

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ
2022 MINISTRY IMPACT REPORTS



**Measuring impact. Creating ripples.
Inspiring change.**

featuring

HealthVisions Midwest of East Saint Louis

HealthVisions Midwest of Fort Wayne

HealthVisions Midwest of Hammond

Lindenwood Retreat & Conference Center

MoonTree Studios

PHJC Volunteer Program

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ - Ecological Services

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ - Greenhouse

Sojourner Truth House

Sojourner Truth House - Food Pantry

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ



PHJC Foundation

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extent permitted by law.

1419 S Lake Park Avenue
Hobart, IN 46342
www.phjcfoundation.org



2022 IMPACT REPORT

HealthVisions Midwest of East St. Louis continued to meet the unmet needs of seniors, disabled, and veterans in St. Clair County. Volunteers provide transportation for seniors to ensure they get the medical care, food, and services needed to remain independent and healthy. Community Resource Specialists helped low-income seniors and the disabled with Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program access resources and services. We also focused on reducing social isolation for seniors.

- Volunteers provided **6,800** hours for seniors with telephone calls to check on them and reduce isolation, teaching bible study, and providing transportation services.
- **5,134** trips were completed by volunteers.
- At least **51%** of the **228** seniors who received transportation were aged 75 or older. **84%** of them live alone.
- Volunteers and staff drove **103,243** miles to ensure seniors get dialysis, cancer treatment, medical appointments, grocery store, bank, bible study, therapy, recreation, nutrition, etc.
- Volunteers made **1,785** telephone reassurance calls and provided Circle of Friends small group interactive activities to **198** seniors, reducing their social isolation and loneliness. At least **83%** of seniors served lived alone, and **81%** maintained or improved their social isolation.
- Surveys from seniors who received transportation reveal that **99%** said their lives were made easier due to transportation services. Other results include **95%** indicated they could get health care services when needed. **79%** said they could make and keep appointments and were less stressed. **63%** said they felt safer and more secure, and seniors stated that transportation helped them to feel less isolated and lonely.
- Services were provided to **1,544** seniors and persons with disabilities, including more than **1,400** who received Information and Assistance with free bus passes, discount license plates, Medicare Savings Program, Medicare Part D for medication assistance, Medicaid, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for rental assistance, referrals for resources. **91%** of the seniors were minorities and **84%** lived alone.

HealthVisions Midwest often gets thank you cards from family members and clients about the services they receive. A card from a family member states:

“Thank you all for being a part of God’s plan for helping... I pray that you will draw close to our Lord during this Lenten season and remember His sacrifice for our sins. Because of Jesus, the best is yet to come! You are all precious. Don’t grow weary of doing good! *“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”* Philippians 1:6 Grace and Peace.”

Your charitable donation makes all this possible. THANK YOU!





2022 IMPACT REPORT

The HealthVisions Midwest of Fort Wayne team continued expanding programs and services in 2022 to meet the growing needs of underserved communities. The team offered health education workshops, increased distribution of food vouchers, and broadened case management efforts for Spanish clients. We used innovative approaches to advocate for residents in food desert areas and held an inaugural fundraiser and a communitywide mental health fair. We were able to do all of it—thanks to YOU.

With support from our generous donors,
HealthVisions Midwest coworkers and partners in 2022 were able to:

- Make **1,191** contacts through health education workshops and courses about chronic conditions: diabetes, obesity, kidney disease, heart disease, stroke, cancer, anxiety, and depression.
- Offer **340** interpretations and translations to help Spanish-speaking clients navigate medical appointments, employment opportunities, legal matters, and other life situations.
- Host regular virtual meetings of the Allen County Health Equity Coalition (ACHEC), a space for collaboration, networking, and education among leaders from more than 40 local organizations.
- Create the Food Exodus Project documentary and conversation series, engaging **1,017** people through partnerships, in-person and virtual events, and social media.
- Partner with health professionals to offer **135** health screenings, tests, and immunizations through health fairs and regular mobile health visits.
- Make **187** contacts through virtual and in-person “Aspire” programming to address Social Determinants of Health. Topics included financial wellness, life purpose and meaning, dealing with trauma, depression, goal-setting, women and self-image, etc.
- Conduct **1,621** transactions at HEAL Farm Markets in food desert areas. Provide double the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables with each purchase to people eligible for Senior Produce benefits, the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, or for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Community Health Workers (CHW) like Lupita Valdes in HealthVisions’ Fort Wayne office build client relationships for well-being support. Lupita, a Latino CHW, was contacted by a therapist regarding an older Spanish-speaking client with multiple health conditions. Lupita noticed the woman’s sadness and overeating due to depression. She invited her to educational workshops through the Nutrition Education and Access Program (NEAP). During a holiday home visit, Lupita discovered the family’s need for food assistance. As a NEAP participant, the woman earned incentives for the local food pantry and received a Thanksgiving turkey. Lupita helped the family access benefits from the deceased husband’s pension, providing crucial financial support.





2022-2023 IMPACT REPORT

HealthVisions Midwest of Hammond has been working to address the needs of Lake County residents by providing programming that promotes quality of life for our most vulnerable and underserved populations. Our Hammond team has been hands-on in the community providing education, transportation, and professional development opportunities to individuals looking to take control of their health and be their own best advocate.

The HEART program empowers and supports people across Lake County to live healthier lives. **HEART reduces the risk of cardiovascular disease** among low-income minorities as a comprehensive wellness program on healthy eating, physical activity, disease self-management skills, medical services, and personalized care plans. In addition to classes, participants receive free items that promote healthy lifestyles, such as cooking utensils, recipes, and exercise opportunities like Zumba classes. In 2022, through community partnerships, HEART was able to achieve the following outcomes:

- **777** people received education on cardiovascular disease prevention and coaching on healthier lifestyles.
- **30%** of HEART participants with a baseline BMI greater than 25 decreased their BMI by **2 points**.
- **70%** of HEART participants increased their CVD knowledge to at least **85%**.

Written by HEART Participant:

“This class taught me a lot. It was nice that the Facilitators spoke in Spanish too so I could understand. I would share the information with my wife after I got home. One day, she was telling me about some things she was feeling, and I remembered something I learned in class. I told her we needed to go to the hospital because it could be bad. She let me take her and they told us she was having a minor heart attack. Ever since that day, I use what I learned in class for us to eat better and be more active. I even got my wife to quit smoking.

This class saved mine and my wife’s life. Thank you!”





Many Lake County residents, like other minority communities, experience extensive barriers to accessible quality healthcare and nutritional food. Some factors that contribute to this growing issue within our community are the lack of reliable public transportation, the inflation of transportation costs, and the increased presence of food deserts in underserved communities. To make quality healthcare and nutritional food more accessible, HVM founded the **Trusted Neighborhood Transportation (TNT) program that provides transportation** to HEART participants, seniors, veterans, and the disabled to attend medical appointments, VA visits, grocery, and prescription pickup. Currently, TNT is a self-funded program, running on the generosity of private donations. Utilizing one 12-passenger van with one driver, **TNT has provided 410 rides since it began in October of 2022.**

Written by TNT passenger:

"[My TNT driver] is my favorite person. She makes sure not only me but that my family is being provided for. I like her a lot! 27yrs young with a good head on her shoulders!"

HealthVisions has also had the pleasure of assisting professionals working in the community by providing training and the opportunity to obtain their **Community Health Worker Certification.**

- A community health worker (CHW) is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and has a close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the worker to serve as a liaison between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery. HVM Hammond is certified by the Indiana Community Health Worker Association (INCHWA) to offer the Certified Community Health Worker (CCHW) Training Program. The program includes a robust 45-hour training curriculum, weekly live Zoom sessions, and networking opportunities with other CCHWs.
- In 2022, **109 professionals obtained their Community Health Worker Certification.**
- The CCHW program also offers opportunities to its participants to gain credits applicable to their general education. In particular, a young woman who had to overcome many life challenges, including the foster care system, enrolled in the CCHW program, and by completing the course, she obtained her high school diploma instead of her GED, which **empowered** her to continue with her educational goals.





Lindenwood
Retreat & Conference Center

2022 IMPACT REPORT

Lindenwood Retreat & Conference Center welcomes people from all walks of life, fostering a harmonious environment for personal growth, creativity, and meaningful connections. With state-of-the-art facilities surrounded by nature, guests can choose from diverse experiences, including walks around the grounds, meditation at the Lake Galbraith Labyrinth, or fireside gatherings at our lakeside firepit – all orchestrated by our dedicated team to leave you rejuvenated and inspired.

In 2022:

- **35** Sponsored Retreats, with **447** participants.
- Personal retreats: **268**
- **38** Gift of the Spirit Scholarship Awards, totaling **\$4,546.00**
- Renewable energy production: **42.17** MWh
 - Approximate CO2 offset: **20.02** metric tons



Written by Eileen Wayte

"Participating in the Spiritual Companion Program at Lindenwood was the best decision I ever made. Sister Joetta and Reverend James, the co-leaders of the program, are amazing with a lot of experience and knowledge to share. The books for the program were easy to read and understand. Most important is the bond the class develops during the program; we became a spiritual family! The Lindenwood setting and accommodations as well as the staff made each weekend of study and companionship a joy. I credit this program for providing me with greater faith and I even made a discovery about myself that was a true milestone for me and my spirituality. I plan on coming to Lindenwood as often as I can for private retreats and retreats planned by Lindenwood."

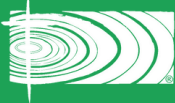
Written by Thomas Kinnaird

"Lindenwood is a beautiful location, perfect for events from corporate or community trainings to personal retreats. I've used their facility for several training events, and the staff has always been incredibly gracious and helpful—from the scheduling and setup, to the event itself, to the follow-up. I'm so grateful to have this resource in our area!"

.....

Your generous support to Lindenwood Retreat & Conference Center makes all of this possible. Thank you!

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ



Partners in the work of the Spirit

Lindenwood Retreat & Conference Center is a ministry sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

9638 N Union Rd
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.935.1712
www.lindenwood.org





MoonTree Studios
Fearlessly Creating



2022 IMPACT REPORT

- Programs: **189**
- Participants: **956**
- Exhibits: **7**
- Local artists represented: **35**
- Visitors: **1,224**
- **1,537** MUAC Student Engagements (Repeated interactions with MUAC students lasting longer than 15 minutes).
- Money to local artists/facilitators: more than **\$10,000**.
- Renewable Energy Production:
 - Wind – more than **7,147 kWh**
 - Solar – more than **9,000 kWh**



Written by Danni-Jo Rausch, MoonTree Studios intern:

"My time at MoonTree is something that I will always value. I was an intern at MoonTree for two years while I attended Ancilla College. While I greatly enjoyed my studies, I felt out of place without a creative outlet. Luckily, I got quickly involved with MoonTree as an intern. During my time as an intern, I did things such as expand my artistic horizons, help plan events, help set up art installments, learn new mediums of art, learn how to make art a career, learned about what I can do to help the environment, I was the apprentice to an artist in residence, and much more. It was the perfect environment to help me grow and thrive as an artist.

Since graduating from Ancilla College, I still return to MoonTree as it has become an incredibly important part of my life. I still return to be a part of events and continue to work on my art skills. I have also made connections with people for my music career and I have been a part of new and continuing projects. I also find MoonTree to be a perfect place to get advice. Each person has so many experiences and are so ready and willing to help you grow as a person. MoonTree has become a huge part of my life, and I don't ever see it not being in my life. My life in art would not be the same if it hadn't been for MoonTree and the people who are a part of it."

Your generous support to MoonTree Studios makes all of this possible. Thank you!

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9638 N Union Rd
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www.moontreestudios.org





2022 IMPACT REPORT

In 2022, volunteers provided food and necessities to families in motels, worked with homeless women and families, and assisted retired Sisters and residents. Thanks to your support, these volunteers were able to travel and offer their help, benefiting those in need with food and essential supplies.

Thanks to your support in 2022, PHJC Volunteer Program accomplished the following goals:

- **178** adults and **39** children served through our food outreach program.
- **65** Christmas bags for adults, 15 for children given out at motels in collaboration with the Motherhouse PHJC Associates.
- **1** family (2 grandparents, mom and three children) received a Christmas delivery of food, clothes, toys, boots in collaboration with the Motherhouse PHJC Associates and Human Resource Department. They receive a box of food every Tuesday and Thursday.
- **2** other basic family Christmas boxes and gifts were given to other families.
- **201 lbs.** Ancilla ground beef (donated from PHJCs) were shared in grocery bags for people at motels.
- **3** major giveaways were held at both motels of donations of clothing, house wares, coats, hats, gloves, kitchen utensils, dishes, pots and pans, blankets, sheets, pillows, underclothing, shoes, boots, etc.

2022 Food Ministry Report:

- **12,364** sack lunches
- **3,000+** extra sandwiches
- **12,945** cultivate meals
- **6,635** grocery bags
- **600** hygiene bags
- **1,680** Davis lunches
- **644** Boomershine sandwiches
- **2,481.25** volunteer hours

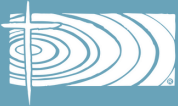


The PHJC Volunteer Program assists local men and women to take control of their lives through counseling, Twelve Step programs, and other local programs offered by community partners. In offering a hand up, the most vulnerable find purpose and meaning in their lives.

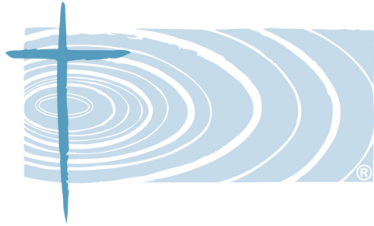


PHJC Volunteers **Lori, Marlen, Dimitra,** and **Franchesca** have all made a significant impact at Sojourner Truth House in Gary, where they worked in the food pantry, drive-through food line, clothing boutique, housewares, bedding and linens, the give-away store, and in data entry. All lived together at Emmaus House in East Chicago (former Bethany Retreat House), sharing prayer, cooking, cleaning, and community-building.

Through your generous support - and following the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ core values of Community, Simplicity and Dignity, Openness to the Spirit, and Dignity and Respect for all - The PHJC Volunteer Program has impacted Plymouth's most vulnerable residents. Thank you!



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2022 ECOLOGICAL IMPACT REPORT

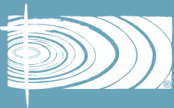
The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (the PHJCs) engage in sustainable land stewardship as a comprehensive approach to managing our properties and natural resources that prioritizes environmental conservation, social well-being, and economic viability. Through our work, we aim to manage the land and natural resources responsibly and ethically in our care to ensure long-term benefits to humans and the natural world around us.

The continued annual loss of wetland habitat is a particular area of concern for the PHJCs and one we are directly working to reverse. Wetlands are one of the most important and biodiverse habitats and are critical to the availability of clean water and act as natural flood control regions. They also act as important carbon sinks at a time when carbon in the atmosphere is on a critical rise. Since the early 1700s, The United States has lost over 40% of its wetlands across the entire range of the lower 48 states. In Indiana, we have lost over 85% of our historic wetlands, primarily to agriculture and real estate development. Of our original wetland habitat state-wide, only approximately 800,000 acres remain. While that may sound like a lot, consider that the State of Indiana alone had around 5.6 million acres of wetlands in the 1780s.

In 2021, The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ identified 23 acres of what is currently farmland in a conventional soybean and corn rotation and designated it to be restored as a wetland habitat due to its low-lying elevation and proximity to an existing wetland and Lake Galbraith. In July of 2022 we were awarded a Lakes and Rivers Enhancement (LARE) grant from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to cover a significant portion of the cost to do this work. Once restored we anticipate that this wetland will not only become a vital part of the water system for the Flat Lake Watershed but will also contribute to enhancing wildlife habitat and serve as a center of research and learning for local education institutions including our very own Marian University Ancilla College.



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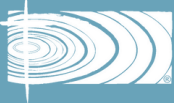
Wetland habitat isn't the only area where the PHJCs are focused on restoring our lands to their native state. Creating rich biodiversity is important in supporting wildlife, wild things, and sequestering carbon. Grasslands and native prairies play a critical role in this important work. The PHJC properties contain over 10 acres of mixed native prairie and grasslands which support various types of plant and animal life and is an important supportive infrastructure for native pollinator species. It is estimated that for each acre of native prairie, one ton of carbon is sequestered out of the atmosphere annually. This is in contrast to standard turf lawn that for each acre only sequesters .25 ton of carbon per acre. Further, turf grass generally requires regular maintenance which means burning fossil fuels for mowing and adding synthetic fertilizers. Native prairies are perennial and self-supporting and generally only require a single maintenance mowing once per year!

The PHJCs have extended this ever-important land ethic to our farm as well. Currently our farm is in a conventional soybean-corn rotation but we are taking great strides each year to convert our system to a Regenerative Agriculture system that increases soil health, reduces erosion, and reduces our use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. For example, at the end of the 2022 growing season we eliminated all post-season tillage from our farming practices. As we moved into the 2023 growing season we further reduced our tillage passes and will be bringing a new system of planting no-till soybeans after cover crop starting in the 2024 growing season. This is in addition to the half-acre of new pollinator habitats we planted on our designated organic farm fields.

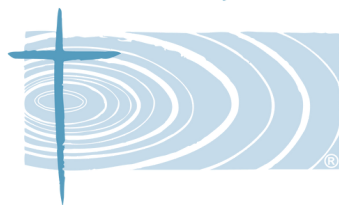


The adoption and integration of sustainable land stewardship practices has far-reaching positive impacts on the environment, society, and economy. By prioritizing biodiversity, conservation, soil health, and climate change mitigation, we can create a more sustainable and resilient experience for future generations. Embracing sustainable land stewardship is a critical investment in the long-term well-being of our planet and its inhabitants.

Through your generous support - and following the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ core values of Community, Simplicity and Dignity, Openness to the Spirit, and Dignity and Respect for all - The PHJCs is making critical change in our approach to our shared home.



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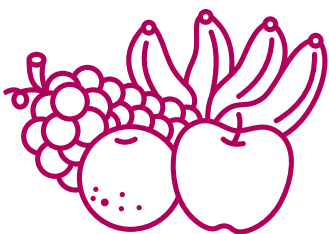


2022 GREENHOUSE IMPACT REPORT

According to the USDA, **10.2** percent of all American households were food insecure throughout 2021. Of families and households with incomes below the Federal poverty line, this number jumped to 32.1 percent. The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (the PHJCs) Greenhouse Ministry, in partnership with the PHJC Volunteer Program, uses Regenerative Farming principles to provide nutrient-dense food to people in need that is delicious, healthy, and safe to eat.

In Marshall County, Indiana:

- **14.1%** of children are residing in households that are food insecure. This means that families may need to make trade-offs between important basic needs such as housing or healthcare and purchasing healthy food for their children.
- **19.3%** of children from 2-19 years of age suffer from obesity, making the availability of healthy food choices all the more critical.



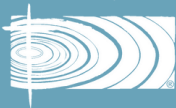
The decision to engage in regenerative farming and gardening practices is an important step towards a more sustainable and resilient agricultural system. By embracing regenerative principles, we are committed to enhancing ecological health, promoting soil fertility, revitalizing biodiversity, and fostering stronger connections within our community.

In 2022, the PHJCs Greenhouse Ministry grew **5,200 lbs** of produce without using any synthetic fertilizers or pesticides. We produced **50** cubic yards of compost from materials recovered on our own campus that was used and natural fertilizers to grow food. Finally, we produced **3,000 lbs** of Biochar which is a natural soil amendment that sequesters carbon in the soil and provides a healthy medium for soil to retain water and nutrients.

The PHJC Volunteer Program's food outreach ministry is important to battling food insecurity in Marshall County. 2022 was the Greenhouse Ministry's first year in directly supporting that program. Over **240 lbs** of healthy, nutrient-dense vegetables were provided to individuals and families receiving services from our community. As we moved into 2023, we designated 1/3rd of a Greenhouse to expand our support of this important community program and are on track to exceed our support in the coming year.



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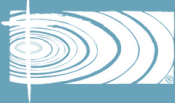
While growing fresh and healthy food is important, how we grow it and our impact on the environment is a critical component of our work. By using Regenerative Farming techniques such as cover cropping, crop rotation, and composting, we prioritize the restoration and enhancement of soil health. This approach improves soil structure, increases organic matter content, enhances water retention, and promotes nutrient cycling, leading to thriving and resilient ecosystems and food that is rich in vitamins and minerals without the risk of harmful and dangerous chemicals.

In addition to improving soil health, waste reduction is a component of our production philosophy. We compost the non-consumable parts of the plant material to cycle nutrients and reduce waste entering our landfills. Finally, we use natural pest control methods such as onsite pollinator habitats to attract beneficial insects and reduce the need for pesticide use.

By prioritizing ecological health, sustainable resource management, and community engagement, we strive to create a thriving and resilient agricultural system that benefits the environment, supports local communities, and fosters a healthier future **for all**.



Through your generous support - and following the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ core values of Community, Simplicity and Dignity, Openness to the Spirit, and Dignity and Respect for all - The PHJCs Greenhouse ministry is making critical change in our approach to our shared home.





2022 IMPACT REPORT

On any night in Lake County, Indiana, nearly 300 people are unhoused*—living on the streets or in shelters—and thousands more are just one unexpected expense away from joining them. But thanks to YOU, the dedicated staff and volunteers at Sojourner Truth House made a difference in 2022 in the lives of many at-risk women and families in Northwest Indiana—and helped reduce homelessness.

The federal government last year announced a plan to reduce homelessness by 25 percent in the United States by 2025. For years, the STH Board of Directors and executive leadership have developed a similar plan. The annual STH Initiatives and Impact Plan establishes organizational goals for reducing hunger and homelessness in Lake County, removing barriers to housing stabilization, keeping those in housing from becoming homeless, promoting a healthier lifestyle, and increasing in-kind donations of food and personal items. Thanks to your support in 2022, STH met or exceeded the following goals:

- To reduce hunger for the most vulnerable populations in Gary by serving 6,000 households (actual: 8,559 households), or 18,000 individuals (actual: 26,355 individuals) through the Food Pantry
- To reduce homelessness by enrolling 65 adults and 21 children in STH's Day Center program, which helps them secure stable housing. Actual enrollment: 70 adults and 31 children.
- To move 20 households into stable housing. Actual households: 25.
- To remove barriers to housing stabilization for 10 individuals through home-based case management that increases self-

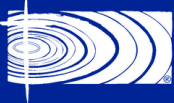
sustainability. Actual: 18 individuals.

- To promote a healthier lifestyle by providing 8,000 healthy and nutritious meals from the kitchen. Actual meals: 9,231.



*2022 Point-in-Time Count, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ



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Sojourner Truth House is a ministry sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

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Gary, Indiana 46407
219.885.2282

www.SojourneyTruthHouse.org





Beyond actual numbers are lives—individuals and families who received food, or moved into their own homes, or learned how to care for and remain in the ones they have. YOU did that! You helped an average of 2,231 clients each month receive help to overcome their situations. And many, like Lynette, are so grateful.

When Lynette entered STH's day center program, she was a self-described glass-half-empty person who had no sense of self-worth. "But then someone wise told me that when I come to classes, I'm here for someone and someone is here for me," she shared. "That was powerful to me because my receptors

were blocked. Once I changed my depth perception, I was able to fully appreciate the positive messages I received from STH classes."

Lynette continued to draw inspiration and encouragement from her case managers and instructors as she worked to obtain housing and employment.

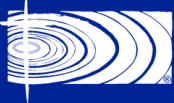
"They reminded us that today we may be weary, but tomorrow will be great," she said. "At STH, we're presented with great opportunities and tools, but it's up to the individual to take advantage of those tools and use them to become better mentally, physically, and emotionally.

"What STH does is life-changing," she continued. "You come in a

caterpillar and by the time you leave you have blossomed into a butterfly."

That is the core of our mission—to empower women and individuals experiencing homelessness to overcome their situations and become self-sufficient, productive members of the community. Your gifts made that happen! Because of you, we provided advocacy, counseling, and career, entrepreneur, and employment training to many like Lynette.

Thank you for being one of 1,181 donors in 2022 who donated a combined \$817,426 to serve those in need in Lake County.





FOOD PANTRY REPORT

Our food pantry is Lake County's largest. Three days a week, we serve an average of 80 households each day. But due to high inflation, we're seeing an increase in hunger and food insecurity in our community. The U.S Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey for January 2023 showed a 6% increase in the number of Hoosier households that said they were going hungry, and 50% more said they relied on food banks and food pantries to stretch tight budgets. This was evident at STH.

From January 1 through July 31, 2023, we have:

- Served **5,245** families (an average of **749** per month). This is **31%** more than in 2022.
- Distributed **154,225** pounds of food, which averages to **10** pounds of food per person.

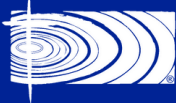


In 2022, we served **8,559** households (**26,355** individuals) in the food pantry, a **26%** increase over 2021 due to price increases from global supply shortages and inflation. All items distributed through the food pantry are inventoried, packaged, and documented by staff and pantry volunteers, who also maintain a database of purchases, weights, and individuals/families served.

Nearly **230,000** pounds of food were distributed at an average cost of **\$14.52** to provide **13** pounds of food per person per month.

Our Community Garden is also a vital part of our drive-through food pantry program. According to the USDA, there are **14** food deserts in Gary, meaning **33%** of residents live more than a mile from a grocery store. Every month, we provide food boxes for hundreds of families, and during growing season we depend on our garden to provide supplemental food. In 2021, it produced nearly **1,480** pounds of produce—most of it fresh-picked and distributed directly to families just minutes later!

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ



Partners in the work of the Spirit

Sojourner Truth House is a ministry of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

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