

MERRICK

Community Services

Growing. Stronger. Together.

2022-2023

Impact Report



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Executive Director, Merrick
Community Services Ex Officio

More Important Than Ever: *Growing. Stronger. Together.*

Our 2022-23 Fiscal Year was a reminder of how important and relevant Merrick Community Services remains 115 years after it was first founded as the Christ Child Society of Saint Paul in Railroad Island on the East Side. As we continue to re-adjust to new ways of working and determine how to best engage individuals and families we are privileged to serve, we also have been reassessing how best to relate to all our stakeholders, including our volunteers and donors, following the depths of COVID-19 and the economic downturn and other changes it caused.

It's worthy to note that we experienced significant growth this past year. This was reflected in our budget, staff size, and community impact. I'm glad to also share that we intentionally and strategically invested in the most diverse staff we've ever had, by making salary adjustments, and providing additional opportunities for staff development throughout the year. This will ensure that we are well-equipped and strong, to respond to unmet and expanding community needs across all our programs and services, such as housing and rental assistance, eviction prevention, food insecurity/hunger, unemployment and under-employment, youth and adult career exploration, meals for homebound seniors and others, and a host of other emergencies, crises, and trauma we confront daily.

Growing. Stronger. Together. We truly lived-up to our tagline this past year. And, thanks to each of you, we will continue to **grow** and be **strong**, as we do this **together**.

In gratitude and appreciation,



Daniel A. Rodriguez
Executive Director



MERRICK
Community Services
Growing. Stronger. Together.

Our Equity Statement

Merrick Community Services (MCS) recognizes the reality of historically marginalized and socioeconomically disadvantaged persons are the result of systemic and institutional racism and other biases. MCS believes racism and other forms of discrimination have no place in our society. Therefore, we commit to being a diverse, inclusive, and equitable organization, where all participants, staff, volunteers, and partners feel valued and respected and experience a sense of belonging, regardless of their gender identity, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, citizenship status, age, sexual orientation, education, or disability (seen and unseen).



Participant playing with sidewalk chalk at the
2023 Annual Backpack Distribution Event

Merrick's Mission

Merrick Community Services' mission is to support individuals and families to navigate life transitions, find health and stability, and promote independence.

Merrick's Vision

Families and individuals access support and find opportunities, overcome challenges and contribute to create an East Side community which is celebrated as vibrant, healthy and welcoming.



Barbers from Moler Barber School, St. Paul, provide haircuts at our Annual Backpack Distribution Event

Working Together: MCS Staff and Volunteers

MCS Staff

We are grateful to employ staff that mirror the people we serve in gender balance and largely in race and ethnicity (72% of MCS staff identify as BIPOC). Merrick's staff consists of 21 full-time and part-time employees. We are a BIPOC-led organization, and we are fortunate to have Native American, Africa and African-American men and women, native Hmong, Somali and Latino speakers.

MCS Leadership Team: Daniel A. Rodriguez, Heidi Grinde, Georgette Christensen, Kate Kelly

Organizational Values

- **Individuality, Diversity & Dignity:** We meet people where they are at; honor each person's unique culture, needs, and abilities; and work with them to recognize their strengths and utilize the power to create change.
- **Integrity:** We act with sincerity and transparency within the community and within our organization.
- **Partnership:** We partner with community volunteers, organizations and institutions to increase community engagement and impact.
- **Stewardship:** We utilize, maximize and leverage resources in a responsible manner.
- **Responsive:** We listen to the community and adapt our organization's talents, skills and resources to identified needs.

MCS Volunteers

Greg Shipp can trace the thread of his involvement with MCS back twenty years. At that time, Greg was working for 3M and learned of MCS from a co-worker who invited him to volunteer for a Meals-on-Wheels delivery route. From there, he joined the MCS Board of Directors, serving for nine years and



MCS Volunteer Greg Shipp

contributing his skill and passion at a critical time in the life of the organization. Greg also served as our board chair and treasurer. Greg continues to participate in his current employer's (Xcel Energy) annual day of service by contributing hours at Merrick. Further, during the height of COVID-19, Greg began delivering Meals-on-Wheels, bringing his kids with him; this family activity was particularly meaningful as in his youth, Greg accompanied his grandmother on her Meals-on-Wheels delivery routes. "I appreciate how both staff and participants are treated with respect and how the work is centrally focused on the participant," Said Mr. Shipp.



MCS Staff at the 2023 UpLift Event

Interested in volunteer opportunities at MCS?
Contact Amy Votel at avotel@merrickcs.org or
651-348-6568.

Our Organization

This year we were able to engage more support for the work and well-being of the over 15,000 people we served.

15,143

Total Individuals Served

3,248

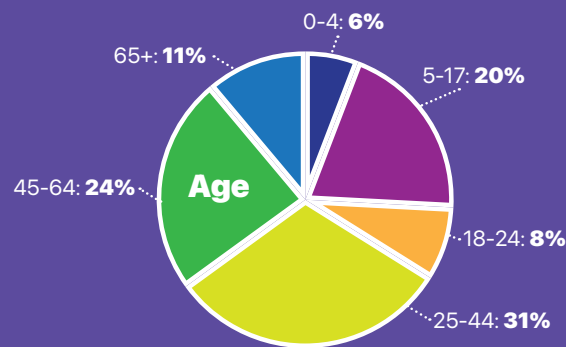
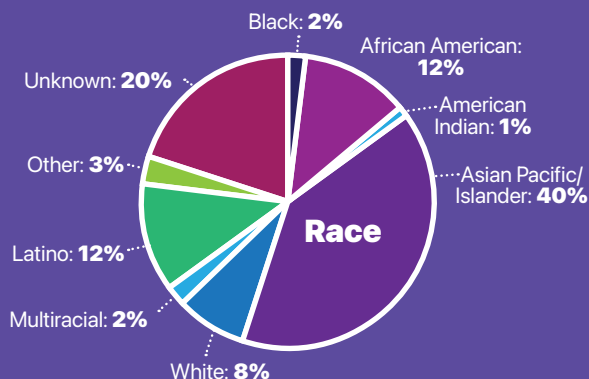
Youth served through seasonal programming

309

Total Volunteers

10,643

Total volunteer hours contributed



Family & Community Services

Assisting participants keep or secure safe, affordable housing and supporting the needs and goals of the family on the pathway to sustained independence.

Being Seen, Heard and Well Served

An elderly Hmong participant fleeing a domestic abuse situation was recently referred to MCS by a community member. At the time of referral, the participant was residing short-term in a hotel and was struggling with severe depression, PTSD, and suicidal thoughts. The MCS case manager assigned to this case made multiple visits to the participant, primarily focused on being present and observing, all in an effort to create trust and truly see the pain and experience of the participant. After this assessment, the MCS

case worker and the program participant worked together to create an appropriate goal/action plan. The case manager also brought food and, over the course of several days, encouraged the participant to voluntarily seek psychiatric care in a hospital. Following this hospital visit, the participant was properly diagnosed, prescribed medicines to manage her mental health condition and was placed in a group home where she is currently thriving and experiencing a return of hope. Paramount to any measurement of "success," is the ability to engender trust, to listen, to learn and act accordingly.

938

Individuals served in Family & Community Services

Nutrition & Senior Services

Providing nutritious food to East Side residents.

Volunteers as Advocates for MCS Participants

Day-in and day-out, Meals-on-Wheels staff manage a pool of volunteers who deliver hot, nutritious meals to homebound individuals on the East Side and beyond. Volunteers serve as an essential bridge between MCS staff and participants, with the volunteer often advocating for the recipient's needs and sharing stories of friendships formed. A volunteer delivering a meal may be the only face-to-face interaction a homebound senior has on a daily basis,

making the short drop-off period potent for relationship building. For example, volunteers relay information to MCS Meals-on-Wheels staff regarding lack of participant food intake, reported or observed emerging participant needs (i.e., physical or mental illness), or requested dietary changes. Likewise in the MCS Food Shelf, volunteers encourage a hospitable shopping experience, facilitating participant movement throughout the food shelf, answering questions, and engaging in friendly conversation with participants. MCS' partnership with volunteers contributes to a more effective service model.

27,444

Total visits to the food shelf

10,106

Total households served in the food shelf

941,324

Total pounds of food distributed

24,429

Total Meals-on-Wheels meals delivered

190

Total households receiving Meals-on-Wheels



Employment & Career Services

Working with adults and youth on career exploration and development, job upskill and training, job search activities, and job placement.

Employment partnerships promote youth success

The mPower youth and young adult employment program hosted its first cohort of 15 youth in Summer 2023. Critical to the success of this program is facilitating partnerships with employers, universities, and mentors to support these youth in career exploration activities. mPower partnered with HealthPartners who created a day for mPower participants in which they attended a panel of speakers from the Director of Geriatrics to home health aides, whose primary role includes

visiting seniors in their home. Participants also took a tour of the clinic, and learned about and experimented with common medical devices such as a blood pressure cuff, stethoscope, sphygmomanometer and oximeter. This experience illuminates the importance of reciprocal and generative partnerships in supporting youth in their learning goals and paving the way for their future success. Following the on-site visit, mPower staff received an email sharing this employer's interest in and commitment to hosting these events on an annual basis!

77

Adults and youth accessing Employment & Career Services

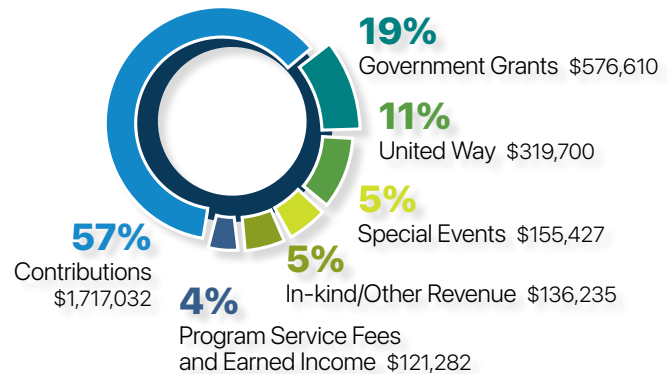
Financial Summary

- Statement of Activities

Audited Financial Statement from Harrington, Langer and Associates
for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023

SUPPORT AND REVENUE	2023	2022
Support		
Contributions	\$1,717,032	\$2,174,423
United Way	319,700	319,700
Total Support	\$2,036,732	\$2,494,123
Revenue		
Government grants and contracts	\$576,610	\$445,112
Program service fees	113,848	225,912
Special events	155,427	146,929
Investment income	7,434	1,948
In-kind/Other Revenue	136,235	-
Total Revenue	\$989,554	\$819,901
Total Support and Revenue	\$3,026,286	\$3,314,024

2022-2023 Operating Support & Revenue \$3,026,286

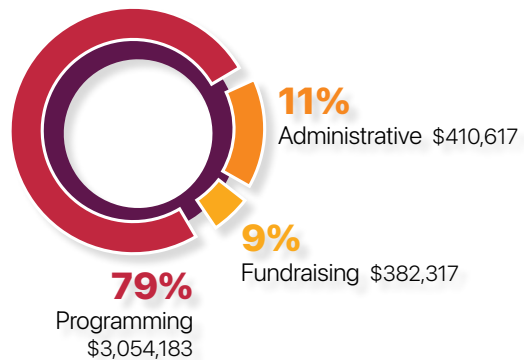


EXPENSES

Program services	\$3,054,183	\$1,877,990
Administrative	410,617	354,442
Fundraising and development	382,317	196,360
Total Expenses	\$3,847,117	\$2,428,792

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING	\$3,350,531	\$2,465,299
NET ASSETS, ENDING	\$2,529,700	\$3,350,531

2022-2023 Operating Expenses \$3,847,117



ASSETS	2023	2022
Current assets	\$2,120,723	\$2,891,153
Property and Equipment	1,160,040	1,182,644
Other Assets	1,966,117	52,039
Total Assets	\$5,246,880	\$4,125,836

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	\$727,633	\$590,692
Long-Term Liabilities	1,989,547	184,613
Net Assets	2,529,700	3,350,531

Total Net Assets & Liabilities	\$5,246,880	\$4,125,836
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Total Cost Breakdown for Each Major Program

Program	Expenses
Family & Community Services	\$ 702,149
Employment & Career Services	\$ 255,560
Nutrition & Senior Services	\$ 706,390

*Excludes fiscal sponsorship

Thank You to our 2022-2023 Donors!

\$100,000+

3M
Greater Twin Cities
United Way
HealthPartners

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Allianz Life
IDC Group, Inc. dba IDC Spring
Richard M. Schulze Family
Foundation

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Ecolab Foundation
F.R. Bigelow Foundation
Hardenbergh Foundation
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
Hunger Solutions
Otto Bremer Trust
Saint Paul and Minnesota
Foundation

\$10,000 to \$24,000

CLA Foundation
Donaldson Foundation
Fred C. & Katherine B. Andersen
Foundation
Mardag Foundation
The Minneapolis Foundation
Securian Financial Group
SunStream Business Services
Meals on Wheels

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Allina Health
Andersen Corporate Foundation
CHS Inc. Community Giving
Emergency Food and Shelter
Program
Leif Masrud
Open Your Heart
Path of Grace United Methodist
Church
Angela Sizer
State Farm
Brian Swedeen & Terri Burnor
White Bear Avenue Business
Association WBABA
Xcel Energy Foundation

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Anonymous Donor
John Atkins
Jody Baber
Tammy Barabash
Jane & Gordon Bau
Melanie Baumhover
Susan & Curt Bergmann
Jessica & Ryan Bierwerth
Peter Brown
BWBR Foundation
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Glen Copeland
Pedro & Susan Cortez
Jon & Sara Danforth
Nancy Diekmann
Eric Foster
Grace Lutheran Church
John Grant & Mary Buerkle-Grant
Mary Gray
Stuart Gustafson
Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran
Church

Cordell Hardy
Ahti Hujanen
Jerriann Jevning-Jones
Dave Klevan
Toni & Keith Kuffel
James & Heather Lockwood
M Health Fairview Foundation
Fred & Felicia Marsh
Mississippi Market Cooperative
Joanne Mullen
David Novy
Jason Purdue
Joanne Reiling
Dan & Michelle Ritch
Daniel A. Rodriguez
Frank Russomanno
Donna Ryan
Schultz Family Lights
Greg Shipp
Cynthia Skroch
Brien Slawik
SPIRE Credit Union
The Dorsey & Whitney Foundation
The Vomela Companies
Thrivent Financial
Michael Turney
Upper River Services, LLC
Gerald & Carol Wallin
Janet & Luke Weisberg
Angela Zurick

\$500 to \$999

Jason Ackley
Keith Allen
Kyle Anderson
Ruth & Dean Anderson
Rodney Banks-Hehenberger
Max & Sally Brummel
City of Maplewood
Cross Lutheran Church
Paul Dinzeo
Jim & Cheryl Dixon
Sean Erickson
Tim Faricy
Farm Credit Foundations
Guardian Angels Church
Anthony & Susan Hoffman
Margaret Holter
Brian Jones
Caryn Josephson
Kate Kelly
Frank King
Marcia Kircher
Anthony Kopka
Cheryl & Tim Krinke
Lake Elmo Bank
Karisa Lindquist
Karen Lowery
Tamara Massop
Thomas McCarthy
Tom McHale
Medtronic
Miratec Systems
Morelli's Discount Liquor Meats and
Italian Market
Jerod Nowicki
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Party Time Liquors
Mary Pelstring
Sasha Reeve
Stanley Rendon
Daniel & Laurel Ries

Paul Runquist
Douglas Schultz
Kathy Sibbel
Howard & Rhoda Siewert
St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church
John & Diana Swanson
Kris Taylor
Meredith & Sam Tutterow
Joan Wang
Tom Whaley
James Yager
William Zajicek

\$250 to \$499

JJean Antonello
ichelle & Don Bartley
Austin Bell
Adam Bengtson
Heather Benson
Tracie Bernard
Dan & Pat Blaskowski
Blue Cross Blue Shield of MN
Lucy Braulik
John Brodrick
G Burkhardt
Celeste Carty
Cindy Carvelli-Yu
Joe Casey
Tammy Cownie
Michael Dick
Nichole Fairbanks
Joanne Freidlund
Dan Galles
Bill Gray
Brandon Griffin
Michele Harris
Steve & Terry Hawkins
John Hermann
Alice Johnson
Johnson & Johnson
Kiwanis Club of North Suburban
Saint Paul
Chris Klett
Christa Knudsen
Tom LaFleche
Laura Larson
Jim Lombardi
Jessica Lothian
Ted Madison
Molly McCurdy-Yates
Rachel McLaughlin
Ann Meitz
Shawn Mittelstadt
Greg & Kris Mohwinkel
Robin Morton
Deidra Murr
Kathryn Nichols
Cole Orndorff
Tracey Peterson
Erich Schlieper
Christopher Schneeman
Lana Stewart-Olson
Joan Siewert-Cardona
Kevin Spaeth
St Paul Retired Teachers
Joan Stiles
US Bank Foundation
Victoria Virasy-Ertelt
Craig & Carolyn Willms

\$100 to \$249

Dana Abrams
Robert Allen
Jaber Alsiddiqui
Edwin Andera
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Lori Bliss
Robert Boyce
Dianne Brooke
Eileen Cardwell
Larry Casey
Frederick Dahm
Peggy & John Denha
Thomas Dillon
Erica Dixon
Jesse Docken
Arthur Dorman
Russell Espy
Mark & Kristin Gallagher
Autumn Gannon
Cyndi Goltry
Mary Sue Hansen
Matthew Hassler
Jennifer Hines
Bonnie & John Holub
Patricia Horton
Arland Hultgren
IN Food Marketing & Design
Leo Jackson
Mary Jones
Greg King
Dan King
Pa Dao Lor
Megan Mathison Wynia
Jeff McIntosh
James & Susan McNally
Melissa McNeil
Kaitlin Meyer
Deb Monteith
J Shipley Newlin Jr
John O'Phelan
Dennis Paulson
Ashley Perala
Tony Perez
Sylvia Perez
Julie & Bruce Petersen
Eva Pickeral
Patti Plash
Linda & Rob Pruden
Patrick Rowan
Jean Schroeder
Katy Schultz
Rosalind Shore
Wendy Shragg
Laura Shubat
Howell Smith
Spencer Sokoly
Douglas Spencer
Dita Squires
Ronald Steblay
Anthony Sterle
Gary Taruscio
Tou Nou Thao
Kayla Theimer
Nancy Tubbs
Donna Viker
Carolyn Wacker
Ris & Ryan Watson
Mary Welsh
Alaina Werkhoven
Julie Wearn
Tom Wesolowski

Kathleen White
Denise Wickiser
Mary Willms Wohlwend
Laura Wingate
Tim Wong

\$1 to \$99

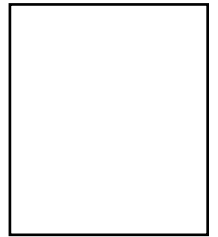
Whitney Anderson
Ginger Barlow
Julie Barrett
Peter Borden
Donna Burger
Sharon Cecere
Rozanne Czeck
Mohamed Elnabarawy
Adela Engelsgaard
Christine & Christian Fisher
Cynthia Fuller
Heide Grinde
Rebecca Haapanen
Georgia Haft
Steve Hill
Jenny Jennings
Gary Johnson
Bruce Kamin
Kathleen Keller
Amber Kidd
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Nathan Kobinsky
James Koehne
Manda Krueger
Kimberly Labinski
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Rita Petersen
Beverly Peterson
Michael Porcaro
Elaine Rhode
Barb Roloff
Carol Rueb
Scott Schneider
Judy Schumacher
Gabriel Skelly
Randy Smoyer
Linda Strohkirch
Marie Thayer
Amy Votel
Robert Weber
Jill Westfall
Charles Wood



Thanks to the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
for their support and the \$75,000 challenge match!



Merrick Community Services
1669 Arcade St Suite 4
St Paul, MN 55106-1041
(651) 771-9339
info@merrickcs.org



Looking Ahead: 2023-2024

2023 Holiday Share Toy
Distribution: December 16,
2023

Volunteer Appreciation
Event: April 2024

UpLift Annual Fundraising
Event: May 7, 2024

To volunteer or to donate to Merrick Community Services,
please go to www.merrickcs.org or call **651-771-9339**.



Donate today!

Simply scan this QR code to be taken to the MCS
donate page. Your donation is tax-deductible and
will go towards serving those on the East Side.

Special thanks for this report goes to MCS staff and consultants, donors, volunteers,
and our Board of Directors. And to each participant we meet and are privileged to
serve, we are grateful for your trust and the opportunity to learn together.

To sign-up for our e-news updates: <http://eepurl.com/h-iJID>



Participant selects reading book at the 2023
Annual Backpack Distribution Event



Greater Twin Cities
United Way

