



# CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY OUTREACH

August 31, 2024

Dear Supporter:

For over 30 years, Cornerstone Community Outreach (CCO) has been a lifeline for those facing the harsh realities of homelessness and poverty. We have provided shelter, care, and a path to recovery for thousands of individuals from all walks of life. Our commitment remains unwavering, but we are at a critical juncture. From January 1 to June 30, 2024, **414 people** stayed in one of CCO's four shelters and received compassionate, individualized care. We anticipate welcoming the same number of guests from July - December of this year, and we need your help to meet this growing demand.

Read about some of those wonderful people below:

- **Stella**, a grandmother of six, faced homelessness after years of hard work and a chronic, debilitating health condition. At CCO's Naomi Shelter for Women, she received essential medical care, established an income, and transitioned into subsidized housing, finding hope and stability.
- When a devastating fire destroyed **Tracy's** home, she and her three daughters sought refuge at CCO. There, they found not just shelter but a community of support. Her children thrived in the after-school program, while Tracy secured full-time work as a cook. Today, their lives have transformed as they enjoy the comfort and security of a new home in a subsidized apartment near a park and playground.
- **Stanley**, facing homelessness and in urgent need of cataract surgery, arrived at CCO's Naomi Shelter for Men seeking healthcare and a haven. There, he received not only shelter but also comprehensive and compassionate support that enabled him to undergo the much-needed surgery. After a successful recovery, Stanley transitioned into senior citizen housing, where he discovered a sense of friendship and community. His journey from uncertainty to a new beginning is a testament to the life-changing impact of care and support.

As we approach the latter half of the year, the need for our services continues to grow, and so does the financial burden. We are launching our Fund Forward campaign to ensure we continue providing essential services. Your support is crucial in helping us extend shelter, food, and life-saving care to vulnerable, unhoused members of our community. Together, we can impact the lives of those who need it most. Please consider contributing to this pressing cause.

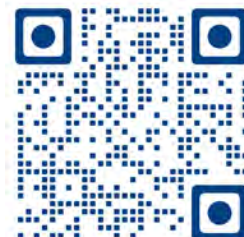
**The cost of one person's shelter stay for the rest of the year is only \$2,400. Will you, our generous CCO supporters, Fund Forward, and help CCO cover these essential costs?** Your donation to Fund Forward guarantees shelter, care, and a clear path to well-being and stability for unhoused Chicagoans.

**Please give to Fund Forward and ensure refuge and supportive care for 2024.**

Scan the QR code below or visit <https://ccolife.org/cco-donations/>

Sincerely,

Andrew Winter, Executive Director  
Cornerstone Community Outreach  
awinter@ccolife.org





# 2023

## Addressing Homelessness in Chicago

# ANNUAL REPORT

*Addressing Homelessness  
Providing Shelter  
Accepting People  
Finding Home*

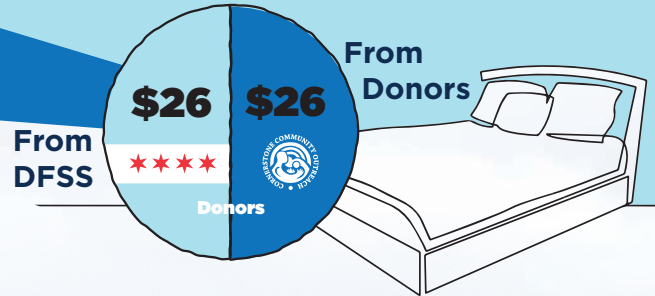
*"Thanks for putting a roof over our family's heads until we could move into our own place!"*

*- Dad with Two Kids*

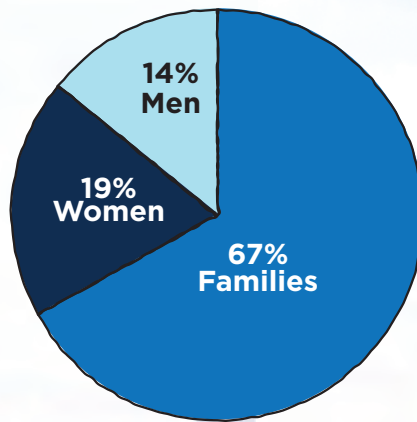
## 480 People Entered CCO in 2023

### Each Bed Costs \$52 Per Night

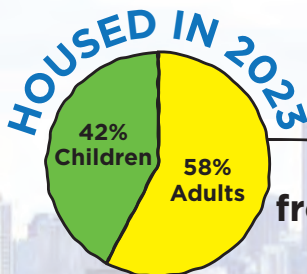
*"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to get back on my feet with my son." - Family of Two*



In 2023, Cornerstone provided a total of 68,364 shelter nights to people experiencing homelessness. Of those 67% were families, 19% were women, and 14% were men.



It costs only \$52 for 24 hours of shelter and wrap-around services at Cornerstone. Shelter guests need more than 24 hours to establish an income, connect with physical or behavioral health support, and secure a home. CCO provides individualized services to meet the needs of each unique shelter guest, whether parents with children of all ages, youth, or senior citizens. We are honored to help facilitate and celebrate unhoused families and individuals moving from homelessness to permanent housing.



**156 people moved from Cornerstone into permanent housing.**

*"Soon I'll have a restful sleep on a nice mattress in my new place!" - Family of Three*



### 209,724 Nutritious Meals Served in 2023

*"I cannot wait to get into my own kitchen and cook for my family!" - Housed Family of Four*

# 100% of CCO's shelter guests receive wrap-around services and individualized case management care.

*"Thank you for helping me while I'm here. I can settle down and get a job."*  
- Mom with Two Children

*"Cornerstone gave me the chance I needed. It was so hard to find a decent job when I was sleeping in your car every night. I had no place to wash up, no rest, nothing to eat. I couldn't get past the first interview. Thank you for everything! You helped me get my life back!"*  
- Single Adult

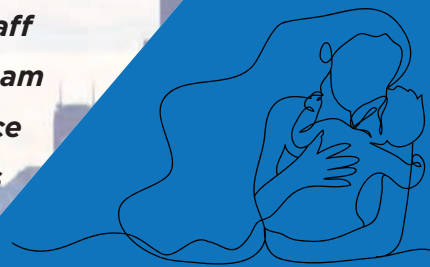


Cornerstone offers a comprehensive array of wrap-around services to all shelter guests:

- Safe shelter
- Three nutritious meals a day
- On-site Free Store (clothes, shoes, household items)
- Hygiene items & cleaning supplies
- Laundry facilities
- After School tutoring with Chicago Hopes
- Birthday and Holiday parties
- Rooftop playground & garden
- Trauma-informed care
- Comprehensive intake
- Individualized compassionate engagement
- Entry into City-wide subsidized housing database

- Tailored and supported goals for positive outcomes
- Assistance in obtaining ID & birth certificates
- On-site & off-site healthcare appointments
- On-site & off-site counseling services
- Linkage to vocational & academic training
- Referrals to employment opportunities
- Connection to behavioral healthcare services
- Transportation assistance
- Computer lab
- WIFI access
- 24-hour trained staff
- Trained security team
- Furniture assistance
- Follow-up services

*"You are my only support, and I thank you!"*  
- Sasha, Mom of 3, Cornerstone Shelter Guest



Sasha and her children came to Cornerstone with an immediate need for shelter, care, and services. Accepted, supported, and with the help of her case manager, Sasha soon began her journey out of homelessness and into a stable future for herself and her little ones.

Cornerstone's City funding partners provide \$26 per shelter bed. Your gift of \$26 will provide space for one person for one night, \$100 will fund beds for a family of 4 for one night, or \$700 will pay for one week of shelter and services for a family of four, like Sasha's. Will you give the gift of shelter today?

To give, go to [ccolife.org/donate](https://ccolife.org/donate) or scan this QR code with your mobile device.



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[CCOLIFE.ORG](https://ccolife.org)

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Make it a memorable Christmas at Cornerstone by giving to our men, women, and children!

[ccolife.org/cco-donations](http://ccolife.org/cco-donations)

(put "Christmas Elves" in the notes)



or

through Amazon!

