



 (501) 374-7383

   @ourhouseshelter

 302 E Roosevelt Rd, Little Rock, AR

ourhouseshelter.org



ANNUAL REPORT
2025-2026



Our Mission

Our House empowers homeless and near-homeless families and individuals to succeed in the workforce, in school, and in life through hard work, wise decision-making, and active participation in the community.

New beginnings, built together.

This year, Our House continued moving forward with purpose—expanding opportunities, strengthening programs, and helping more people build stable, independent futures.

At Our House, we know that a new beginning requires more than a place to stay. It takes the right support at the right time—from safe housing and childcare to employment, education, health services, and a community invested in seeing people succeed. By bringing these resources together, we help individuals and families address the barriers that stand between where they are and where they want to be.

And while every journey looks different, no one undertakes it alone. Our team walks alongside clients as they set goals, build skills, make difficult decisions, and take steps toward a future they can sustain.

Every milestone in this report reflects what is possible when a community comes together. Through the generosity of donors, the dedication of volunteers, the commitment of partners, the resilience of our clients, and the passion of our team, Our House is able to offer new beginnings to thousands of people each year.



Built by Action Get Involved

1 **Serve** a Shelter meal

A healthy meal prepared and served with love lets our residents know their community is behind them → ourhouseshelter.org/meals

2 **Shop** at the Our House Resale Store & Donation Center

Your dollars directly support Our House programming, and you will meet clients working in our job training program → ourhouseshelter.org/store

3 **Volunteer** on our campus

Come as a company, family, or individual! We have opportunities in all of our programs to get connected → ourhouseshelter.org/volunteer

4 **Invite** a friend to Open House

Help us spread the word by inviting someone out to our monthly Open House –every first Thursday on our campus → ourhouseshelter.org/openhouse

5 **Donate** monthly

Become a monthly donor today! \$35 dollars a month can buy bus passes for a job seeker to attend their interviews. \$50 a month can purchase new bedding for a Shelter resident moving in off the street → ourhouseshelter.org/donate



Built By Generosity 2025-2026 New Beginnings Alliance

Cindy & T.J. Boyle
Charles A. Frueauff Foundation
Christ the King Catholic Church
Cindy & Chip Murphy Foundation
Clark Family Foundation, Inc.
Tabietha & Bill Dillard
Anne & Merritt Dyke
Judy Fletcher East & Jim East
Dee & Donald English
Ernest & Anna Ritter Family Endowment

Cynthia & Thomas Frazier
Sherrill & Kevin Garland
Barnett Grace
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Sarah & Rob Gunther
Karen & Ken Hamilton
Wendalyn Welch & John Harris
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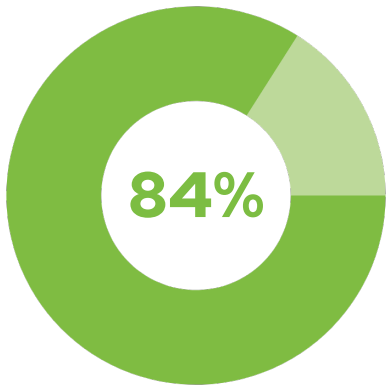
Jessica & Patrick Schueck
Schueck Family Foundation
Second Presbyterian Church
Katie & Miles Stephens
Mary Olive & John Stephens
Stephanie & Todd Stewart
Stephanie & Kevin Wilcox
William Randolph Hearst Foundation
Windgate Foundation
Diane & Randy Zook



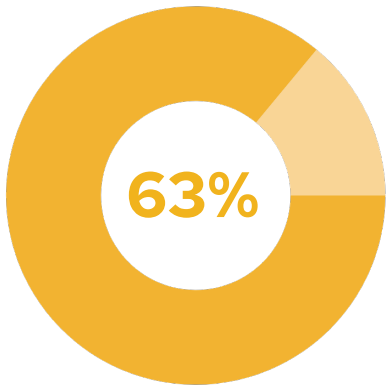
The New Beginnings Alliance is a community of Our House's most committed supporters who invested **\$10,000 or more** in the past fiscal year to help create new beginnings for people overcoming homelessness.

Making An Impact 2025-2026

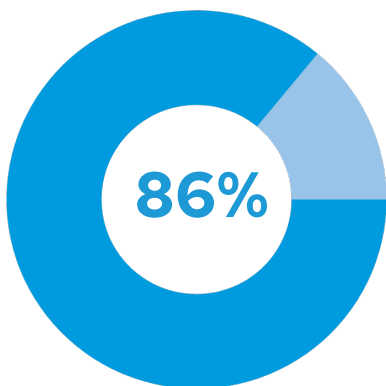
Last year, Our House served as a home to **new beginnings** for **3,134** children and adults.



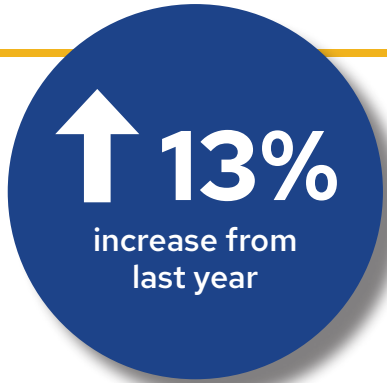
of families maintained stable housing



of Shelter residents moved up the housing ladder



of clients earned above minimum wage



726

residents lived in our Housing programs

140

children lived in our Housing programs

492

families received case management

608

adults were connected to full-time employment

797

clients participated in mental health services

109

adults participated in our job training program

257

youth participated in Our Club

177

children attended Bright Beginnings

1,747

adults utilized Career Center services



The Jackett Family

"I wanted to get my family back together." That was Tammie Jackett's goal when she moved to Arkansas to support her son, Jonathan, who was rebuilding his life after addiction and incarceration while raising his young son, Colson. Their family was also grieving the recent loss of Tammie's daughter, and they wanted a chance to heal together.

Finding stability proved difficult. Between Jonathan's criminal record, the need for child care, and limited job opportunities, the family bounced between hotels and sleeping in their van. After hearing about Our House, they parked nearby each night, hoping a family room would become available. Three days later, it did!

With safe housing secured, their family could begin rebuilding. Colson enrolled in Bright Beginnings, giving Tammie and Jonathan reliable childcare while they focused on employment. Both joined our job training program, working as gatekeepers to build job skills and develop a positive work history while serving as the first friendly faces clients encounter when they arrive at Our House.

"We all have a story, and we all deserve to get help," Tammie says. "If they come to the gate, they're looking for help. I just try to be friendly and help them the way you would want to be helped."

The Jacketts also participate in mental health services and parenting classes as they continue working toward their goals. Tammie recently got what she calls her "dream job" at Hobby Lobby, and they are working towards moving into a home of their own!



Built By Community

An Evening to Remember



21

years of
Dinner on the Grounds



\$600,000+

dollars raised in support of
Our House programs



180+

community sponsors
and donors

Dinner on the Grounds has always been more than a fundraiser.

It's a celebration of the community that makes new beginnings possible. This year, we set out to make the event our biggest, most beautiful, and most impactful yet. Thanks to our incredible community, we did just that. As Our House's only annual fundraiser, *Dinner on the Grounds* plays a vital role in sustaining our programs throughout the year.

Guests gathered under the stars to enjoy elevated Southern fare, handcrafted cocktails, delectable desserts, live music by *Lagniappe*, and a packed silent auction. Together, supporters joined us at the table to celebrate the exceptional generosity of our community and the hope it creates for over 3,000 Our House clients each year.

We give our deepest thanks to our event chairs, Liza & Ray Nolan and Frances & David Mitchell, whose leadership helped make this extraordinary evening possible. We also recognize the Presenting sponsors from our 21st annual event—Cynthia & Thomas Frazier and Katie & Miles Stephens. Because of their extraordinary support, *Dinner on the Grounds* continues to grow as a powerful force for creating new beginnings for our clients.



Learn more about our upcoming *Dinner on the Grounds* here!



This year marked an exciting milestone as Our House celebrated the grand opening of our new Resale Store & Donation Center on University Avenue.

With a larger, more visible location and expanded donation center, this store is helping connect even more shoppers and donors to the mission of Our House, creating an improved experience for everyone who walks through its doors.

The Resale Store is much more than a place to find great bargains. Every purchase and every donation helps support the life-changing programs of Our House, while the store itself serves as a hands-on training ground for individuals working to build job skills. Through our nine-month job training program, participants with barriers to employment gain valuable experience in retail operations and customer service that they can take with them into a future career.

We are grateful to Mayor Frank Scott Jr., the Little Rock Regional Chamber, Citizens Bank, and the many community members who supported us in officially opening our doors!

ourhouseshelter.org/store • (501) 859-6101

Open Tues - Sat • 4653 JFK Blvd, 9a - 5p • 825 N University Ave, 8a - 4p

Built By Community More Than A Store



New Location

825 N University Ave—a more visible, accessible home for our store



Expanded Space

More room for shoppers, donors, and donations



More Opportunities

Hands-on job training experience that helps our clients build careers



Measuring Progress

Employment & Training



Average starting wages for adult clients increased from **\$14.50** to **\$14.90**



77% of Job Training participants obtained employment upon exit, and program drop-outs decreased by **55%**



Collectively, our clients earned **\$17.15 million** to support themselves and their families

The Career Center served **1,747 adults**, a **24% increase** from the previous year, and the highest number we have seen in the past five years.

86%

of adults earned above minimum wage

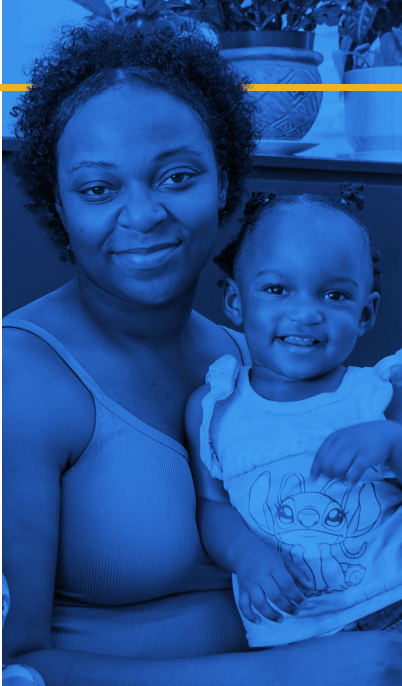
242

Arkansas employers hired our clients

608

adults found and maintained jobs through the help of our Career Center

Our Resource Hotline fielded over 14,800 calls and personally connected with over 4,700 individuals.



90%

of families avoided a disruptive school transfer



67%

of families had full-time income or equivalent



1,111

program participants, the most in five years

Housing

Longer stays are making room for greater progress. Housing served **726** clients this year, giving residents more time to build the skills and resources they need for what comes next. Residents who stayed at least 30 days built an average of **\$1,705 in savings**, creating a stronger financial foundation for life after Our House.



65%

of adults left with full-time jobs



64%

of adults left with savings



63%

moved up the housing ladder

We saw improvement in all housing metrics this year.

Family Stability

With an additional case manager joining our team, we were able to serve **31% more families**—helping more parents navigate challenges and build stability.



For parents enrolled in the program, their average income increased by

40%



Annick Malvin

For nearly two decades, Annick knew about Our House. She came through our doors many times, sometimes staying for only a few days before leaving. Looking back, she doesn't make excuses. "I was here for the wrong reasons," she says. "I wasn't ready."

Annick struggled most of her adult life, dealing with grief from deaths in her family, addiction, and instability. Although there were periods when Annick was able to work and care for her two sons, addiction gradually took control of her life. Everything changed in 2023 when she survived a fentanyl overdose. Annick found herself asking a question she couldn't ignore: "What would my children think if they found me like this?"

Determined to rebuild her life, she left a troubled relationship and entered treatment. After four months of sobriety, Annick was desperate to return to Our House, checking every day for two weeks for a bed to become available. This time she was determined to succeed: "I really experienced a lot of trauma. Trauma that's so hurtful to talk about. But being at Our House, it was just like heaven on earth."

Over the next two years, Annick embraced the structure and support of Our House. With help from the Career Center and her case manager, she found steady employment, paid off debts, received long-needed dental work, and rebuilt relationships with her sons, saving enough money to travel to South Carolina to watch her youngest son graduate after joining the military. Today, Annick lives in her own apartment, continues her recovery through counseling, and is focused on preserving the stability she has worked so hard to achieve. "Before, anytime I got stressed out I would think that I needed to numb it," she says. "Now, whether it's a bill or a bad day, I can deal with it. I just keep going."



We broke ground on the next chapter of Our House: a new Operations Center and Family House. Now nearing completion, the project will add new housing for families while expanding our operational capacity to serve more people. We can't wait to open the doors soon!



Our House was part of the first *Serve the Rock Community Impact Day*—a volunteer initiative led by the Little Rock Regional Chamber—that brought volunteers together with local nonprofits for an afternoon of hands-on service.



Our Club hosted its first-ever Spelling Bee, bringing Summer Program students together to put their spelling skills to the test. After hours of studying and preparation, students took the stage to spell in front of their peers, building confidence and courage along the way.



More than 70 people attended our Record Sealing Clinic, where community members received free background checks, legal guidance, and assistance with sealing eligible records. The clinic helped participants take steps toward removing barriers to employment and other opportunities, with support from Legal Aid of Arkansas and the Arkansas Crime Information Center.



Health & Wellness Day brought a little bit of everything to the Our House campus—fitness activities, health screenings, free haircuts, and community resources. The day also connected attendees with more than 2,000 pounds of rescued food, making wellness accessible in many different ways.



Built by Moments

Costumes, candy, and plenty of Halloween fun filled the Our House campus at our annual Boo Bash. Children and families enjoyed bounce houses, face painting, a cake walk, festive photo ops, food, and a Haunted Hallway! We love being able to create these fun memories with our clients!



Built by Moments



Our Club youth participated in swim lessons at *Safety Before Skill Swim School* this summer, through support from Step Into Swim. The lessons focused on water safety while helping kids build confidence and develop swimming skills they can carry with them into the future!



During our Fall Volunteer Day, community volunteers came together to plant, clean, and spruce up the Our House campus to create a brighter, more welcoming space for the hundreds of people who visit Our House each day.



We were so excited to welcome the Safety Town program to Bright Beginnings for a week of hands-on learning on important safety topics. From pedestrian and water safety to fire prevention and learning when to call 911, Safety Town helps children build skills and confidence in ways they can understand and remember.

We hosted Spring and Fall Farmers Markets, connecting over 600 clients with fresh produce, meat, and pantry staples. More than 1,800 lbs of food were distributed through the markets with support from the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance.



Our community Career Fair brought more than 70 job seekers together with local employers to explore opportunities, make connections, and interview for open positions. Conversations throughout the event gave job seekers the chance to showcase their skills and take steps toward their next opportunity.



Bright Beginnings celebrated its Pre-K graduates as they wrapped up a year of learning, growing, and preparing for Kindergarten. Surrounded by friends and family, the children marked this milestone and celebrated all they accomplished along the way.



Our first Partners in Care luncheon brought together health and human services professionals from across Central Arkansas who work alongside Our House to support clients' health and well-being. The gathering created space to share resources, discuss challenges, and strengthen the connections that help us better serve our clients.





The Smiley Family

"I got focused. He became my priority, and doing better for us became my priority." That's how Michelle describes her conviction to build a better life for herself and her son after years of homelessness. Michelle was living on the street while pregnant, but after Brice's son was born, she knew she needed a safer future for them both. When our Housing programs were full, she didn't give up. Instead, she came to the Career Center every day for job search while waiting for a room to open and enrolled Brice's son in Bright Beginnings so he would have quality care while she searched. After several weeks, they moved into the Shelter, and Michelle quickly found a job and began saving money.

Then everything changed. Brice's son developed a serious health condition and spent nearly three months at Arkansas Children's. Michelle lost the job she had worked so hard to secure, but she never lost her housing. "The Shelter was so good to us," Michelle says. "They called and his teachers called to check on him." When Brice's son was able to come back, their beds were waiting for them. Our on-site Arkansas Children's clinic helped coordinate his ongoing care for several months while Michelle began her job search again.

Michelle found work at a hotel, moved up into our Family House and, after about nine months at Our House, she and Brice's son found a place of their own. "I haven't had anything that was *mine* in 10 years. It feels good to be able to go to work, pick up my son, go home, and cook." Today, Michelle is working her way up in the hotel industry, taking classes to prepare for a management role. Brice's son is healthy and still attending Bright Beginnings. Michelle now volunteers with the homeless outreach ministry of Mosaic Church that once supported her on the streets: "I love letting people see that there's something on the other side, that we don't have to stay stuck where we are."



Built by You— Thank you to our supporters!

Each year, we honor the donors, volunteers, partners, and meal providers who went above and beyond for Our House—giving their time, resources, expertise, and care to help make new beginnings possible.

Top Donors

Public Agencies

AmeriCorps
Arkansas Department of Education
Arkansas Department of Human Services
City of Little Rock
Little Rock Workforce Development Board
SAMSHA
UAMS
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

Foundations & Nonprofits

Charles A. Frueauff Foundation
Clark Family Foundation, Inc.
Ernest & Anna Ritter Family Endowment
Heart of Arkansas United Way
J.E. & L.E. Mabee Foundation
Ottenheimer Brothers Foundation
Roy & Christine Sturgis Charitable Trust
SchoolHouse Connection

Schueck Family Foundation
Stand Together Foundation
Trinity Foundation
William Randolph Hearst Foundation
Windgate Foundation

Corporations & Corp. Foundations

Arkansas Champions Trust (Simmons Bank)
Arkansas Children's Hospital
Arkansas Total Care
Bank of America Foundation
Cross River Community Foundation
Diamond Pet Foods
Dillard's
Enterprise Mobility Foundation
Evo Business Environments
Journey For Good by Avolta
McGeorge Contracting
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Riggs CAT
Rose Law Firm
Southern Legacy of Life
US Bank Foundation

Individuals

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Tabietha & Bill Dillard
Anne & Merritt Dyke
Judy Fletcher East & Jim East
Dee & Donald English
Cynthia & Thomas Frazier
Sherrill & Kevin Garland
Sarah & Rob Gunther
Karen & Ken Hamilton
LouAnn Jones
Yvette Morrill
Mary Polasky
Jacqueline & Michael Retzer
Katie & Miles Stephens

Congregations

Arkansas Baptist Foundation
Calvary Baptist Church
Cathedral of St. Andrew
Christ the King Catholic Church
Congregation B'Nai Israel

Episcopal Church in Arkansas
Immaculate Conception Church
Methodist Foundation for Arkansas
Second Presbyterian Church
St. James United Methodist Church
St. Mark's Episcopal Church

In Kind

Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care
Arkansas State Police
Bank of America
Beverly Barnes
Ben E. Keith Foods
Carter's
Dillard's
Daniel Durbin
Ava & Allison Fuller
Golden Eagle of Arkansas
Sally & Chris Hiryak
Allison & Jamie Hoffman
Hugg & Hall
Hurts Donut Company
J.Jill
KARK Channel 4
KATV Channel 7
Kroger
Lost Forty Brewing
Martinous Oriental Rug
Jessica & Patrick Schueck

Southern Glazer's
Southwest Power Pool
Gale & Scott Spencer
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Ginger Wortham

Top Volunteers

Groups

Bank of America
Bank OZK
Evo Business Environments
First Convenience Bank
First Horizon
First Security
Huntington Bank
Little Rock Christian Academy
National Charity League
Regions Bank
US Bank
Young Men's Service League

Individuals

Kassidy Beckton
Addy Bettis
Amanda Buxton
Harry Bounds, *AR Kids Read*
Brailon Collier
Ellen Denney, *AR Kids Read*

Ted Dickey
Jackie Evans, *AR Kids Read*
Tiana Forrest
Tom Hauer
Colleen Gilliland
Grace Gorman
Brooklynn Harrell, *AR Kids Read*
Skyler Jackson
John Kronnick
Mary & Neil LeBeaux
Cliff McKinney
Jodi Morris, *CALS*
Erik Ostermueller, *AR Kids Read*
John Peterson
John Pugh
Maggie Schultz, *AR Kids Read*
Antonio Scott, *Arkansas College of Barbering*
Carolyn Singleton
Terre Spriggs
Ivette Tejada
Ann Tucker
Cathi Watkins
Ginger Wortham

Top Meal Providers

Agnew & Adams Family
Calvary Baptist Church
Cathedral of St. Andrew
Christ Little Rock Men's Group
Christ the King Catholic Church
Congregation B'nai Israel
Epoch Church
Faith Lutheran Church
FedEx
First Baptist Church of Highland Park
Friends for a Meal
FUMC Bryant
FUMC Little Rock
Greater Archview Baptist Church
Greater Second Baptist Church
Gunther Family
LaFrance Family
Lonoke Mount Zion Baptist Church
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
Our Lady of Good Counsel
Our Lady of the Holy Souls
Pulaski Academy Cooks
Second Presbyterian Church
SHE Team
St. James United Methodist Church
St. John Baptist Church

St. Mark Baptist Church
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
St. Michael's Episcopal Church
St. Paul Baptist Church
The Cruisers
Trinity United Methodist Church
Unitarian Universalist Church of LR
Upper Room Apostolic Church
UPS
Villemez Family
Watts Family

Other Partners

AARP
Alcoholics Anonymous
Ambetter Health
ARcare
Arkansas Care Village
Arkansas Children's Hospital
Arkansas College of Barbering
Arkansas Holistic Therapy
Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance
AR Kids Read
CATCH
Central Arkansas Library System
City of Little Rock
Citizens Bank
Engage Arkansas
First Security

Greater Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church
Legal Aid of Arkansas
Little Rock Police Department
Little Rock School District
McCain Mall
Potluck Food Rescue
Pulaski Heights UMC
Recycle Bikes for Kids
Safety Before Skill
Swim School
Safety Town
Settled Souls
Stand Together Foundation
Stone Ward
TRIO Educational Opportunity Centers
UA Little Rock School of Social Work
UAMS
Wolfe Street Foundation



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Ryan Solomon

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Magen Tune
Millie Ward

Community Council

Our Community Council is a yearly cohort of engaged clients who help shape program improvements and solutions based on client feedback.

Brittanya Blakely
Ashley Campbell
Tavia Dotson
Wendell Frost
Carlton Johnson
Jennifer Lemons
Annick Malvin
Lashonda Norris
Don Rehg
Tammi Upshaw
Sharissa Walker
Lois York

Building New Beginnings

By investing in Our House in so many ways, you—our community—have created something truly special: a chance for a new beginning for thousands of people each year. Thank you!

