



**THE HAVEN**  
OF TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY  
Safety and rest for those in need

# THE HAVEN

of Transylvania County

## 2023 Annual Report



# Our Mission

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We provide respite for those who have suddenly or unexpectedly fallen into homelessness or those who may be chronically homeless. The Haven is a safe, secure place where people can be helped to get back onto their feet.



The Haven shall assist families and individuals in crisis in Transylvania County by providing safe temporary refuge in a clean, comfortable shelter.

# Our Shelters

The Haven operates two shelters. The Haven Thomas House and the Haven Family House. The Haven Thomas House is an 18-bed shelter to temporarily house homeless men and women. It provides a respite for those who have been suddenly and unexpectedly fallen into homelessness or have been chronically homeless for a long time.

It is a safe, secure place where they can be helped to get back onto their feet. The open floor plan makes it possible for staff to monitor activity throughout the day to ensure the safety of the guests.

The Haven Family House is a four-bedroom house to provide a safe, secure home for families that are in crisis. Each family is provided a room of their own with a capacity of 16 people total or 4 families. Each bedroom connects to a shared half bath with a community full-sized kitchen, showers, living space, dining area, basketball pad, pavilion, and a playground for the children. The common areas (kitchen, living and dining) are monitored throughout the day to ensure the safety of the guests.



# Our Program

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The shelters provide a warm and inviting atmosphere, where the guests are treated with dignity and genuine caring. Staff helps our guests figure out how they got here and what steps they need to take to move on to stable, affordable housing.

- A case manager is on staff and refers guests to community agencies that provide housing, employment, daycare, family support, medical and dental issues, education, eyeglasses, health insurance/Medicaid, and food assistance. Guests are expected to complete goal plans and move forward to bettering their life. (financial?)
- A mental health counselor is also on staff and provides needed counseling, guidance, group activities, and therapy to assist guests to get through their past, deal with communal living challenges, or whatever life may bring.



The Haven Thomas House and Haven Family House are located behind The Bread of Life, which allows both food and shelter needs to be met in one place. This location is also adjacent to the Sharing House, where clothing and other food sources are available. Department of Social Services and Meridian Behavioral Health are also close on the map to this locale. The Haven collaborates with community agencies devoted to helping people in need.

The Haven Thomas House and Haven Family House provides structure. Guests of the Haven Thomas House leave in the morning Monday—Saturday at 8:00 AM and can return at 4 PM but are required to be in by 7 PM. During the day, guests are expected to complete goals as set per individual. The Haven Family House is set up to allow families to stay in all day and are also required to complete goals as set per individual family.

# 2023 Shelter Statistics

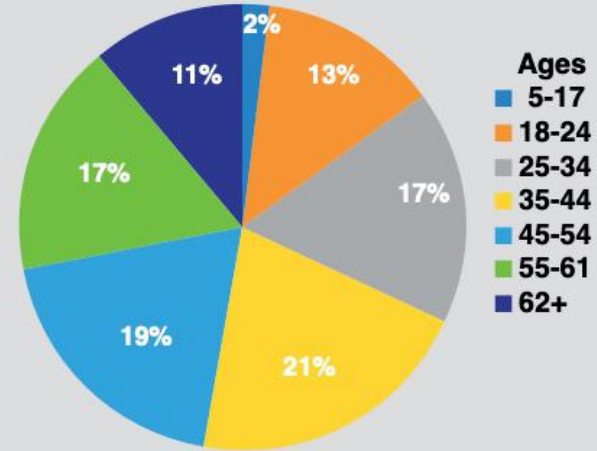
The Haven served 119 people experiencing homelessness. Including 35 children, 24 families, 2 veterans.

Our Thomas House serves up to 18 adults.

Our Family House serves up to 4 families or 16 people.

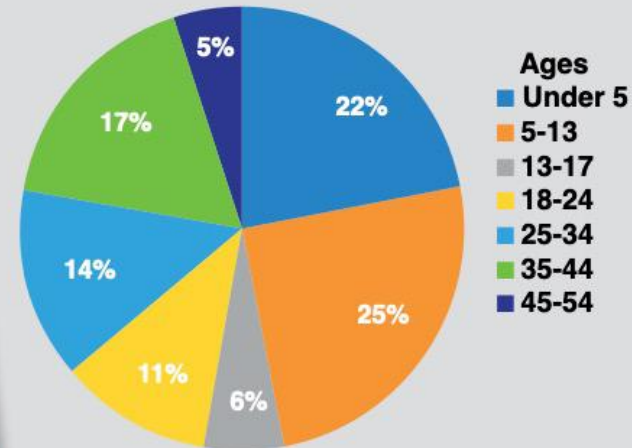


## Thomas House – 54 People Served



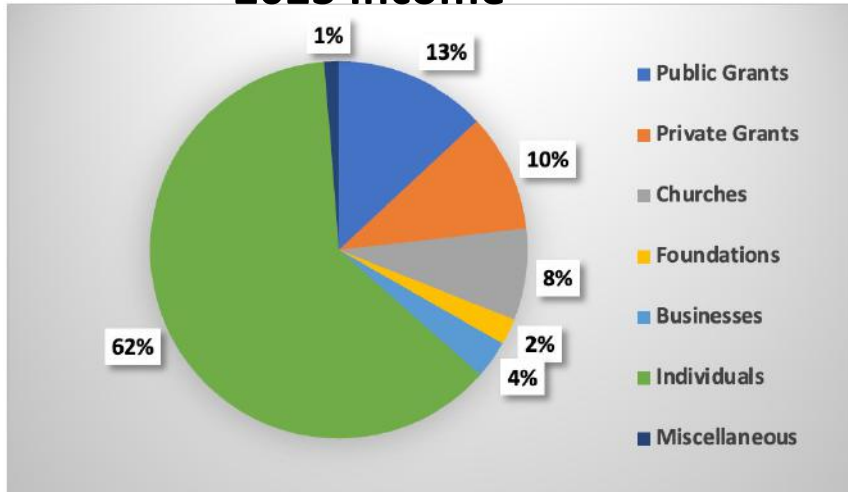
\*\*Data includes 2 veterans

## Family House – 65 People Served



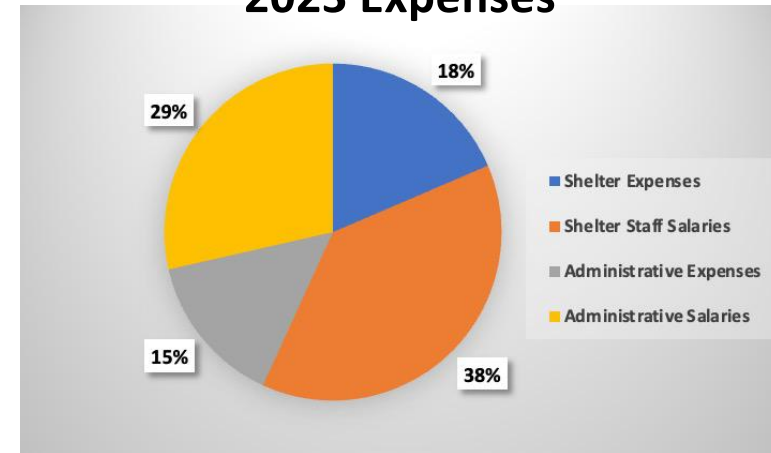
# Our Operating Results

## 2023 Income



Public Grants	58,276	13.1%
Private Grants	45,275	10.1%
Churches	34,975	7.8%
Foundations	10,000	2.2%
Businesses	14,525	3.3%
Individuals	277,855	62.2%
Miscellaneous	5,513	1.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$446,419</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## 2023 Expenses



Shelter Expenses	68,662	18.6%
Shelter Staff Salaries	141,630	38.3%
Administrative Expenses	54,100	14.6%
Administrative Salaries	105,701	28.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$370,094</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Operating Results:

In 2023 we were able to fulfill the basic needs of our residents *while maintaining our six-month operating reserve.*

# Our Staff and Board

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## Our Executive Staff:

**Emily Lowery, Executive Director.** Emily projects the calm assurance of someone who has dealt with greater adversity than today is likely to bring. She speaks reflectively about the path that brought her through a period of darkness that included homelessness to a successful career, an invitation to join The Haven Board, and now a calling to serve on its staff. She joined our staff in January 2012. Starting in administration and making her way up to the role of Executive Director, “has been humbling”, she states.

**Teresa Adkins, Assistant Director.** Teresa joined our team at The Haven in early Summer of 2019 as Administrative Assistant and has worked her way to Assistant Director. With Teresa’s business background and experience she has from serving those experiencing homelessness in San Diego, she has a great heart for people.

**Sasha Diaz, Case Manager.** Sasha joined our staff in the Spring of 2019. A native Floridian and the daughter of Cuban immigrants, Sasha holds a B.A. in Psychology from The University of South Florida, and a Masters in Education with a specialization in Guidance and Counseling from American Military University. After receiving her B.A., she worked in the inner cities of Tampa, Clearwater, and St. Petersburg Florida. She completed her Master’s internship in the rural area of Ellijay Georgia, Now with the Haven, she works with clients to help them meet and obtain their goals to maximize their success and reach self sufficiency as they transition from The Haven back into the community.

**Melissa Pearl, Mental Health Counselor.**

**Shelter Assistants.** The Haven employs up to five Shelter Assistants that monitor the shelters, oversee daily activities and supplies, security, provide support and care for our guests. We are fortunate that over 50% of our staff have lived experience of homelessness. This not only provides a perspective that others may not have, but empathy with the people we serve.

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## Our Board

### Officers

Jay Farrell, *President*  
Richard Zollinger, *Vice President*  
Nancy Watts, *Secretary*  
Ruth Falck, *Treasurer*

### Board Members

Alan Assner  
Jill Beach  
Dick Benson  
Susan Brorein  
Desmond Duncker  
Tyree Griffin  
Elly Leidner  
Colin Pelton  
Craig Zimring



# Our Donors

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## Our Donors

The Haven has many faithful supporters and donors. Without the generosity of our community, we could not accomplish our mission. Your kindness helps us care for people that have no place to lay their head. They feel your love and compassion as you support The Haven.

We are also grateful for the organizations that help fund our day-to-day operations. In 2023, we received:

### Grants:

*Church of the Good Shepherd - Cashiers*  
*Community Foundation of Western North Carolina*  
*Lake Toxaway Charities*  
*Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd*  
*NC Department of Health and Human Services*  
*Pisgah Forest Rotary Club*  
*Sam's Club Hendersonville*  
*The Women of St. Philips*  
*Transylvania County*  
*Walmart - Pisgah Forest*

## Foundations:

*Audrey Love Charitable Foundation*

## Businesses (including The Hoedown):

*Adventure Grown Guides*  
*Brevard Clay*  
*Brevard Music Center*  
*Brevard Rotary*  
*Charlie's Tire*  
*Chef Scott Adair*  
*College Walk*  
*Comporium*  
*DD Bullwinkel's*  
*Delle Elaine Photography*  
*Doogie's Corporation (Dugan's Pub)*  
*Hampton Inn*  
*McNeely's*  
*New Leaf Gardens*  
*Now and Zen*  
*O.P. Taylor's*  
*Rob Travis/Blue Moon Gallery*  
*Sandra Purcell & Associates*  
*Sunrise Café*  
*The Falls Landing*  
*Tore's Home*  
*TVS*

# Our Donors

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## Churches:

*Bethany Baptist Church  
Bethel A Baptist Church  
Brevard Wesleyan Church  
Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church  
Calvary Baptist Church  
Carr's Hill Baptist Church  
Cornerstone Community Church  
Cornerstone Presbyterian Church  
Destiny Church  
First United Methodist Church  
Grace Brevard  
In the Bible Mission  
Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church  
Little River Baptist Church  
Lutheran Church Of The Good Shepherd  
Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
Selica United Methodist Church  
St. Philips Episcopal Church  
St. Timothy United Methodist Church  
Unitarian Universalists of Transylvania County*

## Individuals:

*We want to especially thank our Individuals, who provide the vast majority of the support we receive.*

*We had 566 individual donors, and we have gratitude for each and every one of you.*

*We have chosen not to list your names as our current policy is to not disclose individual donor information.*

*But we could not do this without you. Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.*

# Expansion Project

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We broke ground in April of 2023, and are hoping to complete the project in the Spring of 2024.

We are adding 661 square feet to our current small office space and will include three private offices for employees and guest consultations, a sorely needed staff restroom with a shower, an indoor waiting area, a more secure reception area, a common area including a meeting room for group counseling and staff development, and improved parking.

April 20th, 2023



The Haven's staff, board members and friends gather to celebrate breaking ground on its new expansion project last week. Front from left are Elly Leidner, Emily Lowery, Frank Patton, Donna Patton, Mayor Maureen Copelof, Teresa Adkins and Nancy Watts. In the back from left are Tyree Griffin, Jay Farrell, Jill Beach and Richard Zollinger.

All these spaces were designed for potential future use as additional bedroom space and common areas for the Family House.