for the work being done. “I have such a deep appreciation for your staff and clients. I can’t express enough the impact that these few hours have made... you will see me again”. Days later, we received a call from Jonnu’s mom inquiring about our greatest needs. A few weeks later, Jonnu’s wife and mom brought a truck full of items for our campuses.**

Chris Millman (VP of Community Relations) shared that this season has been the most volunteer activity the Falcons have participated in since the COVID-19 pandemic began. He expressed how much they missed being with Atlanta Mission and how excited they have been to return to our campuses.

We are so thankful for the Falcons’ partnership. Their involvement boosts the morale of both clients and staff, creating a time for our community to joyfully celebrate!



Camp Lighthouse has had a strong relationship with Atlanta Mission for over two years, benefiting both the children and staff. They provide year-round camps and support services. In addition to their personalized weeklong summer camp, Camp Lighthouse offers specialized camps for our teens and one on one tutoring services year-round. They also open up their campsite for the staff teams from Atlanta Mission, allowing us to reset and rest.

Camp Lighthouse excels in providing trauma-informed care, emotional support, and most importantly, having fun with the kids. They prioritize social and emotional services, ensuring our children feel valued, loved, and safe. Camp Lighthouse walks alongside the Atlanta Mission Children’s Services team to promote quality of excellence, faith, trust, honesty, and resilience among our kids. .



Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.

1 PETER 4:8-10





Heritage Preparatory Academy has partnered with Atlanta Mission for the 2023-2024 school year with the goal of instilling empathy in their students while they learn about those facing homelessness in our community. It has been a rewarding partnership for us and for the school.

We scheduled four “Serve and Learn” events, in which an Atlanta Mission staff member and volunteer trainers shared topics to build knowledge and compassion, including modules on empathy and Trauma-Informed care.. Then, the students take part in a service project. They have created Christmas wreaths for clients’ doors, stuffed race packets for our Atlanta Mission 5K, and cleaned one of our clothing closets. There are more “Serve and Learn” events planned for the next few months.

- **“Our Serve and Learn partnership with Atlanta Mission is one of my absolute favorite things about my job. I’m grateful that our students not only get to ‘do the work’ but they’re also learning the why behind the what. The team at Atlanta Mission has done and continues to do an excellent job of meeting our students where they are and providing tremendous insight into the complexities of poverty and homelessness.”**
-Jason Thomas, Dean of Students at Heritage Preparatory School



- **“Gail Frantz, their Operations Director, is awesome,” shared Merle Richardson, Director of Food Services at Atlanta Mission. “She goes above and beyond to ensure our kitchens and chefs have whatever is needed to nourish our clients.”**

Midwest Food Bank serves nonprofit organizations helping their communities. They are on the front lines in the fight against food insecurity, getting food into the hands of those who need it. Midwest Food Bank has been an incredible Atlanta Mission partner for the past two years. This partnership has subsidized the food cost for us tremendously. Each month we’re given the opportunity to shop for food for our clients for free. If we paid for the food, it would cost about \$10,000 per month. Their entire operation is run by three staff members and about 100 volunteers. They gave Atlanta Mission an incredible 90,262 pounds of food in 2023.



- **“A true partner in ending homelessness, QuikTrip continues to support our goal of humbly serving those who need it most. Their support has helped mothers, children, and families remain strong throughout times of adversity,” said Tensley Almand, our President & CEO.**

In 2023, QuikTrip (QT), one of the nation’s leading convenience and gasoline retailers, announced more than \$7 million in grants awarded to local nonprofits to help combat homelessness and make communities across the Atlanta metropolitan area safer, stronger and more stable. Atlanta Mission is one of those nonprofits that QT has partnered with. Their grants have supported our addiction recovery program and our ongoing childcare certification efforts. They also were a presenting sponsor of our 2024 5K Race to End Homelessness.

Thank you, QT, for providing hope to those in our community facing homelessness and addiction.



2023 Financials

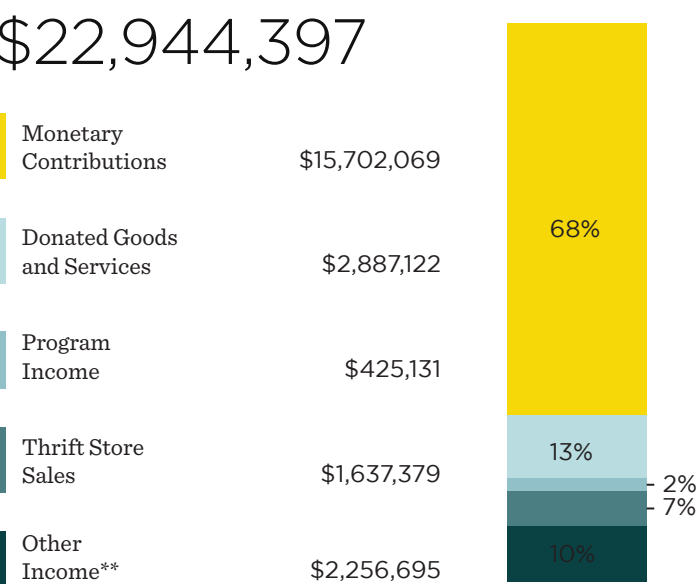
As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for your incredible generosity. Your contributions have empowered us to provide shelter, support, and hope to individuals facing homelessness in our community. Thank you for partnering with us as we strive to create lasting change and brighter futures for those we serve.

-Bill Holby, Chair of the Atlanta Mission Board of Directors

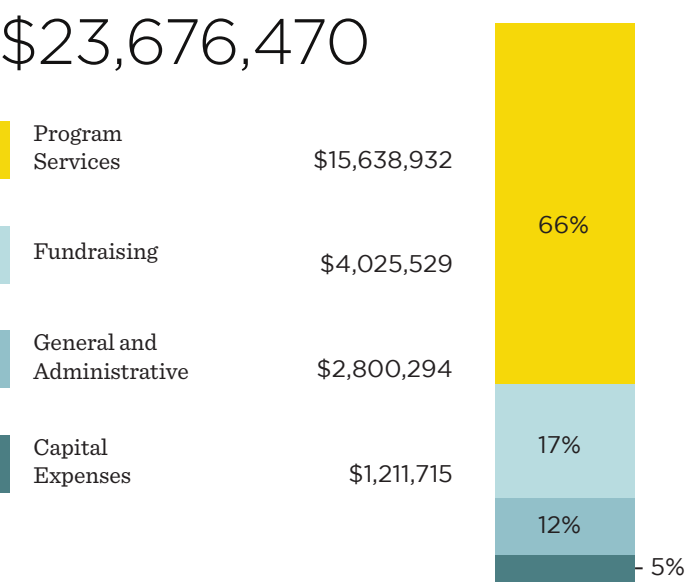


Operating Income & Expenses*

Income Total



Expenses Total



*Unaudited

**Other Income includes funds authorized for operating purposes, vending receipts, property rental income, and farm revenue.



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