



COMPASSION DEMONSTRATED

2023 Annual Report

from the President

Dear Friends,

In the book of Philippians, Paul writes in a letter to his fellow believers: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel..."

At Mel Trotter Ministries, we are incredibly thankful for you—for your prayers, your support, your partnership. In truth, our ministry would not be possible without compassionate friends like you who have a heart for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in West Michigan.

As you read through this 2023 Annual Report, I pray you'll be reminded of the instrumental role you played in meeting the essential needs of our community, both on a personal and spiritual level.

When we talk about the work that goes on at Mel Trotter Ministries, we break it down into three areas of focus: Prevention & Diversion, Shelter Services, and Housing & Jobs.

Typically, most people are familiar with the Shelter Services aspect of our ministry. In 2023, we served 5,531 guests who walked through our doors—the most we've ever recorded in a single year. We broke bread with our neighbors facing food insecurity, providing 191,128 nourishing meals. And we gave all glory to God when 265 of our guests decided to dedicate their lives to Christ or renew their faith in Him.

What many people might not realize is the work that happens in our other two areas of focus. Last year, 683 families were able to avoid eviction, get connected with resources, and be diverted from ever experiencing homelessness in the first place. By offering these stabilizing services, our Prevention and Diversion team is helping break the cycle of homelessness and change the trajectory of lives, particularly for young children.

Our Housing and Jobs programs continue to expand and provide pathways out of homelessness. Even with the affordable housing shortfall in our community, we helped 285 individuals find stable housing in 2023. Through our robust workforce development initiatives, which give guests the opportunity to learn both technical and soft skills, 458 individuals secured sustainable employment.

Behind every one of these statistics is a unique story. An individual who was once written off, hit rock bottom, or ran out of relationships. With nowhere else to turn, they arrived

on our doorstep. Inside the Mission, they were surrounded with grace, lavished with love, and welcomed by a team passionate about walking alongside them on their journey to a fresh start. It is the same blueprint that has guided Mel Trotter Ministries for 124 years: To demonstrate the compassion of Christ during someone's darkest hour.

Despite the meaningful outcomes of this past year, our work is far from finished. In fact, the trends surrounding homelessness in our region and country as a whole weigh heavily on my heart. Year after year, the overwhelming demand for our services continues to grow. For many of our guests, it is the first time they have experienced homelessness in their lives, but it is a comfort knowing they have friends like you who answer God's call to serve the marginalized.

Please know how humbled we are by your ongoing generosity. Thank you for choosing to partner with us and sustain the work God is doing in and through Mel Trotter Ministries. Your prayers and gifts have transformed lives and made an eternal impact for the Kingdom, one life at a time. I am excited about what God has in store for us in the year ahead. Yes, the need is great. But our God is greater.

Many blessings,



Adrienne Goodstal

Adrienne Goodstal
President
Mel Trotter Ministries

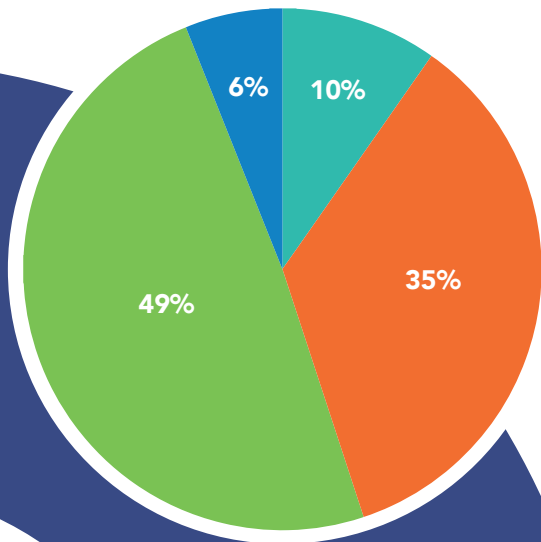


Total Revenue
\$25,695,282

- Gifts in-kind
\$2,506,915
- Next Step/Thrift/Other
\$9,036,320
- Cash Donations
\$12,589,960
- Capital Project Fund*
\$1,562,087

*Funds designated for 2023 capital campaign

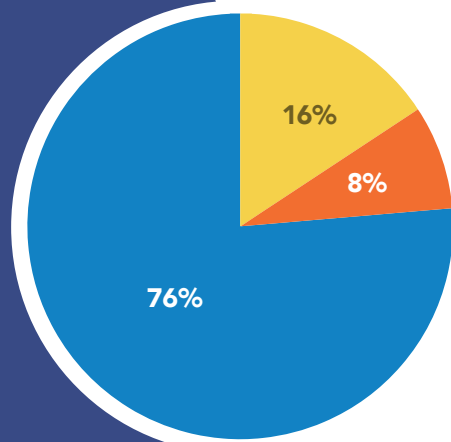
revenue



expenses

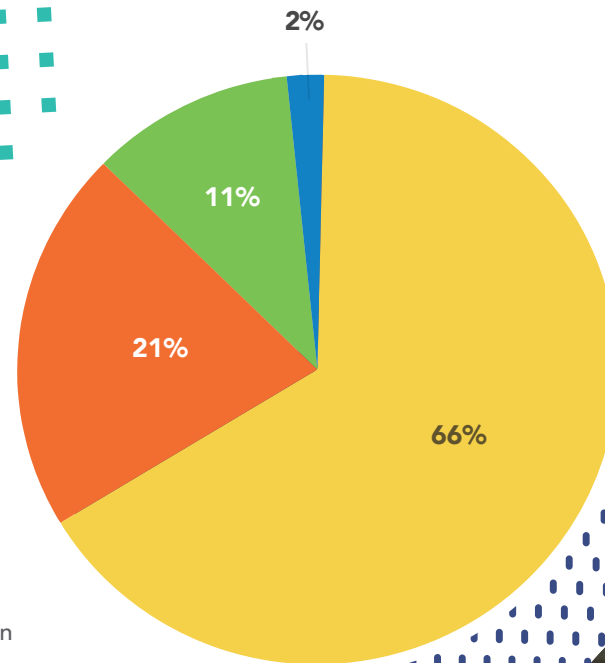
Total Expenses
\$22,574,919

- Administration
\$3,551,619
- Development
\$1,785,156
- Programs
\$17,238,144



sources of support

- Household
- Organization
- Foundation
- Church



Financials



2023 | Impact Report

7,180

total volunteer hours

766

appointments were provided at the medical clinic

285

individuals found stable housing

2,389

showers provided in our mobile shower unit

3,272

outreach visits were made with local unsheltered individuals

5,531

unique guests served

191,128

nourishing meals were provided with love and dignity

265

individuals dedicated or rededicated their lives to Christ

458

individuals secured employment

683

families connected with prevention and diversion services

181

outreach referrals to local partnering organizations



In 2023, construction was in full swing at our Next Step of West Michigan campus, a division of Mel Trotter Ministries.

Along with community and business leaders, we held a “Blessing of the Building” event to celebrate the completion of a new 15,000 sq ft manufacturing facility. This building is a prime example of the power of public-private-nonprofit partnerships to expand jobs and skills training in the 49507 zip code. It is already being occupied by two local manufacturers, Adept Furniture and Jireh Metal Products, and will help connect our guests with enhanced workforce development opportunities.

Across the street, Next Step is in the process of renovating another building that will provide woodwork training space for adults and youth. In addition to Next Step’s training programs, this space will serve as a satellite campus for Kent Career Technical Center to provide a foundation in wood product manufacturing for area high school students. The building’s second floor will be home to ten workforce development apartments that Mel Trotter Ministries will operate through our housing division.

The Next Step campus will also be home to Hope Village, the first tiny home community in Grand Rapids. Thanks to the Immeasurably More 2023 Capital Campaign, these 16 homes will provide affordable rent and a pathway to equity for individuals leaving homelessness and entering the workforce.



MTM Board Chair: Anedra Eatman

Last year, Anedra Eatman was named Chair of the Mel Trotter Ministries Board of Directors. Throughout 2023 and into the new year, we have been blessed by Anedra’s thoughtful leadership and passion for making a difference in the community. We are particularly grateful for her faithful service during this time of transition and wise counsel as we carry out the mission and vision of Mel Trotter Ministries.

As we seek to bring an end homelessness in West Michigan, one life at a time, it is a large task that we cannot do alone. The life-changing work that is highlighted throughout these pages would not be possible without our incredibly generous community. If there is one region with the ability to move the needle on homelessness, it is West Michigan. And it is because of you. Thank you for partnering with us.

“When you give to Mel Trotter, you’re touching so many people: children, women, men, those looking for more education, those looking for permanent housing. The money stretches so many different ways.”

—Anedra Eatman

board of directors

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Andre Pierre, Treasurer
Steve Kelly, Secretary
Mary Hollebeek, Assistant
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Tonja Moyer, Immediate Past Chair
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Gordon Oosting
Janis Petrini
Scott Smith
Ron VanHouten
Bob Worthington

Please note all MTM Board of Directors
also serve as MTM Trustees.

mission

Mel Trotter Ministries exists to
demonstrate the compassion
of Jesus Christ toward anyone
experiencing hunger and
homelessness.

vision

Through the power
of Christ, working
to bring an end to
homelessness, one
life at a time.



MEL TROTTER
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