



# 2015 Annual Report

*Greater Seattle Cares connects volunteers and resources to help people living in encampments survive homelessness.*

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Homeless crisis

On January 28<sup>st</sup>, 2015 the annual One Night Count found 10,047 people homeless in King County – 3,772 of them living on the streets. That's a 21% increase over the count the year before. **Over the next 12 months, the number of homeless encampments in the county rose from 3 to 10.** 45 people died homeless on the streets. In November, Mayor Murray declared a State of Emergency.

### Greater Seattle Cares steps up

Greater Seattle Cares has always been a small, rather informal, all-volunteer organization, mainly supporting Tent City 3. But the growing need was impossible to ignore. After careful consideration, the GSC Board of Directors decided to meet the challenge.

- **New Camps**

During 2015, GSC expanded to serve a total of 3 camps:

- Tent City3
- Camp United We Stand (CUWS)
- Camp Unity Eastside (CUE)

CUWS and CUE are independent camps, not affiliated with a parent organization. GSC shepherded CUWS through the process of incorporating, forming a Board of Directors, and establishing itself as an independent, self-managed homeless encampment.

- **Programs**

This year, we continued to:

- Coordinate donors to cook one hot meal a day for the camp residents through the meal calendars on our website.
- Provide a constant flow of donated clothing to the camps.
- Facilitate the donation of tents and tarps to the camps.
- Collaborate with Medical Teams International to bring a Mobile Dental Van to Tent City 3.

We also expanded our programs to:

- Glean donated items 3 times a week from COSTCO, Starbucks and Auntie Anne's Pretzels stores; delivering items to the camps and to an ever expanding group of service organizations.
- Financially support the meal program at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church in order to send meals once a week to TC3 and CUWS, as well as feed the local community.

### Items Gleaned

127,817

### Dental Patients Served

60

### Meals Coordinated

29,595

## ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH

In order to serve the increased number of camps with expanded programs, GSC is growing into a more mature non-profit organization. In 2015, we:

- Redesigned and upgraded our website at [www.greaterseattlecares.org](http://www.greaterseattlecares.org)
- Expanded our volunteer program
- Affiliated with other homeless advocacy organizations
- Expanded communication with our supporters through regular blogs and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GSCTentCity>.
- Created greater internal structure in our policies and procedures
- Established a budget for each camp
- Registered with donation programs at Boeing and Microsoft
- Applied for external grants

### 2015 Board of Directors

*Bill Bear*

Janiece Coss, Treasurer

*Liz Fenn*

Roger Franz

Josef Hinkofer

Liz Hinkofer, Secretary

*Leslie Nodtvedt*

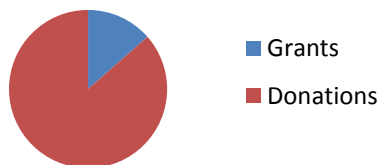
*Anne Novak*

Frances Posel

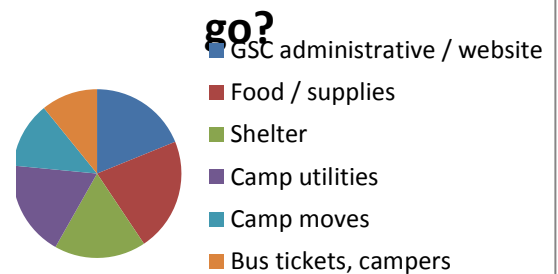
Cindy Roat, President

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

### Where does the money come from?



### Where does the money go?



## Donors and Grantors

*Many thanks for your generosity!*

American Endowment Foundation  
Boeing Company  
Michael Ching  
Denny's Pet World  
Episcopal Diocese of Olympia  
Elizabeth Fenn  
First Lutheran Church  
Dennis Fleshman

Kim Grantier  
Steve Kennewick  
Maia C. Henry Lacher  
Lynnwood Rotary Foundation  
Amy Maccarone  
Taylor Matalone  
Microsoft Matching Gift Program  
Andrea Morgan  
Ayal Naor

Jacob and Ellen Naor  
Frances Posel  
Dustin Remington  
Richmond Beach Congregational Church  
C.E Roat  
Dorothy Roat  
Ruta Enterprises  
Hussein Saab  
Kathryn Zufall

## THANK YOU

We asked residents of the camps if they thought Greater Seattle Cares made a difference in their lives. We got lots of positive feedback, and one particularly moving letter from a long-time resident.

*The difference, before and after, is pretty amazing.*

*Before GSC, the donations department was a wet (and dissolving) particle board banquet table with a leaky tarp over it. We had a common area canopy, but it leaked like a sieve. No pantry. No computer tent. No office tent. No bag n tag tent. No blanket tents. No shower. No floor in the TV tent. No floors in the dorm tents. No computer. No printer. No bike department. No dental van. No denture program.*

*Most of the camping tents were so small you couldn't stand up in them. Most of the tarps leaked. In 2010, GSC provided tarps of such good quality we're still using them. They've outlasted the covers that came with the portable carports!*

*When the camp had a blanket shortage each winter, it was GSC to the rescue. When the camp had a food shortage, again GSC helped time and time again.*

*If we stripped away everything that GSC contributed, there wouldn't be much left. You could also say that the gorilla tape and twine provided by GSC over the years has literally held the camp together. The garbage bags enabled people to move and keep their stuff dry.*

***What . . . GSC has given countless people over the years most of all is dignity. A decent place to live while they try to get their lives back together or start over.***

*The benefits GSC has provided to hundreds of people per year, and the ripple effects of GSC's kindness, are immeasurable.*

We couldn't do what we do without you, our supporters. Many, many thanks to our volunteers, our donors, and to the organizations and corporations that make it all possible.

## 3 WAYS YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT

Would you like to make a difference in the lives of people staying in homeless encampments? There are many ways to help!

- **Cook a meal!**  
Everyone needs a hot meal, especially in the cold winter months. Go to our website to sign up to cook for some hungry camp residents.
- **Volunteer with Greater Seattle Cares!**  
There are lots of ways to volunteer with GSC – either once or on an on-going basis. Check out the Volunteer page on our website.
- **Make a donation!**  
Your financial donation goes farther with GSC. As an all-volunteer non-profit, our administrative costs are minimal. Your gift will help provide food, clothing, and shelter to folks who are struggling to get back on their feet. **Thank you!**

### KEEP IN TOUCH!



<https://www.facebook.com/GSCTentCity>



(425) 998-7635



[info@greaterseattlecares.org](mailto:info@greaterseattlecares.org)



[www.greaterseattlecares.org](http://www.greaterseattlecares.org)



P.O. Box 77815  
Seattle, WA 98177