# GRATITUDE 2018-2019 REPORT





## A LETTER FROM FATHER TIM

### DEAR FRIENDS,

What an incredible year we've had. Time and again we've shared our dreams of a better future for our guests and our community, and YOU made them a reality.

This past January, as temperatures dropped to life-threatening lows during the "Polar Vortex," the Pope Francis Center community sprang into action. Countless people reached out to offer assistance. Thanks to the many hands that brought food and staffed the Center day and night, we were able to stay open round-the-clock for four days.

As we joined together with organizations around the city to provide a thoughtful and humane response to this crisis, we saw what this community is truly capable of achieving. Not a single person froze to death during the Polar Vortex. When we come together in a spirit of compassion and generosity, we can defy expectations and find innovative solutions to complicated problems.

WHEN WE COME TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF COMPASSION AND GENEROSITY, WE CAN DEFY EXPECTATIONS AND FIND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO COMPLICATED PROBLEMS.

This year we were also able to expand the programming for our guests in several areas. Most importantly, one of our long-time staff members, Chris Harthen moved into the position of Housing Specialist and is working each day to help individual guests overcome obstacles to permanent housing. In the past few months Chris has facilitated housing for more than twenty of our regular guests.



This summer we officially announced our plans to open a Bridge-Housing campus on Detroit's northeast side. The project provides a coordinated solution to chronic homelessness that will be truly revolutionary. Pulling from our decades of experience and extensive research, we have developed a holistic response to the complex and interconnected barriers to housing, including essential services like addiction counseling and access to medication.

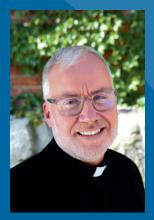
The campus will feature 40 studio apartments, a cafeteria, gymnasium, library, classrooms, and health clinic. It will also include an outdoor shelter area with heated sidewalks and overhead radiant heaters for those who've normalized homelessness and struggle to come indoors. This space will provide individuals with a safe place to begin building trusting relationships and start imagining something different for themselves.

How do I know all of this is possible? Because of YOU. Every step of the way, our community has answered the call. With you we can bring heaven and earth just a little closer together. Thank you for everything you do. I am so grateful that you are part of the Pope Francis Center family!

Fr. Zin McCah &

Fr. Tim McCabe, SJ Executive Director

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## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES













## BY THE NUMBERS

It's easy for us to quantify certain portions of our work. We can count the number of nutritious meals we served. We know how many loads of laundry we folded. We will never forget the number of people we helped transition to permanent housing. What we can't quantify is the amount of hope that has been instilled or the extent to which individuals' inherent dignity has been restored. Your support provides immeasurable benefits to our guests by allowing us to provide extensive food and services in a safe, caring environment. Here are some ways that we can illustrate the impact of your commitment and the LOVE our guests feel because of it.

#### **RFVFNUF**

Contributions and Grants	\$2,246,751
Material Donations	\$91,349
Food Donations	\$77,344
Donated Services	\$86,230
Total Revenue	\$2 501 674

152,840
Hours Spent Off the Streets

**59,469**Meals Served



6,346
Showers Taken

4,368
Loads of Laundry

800
Feet Treated by Donors/Nurses

490
Appointments With

**Social Workers** 

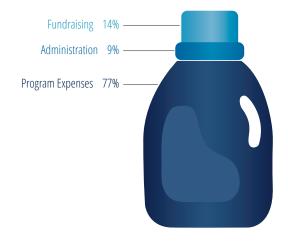
392
Appointments
With Doctors

200
Appointments
With Lawyers

25
Guests Transitioned to Housing

#### **EXPENSES**

Regular Program Expenses	\$864,093
Bridge Housing Program Expenses	\$563,234
Total Program Expenses	\$1,427,327
Administration	\$162,993
Fundraising	\$264,387
Total Expenses	\$1,854,707



## **DONORS**

A key pillar of our mission is to provide our guests with a community in which they feel safe, loved, and supported in their journey out of homelessness. A donation to the Pope Francis Center is more than a gift, it's a quiet cheer for each step our guests take on their paths. When combined, those cheers become a roar of encouragement that can be heard by our guests, our dedicated staff, and all those who may need our support. In the following pages, we celebrate and give thanks for those who have raised their voice in support this year.

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## CONNECTING TO THE CROWD

In September 2018, the Pope Francis Center held its third annual crowdfunding campaign. In prior years, the campaign focused on improving and expanding our current services and creating a nutritious food program. The 2018 campaign focused on how to move beyond our basic services and to find ways to help our guests thrive. That's how it became known as the THRIVE campaign. We raised \$55,000, which we used to create a housing program. Over the last year, the housing program has helped more than 20 people transition to permanent housing.



Below are pictures from our three THRIVE events – the Cruise for a Cause, Painting With a Twist, and Bags N' Brews.

#### **Painting with a Twist**







#### **Cruise For a Cause**







#### **Bags N' Brews**







ALL THE WAY HOME GALA

As we have learned through supporting our guests, family can mean more than just blood relatives. Family can be any community of people who care for you and want to see you succeed. At Pope Francis Center, we are incredibly grateful for our generous family of donors who champion our work — people we can depend upon to provide our staff with encouragement and support.

And just like family, you answered the call to join us for our annual celebration of live, love, and progress toward our vision. Nearly 800 business leaders, philanthropists, and dignitaries joined us for the 2019 All the Way Home Gala. With sincere thanks to our generous sponsors Magna International and Ford Motor Company, the Gala raised over **\$600,000** for Pope Francis Center, a humbling 53% growth over last year's celebration!





## A STORY OF HOPE

She's become a fixture in downtown Detroit, riding her bright pink bike, with her cane hanging from the handlebars, and a big smile on her face.

Her name is Joyce, and when she first started coming to the Pope Francis Center, she was sleeping on the front steps of the church. Despite the hardships she endured as an older person living on the streets, she always kept her area neat and tidy, taking pride in herself and whatever space she called home.

Joyce quickly became a favorite of the Pope Francis Center staff, volunteers and other guests. Her infectious smile and playful humor touched everyone around her. Her presence eased tensions, brightened spirits and brought out the best in others. Though she rarely asked for anything, volunteers and guests alike jumped to her aid whenever she needed a hand.

When the Center launched its Housing program this summer, Joyce was one of the first people to receive assistance. Our Housing Coordinator, Chris, connected her with an outreach worker, walked her through the process of registering for housing assistance, and accompanied her through the transition from life on the streets to life in more stable housing.

In the months she waited to be matched with housing, Joyce continued to grace the Center with her bright, hopeful spirit. One of her stops during the summer was to connect with our Bike Repair Clinic volunteer, who found and refurbished a bright pink bike that seemed to be made just for her.

Finally, after nearly nine months on the street, Joyce received the keys to her very own place. The staff at the Pope Francis Center helped her pack up her blankets and other belongings, piled them into our van, and took her home. Noticing that the place seemed sparse, they identified a volunteer willing to contribute a couch, with which they returned to get her truly settled in.

Thankfully, Joyce still rides her bright pink bike back to us for the occasional visit. We're blessed to have her continue to be part of the Pope Francis Center family.

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JOYCE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST PEOPLE
TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE.





## FEEDING. SERVING. EMPOWERING.