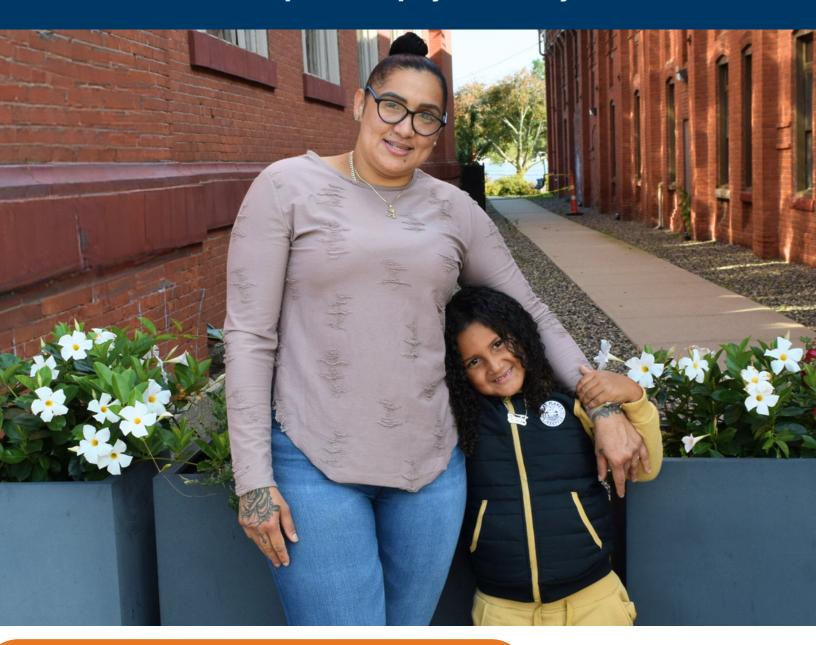


Compassion. Equity. Community.



**South Middlesex Opportunity Council** 

7 Bishop Street, Framingham, MA

## 2023 Annual Report

### Welcome Message

Dear Friends,

As we reflect on the last year, we are struck once again by both the extraordinary challenges faced by our community and by the remarkable way SMOC has been able to meet these challenges. Through the upheavals of the past few years, there is one constant force moving us forward and meeting the needs of the people we serve: our staff. The employees at SMOC are the backbone of the agency. They are dedicated, hardworking, and resilient.

Recruitment has been one of the primary obstacles of the year, as it has been for many organizations and business sectors. Time and time again, our staff and managers have stepped in where needed, worked extra shifts, and pitched in to assure we continue to address emerging community needs.



As you will see in this report, our organization has made a tremendous impact on the lives of people in our communities. Poverty and deep income inequality remain serious challenges. While it may be easier for those we serve to find jobs, often the wages have not kept pace with the costs of housing and other basic living expenses.

Individuals and families with low and moderate incomes are at risk of housing instability and homelessness with just one missed paycheck, expensive car repair, or medical bill. The need for affordable housing is at an all-time high—a crisis point. More and more people cannot afford to keep a roof over their heads. Wherever and whenever you can, please join us in saying "yes" to affordable housing development, especially for those with the lowest incomes who are completely priced out of access to this basic human right.

This past year, we welcomed several new members to our Board of Directors: Dr. Sarah Abbott, Dr. Javier Cevallos, and Tiffany Lillie. These three individuals will enhance our Board of Directors who are consistently engaged and steadfast in their support of our mission and staff. Without the energy of our Board, our community partners, and our staff, it would be impossible to continue turning our vision into reality.

Sincerely,

Susan Gentili President & CEO

and

Lawrence Scult Chair, SMOC Board of Directors

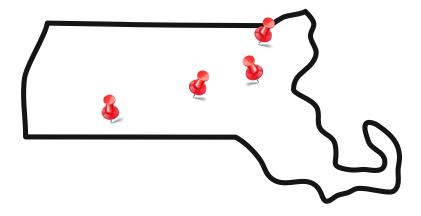


COVER PHOTO: Alicia and Daniel Tejada

### -About Us-

### **Communities We Serve**

Western Mass, Central Mass, MetroWest, and Lowell



#### Who We Are

South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC) is an anti-poverty Community Action Agency working in the community to provide opportunities for enhanced self-sufficiency, a safety net when short-term and/or continuing support is needed, and to address emerging community needs.

### **Our Mission**

South Middlesex Opportunity Council will improve equity, wellness, and quality of life for diverse individuals and families by providing advocacy, education, and a wide range of services; building a community of support and inclusion; and creating awareness to combat poverty through partnerships and coalitions with other organizations.



### Our Impact-

82,522

PEOPLE WERE SERVED BY SMOC.





2,871 Individuals and families were provided with safe and supportive emergency shelter.

2,244

People were provided with domestic & sexual violence counseling and prevention programs through the Voices Against Violence (VAV) program.

People transitioned from emergency shelter to permanent housing.

2,020

Adults and children received outpatient services from SMOC Behavioral Healthcare.

Households received assistance to address their housing crisis through our Housing Consumer Education Center (HCEC).

8,488

People received nutritious meals & groceries from our meal programs at Open Pantry Community Services (OPCS) in Springfield.

\$5,713,359

Paid by our Home Energy Assistance Program to help 5,115 households stay warm in their homes last winter.

9,124

WIC participants received supplemental food and nutritional education.

1,265

Units of affordable housing across our service regions.

\$584,487

Facilitated in tax refunds to 377 individuals, at no cost, through Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA).

\$1,991,682

Capital improvements in SMOC housing properties.

1.207

Students in Childcare and Head Start received early learning and developmental support.



### Agency Highlights

#### Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Over the last year, SMOC has made great strides in its efforts to uplift Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). At the end of 2022, we developed an Equity Action Plan and hired a full-time Diversity and Health Equity Officer to lead its execution. We are pleased to report that SMOC has made significant progress toward achieving our initial set of objectives under the Equity Action Plan, including:

- The development of a Derogatory Language and Racial Slurs Policy and Protocol.
- The training of an initial cohort of 30 staff in Courageous Conversations to equip staff with the tools to effectively communicate around racially sensitive subjects.
- The creation of a Glossary of Shared Terminology and a Pronoun Usage Guide.

#### Responding to the Family Shelter Crisis

In November 2022, the state of MA began to experience an increase in families seeking emergency shelter. As shelter space reached capacity, hotels were utilized to meet the demand. SMOC immediately coordinated a response that included providing support services and case management to families placed in local hotels, many of whom have just recently arrived to the United States.

SMOC has worked with community partners and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities to assure that families placed in hotels in MetroWest have access to vital resources such as food, medical care, and immigration expertise. Our family shelter team has added new staff and we are now serving over 200 families in hotel settings including more than 330 children.

We are very proud of the work this team has done to seek out resources, partner with community members, and provide the one-on-one support that families need to feel welcome and safe.

# Adding Capacity: North Central MA Region

Over the last year, our work in North Central MA has expanded thanks to securing long term funding to operate 78 emergency shelter beds for unaccompanied adults in Leominster.

This new capacity fills a longstanding gap identified by community members in the region. Our emergency shelter services include intensive case management staff who work with all guests to develop an individual housing plan. In FY23, we moved 39 individuals into permanent, stable housing.

In FY24, we have been awarded a contract to assist young adults in the region with securing permanent housing and an additional 26 beds will be available in Leominster for low-threshold temporary housing. We are so grateful to the communities of North Central MA who have advocated and supported all of the work that SMOC is doing to the meet the ever-growing needs in this area.

### -Awards-

#### **EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR**

#### **Kevin Guivas-Jimenez**

Emergency Bed Program Case Manager Lowell Transitional Living Center

#### Helida Johnson

Program Coordinator Women, Infant, and Children

#### **Maria Resto**

Property Manager
South Middlesex Non-Profit Housing Corporation

#### **EMERGING LEADERS**

#### **Evelisa Rivera**

Triage Services Program Manager Greater Worcester Housing Connection

#### Kimberly Yau

Program Manager SMOC Financial Services

#### **TEAMS OF THE YEAR**

#### **Community Support Services (CSS) Team**

**Greater Worcester Housing Connection** 

#### **Emergency Shelter Hotel Response Team**

**Family Services** 

#### MANAGERS OF THE YEAR

#### Michael Akers

Program Director, Emergency Food Pantry Open Pantry Community Services

#### **Kayla Cazares**

Director of Business Operations SMOC Behavorial Healthcare

#### **VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR**

Sam's Club Worcester Yesenia Gaudet
MetroWest

Brad Staeben and Family Lowell

Cathy Mitchell
Springfield

### SPIRIT OF SMOC MARGARET DAVITT AWARD

Lynne Miller

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

UMASS Road to Care Program
MetroWest Care Connection

### FRIEND OF SMOC ANNIE BRADFORD AWARD

MA State Representative Jack Patrick Lewis

### BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR FREDERICK RUBIN AWARD

Richard Twomey

#### MODEL OF RESILIENCE

**Gerard Desilets** 



### STAFF EVENTS



#### PI DAY

After a few years of interruption due to COVID, SMOC staff in Framingham, Lowell, Springfield, and Worcester were excited to resume our Pi Day tradition. This lighthearted "holiday" takes place on March 14 each year as a reminder of the first three digits (3.14) of pi. Pi Day was filled with smiles, music, trivia, and, of course, pie. Thank you to our local bakeries, Swanski's Bake Shop, Dulce de Leche, Crosby Bakery, and Rice Fruit Farm, for the delicious pies.

#### EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

During the week leading up to Earth Day, staff in all of our service areas coordinated clean-up projects in their local neighborhoods. A big thank you to our teams at Open Pantry Community Services, Lowell Transitional Living Center, Greater Worcester Housing Connection, and SMOC's headquarters in Framingham for participating in this SMOC community project.





#### SMOC GIFTS VESTS TO EMPLOYEES

This year, SMOC acknowledged staff with ten or more years of service with a cozy SMOC vest. In 2023, more than 150 staff met or exceeded this milestone. We are grateful that so many caring staff have dedicated a decade or more of service to helping SMOC meet its vital mission of serving the community.

## Energy & Financial Assistance

Energy & Financial Assistance provides financial assistance services—including Home Energy Assistance, Weatherization, Rental Assistance, and the Housing Consumer Education Center—all to assist households in maintaining safe and stable housing.

#### **OUR IMPACT**

The Housing Consumer Education Center (HCEC) served a total of 2,248 families with a combination of state and federal funds. While the emergency phase of the COVID pandemic had ended, many families were still significantly in debt and the aftereffects of the pandemic continued to impact people's ability to work. HCEC continued to process thousands of housing assistance applications and approved roughly \$21,065,345 in emergency assistance funds in the last year, which helped families avoid eviction and homelessness.



#### **RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

This year, SMOC was pleased to expand our **Rental Assistance Program (RAP)** capacity to serve more seniors. The rising cost of housing disproportionately impacts seniors and those with disabilities, making this an important community resource. This program, located in Acton, provides ten new project-based vouchers for eligible seniors.

### SNO MASS PROGRAM HELPS FAMILIES MOVE TO HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

The Supporting Neighborhood Opportunity in Massachusetts (or "SNO Mass") program offers housing counseling, financial assistance, and landlord incentives to expand housing choice for recipients of Section 8 housing and assists interested families in moving to "high opportunity" neighborhoods. Over the past year, SMOC supported 71 families in accessing healthier opportunities through the SMO Mass program.



## Energy & Financial Assistance



#### **GREEN JOBS ACADEMY**

Founded in 2010, **Green Jobs Academy (GJA)** provides hands-on learning designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to enter and advance in the weatherization field.

In addition to providing training, GJA is a community leader in conversations around weatherization, energy efficiency, and workforce development within these fields.

On March 27th, 2023, **Green Jobs Academy** and the **Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)** held a roundtable event to discuss the workforce development needs for the clean energy sector. Together with state, local, and non-profit leaders, the roundtable discussed workforce development in the clean energy sector with a focus on enhancing access for diverse and BIPOC students and contractors.

## COMING SOON: GREEN JOBS ACADEMY MOBILE TRAINING CENTER

The Green Jobs Academy (GJA) Mobile Training Center will make it possible to expand training opportunities beyond GJA's onsite location in Marlborough.



The Mobile Training Center is outfitted to provide comprehensive hands-on learning opportunities to students for whom travel to Marlborough is impractical. This lab will contain the required equipment and materials to teach GJA's core courses – Retrofit Installer, Crew Leader, and Energy Auditor – as well as customizable training options. GJA will leverage our relationships with agencies and contractors who will host the trainings at their locations.

\$21,065,345

distributed in emergency assistance funds helped **2,248** families avoid homelessness.

\$5,713,359

paid by our Home Energy Assistance Program helped **5,115** households stay warm in their homes last winter.

### Regional Services-

Regional Services provide safe and secure emergency and permanent housing focused in Central MA, Western MA, and Lowell, along with supportive services and connections to community resources.

### ISAIAH STEPHENS RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

This spring, the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network presented **Isaiah Stephens, Managing Director of the Lowell Transitional Living Center**, with its Excellence by a Young Professional award at its annual meeting.

Isaiah started with us as a Lowell Transitional Living Center (LTLC) Program Advocate in 2017, moved on to become a Case Manager in 2018, then Triage Manager in 2021, and was promoted to Managing Director of LTLC in 2022. It has been a privilege to see him learn, grow, and sometimes stretch into each new role. He is a dedicated, hardworking, and caring person who embodies excellence in his approach to his work and to life in general.





### NEW MEDICAL SERVICES INITIATIVE IN WORCESTER

In July 2023, we hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of a new space for medical services at our **Emergency Shelter Triage Center**, located at 25 Queen Street in Worcester.

In an effort to meet the growing need to access quality onsite healthcare during a shelter stay, SMOC, the City's Health and Human Services Commissioner, and the Family Health Center of Worcester began a collaboration to launch this initiative.

With limited space to designate, but enough to be creative, SMOC was able to adjust the office area of the shelter and build out a multi-functional private space. Through internal referrals and warm handoffs from case managers, all guests will have the opportunity to address their healthcare needs like never before and in the comfort of their current home. A special thanks to construction contractors Glickman, Kovago & Jacobs for donating the materials for the build out, and Worcester's local carpenters union for volunteering their valuable time.



### Regional Services



#### NICOLE LUSSIER NAMED MANAGING DIRECTOR OF OPEN PANTRY COMMUNITY SERVICES

In February 2023, Nicole Lussier was promoted to Managing Director of SMOC's **Open Pantry Community Services (OPCS)** program. Nicole has been with OPCS for over 28 years, most of which as Director of the Young Parent Program. In her short amount of time as Managing Director, she has continued to focus on meeting the needs of people facing food, housing, and medical challenges.

### INCREASED HOUSING CAPACITY IN LOWELL

Last winter, SMOC's Lowell Transitional Living
Center (LTLC) held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for
our newest Supportive Housing Program in Lowell.
Guests included state and local officials who
previewed a newly renovated residence designed to
house adults who have experienced homelessness
in Lowell and the surrounding communities. At
Westford Street, SMOC provides case management
to all residents in addition to connecting them to
healthcare services and employment, educational,
and workforce training opportunities.



"There is an overwhelming need in communities across Massachusetts for permanent, supportive housing for individuals who have experienced long-term homelessness," said SMOC's President & CEO, Susan Gentili. "This building, which SMOC purchased last spring, has undergone a remarkable transformation that will now serve as a welcoming gateway for individuals who have been living on the streets or in a shelter, providing residents with an opportunity to continue their journey toward achieving long-term housing stability."

This project includes funding support from the Greater Lowell Community Foundation, Massachusetts Housing & Shelter Alliance (MHSA), and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD, now the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities).

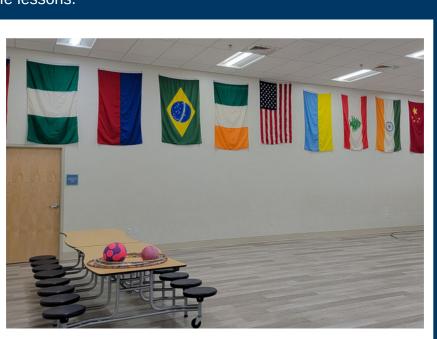
### Early Education

Early Education provides quality full-day, full-year, and after-school learning, nutrition, and care to children from infancy to age fourteen.

### SMOC PROVIDES AFTER-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

This year, SMOC began working with the I Believe Academy and provided space inside its Framingham CommUNITY Center. The I Believe Academy is an after-school basketball program that gives children a safe space between getting out of school and when their parents get home.

This programming at the CommUNITY Center has ensured that children have a place to continue growing and learning after school without the pressures of the outside world. Students are taught healthy habits, hard work, team building, self-esteem, and respect toward staff and peers, among other great life lessons.





### Early Education

#### **NEW STEAM LAB IN FRAMINGHAM**

SMOC's state-of-the-art STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) Lab opened its doors on Thursday, May 25th. This 1,600 sq. ft. laboratory provides interactive, hands-on learning for SMOC's Childcare and Head Start students and works to introduce them to the wonders of science, technology, engineering, arts, and math.

Play areas are designed to inspire imagination, and the lab's walls engage children through magnetic boards, a large wall clock with workable arms and shapes, and a depiction of the solar system. In addition to interactive play tables, the STEAM Lab offers a variety of technology tools.

The STEAM Lab was made possible by the generous donation of Steven Ratner. Designer Ann Hurwitz created the layout and designed all of the graphics in the new space. Special thanks as well to Michael Carey, who volunteered countless hours to the project, including building actual musical instruments that are mounted along the classroom walls and are accessible for all students.

We are thrilled to have this innovative and transformative space available to the Head Start and Childcare children and families we serve. The time that students spend in the lab will greatly enhance their classroom learning, curiosity, and development of problem-solving skills, which is the true intent and purpose for this wonderful resource.









### Community Support Services MW

Community Support Services MetroWest provides supportive services, connections to community resources, emergency shelter, and permanent housing to individuals in the MetroWest region.

#### Liza's Story

At just 23 years old, Liza was facing significant challenges. As a young adult experiencing homelessness, without family nearby, she was sleeping in her car and finding it hard to get a job without a home address.



When Liza came to SMOC, we were able to help immediately. Using flexible funding and our extensive network, we offered her a temporary placement where she stayed for a couple of weeks. We then worked with her to create a permanent housing plan — this was the turning point for Liza.

With SMOC's help paying the unit's upfront cost, Liza was able to take a full-time job and start saving money. Today, Liza has a safe place to live, full-time employment, and a financial safety net. She's at a different stage in her life, independent and excited to see what comes next. We are proud of Liza and grateful that SMOC's intervention made a positive difference in her life.



### Community Support Services MW



## FRAMINGHAM DAY CENTER INCREASES ACCESS TO VITAL SERVICES

SMOC's Day Center opened in February 2023 to serve people who are unsheltered in the downtown Framingham area, especially those who may have behavioral and physical health needs. When individuals come to the Day Center, they are greeted by a friendly staff member who can help make connections to medical and behavioral healthcare.

For people who are interested, staff can provide assistance to enter into shelter, access substance use services, and make referrals for work and housing. In addition to services, the Day Center helps individuals meet basic needs by offering shower and laundry facilities, a supply of clean clothes and blankets, healthy snacks and water, personal hygiene items, and a safe place to stay during the day.

As the number of single adults experiencing homelessness in our region has continued to grow in recent years, so has the need for services. Sometimes, people may not be comfortable going into an office or clinic to get support; providing services in a welcoming environment increases our ability to work with this population, expand access to critical services, and partner with them on their path toward long-term independence and housing.

#### HOUSING FOR YOUNG ADULTS

The challenges of the competitive and expensive housing market in Massachusetts are only more daunting for young adults without access to resources or family connections. Our Young Adult program offers flexible support and assistance to anyone aged 18-24 experiencing a housing crisis.

We provide case management to help young adults set and achieve goals that will develop independence and important life skills. Case management includes connections to employment and educational opportunities that will help them set a course for future success.



### Family Services

Family Services provide critical safety net programs with a focus on housing stabilization and linkages to community-based resources.

Voices Against Violence
Purple Passion Run/Walk









#### 2,244

individuals were provided with domestic and sexual violence counseling and prevention programs.

#### 9,124

WIC participants
received nutrition and
breastfeeding
education, free healthy
foods/infant formula,
and referrals.





### Family Services

#### **Carla's Path to Safety**

Like many people fleeing from domestic violence, Carla left a dangerous situation with nothing except her most precious possessions: her three children. Carla came to **Voices Against Violence**, SMOC's domestic violence program, looking for help. Without family nearby, she and her children were on the brink of homelessness.

Voices Against Violence was able to move quickly and find Carla and her family a safe place to stay for the short-term. Staff provided the assistance Carla needed to access and enter a family shelter. We are honored to have been part of Carla's path to safety.

#### **WIC PROGRAM SERVES OVER 9,000**

This past year, our WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) program staff provided nutrition and breastfeeding education, free healthy foods/infant formula, and referrals to other services to 9,124 unduplicated individuals – an all-time high. In addition to this accomplishment, WIC staff visited families in ten hotel shelters multiple times to ensure eligible refugees and asylees were connected with WIC and received services and benefits.



### SMOC Behavioral\_ Healthcare

SMOC Behavioral Healthcare (SBH) provides substance use and mental health outpatient services to individuals, children, and families. In addition, SBH provides residential substance use recovery and peer recovery services.

#### Lucky's Story

Lucky has been in recovery for 8 ½ years. Lucky credits finding fitness, particularly boxing, for making his continued recovery possible. In 2021, Lucky came to **Anchored in Recovery** as a volunteer, teaching free boxing classes twice a week to those in recovery.

Today, Lucky continues to teach boxing, serving as a role model and inspiration to those still struggling. Lucky is also a single dad to his 13-year-old son, Mickey. Lucky serves as a wonderful example of overcoming obstacles and finding your true passion. He believes that fitness in recovery is an essential part of living a full and productive life.



### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PARTNERS OF METROWEST PROVIDES CRITICAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT

SMOC is a partner agency in the Behavioral Health Partners of MetroWest (BHPMW), which recently entered into a new contract for the Community Partner Program with MassHealth.

Through the BHPMW partnership, **SMOC provided services to 700 households** in the most recent year. Care coordination teams including nurses, behavioral health specialists, and peer recovery coaches provided assessment, treatment planning, and ongoing care to ensure members received access to medical and behavioral healthcare and resources. This program also addresses social determinants of health such as nutrition, transportation, and housing.



### SMOC Behavioral\_ Healthcare

#### FLEXIBLE SERVICES CHANGE LIVES

SMOC Behavioral Healthcare's **Flexible (Flex) Services Program** continues to thrive and provide housing search and stabilization for members of four Accountable Care Organizations. In the last year, Flex Services provided over \$350,000 in funds to cover security deposits, furniture, moving expenses, and other financial barriers to housing.

### FLEX FUNDS HELP FAMILY OF FIVE AVOID EVICTION

When Jose and Damien came to SMOC, they were facing an uncertain future. Damien, a 19-year-old young man with non-verbal autism, was living with his three younger sisters and their father, Jose, who also lives with a disability.



After thirteen years in their apartment, the family's building was sold and the new owner planned to evict all the tenants. Unable to work due to their disabilities, Jose and Damien rely on a fixed income which made it impossible to afford an apartment at market rate. Over the span of several months, SMOC staff worked with the pair to secure housing vouchers and submit applications to housing authorities. At various points – facing a mountain of paperwork, documentation, and time – Jose was ready to give up, but we persisted. SMOC provided guidance throughout the court process and Jose and Damien were able to obtain a section 8 voucher and remain housed, thus avoiding homelessness.

### South Middlesex Non-Profit Housing Corporation

SMOC owns and manages over 1,200 units of housing through its Non-Profit Housing Corporation (SMNPHC) which provides safe and affordable homes for families and individuals. Housing staff provide links to agency and community-based resources to support and enhance housing stability.

### IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR BUILDINGS

In 2023, SMOC spent close to \$2 million improving the quality of our buildings. These capital investments are critical to ensure the safety and comfort of the individuals and families we serve. Our work spanned the year and covered impacted housing in each of our regions: Lowell, Central MA, MetroWest and Western MA.











### South Middlesex Non-Profit Housing Corporation







### HOUSING OPPORTUNITY: SPENCER, MA

Over the last year, SMOC's Bixby Road property in Spencer, MA became home to nine new families. Since hiring a new Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Property Manager, the property's policies and procedures have undergone a revamp and the property has also benefited from numerous capital improvements.

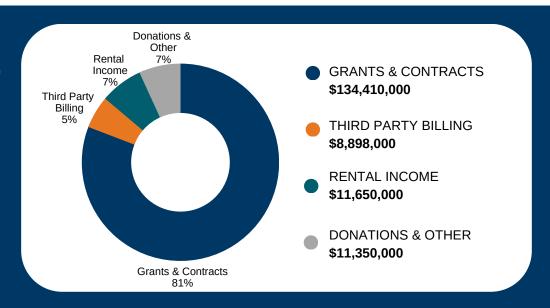


The Property Manager has worked with the Spencer Police Department to coordinate and participate in community meetings held at Bixby Road. Along with other events like neighborhood yard sales, these meetings encourage resident engagement and help build a strong sense of community. All Bixby Road residents receive access to supportive social services to support them throughout their tenancy.

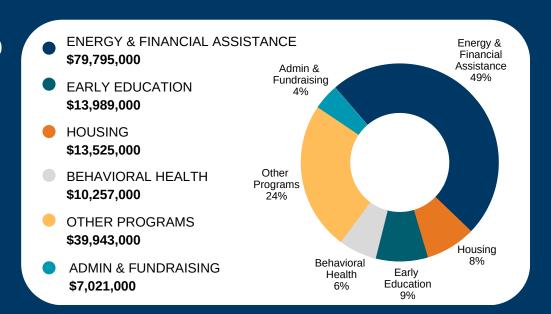
### **Financial Summary**

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30th, 2023

**REVENUE** TOTAL \$166,308,000



**EXPENSES** TOTAL \$164,530,000



Changes in Net Assets Before Depreciation \$1,778,000

Depreciation \$3,889,000

Changes in Net Assets (\$2,111,000)



## Thank You To Our Funders

**We can't do it alone**. We are only able to change the lives of close to 100,000 households each year thanks to the financial support of the following municipal, state, and federal agencies.

City of Framingham
City of Lowell
City of Springfield
City of Worcester

Town of Northbridge

Division of Banks

MA Department of Children & Families MA Department of Corrections

MA Department of Early Education & Care

MA Department of Elementary & Secondary

Development

MA Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities

MA Department of Mental Health
MA Department of Public Health
MA Department of Transitional Assistance
MA Executive Office of Health & Human
Services

MA Executive Office of Housing & Economic

Development

MA Medicaid MA Medicare

MA Office for Victim Assistance

MA Parole Board

MA Rehabilitation Commission

Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services

Administration

U.S. Department of Agriculture

U.S. Department of Education

U.S. Department of Energy

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban

Development

U.S. Department of Justice

U.S. Department of Labor

U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs





## Thank You To Our Donors

Private donations allow us to bridge the gap between public funding and what it takes to meet the changing and growing needs of our community. This list represents individuals, foundations, corporations, and organizations that contributed \$1,000 or more during Fiscal Year 2023.

#### \$20,000+

Cummings Foundation
Digital Federal Credit Union
Hope Foundation-USA
Steven Ratner
James Shay
Stahl Family Foundation

#### \$10,000 - \$19,999

America Online Giving Foundation
Paul and Katherine Blount Charitable Gift Fund
Ellen Breen
Brookline Bank
Carris Corporate Foundation, Inc.
The First Church of Christ in Longmeadow
Commonwealth Land Trust
Digital Federal Credit Union
Nancy Donahue
Jewell Insurance Agency, Inc.
Robert Murray
NetScout Systems Inc.
Rockland Trust Bank
Saga Communications of NE

#### \$5,000 - \$9,999

Lawrence Scult

AAA Northeast
All States Transport, Inc.
Bowditch & Dewey
Calare Properties Inc.
CBIZ, Inc.
Sharon Deehan
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Aubert J. Fay Charitable Fund
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Marc and Anne Margulies
Middlesex Savings Bank
Naismith Basketball Hall Of Fame
Needham Bank
Jonathan and Jessie Panek Family Fund
Patrick and Ann Slowey
Fredy Steng
Anna and Michael Szabados
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Yardi Systems

\$2.500 - \$4.999 Anonymous (2) Alekman Ditusa, LLC All Weather Home Services Joseph and Maria Barry James Blough Church of the Good Shepherd City Wide Facility Solutions Boston Colebrook Realty Services, Inc. Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation Enterprise Bank and Trust Green International Affiliates Robert and Carolyn Gregoire Cameron Madill Household Susan Magee John McGinn Medway Community Church Merchant Media Ondrick Natural Earth Lisa Pustis Red Hat Gary and Megan Rubin South Congregational Church Stratus Point IT **SVN Parsons Commercial Group** The Ethan Taylor Benevolent Fund Town Fair Tire Foundation David P. Truitt Jr. Chad Viens Waste Management Women's Benevolent Society

Linda Woolford

**ZVI** Construction

## Thank You To Our Donors

\$1,000 - \$2,499

ABC Health Services, Inc. Bazin Chiropractic Office

Jane Adler

Advocates. Inc.

American Endowment Foundation

Arbella Insurance Group

Gary Baker

Beacon Telecom

Leslev Blume

**Bright Funds** 

Ann Careau

Carr Property Managment, INC

Center for Human Development

Central Congregational Church

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Chatham Beech Charitable Foundation

Christ The King Epiphany Church

The Coating House, Inc.

Mary Collins

Cornerstone Bank

Elizabeth and Charles D'Amour Family Fund

Nicole D'Auteuil

Dave Miner Exterior Home Improvements

**Davis Square Architects** 

Barbara Derose

Janet Desroche

Adam Diamond

Garth and Sandra Dickie

Jeffrey Doctoroff

The Dominican Nuns

William Driscoll

Herbert and Elizabeth Elliott

Eppolito Financial Strategies of Raymond James

F&W Pest Control

Walter and Julia Farwell-Clay

Federal Home Loan Bank Of Boston

First Congregational Church of Billerica

Raymond and Mary Ann Fontaine

Suneetha Garikipati

Gayle Jervis

Shirley Gelineau

Glickman Kovago

Bonne Goodman

Mark and Gratia Gosselin

Grady Plumbing, Inc.

Karen Grassia

Wayne Griffin

James Hanrahan

**Peggy Hitchins** 

David Hojlo

Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors Club

Terry and Phyllis Howard

Edith Huck

Bruce Hulme

Robert Innis

Theresa Karam

Paul Kohler

Kenneth and Mary Kozik

Danica Lima-Bybell

Joanne and Alexandra Locke

The Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank

Saroj Madan

Carol Martucci

Max Cares Foundation, Inc.

Philip and Joanne Maynard

Paul McGowan

Medway Lions Club

Mightycause Charitable Foundation

Jane Mohr

Barbara and William Morrill

Michelle and Clifton Ngan

Kimberly Norton

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Philip Ottaviani

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Robert Spallino

Darleen St. Jacques

St. Patrick's Church

Mary Stahley

Sudbury United Methodist Church

Ramon Tabtiang

Takeda Pharmaceuticals U.S.A., Inc.

Chris Thompson

Tomo360

Welch Brothers Co.

Wellfleet Group, LLC

Wilbraham United Church

**Bob Williams** 

WMASS Home Improvements Inc

Workers Credit Union

**Gerald Wright** 

### Staff Photos















### Governance

#### **Board of Directors**



### **Board Officers**

#### Chair

**Vice Chair**Faith Tolson

Lawrence Scult

**Treasurer**Ruth Hibbard

### **Board Members**

Sarah Abbott
Jane Adler
Gary Baker
Gabriele Brambilla
Ellen Breen
Yvonne Brown
Javier Cevallos
John Ellsworth

Jeffrey Fishman Yesenia Gaudet Ruth Hibbard Bruce Hulme Dorothy Kennedy Elizabeth Killion Tiffany Lillie Joanne Locke
William Manley
Joseph Morrissey
Steve Penna
Lawrence Scult
Faith Tolson
Richard Twomey
Pamula Zicko



### **Compassion. Equity. Community.**

### Our Mission

South Middlesex Opportunity Council will improve equity, wellness, and quality of life for diverse individuals and families by providing advocacy, education and a wide range of services; building a community of support and inclusion; and creating awareness to combat poverty through partnerships and coalitions with other organizations.

### Our Regional Hubs

South Middlesex Opportunity Council 7 Bishop Street Framingham, MA 01702 (508) 872-4853 www.smoc.org

Lowell Transitional Living Center 205-208 Middlesex Street Lowell, MA 01852 (978) 458-9888 www.ltlc.org Greater Worcester Housing Connection 237 Chandler Street Worcester, MA 01610 (508) 757-0103 www.smoc.org

Open Pantry Community Services 287 State Street, P.O. Box 5127 Springfield, MA 01101 (413) 737-5354 www.openpantry.org

### Our Social Media





@smocmass





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