## 2021 Annual Report

In 2021, the NOAH Project navigated the realities of serving during a pandemic while looking to the future potential of the organization. Today we write this update together, as Stacie Vaughn-Covington, MSW, has taken the helm as Director of NOAH, and Amy Brown, MSW, moved to the role of Executive Director of NOAH's parent organization, the Central United Methodist Church of Detroit Community Development Corporation (CDC.)

The change is exciting and we look forward to working together in our new roles this year!

One thing that has remained constant though is our commitment to journeying the individual paths out of homelessness with each of our clients. We served over 25,000 lunches last year, making that first step

toward engagement. Our barber was able to return during our block parties, providing nearly 50 haircuts. Our nurses resumed their regular schedule, helping many clients keep or get healthy. We offered both COVID testing and over 200 vaccinations, further protecting our more vulnerable population.

While we built relationships with countless individuals last year, NOAH caseworkers did over 800 one-on-one casework sessions. An important partnership developed between NOAH and the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (MDHHS.) With a liaison in place at MDHHS, NOAH was able to connect about 30 clients with complex cases to a specific person at MDHHS who has a fuller understanding of the situations many of our clients experiencing chronic homelessness face in the housing process.

Our Street Outreach Program grew dramatically in 2021. (A client we met through Outreach is featured on the reverse.) We grew from serving 44 people in 2020 to 103 in 2021. Of those 103, 25 people exited to shelter and 29 to housing. And with 5 clients exited to Permanent Supportive Housing already in 2022, we anticipate even more growth to come.



NOAH continues to be a place people turn to for support in whatever form they need. Whether you make lunches, collect socks and winter items, provide hygiene kits, volunteer your time on- or offsite, or contribute financially, you make all that happens at NOAH possible. As we move forward in 2022, we are excited about the ways NOAH will grow and how each of you are a part of that journey.



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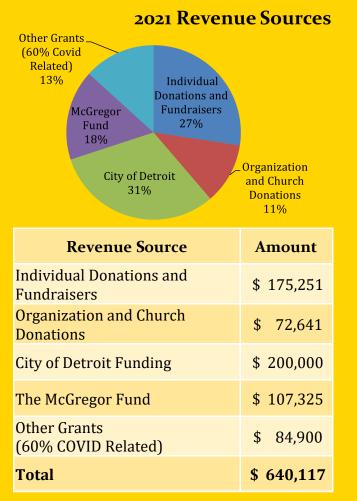
Our vision is to be an anchor of hope leading the Detroit community in ending homelessness.

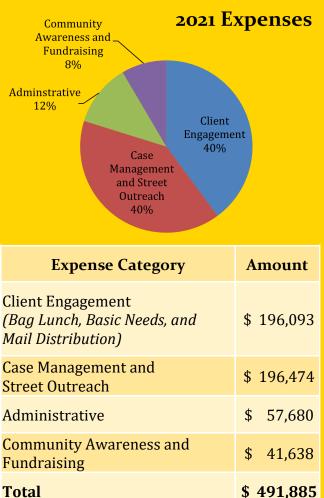
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The NOAH Project is a program of the Central United Methodist Church of Detroit Community Development Corporation, a 501(c)3 organization.

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## A Long Road Home

NOAH's Street Outreach Team first met Reginald in the summer of 2020. Reginald was sleeping in the doorway of an office building in downtown Detroit. Outreach staff offered Reginald food, water, and a chance to talk; Reginald accepted and asked for help getting his state ID. Matt, NOAH's Street Outreach manager, said they could help but Reginald would need to visit NOAH during daytime hours. But Reginald never came by, and Matt struggled to find Reginald during outreach shifts over the next few months.

Spring of 2021 though, Matt ran into a very familiar man at a steam grate only a few blocks from that office building. It was Reginald! He explained that as the weather in Detroit grew cold, he headed south to Nashville, Tennessee, where he stayed at an emergency shelter for the winter. Reginald came back to Detroit to search for housing in a more familiar city. The Street Outreach Team soon connected Reginald to a housing navigator from Community and Home Supports (CHS,) an important partner of NOAH in getting clients housed. Together, NOAH and CHS worked with Reginald to get his documents together to qualify for Permanent Supportive Housing, a form of housing that provides not only housing but also needed case management and supportive services to formerly homeless individuals. After months of hard work, Reginald moved

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into his own one-bedroom apartment in Detroit, just in time for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and another cold Michigan winter.

Today, Matt still occasionally sees Reginald out and about in Detroit during outreach shifts. They check in to see how he's doing, and Reginald is proud to say he has a place to call home each night.