

# Answering CALL the CALL

**MICAH 6:8** 



## LEADERSHIP LETTER

Dear LMM Supporters and Friends,

In 2023, our staff partners and Board demonstrated renewed efforts to answer this call from Micah in new and meaningful ways.

As we sought "justice," our advocacy efforts focused on illuminating systemic injustices to address the root causes of poverty and inequity. Informed by our work on the front lines and the voices of those most impacted, we ensured that our priorities aligned with changes to public policy that result in fair and equitable systems and practices. We believe that:

Housing is a human right; Returning citizens deserve second chances; and Racism in all its forms must end.

Our call to "love mercy" is seen every day in the compassion shown by our staff partners to serve others with humility and kindness, while empowering a sense of hope. Many of our colleagues have lived experience, and it is by sharing their stories they are able to inspire others to see a path forward. Success starts with meeting people where they are, and ends with providing solutions that transform lives, including affordable housing, living wage jobs, behavioral health supports, and stability to all who come through our doors.

A significant effort launched in 2023, a strategic planning process, involved input from stakeholders across the organization and community at large. The process allowed us to reaffirm LMM's foundational principles of peace, justice, and right relationship, and consider new ways to improve the quality of life for those with whom we serve and work. This time of discernment and reflection resulted in a strategic plan to carry us forward through 2026, accompanied by a renewed mission, vision and values, inspired by our Lutheran faith tradition.

LMM has become adept at responding to an everchanging environment and implementing creative solutions to some of the most complex community challenges. We do not do this alone, and are grateful to all who partner with us and provide gifts of time, talent and treasure. As we embark on our 55th year of service to the community, we ask you to join our efforts, and for God's grace as we do His work.

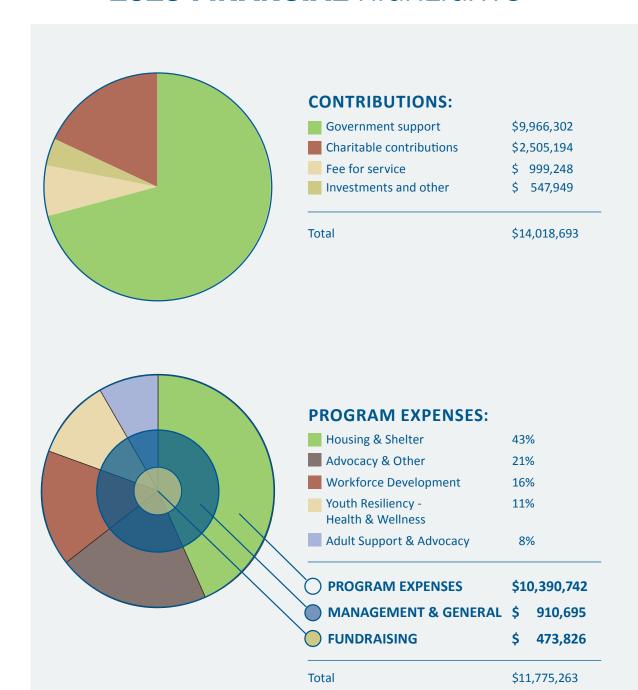
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#### **2023 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**



85 cents of every dollar spent is used directly for programs



## COMMUNITY IMPACT





Guardians provide

7,044 medical decision-making

hours



541 positive housing outcomes



**107** students in workforce training programs

100% graduation rate



for all young people eligible for high school completion



COA Accreditation renewal through 2026

> advocacy newsletters engagements





### **ADVOCACY**

The Annual Charles R. See Forum on Reentry at The City Club of Cleveland addresses why **it's time to re-think hiring** beyond banning the box



LMM's **Board unanimously decides to publicly oppose Issue 1** in August 2023, because it would make it more difficult for citizens to amend the state constitution

LMM joins over 740 organizations in support of HUD's HOME Investment Partnership Program

LMM hosted the release of the Housing Justice Plan for Cuyahoga County, with a keynote address from Dr. Richard Cho, Senior Advisor for Housing & Services to HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge

LMM **pens a letter to the Federal Trade Commission** and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, urging the federal government to make changes to address the negative impact of tenant screening policies

**LMM leads Cuyahoga County's Reentry Week Activities** with two-part People's Reentry Assembly, and Chopped4Change cooking competition











## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT-



71 certifications, diplomas, and degrees granted, including 55 ServSafe Managerial Licensures



Metro45 Food Truck generates 186% increase in revenue due to enhanced operational efficiencies

Central Kitchen processes over 452,000 pounds of food

73% job placement rate of culinary graduates

Maintained status as the **sole Redistribution Organization (RDO) for the Greater Cleveland Food Bank**, transforming food into delicious nutrient-rich meals for area shelters









## YOUTH RESILIENCY SERVICES

100% of youth in LMM's programming report a safe shelter experience



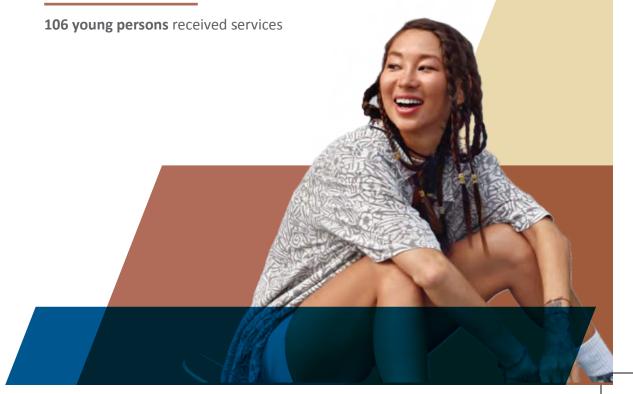


Receives **continuation of funding for Youth Shelter** and Independent Living programs

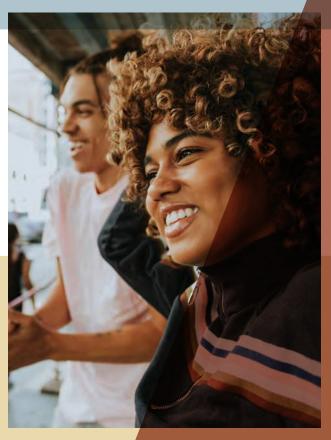
87% of youth in shelter care **enroll and attend school** on a regular basis

Jones Day Cleveland offers pro bono legal co-counsel to LMM as Youth Drop-In Center court case for the desired Ohio City location continues

4,420 total shelter nights









## GUARDIANSHIP SERVICES



22,159 guardianship hours, up 27% from 2020



115 new guardianships, up 31% from 2020

5 volunteer trainings and 6 volunteer recruitment events

Guardians **attend over 25 community events**, conferences and educational opportunities

Recipients of an **11% increase in funding** through contract with Cuyahoga County

**626** persons under care of LMM guardians









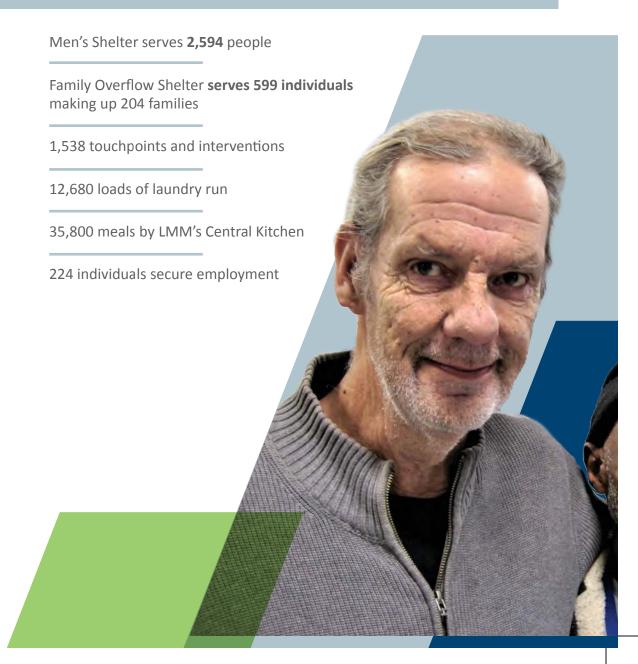
## HOUSING & SHELTER





93% of participants complied with the \$600 Direct Cash Transfer Program pilot and exited shelter, the majority of whom never returned up to two years later











## **2023 HONOR ROLL** OF DONORS

#### Thank you for your commitment to LMM.

The Honor Roll of Donors represents all cash gifts made between January 1 and December 31, 2023. Every effort has been made to ensure online and future lists are complete and accurate. If you have questions or wish to be removed from the list in the future, please contact Development & Communications at 216.696.1724. Please accept our sincere apologies for any omissions or misspellings.

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As a program that matches volunteers with residents at local prisons, Friend-to-Friend establishes connections between volunteers and incarcerated men and women who seldom or never receive visitors. The once-a-month visit or letter can make a big difference in the life of someone who is experiencing incarceration, and provides support and encouragement in a reentry journey.



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#### **MISSION**

To challenge systemic injustices faced by those who are oppressed, forgotten, and hurting by providing responsive solutions, advocacy, and hope.





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to the 1,242 VOLUNTEERS who chose to serve LMM programs in 2023!















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