



MUST[™]
Ministries

Serving Our Neighbors in Need[™]

*A human safety net
for those struggling
in poverty*

Annual Report



LIVING IN POVERTY IS A LONELY PLACE.

You can run out of food, run out of job options, run out of rent money. You can even run out of friends and family.

MUST Ministries has been catching people falling off the tightrope of life since 1971 and today, 33,200 people come to us for help and hope annually.

We're a safety net – not a hammock. We want our neighbors to live in secure housing, enjoy the rewards of a good job, clothe their children for school and not fear the future. It's an outreach of compassion surrounding those in need with services that can change their lives.

And it's an act of love to others. Join with us. This annual report will show you why it matters and how we change lives together.

Rev. Dr. Ike Reighard | President and CEO

One of the most heartbreaking moments in the world of poverty is realizing you have no food, particularly if you have children.



And so many of the MUST clients served are hungry children. In our service area alone, 475,000 people are unable to acquire the food necessary to live a healthy life.

259,154 SUMMER LUNCHES

Lunches were distributed every weekday to 7,644 children.

70,436 MEALS

Faithful volunteer groups provided and served meals to the homeless at the Loaves and Fishes Community Kitchen.

34 FOOD PANTRIES

MUST distributed 524,194 lbs. of groceries to 15,703 clients, including 3,196 students and their families coming to MUST school food pantries.

489 THANKSGIVING BOXES

MUST provides complete Thanksgiving meals to 1,600 residents in Cherokee County.

A safety net for
FOOD





A safety net for **HOUSING**



A critical step in ending poverty is establishing stable housing.

MUST's dynamic and diverse housing programs combined with experienced, compassionate case managers provide an array of options to help those facing homelessness find a suitable place to call home.

74,391 SAFE NIGHTS OF REST

On any given night, about 300 people are sleeping in a bed provided by MUST. The shelter and various housing programs provide a safe place for those in poverty to land.

910 SHELTER GUESTS

Families and individuals coming to the shelter work with case managers to establish a plan for stability. After about 30 days, guests are able to move forward thanks to housing, jobs and budgets.

52 COLD WEATHER SHELTER GUESTS

During low temperatures, MUST opens its doors to give homeless women and children a temporary warm place to stay. Additionally, a Warming Center for daytime use provides comfort, coffee and snacks for hundreds of men, women and children escaping the cold.

MUST gives clients access to clothing in clothing centers, mobile outreach projects and the MUST Marketplace thrift store.

The right school clothes, a warm coat, appropriate work attire, newborn sleepers... clothing is important at all stages of life.



135,991 CLOTHING ITEMS DISTRIBUTED

About 11,100 clients received clothing during the year.

4,148 CHILDREN

New hats, scarves, gloves, blankets, underwear and socks were just part of the many Christmas Toy Shops MUST hosted for children age 0-18.

9,635 HYGIENE KITS

Toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo. Soap and a host of other necessities were distributed throughout the year.

1,089 DIAPERS

So many babies need diapers to prevent infection and irritations that come with not changing them often enough. Diapers stretch the budget because they are an expensive burden not covered by food stamps.

A safety net for
CLOTHING



A safety net for **EMPLOYMENT**



Financial stability requires a steady income at a livable wage.

MUST serves those who are financially struggling by offering personal coaching and training to transform lives through jobs.



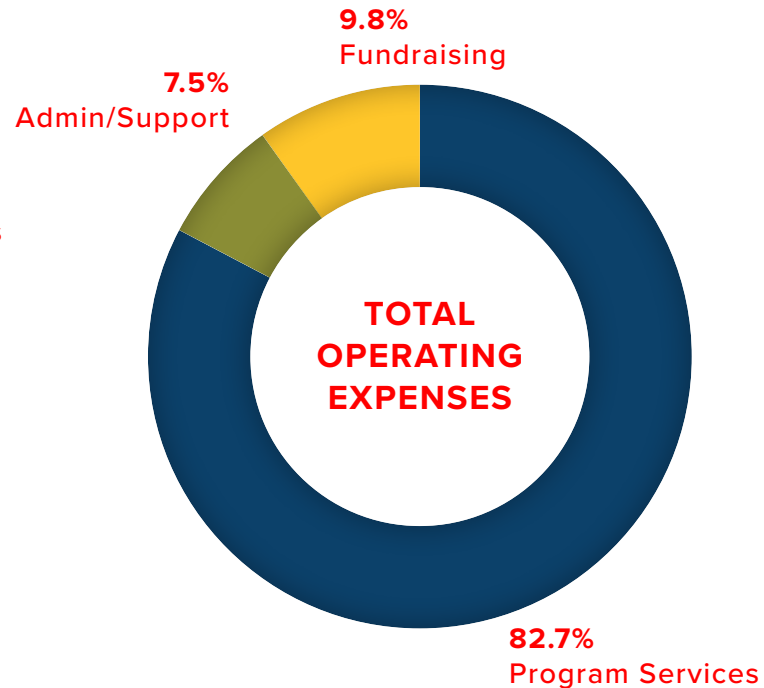
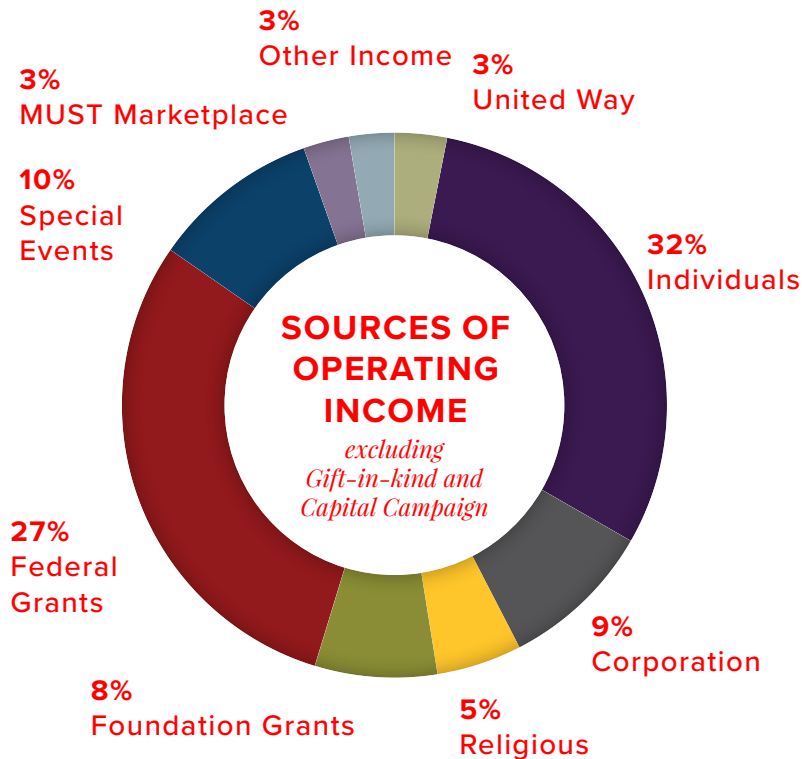
618 PEOPLE FOUND JOBS

The unemployed and underemployed found work thought MUST amounting to \$11 million in earnings returned to the local economy. The average starting wage for individuals who find employment through MUST is now *50 percent above minimum wage*.

FORKLIFT CERTIFICATION Training provided career opportunities to individuals in the warehouse industry.

SERVSAFE CERTIFICATION provided access to careers in the food industry.

STEEL-TOED BOOTS, SLIP-RESISTANT SHOES AND OTHER WORK-READY APPAREL enabled our clients to meet minimum safety standards and be prepared for new jobs.



Contributions/Special Events	3,945,101.00
Gift-in-Kind	3,226,638.00
Federal/Foundation Grants	2,230,428.00
Other Revenue	325,818.00
TOTAL REVENUE	9,727,985.00

Program Services	7,380,255.00
Admin/Support	671,293.00
Fundraising	877,698.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	8,929,246.00



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