

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

Together we have...



Housed 99 families (117 Parents and 241 Children)



Responded to 32,605 food requests



Offered more than 704 people transportation and utility assistance, baby food and diapers



Helped 60 children learn & grow through home visits

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Message from Leadership

Dear Friends.

Thanks to people like you, families find the help they need at SOS. We are so grateful to the hundreds of local people who volunteer at SOS and make our work possible. They come from all walks of life and include former program participants, retirees. students, and professionals.

Volunteers talk with people to learn more about their needs. They connect people with resources at SOS and the larger community. They serve on our board, answer phones, schedule appointments, unload the food truck, and stock the pantry. Volunteers also stuff mailings, greet visitors, help out at events, and provide professional services such as landscaping, graphic design, or photography. Volunteers often share that helping others really changes their lives for the better.

As we move toward celebrating SOS's 50th anniversary in 2020, we remember that it was volunteers who founded SOS and began our important work.

A few students at Eastern Michigan University raised their hands and agreed to organize an effort to help people in crisis. They were young and still working on their education. They did not know what to expect or the bumps in the road they would hit. But they were determined to help others and make a real. lasting difference.

We are grateful for them and the spirit of volunteerism that continues to drive SOS's work today. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, contact us at volunteer@soscs.org to find out how you can get started.

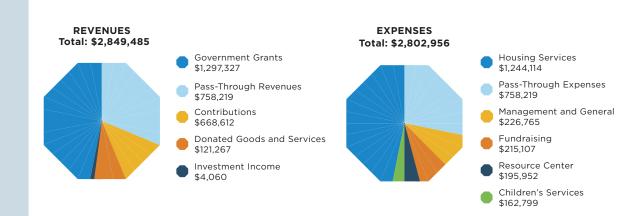
Thank you for serving the community with us at SOS.

Best wishes.

Rhonda Weathers Executive Director



Financials



HOUSING SERVICES



SHELTER

- •18 families served with 25 adults and 69 children.
- •91% exited to permanent housing.

RAPID RE-HOUSING

- •99 families served with 117 adults and 241 children.
- •88% exited to permanent housing.

SUPPORTS FOR FAMILIES WITH PUBLIC HOUSING

•93 of families who were at-risk for eviction retained their permanent housing vouchers with the help of SOS's eviction prevention coordinator.

RESOURCE CENTER



FOOD PANTRY

- •32,605 requests for food answered.
- •7,772 households visited the Choice Pantry.
- •575,592.50 pounds of food distributed.

WALK-IN SERVICES

- •704 people provided with utility assistance, baby food, diapers, or other resources.
- •215 people received bus tokens
- •43 people obtained Fare Deal bus cards.
- •199 referrals including 42 referrals for emergency housing.
- •283 households received funds to pay utility bills totaling \$97,064.78.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES



PARENTS AS TEACHERS

•30 families with 60 young children participated in Parents as Teachers which promotes early childhood learning and health through home visits.

VOLUNTEERS

•161 volunteers worked 7,020 hours, a contribution of time valued at \$174,447.



Volunteers Make a Difference at SOS



Chris and Eric have recently retired and begun volunteering at SOS. They say they have really have gotten a better understanding of the challenges faced by people navigating the local social services system. "SOS really serves an important role in helping people to manage not only food and housing support, but also by providing diapers and formula, bus tokens, assistance with utility bills and connecting people with the right

services and agencies," says Chris.
"Eric and I feel we've just scratched the surface in terms of learning how to support the SOS staff," explains Chris. "We've taken on a variety of hands-on jobs and enjoy interacting with other volunteers and SOS program participants."
"For sure, [the families we serve] are making my life a little brighter," says Chris. "It has been a fun and rewarding new chapter in our retirement."



Realizing the Impact is Powerful

Alex is a social work student at the University of Michigan and a volunteer at SOS's food pantry. One day, Alex noticed an unfamiliar face. Alex asked the woman if this was her first time at the pantry and welcomed her to SOS. The woman shared that she recently lost her job and needed food. She was amazed at the amount of food Alex gave her. Most families take home 40 - 45 pounds of groceries! By the end of her visit, she was so grateful that she began to cry tears of joy. Alex says he will never forget that day and realizes how a few bags of groceries can really make a big difference in people's lives.









SOS Community Services

101 S Huron St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197

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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

www.soscs.org

STAY CONNECTED WITH US! | f | | in







How To Get Involved



We can provide families with housing and the help they need with your support. Go to www.soscs.org to give today!



The families we serve need household items, food, and personal care items throughout the year. Start collecting needed items at school, the office, or another community gathering place.



Our volunteers are at the heart of what we do. We need people to serve in our office, help at our events, and lend a hand at our food pantry.

Contact -

Email: info@soscs.org Phone: (734) 485-8730 Fax: (734) 485-8739 www.soscs.org

Mail to: SOS Administrative Office 101 S Huron St Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Service Location:

SOS Resource Center

114 N River St