



House by the Side of the Road

2024 Annual Report

Message from the House Manager

Dear Friends,

2024 Board members

Mark Hopper
President

Scott King
Vice-President

Lynn Cohan
Secretary

Ken Westerman
Treasurer

Debra Dill

Venus DePena

Lorenzo Thurman

I am proud to present our 2024 Annual Report. It demonstrates the dedication and commitment of our volunteers. We had over 50 regular volunteers in 2024, the largest number ever. They come to the House each week. Their time, enthusiasm, and hard work make a real difference in our organization and the lives of those we serve. We also have many individuals and groups, student organizations, and businesses, who come in for one-time, or less regular volunteer opportunities. Without them we would not be able to catch up when we are overwhelmed by donations or complete work to be done serving our clients.

In 2024 we served 4,738 households, 184 fewer households than the previous year. In October 2023 we returned to our original mission to "serve the people of Washtenaw County" only. Removing the numbers that had come from outside the county, but still coming so close to our 2023 total, shows the demand for House by the Side of the Road's services continues to grow. We served 1,085 new households in 2024.

We are grateful to all who supported us as volunteers, providing donations of clothing, linens, and small household items, or money to pay our bills.

Best wishes,
Gemaya Griffin
House Manager

Our mission

House by the Side of the Road's purpose is to provide FREE clothing and small household items to children and adults in need.



Our Clients

Some clients are homeless, reentering society from prison, recent immigrants, migrant workers, dealing with mental health issues, or crisis pregnancies. People come in after family breakup, job loss, fire, or prolonged illness.

Meet Our Client

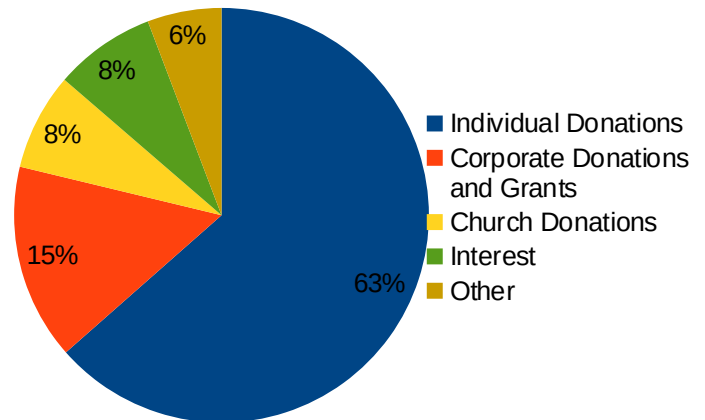
Our Board member Venus DePena interviewed our client Cindy Vanessa Orellana Hernandez.

Ms. Hernandez is a single-mom living in Ypsilanti with two kids; a 6-year-old girl in 1st grade attending the Ford Early Learning Center, and an 8-year-old boy in 3rd grade attending Easterbrook Elementary in Ypsilanti. For the past 6-months she has been working for herself cleaning homes since she needed flexibility to drive her kids to school.

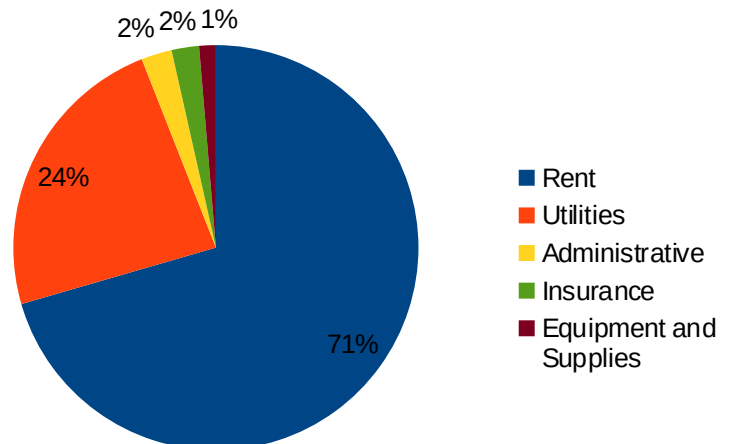
Cindy heard about House by the Side of the Road several years ago through family members that have been clients. She is appreciative of the toys, clothes, shoes, and household items she had access to she needed. It's been 3 years since her first visit to House by the Side of the Road. She says the volunteer staff are very kind, attentive, and are overall good people. It has been a constant part of her welfare as a single parent whose monetary means are limited. House by the Side of the Road has been a blessing.

Financials

Revenue	
Individual Donations	\$57,076
Corporate Donations and Grants	\$13,726
Church Donations	\$6,800
Interest	\$7,086
Other	\$5,196
	\$89,885



Expenses	
Rent	\$50,846
Utilities	\$16,971
Administrative	\$1,759
Insurance	\$1,579
Equipment and Supplies	\$960
	\$72,115



Meet Our Volunteers

Meet husband and wife volunteers: Sue Salo and John Getsoaian.

Sue: "We belong to the First United Methodist Church of Ann Arbor, which is one of the founding organizations of House by the Side of the Road. I knew about the work the House did, mainly because our fellow church member and House Manager at the time, Mary Danforth, gave talks about it at church. When I retired, I thought I'd try volunteering at the House. It was a good fit and I have been here about five years now. I enjoy the folks I work with. Most of my time volunteering I tag and hang up clothes, but I also help with check out. Our clients have their stories to tell and if it feels good to be helping them. One day when I was helping with check out, a young man came in needing a suit for a job interview. I hope he got it!"

John: "I followed the example of my wife when I retired. This is my first year volunteering at the House. I met some interesting people with amazing past lives."



Who We Are

At House by the Side of the Road, we are happy to serve the needs of our clients. Volunteers and volunteer Board members bring special skills and dedication to the mission of House by the Side of the Road.

Our clients pay nothing and are not required to provide a referral. We are proud to report we are uniquely a 100% volunteer run organization. That means we have NO paid staff but rely on the generosity of many individuals.

Our Impact

In 2024 we served:

4,738 households

395 households/month (average)

1,085 new clients

Our clients came from:

58% Ypsilanti

36% Ann Arbor

6% Other cities in Washtenaw
County

How You Can Help

Give Funds

Consider helping to support the House.

- Become a sustaining donor by donating any amount per month
- Honor someone (birthday, anniversary, return of good health, graduation, wedding...)

Give today! Go to:

www.housebythesideoftheroad.org

Volunteer

Our volunteers are the heart of what we do. We need people to receive, sort, tag, and hang up clothes, sort and display household items, and check clients in and out. Call us at 734-769-4085 or email us at housebyroad@gmail.com.

Donate Clothes and Household items

Our current needs are:

- Pots and pans
- Sheets and blankets
- Towels
- Small appliances
- Backpacks/suitcases
- Tennis shoes
- Pajamas
- Men's jeans



Contact

2051 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

734-769-4085

housebyroad@gmail.com

www.HousebytheSideoftheRoad.org

<https://www.facebook.com/housebysideoftheroadAnnArbor/>

Hours

Open for clients:

Monday - Friday, 10:00am - 2:00pm

Open for donations:

Monday - Wednesday, 9:00am – 1:30pm

Thursday & Friday, 10:00am – 1:30pm