



# Annual Report

FY 2021-2022



# Our Mission

Helping the unhoused rebuild their lives through intentional community.



**Pujita & Mona**

Two of CSS's original employees at a recent stewardship event.

## On the Cover: CSS Staff

Did you know that many of our staff are current or former CSS clients?



communitysupportedshelters.org  
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**What's it going to take?** CSS has made great progress growing into a scalable organization. Our impact has increased for unhoused neighbors and our model has remained intact throughout the expansion. Here are some of our goals moving forward:

- **Ongoing, diverse funding** for programs and operations. The local government helped us expand during the pandemic but the funding for alternative shelters is slated to end in 2025.
- **Developing employee training.** Delivering services to clients takes a human touch. We value providing a consistent experience to clients and employees. Having kick-ass training is key to scaling up a model that rehabilitates and empowers people rather than warehousing them.
- **Building a lean organizational culture.** The Leadership Team is constantly looking for ways to keep expenses low without compromising quality. Building resourcefulness into every level of our culture takes time and intention.

**In meeting these goals,** we rely on community involvement. Whether that is becoming a monthly or major donor, lending professional skills, or hosting a house party to help get the word out.

**Community support** is an essential part of the recipe for CSS success. We appreciate the support we've received in the past and look forward to building deeper connections with our community in the future.

**With Gratitude!**

# “I’ve Really Grown Up a Lot.”

“I love this program,” says MJ Hambrick, a Facilitator on the service team and a front desk administrator at CSS headquarters on Grant Street.

As a recovering heroin addict with five years of homelessness in her past, MJ has a story that has helped her connect with the 51 CSS community members in the four camps she works with. “After I told my story,” she says, “I was able to relate better to them and vice versa. And I also always kind of say, ‘If I can pull myself up out of what I pulled myself up out of, anybody can.’”

Working with the CSS program for the past 18 months has helped her, too. “I’ve really grown up a lot. I just wish that I had known about this program when I was using, because I probably would’ve gotten clean a lot sooner.

“It takes a lot for someone to get clean. When you’re out on the streets and you have nowhere to go and it’s not safe, you’re not going to quit, it’s not going to happen. CSS offers a helpful stepping stone in peoples’ journey—for sure!”



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# Measuring Success

- New Huts built: **25**
- Total Safe Spots in Eugene: **8** (with 11+ Huts, no more than 18)
- Total micro-sites: **6** (with 1+ Huts, no more than 6)
- Number of clients we’ve welcomed over the past year: **215**
- Number of people currently in Safe Spots: **122**  
*successfully sheltered and working on rebuilding their lives*
- Plus those moved on to better circumstances: **45**
- Total lives changed for the better: **167**

# Local & Distant Impact

- Total Huts: **262** throughout Lane County
- Reached **27** states and two countries (Canada and Australia)
- **5** consultations with PNW organizations and others as far away as Duluth, Minnesota
- Hut manuals sold: **68**

## Hillsboro Site

Upcoming site near  
Portland inspired by  
CSS’s program.





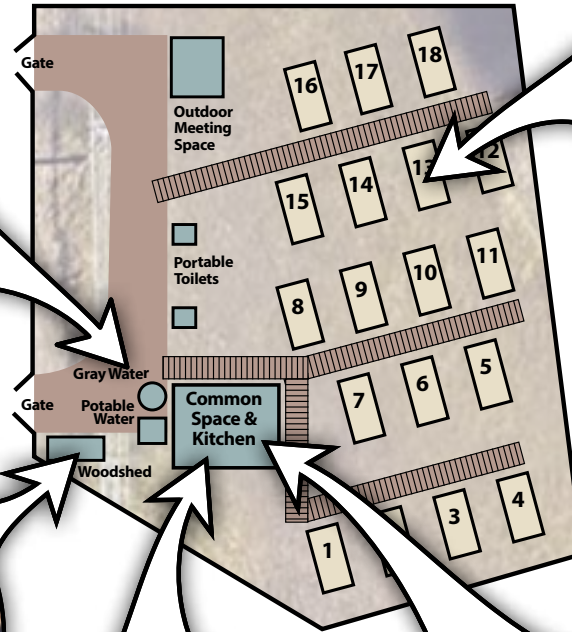
Since our SSCs are not hooked up to city sewers, we truck water in and out. Last year we processed over 40,000 gallons of gray water!



CSS provides about 90 cords of wood each year (October through May) to help our clients stay warm and dry.



Kitchens are equipped with propane stoves and stainless steel countertops.



Full-Size SSCs have 12-18 Conestoga Huts. Learn what's inside a Hut on page 11...



Clients also have access to the Community Shower Program. Between January and June, we provided nearly 900 showers!



Community Spaces include solar-powered charging stations for cell phones and other electronic devices, a wood-burning stove, and meeting space.

# What's in a Safe Spot Community?



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# A Certain Amount of Freedom

Chris Teasdale, 47, had been homeless about ten years, despite, “always trying to find a home and trying to do the right thing,” when he lost the debit card that gave him access to his disability benefits.

Sleeping under an awning in West Eugene he made do, for almost a year, through the kindness of friends he made in the area plus help from Catholic Charities and occasional \$20 bills that people gave him when he pulled weeds along the EMX bus line.

Then he moved to a Hut at the Roosevelt Safe Spot. “That’s such a good feeling to have a place to go home to. It gives you a certain amount of freedom. So you don’t have to be a prisoner. You can go there and do your best.”

Within two weeks, the CSS Service Navigator for that community helped him get his state ID and his disability debit card.

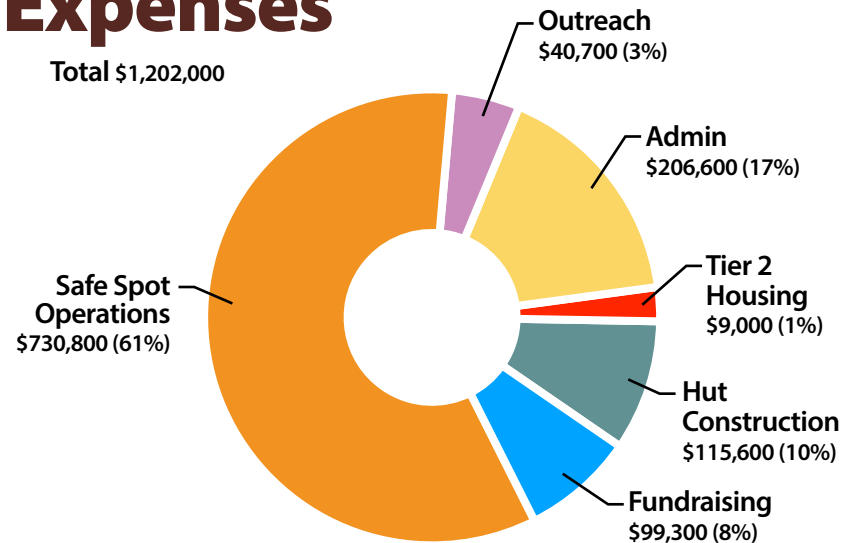
After ten months at the Safe Spot, he moved to the CSS-owned Shields House, where he and four other former Roosevelt residents pay rent and can stay up to three years.



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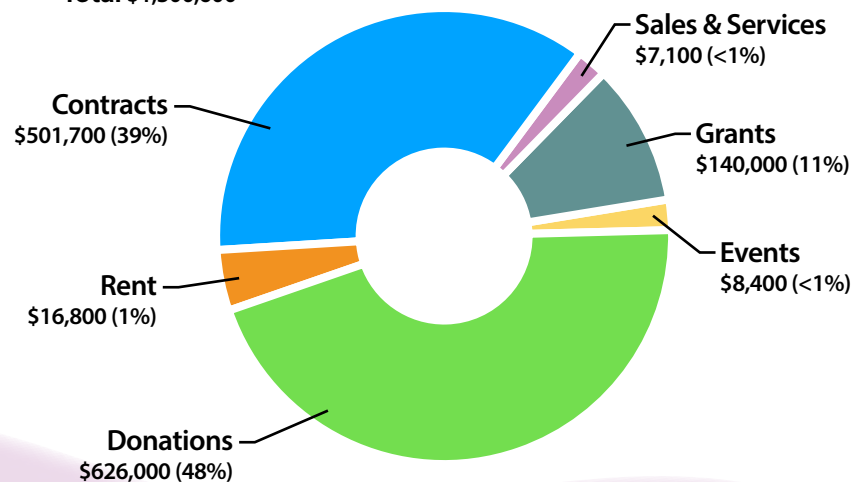
# Expenses

Total \$1,202,000



# Revenues

Total \$1,300,600



# Who Makes the Huts?

52 Hut Crew members

Volunteering **1142** hours in FY 21



*"Many people have ideas on how to solve the housing crisis, but the problem isn't going to be solved with the next election or the next presidency. I started volunteering with the CSS Hut Crew during the pandemic because I know that if every person does a little bit to help, we're closer to solving the problem for our community."*

**—Ken Davis, Hut Crew Volunteer**

# What's in a Hut?



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**What other donors are saying:**

*"CSS is one of the most effective organizations I've seen anywhere. They really connect with people who've been struggling to get their lives together. So much support and care provided by all!"*