

**UPWARD
BOUND
HOUSE**

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



A YEAR OF REBUILDING AND HOPE

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DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

2022 was a year of rebuilding and hope as the temporary safety net created during the pandemic disappeared. Cutbacks in housing protections and child care options presented new challenges for families that were just beginning to get their bearings back. Upward Bound House (UBH) took this as an opportunity to broaden its partnerships with childcare providers and obtain more funding for temporary rental subsidies.

These efforts resulted in new programs offering services and housing subsidies for the most vulnerable homeless families. Additionally, our reputation for impactful programs and dedicated staff helped us expand our geographic reach to the South Bay area.

Another key accomplishment was the adoption of our 3-Year Strategic Plan which is grounded in building a solid future for the families we serve. Our two north stars are the disruption of intergenerational homelessness and centering of financial sustainability for families. In order to end intergenerational homelessness, it is critical to develop and implement solutions for the entire family unit and not just the head of household.

The majority of homeless families cite economic reasons as the primary cause of their homelessness. Addressing this root cause is the key to ensuring

housing stability. In centering financial sustainability as a lifestyle practice, UBH's approach is to empower each family to articulate what a sustainability practice looks like for them and then charting a pathway to achieve it.

We are positive that with you alongside UBH, we will change the life trajectory of so many parents and their children, empowering them to live to their full potential. We are deeply grateful for the impactful results we achieved in 2022 because of YOU!

Sincerely,

Christine and Cindy



Christine Mirasy-Glasco

President & CEO
Upward Bound House

Cindy Maroun

Chairwoman of the Board of Directors
Upward Bound House

The mission of Upward Bound House is to eliminate homelessness among families with children in our community by providing housing, supportive services, and advocacy.

PROGRAMS

- Temporary Family Shelter Programs
- Transitional Programs for Pregnant and Parenting Youth
- Permanent Housing Programs
- Health and Wellness Programs



BUILDING A SOLID FUTURE

“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.” Frederick Douglass

Our strategic north stars are grounded in the belief that our children are our future. Therefore, instead of worrying about what unhoused children will be tomorrow, we are intentionally investing in them today.

OUR NORTH STARS

Disrupting Intergenerational Homelessness

Investing in children experiencing homelessness today to achieve their full potential so that they are not homeless themselves as adults.

Centering Financial Sustainability

Equipping families with knowledge, skills and tools to obtain and maintain income that supports their household well-being goals.

PILLARS OF CHANGE

Community Connection

Establishing a foothold through an office and program hub and a network of collaborative partnerships in South Los Angeles, area most impacted by family homelessness.

Family-Centered Solutions

Embracing an approach that focuses on the family unit, both formally and informally, using a partnership model with families and youth that gives them a voice in all aspects of program delivery and builds on families' strengths to achieve optimal outcomes.

Housing Security

Facilitating both temporary and permanent affordable stable long-term housing with access to supports that families need.

Ending the Cycle of Generational Homelessness

Supporting families in areas that drive recidivism - housing, income, prevention, and behavioral health care.

BUILDING BLOCKS

Human Capital

Attract, develop, retain and honor all human capital within UBH includes staff, board, volunteers and donors.

Financial Sustainability

Maintain a diverse base of unrestricted and restricted funds to support UBH's current and future programs and operations.

Marketing and Visibility

Grow regional awareness of our organization, and have efficient and meaningful communications with all our audiences.

Data and Research

Leverage data and research to increase the effectiveness of UBH's impact.



A STORY OF HOPE KAREN AND PEDRO'S JOURNEY

“We are all blessed to have a place to call home after the many barriers that we had to overcome.” -Karen



My partner Pedro, 24 and I, 26, became homeless after being kicked out of home by my mother's partner when the living situation became difficult. This prompted our separation and I began living in my car with my daughter Josie who was just a toddler at the time. I went from shelter to shelter asking for assistance, however, the shelters were all full. Luckily, I met a lady who noticed that Josie and I were living in the car, she connected me to a services organization which helped me get a referral to Upward Bound House.

I was enrolled in the Crisis housing program in South Los Angeles where I resided for many months, working to get back on my feet. Through the Career Connect program, staff helped me obtain a part-time job at Amazon as a team member. After that, I set my eyes on permanent housing working with UBH's Permanent Housing Program team. They helped me locate, secure and move into my own apartment, paying the security and utility deposit and providing short-term rental subsidies. I continued to work with Career Connect, this time, focusing on my education. The staff helped me enroll in Community College as a part-time student and apply for federal financial aid. My partner was employed at entry of the program and sustained his job.

With the stability of permanent housing, I switched jobs and became a case manager with Crystal Stairs, Inc., a leading Childcare Services organization. I also continued to pursue my Associate of Arts diploma in Data Analytics. Pedro decided to be a certified electrician and enrolled in school. He graduated in June 2022 and got a job with Southern California Edison where he still works today.

My family and I are doing great. For me, working in the field that I want to pursue as a career has been life changing because it's getting one step closer to my goal - working with kids and assisting those mothers in need of services especially childcare.

OUR IMPACT

Our programs served 350 families consisting of 694 children. We helped families increase their income, repair their rental histories, enroll in educational programs to increase their skills, cultivate parenting skills, improve their mental health, and many other wraparound services.



209
families moved into permanent housing



51%
of families moved into permanent housing within 120 days



115
adults increased their income through employment



97%
families remained housed for a year after moving into permanent housing



EXPANDING THE WELLNESS PROGRAM

Our humble beginnings as a backyard garden at Family Place in Santa Monica grew into a blossoming Urban Farm on Yale Street in Santa Monica. In 2022, we took the wellness program to our South Los Angeles programs. Two of our shelter locations now have backyard gardens maintained by participants in the program.

We also piloted the Wellness Series in our Transition Age Youth (TAY) programs. The Series consists of monthly workshops where young adult mothers share, learn and explore ways to establish lasting wellness habits that work for them. Our goal is to help inspire them to live healthier through a preventive and holistic lens to health. The workshop topics are co-created by participants and our team members and feature guest practitioners as appropriate. As a result, they are relevant and are immediately applicable to the lives of the young adults.

WORKSHOPS:

- Vision Board Making & Goal Setting for the New Year
- Affirmations & Rose Spray Making
- Gardening & Herbal Tea Making
- Culinary-Food Nutrition: Salad & Greens
- Culinary-Food Nutrition: Meal Prepping from the Garden
- Wellness Journal & Plant Medicine Talk with Fresh Herbs
- Meditation & Journaling – Revisiting set Goals
- Culinary-Food Nutrition: Tomatoes
- Yoni Steaming & Reproductive Health
- Baby Food Making
- Calendaring & Scheduling
- End of Year Wrap-Up with Plan Medicine



COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHT

ROQUE & MARK Co.

REAL ESTATE SINCE 1965

“We don’t heal in isolation, but in community”

The story of our Urban Farm in Santa Monica is all about generosity, community and healing. It has its origins from a local family with farming roots from Lithuania. Albinas “Mark” Markevicius was born in 1930 on a small farm in the village of Ziuriai in Lithuania, one of eight children. His family were simple subsistence farmers, and after finishing four grades of school at age eleven, Albinas was working the farm full-time. He plowed the fields with a horse, harvested potatoes by hand, milking cows, and so on, but he never got his rows of seeds as straight as he hoped. Fighting between the Russians and Germans came to their humble doorstep during World War II, forcing the family to flee their home. Much of the journey they walked. They spent two years homeless, sometimes staying in abandoned farmhouses or hiding in ditches. They found safety in refugee camps, where they spent about two more years before immigrating to North America.

In 1965, Albinas joined forces with Roque Rodriguez to open their own real estate company called Roque & Mark which includes full-service real estate, encompassing sales, property management, and development. Albinas and his wife Vita raised two children in Santa Monica, daughter Zina and son Marius. Zina and Marius work with Albinas at Roque & Mark, and yes, he’s still the boss at age 93!





After reading about Courtney Guerra's passion for urban farming in the LA Weekly, Marius reached out to her offering to put a vacant lot on Yale Street to meaningful use giving life to the Upward Bound House Urban Farm. This partnership has been going strong since 2018, a donation value of over half a million dollars.

Our partnership with Roque & Mark goes well beyond the Farm. They are also a key sponsor of our annual Home Run for Kids 5K Race/Run, collecting donations from the real estate community including staff, property owners, tenants, contractors, gardeners, friends, and family around the world.

"We are very impressed with the operations of UBH and see the need for the organization every day in our work and as local residents. As politics clouds today's discussion of homelessness, vulnerable children are getting forgotten. We are proud that we are doing something and invite the business community to join us in supporting effective solutions. And we are deeply moved to see the smiling faces of children at the urban garden, visiting with the rabbits, having lunch with their parents, walking through the sunflower rows, sometimes laughing during special snow days. The food grown, the peaceful time, it's wonderful, and we are glad to have contributed our part to it."

Albinas remembers the many people who helped him along the way, calling them guardian angels. Especially when he was a teenage refugee, he remembered a girl who gave him an extra sandwich, a man who gave him a chance to get a job as a mechanic, a woman who protected his family from corrupt bureaucrats. His faith and his life experience taught him to appreciate his guardian angels and to help people when he could.

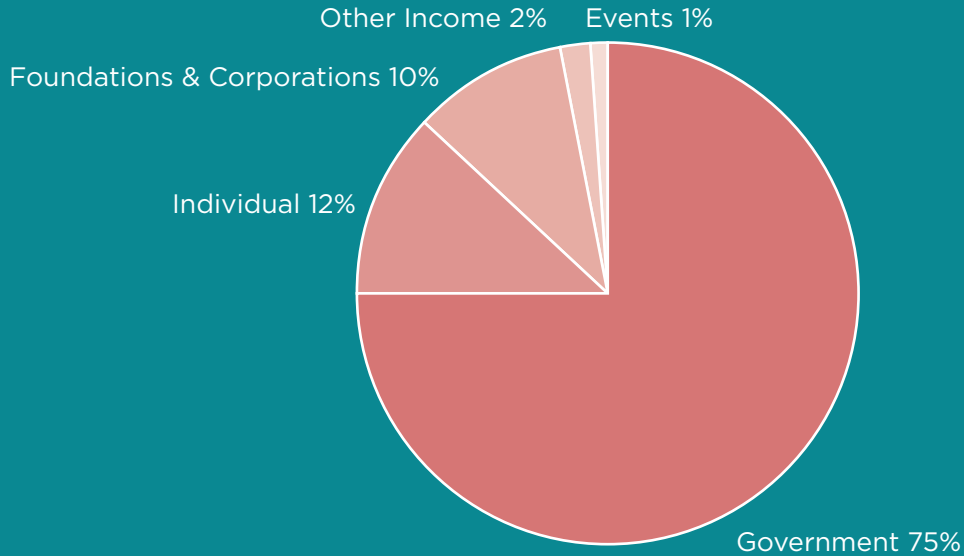
"We are so glad that UBH can be a guardian angel for homeless families."

PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT PROPER HOTEL

It takes a village to raise a child; through the years, we have learned that it also takes a village to move the needle on family homelessness. Partnerships are a key element in ending homelessness for families given the many facets of the issue. Our partnership with The Proper Hotel of Santa Monica started during COVID with the provision of critical commercial grade cleaning items. These products allowed us to not only keep our shelters COVID-compliant but also enabled us to maintain a reasonable stock when supplies were very difficult to obtain due to the high demand. Over the years, our collaboration has evolved and expanded to other important areas such as food insecurity, health and wellness and organizational capacity building. Our teams work on quarterly projects that help UBH carry out its goals of strengthening families through self-empowerment.



2022 FINANCIALS



Revenue

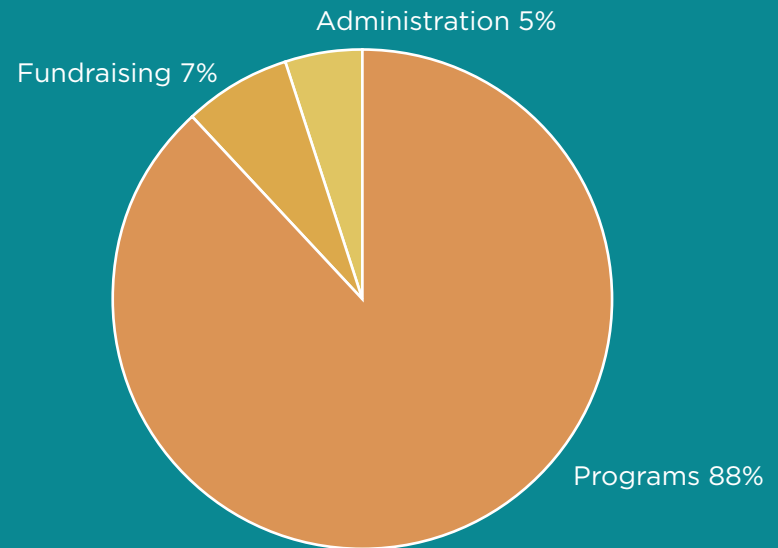
Government	75%
Individual	12%
Foundations & Corporations	10%
Other Income	2%
Events	1%

Total \$7,009,011

Expenses

Programs	88%
Fundraising	7%
Administration	5%

Total \$6,600,027



RALLYING TOGETHER!

DONATE

Goods and cash contributions create a lasting impact for the families we serve



VOLUNTEER

Your time can help UBH achieve our mission of helping end family homelessness



PARTNER

Promote your company as a driver of social good by partnering with UBH



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