



Summer 2021

# Sharing Lives

## ■ Equitable Housing Navigation Grant Helps BIPOC Families Maintain Housing

Over the past year, our country, our community and Share as an agency have had an opportunity to take a hard look at our practices through a diversity, equity and inclusion lens. For Share that has meant strengthening our Share E-team, focusing on how we can improve our internal policies, re-working our mission statement and most recently applying for funds to better serve our families of color living in Share Homestead and Share Orchards Inn.

At Share, we recognize that we are part of this problem, as structural racism in the U.S. housing and social services systems have contributed to stark and persistent racial disparities. We must continue to develop the flexibility to adapt our programs with a focus on meeting the specific needs of Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC). We expect the families whom we serve to be experts on their own lives. Our Share E-team is part of this process, as we seek help from community experts to grow and improve our services for the diverse people we serve.

A new grant awarded to Share through Building Changes, called Equitable Housing Navigation, can now help by providing financial support to BIPOC families as they exit our shelters and move into their new home.



*"I am so grateful for what you all have done for me and my family. I will never forget you."*

Flexible funds of this grant can support in a variety of ways, such as helping people fix their cars, buying furniture and paying for medical and dental costs or childcare (\*see page 2). Our goal is to help families of color have brief experiences with homelessness. This includes families like Abby\* and her four young children.

Despite Abby's 30-hour a week job at a fast-food restaurant, the family budget was extremely tight and they lost their apartment at which they had lived for more than five years. She and her children first entered the Winter Hospitality Overflow shelter at St. Andrew Lutheran Church and ultimately Share Homestead.

*"This is a Chuukese family. Abby is humble, quiet, very attentive to her children, loyal to her family and hard working. She stayed committed, maintaining her employment and navigating childcare through her husband, who currently live with them, and his family. This often meant 16-hour days by the time she dropped the kids off, went to work, picked them up, and returned to the shelter," shared Nicky Ferguson, Family Pathways Program Director. (cont. page 2)*

\* Name changed for anonymity

## ■ Share Fromhold Service Center Re-opens July 6



Beginning July 6, the Share Fromhold Service Center lobby will officially re-open. We look forward to safely welcoming our clients, donors and volunteers back into our building.

Safety measures will remain in place including:

- Masks required for staff, volunteers, and clients not vaccinated. If you are vaccinated and would like to go mask free, please ask to sign an Attestation Form.
- When meeting with clients, donors, or volunteers who are unvaccinated, all staff will continue to wear a mask.
- Limited lobby seating, with family seating in children's play area.
- Continued cleaning of common spaces after use.
- People encouraged to maintain six feet of distance, when possible.

We thank everyone for their patience, understanding and vigilance during this last year and four months!

## ■ Grant cont.

Staff encouraged her to obtain a new housing assessment through Council for the Homeless, while they helped her secure new identification documents with grant funds. *“We stayed focused on finding housing that would fit her needs and income, and we did not waiver from that goal,”* said Chris Armstrong, Housing Navigator.

Through Second Step Housing, Abby found an opening in an affordable housing unit for a brand new three-bedroom townhome. A Housing Choice Voucher helped her secure the apartment and grant funds covered the move-in costs and first month's rent.

Staff were also able to help Abby improve her health. She was suffering from daily headaches, due to high blood pressure, but had no medical coverage. Staff connected her to the Free Clinic of Southwest Washington and grant funds allowed her to purchase her medication.

Nicky described the joyful day that Abby's family moved out of shelter. *“When it came time to move into the new housing, she came to the office and thanked us with tears in her eyes: ‘I am so grateful for what you all have done for me and my family. I will never forget you. Thank you.’”*

This funding is meant to be flexible and adaptive to the individual needs of the people served. Its effective use will require creativity on the part of our staff and active listening for the barriers that people of color experience. This will involve surveys of our clients and staff, both pre- and post-funding, and examining the framework of our staff as we hire new employees, ensuring that people of color are also represented on our team.



### Share Board Directors

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For a list of management staff:  
[sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org)

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*\*The grant funding can support* move-in costs, transportation (car maintenance, vehicle licensing, gas, bus passes and bike rentals), ID cards and licenses, work clothes, a washer and dryer, furniture, mental health counseling, glasses, copays, medical and dental costs, haircuts, legal fees, recertification for licenses (food handlers permits, CPR, etc.), women's health services, cooking classes, and childcare. Funds can also be used to address barriers to employment, including tutoring services, English language courses, computer skill courses, and the resources to purchase interview and work clothing. And there is help for children's needs, too, including clothing, afterschool activities or sports equipment.

■ At Share, we continue to reexamine our policies to ensure that we are leading with a vision for equity. Share's E-Team & Taskforce has established a plan for 2020-2021 which includes:

- Create and coordinate initial and on-going trainings on equity throughout Share, including leadership, employees and volunteers.
- Establish policies, procedures, and forms for reporting discrimination and harassment.
- Administer Equity Survey to all Share staff.
- Establish clear and consistent communication about Share's equity work across the organization to celebrate progress, support accountability and transparency and identify emerging needs/opportunities to advance equity.
- Change hiring and promotion practices to prioritize equity and track job retention information to identify areas in which change is needed.
- Review policies and procedures for working with police, probation and Department of Corrections; develop tracking procedure for police interactions/ 911 calls.
- Establish 4 task forces: training, hiring, policing & harassment.

[Learn more at sharevancouver.org/diversity-equity-inclusion](http://sharevancouver.org/diversity-equity-inclusion)



*Because every person counts.*

## 2020 Annual Report

Share stepped up to distribute funds from the Emergency Rent Assistance Program, **helping 783 households stay in their homes.**



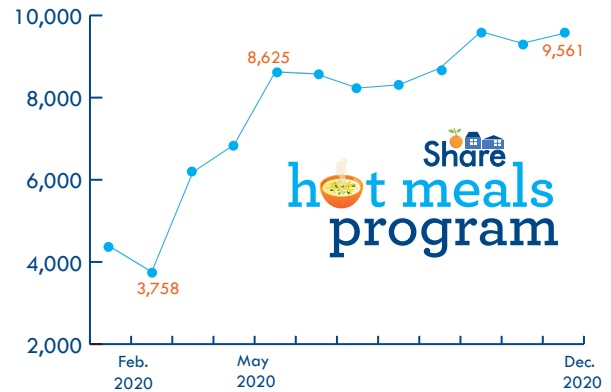
**Staff remained on the front lines** connecting our unhoused neighbors to needed social services & housing, helping them to stay safe & healthy.



Our Hot Meals program quickly switched to to-go meals & counts hitting historically high numbers at **9,500+ per month.**



Our Backpack program adapted for remote learning: **500 kid-friendly food boxes** to 33 schools, **650+ bags** of non-perishable food to 63 schools, & **35 'hotel' bags** with easy-to-prepare foods.



Share is committed to actively working to dismantle racist systems, focusing on sustainable solutions to structural racism, police violence, and inequitable economic, health care, and education systems. We value a community where diversity of people and ideas are respected, with equity, inclusion, and dignity for all.

### TOTAL Revenue **\$14,065,920\***

Government Grants	\$11,741,939
Private Donations & Grants	\$1,235,853
In-Kind Donations	\$436,107
Development   Events   Mailings	\$257,890
Rent & Student Employment Reimb.	\$192,795
Investment Return & Misc. Revenue	\$11,996

\* Includes a loss on sale of property & equipment of \$208,685

### TOTAL Expenses **\$13,280,051**

Shelter System	\$2,533,420
Meal & Nutrition Programs	\$738,210
Supportive Services	\$551,668
Housing Programs	\$7,625,174
Development   Events   Mailings	\$435,399
Administration	\$1,396,180

**2020 Net Assets: \$9,984,837**



## ■ Eviction Prevention Specialists Help 1,279 Families Stay in Their Homes

To help address the high volume of tenants who are running behind on their rent due to the pandemic, funds from the Department of Commerce and the U.S. Treasury (*commonly referred to as T-RAP and TERA, respectively*) have been entrusted to Share and several other local non-profits by Clark County Community Services.

In their short history, these programs have been extremely helpful in preventing the displacement and homelessness of many families and individuals, including Tonya. Tonya is a single mother of three who had worked as an in-home care aid but was let go at the pandemic's start. Despite her best efforts, she was unable to find steady work and was not able to get benefits from unemployment.

Tonya utilized food banks and other local resources to keep her, and her children fed and as well taken care

of as possible. She also received help from family to keep her utilities running while being unable to pay her rent. Without a paycheck, the eviction moratorium offered Tonya a reprieve to pay bills and meet her children's basic needs, even as she racked up a substantial bill of rental arrears.

Tonya reached out to the Council for the Homeless to gain a place on the waitlist for T-RAP and TERA programs. Finally, her name came up in Share's queue and Tonya received a call from one of our Eviction Prevention Specialists who explained the program and determined she was eligible for help. By this time, Tonya had found a job working a graveyard shift with a neighbor watching her children at night.

The program was able to pay out more than \$20,000, fully covering her back rent as well as one future month to allow her to get back on her feet with her new job.



*"Tonya was very grateful and the funds could not have come at a better time. She had recently been diagnosed with cancer and would need to take time off work. This assistance has given Tonya and her children a much-needed clean slate to allow them financial relief and recovery time for Tonya's health,"* said Mitchell Marques, Share Eviction Prevention Specialist.

Tonya is one of the 1,279 households Share has served with eviction prevention funds during the pandemic. We continue to work diligently to help keep our community housed.

## ■ Orchards Grocery Outlet Food Drive Supports Share All of July!

From June 23 to July 31, Orchards Grocery Outlet is teaming up with Share to collect food and cash donations in-store and online during their 11th annual Independence from Hunger Food drive.

The store is independently owned and operated by Carlos Rodriguez Vega and Kenneth Cole who are committed to giving back to the local community.

If you have supported the drive in the past, please note that this is a **new location** supporting Share at **11808 NE Fourth Plain Blvd.**

You can participate in one of these easy steps:



**FOOD DRIVE  
ALL OF JULY**  
Fight hunger in our community. All donations stay local.

**GIVE \$5, GET \$5\***

Donate today. Visit  
[groceryoutlet.com/donate](https://www.groceryoutlet.com/donate)  
for details.

\*Limit one coupon per transaction.  
Restrictions vary by state.

- **Give \$5, Get \$5.** Donate \$5 or more in a single transaction and receive a coupon for \$5 off a future purchase of \$25 or more.
- **Pick up a pre-made bag** filled with an assortment of groceries and then place it in a collection bin at the front of the store.
- **Donate at check out.** Tell your cashier you want to make a cash donation at the register—Donate \$1, \$5 or round up your change!





DAVIDSON  
& ASSOCIATES  
INSURANCE

presents:



10th  
Anniversary  
of our  
'Chef Battle'  
& Golden Ladle!

## Soup's On! Battle of the Champs!

"Spill the Soup" Virtual Event  
on October 21, 2021


—Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

Contact Kim Hash at [khash@sharevancouver.org](mailto:khash@sharevancouver.org)

supported by:



PACIFIC PREMIER BANK

Soup's On! is our most popular and our longest running event (19 years and originally called Share-a-Bowl)—and this year will mark the 10th anniversary of the event's 'Chef Battle!' We have invited back our Golden Ladle and multi-year award winning chefs to prepare the soup recipe that brought them fame. At "Spill the Soup," Volunteer of the Year and Community Partner awards will be presented, sponsored by 

We will be selling a **Soup Sampler for Two for \$100** that includes: a six ounce serving of each of the six soups, two soup bowls, a mini bread loaf from Bleu Door Bakery, reheating directions, a printed program and the link to cast your votes for the chef champion. At our virtual awards event, we will announce the winner of the Battle of the Champs, who will be awarded the Soup Champion Copper Stockpot!

**Soup Samplers will be on sale September 6**, with distribution on October 6 (location/time TBD).

We anticipate selling out, so purchase early! We'll be bringing back our Mystery Raffle Boxes, sponsored by  VANCOUVER CLINIC and  which will be available to purchase on October 1.



Who will take home the  
Soup Champion  
Copper Stockpot?



Mike Culver

**BEACHES**  
RESTAURANT • BAR • CATERING



Bonnie Brasure

**Bleu Door**  
CAKE BAKERY



Marian  
Adams-Manuel

**FRONTIER**  
PUBLIC HOUSE



Troy Lucio

**Hilton**  
VANCOUVER WASHINGTON



Tim Conklin

**LINE&LORE**

**ilani**



Bobby  
Rasaphangthong

**NOM NOM**  
RESTAURANT AND GRILL

To purchase a Soup Sampler, buy raffle tickets, bid on silent auction items  
& get all the event details, visit [sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org).

## ■ Volunteer Spotlight: Vancouver Trader Joe's

The Community Outreach Program at the Vancouver Trader Joe's grew out of a passion to do more in our community. Trader Joe's already focuses on community outreach as one of its foundational values, but our store wanted to expand upon that in our own way. The COVID pandemic made us reevaluate our priorities, and what we could do to help those in the greatest need. When the Black Lives Matter protests began, that reevaluation turned into action and we put together a team at our store to see how we could improve our impact—in the store, and in the community. We decided to call this the Enrichment Team.

The Enrichment Team has two focuses: creating a more inclusive environment in our store and reaching out to a more diverse range of organizations outside of our store. Part of the outreach program involves donating food or other products to a different Vancouver-based organization each month and prioritizing groups with the most urgent needs. *We also wanted to begin volunteering, and had heard wonderful things about the work that the Share Hot Meals program was doing.*

We had our first volunteer shift in

February and have continued monthly volunteering since. Each month, three to four crew members go to Share during their scheduled Trader Joe's shift and spend time helping with the hot meals program.

So many crew members have signed up to volunteer that we've been able to send a different group of people each month. *Many of those who have volunteered have expressed interest in returning to help on their own time, and everyone has come back excited and enriched from their experience.*

Here are quotes from two team members who wanted to share about their experience:

*"What an excellent operation! So very well organized and high functioning. We were given clear instructions on what to do...making LOTS of sandwiches, or cutting cheese and bagging it all in sack lunches. I think Share House is a wonderful gift to the community. It is being run by people totally committed to making sure there is food for those in need."*—Beri

*"My volunteer time with Share was rewarding all around. From spending time with the wonderful staff to packing meals. It was a great experience to put together a lunch knowing it was going straight back to someone in our community!"*—Tawni



Become a Monthly  
**Shareholder**

Monthly donations are a year-round reminder of the values donors share with us and to *our belief that every person counts.*

Sign up on-line today! [sharevancouver.org](https://sharevancouver.org)

## ■ Volunteer Department Needs & Updates!

Our Outreach team is growing, with recent funding for 10 additional staff. As the team members connect with more clients, we have an increased need for:

bottled water, protein shakes, soft & non-perishable foods (*tuna packets, chewy granola or snack bars, squeezable packets of apple sauce, yogurt, etc.*), sleeping bags, tents, tarps, mini toiletries, and hiking-style backpacks.

Drop off your donations during

Donate to our School Supplies Drive:

backpacks for teens, #2 pencils, composition notebooks, colored pencils, data storage drives, ear buds/headphones, loose leaf paper, plus **NEW Clothing of all sizes for boys & girls** (*jeans, pants, sweatshirts, t-shirts, socks, underwear, shoes, etc.*).

Donations needed by August 13; drop off during



As Share's buildings continue to re-open, we will be welcoming back volunteers to serve in our family shelters. Please visit [sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org) and follow us at [facebook.com/sharevancouver](https://facebook.com/sharevancouver) and Instagram [@sharevanwa](https://instagram.com/sharevanwa) for updates.

Plan ahead! If you haven't yet done so, complete our online volunteer application today at:

[sharevancouver.org/volunteer](http://sharevancouver.org/volunteer)



### Warehouse Open Hours at the Share Fromhold Service Center

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. & Thursdays: 1 to 3 p.m.  
2306 NE Andresen Road

The warehouse is located on the south-side of the building; ring the doorbell when you arrive.

We are currently accepting **NEW ITEMS ONLY**.

(see full list at [sharevancouver.org/donate-now/donate-resources](http://sharevancouver.org/donate-now/donate-resources))



presents:



Saturday, April 23, 2022  
—In-person Event!  
at Hilton Hotel Vancouver

We have a new cast of Dynamic Duos to dazzle you with performances from the musical "Grease". Vote with your dollars for your favorite duo (*or duos*)! Online silent auction, plus 10 special packages available only for our guests at the event, along with centerpieces, raffle and carnival games.

*Dress in your best 50's vintage or break out your poodle skirt and leather biker jacket!*

Sponsorship opportunities are available, please contact Kim Hash at [khhash@sharevancouver.org](mailto:khhash@sharevancouver.org).



### Donate Items for Our Silent Auction!

Gift Cards, Food & Wine, Technology, Family Getaways, Baskets of Local Goodness ... and more—be creative! Contact Heather Walker at [hwalker@sharevancouver.org](mailto:hwalker@sharevancouver.org)





2306 NE Andresen Road  
Vancouver WA 98661  
(360) 448-2121  
[sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org)  
[facebook.com/ShareVancouver](https://facebook.com/ShareVancouver)

Non-Profit Org.  
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**PAID**

Vancouver, WA  
Permit No. 557

Changes are happening daily,  
please check our website for the  
most up-to-date information.

[sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org)

# Free SUMMER MEALS

For All Kids & Teens Ages 18 & Under

*No paperwork needed | We do not collect any personal information*

**Grab-n-go meals will be  
available at multiple sites  
from June 21 to August 13.**



For more information  
Para más información  
Больше информации

Scan the QR code or visit  
[sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org)  
for locations, times & more!



## ■ Summer Meals are Here!

Share has once again partnered with Vancouver Parks & Rec, Police Activities League of SW WA, Vancouver and Evergreen Public Schools and Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries. We are extremely grateful for their participation and commitment to helping feed children in our community.

We have two amazing team members joining us this year: Jolly Monzon, Kitchen Coordinator, and Megan McDaid O'Neill, Summer Meals Assistant. Jolly and Megan will be working out of the commercial kitchen at St. Joseph Catholic Church where all the meals will be made and packed. You can "meet" them in a video on our Facebook page.



Megan & Jolly with  
Becci Read-Ryan,  
Share's Hunger &  
Nutrition Programs  
Manager

Share is still in need of volunteers to prepare and deliver meals. To sign up for a volunteer shift, visit [sharevancouver.org/volunteer/summer-meals-program-volunteer](http://sharevancouver.org/volunteer/summer-meals-program-volunteer) or email Molly at [mevjen@sharevancouver.org](mailto:mevjen@sharevancouver.org).

Volunteers must be 12 years or older to serve in a commercial kitchen; those under 14 must be accompanied by an adult.