

# ANNUAL REPORT



# Table of Contents

Letter From The Executive Director	2
Our Model	4
Our Programs	5
Our Impact	6
Stories Of Us	7
Financials	9
2019 Fundraisers	10
Financial Supporters	11
Catchteam	12
What's Ahead	13



# **Our Mission**

Everyone needs a home. We work to create a safe, healthy, connected community by embracing Housing First best practices, empowering those without housing, building collaborative partnerships, and increasing public understanding to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring.

# Letter From The Executive Director



"Compassion is the sometimes fatal capacity for feeling what it is like to live inside somebody else's skin. It's the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy finally for you, too." -Frederick Buechner

I love CATCH for so many reasons. I love CATCH because of the genuine talent, care and concern that I see the Case Managers display every day. I love CATCH because of the amazingly supportive and passionate Board of Directors that guides our mission. I love CATCH because it's a huge honor to be able to engage the community in creative conversations around how to best address homelessness and inspire innovation.

But, beyond any other reason, I love CATCH because my heart breaks a little every time I see a family getting out of the car that they slept in the night before when I get to work and it's freezing cold outside; or when I walk by a young man who sleeps vulnerably on the streets because his mental illness keeps him from being able to live in independent housing successfully and he has fallen through all of the cracks of our mental health services system.

For 14 years, CATCH has had the privilege of serving the Treasure Valley in creating pathways to safety, stability and housing for those most vulnerable to violence, chronic stress, sickness and social displacement. I am so thankful for the opportunity to continue to work toward making our vision of every family and every person having a home a reality with you.

## **Operating Highlights**

We were able to increase Case Management resources in Ada and Canyon Counties from one full-time and one part-time position to two full-time positions in 2019. We also launched a new extension of our rapid rehousing program that will serve families fleeing domestic violence specifically. We were able to hire a Housing Support Specialist who will help these households find and access housing, and then the Women's and Children's Alliance will provide the support services from that point on.

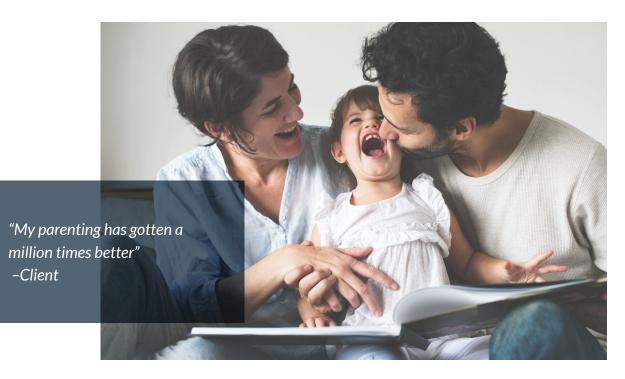
#### **Financial Highlights**

Wyatt Schroeder, CATCH's Executive Director from 2014-2019, left CATCH in January 2019 and the Board of Directors asked me to transition into the role. This being a transition year, we anticipated a small financial downturn. However, CATCH was able to raise 105% of what had been budgeted for 2019. We did spend 108% of what had been budgeted due to major building repair projects that needed to take place. In the end, we had a successful financial year.

#### Looking Ahead

In 2019, we were recruited to help participate in shaping and planning a Campaign to End Family Homelessness. There have been many exciting developments on this front. More to come on in 2020...

Sincerely, Stephanie Day, LMSW Executive Director



# Our Model

These are the strategies we embrace to realize our vision and deliver our mission:



## **Housing First**

Housing is health. Housing is stability. We work to house people as rapidly as possible, and do not create undue programmatic barriers or requirements that delay a family's entry into stable housing.

#### **Strengthening Families**

Co-create a new story with our clients - one based on their strengths – by designing our care around the five protective factors that build resilience, social connections, social and emotional competence of children, knowledge of parenting and child development, and concrete support in times of need.





## **Progressive Engagement**

Layer our support to allow our client to lead the process to their graduation. We will individualize and prioritize our resources based on a client's level of service need.

# **Our Programs**

## **Our Path Home Connect**

What if our community came together to end homelessness? Instead of asking people to navigate an uncoordinated system of dozens of nonprofit and government agencies, what if we designed a single, streamlined access point for all families experiencing a housing crisis? Our Path Home Connect is an "airport hub" for ending homelessness, triaging situations and navigating people to resources that lead to safe, stable and healthy housing. It all starts with Our Path Home Connect.

## The Linda Fund

A few months in to operating Our Path Home Connect, it became very clear that there are very few resources for households without children in Ada County, but there was great need in the community. We launched The Linda Fund in November 2017, as a resource for those households without children whose only barrier to escaping homelessness was having enough money saved up to be able to afford the deposit and first month of rent. This program removes that final barrier by housing by helping cover the cost of the deposit and/or first month of rent.

### **Rapid Rehousing**

We believe in the families that we work with and walk beside them on their journey to a new home. We recognize that the families that we serve have frequently experienced trauma in their journey. We co-create a new story with each family based on their strengths that have served them to this point. We offer housing placement and rental assistance, case management, financial independence education and CATCH Match through our Rapid Rehousing programs in Ada and Canyon Counties.



# Our Impact

## Our Path Home Connect

Two hundred eighty-four families with children and 219 adult-only households completed housing planning sessions with the team. Sixty-six families and 44 adult-only households were referred to housing interventions. Ninety families and 48 adult-only households reported resolving their housing crisis without assistance from service providers.



17

FAMILIES HOUSED

## The Linda Fund

Of those 17 households, 5 were families with children under 18 and 3 were couples without children and 9 were single adult households. Average deposit and first month's rent costs were \$1,056 to end a household's homelessness.

# Ada & Canyon County Management

Of those 139, 81 families signed a lease and moved into new housing. Forty-two families successfully graduated from our programs and are stably housed. Six families were unable to sustain their housing beyond our support.

FAMILIES SERVED



# Stories of Us

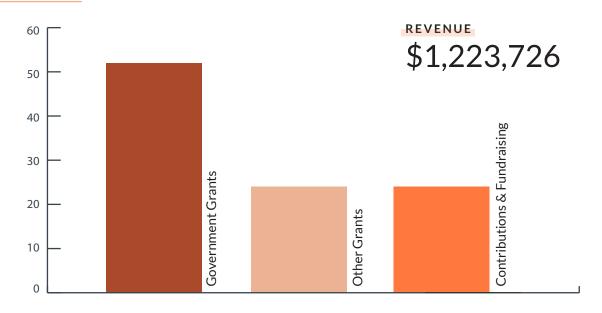
My name is Heather and I was born in California. I had a difficult childhood growing up. Both of my parents battled addiction and had multiple experiences of homelessness. When I was 13, my father committed suicide. My mother was homeless and addicted to heroin. She finally had enough and kicked heroin on the streets. She decided to move to Idaho. I started using drugs when I was 18. I was struggling with no place to live. I had no place to go and didn't want to stay in a shelter. I had no obligations and I didn't think I had anything worth living for. I jumped out of a second story window attempting suicide. I survived with minimal injuries and moved in with some people I thought were my friends. I was clean from drugs and I gave birth to my daughter. I was excited to have my daughter so I could care for someone. These so called friends stole from me and I was left with no money. I started living out of my car, then my daughter and I stayed at a local shelter for about a year in Canyon County.

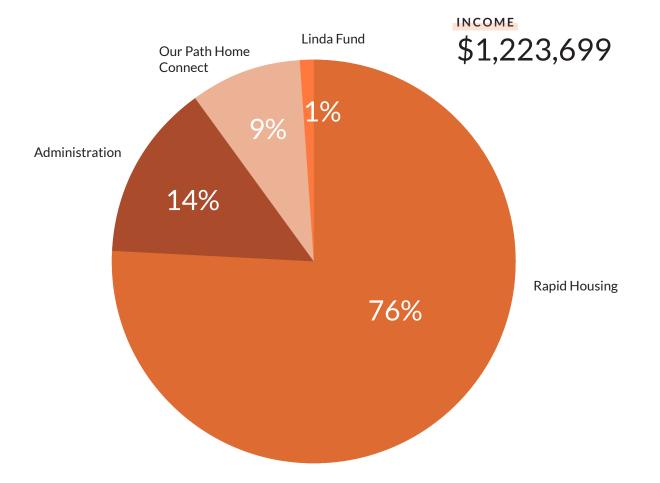
While in the shelter, I started using again. Others in the shelter were using and I quickly got sucked back in. After a year in the shelter, I was invited to live with a friend but I was not on the lease. I was able to live there for about two years but our addiction shifted our priorities and we were not focused on getting stable. It was very chaotic, people coming and going, different people paying bills, and eventually we all had to leave. For the next two years, I was bouncing around from couch to couch. In September of 2018, I was arrested for felony possession of a controlled substance. When I was released from jail, I had no place to go. My dealer offered to let me live there but I knew that was not an option. Eventually I moved back into a shelter. Living in this shelter was very stressful. Seven days a week you have to wake up at 5:45am and leave the shelter. It was hard to be a parent and follow all of the rules. I was working every day and attending outpatient substance abuse treatment. Life was very chaotic. After about five months someone suggested that I reach out to CATCH.

From the referral, to first contact with CATCH was a matter of a week. In order to get housed, CATCH helped address the barriers that were in my way of housing. CATCH helped me pay off a past utility bill and address my criminal record to better work with landlords. The day I signed my lease I sort of didn't believe it. I didn't want to allow myself to believe it was real and get happy until I put the key in the lock and the door opened. I didn't think housing was an option before I got sober. I never thought I would have my own place, in my own name. My daughter also has said she didn't think we would ever have our own place. My daughter still says "mom when we get home.. did you hear that.. when we get HOOOOME." My daughter still prefers to sleep with me. This is a new experience for me and my daughter. I was so excited to be able to cook my own food whenever I want. My daughter and I are finally able to sit down and share a meal together in our own space. I even lost 16 pounds the first two months after being out of the shelter. I felt my stress level decrease. No longer did we have to wake up every morning at the shelter at 5:45 am and find something to do during the day. We are able to sleep in on the weekends and catch up on sleep. We now have a place to recover when we are sick or don't feel good. If we want we can sit on the couch and snuggle. We have so much freedom.

Since being housed, we have been able to actually be a family in our own place. Our dog is able to stay with us. My daughter and I can go on walks when we want. There is a weight off of my shoulders. I have been clean for over a year and completed outpatient treatment. I am still on probation but I am in good standing. My treatment provider has asked me to come back and work at the facility once I have completed my probation. I have been on both sides of addiction; it is much better on the sober side. In the meantime, I have been invited to come back and attend groups so I can mentor others. For the first time we can actually think about the future and not worry about what we don't have. This is a great time in my life where I have support and the opportunity to think about jobs that allow me to be happy while making money. I feel happy, loved, and fulfilled. I know my worth. I feel so free.

# Financials





# 2019 Fundraising

Families experiencing homelessness understand the meaning of CATCH-22. Daily, they are faced with dilemmas and many obstacles standing in the way of a better life. Our fundraisers help homeless families find a way out of their situation.



Alive After Five



Boise Arts Crawl



**Creative Good Auction** 



CATCH Some Comedy



Kegs 4 Kause

# **Financial Supporters**

## **Corporate & Foundation Granting Agencies**

- A-Mark Foundation
- Bank of America
- Bank of the West
- Boise Cascade
- Boise Regional Realtors
- Bree Studios, LLC
- Brookside Developers
- Building Owners & Managers Association
- Core Strong
- Downtown Business Association
- Edward Low Memorial Trust
- Eureka!
- Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
- First Interstate Bank Foundation
- Hawkins Family Foundation
- HMWCF
- Home Partnership Foundation
- ICON Credit Union
- Idaho Community Foundation
- IDACORP Employee Community Service
  Fund
- Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation
- Institute of Real Estate Management Kendall Auto Group
- KeyBank Foundation
- Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation
- Lightfoot Foundation
- LocalConstruct, Inc.
- Micron Technology Foundation
- Midas Gold Idaho, Inc.
- Mountain West Bank
- New York Life
- One4All Charitable Fund

- PacificSource
- Payette Brewing Company
- Perkins Coie Trust Company
- Rueb Idaho, Inc.
- S-Sixteen Limited Partnership
- St. Luke's Health System
- Steven Leuthold Family Foundation
- Summer Winds Garden Center
- The Benevity Community Impact Fund
- Thornton Oliver Keller
- TitleOne Corp
- United Way of Treasure Valley
- US Bank Foundation
- Ventive, LLC
- Wabtec Foundation
- Washington Federal Foundation
- Wells Fargo Foundation
- Whittenberger Foundation
- Windermere Foundation

## **Faith Ambassadors**

- Boise First Presbyterian Church
- Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
- Evergreen Heights Mennonite Church
- First Baptist Church
- Grace Church of Christ, Inc.
- Immanuel Lutheran Church
- Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church
- Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
- United Methodist Women's Ministries

## Federal & State Grants

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
 Development

# CATCH Team

# **Board of Directors**

## Executive Team:

Andrew Kukla - President First Presbyterian Church

Zach Bethel - Treasurer Washington Trust Bank

Argia Beristain - Secretary Boise State University

Edward Moore - Secretary 116 & West

## **Board Members:**

Chad Blackburn Key Bank

Christina Fout Perkins Coie LLP

Elizabeth Langley Bank of America Merrill Lynch

Kendra Fiscelli St. Luke's Health System

Michael Willits Pacific Crest Independent Insurance Alliance

Shanley Skillern Kendall Auto Group

# **CATCH Staff**

**Executive Director:** Stephanie Day

Program Directors: Jeremy Blades Director of Housing Services

Rachel Flachbart Development Manager

Sara Busick Our Path Home Connect Program Director

## Case Managers:

Abby White Amanda Fields Crystal Arteaga-Juarez Jesse Fessenden Kristen Curtis

Our Path Home Connect Resource Specialists:

Connie Hammon Americorps Member

Iryna Von Esch MSW Intern

Jeannette Curtis MSW Intern

John Muir MSW Intern

Kim Hemmert MSW Intern

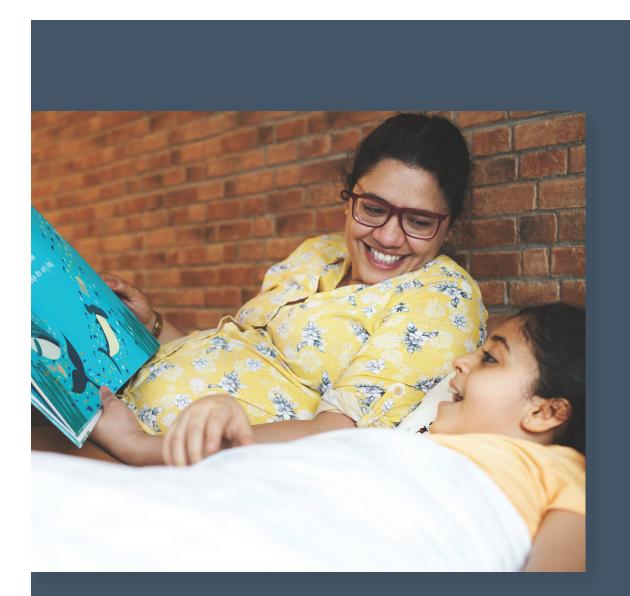


# What's Ahead?

CATCH believes that every family, every person deserves a home. We will take a big step forward toward realizing that vision in 2020.



- CATCH is joining the Campaign to End Family Homelessness being spearheaded by a County-wide collaborative of public and private partners called Our Path Home
  - o As a part of this campaign, we plan to:
    - House 20 more families than we did in 2019
    - Establish a Damage Fund
    - Build partnerships with new developers to access dedicated units for our families
- CATCH will be focused on community education and opportunities to develop a strong united front to demand that every member of Ada County has housing.
  - o As a part of this campaign, we plan to:
    - Launch a Marketing and Communications Committee
    - Plan and execute community engagement activities





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