



# ANNUAL REPORT

**2025**

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# 2025 REPORT OVERVIEW

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# A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO MIKE HORNACEK:

Dear Friend of Together,

By any measure, 2025 was a landmark year for Together. We celebrated our fiftieth year of service to Omaha and Western Iowa with a pair of very different but equally memorable events: A touching commemorative service at First United Methodist Church on May 6, the 50th anniversary of the tornado that devastated much of our community in 1975. The ensuing recovery effort led to the formation of Together. Then in November, we held our blowout, 1970s-themed Giving is Groovy gala at the Steelhouse. Maybe you joined us for one or both of those unforgettable evenings. If so, thank you!

In the months in between, we grappled with many challenges, including a DOGE review process that briefly interrupted our access to previously approved federal funds, more restrictive SNAP eligibility guidelines, cuts to nutrition assistance programs, and the federal government shutdown, which caused the need for food assistance to spike late in the year.

Despite these and other headwinds, Together accomplished amazing things in 2025. Between them, our Omaha and Council Bluffs choice food pantries served a record 29,760 participants, providing a total of 161,290 services, which translates to 2,879,602 nutritious meals. I owe special thanks to those heroic donors who provided emergency funding so our pantries could purchase food to meet increased demand during the shutdown.

Meanwhile, Our Horizons housing team faced its own obstacles, with our Housing Stability Clinic operating out of temporary locations throughout the year while its permanent home remained under renovation. This limited hours of operation and presented other difficulties. Nevertheless, across all our housing programs, Together served 3,307 of our neighbors who came to us facing a housing crisis and helped 2,745 of them (that's 86 percent) obtain or retain permanent housing. And our Director of Policy and Advocacy worked tirelessly to try to widen access to nutrition and housing assistance and helped lead opposition to a proposed city ordinance that would have turned our unsheltered neighbors into criminals because they had no safe place to live.

Looking ahead to 2026, while many of the strains from 2025 persist, I find reasons for optimism. The Housing Stability Clinic is now operating out of its beautifully renovated space, and we are adding more and more partner organizations to help us develop collaborative, cost-effective, and durable solutions to our neighbors facing housing instability. Our two food pantries continue to provide healthy food for our participants every day, five days a week.

None of this would be possible without your generous support, and this year we are introducing exciting new ways for you to help. These include Program Sponsorships, where you or your organization can donate directly to our food, housing, and advocacy efforts. Or consider becoming a Monthly Donor, making a small, ongoing donation to support Together. For the price of one coffee a month, you can make a difference in hundreds of lives. Every penny of the proceeds from both Program Sponsorships and Monthly Donors go directly to our efforts to assist families struggling to put food on the table or find a safe place to live. In these unsettling times, your gift becomes a beacon of stability and hope.

Sincerely,



Mike Hornacek  
President and CEO  
Together

# Together's

# Mission

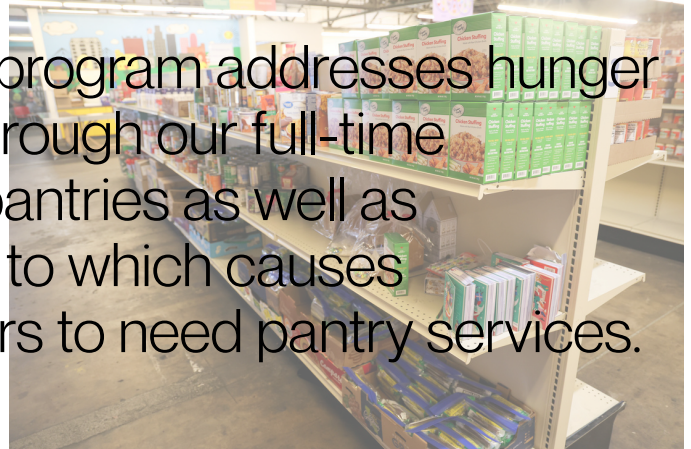
**Together's mission is to transform lives by providing food and housing through access, advocacy and action.**



# Programs



Together's Nourish program addresses hunger in the community through our full-time participant choice pantries as well as addressing barriers to which causes community members to need pantry services.



Together's Horizons program is a multifaceted program to address homelessness through Street Outreach, Rapid ReHousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, Support Services and our Housing Stability Clinic with the necessary case management tailored to each situation.



Together's Voice program is our advocacy outreach that ensures the voices of those we serve are heard by elected officials and brings awareness to the issues of hunger and homelessness.



# Leadership Team

## **Mike Hornacek**

CEO and President

## **Tina Murray**

Executive Vice President of Impact

## **Allison Bitterman**

Vice President of Development

## **Eric Webster**

Vice President of Operations

## **Alicia Christensen**

Director of Advocacy and Outreach

## **Ann Koster**

Director of Finance

## **Rebekkah Roberts**

Director of Human Resources



# Board of Directors

**Cristina Castro-Matukewicz***Board Chair*

Wells Fargo

**Brian Moreland***Board Secretary*

Core Bank

**Trisha Hall***Board Vice Chair*

Agility Health

**Brad Underwood***Treasurer*

OPPD

**Dr. Edward Peters**

UNMC College of Public Health

**Alejandra Valdez**

Viva Fit Kitchen

**John Hallgren**

Ponca Health Services

**Joshy Mathadil**

Union Pacific

**Vanessa Dobles**

Union Pacific Railroad Museum

**Bob Davidson**

Children's Nebraska

**Andrew Tugan**

Koley Jessen

**Rabbi Deana Berezin**

Temple Israel

**Craig Finnestad**

Water's Edge Church

**Fallon Savage**

Farm Credit Services of America

**Andrea Kathol**

Field Day Development

**Charlie Vaughan**

Walmart

**Joe Vaghy**

Cox Communications

**Rich Harold**

Lindsay Corporation

**Lyndsey Lang**

Methodist Health System

# 2,879,602

Nutritious meals provided  
through our Omaha and Council Bluffs  
Choice Pantries

## 29,760

Unique Individuals  
walked through our  
pantries

**216** people received  
identification in  
order to attain  
housing, benefits or  
employment

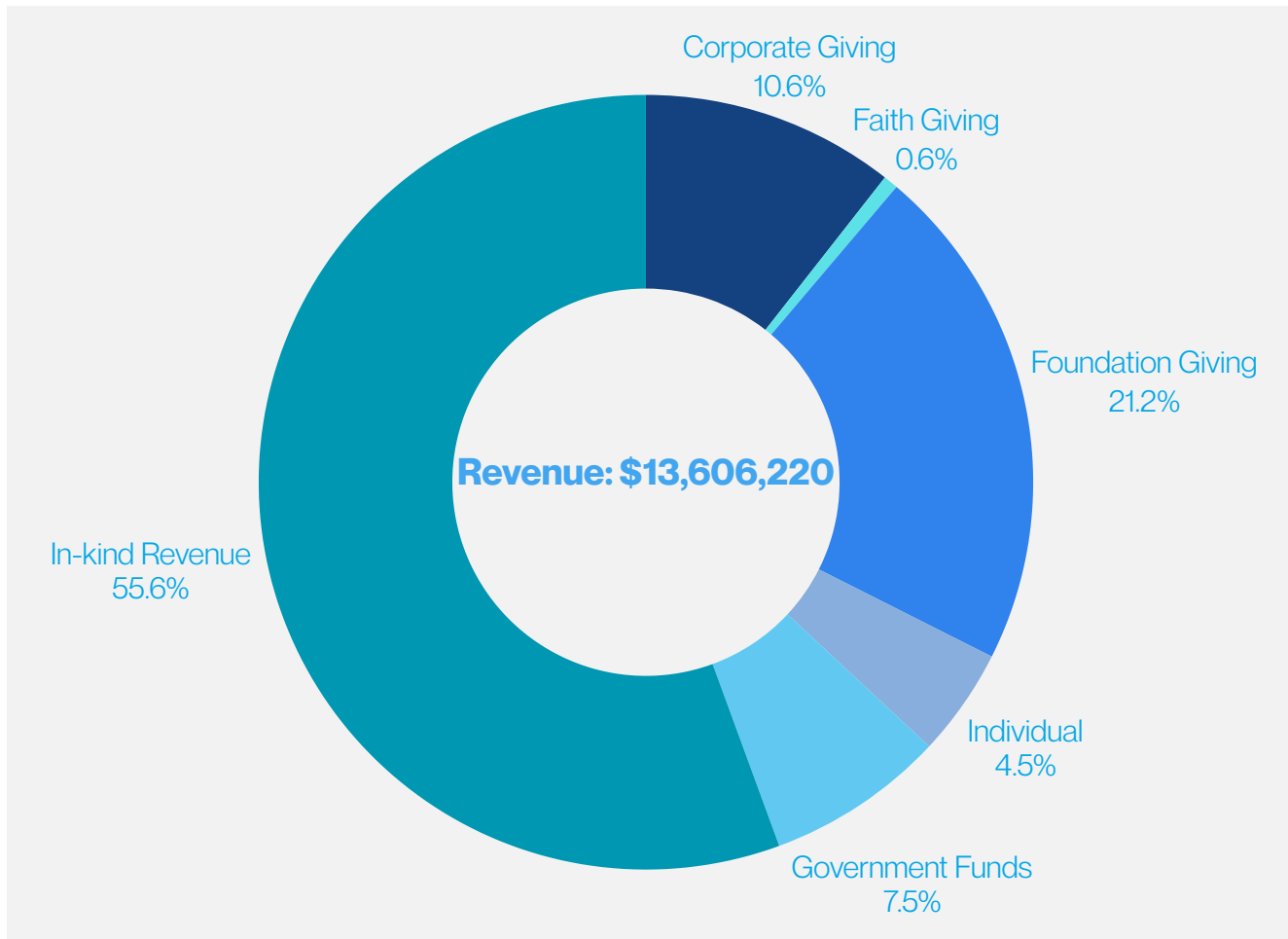
**133** individuals  
experiencing  
homelessness  
were touched by  
our Street  
Outreach team  
and

**79** exited to a  
permanent home.

**3,307** people came to us with a  
housing crisis  
and

**86%** were able to retain or attain housing

# Financials



**Expenses: \$13,415,928**

**92% of budget**



# 2025 Wins and Challenges



## Wins

Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala was the most successful we've ever had, raising nearly \$300,000

We diversified our funding through adding 157 new donors

Ongoing building renovations for the Housing Stability Clinic to open in 2026

Researched, wrote, and coordinated testimony for LR224, an interim study of the outcomes of programs providing Medicaid coverage of services addressing health-related social needs like housing and food insecurity.



## Challenges

Increasing rental prices and continuing to find landlords willing to work with participants with barriers

Community members needing Together's programs continues to grow

2025 marked the first time since 2023 that we purchased food from other sources other than the Food Bank to meet community needs.

Advocating against HR1 that presents a critical challenge by reducing access to essential nutrition supports at a time of rising need, threatening to deepen food insecurity and place unsustainable strain on already overburdened community resources.

# Major Donors

## Corporate Donors:



## Foundation Donors:

Sherwood Foundation  
Berkshire Hathaway Energy Foundation  
Charles E. Lakin Foundation  
Coyner and Donna Smith Charitable Fund  
Criss Memorial Foundation  
Dollar Energy Foundation  
Dorothy B. Davis Family Foundation  
Dr. Wayne L and Eileen Ryan Fund  
Lozier Foundation  
Todd and Mary Heistand Foundation  
Iowa West Foundation

Leland and Dorothy Olson Foundation  
Mammel Family Foundation  
Peter Kiewit Foundation  
Robert B. Daugherty Foundation  
Suzanne and Walter Scott Foundation  
Hawks Foundation  
Willa D. Seeman Donor Advised Fund  
William & Ruth Scott Family Foundation  
Weitz Family Foundation  
City of Omaha  
Nebraska Department of Economic Development

## Private Donors:

Daren and Mary Folchert  
Rhonda Hawks  
David and Lynn Olson-Scott  
Water's Edge Church

**Thank you to  
our major donors!**

These donors have contributed  
\$25,000+ to support the work  
being done at Together.

**We remain committed to transforming lives and building pathways to stability, dignity and lasting impact.**



Locations:

Omaha: 812 S 24th St Omaha, NE 68108

Council Bluffs: 830 N 14th St Council Bluffs, IA 51501

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