

Annual Report



Lutheran Social Services of Northern California

JULY 1, 2023- JUNE 30, 2024

Transforming Lives with Compassionate Service: A Year of Impact at LSS of Northern California



Dear Friends and Supporters,

At Lutheran Social Services of Northern California (LSSNC), we transform lives through compassionate service. For 58 years, we have stood alongside our neighbors facing life's most challenging circumstances, offering not only assistance but pathways to lasting change.

This year, with your steadfast support, we have:

- Created pathways home through affordable and permanent supportive housing for individuals and families transitioning from homelessness
- Empowered the next generation through specialized programs for foster youth and young adults navigating their journey toward independence
- Protected our most vulnerable by providing critical services that allow low-income seniors and people with disabilities to maintain stable housing with dignity
- Built financial foundations through coaching and employment services that equip community members with tools for lasting self-sufficiency.

Your partnership makes transformations like these possible:

- A young person who aged out of foster care at 18 with no support system has, through our Youth Services Program, maintained stable housing, earned an associate's degree, and recently started a full-time position with benefits.
- After more than a decade of homelessness, a woman in our STOP Plus Program relearned essential life skills and this month moved into her own apartment—marking a profound journey from chronic homelessness to housing independence.
- A family that fled domestic and gang violence found refuge at La Fenix with their four children, including one with severe autism. Initially struggling with depression and anxiety, the mother received our support with referrals for mental health services and special needs parenting resources. After two years of stable housing, she gained confidence, began volunteering, and accessed additional services independently. This year, the family successfully transitioned to independent living, and their oldest son will begin his studies at a California State University this fall.

As we look to the future, we remain committed to addressing the root causes of homelessness and poverty while providing immediate relief to those in crisis. With profound gratitude for your continued partnership in this vital work,

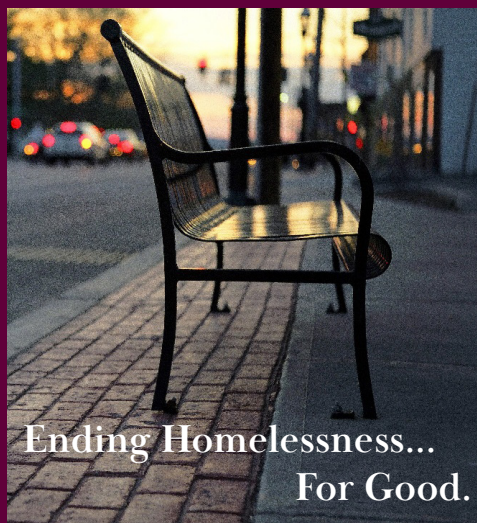
Table of Contents

Impact in Numbers & Introducing 2-3
Development Director

Compassion and Contribution: The 4
Beetz Family's Legacy

With Gratitude: Celebrating Our 5-7
Donors

Partners for Good 8



Ending Homelessness...
For Good.

Carol Roberts, Ph.D. - CEO



- 91% percent of participants in money management programs in San Francisco successfully maintained stable housing, attributed to effective financial management strategies.



- 59% of youth enrolled in our vocational program gained employment and 51% were in apprentice, vocational or work experience programs.



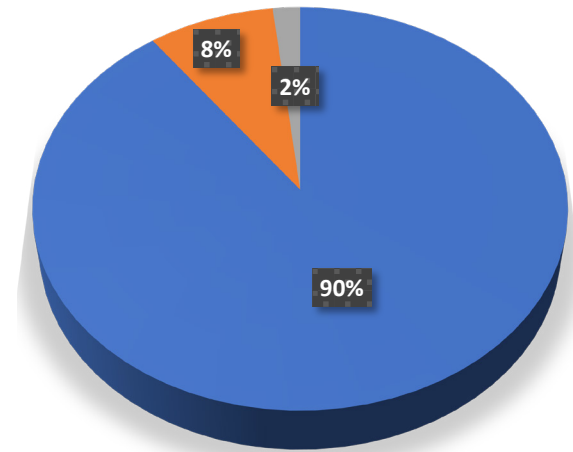
- 96% percent of the 300 youth in our Prevention and Intervention program remain successfully housed.



- 97% percent of new enrollees in San Francisco housing programs remained housed at the end of the year.

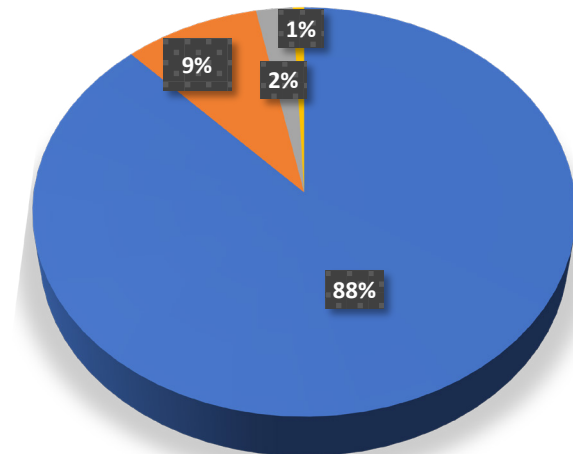
Fiscal Year '24 Total Expenses \$ 18,815,612

■ Program Services
■ Administration
■ Fundraising



Fiscal Year '24 Total Revenue \$19,225,290

■ Contracts
■ Fundraising
■ In-Kind
■ Rent Income



Introducing, Julie Clemens: A MESSENGER FOR COMPASSION AND ACTION AT LSS

We are delighted to welcome Julie Clemens in the role of Development Director to the LSS of Northern California team. Julie brings a unique perspective to her work that aligns perfectly with our mission of empowering individuals and families.

THE MESSAGE MATTERS MOST

At the heart of Julie's approach to philanthropy is a profound understanding that the message is more important than the messenger. "When we channel messages of compassion and selflessness into action, our work transcends personal considerations," Julie shares. "The mission becomes the focus, not the individual behind it."

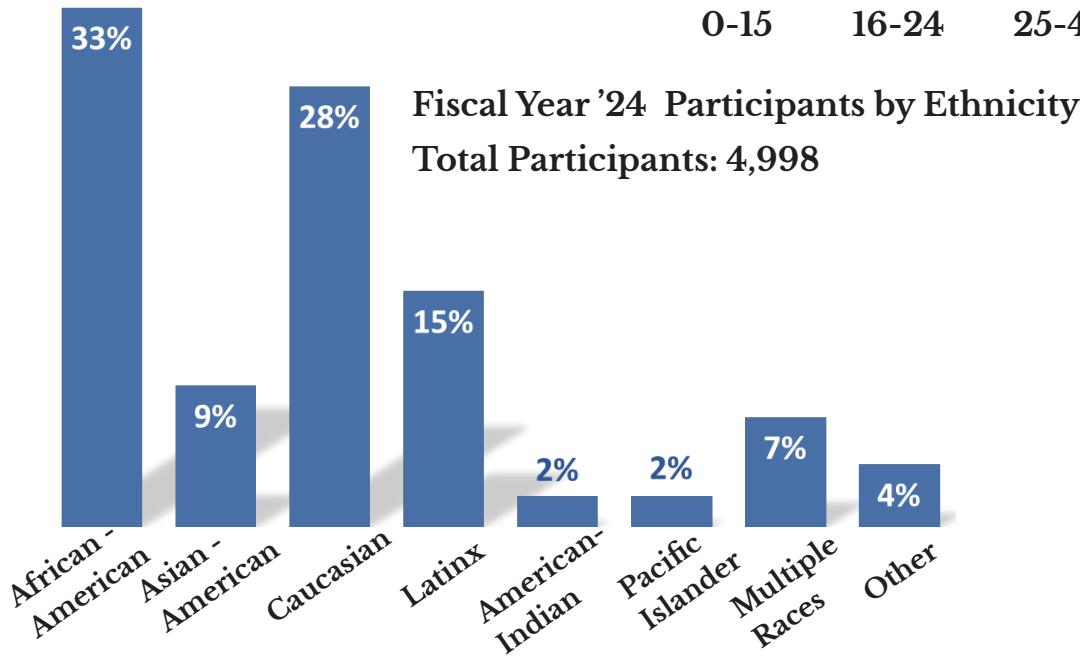
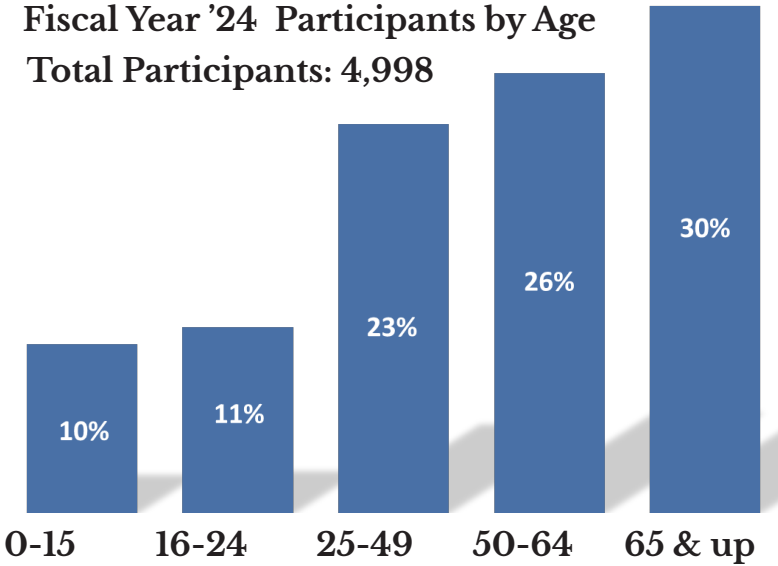
This perspective has guided Julie's journey through various organizations addressing education, housing, and social services. Most recently, she helped a housing support organization expand its reach from two to five counties, connecting community needs with resources that transform lives.

A LIFELONG CONNECTION

Julie's relationship with philanthropic work began in childhood, collecting donations for UNICEF while



Fiscal Year '24 Participants by Age
Total Participants: 4,998



trick-or-treating and has evolved throughout her life. “The act of connecting people to causes that matter has always felt like important work,” she notes. Her experiences with family members affected by housing instability following natural disasters have deepened her understanding of the vital services organizations like LSS provide.

FROM ARTS TO ADVOCACY

With degrees in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy, Julie initially moved to San Francisco to pursue a career as an opera singer. The skills of translating musical compositions into living art prepared her, unexpectedly, for translating community needs into philanthropic action.

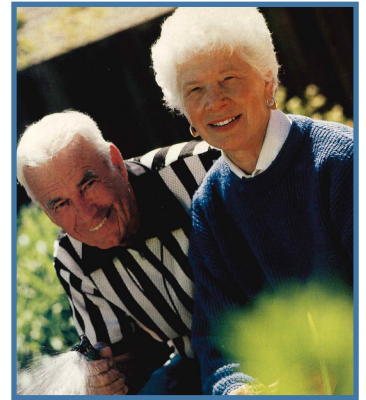
“In both my former life as a performer and now in philanthropy, I’ve found meaning in being a conduit for something greater than myself,” Julie explains. “Whether it’s a composer’s masterpiece or a community’s pressing needs, my role is to ensure the message reaches those who need to hear it to take action.”



Please join us in welcoming Julie to the LSS family.

A Lasting Legacy: The Beetz Family Story

Bob and Doris Beetz never considered themselves remarkable. Bob, who was a schoolteacher, coach, and referee, and Doris, who owned a Church Supply Store, worked hard in their respective careers, lived within their means, and quietly helped others whenever they could. Their long affiliation with the Lutheran church and ministries reflects their deep commitment to others, and their connection to LSS continues through their son Brion, who serves on the LSS Board of Directors. Like most of us, they weren't wealthy philanthropists or famous charity founders - just regular people who cared deeply about their community and found a way to extend those values beyond their lifetime through planned giving.



Legacy gifts are simply donations that you arrange now to be given later, usually after your lifetime. They come in several straightforward forms: a gift in your will or naming an organization as a beneficiary of a retirement account or life insurance policy. You don't need to be wealthy to leave a legacy gift - you just need to care about making a difference for future generations. Planning a legacy gift offers many benefits. It allows you to extend your impact far beyond your lifetime, supporting causes you care about for years to come. It's a powerful expression of your values, showing your family and community what matters most to you. There may also be tax advantages for your estate and heirs, though making a difference is often the primary motivation.

The Beetzes chose to leave a legacy gift because they wanted to keep doing the right thing – even beyond their lifetimes. Though they lived modestly, their planned gifts have made an extraordinary difference in countless lives and serve as a testament to how ordinary people can create extraordinary change through thoughtful planning.

If you're interested in creating your own legacy of compassion and support, the process is simpler than you might think. Start by reflecting on the causes that matter most to you, talk with your family about your intentions, and consult with financial or legal professionals about the best approach for your situation. To learn more about planned giving options, visit our website: <https://www.lssnorcal.org/get-involved/give/planned-giving.html>. There are new tools available (at no cost) to help you plan your estate.











How will your
Legacy of Caring
Continue?




We are deeply grateful for your unwavering support and generosity. It is because of you: our donors, volunteers, partners, and friends that we are able to continue our vital work of serving those in need. Your contributions empower us to create lasting change, offer hope, and provide essential services to individuals and families facing life's greatest challenges. Thank you for being an essential part of our mission and for helping us serve all, with compassion and care.

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While we have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information in this Fiscal Year '24 Annual Report, inadvertent errors or omissions may still occur. We sincerely apologize for any inaccuracies and appreciate your understanding. Should you identify an error or have any questions regarding the contents of this report, please do not hesitate to contact us. development@lssnorcal.org



Ending Homelessness. For Good.

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Become a **Partner for Good** by making a monthly donation to LSS, helping support vulnerable individuals and work towards ending homelessness. Contributions of \$20, \$30, or any amount can make a difference. Join today and receive an insulated mug or all-purpose bag as a thank you.



Running or not, Car Donation Services, Inc. will sell your vehicle to directly benefit LSS.



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