FY23 Annual Impact and Outcomes Report

JULY 1, 2022-JUNE 30, 2023 | PLUS 2023 AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS







About Howard Center

Howard Center has a long and rich history as a trusted provider in the community. With a legacy spanning 158 years, we provide progressive, compassionate and inclusive, highquality care and supports to those in need.

We offer an array of exemplary mental health, substance use, and developmental services across the lifespan. Our annual conference, numerous professional trainings, and free public education events help to improve care, inform our community, and decrease stigma.

OUR MISSION

We help people and communities thrive by providing supports and services to address mental health, substance use, and developmental needs.

OUR VISION

Howard Center is a national leader in the delivery of integrated and seamless community-based supports for individuals, families, and communities in need. Help is here.

OUR VALUES

- Clients are at the heart of our decision making.
- We are committed to individual and collective well-being and success.
- We are responsible stewards of the resources entrusted to us.
- We are steadfast in our practice and pursuit of excellence.

Thank You Board, Council, and Staff Members

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As of 6/30/2023

Meg O'Donnell
President
Kelly Deforge
Vice President
George Philibert
Treasurer
Cyndee Cochrane Sturtevant
Secretary

Heather Blackman Yves Bradlev Daniel Calder Andrew Collier Kathy Connolly Michael Couture Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux, Ph.D Jodi Girouard Kerrick Johnson John McSoley Amanda Peden Ann Pugh Thato Ratsebe Mat Robitaille Rep. Trevor Squirrell Gail Stevenson, Ph.D.

HONORARY COUNCIL

A network of supporters and friends

Mark Baglini Elizabeth Bassett Sara Byers Todd Centybear Jack Dwyer William Heaslip Karen O'Neill Ernie Pomerleau Pat Robins Lisa Schamberg Bill Schubart Katherine Schubart Michael Simoneau Whit Smith Lisa Steele Debra Stenner Marjorie Stern Peter Stern Hanneke Willenborg

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Bob Bick, MA Chief Executive Officer

Catarina Campbell, M.Ed

Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Beth Holden, MS, LCMHC, LADC Chief Client Services Officer

Matt MacNeil, Ed.D

Director of Evaluation and Outcomes

Sandy McGuire, MBA Chief Financial and Operations Officer

Simha Ravven, MD Chief Medical Officer



We thank outgoing board member **Kerrick Johnson**.

Cover photo: Howard Center staff at the 2023 Pride Vermont Parade and Festival. Artwork on pages 2 and 3: Artist: Amjed Jumaa, Howard Center Arts Collective.







January 2024

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to present our **FY23 Annual Report** highlighting some of the more than 50+ Howard Center programs woven into the





fabric of our community and helping our Vermont neighbors navigate all kinds of circumstances. Among the pages that follow, you will find client stories, informative numbers, program highlights, educational offerings, Arts Collective art, a financial overview, and more.

Howard Center has led the way regionally and nationally for our exceptional mental health, substance use, and developmental services. Over the course of a year, thousands of people are supported by our staff in a variety of ways. While there continue to be many challenges in our work, the good that happens every day and the care and support our community receives around the clock is nothing short of remarkable. This is the result of our extraordinary staff whose steadfast commitment helps people access care, and find hope, stability, and recovery throughout the year.

The close of each year offers us the opportunity to reflect not only on how we did in serving our community, but also how we can improve through our collective and shared responsibility to ensure that every person can access needed services. We would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge phasing out four programs this year due to ongoing financial pressures and workforce challenges. While our team worked to minimize impact, significant changes like these are difficult for the individuals and families served. We remain committed to collaborating with our local and state partners to solve difficult challenges including high rates of overdose and suicide, increased demand for services, workforce recruitment challenges, and perennial funding gaps.

We want to thank our board members, standing committee members, and honorary council for their volunteer efforts as ambassadors of the organization, our donors and partners for their ongoing and critical support, agency leadership and staff for their tireless work in achieving our mission, and the people we serve for entrusting their care to us.

With our gratitude,

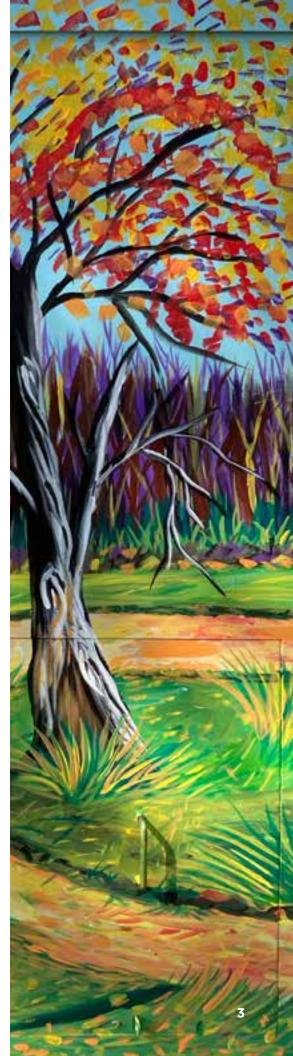


Bob Bick, CEO

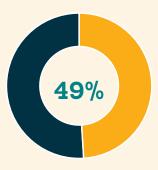
Meg H. O'Donnell, Board President

In Memorium

Our hearts are with those we lost this year.



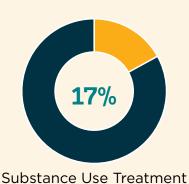
Who We Help — By Service Category Needs



Mental Health Needs



Developmental Disabilities





Our percentage of Developmental Services (DS) appears low in this illustration, but DS provided 268,125 of the total 727,496 services provided, or roughly 37% of all services.

Howard Center By The Numbers



Individuals helped in FY23	19,290
Total new clients in FY23	2,722
Howard Center locations	60+
Howard Center employees	1,600
When we provide service	24/7/365

These numbers include 10,900 clients and thousands of others who receive support and services without officially enrolling as clients.

People Helped By Service



4,447 in Outpatient Services



2,220 in Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Treatment



1,826 in School-Based Services



2,237 in Community-Based Support



4,073 in Crisis Services



933 in Residential Services



457 in Employment Programs

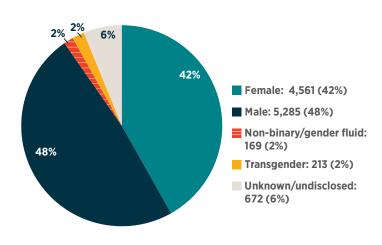
Total hours of service provided

10,573,122

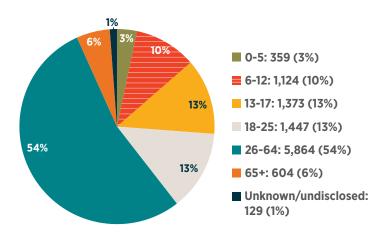
Total number of services provided

727,496

Who We Help — By Gender



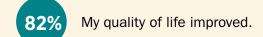
Who We Help — By Age

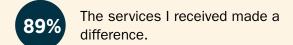


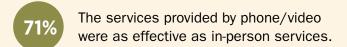
Percentage of new clients who were screened for:	FY22	FY23
• Depression	69%	70%
Substance use problems	84%	87%
Domestic violence	99%	99%
• Trauma history	93%	94%

Client satisfaction is our top priority. Here's what our clients have to say:













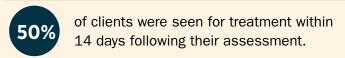
Indicators of Health and Wellness

95%	of clients were housed.

51%	of clients were rated "improved" at
	discharge from Howard Center services.

How Well We Meet Client Needs

	of clients were offered a face-to-face
75%	appointment within five days of initial
	contact.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The numbers on the previous pages tell only a part of the Howard Center narrative. Each number represents a person with their own unique story. With a mission to help people and communities thrive by supporting mental health, substance use, and developmental needs, our staff help around the clock in many settings throughout the community. Some people come to us for support for a short while and some people need support for the long-term. Our staff support people across the lifespan from the very young through the elder years. Sometimes the people we serve are comfortable sharing their stories publicly and sometimes the work is very private and personal.

The programs highlighted are some of the more than 50 programs under the Howard Center umbrella.

The client stories that follow are composites of a few of the over 19,000 people we help each year.

Long-term Supports and Services

WHO WE HELP Long-term Services and Supports serves people over 18 with persistent mental health challenges in its Community Support Program and people throughout the lifespan in Developmental Services. While not everyone stays with us for the long-term, many of the people served need around the clock care and/or may be supported throughout their life span.

HOW WE HELP Both programs provide residential and in-home supports, care coordination, employment and community support, psychiatric consultation, crisis services, peer and self-advocacy programs, and more. Developmental Services also offers post-secondary educational opportunities.

HIGHLIGHT: PEER SUPPORT Peer support networks have been growing throughout the community. Both programs have a strong network where peers with similar life experiences support one another socially and emotionally. Many find it helpful to be supported by someone who has a similar life experience. Peer support is not clinical. It is strengths-based, intended to inspire hope, and be a supportive connection that evolves depending on people's individual journeys.

Left to right: David Shenk, Cathie Buscaglia, Senator Patrick Leahy, Marcelle Leahy, and Bob Bick at the Lakeview House construction celebration.





HIGHLIGHT: LAKEVIEW HOUSE

Sixteen people who live at the Lakeview Community Care Home and are served by the Community Support Program will be moving into a beautiful newly constructed home in Shelburne in late winter. The original Lakeview began on the former grounds of the Catholic Diocese off North Avenue in 1998. When Burlington College bought the property in 2011, Howard Center partnered with Champlain Housing Trust to find a home on St. Paul Street that could accommodate the individuals living there. The new home in Shelburne will better support the people living at Lakeview House as they age on a single level with individual bedrooms and shared common and living spaces. The project was funded with support from congressionally-directed spending facilitated by Senator Patrick Leahy. Senator Leahy and Marcelle Leahy joined us along with many other community members this fall for a construction celebration at the site of the future home, expected to open in March 2024.

CHALLENGES The most significant challenge for Long-term Supports and Services is our workforce. With many 24/7 residential homes and many other staffing needs to support the nearly 1,500 people using Long-term Supports and Services, we need people to provide our services. The pandemic coupled with Vermont's small workforce has increased our staff vacancies. The services we provide are highly dependent on adequate staffing and impact the level of support we can offer to each person. Our teams are working to be flexible and creative in how we deliver services to best meet the needs of the people we serve.



Ahmed came to Vermont from Somalia with his parents and three brothers. He lives with his family in an apartment and they are settling in Vermont with support from the Association of Africans Living in Vermont (AALV) and Howard Center.

Ahmed is in counseling for support with his trauma from living in a country with war and conflict and from making the long journey to resettle in Vermont. The climate is different but Ahmed has found that he enjoys the snow as long as he bundles up. He has a developmental disability and has received community support through Developmental Services. His direct support professional has introduced him to other seasonal activities like visiting the state parks, Shelburne Farms, ECHO, and Shelburne Museum. They also go bowling together and work on learning how to use public transportation and accessing other community resources. In addition, Ahmed has a job in a local grocery store stocking shelves ten hours a week with support from his Project Hire employment advisor.

To protect client confidentiality, the descriptions included here represent a composite of clients.

Developmental Services: Clients Served

815



Elizabeth lives in subsidized housing supported by SASH (Support and Services at Home), a program that partners with Howard Center to enable elders and people with disabilities to receive the supports needed to live independently at home. Elizabeth sees Judy, a counselor from Howard Center's outpatient program. They meet in Elizabeth's apartment and talk about the recent loss of Elizabeth's husband, her loneliness, and how she is adjusting to her life that has changed significantly since her husband died. Judy helps Elizabeth access other resources, especially so that she can connect with others. Since counseling started, Elizabeth has begun taking Tai Chi twice a week and joined a monthly book group. It's a start at connecting with people and beginning the recovery process from her loss.

To protect client confidentiality, the descriptions included here represent a composite of clients.





Outpatient Services

WHO WE HELP Outpatient services provides therapeutic services for children, adolescents, adults, families, and caregivers.

HOW WE HELP By promoting wellness and recovery in all areas and in all phases of a person's life, outpatient services offers a wide range of trauma-informed supports for mental health and substance use treatment needs, including individual and group counseling, harm reduction services, medication for opioid use disorder, care coordination, psychiatric consultation, impaired driver rehabilitation, criminal justice support through treatment courts, and more. In addition to the above services available in Chittenden County, Northern Vermont Outpatient and Spoke Services offers support for mental health and substance use treatment in Franklin and Grand Isle counties.

HIGHLIGHTS Through our partnership with SASH (Support and Services At Home), we support elders and those with disabilities so they can live independently in their homes.

CHALLENGES Mental health and substance use treatment needs have increased throughout our community and Vermont has experienced a marked increase in suicide and overdose rates. The illicit drug supply includes fentanyl and xylazine and is creating significant health and treatment challenges for people using opioids. Capped funding constraints often require a wait for services and pandemic-era workforce shortages continue to challenge our programming.







Safe Recovery

WHO WE HELP People who are actively using drugs or seeking treatment with the aim of reducing drug-related harm by providing free support throughout the recovery process, including during periods of relapse.

HOW WE HELP Safe Recovery, a program within our Outpatient Services, is Vermont's oldest and only full-time syringe exchange that offers anonymous free access to harm reduction supplies, fentanyl and xylazine testing strips, HIV and hepatitis testing, care coordination, and referral to treatment at its location in downtown Burlington and through a mobile unit serving several sites in Franklin County. We also offer vaccinations and expanded testing through our community partnerships. Since 2018, we have provided an accessible low-barrier buprenorphine program that provides same day access to lifesaving medication for opioid use disorder and wrap around support services such as counseling and care coordination. Our harm reduction services team use evidence-based best practices and are rooted in social connection.

HIGHLIGHTS Howard Center staff are committed to supporting people who participate in the syringe exchange program and work to eliminate stigma every day by:

- offering mobile outreach to rural Vermont communities
- providing a bridge to substance use treatment
- incentivizing the return of syringes to help eliminate needle litter
- participating in research at the University of Vermont to inform future treatment needs

CHALLENGES Safe Recovery's work can be rewarding and also challenging due to several factors including work force recruitment and retention, the everchanging illicit drug supply now including xylazine, which creates additional health concerns often requiring wound care, and social stigma toward drug users.



Joey has been accessing the syringe exchange a few times a week for the last year for safe supplies and regular testing. He has developed a relationship with a care coordinator and talks with them about wanting to enter recovery. Joey is 29 and has been using alcohol and drugs since he was a teenager. He has been housed through Vermont's motel program and is anxious about what will be available in the spring when the program is scheduled to close. He has intermittently held jobs, mostly in restaurant kitchens. Several of Joey's friends have died from overdose and he talks openly about his fear that this could happen to him. Joey's care coordinator is working with him on accessing healthcare, other supportive community resources, and hopes that he will soon enter Safe Recovery's low-barrier buprenorphine program.

To protect client confidentiality, the descriptions included here represent a composite of clients.





Meet Sarah, a 28-year-old living in downtown Burlington, who has been using fentanyl for the past two years, and more recently has been exposed to xylazine. Recently, she overdosed and was taken to the University of Vermont Emergency Department. While there, she learned about Chittenden Clinic and decided to try treatment. Given that it was a Sunday, she would not be able to start treatment until Monday; however, Emergency Department staff now have the authority to begin medication treatment onsite and then transfer care to the clinic to reduce barriers to care. This partnership allows for immediate intervention and stabilization, promotes treatment engagement, and reduces the risk of ongoing illicit substance use. On Monday Sarah met with staff to complete her treatment intake. The staff took the time to understand the psychosocial stressors impacting Sarah. She didn't have a car or stable housing, and often arrived tired and cold from nights spent outdoors, so they connected her with essential resources like housing assistance and food banks by helping her make calls and fill out paperwork. Sarah's story highlights the interconnected challenges of opioid use disorder, the critical role of treatment programs, and a comprehensive, community-focused approach to recovery. Chittenden Clinic strives to empower individuals and offer hope and a path to lasting recovery.

To protect client confidentiality, the descriptions included here represent a composite of clients.



Howard Center Arts Collective mural at the Chittenden Clinic. Lead Artist: Amjed Jumaa | Supporting Artists: Thomas Stetson and Luke Carlson. In the words of Mr. Jumaa, "The waves of the Lake Champlain are the starting point towards freedom. They are a place from which to exit and fly towards the sky, and towards our goals and ambitions. The birds are safety. They are peace. And they are a life of wellness."

Chittenden Clinic

WHO WE HELP Chittenden Clinic helps people of all ages struggling with opioid use disorder.

Clients Served

HOW WE HELP Chittenden Clinic is the only hub in Chittenden County and one of the largest treatment facilities in the country. The Clinic offers comprehensive outpatient treatment for opioid use disorder, including medications (e.g., methadone and buprenorphine), counseling, care coordination, and wraparound services. The clinic also works with community partners to help clients gain stability and find success during recovery.

HIGHLIGHTS Clinic staff have worked to improve treatment and adapt to the needs of the community through our intake team structure, wrap-around services, and community partnerships. The flexible structure of the intake team allows them to respond more quickly to every client, so that no one is waiting weeks to be seen by their provider. They are also able to provide a lot of support in early treatment and recovery to build relationships and facilitate connection to other community resources. Chittenden Clinic is proud to partner with local organizations to streamline care and create more opportunities for clients to access the support they need. This year the clinic launched a new partnership with the University of Vermont Emergency Department.

CHALLENGES With a contaminated drug supply and an increase in opioid related overdoses, state and local systems are overwhelmed, and people are scared. It's important to remember that opioid use disorder is a highly stigmatized medical condition and the misconceptions surrounding it are a huge barrier in fostering understanding, empathy, and effective community responses. Treatment requires a multi-pronged approach: access to reliable transportation, secure housing, and strong support networks are key to success.

We are grateful for our community



SOUTH BURLINGTON ROTARY CLUB CURLING CLASSIC

Howard Center partners with dozens of local organizations to meet the needs of our community, including the South Burlington Rotary Club who coordinates the Curling Classic and directs a portion of the proceeds to support Howard Center.

BACK TO SCHOOL AND BEYOND

From purchasing backpacks for Howard Center school students, to helping landscape a residential treatment program backyard, or making financial contributions, our community pulls together to support our efforts and improve lives. Photos below show just a sampling of our many generous partners.











Utility box in Winooski Lead artist: Sherridan Beyer, Howard Center Arts Collective

MANY THANKS

Thank you to our clients, staff and board, standing committees, honorary council, community partners, donors, volunteers, and supporters for contributing to the fabric of our Howard Center community by supporting our work and one another.

Howard Center Arts Collective

The Howard Center Arts
Collective works collaboratively
to ensure that there are
opportunities for artists with
lived experience to connect,
create, and exhibit work.

We strive to create a supportive, non-hierarchical community that fosters mutuality, creative expression, and empowerment.

We value the transformative power of the creative process on a personal, social, and systemic level, and we acknowledge that we are stronger when everyone has a voice.

Visit the Arts Collective page at howardcenter.org for more information. Find us under the Community & Education tab.

MARCH FORTH! - CITY MARKET GALLERY

February – April 2023

Twenty-eight artists participated in the Arts Collective's Spring exhibition at the South End City Market's café gallery. Entitled 'March Forth' (into Spring), the show featured guest artist Ezequiel "El Emigrante," a Mexican artist and dairy farmer working in central Vermont, and the Collective's first submission created using AI (artificial intelligence).



Title: Vermont Artist: MaryAnn Valla Medium: Collage

PHILADANCO – FLYNNDOG GALLERY

July - September 2023

Thanks to the generosity of the Flynn
Center for the Performing Arts, our
artists were treated to a performance by
the Philadelphia Dance Company (aka
PHILADANCO), a professional dance
company dedicated to the preservation of
African-American traditions in dance. The
Collective's late-summer exhibition paid
tribute to PHILDANCO's mission, their
talent, and their history. The show also
featured artwork by Arts Collective minigrant winners for 2023, and art by youth from the
Arts Collective collaboration with COTS.



Title: Swept Away Artist: Sarah Barnett Medium: Photography

FLOW - METROPOLITAN GALLERY

October - December 2023

The Arts Collective's exhibition, entitled 'Flow', was on display this fall at the Metropolitan Gallery at Burlington's City Hall. Inspired by water and the spirit of rebuilding after disaster, 'Flow' was the Collective's second annual themed show at this BCA-curated gallery. As always, each artist put their own unique spin on the theme and the outcome was as surprising as it is delightful. Fifty percent of all sales went to Studio Place Arts in Barre, which was greatly affected by the recent flooding across Vermont.



Artist: Eryn Sheehan Title: Flood Water Debris in Moonlight Medium: Geli plate printing





ARTS COLLECTIVE MURAL PROJECTS

Over the past two years, the Arts Collective has rolled out a series of murals around Burlington. Brian's Automotive was the first endeavor, with grants from Vermont Psychiatric Survivors. Next were murals at the Chittenden Clinic, Allen House, Next Door, and the Winooski roundabout, with funding from BCA and the Vermont Community Foundation.

In the words of one lead muralist, Annie Caswell, "Seeing the way the residents [at Allen House] blossomed with a little paint and imagination was incredible. Many hadn't painted since childhood, or ever!" In interviews with residents, they noted, "feeling a purpose; and a chance to play, to push through their doubts, and connect with their fellow housemates." Thus far, approximately 30 artists and residents have been involved and the group has several more projects planned for 2024, including murals at MYPAD and Lakeview House.

ABOVE LEFT:

Artist: Kecia Gaboriault, electric box mural, Winooski.

TOP AND BOTTOM MURALS:

Lead Artist: Thomas Stetson with support from 11 Arts Collective artists.

BELOW:

Lead artist: Annie Caswell with support from nine residents from Allen House, Allen House mural.









2023 Spring Conference

We were thrilled to host our sixth annual conference inperson for the first time since the pandemic. We had an excellent response with over 600 registrants and 567 people who joined us for the day at the conference center or by virtual livestream. Attendees and sponsors reported an inspiring day. This year's topics explored health, public policy, and societal issues with compelling presentations from Nadine Burke Harris, MD; Dacher Keltner, PhD; BJ Miller, MD; Jeffrey Swanson, PhD; and Anna Malaika Tubbs, PhD.



ABOVE:

BJ Miller engaging with a participant at the conference.

RIGHT:

Anna Malaika Tubbs speaking with Nadine Burke Harris.

6TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BREAKING BARRIERS

HOWARD CENTER Help is here.

Finding Purpose & Possibilities Together











April 19, 2023 | 8:30am-4:30pm | DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Burlington VT







"The presenters were excellent and inspirational, per usual; I appreciated the range of perspectives and deep expertise in their fields."

A conference attendee



Thank you to our sponsors for helping to make this year's conference possible.





2022-23 Event Highlights



"The presenter was knowledgeable and created a safe and welcoming environment to explore new ideas and information on racial identity."

> — A Racial Trauma and Generational Healing attendee

Marna and Stephen Wise Tulin Community Education Series

Each year, Howard Center's **Community Education Series provides free, public programming** on important and timely issues, bringing together presenters with diverse perspectives.

Participants gathered virtually in April for a film screening of the documentary Ernie and Joe: Crisis Cops, and a Q&A with panelists from the South Burlington Police Department, Team Two, and Howard Center's Outreach teams. In May, we hosted a presentation with Howard Center's Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Catarina Campbell, on Racial Trauma and Generational Healing.



Zoe's Race

Zoe's Race is a Howard Center event that raises funds for local individuals and their families who need support making their homes accessible.

We are thrilled to report that our **13th annual Zoe's Race raised over \$27,000!** This year, 201 participants [from 10 states] gathered at Oakledge Park for 1K, 5K, and 10K races along the Burlington bike path. The races were followed by live music, great food, and awards.

"Easy day-of registration, friendly volunteers, scenic course, food, awesome band and WONDERFUL charitable cause!!!"

— A Zoe's Race participant



World Mental Health Day (WMHD)

Thanks to our supporters and sponsors we were able to bring **Dr. Alice Chen** and **Ferene Paris Meyer** to talk about **Recognizing and Recovering from Burnout**. It was a very relevant conversation following a world-wide pandemic.

Howard Center also distributed related resources and materials throughout our community to raise awareness and support mental health for all.

"The presenters were real, relatable, and had important backgrounds and experiences to share."

A WMHD attendee



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Initiatives

The DEI Team has continued to drive education and cultural change at Howard Center and in our communities through the development of our toolkits, facilitation guides, roundtables, and DEI Trainings for all employees. Our initiatives this year showcase dedication to fostering a workplace where DEI values are celebrated, prioritized, and thoughtfully integrated. When we commit to this work at all levels within our organization, we are better prepared to show up for each other, our clients, and the communities that we serve. If you would like to learn more about our work, please don't hesitate to contact HCDiversity@howardcenter.org

This year's DEI highlights include:

- Toolkits on Civil Discourse,
 Disability Justice, Honoring
 and Understanding Juneteenth,
 Intersectionality, Bystander
 Intervention, and Cultural
 Competency
- Continued **DEI trainings** on Exploring Bias and Inclusive Language
- Creation of an inaugural supervisor training on Racial Justice, slated to rollout in FY24
- The addition of a fourth staff affinity group—People of the Global Majority—launching in the new year
- Roundtable discussions on Neurodiversity and Body Liberation, with an upcoming session on Trans-Affirming Care
- Community Education Series on Racial Justice and Generational Healing
- A thorough policy review, encompassing 370 pages, conducted with a racial justice lens
- An all-staff celebration at Oakledge Park in coordination with the Care Committee

Catherine Simonson Educational Advancement Scholarship Award

The Catherine Simonson
Educational Advancement
Scholarship Awards
were created to support
Howard Center
employees pursuing
educational goals in social
services and related professions. This
year we were pleased to announce Judy
Fiumano, Matt Kline, and Kelly RamosArango as our first ever awardees.

Staff at social services agencies like Howard Center often need to continue their education to advance their careers but frequently face obstacles such as high costs, prior educational loan debt, and modest pay available in social services. This fund is a step forward in bridging the gap to support Howard Center employees to continue their education. Efforts are underway

to continue to raise money to ensure the fund's sustainability, which means continued educational support for our employees and more stability for our community.

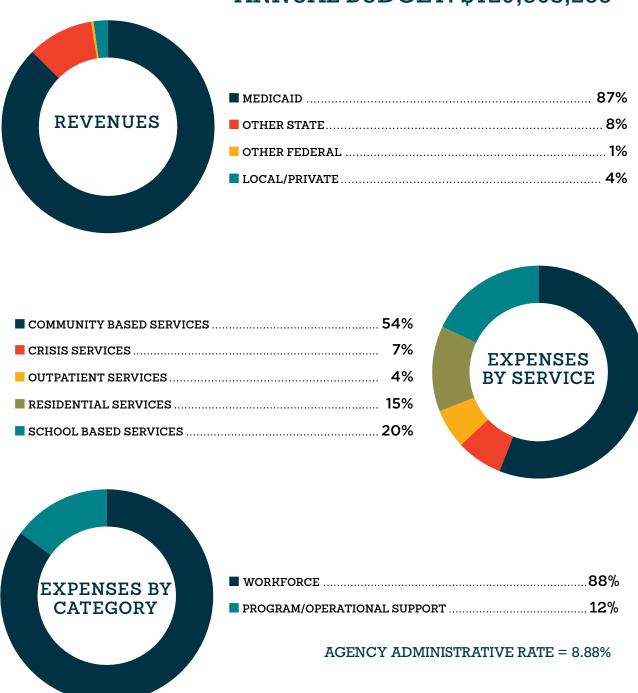
"For me it's all about the need to create pathways so people can stay at the agency. We can't do the work without the people."

— Catherine Simonson

FY23 Financial Summary

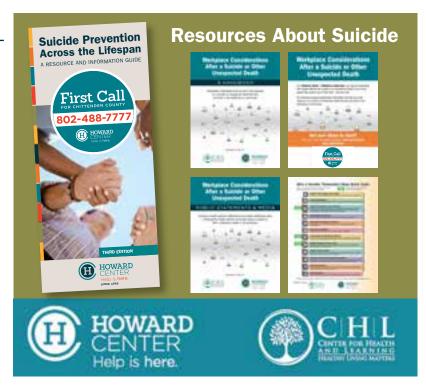
Howard Center is significant to the region as an employer and as a service provider. Our FY23 budget of over \$129M included complex, multiple funding streams. Over 90% of our services are funded through the state. 88% of our budget is allocated for our workforce in direct support of the people we serve. While our scope and services are essential, many of our programs are not funded adequately. This disparity requires that we continue to depend on grants, private donations, and entrepreneurial initiatives to bridge the gap.

ANNUAL BUDGET: \$129,368,255



Suicide Prevention Resources

As one of the top ten leading causes of death in Vermont, suicide touches the lives of many Vermonters every year. Unexpected death can have significant impact on individuals, families, and communities. It is important to remember that there is hope and suicide prevention resources are available. Over the past year, Howard Center has undertaken several suicide prevention initiatives. We received a grant to fund a three-year suicide prevention coordinator position, published the third edition of our suicide prevention guide: "Suicide Prevention Across the Lifespan", available in English, French, Nepali, Somali, and Swahili, and have taken steps to promote firearm safety, including the distribution of firearm cable locks and safe storage information. We also have resources available for businesses following a suicide or unexpected death (also known as postvention). Following are some of the resources available on our website:



- Workplace Considerations After a Suicide or Other Unexpected Death
- Media Guide: Workplace Considerations After a Suicide or Other Unexpected Death
- After a Suicide: Postvention Steps Quick Guide

FREE FIREARM CABLE LOCKS

50.3% of all Vermont households have a firearm. Protect yourself, your family, and others by securing your firearms with this simple device that saves lives. **Available for pickup at Howard Center's administrative office** at 208 Flynn Avenue, Burlington, Vermont 05401. Open Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. Call ahead to confirm availability at 802-488-6912.



Howard Center Main Number

Access and Intake Line: 802-488-6000

Available Monday-Friday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm

- General information
- Brief screenings
- Intake assessments
- Support and connection to resources and services at Howard Center or in the community

Cultural liaisons are available to support our refugee and immigrant communities.





Howard Center Crisis Number

First Call for Chittenden County: 802-488-7777 Available 24/7/365

- Phone and in-person support
- · Individual crisis assessment
- Short-term crisis management
- Referral to appropriate services
- Information about community resources
- Post-tragedy and disaster response
- Suicide prevention training

This report is a publication of Howard Center's Development and Communications Office, 208 Flynn Avenue, Suite 3J, Burlington, VT 05401. For questions, contact DevelopmentTeam@howardcenter.org or 802-488-6912.

PLANNED GIVING through your will or estate plan enables you to provide significant and lasting future support for Howard Center's mission. To learn about all of the ways you can give, visit howardcenter.org.





