



2022

Solid Ground | Community Report

In 2022...

65,000 people

accessed housing, food, transportation, and other vital services.

30,883 riders

were safely transported to critical appointments and stayed connected with their support systems.

942 tenants

avoided eviction and housing loss through rental assistance and case management.

775 people

were housed after experiencing homelessness.

1,722 renters

increased their understanding of tenants' rights.

154 households

got legal support to obtain and maintain their public benefits.

3,109 people

added to their toolkits to get involved in improving conditions in their own communities.

634 cooking class participants

increased their cooking and nutrition skills and knowledge.



593 youth

visited our Marra Farm Giving Garden for sustainable gardening education and experiences.

140 children and youth

made academic progress through Solid Ground tutoring and mentorship.

1,978 people

expanded their support networks of those they can call on in times of need.

883 program participants

reported feeling more in control over their current circumstances.

Dear friends,

For nearly 50 years, Solid Ground has worked to build stronger communities in Seattle and King County by meeting the basic needs of our neighbors and empowering them to pursue their dreams. Much has changed since 1974, but one thing that hasn't is our foundational belief that communities are strongest when everyone has the resources they need to thrive.

We also believe that people experiencing poverty know best what they need to overcome it, which is why we look to the wisdom and leadership of the Solid Ground community as we build a new strategic plan to guide our work of solving poverty into the next half century.

Our 2022 Community Needs Assessment found that even middle-income families in King County are living on the edge, unable to save for unexpected expenses let alone invest in their futures. We also heard that:

- * **Housing, childcare, transportation, health care, and other basic survival costs are increasingly out of reach for many of our neighbors, even those working full time or more.**
- * **The gap between living costs and wages has forced many to more affordable communities that lack the jobs, services, and resources that people living on low incomes need.**
- * **While hope lives in every human soul, people increasingly have trouble finding it. Our neighbors need better access to behavioral health care, family counseling, and other services.**

In response, we strive to make it easier for people who've experienced the trauma of homelessness to access behavioral health support. We support development of new community infrastructure to improve access to food and build a more just local food system. And we advocate for public policy solutions that help people stay in their homes and create innovative models for affordable housing.

Some of this work was made possible by federal pandemic dollars, nearly all of which has now dried up. As a community, we face the challenge of continuing to meet the growing needs of our neighbors without this federal investment.

We also know that our own staff and other essential workers across the human services sector continue to be underpaid because of contracts and grants that historically undervalue their work. Together with a coalition of partners, we're talking with funders about the existential threat of wage inequity and the need for funding that provides living wages for the people who support our most vulnerable neighbors.

As we prepare for Solid Ground's 50th anniversary in 2024, we look to celebrate the hundreds of thousands of people we've served without losing sight of the difficult work ahead. Whether you joined this community as a volunteer, donor, participant, or advocate, we thank you for your partnership as we confront these challenges together.

In community and solidarity,



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

Shalimar Gonzales
Solid Ground CEO



A handwritten signature in black ink.

Heidi Eisenstein
Board Chair

Stories

It's easy to despair at the way our country and society have responded to the pandemic over the last three years, but this period of collective suffering and trauma also demonstrates one indisputable fact that gives us tremendous hope.

We, as a nation, have the means to solve poverty today – if we choose to.

That's the place from which Solid Ground draws its strength and inspiration. In 2022, we shared some amazing stories with you about how that hope and inspiration are visible in our services and the lives of program participants. The following is a selection of stories from our blog published throughout the year. Even if you read them when they came out, we encourage you to follow the links and revisit these stories. They describe the roadmap we've traveled together in 2022 and the bright future to which we aspire.



Understanding stress can heal relationships between parent and child

At the heart of Broadview parenting coach Betty Peralta's work is an understanding that children's unwanted behavior is the result of unwanted stress. "The screaming is good," she tells parents. "Love the screaming, because if you are listening and caring while they're doing it, it's healing your child." Broadview's comprehensive trauma-informed programming for parents and kids allows them to drain the emotions they've been holding inside to better understand and accept their feelings, build trust, and begin to heal.

"When I tell them they don't have to address the behavior at all, they just have to address the stress, it's a paradigm shift they can really get behind. The transformation starts with the parent not feeling like they're doing a horrible job."

— Betty Peralta

READ BETTY'S STORY: [SOLID-GROUND.ORG/PARENT-CHILD-HEALING](https://solid-ground.org/parent-child-healing)

For this priestess of puns, a little stability went a long 'whey'

Before Pun Intended Punslam producer Forest Ember connected with our Benefits Legal Assistance (BLA) program, she felt “livid and completely baffled” by the hoops and hurdles the public benefits system threw in the paths of people like her who couldn’t work due to debilitating injury. BLA attorneys helped restore her access to the benefits program she relied on – and also made her “feel seen and heard and cared for” – enabling her to go to college, get work she can physically handle, build a tiny home, and restore her stability and hope.

“My life completely turned around after I connected with Solid Ground. It just made me feel like I had someone in my corner who had my back.” — Forest Ember

READ FOREST’S STORY: [SOLID-GROUND.ORG/PRIESTESS-OF-PUNS](https://solid-ground.org/priestess-of-puns)



You don't need magic to overcome homelessness – but it doesn't hurt

Before magician and real estate agent Douglas Converse experienced it himself, he didn’t understand how easy it is to fall into homelessness. “But in reality,” he says, “it can happen to anyone.” Like the sleight of hand behind the magic trick, it can be difficult to see the reality of homelessness behind our own perceptions. As a Santos Place resident on our Sand Point Housing campus, Douglas found support and community to create a new life for himself. Today, he shares his experiences to help dispel myths about what it looks like to be homeless.

“It’s the greatest act of kindness and compassion I’ve ever experienced. Solid Ground has given me everything I need. It’s up to me now.”

— Douglas Converse

READ DOUGLAS’S STORY: [SOLID-GROUND.ORG/MAGIC-OF-HOUSING](https://solid-ground.org/magic-of-housing)



Stories

Growing healthier communities with farm-to-clinic fruits and vegetables

FARMacia – a play on the Spanish word for pharmacy and the idea of food as medicine – is the name of a growing partnership between Solid Ground’s Giving Garden at Marra Farm and Sea Mar Community Health Centers in South Park and White Center. These free farm stands get fresh fruits and vegetables into the hands and stomachs of people with diet-related health conditions like high blood pressure, cholesterol, and diabetes. Sea Mar patient Javier says, “I’m so glad you’re doing this for the community, because we really need it. I hope this continues forever.”

“When I screen patients for food insecurity and they say they worry about running out of food – or they truly have run out before being able to buy more – it’s really great to have this resource right here to get them fresh produce.”

— Maddi Rinehart, Sea Mar health educator

READ MORE: [SOLID-GROUND.ORG/FARMACIA-PARTNERSHIP](https://solid-ground.org/farmacia-partnership)



Why Solid Ground supports the Duwamish fight for federal recognition

At Solid Ground, we know that to solve poverty, we must recognize the systemic oppression and institutional barriers that rob people of their agency and keep them from thriving. For some peoples, oppression spans decades or centuries, the harm compounded with each new generation. Our work starts with acknowledging that harm. We’re proud to stand with the Duwamish – the first people of Seattle – in their decades-long fight for federal recognition.

“The government, when we signed that treaty, was supposed to take care of the health, welfare, and education of the Duwamish. Those are the reasons we are looking to be recognized: the health, welfare, and education of our people.”

— James Rasmussen, tribal council member

READ MORE: [SOLID-GROUND.ORG/SUPPORT-DUWAMISH](https://solid-ground.org/support-duwamish)



Community Needs Assessment helps Solid Ground provide more responsive, impactful services

Solid Ground conducts a Community Needs Assessment (CNA) every three years, because we believe that people know best what support they need to create the lives they want to live. Our 2022 CNA both underscores the mounting challenges for local communities and suggests opportunities for new, improved ways of providing services and doing business that have the potential to greatly contribute to solving poverty across Seattle, King County, and Washington state.

“For regular people, there are rarely any living wage jobs one can find that will allow you to make enough to afford housing.” — 2022 CNA respondent

SEE OUR CNA LEARNINGS: [SOLID-GROUND.ORG/2022-CNA](https://solid-ground.org/2022-CNA)



I-135 and the promise of a more inclusive Seattle

Solid Ground enthusiastically joined nearly 100 other organizations to support the House Our Neighbors-led ballot Initiative 135, which Seattle voters resoundingly passed. The ordinance creates a new public agency, the Seattle Social Housing Developer, which will buy, build, and maintain permanently affordable housing for people at various income levels. This “social housing” will be publicly owned, and residents will have democratic decision-making power. No one will pay more than 30% of their income in rent, and rent paid by people with greater resources will subsidize the rent of those with less.

“Social housing gives us a new tool – unlike any that we already have – to build more housing more quickly, so we can move one step closer to solving our homelessness crisis.”

— Shalimar Gonzales, Solid Ground CEO

READ MORE: [SOLID-GROUND.ORG/I-135-SOCIAL-HOUSING](https://solid-ground.org/I-135-SOCIAL-HOUSING)



2022 Organizational Donors

- Adobe Employee Community Fund
- * Adobe Inc.
- Aerospace Machinist Industrial District Lodge #751
- AlIG
- Alaska Airlines
- Alliance for a Just Society
- * Alston, Courtnage & Bassetti LLP
- Alves-Creech Family Charitable Fund
- American Civil Liberties Union of Washington
- * American Endowment Foundation
- * Ameriprise Financial
- * The Andover Company, Inc.
- * Apple Inc.
- Arcora Foundation
- Asset Funders Network
- ATS Automation
- Aven Foundation
- Ayush Herbs®, Inc.
- * Ballista Consulting, LLC
- Bank of America
- * BECU
- BECU Foundation
- * The Biella Foundation
- * Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- * Binyon Vision Center
- Birthday Dreams
- * BMGI Group
- * Boeing
- * Bright Funds Foundation
- * Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation
- Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Foundation
- * Cambia Health Solutions
- Campion Foundation
- CareQuest Institute for Oral Health
- Carter Subaru
- * Cave Moon Press
- Chamberlain Family Foundation
- * Charles Schwab Foundation
- * Cogan Family Foundation
- * The CoHo Team of Windermere Agents
- Columbia Bank
- Comcast Cable
- Community Catalyst
- * Community Tattoo Collective
- * Costco Wholesale Corporation
- * Crane Jewelers LTD
- Dana's Giving Fund
- DCG ONE
- * Delightful Communications
- * DewYou Skin Spa
- * Douglas & Maria Bayer Foundation
- * eBay Foundation
- Economic Security Project
- * The Ellis Foundation
- Employees Community Fund of Boeing (Puget Sound)
- Enterprise Holdings Foundation
- * Epic Games
- Ernest R. & Audrey M. Turner Foundation
- Evelyn H. Fuldner Foundation
- F5 Networks
- * Facebook
- Fales Foundation Trust
- * Fifth Generation
- Finance of America Cares
- First Federal
- * FrontStream
- * Gates Archive, LLC
- * GE Foundation
- George & Dragon Pub
- George Ostrow
- Getty Images, Inc.
- * Give Lively Foundation
- * Google
- * Halperin Family Foundation
- * Hanson Family Foundation
- Highland Ice Arena
- HomeStreet Bank
- Hugh & Jane Ferguson Foundation
- Ike Nizam Foundation
- Inatai Foundation (Formerly Group Health Foundation)
- * Instacart
- J&HW Mission International
- James C. Allen Charitable Foundation
- * Jean K. Lafromboise Foundation
- Kaiser Permanente
- * King County Employee Giving Program
- * Kohl Construction & Remodeling Inc.
- * KPMG – Gives
- * The Kroger Co. Foundation
- Lasley Violins
- Legal Foundation of Washington
- * Liberty Mutual Foundation
- * Liberty Mutual Insurance
- Lindhorst Wallace Fund
- Lucky Seven Foundation
- * Mental Wellness Foundation
- * Mercedes-Benz Research & Development North America, Inc.

- ⊕ ⊕ Microsoft
Miller Hull Partnership
- ⊕ Moccasin Lake Foundation, G3 Committee
Molina Healthcare, Inc.
- ⊕ Motorola Solutions Foundation
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
MUFG Union Bank Foundation
National Football League (NFL)
- ⊕ Network for Good
Nordstrom
- ⊕ North Star Charitable Foundation
Northwest Harvest
Northwest Plan Services
- ⊕ NW Children's Foundation
- ⊕ Okta
- ⊕ Optimism Brewing Company
- ⊕ Oracle Corporation
Pasadena Community Foundation
- ⊕ PayPal Charitable Giving
PCC Community Markets
Philadelphia Insurance Companies - Northwest Region
Phinney Neighborhood Association
- ⊕ Pivotal Ventures LLC
- ⊕ PlayStation
Project Cool
Project Linus
Prosperity Now
Puget Sound Energy Foundation
- ⊕ Pun Intended Punslam
Pure Barre
- ⊕ The Quaker Hill Foundation
- ⊕ Raman Family Foundation
Raymond James Financial, Inc.
- ⊕ Renah Blair Rietzke Family & Community Foundation
Rutter Family Philanthropy Fund
Safeco Insurance Fund
Sage Foundation
- ⊕ Salesforce.com
The Same Cloth
Sea Mar Community Health Centers
- ⊕ Seattle Academy of Arts & Sciences
Seattle Children's Hospital
- ⊕ Seattle Education Association
- ⊕ Seattle Foundation
- ⊕ Seattle Seahawks
SEIU Local 49
- ⊕ Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church
Skyline at First Hill Residents Association
Soapbox Project

- Social Justice Fund Northwest
Sound Credit Union
South Park Redevelopment Committee
- ⊕ Spotify
- ⊕ Sprague Israel Giles, Inc.
Sprouts Healthy Communities Foundation
- ⊕ Starbucks Corporation
State Farm
Swedish Health Services
- ⊕ Symetra Financial
TCK Investments LTD
TEGNA Foundation
- ⊕ TisBest Philanthropy
- ⊕ T-Mobile
Toys for Kids
- ⊕ Treeline Foundation
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
U.S. Bank
U.S. Bank Foundation
UFCW Local 3000
Umpqua Bank
- ⊕ United Way of King County
- ⊕ United Way of the Columbia-Willamette
- ⊕ United Way Suncoast
University Christian Church Legacy Foundation
Verizon
Virginia Mason Franciscan Health
- ⊕ Walsh Construction Co.
Washington Federal Foundation
Washington Progress Fund
Washington State Budget & Policy Center
- ⊕ Washington State Combined Fund Drive (CFD)
Washington Women's Foundation
Wells Fargo
WestSide Baby
- ⊕ Weyerhaeuser Company
- ⊕ Whole Foods Market
Windermere Foundation
Woodland Park Zoo
Wyman Youth Trust

Donor Key



MULTIYEAR



UNRESTRICTED



IN-KIND

2022 Financials

Operating Support & Revenue

Government Contracts & Grants	\$22,701,545
Private Grants & Contributions	\$4,503,876
In-Kind Contributions	\$210,638
Earned & Other Revenue	\$1,488,957
Administrative Fee Charged	\$2,954,628
Total Operating Support & Revenue	\$31,859,644

Operating Expenses

<i>Program Expenses</i>	
Transportation	\$11,537,202
Homelessness Prevention	\$4,913,304
Housing & Services	\$4,335,498
Hunger & Food Resources	\$4,118,733
Advocacy	\$1,583,945
Management & General	\$3,805,215
Retired & Senior Volunteers	\$382,981
Fundraising	\$1,439,663
Total Operating Expenses	\$32,116,541

NET INCOME	\$(256,897)
-------------------	--------------------

Balance Sheet

Current Assets	\$12,507,332
Fixed Assets	\$4,228,850
Other Assets	\$8,430,157
Total Assets	\$25,166,339

Current Liabilities	\$1,726,538
Long-term Liabilities	\$3,157,567
Total Liabilities	\$4,884,105

Shareholder Equity	\$20,282,234
--------------------	--------------

Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$25,166,339
---	---------------------





Find Us on Social

- BLOG solid-ground.org/groundviews
- FACEBOOK [SolidGroundWA](https://www.facebook.com/SolidGroundWA)
- INSTAGRAM [solid_ground_wa](https://www.instagram.com/solid_ground_wa)
- LINKEDIN [solid-ground](https://www.linkedin.com/company/solid-ground)
- TWITTER [SolidGround](https://twitter.com/SolidGround)
- YOUTUBE [SolidGroundWA](https://www.youtube.com/SolidGroundWA)

Contact Us

- ADDRESS 1501 N 45th Street, Seattle, WA 98103
- PHONE 206.694.6700
- WEB solid-ground.org
- EMAIL communications@solid-ground.org

Credits

- PHOTOS/ GRAPHICS Duwamishtribe.org,
HouseOurNeighbors.org,
Rachael Green, Clarissa Magdich,
Michael B. Maine, Neal Simpson
- PRINTING DONATED BY DCG ONE
- DESIGN Mx. Jessica Miller | Private/ Public, LLC

