

A Bold Impact, A Bright Future

2022
Community
Impact Report

m matt talbot
kitchen & outreach

Looking Boldly to the Future

Dear friends,

You may have heard that I will be retiring later this summer. The news is bittersweet. I love Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach, our team of staff, volunteers, and guests. It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve this organization dedicated to alleviating hunger, overcoming homelessness, addressing addiction, and providing outreach and advocacy. Matt Talbot is a place of welcome and refuge for everyone! Black, white, gay, straight, young, old, rich, poor, and everyone in between, is welcome as our guests, our friends, and our supporters.

When I took the role of Executive Director 25 years ago, our founders told me a few things they hoped would remain the same. They wanted us to welcome the stranger and be a vessel of hospitality. I believe that has been honored. As a professional social worker, I wasn't content. I hoped we could impart skills, instill hope, provide education, and advocate for a disenfranchised population, who many had given up on. I believe we have accomplished that.

Why now? Well, 25 years is a long time. Our team is strong and so compassionate. We are a healthy nonprofit with robust and growing programs. And we are finally finishing our dream facility after having to relocate over 13 years ago! This report is a highlight of another amazing year of service. While I wouldn't trade anything for my time leading one of the best organizations around, I'll admit to wondering what's next for me. A new leader brings on a new vision, new ideas, and new energy. The board is working with Zelle HR and I am confident our next leader will be able to carry on and help Matt Talbot to be even stronger. They hope to have someone in place by August 1st. My last day at the helm is August 23rd, my 60th birthday!

I plan on staying involved in the community but will take a journey to India and visit the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta before I commit to something new. I still have my voice and there is still work to be done around affordable housing and protection for the chronically homeless who face severe and persistent mental illness. My last project, aside from helping with the transition, is to create a wildflower memorial garden on the grounds. As we finish up this expansion project there is space to create a special memorial where guests can find peace and comfort. I can't wait to see it accomplished!

In closing, thank you for the many ways you have helped me on this journey. There are so many people, organizations, foundations, faith communities, family members, and friends who have joined in this effort. The beauty is that it will continue. Please always keep the mission of Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach in your good thoughts and intentions. Please be generous when you can, the work continues and the needs are great.

With bold hope and humility,



Susanne Blue

Susanne Blue, MSW, CSW
Executive Director

Celebrating Success

19,753

OUTREACH SERVICES

(37% increase from 2021)

This includes basic and emergency needs such as laundry and shower services, message/mail/phone services, life skills & tenant education classes, and assistance obtaining vital identification documents.

157

PEOPLE ASSISTED THROUGH HOUSING PROGRAMS

Individuals and families were assisted through permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and the Landlord Liaison Project.

17,497

CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Housing clients receive intensive and ongoing case management from professional staff. Homeless Diversion clients receive short-term case management, mediation, conflict resolution, and limited financial assistance to prevent homelessness.

179,932

HUNGER RELIEF

Hunger relief is provided through nutritious onsite prepared meals, emergency food pantries, and the distribution of high-quality donated food.

8,352

SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES

2,774

UNDUPLICATED CLIENTS

(20% increase from 2021)

80,367

ONSITE PREPARED MEALS

(35% increase from 2021)

24,562

VOLUNTEER HOURS

(45% increase from 2021)

2022

Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Alynn Sampson, President

Vice President of Operations & Impact, Food Bank of Lincoln

Greg Frayser, President Elect

Chief Operating Officer, WRK LLC

Kiley Wiechman, Treasurer

Accountant, HBE Becker Meyer Love LLP

Natasha Plooster, Immediate Past President

COO, Bridgepoint Investment Banking

DIRECTORS

Rick Costello

Strategic Customers, SAP America

Brad Crain

CPA, Union Bank & Trust

Eric Crawford

Advancement Director,
St. Patrick's Catholic Church

Reina Day

Realtor, RE/MAX Concepts

Karen Flaxman

Retired Human Resources Director

Juan Carlos Huertas

Minister of Proclamation and Practice of Justice,
First Plymouth Congregational Church

Tim McEwen, CFP

RBC Wealth Management

Ameeta Martin, MD, Pediatric Cardiologist

Associate Professor, Pediatric Cardiology,
UNMC & Children's Hospital

Josh Midgett

President, Integrated Life Choices

Andrew Wolf

Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

Special thanks to retiring board members **Dr. Ameeta Martin and Josh Midgett** and a warm welcome to new board members **Teresa Ewins and Amanda Ostergard** who joined us in 2023.

Relieving Hunger

Everyone is welcome to walk through our open doors and, without judgment, get a nutritious prepared meal two times a day, every day. In addition to onsite meals, food pantries and high-quality donated food are also distributed. Staff are available in the dining room during meal times to provide outreach and assistance to guests. **Thanks to compassionate and committed volunteers, the hunger relief program is ongoing, strong, and an important source of nutrition, resources, and social connection for individuals and families in Lincoln experiencing poverty and homelessness.**



Matt Talbot plants and maintains a vegetable and herb garden on the grounds with the help of guests and volunteers.



Matt Talbot has a history of being proactive and innovative in making nutrition a priority. Volunteer hunger relief teams are offered nutrition education and encouraged to include low-fat protein, fresh or frozen fruits and vegetables, low-sodium foods, and whole grains in their menus.



In addition to providing, preparing, and serving the majority of the meals, volunteers help with scanning meal cards, greeting guests, answering phones, and helping with laundry and shower services.

Providing Outreach

Matt Talbot is much more than food. Matt Talbot works to **connect people to resources that take care of the whole person** – providing beyond basic needs to embolden people to have hope.



While here for a meal or refuge from the outside elements, guests can access a variety of services such as help acquiring vital identification documents, message and mail services, shower and laundry services, and assistance with everyday needs such as hygiene products, blankets, and seasonal items like gloves, sunscreen, and bug spray.

Tip is pictured here with Leanne Pelser, Director of Housing and Outreach. Tip came to Matt Talbot for meals from time to time and appreciated “the community as much as the food.” After a divorce and heart surgery, Tip was left with very few financial resources. Eating at Matt Talbot helped him get back on his feet while he worked a part-time job. He was also able to get new shoes for his heart rehabilitation program through the foot clinic.



Outreach Program Coordinator Glenn Schawang conducts street outreach to build trust with unsheltered individuals living outside in campsites, on the street, or in their vehicles by offering food, water, personal care items, and other basic supplies.

Defeating Homelessness & Addressing Addiction

Our programs use evidence-based best practices for securing safe and stable housing for the homeless. Programs include rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, and the Landlord Liaison Project which builds partnerships with landlords to facilitate locating stable and safe housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

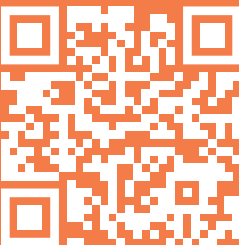
The Transitions + CARE Program (Counseling, Advocacy, Referral, Evaluation/Education) provides substance use evaluations, counseling, outreach, and education to the homeless at no cost. These services, combined with transitional housing, give clients the opportunity to address housing, treatment, and long-term recovery needs.



Stacy and her sweet pup Misty are in our rapid rehousing program. Stacy became homeless after her husband of 48 years died and medical bills forced her to sell the RV they were living (and traveling) in during retirement. It was difficult for Stacy to ask for help, but once she did we were able to find her an apartment in a senior living complex. Stacy can afford the rent and she and Misty feel very safe there. When reflecting on her difficult journey, Stacy stated: "Giving up isn't an option. You have to keep walking forward".

Matt Talbot's "Bold Hope Expands" facility expansion will strengthen our housing and outreach efforts by building a north addition to the existing facility and a 3-stall garage to store the agency van and household items for clients like Stacy.

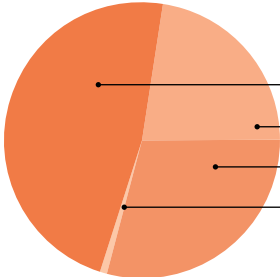
Scan the QR code with the camera app on your phone to learn more.



Stewardship

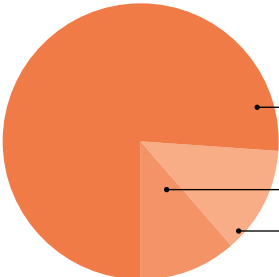
Special thanks to Dana F. Cole and CO. LLP for audit preparation and their ongoing support of Matt Talbot.

A copy of our audited financial statement is available at mtko.org/about/financialinformation



Revenues & Other Support

Donations	\$1,728,370
Grant Revenue	\$812,057
Special Events	\$1,054,609
Investment & Miscellaneous Income	\$25,856
Total Revenues & Other Support	\$ 3,620,892



Expenses

Program Expenses	
Hunger Relief & Outreach	\$2,250,532
Support Services	
Management & General	\$366,770
Fundraising	\$335,156
Total Expenses	\$2,952,458



Matt Talbot was selected as a winner of the 2023 BBB Torch Award for Ethics due to our commitment to integrity and ethical business practices.

Gratitude

We appreciate your partnership in helping individuals and families struggling with homelessness and poverty find hope and a path to a better life.

THANK YOU!





VISION:

Defeat hunger
and homelessness.
Restore hope!

MISSION:

To serve the needs
of Lincoln's working
poor and homeless
by relieving hunger,
overcoming
homelessness,
addressing
addiction, and
providing outreach
and advocacy.

CORE VALUES:

Integrity, Dignity,
Empowerment,
Compassion, Inclusion,
and Diversity.



matt talbot
kitchen & outreach

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Find information on volunteering, getting help, classes, and
news at mtko.org. To continue watching our story unfold, please
follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.