



“We’re more interested in providing relational transformation than transactional handouts.”

— ALAN GRAHAM, FOUNDER & CEO

2022  
ANNUAL REPORT





Community First! Village, the most talked about neighborhood in Austin, Texas.





# You are Leading a Revolution in Goodness!

Your unwavering support provides immediate relief for our most vulnerable neighbors suffering on the streets of Austin. When you meet our neighbors experiencing homelessness where they are and begin to build relationships, you are breaking down stereotypes about who our unhoused neighbors are and what they need.

## **You are helping to mitigate homelessness in our city.**

In 2022, you moved 128 of our neighbors experiencing homelessness into a caring community and permanent home at Community First! Village. You helped them reclaim their dignity through purposeful work in our Community Works programs. You connected with them, encouraged them and supported them as they renewed, restored and transformed their lives.

**You continue to share your goodness** in such generous and compassionate ways that this year we held a ceremonial groundbreaking on 127 additional acres across two properties to expand Community First! Village. This expansion will provide as many as 1400 additional homes with supporting neighborhood buildings allowing us to welcome home more of our homeless neighbors.

Through your partnership with us, you continue to affirm our belief that **housing alone will never solve homelessness, but community will.**

## **Thank you for being that community.**

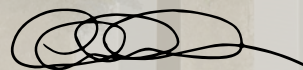
For nearly 25 years you have been the foundation for all that we do together in serving those who need us most. This is our Goodness Report for 2022. I hope you take some time to review all of the goodness that happening here because of you!

## **Your goodness shines through every neighbor that you have served on the streets or welcomed home to Community First! Village.**

We are so grateful for your loyal support in the work that we get to do together to serve our most vulnerable neighbors.

**You truly are the goodness** that is Mobile Loaves & Fishes!

Blessings,



**ALAN GRAHAM**  
FOUNDER & CEO







“The suffering we are seeing on our streets is not an intractable situation. We need to accept, however, that it’s also not a fix-and-repair situation or one waiting for a cure that will make it go away. The only way we are going to mitigate this crisis—this pandemic of homelessness—is through caring about each other as human beings.” - **ALAN GRAHAM**

## 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 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 our years of serving alongside our homeless neighbors, Mobile Loaves & Fishes’ staff and vast network of volunteers and partners 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. They 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 they can truly begin transforming their lives and engaging in meaningful ways with their community.

Housing alone will never solve homelessness, **but community will!**

337

**FORMERLY HOMELESS NEIGHBORS  
CALLED COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE HOME.**



Meet some of your  
Village neighbors!



“The Village is like a big work in progress of friendships and family, and it’s all good. I’m able to get help and to help others.”

- **BRANDON**, COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE NEIGHBOR SINCE 2021

Growing up in the foster care system, transferred from family to family five times, Brandon longed for a stable home and a caring family. Although he and his brothers were adopted when he was in high school, he left his adoptive family’s home after graduation to follow his dream of attending college. Because Brandon’s childhood was fraught with uncertainty, instability and inconsistent family connections, he did not acquire the foundational life skills he needed to realize his dream. Sadly, he soon found himself homeless.

When Brandon moved into the Village, he immediately began to make friends and forge his family. He regularly plays pickleball or basketball with his neighbors, and he sometimes joins in the fun of Open Mic Night at the Village. With regular community meals, there are many opportunities

for Brandon and his neighbors to connect over a shared meal.

MLF Board member and missional neighbor, Neal has become a mentor to Brandon. Neal is dedicated to helping Brandon realize his goals and dreams for a better life. He has helped him secure a job offsite and learn about budgeting and managing his finances. Most importantly, Neal and Brandon have bonded as friends and neighbors.

Living in this community has helped Brandon to surround himself with good friends and neighbors—a forged family. Through these relationships, he knows what it means to experience joy, hopefulness and belonging and has given him a desire to encourage others who may be struggling so they may experience similar levels of goodness.



You can hear more of Brandon’s story on this episode of the **GOSPEL CON CARNE PODCAST**





“I am so thankful for my bed, a door that locks, work I can do and the friends I have here.”


**- SHEA, COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE NEIGHBOR SINCE 2019**

Many of the neighbors living in Community First! Village experience mental health challenges. Our Village neighbor Shea is on the autism spectrum and remained undiagnosed until later in her adult years. Shea managed to mask her symptoms of autism for most of her life. She went to college and held a part-time job.

However, as her mental health became too much to manage on her own, Shea found herself isolated and depressed with no one to help. She hid herself in the woods doing her best to stay safe. It was only when she became homeless that Shea sought mental health assistance and began to better understand herself and how she could navigate her life.

A MLF staff member first befriended Shea while she was living on the streets. He connected her to the people who walked her through the Community First! Village application process and encouraged her to visit the Village often. An avid reader, Shea began volunteering in the onsite Community Library and built a trusted relationship with one of the library volunteers. Once Shea moved into the Village, she began to slowly make connections, build relationships and settle into her home. Shea’s love for plants and animals is a natural fit her work on our Genesis Gardens team.

At Community First! Village, Shea has made her way out of isolation and into community and home.

 You can hear more of Shea’s story on this episode of the **GOSPEL CON CARNE PODCAST**



You are the  
Community

**IN COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE.**



## Goodness is Love in Action!

Serving goodness to our neighbors living in Community First! Village and to our homeless friends still living on the streets of Austin happens because of you—our missional neighbors, volunteers and donors.

As we reflect on 2022, we are deeply grateful for the many ways you compassionately care for our community.

“Volunteering at the Village will be one of the most incredible things you will ever do. You may come expecting to serve the formerly homeless, but I can almost guarantee that you will leave knowing that you are the one who has been blessed.”

**- CINDY, COMMUNITY FIRST!  
VILLAGE VOLUNTEER**







## Community First! Village Expansion - It's a Revolution in Goodness.

Mobile Loaves & Fishes' Community First! Village is the most talked about neighborhood in Austin, Texas. The Village has proven that it works. We know that homelessness can be mitigated by providing an affordable, permanent home in a supportive community. We know that our work is replicable and that our neighbors can thrive within this community. Still too many men and women

suffer on the streets. In October of 2022, Mobile Loaves & Fishes held a ceremonial groundbreaking for the expansion of Community First! Village. The expansion includes two new properties which will add a combined 127 additional acres with room for 1400 more homes. Once fully developed, Community First! Village will have 1900 homes spread across 178 acres.

The Community First! Village expansion incorporates a site design which MLF refers to as "Neighborhoods of Knowingness." This approach combines a mix of home models grouped around a common area and shared community buildings, allowing neighbors to connect more regularly in a shared area of the neighborhood.



**NEIGHBORHOODS  
OF KNOWINGNESS**



“Building a neighborhood of this magnitude that is uniquely focused on serving the city’s most vulnerable neighbors requires collaboration across all parts of the community.” - ALAN GRAHAM

**COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE  
HOG EYE ROAD EXPANSION**







“It’s great. I need to get places and I don’t have to take a three hour bus to my appointment anymore.”

**- COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE NEIGHBOR**

Our medical transportation program began in May of 2022. Funded by a grant from the Scully Family Foundation, Mobile Loaves & Fishes established a non-emergency medical transportation pilot program that provides medical rides to neighbors at Community First! Village.

**614**

**TOTAL RIDES GIVEN**

**7,371**

**TOTAL MILES DRIVEN**

**85**

**TOTAL NEIGHBOR RIDES**

**20%**

**OF OUR NEIGHBORS HAVE RIDDEN TO A MEDICAL APPOINTMENT USING THIS TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM**



# BY THE Numbers

Thank you for serving alongside us, caring for our community, and helping us to continue to lift our neighbors experiencing homelessness up off the streets and bringing them home to Community First! Village.

This is the goodness you made happen in 2022.



### CONSTRUCTION CONTINUED ON THE LIVING ROOM.

This space will allow our neighbors to gather for fun activities, engage with the community and more easily access various services and resources provided by our partners. The building will include a TV room, game room, computers and two program rooms for gatherings like music classes and Bible studies.

## Together We're Multiplying Goodness

We held a ceremonial groundbreaking in October 2022 on the Community First! Village expansion. It is our next step in lifting more men and women experiencing homelessness off the streets into a permanent home in a caring community.



# Truck Ministry

**7** NIGHTS **365** DAYS



Serving since 1998, MLF is the largest prepared feeding program for homeless men and women in Central Texas.

**29,160**  
VOLUNTEERS

**6.2+**  
MILLION MEALS

GOODNESS  
POWERED BY  
**Volunteers**

COMMUNITY  
FIRST! VILLAGE  
**5,448**  
VOLUNTEERS

WORKING  
**9,442**  
SHIFTS

PROVIDING  
**45,708**  
HOURS OF SERVICE

# Community Works

Dignified  
INCOME

**\$1,510,169**  
EARNED BY  
**206**  
NEIGHBORS

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



**GENESIS GARDENS** Nearly **\$100,000** worth of produce, eggs, and meat were given to our neighbors in 2022 through the implementation of new farming techniques, the addition of our Aquaponics and Hydroponics greenhouse, and generous donations by fresh food vendors and volunteers.



**SHOP FOR GOODNESS** sold our "Products of Pure Goodness" to customers in **44** states and added **\$34,000** to support our neighbors at Community First! Village.



**COMMUNITY INN** **1185** stays were booked at the Community Inn earning **\$106,676** for the Village.



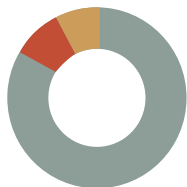
**HOLIDAY MARKET** **\$63,500** of products sold during our Holiday Market, helping to support our artists and makers who live in the Village.



**COMMUNITY CINEMA** hosted **23** movie nights, bringing more than **1785** guests to the Village.

# Financial Data

By keeping operating costs low, MLF put **83%** of all money raised directly into providing services for our homeless brothers and sisters.



PROGRAM SERVICES  
FUNDRAISING  
MGT & GENERAL

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$12,584,519 83%  
**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$1,323,041 9%  
**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$1,185,234 8%  
**TOTAL \$15,092,794 100%**

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES 2022



TOTAL ASSETS \$170,227,885  
TOTAL LIABILITY \$16,929,490  
**TOTAL NET ASSETS \$153,298,395**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION 2022



3,712

NEW DONORS JOINED  
OUR COMMUNITY



1,106

EVERYDAY ANGELS PROVIDED  
MONTHLY SUPPORT

Thank You!

YOU MAKE THE GOODNESS HAPPEN.





“There’s nowhere else I could be that would give me everything that I have here. I love it!”

- KATE, COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE NEIGHBOR SINCE 2021

@mobileloaves  
#ServingGoodness

  
**Mobile Loaves & Fishes**  
Serving Goodness.®

mlf.org  
give.mlf.org