

*strong coffee, mighty prayers*

# 2024 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

*JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024*





*a letter from our*

# **BOARD CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dear Friends of The Lamb Center,

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and partnership this past fiscal year (FY). Your support is vital as we work together to fulfill our mission to live out the compassionate heart of Christ by serving our neighbors experiencing homelessness.

We offer a place of community where those who are often ignored can feel seen, heard, and known through conversation, Bible study, daily services, and case management. And as the number of people experiencing homelessness has grown, so has the need for our love and services. With your help, The Lamb Center served 1,932 individuals throughout the year, a 6% increase over FY 23.

The Lamb Center continues its work to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness. In spring of 2025, we will break ground on Beacon Landing, creating 54 homes – or lifeboats as we think of them – for our unsheltered neighbors. Please look for more exciting updates in the coming months. The Workforce Development Program, which helps our guests gain employable skills, expanded this year with an innovative partnership with Fairfax County that repurposes latex paint for use in developing countries. Our case managers continue to help guests obtain housing and needed identification to move closer to self-sufficiency.

“I have called you by name. You are mine.” This verse from Isaiah 43:1 applies to our guests, our staff, our volunteers, and our donors. God knows each of us by name and calls each of us in unique and personal ways. Together, we are love in action.

Your generous partnership, time, and talents are invaluable as we seek to restore the dignity, hope, and future of our guests.

With gratitude,

Lesley Hatch  
TLC Board Chair

Tara Ruszkowski  
Executive Director

## about OUR SERVICES

The Lamb Center (TLC) is a daytime resource center for individuals experiencing homelessness in the Fairfax area. Since opening our doors in 1992, The Lamb Center has welcomed and served thousands of guests. Our aim is to restore security and dignity through a variety of services and resources:

- Breakfast and lunch
- Showers
- Laundry service
- Case management
- Bible studies
- Mail services
- Housing and job counseling
- Workforce Development Program
- Support groups
- Nurse practitioner clinic
- Dental clinic



Being homeless and having to work through a pile of housing paperwork was nearly impossible until I got help from my case manager. I didn't have a computer and didn't know where to start. A lot had to be done on the computer and once submitted, my case manager was able to follow up on my behalf.

I wouldn't have housing if it wasn't for the help of my case manager.

- Charles A. Hanshaw Jr., former TLC guest

## FY 24 COMMUNITY IMPACT AT A GLANCE



**34,938**

Guest Visits



**59,909**

Meals Served



**295**

Active Volunteers



**1,932**

Unique Guests Served



**8,253**

Loads of Laundry



**16,665**

Volunteer Hours



**128**

Received Healthcare



**9,636**

Showers Taken

housing a hero

# CASE MANAGEMENT

Sam\* came to The Lamb Center looking for help with multiple issues, including housing, substance abuse, and employment. A Veteran of the US Army, where he served as a combat medic and then in IT, he became homeless when the apartment he was living in was overrun with mice.

He was sleeping on friends' couches and in the woods when he came to TLC. His drinking had become excessive as he journeyed deeper into homelessness, and he was eager to get back on his feet.



Photo: Ashley Smith, Senior Housing Case Manager

***"Sam impressed me immediately with his personable, caring nature. He knew he was stuck and came to us with the goal of returning to work in the IT repair field," shares Senior Case Manager Ashley Smith.***

Almost immediately, Sam got involved with TLC's Workforce Development Program, where he got back into the habit of going to work daily. A hard worker, he served as a mentor and confidante to many of the younger crew members.

Life started to fall back into place. Together with his case manager, he found a safe, sanitary apartment affordable with his housing voucher. He was connected to resources to purchase the tools and clothing he needed to work in IT repair and found employment. And, as life settled back into a stable routine, his drinking issues dissipated.

Sam comes back to visit on occasion, lighting up the room with his stories, and allowing us to congratulate him on his continued success.

*\*Not his real name.*



**399**

Engaged in Case  
Management



**48**

Transitioned Into  
Housing

zero waste

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

In early June 2024, The Lamb Center was selected by Fairfax County to pilot Zero Waste, a new Workforce Development Program. An expansion of Operation Stream Shield, Zero Waste tasks Lamb Center workers with repurposing latex paint at the I-66 Transfer Station. Three days a week, a crew of five guests and their supervisor, Sebastian Porté, a former Lamb Center guest, recycle gallons upon gallons of paint for use overseas.

**What exactly are the guests doing?** Guests are sorting used, discarded latex paint and repurposing usable paint for use by Pangea, another non-profit organization, for community projects in developing countries. Guests' work will reduce waste in the County's landfills while providing needed paint to organizations around the world.



Photo: The Zero Waste program guests recycling latex paint

The guests have a true sense of pride knowing their work is helping communities both near and far. The Zero Waste Program, under the supervision of Workforce Development Manager Christina Stump, has thrived in making an impact on reducing our waste while creating job opportunities here in Fairfax.



*When they [the guests] get to come here and be a part of this program, they are just like you and me - they get to joke, laugh and work together. They form these familial bonds, and that's what we are here. We are just one big family that looks out for each other.*

- Christina Stump, Workforce Development Manager



66

Participated  
in Workforce  
Development



30

Transitioned  
to Regular  
Employment





serving together

# PARTNER IMPACT

In FY 24, a vast network of partners – individuals, families, community groups, businesses, and especially churches – united to serve our neighbors experiencing homelessness in countless meaningful ways. Their consistent supply drives kept our pantry and clothing closet plentiful. Their contributions – financial, in-kind, volunteer, and in prayer – brought hope to hundreds of guests.

Each Thursday morning, our guests were blessed to experience Chapel Service led by visiting clergy. Volunteers from many of our partners led Bible Study, answered phones at our front desk, cooked, delivered or served meals, laundered clothes, sorted donations, and so much more!



Photo: Centreville Presbyterian TLC supply drive drop-off

A special thank you to our top faith partner financial contributors of 2024:

- Burke Community Church
- Vienna Presbyterian Church
- McLean Presbyterian Church
- Truro Anglican Church
- St. Mark Catholic Church\*
- St. Mary of Sorrows
- The Falls Church Anglican
- St. Stephen's United Methodist Church
- Emmanuel Lutheran Church
- Word Of Grace Christian Church
- Shepherd's Heart Anglican Church
- Grace Christian Reformed Church

\* Gift received just after FY 24



Photo: Pastor Howard leading Chapel Service



264

Meals Delivered  
by Faith Partners

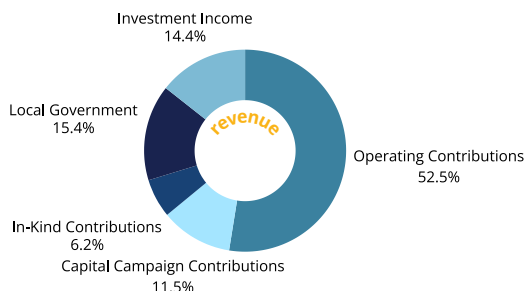


52

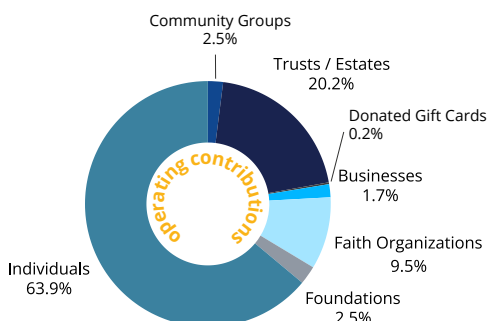
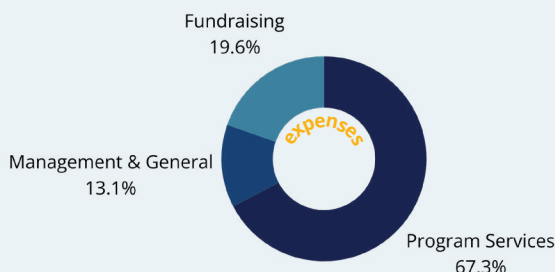
Guest Clergy Sermons

fiscal year 2024

# FINANCIAL STATISTICS



†Capital Campaign contributions are reserved to support the initiatives of the Welcome Home Campaign, including Beacon Landing, the addition of on-site clinical mental health services, and the expansion of the Workforce Development Program.



59

Faith Communities  
supported TLC financially

## revenue

TOTAL: \$3,824,639

Operating Contributions:  
\$2,009,374

†Capital Campaign  
Contributions: \$440,000

In-Kind Contributions:  
\$238,304

Local Government:  
\$587,299

Investment Income:  
\$549,662

## expenses

TOTAL: \$2,453,961

Program Services:  
\$1,651,531

Management & General:  
\$320,779

Fundraising: \$481,651

## operating contributions

TOTAL: \$2,009,374

Donated Gift Cards: \$4,825

Businesses: \$34,420

Faith Organizations:  
\$190,774

Foundations: \$49,262

Individuals: \$1,284,433

Community Groups:  
\$40,041

Trusts / Estates: \$405,619

## Did you know?

Our program services are enhanced by significant volunteer support. In FY 24, 295 volunteers contributed over 16,660 hours of service!

*areas of focus for FY 25*

# LOOKING AHEAD

We eagerly anticipate making significant progress on three strategic goals in FY 25: breaking ground on Beacon Landing, adding on-site, low barrier clinical mental health services, and expanding the Workforce Development Program.

After years of planning and fundraising, we look forward to breaking ground on Beacon Landing in spring of 2025, in partnership with Wesley Housing. This project will provide 54 units of permanent supportive housing to people with disabilities who are exiting chronic homelessness. Occupancy is anticipated in the summer of 2026.



Photo: Beacon Landing rendering

The community will primarily offer efficiency-style apartments, along with a community room, on-site laundry, and, on the ground floor, space for an expansion of our Workforce Development Program. On-site case managers will support residents in pursuing independent living goals such as medication management, budgeting, and accessing health care. All services will be provided by The Lamb Center, using our traditional Christ-centered approach.

Collectively these initiatives will address three of the most pressing challenges our guests face—a lack of affordable housing, untreated mental health issues, and a desire to reenter the workforce. The existing Lamb Center will remain, steadfast in our mission to care for the growing number of neighbors coming to us for assistance.

To learn more about supporting these strategic initiatives financially, including naming opportunities, please contact Development Director Wendy Baird at [wendybaird@thelambcenter.org](mailto:wendybaird@thelambcenter.org).

*it starts with you* **WAYS TO HELP**

**donate | volunteer | supply | pray**



Visit [thelambcenter.org](https://thelambcenter.org) to learn more and get involved today!