“The mustard seed of an idea was, could we go out and purchase one gently used RV and lift one human being off the streets? *Just one.*”

– ALAN GRAHAM, FOUNDER & CEO
Community First! Village, the most talked about neighborhood in Austin, Texas.
Thank You for Multiplying Your Goodness!

You did it again.
You let nothing stand in your way of serving goodness to Austin’s most vulnerable neighbors. You provided exactly what the men and women experiencing homelessness needed in 2021, and you continue to lead the way for mitigating homelessness in our city.

You gave your best first so that together we could go out to the streets to serve meals and build relationships with our unhoused neighbors. You moved 120 of those neighbors suffering on the streets into community and home at Community First! Village, and you helped them reclaim their dignity through purposeful work in our Community Works programs.

You multiplied your goodness in such generous and compassionate ways that we are on track to begin building 1,400 more homes on 127 additional acres across two properties to expand Community First! Village. Together, we will move more of our friends experiencing homelessness home.

You believe like we do that housing alone will never solve homelessness, but community will.

You are that community.
Please take a few moments to review our Goodness Report for 2021.

You made it all happen.
We are so grateful for your loyal support of the work we do together to serve those men and women who need us most.

You are the goodness that is Mobile Loaves & Fishes.

Blessings,

ALAN GRAHAM  
FOUNDER & CEO

AMBER FOGARTY  
PRESIDENT
Our Vision & Mission

More than two decades ago, Mobile Loaves & Fishes’ founders boldly answered God’s call to “Love your neighbor as yourself.”
- Matthew 22:39

Mobile Loaves & Fishes is a social outreach ministry that empowers communities into a lifestyle of service with the homeless.

Our mission to provide food and clothing, cultivate community and promote dignity to our homeless brothers and sisters is accomplished through our core programs: Community First! Village, Community Works and our Truck Ministry.

Through the years of serving alongside our homeless neighbors, Mobile Loaves & Fishes’ staff and vast network of volunteers have made connections built on trust and learned so much about our friends and their needs. We learned that they need much more than shelter to no longer be homeless. Our friends need to be settled in a safe place with people who care and where they feel they belong. They need more than a house. They need a home in a supportive community. This is where our friends can truly begin transforming their lives and engaging in meaningful ways with their community.

Housing alone will never solve homelessness, but community will!

“Loneliness is so pervasive in our world today, but at the Village, we are not anonymous. We know each other’s names. We do life together and we depend on each other.”

- SARAH, STRATEGIC NEIGHBOR & STAFF MEMBER
Meet some of your Village neighbors!

In 2021, 318 formerly homeless neighbors called Community First! Village home.
“My whole world has changed since I came to live here.”

- Leatha, Home Since 2019

Thinking she had lost every family member she had ever known and loved, Leatha felt all alone in the world. Little did she know how her world would change when she received a Facebook message from a man claiming to be her father. For more than a decade, Leatha thought her father was dead, but once she heard his voice, she knew without a doubt that this man was her father, Gary. After learning that Leatha had been living on the streets for almost four years, Gary helped her move into Community First! Village. When Leatha moved into the Village, she did not know that she was pregnant, but she is so grateful that she had a home and family surrounding her when her precious daughter was born.

Today, Leatha and Gary both live in the Village and earn a dignified income working on the farming team. Leatha is no longer alone.

“I’m always going to have this smile, and I thank God for letting me be here.”

- Phil, Home Since 2020

Sometimes wearing a smile is good camouflage for hiding any sadness we may be feeling. For Phil, his smile became a true defense mechanism when he was surviving on the streets. Although Phil struggled with addiction, it was the pain he experienced from losing people close to him that fueled his chaotic life and years of homelessness. The chaos of life on the streets became oddly comfortable, and Phil became an expert at using his smile to hide his pain. After 15 years on the streets, Phil decided he couldn’t keep running. He needed a permanent place to call home.

Phil moved into the Village in the fall of 2020, and quickly found his place within the culinary team in our Community Works program. During the hardest days of the pandemic, he helped to prepare meals for his neighbors. Today, Phil can be found stirring up new recipes with lots of love and laughter with his team.

Click here to hear Leatha’s story on our podcast!

Click here to hear Phil’s story on our podcast!
“It was truly a blessing. Going from under the bridges, to living in an actual place you can call your own. There is security, structure and community.”

— SAM, HOME SINCE 2005

In 2005, Mobile Loaves & Fishes purchased our first RV home and lifted one homeless man off the streets of Austin. That formerly homeless man, Sam, had been separated from his family in his early twenties and made his way to Austin from Maine working odd jobs, but never had a place to call home. Sam had lived on the streets for years when he was approached by Alan Graham to take a chance by participating in Mobile Loaves & Fishes’ new Community First! program. Sam has been home now for more than 16 years. He is constantly working on several projects connected to his passion for engineering, geology and photography.

“Every day I wake up and I’m grateful to be home in Community First! Village!”

— HELEN, HOME SINCE 2020

As a sought-after songwriter in Nashville more than 30 years ago, Vernon once felt like he had it all. He wrote songs for Keith Urban and had several number one hits on the country music charts. And then, things changed. When friends in the music industry started disappearing and checks started getting smaller, Vernon entered a decades-long downward spiral of heavy drug use and spent years living on the streets. Just when he thought he had hit rock bottom, Vernon met his wife, Helen. Helen worked as a nurse for many years before suffering a long season of burnout which fueled her addiction. The two have overcome drug addictions and continue to pursue their passions in music and art with a new-found sense of purpose while living together in Community First! Village.
You are the Goodness
THAT IS MOBILE LOAVES & FISHES.
Serving goodness to our neighbors living in Community First! Village and to our homeless friends still living on the streets of Austin is supported by you—our donors and volunteers. You are the goodness that is Mobile Loaves & Fishes!

As we reflect on 2021, we are deeply grateful for the ways you continued to support and care for our community.

“I especially love getting to know an individual, a neighbor, a small detail about their life, or when a neighbor expresses appreciation for having a roof over their head or being part of the community. When a neighbor shares details of personal circumstances, it makes me realize that any one of us can be homeless.”

– JOHN, VOLUNTEER

“Well, the best thing for me is having the chance to meet with and be a help to our community neighbors, and if that makes their day a bit brighter or easier, ‘mission accomplished.’”

– NOBLE, VOLUNTEER
Multiplying Goodness: Community First! Village Expansion

Demographic data recently reported for Austin indicates that more than 3,000 men and women are currently considered homeless. Approximately 2,200 of these neighbors are living unsheltered in tents, cars, abandoned buildings and other places not meant for human habitation.

We welcomed our first neighbors home to Community First! Village in 2015. This 51 acre master-planned community provides affordable, permanent housing and a supportive community for men and women coming out of homelessness. While the Village is now home to more than 300 neighbors, many men and women still suffer on the streets.

In November of 2021, MLF launched the Multiplying Goodness Capital Campaign for the expansion of Community First! Village. Through our planning, we have determined that at least $150MM is needed to develop the approximately 127 acres of land on two properties already acquired by MLF. This budget includes $50MM to construct all the supporting infrastructure and $100MM to build 1,400 additional homes and necessary service buildings.

Infrastructure on both properties is expected to begin in late 2022.
This property is directly across the street from Community First! Village Phases 1 & 2 on Hog Eye Road.
“We don’t believe that we need to fix anybody here in Community First! Village. We believe that we just need to love them. Our goal is to ensure that every neighbor has multiple people invested in them and committed to them. If we can make sure that every neighbor has that kind of support system, then our community is working at its best.”

- AMBER FOGARTY, PRESIDENT
2021 By The Numbers

Thank you for serving alongside us, caring for our community and helping us continue to move our homeless brothers and sisters home. This is the goodness you made happen in 2021.

Community First! Village

A PLACE TO CALL HOME

HOME TO:

318 formerly homeless neighbors

41 missional neighbors

SERVED BY:

72 staff members

11 service partners

Construction Progress

ON COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE

173 new homes

7 community kitchens

7 laundry, restroom & shower facilities

120 new neighbors moved home

We broke ground on the Living Room.

Multiplying Goodness

PHASES 3 AND 4 OF COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE

We officially launched the Multiplying Goodness Capital Campaign with the announcement of support from two new partners.

Travis County commissioners earmarked $35 million of American Rescue Plan funds for our Burleson Road expansion of Community First! Village in September.

On Nov. 30, 2021, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation (MSDF) announced a commitment of $36.6 million to our Multiplying Goodness Capital Campaign for the expansion of Community First! Village to fund an additional 1,400 homes for Central Texans coming out of chronic homelessness. The MSDF gift is a matching opportunity to help Mobile Loaves & Fishes reach its $150 million goal for the expansion of Community First! Village, providing for a total of 1,900 homes.
Serving since 1998, MLF is the largest prepared feeding program for homeless men and women in Central Texas.

20,923 VOLUNTEERS 6+ MILLION MEALS

Truck Ministry

Dignified income collectively earned by formerly homeless artists, makers, cooks, hospitality, maintenance and groundskeeping contractors through Community Works programs.

$1,213,409 EARNED BY 171 NEIGHBORS

Community Works

By keeping operating costs low, MLF put 85% of all money raised directly into providing services for our homeless brothers and sisters.

SHOP FOR GOODNESS In just its 3rd year, our online store sold “Products of Pure Goodness” to customers in 38 states and added $42,385 to support our neighbors at Community First! Village.

Happy Holidays

COMMUNITY "CINEMA" hosted 27 movie nights, bringing more than 1000 guests to the Village.

Financial Data

By keeping operating costs low, MLF put 85% of all money raised directly into providing services for our homeless brothers and sisters.

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES 2021

- PROGRAM SERVICES: $10,177,736 (85%)
- FUNDRAISING: $829,177 (7%)
- MGT & GENERAL: $902,293 (8%)
- TOTAL: $11,909,206 (100%)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION 2021

- TOTAL ASSETS: $83,414,583
- TOTAL LIABILITY: $17,804,599
- TOTAL NET ASSETS: $65,609,984
Thank You!
YOU MAKE THE GOODNESS HAPPEN.

6,781
NEW DONORS JOINED OUR COMMUNITY

967
EVERYDAY ANGELS PROVIDED MONTHLY SUPPORT

Thank You!
“We are eternally grateful for everything MLF has done for us! They literally saved our lives.”

- SABRINA, HOME SINCE 2021