

Community Report 2018

We believe poverty is solvable.

Meeting
Basic
Needs

Nurturing
Success

Spreading
Change



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Dear Friends,

At Solid Ground, we believe poverty is solvable. When fit together, the major pieces – meeting basic needs, nurturing success, and spreading change – help our community reach its full potential.

How we approach our work is key to solving the puzzle. It all starts with deep respect for our **76,000+** residents, program participants, and clients. We listen. We meet people where they are. We adapt to support people's unique situations.

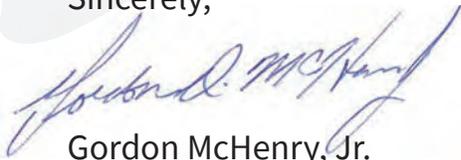
We bring data-driven, evidence-based approaches to support people to successfully respond to the challenges they face, and consistently strive to understand the most effective ways we can create impact.

We also believe people know best what they need and should be involved in decisions that affect their lives – and we know that our communities are stronger when we support stability for families and individuals to break down barriers to overcoming poverty.

This means that in addition to providing services, we must also work to end racism and other oppressions embedded in our institutions, policies, and culture that hold people back from achieving their full potential.

Thank you for your critical role in solving poverty with Solid Ground. Your support is an indispensable piece in completing the puzzle.

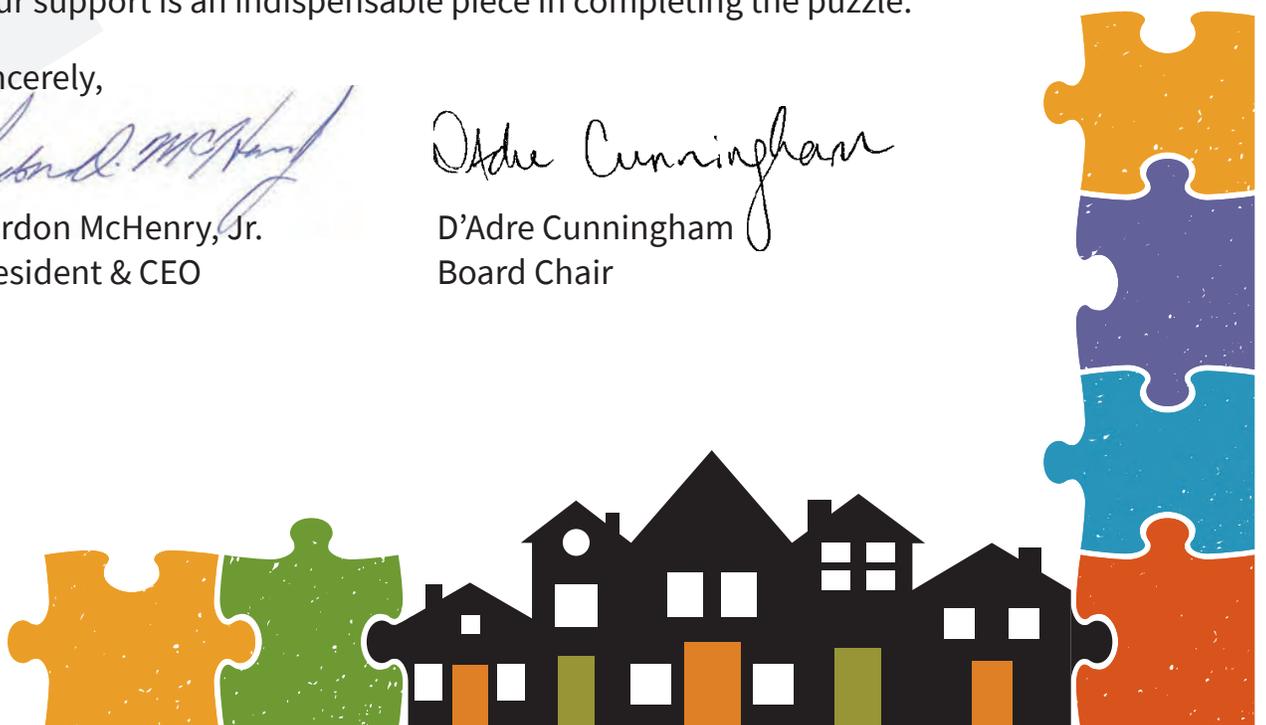
Sincerely,



Gordon McHenry, Jr.
President & CEO



D'Adre Cunningham
Board Chair



MEETING BASIC NEEDS

We provide people a place to sleep, healthy food, and transportation.

At Solid Ground, we know that a safe and stable home is foundational to ending poverty. We do all we can to prevent homelessness through a range of housing options, from shelter to affordable housing to permanent supportive housing. But we also connect people to housing throughout the community and educate renters on their rights and responsibilities.

People who have healthy food and good nutrition are better prepared to take on life's challenges – so Solid Ground supports Seattle's emergency food system and engages people to know, grow, and cook healthy food.

Transportation is also an important lifeline to basic needs, essential services, and community. Solid Ground provides door-to-door transportation for people unable to access the King County Metro bus system and runs the free Downtown Circulator Bus for people with low incomes.

In 2018...

- ▶ **745 households stayed safely housed** with support of our Stabilization and Residential Services, including case management; help with rent, utility, and deposit payments; and other resources.
- ▶ **582 households obtained safe and affordable housing.**
- ▶ **370 mothers and their children found a safe haven** from domestic violence while searching for permanent housing.
- ▶ **449 people received legal counsel** to access critical public benefits, helping them hold on to their housing, support their children, obtain disability status, and more.
- ▶ **264,118 safe rides** via Solid Ground Transportation (Access, Downtown Circulator Bus, and Harborview and Center Park shuttles) helped our community access resources, get to critical appointments, and stay connected with support networks.



Preventing homelessness with heart

“What I like about Barb [Homeless Prevention Case Manager] is she is my cheerleader. She is so positive about things, and she is just willing to help me,” says Victor, a longtime nonprofit professional whose life turned upside down when he went legally blind and lost his job, financial security, and home in the space of a few weeks. “My philosophy with other people is ‘you are loved and you are worth it.’ She has the same philosophy. It was that special touch. There was always that encouragement.”

–Victor De Los Santos, nonprofit professional & Homeless Prevention participant



Getting people where they need to go

“This service here has been nothing but a blessing. It saves me a lot of money, because I live on a very fixed income. And during the winter, this is a huge help. Big-time help.”

–Randy (pictured at left), Seattle resident & regular Downtown Circulator Bus rider



PROGRAMS & SERVICES TO MEET BASIC NEEDS

- ▶ Benefits Legal Assistance
- ▶ Bethlehem House
- ▶ Broadview Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing
- ▶ Family Shelter
- ▶ Food System Support
- ▶ Homeless Prevention
- ▶ Housing Stability Project
- ▶ Regional Access Point
- ▶ Shelter Diversion
- ▶ Solid Ground Transportation
- ▶ Tenant Services



NURTURING SUCCESS

Our programs give people tools, training, and counseling for long-term stability.

We believe knowledge and skills are power. Solid Ground's training and counsel help people navigate opportunities and challenges. Our programs equip them to manage their finances, advocate for their rights, and access community resources. Solid Ground housing advocates and case managers cultivate trust and support program participants to identify goals and take meaningful steps to reach them.

We also witness every day how the benefits of a strong family are enduring – so Solid Ground promotes multigenerational success for both parents and children by nurturing healthy relationships, confidence, and academic achievement.

In 2018...

- ▶ **2,217 people learned cooking, nutrition, and how to shop on a budget** through gardening and classroom activities and education.
- ▶ **1,857 people increased their knowledge of tenant rights** through one-on-one counseling and tenant rights workshops.
- ▶ **64 people received financial skills training** to better manage their money and remove barriers to financial health.
- ▶ **200+ children accessed tutoring**, homework sessions, cultural and athletic activities, and more to improve confidence, socialization, and school success.
- ▶ **All of the high school seniors** (Class of 2019) in our Sand Point Housing tutoring program got into college.
- ▶ **1,800+ people received weekly information** about jobs and free community resources via our Resource Wire listserv.



Discovering healthy foods

“My favorite part of teaching nutrition and cooking is seeing the students’ genuine and enthusiastic curiosity – to observe them exploring new foods and flavors, reconnecting with food as nourishment, and questioning the food system they’ve inherited all together.”

–Neli Jasuja, 2017/18 Community Food Education (CFE) AmeriCorps Member



Growing financial fitness

“We’re all human and we all could use budgeting and credit counseling,” says Marcia, who took Solid Ground’s Financial Fitness Boot Camp (FFBC) series alongside King County Housing Authority (KCHA) residents she works with. “It was awesome. When I first signed up I thought, ‘Oh gosh, this is going to be another class we’re going to sit through for two hours.’ Let me tell you, I was wide awake the whole time, I was very engaged. Noel [FFBC instructor] was so thorough. She breaks it down so everyone can understand it. I learned so much in such a short amount of time. I wish I could have all of my clients do it.”

–Marcia Severson, KCHA Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator & FFBC participant



PROGRAMS & SERVICES TO NURTURE SUCCESS

- ▶ Broadview Transitional Housing
- ▶ Children’s Programs in Residential Services
- ▶ Community Food Education
- ▶ Financial Fitness Boot Camp
- ▶ JobsConnect/HIRED
- ▶ JourneyHome Rapid Rehousing
- ▶ Resource Wire
- ▶ Sand Point Housing Campus
 - ▶ Brettler Family Place
 - ▶ Phyllis Gutiérrez Kenney Place
 - ▶ Sand Point Family Housing
 - ▶ Santos Place
- ▶ Tenant Services



SPREADING CHANGE

We engage and support communities to advocate for a world where everyone can thrive.

We believe our society operates under a false narrative about poverty.

We work to transform that narrative by shifting the focus from personal failings to structural barriers, such as laws or policies that marginalize people and communities. We collaborate with partner agencies and coalitions to build movements that advocate for a world where everyone can thrive. We also know we can't solve poverty without the voices of people who experience it firsthand. We support people to share their experiences with lawmakers and others in power and advocate for policies that promote more equitable access to resources and opportunities.

To help us live into this value, we started and/or supported these three groups of people most impacted by poverty in 2018:

- ▶ **Community Accountability Council (CAC):** A newly convened group of Solid Ground community members committed to leading change and promoting community-driven solutions to issues affecting people experiencing poverty in Seattle/King County.
- ▶ **Poverty Reduction Work Group (PRWG) Steering Committee:** A 25-member group of people from across Washington state who have lived experiences with poverty, organized by our advocacy partner Statewide Poverty Action Network to provide meaningful input to Governor Jay Inslee's PRWG Strategic Plan.
- ▶ **Sand Point Housing Resident Advisory Committee (RAC):** A group empowering residents to create the community they want to see through feedback on existing programs, gaps in services, and leadership training.

In 2018...

- ▶ **5,000+ people raised their voices and advocated** for equitable Washington state policies with Solid Ground and our advocacy partner, Statewide Poverty Action Network.
- ▶ **1,934 community volunteers** – including **906** RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) volunteers – contributed **143,492** hours valued at **\$4.4 million**.
- ▶ **166 emergency food providers** participated in Food System Support trainings and events on themes such as culture and equity, farm-to-food bank partnerships, and hunger's response to homelessness.
- ▶ **311 partner organizations** collaborated with us to expand resources and opportunities in our communities.



Raising voices for racial equity

“How do you stop poverty and racism? When you stop treating people like they’re all the same and ask them what they need.”

–*Lhorna Murray, artist, activist, & Sand Point Housing Resident Advisory Council member*



Advocating for meaningful change

“We’re bringing in people with different circumstances and showing that you cannot just make one solution for all these people, because everybody has something different to bring. My goal is to see people get the connections and the resources that they need, not to just resolve homelessness, but being able to get back on your feet.”

–*Juanita Maestas (pictured at far left), Poverty Action Board Chair & Poverty Reduction Work Group Steering Committee Co-Chair*



PROGRAMS & SERVICES TO SPREAD CHANGE



- ▶ Advocacy
- ▶ Anti-Racism Initiative
- ▶ Benefits Legal Assistance
- ▶ Food System Support
- ▶ RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program)
- ▶ Statewide Poverty Action Network
- ▶ Volunteer Services

2018 Income & Expenses

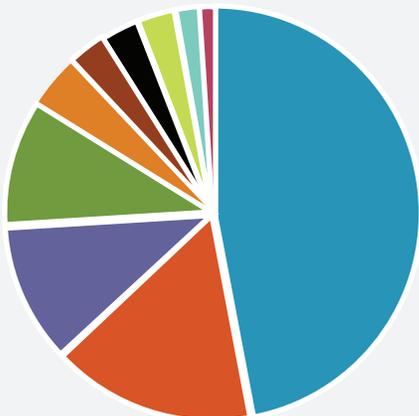
Income

Federal Agencies	\$2,532,696
Washington State	\$1,322,246
King County	\$13,342,051
Seattle City	\$2,959,232
Other Government	\$51,251
Private Grants & Restricted Donations	\$2,074,885
Sponsorships	\$93,050
United Way	\$181,658
Cash Donations	\$1,246,710
In-kind Donations	\$305,505
Stock Donations	\$14,699
Client Copayments	\$154,194
Vendors & Agencies	\$322,833
Fiscal Agent Fees	\$94,014
Interest Income	\$57,812
Sales	\$100,584
Other Revenue	\$17,971
Rental Income	\$106,817
TOTAL INCOME	\$24,978,209

Expenses

Personnel	\$15,851,049
Salaries & benefits	
Occupancy	\$809,611
Rent, maintenance, utilities	
Outside Services	\$4,914,955
Contracted services, volunteer stipends, client assistance, etc.	
Supplies	\$102,347
General Expenses	\$41,707
Volunteer support, training, insurance, postage, equipment, promotional, taxes & licenses, fees, lobbying, etc.	
Capital Purchases	\$202,266
Depreciation expenses, gain/loss on assets	
Administrative Expenses	\$2,546,213
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$24,468,148

Functional Expenses



47% Transportation

16% Homeless Prevention

11% Administrative

10% Housing & Services

4% Resource Development

3% Operating Affordable Housing

3% Food System Support

3% Advocacy

2% Community Food Education

1% National Service

Organizational Donors

\$100,000 & Up

- ▶ Anonymous
- ▶ The Biella Foundation
- ▶ Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- ▶ The Brettler Family Foundation
- ▶ Endowment for Equal Justice
- ▶ Google
- ▶ Microsoft Corporation
- ▶ The Seattle Foundation
- ▶ St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

\$50,000 - \$99,999

- ▶ DCG ONE
- ▶ Medina Foundation
- ▶ Norcliffe Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

- ▶ Aven Foundation
- ▶ The Ellis Foundation
- ▶ The Janet Bates Foundation
- ▶ The Moccasin Lake Foundation
- ▶ Sea Mar Community Health Centers
- ▶ Target
- ▶ Walsh Construction
- ▶ WestSide Baby
- ▶ Working Poor Families Project

\$10,000 - \$24,999

- ▶ Anonymous
- ▶ Arcora Foundation
- ▶ Champion Foundation
- ▶ Charlie's Produce
- ▶ Cogan Family Foundation
- ▶ Green Standards
- ▶ HomeStreet Bank
- ▶ King County Employee Giving Program
- ▶ Mental Wellness Foundation
- ▶ Northwest Children's Foundation
- ▶ OneFamily Foundation
- ▶ Prosperity Now
- ▶ RealNetworks Foundation
- ▶ The Safeway Foundation
- ▶ SEIU Local 1199NW
- ▶ Sprouts Healthy Community Foundation
- ▶ Treeline Foundation
- ▶ Washington State Budget & Policy Center

\$5,000 - \$9,999

- ▶ Aetna Better Health
- ▶ The Boeing Company
- ▶ Bon Appetite/Google Foods
- ▶ Calfo Eakes & Ostrovsky PLLC
- ▶ Center for Responsible Lending
- ▶ Center for Spiritual Living
- ▶ Chicago Title of Washington

\$5,000 - \$9,999 (continued)

- ▶ The CoHo Team of Windermere Agents
- ▶ Combined Fund Drive
- ▶ Comcast Cable
- ▶ Economic Security Project
- ▶ Finance of America Cares
- ▶ Fremont Neighborhood Fund
- ▶ Group Health Foundation
- ▶ Horizons Foundation
- ▶ James C. Allen Charitable Foundation
- ▶ Nordstrom
- ▶ The Octopus Bar
- ▶ Project Linus
- ▶ Rita & Herbert Rosen Foundation
- ▶ Salesforce.com
- ▶ Seattle Aquarium
- ▶ Sprague Israel Giles, Inc.
- ▶ Tableau Software
- ▶ TEGNA Foundation
- ▶ U.S. Bank Foundation
- ▶ United Way of King County
- ▶ Virginia Mason Medical Center
- ▶ Vulcan Inc.
- ▶ Wells Fargo
- ▶ Whole Cities Foundation
- ▶ Whole Foods Market
- ▶ Woodland Park Zoo

\$1,000 - \$4,999

- ▶ Anonymous (3)
- ▶ 501 Commons
- ▶ Alaska Airlines
- ▶ Alston, Courtnage & Bassetti LLP
- ▶ American Legion Auxiliary
- ▶ Aquarium Tickets
- ▶ Ariel Family Fund
- ▶ Baird
- ▶ Banner Bank
- ▶ Bar House
- ▶ Bike & Build, Inc.
- ▶ Birthday Dreams
- ▶ BlackRock Financial Management, Inc.
- ▶ Bright Horizons at South Lake Union
- ▶ Buchanan General Contracting
- ▶ Cambia Health Foundation
- ▶ CB Richard Ellis
- ▶ City of Seattle
- ▶ City of Seattle – Human Services Dept.
- ▶ Combined Federal Campaign
- ▶ Combined Federal Campaign of North Puget Sound

- ▶ DuPage Foundation
- ▶ The Ebttide Family Fund (Meagan Yoshimoto-Clark & Adam Clark)
- ▶ Environmental Works
- ▶ Ernest R. & Audrey M. Turner Foundation
- ▶ Evelyn H. Fuldner Foundation
- ▶ Facebook
- ▶ Gather LLC
- ▶ Getty Images, Inc.
- ▶ Girls Giving Back
- ▶ The Harrington-Schiff Foundation
- ▶ Horizon House
- ▶ Jeffris Wood Fund
- ▶ Kaiser Permanente
- ▶ Kantor Taylor PC
- ▶ Mercy Housing Northwest
- ▶ MissionBox, Inc.
- ▶ Molina Healthcare, Inc.
- ▶ Ms. Molly Foundation
- ▶ National Development Council
- ▶ National Philanthropic Trust
- ▶ Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church
- ▶ Northwest Justice Project

- ▶ Northwest Plan Services
- ▶ Philadelphia Insurance Companies
- ▶ Phinney Ridge Neighborhood Center
- ▶ Pian Silverman Family Foundation
- ▶ Project Cool
- ▶ Project Night Night
- ▶ The Quaker Hill Foundation
- ▶ The Rodman Foundation
- ▶ ROUSH CleanTech
- ▶ The Russell Family Foundation
- ▶ Salmon Bay School
- ▶ Sunshine Transportation
- ▶ Swedish Hospital Medical Center
- ▶ Technology Access Foundation
- ▶ Tickets for Kids
- ▶ Toys for Kids
- ▶ Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
- ▶ UFCW Local 21
- ▶ Union Bank of California
- ▶ United States Coast Guard
- ▶ Verizon Wireless
- ▶ Volunteers of America
- ▶ Wyman Youth Trust

For lists of our Organizational Donors up to \$999 and our more than 1,400 generous Individual Donors, please visit www.solid-ground.org/supporters.

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**solid
ground** 
Building community to end poverty