

Greater Seattle Cares



Uniting Communities to serve the homeless

Greater Seattle Cares ("GSC") envisions a world without homelessness in which communities come together to promote a better quality of life for those in need.

Annual Report

2014

The Year in Review

At the beginning of 2014 the One Night Count showed a startling increase in homelessness of 14% over the prior year. Over 9,000 were homeless on that night and over 3,000 were without shelter. Greater Seattle Cares, along with many other private and public entities, exists to serve the homeless population with the goal of getting them into warm, dry and safe places to live where they can thrive and stay healthy.

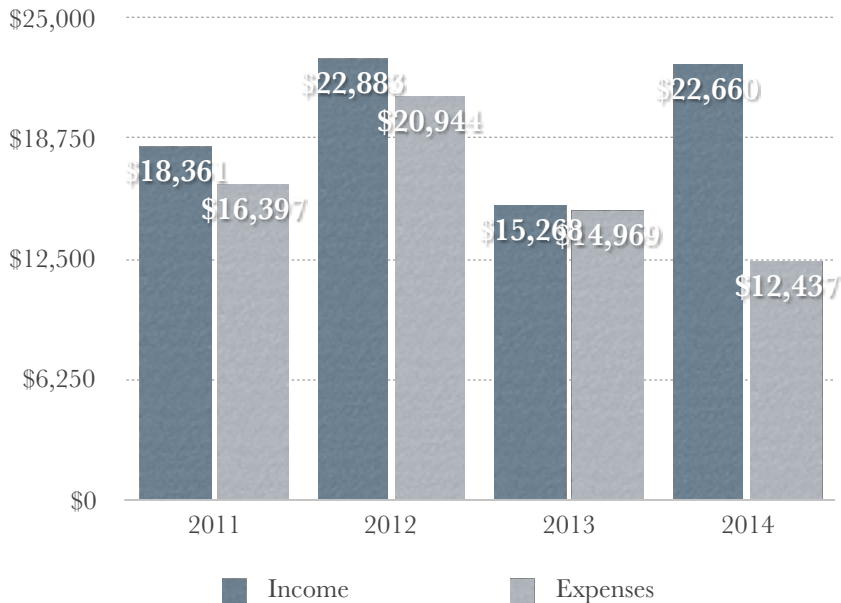
For the first nine years of its existence, Greater Seattle Cares was focused principally on serving the basic needs of the residents at Tent City 3. Toward the end of 2014, however, GSC's board made a conscious decision to expand the organization to be able to serve additional groups of homeless people, perhaps with a greater focus on helping residents get back into permanent housing. This decision coincided with the emergence of additional homeless encampments in the Puget Sound region that were NOT supported by SHARE (the organizational sponsor of Tent City 3), as well as with a political debate that ended with the City of Seattle adding funding to its next biennial budget to help support additional camps.

To implement its decision, the Greater Seattle board is currently involved in a strategic planning process, and, at the same time, has begun supporting a smaller camp of homeless people currently being hosted by Haller Lake United Methodist Church (HLUMC), in addition to its work with Tent City 3. The residents of this smaller camp have named themselves "United We Stand." Disassociated from SHARE and illegally occupying a park in North Seattle, the camp was in danger of being disbanded by police when HLUMC agreed to host the camp for a time under the condition that GSC provide logistic support. Since then, GSC has arranged for material support for the camp (food, clothing, shelter), in addition to furnishing technical assistance as the campers strive to organize themselves and seek new hosts.

The Board of Directors
Greater Seattle Cares

Financial Summary

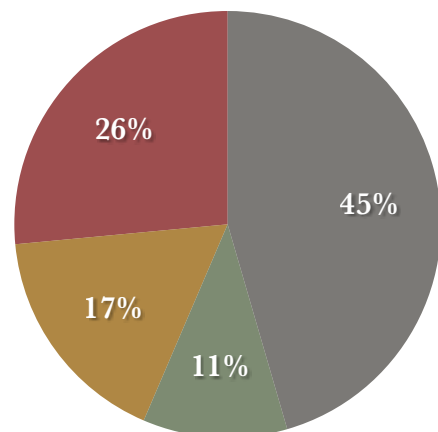
GSC Comparison of Cash Resources and Expenditures



This year our revenues were back up to the level of 2012 revenues. We rely totally on donations and grants. Greater Seattle Cares (GSC) began getting donations through the employee matching funds at both Microsoft and Boeing this year. That has been a boost to our regular giving. Several new small businesses are now regular contributors. In addition the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia continues to provide a substantial annual grant for our work. See the *In Appreciation* summary for a list of all the financial supporters.

The GSC Board made a strategic decision this year to expand our outreach in the future. Along with expanding the number of camps we support, we also decided to expand and update our website to provide additional services for the camps. As a result of these decisions we held back some revenue toward the anticipated growth and expenses in 2015.

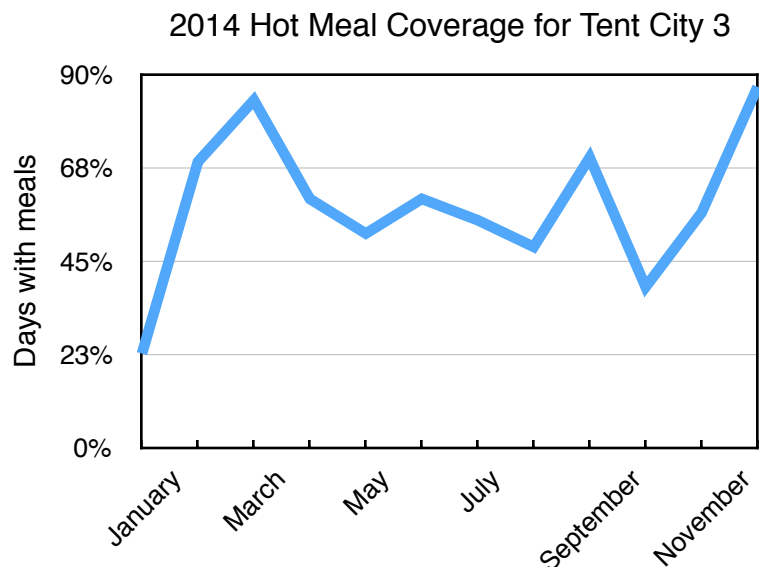
- Tent City 3
- Camp United We Stand
- Business expenses
- General Homeless Camp Support



We Care, We Serve Through...

Hot Meals for Tent Camps

GSC maintains an online, user friendly calendar for volunteers to sign up to cook hot meals for a camp. When needed, we help volunteer groups with food cost and with finding kitchens where they can cook. We are pleased to report that in 2014 hot meals were served on 59% of days.



In November of this year, St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church started hosting a community dinner every Tuesday night. This is open to anyone free of charge. Our Board members Josef and Elizabeth Hinkofer, both parishioners at St. Dunstan's, got the idea of preparing extra food to deliver to the camps as well. Since then they make a run with hot food every Tuesday night to TC3, and Camp United We Stand. GSC supports the effort monetarily and with gleaned food.

We Care, We Serve Through...

Dental Health Care



Greater Seattle Cares was fortunate to be able to bring the Medical Teams International Mobile Dental Clinic to Tent City 3 six times in 2014. At four of those visits, we had both a dentist AND a dental hygienist serving the camp, while at the other two, we had only a dentist. Altogether, we were able to provide dental and cleaning services to **76** residents of Tent City 3. An additional **10** residents were referred on to more advanced dental care through our on-going relationship with Swedish Hospital's Project Access Northwest and with independent dentist Dr. Alecia Nowak in downtown Seattle.

Denture program

Partnering with MTI and a local denturist, GSC initiated a denture program that, by the end of 2014, had provided a total of 26 campers with full or partial dentures.

In January of 2014, with the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid in Washington State expanded its coverage and began once again to pay for dental care for low-income individuals. GSC's role then changed from funder to Patient Navigator, helping individuals who needed dentures to sign up for Medicaid and to maneuver the many steps needed to attain denture services paid for by the State of Washington. In 2014, GSC worked with nine individuals to get them dentures.

We Care, We Serve Through...

Move Support

Tent City 3 moves from one host church to another every three months. That means packing up the entire camp, moving to a new location, and reassembling everything. Each move costs the camp about \$2,000. Greater Seattle Cares helps recruit volunteers to assist with the move, as well as donating needed supplies such as garbage bags for personal items, zip ties, duct tape, etc. In 2014, GSC also provided additional support for several especially long moves (e.g. Tukwila to Shoreline), including the rental of an additional moving van, a pallet mover and a trailer jack.



Setting up Pallets at the Ravenna site



Placing plywood on top of the pallets for the tents

In 2014 Tent City 3 moved 5 times:

- 01/05 from Bryn Mawr UMC in Renton to St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church in Shoreline
- 04/05 from St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church in Shoreline to Riverton Park UMC in Tukwila
- 07/11 from Riverton Park UMC to Haller Lake UMC in North Seattle
- 10/11 from Haller Lake UMC to Ravenna Site (public land)
- 12/12 from Ravenna Site to Seattle Pacific University



Raising the tents at the St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

We Care, We Serve Through...

Redistributing Gleaned Items

Greater Seattle Cares has established an extensive gleaning program with a variety of local businesses including: a regional big box store, Starbuck's, Tully's, and Auntie Anne's Pretzels. GSC volunteers do regular pick-ups of items that would otherwise be sent to a land-fill. This includes canned food, fresh produce, baked goods, camping items, home décor, toiletries, furniture – literally anything that is sold at this enormous chain store.



Bountiful broccoli!

Gleaning Totals

Food	78345
Toiletries	6410
Clothing	419
Others	14404
\$50+	291
\$100+	728

The quantity of gleaned items has increased significantly this year, **by an astounding 60%**, to a total of nearly **97,000 items!** Pick-ups are now made five to six times a week, often completely filling two or three SUVs and a panel truck.

The items that can be used at TC3 are delivered there. Items such as furniture, bulk food that requires cooking, and excess fresh fruits and vegetables are delivered to other non-profits including [Home2Home](#), [Hopelink](#), [The Northshore Senior Center](#), [POPY's Café](#), and a host of area food banks.

Among the items GSC receives through its Gleaning Program is a constant trickle of **new bicycles**. GSC pays for safety checks and locks for these bicycles, which are then donated to camp. The bicycles are maintained by TC3 campers, using a set of tools also donated by GSC. During 2013, GSC received more bicycles through our Gleaning Program than TC3 could use. In response, the Bicycle Program expanded to include other organizations, including [Olive Crest](#) and [Ryther House](#) (both homes for abused children), [The Boys and Girls Club](#), and [Ryan's House](#) on Whidbey Island (housing for homeless youth).

We Care, We Serve Through...

Camp Infrastructure, Food and Supplies

Donated clothing

GSC serves as a drop-off point for some donors, and we even go to pick up donated items if requested. GSC also stores clothing when there is a surplus or if the donated clothing is out-of-season. Occasionally GSC purchases or solicits specific clothing items when there is particular need: e.g. warm jackets, wool socks, women's undergarments. GSC also serves as the non-profit recipient of commercial clothing donations, such as gift of 500 pairs of men's briefs from Saxx for the second year in a row.



Tents and tarps

GSC provides tents for the campers and tarps to protect the tents from the elements. As most camping tents are not designed for permanent exposure to sun, rain and snow, they must be replaced about every year. GSC's Gleaning Program acquires many of the needed tents. GSC purchases tents directly when there is an acute shortage.

Camp infrastructure

In order to keep the tents up off the cold, wet ground, GSC has provided pallets and plywood. Like the tents, these must be replaced every two to three years due to normal deterioration.

Toiletries

GSC provides soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, feminine hygiene products, hand sanitizer and other toiletries. Sometimes we are able to guide individuals and organizations to donate these items; when there is an acute shortage, GSC provides them with internal funding.

Food items to stock the camp pantry

Most camps have no facilities to cook at camp, but have a microwave oven. GSC helps to stock the camp pantry with non-perishable items that can be heated up in the microwave so that campers will have food available for breakfast and lunch. GSC also replaces the microwave ovens as they break down, which they do regularly with such heavy use.

In Appreciation

Greater Seattle Cares has an incredible group of supporters that partner in reaching out to the homeless in our community. Thanks to your support, many receive food, shelter, and warm clothing as well as hope for the future.

Cash donations	Seattle Public Schools	Kelley, Jessica & Friends	Salmon Bay School	St Luke Catholic Church
Aasgard	St. Patrick Church	Lono, Vanessa	Sand Point Community	St Luke School's 8th Grade
Summit	Valeria Warren	Mars Hill Community Group	United Methodist Church	St Marks Cathedral
Ayal Naor		Martin/Thompson/	Seattle Academy	St Paul Catholic Church
Boeing	In Kind Donations	Haas	Seattle Pacific University	Strigen, Alex & Mary
Employee Matching Fund	Saxx	Mission 25	Seattle Pacific University Library Group	Tabernacle Baptist Church
Community Church of Seattle	Underwear Anonymous -	Mountain View Community Church	Seattle Pacific University Stegman Group	Temple De Hirsch Sinai
Cynthia Etter	Bus passes	National Leadership Council	Seattle Preparatory School	Tent City 3
Dennis	Hot Meals	Neighbors of Tent City 3	Sodexo Group	Cooks with Greater Seattle Cares
Fleshman	Bethany North Community Church	New Beginnings Christian Fellowship	Sonic Crossfit	Tester, Ellen L.
Donna Calhoun	Billings Middle School	New Hope North City Christian Church	Teens & Kids	TLC Lynnwood
Dorothy Roat	Breath of Life SDA Church	Christian Church	St Andrew Episcopal Church	TOPS School
EMN	Chai, Livnot	Of One Body	Episcopal Church	United Church of Christ Youth Group
Episcopal Diocese of Olympia	Christ The King Catholic Church	Rain City Rotary	St Catherine School	University Lutheran Church
Olympia Faith Lutheran Church	Cranston Family	Richmond Beach	St Clouds Restaurant & Catering	Upper Crust Catering
Frances Posel	Friends of Bill Gourmet Grub	Congregational Church	Company St Dunstan's	Watkinson Family, Melanie
Jacob and Nellie Naor	Hyung Jae Compassion Group	Richmond Family	Episcopal Church	
Joel Seymour	Kadima	Rosen Taylor Family	St Dunstan's Youth Group	
Matt Barrett	Reconstructionist Community			
Microsoft	Karunaseva			
Matching Gifts				
Pamela Kilment				
Penny Harvest				
Rain City Rotary				
Safeway Foundation				

Greater Seattle Cares

Board of Directors

Leslie Nodtvedt — President, January - February

Cynthia Roat — Secretary/Treasurer - January - February; President, March - December

Board members:

Anne Novak

Bill Bear

Janiece (Jenny) Coss

Josef Hinkofer

Elizabeth Hinkofer - Secretary/Treasurer - March - December

Mary Gould - Founder Emerita

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