



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Small Sums is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that outfits individuals experiencing housing instability with the required work items they need to start a new job.

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you for your continued dedication to getting people back to work and on a path toward stability!

2022 was a year of transition for Small Sums as we carefully navigated out of a global pandemic and into a new, post-Covid environment. We served more youth experiencing homelessness through our Young and Hopeful Program and supported folks precariously housed through our Keep Your Place program. We also instituted a new Keep Your Job program to support clients with retaining employment and moving toward long-term economic and housing stability.

In 2022 we welcomed two senior leaders to our team, Tosheed Thompson as Assistant Director of Outreach and Andrea Kish-Bailey as Executive Director. Throughout these transitions, we continued to serve workers with personalized care and attention. In fact, we served more annually than ever before, outfitting 824 individuals with the work gear, tools, training, and transportation needed to start a new job.

Each worker has a unique story of resilience and hope, and we are pleased to be a part of their journey out of homelessness. As we look forward to 2023, we plan to outfit over 1,000 workers, serve more youth experiencing homelessness, and expand our Keep Your Job program.

Homelessness is a complex problem. Our simple, practical, powerful mission is one dignified step toward stability. But we can not do it alone. We rely on community partnerships to ensure each new worker has the resources to retain gainful employment and secure safe, affordable housing. And we depend on you, our generous community, to support this critical work.

Together, we can provide a dignified step toward stability.

With Gratitude,



*Connie Lewis*

Connie Lewis, Small Sums Board President

**Connie Lewis, Board President, Retired Vice President of Public Affairs**

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## WHAT WE DO

When facing poverty and homelessness, securing commonly required gear, tools, and transportation to get to work can be an insurmountable barrier to starting employment. Small Sums works to remove these barriers by providing required work items, a way to get to work, and additional services to help workers retain employment and achieve long-term economic and housing stability.

## MISSION

Our mission is to outfit individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness with the work gear, tools, training, and transportation they need to start a new job.

## VISION

A dignified step toward stability.

## ACCESSIBILITY

We make common resources obtainable for anyone.

## OPPORTUNITY

We believe everyone deserves a first and next chance.

## EQUITY

We are dedicated to leveling the institutional playing fields.

# OUR PROGRAMS



## **Dressed & Ready**

We outfit workers with required work shoes, boots, and clothes that are well-fitting and high-quality.



## **Tools for the Job**

We provide tools for construction workers, welders, barbers, chefs, and other trades.



## **On The Bus**

We provide reliable transportation via 31-day unlimited bus passes or gas cards for the first few months of employment.



## **Professional Development, Certifications, and Licenses**

We cover union dues, professional licensing test costs, renewal fees, certifications, training, and more.



## **Keep Your Place**

We provide prevention support to individuals who are behind on rent and at risk of homelessness.



## **Keep the Job**

We provide resources to help workers keep their jobs with a goal of long-term economic and housing stability.



## **Young & Hopeful**

Through partnership, we work with youth organizations to outfit teenage and young adult clients with the required work items to participate in job placement and training programs.





## MEET CARLOS

Carlos is staying at a Catholic Charities emergency shelter, where he learned about Small Sums. Over his life, he's had many temp jobs and is excited to be somewhere he can ground himself permanently. Carlos has a background in logistics and warehousing and is motivated about his new position with Northern Iron and the possibilities that come along with it. "I want to grow within the company and eventually become a supervisor," Carlos told us.

We drove Carlos to Loeffler Shoes during his appointment and purchased the metatarsal boots he needed to begin work. Carlos also received a Small Sums Back to Work package, including work pants, t-shirts, Bombas socks, and a donated Minnesota United FC jacket. Finding resources for food continues to be his biggest challenge, and we were happy to provide items from our food shelf and connect Carlos with other community resources.

Looking back 10 years ago, Carlos isn't happy where he was. His previous situation continues to motivate him to never live like that again. "The difference," Carlos exclaimed, "is my mindset, the people I surround myself with, and my overall environment." He says these things keep him grounded as he works toward returning home to his wife and children.

**"I'm in control of my own destiny." - Carlos**



**MEET ROBERT**



**MEET DREAM**



**MEET ANTHONY**

**For more workers stories visit: [www.youtube.com/@smallsums843](https://www.youtube.com/@smallsums843)**

## MEET THE WORKERS

When workers reach us, they have already found a verifiable job, a testament to their resilience and determination under daunting circumstances.

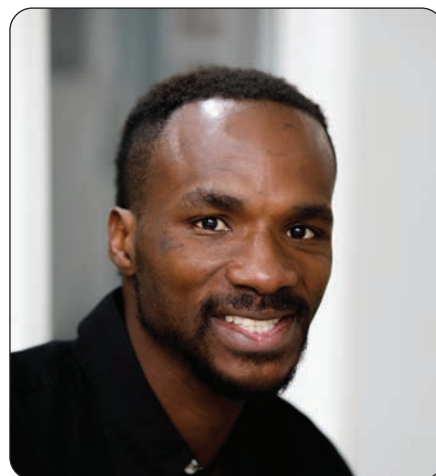


824

workers served



83% of workers experienced homelessness, while 17% of workers were at risk of eviction.



%

### Workers surveyed in 2022

93%

report receiving precisely what they needed to start their new jobs

67%

of clients were still employed

64%

of clients obtained stable housing (no longer experiencing homeless)

44%

(+6% increase)

of clients surveyed were both working and living in stable housing

# WORKER DEMOGRAPHIC

%	BY RACE
61%	African American or Black
18%	White or Caucasian
7%	Multi-Racial
5%	Latino or Hispanic
4%	Native American or Indigenous
2%	African
2%	Other
1%	Asian

%	BY PROFESSION
28%	General Labor
18%	Food Service
14%	Warehouse/Manufacturing
10%	Temp Work
9%	Health Care/Hospitality
6%	Other
6%	Retail/Customer Service
3%	Construction
2%	Security

#	ITEMS PROVIDED
809	Bus Passes
761	Work Clothes
361	Steel-Toe Boots
315	Non-Slip Shoes
224	Gas Cards
76	Scrub Sets
24	Tool Sets
6	Professional Licenses

%	BY RESIDENCY
33%	Emergency Shelter
26%	Staying with Others
21%	Transitional Housing
17%	At Risk of Eviction
3%	Car or Street

%	BY COUNTY
50%	Hennepin County
46%	Ramsey County
2%	Anoka County
2%	Dakota County

%	BY WAGE
9%	\$10 - 13/hour
38%	\$14 - 16/hour
35%	\$17- \$20/hour
2%	\$21-\$25/hour
4%	Over \$26



## 2022 FINANCES

REVENUE	%	AMOUNT
Non-Government Grants	41%	\$166,430
Events	12%	\$48,042
Individuals	46%	\$188,248
Clients & CoPay/Donations	<1%	\$4,160
Other types of Income	<1%	\$1,107
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$407,986</b>

EXPENSES	AMOUNT
Program Expenses	\$381,759
Operating Expenses	\$100,436
Fundraising Expenses	\$125
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$482,320</b>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY	%	AMOUNT
Liabilities	27%	\$80,605
Net Assets	3%	\$223,371
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$393,976</b>

BALANCE SHEET	%	AMOUNT
Current Assets	96%	\$290,537
Fixed Assets	4%	\$12,374
Noncurrent Assets	<1%	\$1,065
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$303,976</b>



# **STORIES MATTER:**

## **SPRING CELEBRATION**



# STORIES MATTER: SPRING CELEBRATION





## THANK YOU DONORS

Since opening its doors in 2005, Small Sums has outfitted thousands of individuals experiencing homelessness with the work gear, tools, training, and transportation they need to start a new job. But we didn't do it alone! Thank you to all our donors who help advance our mission. Together, we provide a dignified step toward stability.

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### **\$10,000+**

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