

A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

2018 Annual Report





Dear Friends,

"Our philosophy is to treat the elderly with great respect. To preserve their dignity and independence, and to consider them friends rather than 'clients,'" affirmed founders Lilo and Michel Salmon in H.O.M.E.'s very first Annual Report (1983). To this day, H.O.M.E. considers all people within its orbit – the residents of our intergenerational buildings, those served through our repair, shopping bus, and moving programs, our volunteers, board and staff members, community partners, and all our donors – friends.

Friends are equals. Friends are the people we break bread with. Friends are those we check up on. Friends listen to one another, and finish each other's sentences – even as we celebrate our differences. We laugh with friends.

In H.O.M.E.'s neighborhood, there are no strangers, only friends. Welcome to H.O.M.E.'s neighborhood.

The essential ingredient of Neighborhood, the one which Mr. Rogers recognized and shared on television with generations of children, is love.

It is with love that H.O.M.E. extends itself to some of the most isolated and impoverished older adults in Chicago and builds a network of support.

"Care roots us in the interconnectedness of the world," writes Ai-Jen Poo, co-director of Caring Across Generations, in her recent book, *The Age of Dignity: Preparing for the Elder Boom in a Changing America*. That mutuality of care – I care for you and you care for me – characterizes H.O.M.E.'s approach.

H.O.M.E. is proud of the trust we have earned not only through our effective housing and community support programs but through our inclusive, personal and grassroots process. And it is with love that we celebrate our successes this past year. They are only possible because of each and every one of you, our friends.

With gratitude,



Joel Rice, President



Gail Schechter, Executive Director



“Won’t you be my neighbor?”

Thanks to your support, two friends became neighbors!

Claudette and Lesley are planning to visit the Art Deco chapel at Loyola when the weather warms up. Both enjoy going to shows and museums with their neighbors in Good Life Senior Residences, too. But the immediate excitement is their plans for regular movie nights with their friend Brian, who also lives at Nathalie Salmon House.

“I like mysteries,” Claudette says.

“Oh! We’ll have to do more mysteries. I prefer comedies, something light. But we can do more mysteries,” Lesley replies. “We’ll make popcorn, too!”

Claudette is easygoing. She comes across as being a bit shy but says, “People might be surprised that I do talk! I used to talk a mile a minute.”

She laughs readily with Lesley and waves to neighbors who pass in the hall. When Lesley mentioned that she would be having hip surgery soon, Claudette responded with concern and encouragement.

“H.O.M.E. is a friendly place. You feel right at home here,” Claudette says.

Lesley has lived at Nathalie Salmon House since June 2017; Claudette recently moved in.

Prior to Nathalie Salmon House, Lesley lived in a group home where she received behavioral health services. As she reached milestones in her treatment and began to look for independent housing, Lesley decided that she did not want to live in an apartment all on her own.

“I didn’t want to be isolated,” Lesley says. “I’d go downhill if I lived by myself. I have depression and anxiety and can sink far into that. This is a very ‘up’ environment and that helps.”

Indeed, Lesley is always on the go and has made new friends while keeping the old. So when her friend Claudette was ready to move out of the group home too, Lesley suggested she look into being her new suitemate at Nathalie Salmon House.

Claudette knew that Lesley was happy at Nathalie Salmon House. She also has a niece who lives near the neighboring Loyola University campus and thought it would be nice to live close to her. Claudette moved in next door to Lesley in October 2018.

“It’s nice to eat together and go out together,” Claudette says about her new home.

“It’s a positive place, well worth investing in. I wouldn’t want to think about where we would be if it didn’t exist. It’s a wonderful model – there’s nothing else like it,” Lesley declares.

Your donations support our one-of-a-kind Intergenerational Housing program where Lesley and Claudette live.



“Knowing that we can be loved exactly as we are gives us all the best opportunity for growing into the healthiest of people.”



Thanks to you, low-income seniors in Chicago have:

Fresh food: The Shopping Bus program provided 2,374 shopping trips to grocery stores and pharmacies.

Safe homes: The Upkeep and Repair Program performed 885 repairs in 110 low-income senior households.

Community: The Intergenerational Housing Program provided affordable housing to a diverse community of 71 seniors, 11 children, and 28 younger adults.

Peace of mind: The Moving Program provided holistic moving assistance for 72 low-income seniors.

Your donations help older adults access our affordable services. Affordable housing, access to healthy food, and safe homes lead to healthier people and communities.

“It’s you I like.” Your spirit of generosity has changed lives. You make a difference.

Because of you, we can meet seniors of all backgrounds right where they are. Beyond providing services, your outstretched hand to every senior is what makes H.O.M.E. as unique as those we serve.



“There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person.”

Connections

Your gifts to H.O.M.E. foster joy, independence, and connection for older adults living on low incomes.

Over 500 volunteers worked in our buildings and in the homes of older adults throughout Chicago this year. And they received as much warmth and cheer as they gave.

Mrs. Flambo’s home was painted by volunteers from Youth Works in June. She said, “Having these young people here has elevated my mood, I am blessed.”

Students often get more than a learning experience when they work with H.O.M.E.

“The Good Life Senior Residences provides individuals that need housing with a home, allowing them to live in a community that becomes family. I’m thankful that I was able to be part of this family, even for just a short period of time.”

– Tammy Mels, Chicago Semester intern

Intergenerational friendships

Our housing model is special. Not only is it affordable, but it is also intergenerational. That means that young adults and families with children live in our buildings, too.

We’re the only organization that is building an intentional community for people ages 2 to 92. In this community, seniors are teachers as well as learners, young adults help out, and families add liveliness. We believe generational diversity changes people’s lives for the better.

Since 1982, we’ve seen thousands of friendships flourish.

“Henry was such a shy baby when we first moved in, but you’d never know it now! He loves to visit downstairs and share a high-five or spontaneous hug. It really is like having an extended family.”

– Beth LaBrosse, who lives with her husband Jason and three-year-old son Henry at Pat Crowley House



“Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.”



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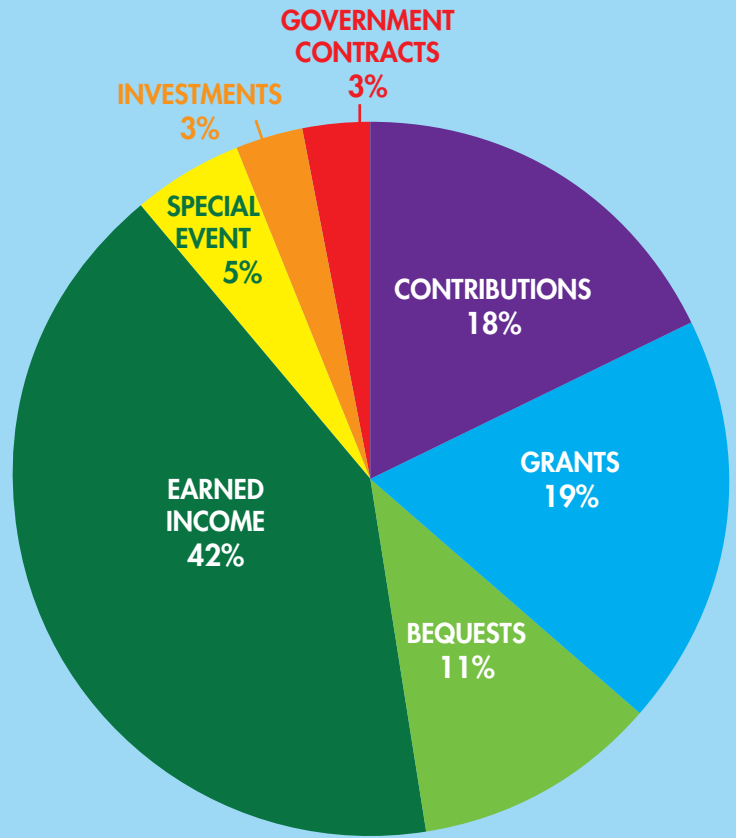
The H.O.M.E. Associates Board are helpers *extraordinaire* with everything from weatherizing homes to raising funds. Carla Vassilos, Courtenay Boron, Hannah Bonecutter, Joshua Calef, Lindsey Carden, John Cosby, Erin Dunn, Christian Harris, Dan Raleigh



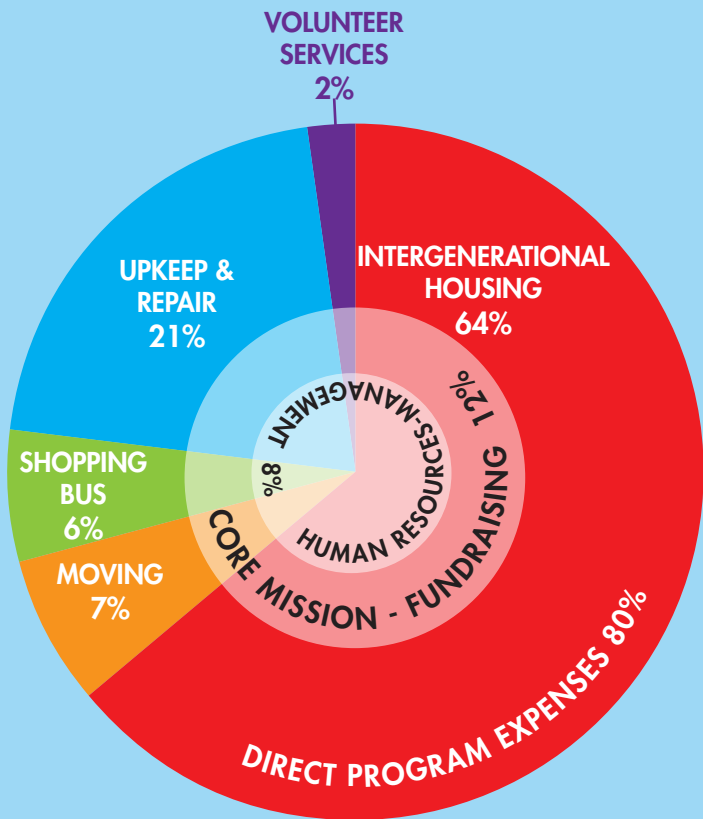
Financial Overview



TOTAL REVENUE \$2,090,251



TOTAL EXPENSES \$2,129,902





H.O.M.E.

Housing Opportunities & Maintenance for the Elderly

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Nathalie Salmon House

7320 North Sheridan Road
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Pat Crowley House

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Chicago, IL 60660

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Leadership

Gail Schechter, Executive Director
Tricia Mullin, Program Director
Amber Martin, Director of Development

Mission

Committed to improving the quality of life for Chicago's low-income older adults, Housing Opportunities and Maintenance for the Elderly (H.O.M.E.) helps seniors remain independent and part of their community by offering opportunities for intergenerational living and by providing a variety of citywide support services.

