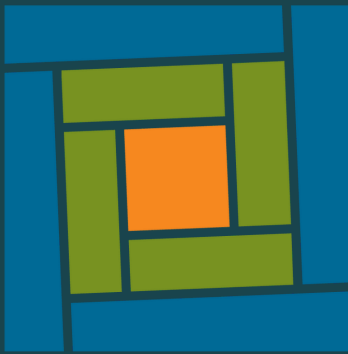


RIPPLE COMMUNITY INC.

YEAR IN REVIEW
FOR FY 2020-2021



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Michael Curry, the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church, says that while it takes a village to raise a child, we need to remember that adults need their village, too. We couldn't agree more. At RCI, this was another year marked by COVID and its many challenges and disruptions, but it was also a year defined by community, connection, and hope.

The other day, one of our longtime community members came through the door looking a little rougher than usual. It was late afternoon, and he seemed ready to burst. "I'm just in a really bad place," he kept saying. "Things are really not good right now, and I'm not in a good mood." So, in he came, and we found him a seat and a cup of coffee. We learned that he had landed back on the streets because he hit a rough spot in his relationship with his spouse. Then, seemingly out of nowhere, he said, "I'm not really in a good space or mood right now, but I wanted to come in to play 'O Holy Night' for Ripple on my harmonica, because you guys welcome everyone and try to help everyone". Then he pulled out a songbook and a harmonica and played his song for us. And everyone in the community center clapped for him. What a gift.

As the executive director of a non-profit organization, a big part of my job involves thinking about outcomes: Are we accomplishing our goals? Is life improving for our community members? Is our day-to-day work aligned with our mission? These things are important, to be sure, but they ultimately boil down to one thing that really matters: people showing up. Because when people show up, they can begin to build relationships and find community. And relationships and community pave the road to healing.

Whatever life throws at us, there is always room for community, connection, and hope. So many of you have been a source of all this goodness for us, and we are beyond grateful. I hope you can feel some of this care and connection radiating back from our village to yours.

With gratitude,

SHERRI BROKOPP BINDER, PHD
Executive Director



We are like a family here. We look out for and take care of each other.

Joe, RCI
Community Member

OUR TEAM



STAFF

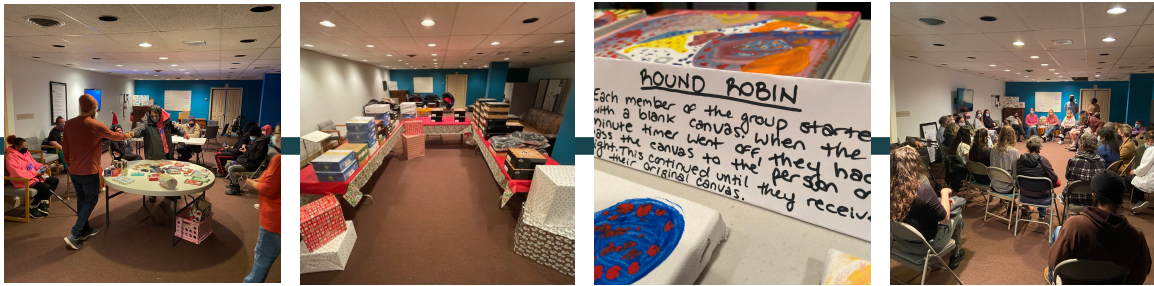
Sherri Brokopp Binder, PhD, Executive Director
Danilo Sanchez, Housing Director
Jamila Allen, Community Building Center Program Director
Melissa Wise, Community Services Coordinator
Blake Henry, Interfaith Community Chaplain
Melissa Snider, Program Assistant
Jamie Moser, Bookkeeper and Administrative Assistant

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charles F. Thiel, President - Thiel Strategic Communications
Sara Russ, Treasurer - Fulton Bank
Hon. Michael D'Amore, PhD, Secretary - Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Kent Brustlin - Newmark Knight Frank
Julie Huber - Sixth Street Shelter, Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley
Christopher McLean, Esq. - Fitzpatrick Lentz & Bubba, P.C.
Charlene Smalls - Ripple Church
Thomas C. Smith - Allentown School District

BUILDING COMMUNITY ●●●●●●●●

Very few things about this year were typical, but the core goals of the Community Building Center remained unchanged: to engage in the slow but critical work of building relationships based on trust and mutual support, and to cultivate a safe, welcoming community in the heart of the city.



Pictured above: This year, the Community Building Center was the place to be for holiday events, art therapy, yoga, talent shows, and loads of other community building activities. It was also a place to hold memorial circles, where we could honor and remember friends we lost.



Welcome to the Service Hub

In 2020, we expanded our community center to make room for the Service Hub, a dedicated space where our partners can provide specialized services and supports. This approach meets our shared clients where they are—increasing access, providing care, and improving outcomes.



We love our Service Hub partners!

- Alcoholics Anonymous of the Lehigh Valley
- Cedar Crest College Art Therapy Program
- Change on Hamilton
- Empire Beauty School
- Lehigh County Mental Health Program
- Muhlenberg College
- Suddenly Samantha Salon
- St. Luke's Parish Nurses
- Treatment Trends
- Valley Health Partners Street Medicine
- Valley Against Sex Trafficking (VAST)
- Valley Youth House Synergy Project



"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."
CORETTA SCOTT KING



What brings me here is meeting other people and finding strength from other people to continue on with my day.

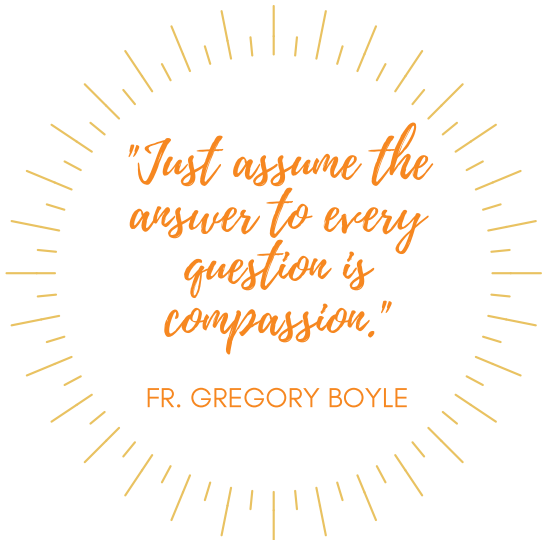
Patty, RCI
Community Member



BUILDING A VILLAGE ●●●●●●●●

The RCI Village program continued to expand despite the hardships of the pandemic. We achieved our goal of adding three new apartments during 2021. This allowed three families to transition into permanent housing and begin a new chapter in their lives. You can feel the joy our new residents experience when moving into their new home. As one resident said, ***"I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving me this apartment. What can I say? It has been quite a long, long, long road. Words cannot express how grateful I am."***

We continue to see the benefits of stable, community-supported housing in the lives of our residents. One of our new residents was able to move out of a halfway house program into his own apartment, while another resident was able to secure full-time work after years of temporary work and cycling through homelessness and housing instability.



"Just assume the answer to every question is compassion."

FR. GREGORY BOYLE



Looking to the Future

In keeping with our business plan, we expanded the RCI Village program in 2021 by adding 3 new apartments, increasing the total number of units in the program to 17.

In 2022, we will:

- Continue to add more apartments to the housing program through landlord partnerships.
- Increase program and organizational capacity by obtaining a 3-unit property in the Franklin Park neighborhood, either directly or by partnering with an investor.
- Establish a Neighboring Volunteers program that will provide additional support to our residents.

We are grateful for our Adopt-an-Apartment sponsors, who have made it financially possible to expand the program! If you or a small group of friends are interested in adopting an apartment or becoming a Neighboring Volunteer, please contact us or visit our website for details.

I've been here one year and three months. That's a long time, especially when you've been homeless and you're not used to that kind of stability.

RCI Village Resident

RCI Village has 17 Units



26 RESIDENTS

Which includes, individuals and families

THANK YOU

to our foundation, faith community, corporate, & local government supporters

\$125,000 +

Harry C. Trexler Trust

\$60,000 +

County of Lehigh

\$30,000 +

Century Fund
Rider-Pool Foundation

\$25,000 +

Lehigh Valley Health Network

Up to
\$10,000

City Center Allentown
Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation
Mosaic Mennonite Conference
Reidler Foundation
Verna O. Canova Foundation

Up to
\$5,000

Franconia Mennonite Church
Keystone Savings Foundation
Swamp Mennonite Church
The Pidcock Company

Up to
\$2,500

ESSA Bank & Trust
Holy Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church

Up to
\$1,500

Hope Community Church
New Beginnings Fellowship
United Way of the Lehigh Valley

Up to
\$500

Charity on Top Foundation
Congregation Keneseth Israel
Ripple Church
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
Stanley Black & Decker
St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church
Thrivent
Wellspring Church of Skippack



Not to brag, but our volunteers are the best of the best! We could not do it without them (and we wouldn't want to).



I'm glad this place is here. I was going to leave the recovery house and go and start drinking again. I was just feeling so low. Then I thought, well, let me give this place a chance. And that was three months ago.

RCI Community Member

Ripple Community Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and is registered as a Charitable Organization in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (certificate number 106166). Our annual financial review is conducted by Campbell, Rappold, & Yurasits, LLP. We regret any listing errors, and ask that corrections be sent to sbinder@ripplecommunityinc.org

THANK YOU

to our individual donors

\$30,000 +

Samuel B. & Jane Long

\$10,000 +

Anonymous

\$7,500 +

David & Joan Lioi
Scott & Gillian Pidcock

Up to
\$5,000

Ho'onani & Carmelo Cuadrado
Richard C. Fuisz
Vonda Klein & Phillip McCutchen
Charles & Ruth Marcon
James Moczydlowski
Edward Weist

Up to
\$2,500

Kimberly R. Andrews
Anthony DeFiore
Dennis & Nancy Giangiulio
Bill & Emily Jones
David & Myrna Moyer
Charles & Annette Thiel

Up to
\$1,500

Dennis & Barbara Adams
Kent and Michelle Brustlin
William & Susan Karpovich
Jane & Ed Meehan
Andrea & Terry Powell

Up to
\$1,000

Richard Adams & Kimberly
Culver-Adams
Warren & Deborah Bartholomew
Patricia and Sandy Beldon
Roy & Connie Bender
Betty Merkle

Beverly Vander Molen
& Ken Medema
Christopher McLean
Jamie P. Musselman
Harry & Emma Rath
Janet Roth & David Panton

Eunice Schermerhorn
Thomas C. Smith
Leon & Wendy Snyder
Karoline Peeler
Kendall & Lisa Ruth
David Yoder & Catherine
Godshall

Up to
\$500

Tom & Carolyn Albright
Steve & Melinda Behrens
Lewis & Rosann Behringer
Marilyn Bender
Ronald & Lorene Bender
Paul & Sharon Binder
James & Diane Bleam
Linda Boyle
Wesley & Joyce Brokopp
Susan Brosstad
Nicholas Butterfield &
Rachel Osborn
Urbane & Janet Byler
Richard & Loris
Cunningham
Linda & Robert Dallas
Michael & Evette D'Amore
Susan David
Richard Dow

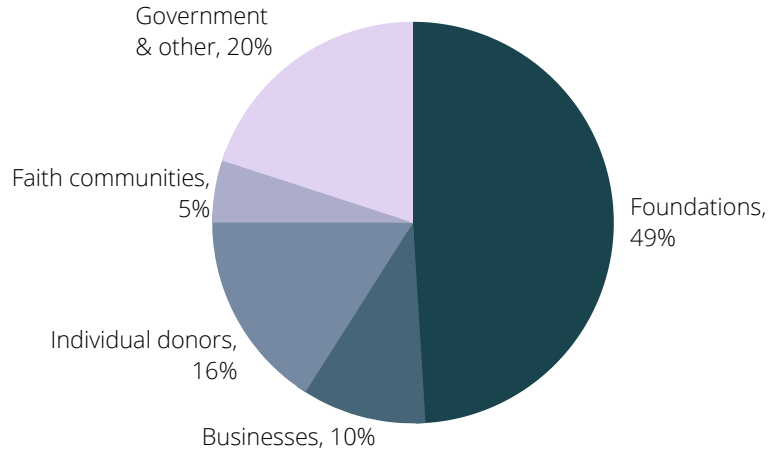
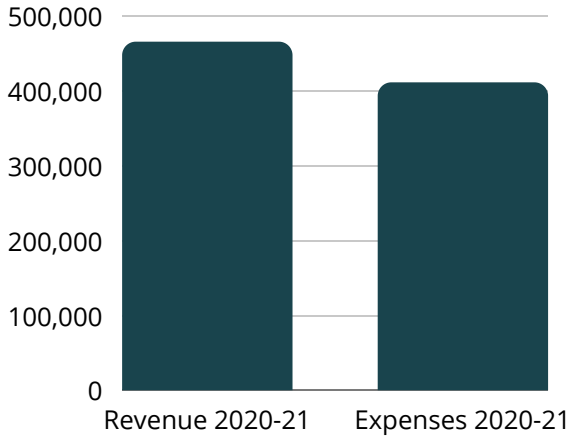
Barbara Dyer
Diane Edelman
Diane Eraifeg
William & Bonnie Falla
Marilee Falco
Sandy & Mickey Freeman
Joseph & Margaret
Gardner
Karen & Michael Guman
Elsbeth & Steven Haymon
Cliffert Herring
Sharon Hess
Gerald Hessel
Kathryn Hoffman
Lorraine Horn
Julie & Brian Huber
Nancy Johnson
Thomas & Jenny Johnson
Walter & Theresa Johnson
Kevin & Nanette Kanagy
Gregory Kokolus

Janet Landes
Joshua Landis
W. Carter Lester & Karen
Pidcock-Lester
Jeremiah & Diana Lormand
Maureen Lugg
Gail Magan
Kathleen McLane &
Lawrence Deiter
James Musselman
George & Nancy Myers
Joy & Gene Newswanger
Mary & Wayne Nitzsche
Charles & Shirleyann Quigg
Douglas Reichley
Martha Reitz
Jan Rumbaugh
Cynthia Rush
Sara & Timothy Russ
Christian Sammartino
Shirely Scarantino

Marci Moyer Schick & Ted
Schick
Linda Schuman
Judith Sheftel
Steve & Alicia Shussett
Michael & Sandra Silvonek
Anna Brown Simon
Kevin & Charlene Smalls
Agnes Smith
Denise & Ron Spory
Richard & Dorothy Stobaugh
Melissa Stoner
Ted & Susan Wachtel
Jan Walker
Becky Wanamaker
Robert & Suzanne Wertz
John & Mabel Widrick
Megan Wieand
Roy Yoder
John & Kate Zayaitz
Barbara Zwikl

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

RCI has grown considerably over the past six years, while maintaining a state of good financial health. Our funding comes primarily from private sources, including foundations (49%), individual donors (16%), businesses and corporate donors (10%), and churches and faith communities (5%). In 2021, we received additional support from Lehigh County and a forgivable loan through the federal CARES Act Payroll Protection Program, which helped offset costs associated with our response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



OUR METRICS

COMMUNITY BUILDING CENTER

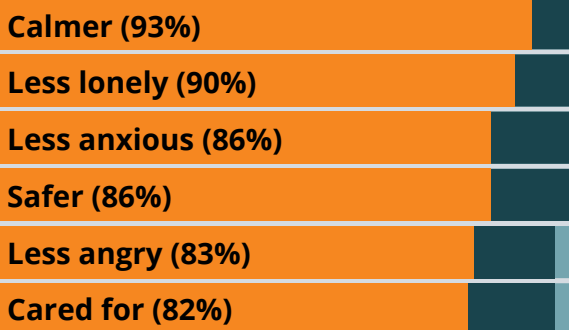
40-70

COMMUNITY MEMBERS SERVED DAILY

89%

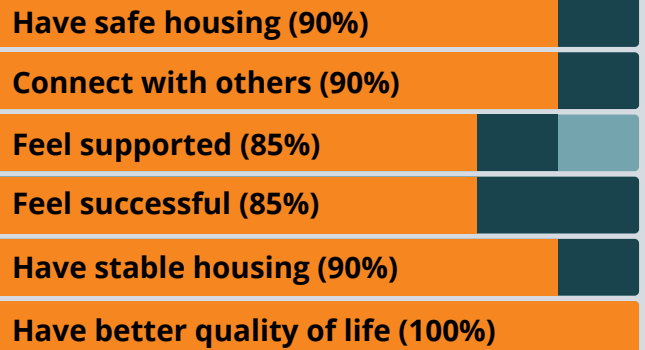
OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS HAVE ACCESSED THE SERVICE HUB

Coming to RCI helps me feel:



RCI Village has helped me:

RCI VILLAGE



17

UNITS IN THE RCI VILLAGE

26

RESIDENTS IN THE PROGRAM, WHICH INCLUDES ADULTS AND CHILDREN

4

PARTNERSHIPS WITH LANDLORDS

I just feel really happy here. I like all the members. I like all the staff. It's a safe place for me, and there are people here I can relate to. It's just a really good place.

Mike, RCI
Community Member



We're in the social fabric business.

Ripple Community Inc.
1335 W. Linden Street
Allentown, PA 18102
www.RippleCommunityInc.org



1335 W Linden St.
Allentown, PA 18102

*Thank you for
being part of
our community!*