



Samaritan House Inc.
24 Kingman Street
St. Albans, VT 05478

Phone: 802-527-0847
Fax: 802-527-7906

Samaritan House Inc.

ANNUAL REPORT – 2020

Our Mission is to empower people experiencing homelessness in our community to access safe housing and support

We Believe:

- Safe housing is a human right*
- In respecting the dignity of everyone we serve*
- In approaching our work with clients and in our community with compassion, empathy and a generous spirit*
- In communicating clearly, inclusively and honestly*
- In creating and supporting a confidential environment without bias or discrimination*
- In working in partnership with our clients, our neighbors and our close social networks*

Samaritan House Inc. is a non-profit located in St. Albans, VT. We provide emergency shelter, transitional housing and case management to people experiencing homelessness in northwest Vermont. Beyond those sheltered with us, we strive to provide support and essential services to anyone who comes to us in need and those we encounter through outreach work.

Board of Directors

David Southwick (President), Joanie McGinn (Vice President), Alec Hebert (Treasurer), Melinda White (Secretary), Courtney Bates, Kiersten Bourgeois, Lisa Bovat, Samuel Brown, Trudy Cioffi, Paul Morits, Steve Messier, Matt Preedom, Chris Santee, Denise Smith, Ed White Sr., Amanda Wilson



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Samaritan House Inc., in line with the rest of the world, experienced a host of challenges in 2020. Though a great deal of work remains to be done with the plight of homelessness more vast than ever, we take tremendous pride in the work we were able to accomplish in 2020 and we're excited about expanding this work in 2021.

The onset of COVID-19 in March forced us to close Tim's House Emergency Shelter for the safety of those we serve and work with. Franklin and Grand Isle Counties joined the rest of Vermont in accommodating people experiencing homelessness in local motel rooms, where physical distancing was more attainable. Since 1993 we have done our best to support anyone in need in our community, but our primary focus has always been with those staying in our shelter. The pandemic forced us to take our work out the front door to the vulnerable population we serve and expanded the number of people we serve from the 22 in our shelter and those who recently moved out to the more than 100 households currently sheltered in motels.

A temporary grant bolstered our Direct Services Team in this endeavor by providing us with a trio of dedicated Housing Navigators to assist our two Case Managers in providing housing services to this large population. These workers were with us from May-December and we are currently onboarding a pair of Wraparound Support Specialists who will provide different services but will extend that essential connection with clients. These specialists will also be with us on a temporary basis, though we are working hard to ensure that the assistance we provide doesn't cease when those positions do.

Through this year's extensive outreach, our team bore witness to great hardship - often serving as a first point of contact for reports of sexual & domestic violence, overdoses and mental health crises. These challenges have long been a reality in communities experiencing homelessness and it's our hope that providing more wraparound support will enable this population to have a better quality of daily life and focus more wholly on the search for stable housing.

The year also brought great achievement as we helped a larger population than ever before. A multitude of families and individuals moved into their own housing thanks to the support of our team. A grant from the Hoehl Foundation enabled us to rent a home in St. Albans in April where we have been able to shelter up to four people aged 55+ at a time. Emergency Coronavirus Relief Funds supplied the shelter with a new air filtration system, new easier-to-clean floors and countertops, more than a dozen new sanitizing stations and a chairlift to make our second-floor shelter more accessible to those with mobility issues. We are extremely proud to have recently reopened the shelter doors, albeit at a limited capacity, even as we continue working out in the community.



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2020 By The Numbers

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Total people we worked with experiencing homelessness	103	129
Children (under 18) we worked with	24	39
Total individuals we helped obtain stable housing	22	39
People who stayed in our shelter	45	129
Bed nights utilized in our shelter	3,937	6,543
Number of people who stayed at Hoehl House (4 Bed, age 55+ shelter)	7	N/A
Bed nights utilized at Hoehl House (4 Bed, age 55+ shelter)	725	N/A
People experiencing homelessness in Franklin & Grand Isle Counties (present day)	127	