

MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary



Annual Report 2022

<https://www.mbsanctuary.org>

2461 W. Center St. Milwaukee WI 53206

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President and C.E.O.



S. MacCanon Brown

Please join the MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary community as we look back at the incredible work achieved during 2022. Our Annual Report* shares with you example after example of our commitment to reversing the seemingly insurmountable disparities manifested in the plight of the people we serve. This is what we do and who we are: we offer a place to be, belong and become with core values of healing, spirituality, recovery, pure empowerment, dignity, non-violence, advocacy, voice, sustainability and mutual transformation. We strengthen Milwaukee's overwhelmed safety net.

Demonstrating extraordinary levels of dedication, our staff and volunteers consistently made it possible for us to address basic human needs and other life-giving services to hundreds of homeless, housing insecure, impoverished and sometimes destitute households and individuals--while creating a welcoming community.

The equation is, as our initiatives gather momentum, the more our guests thrive.

We made significant progress in our building and grounds development. There was encouragement and growth in every offshoot of our organization. Our vision moved forward in becoming reality.

The impact of our presence as a transformational solidarity community continued to have an incalculable ripple effect.

We have tremendous gratitude for the expanding number of donors and community partners who believe in us, and for the compassionate devotion of our many volunteers, volunteer teams, staff, and Board members. We continue to appreciate our construction and design team for their commitment to bringing our vision into reality.

In 2022 our butterfly stage began to emerge. But we have not "arrived." 2023 and 2024 will be even more arduous labors of love in a context of escalating homelessness, hardship and crisis.

We thank everyone who approaches us with the question. "What more can I do?"

Gratefully,

Sister MacCanon Brown
President/CEO

*Special thanks to Jill Newton Moore for her diligence and creativity in creating this annual report

Our Mission Statement

We create a daytime sanctuary and multi-resource center for homeless and at-risk individuals with core values of healing, spirituality, recovery, peer empowerment, dignity, nonviolence, advocacy, voice, sustainability and mutual transformation. This sanctuary is a place to be, belong, and become within a transformational solidarity community—interfaith, nonpartisan, intercultural, and noncanonical—a racially and economically diverse family of hope. We seek to strengthen Milwaukee's overwhelmed safety net.

To Be, Belong, and Become

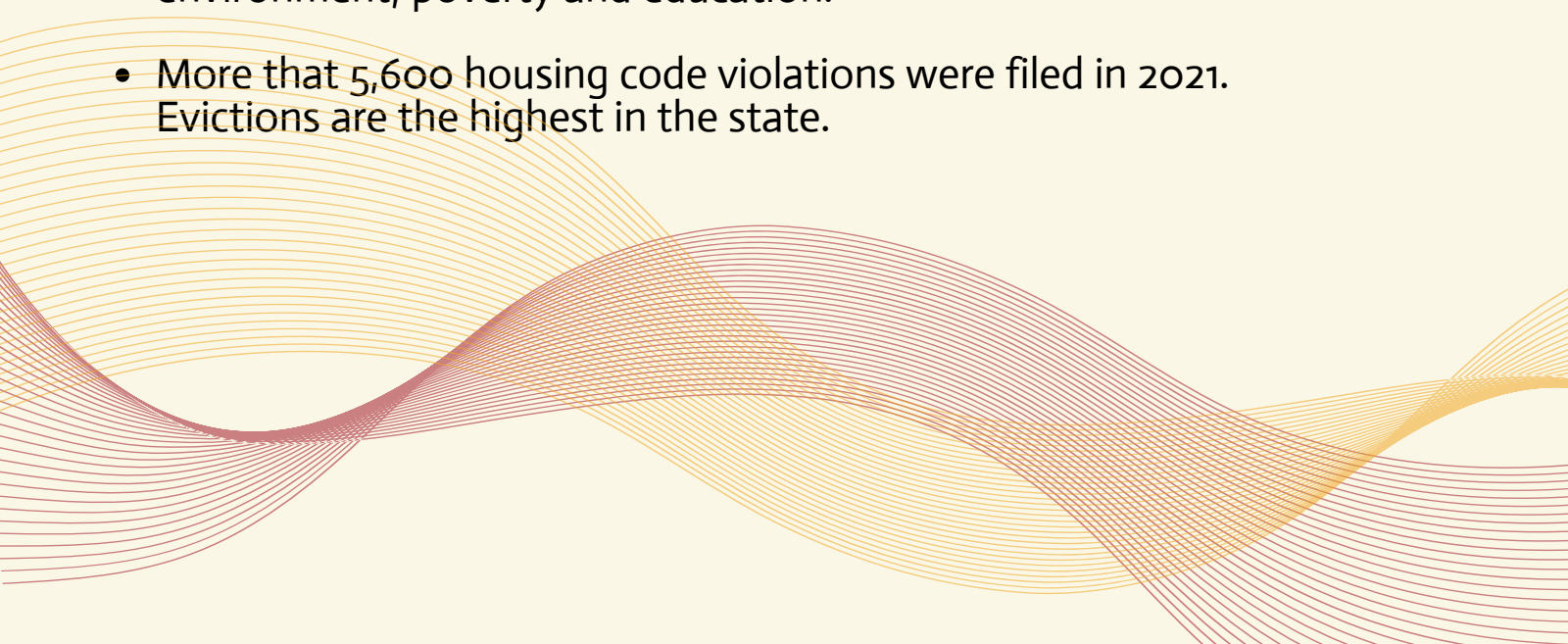
In the heart of Milwaukee's most impoverished neighborhood, set in the 53206 zip code, our dedicated staff and volunteers work to fulfill our mission by creating a community; connecting guests to community resources; providing food security; and meeting essential needs. MBHS delivers a unique, nationally-recognized model, with those we serve taking leadership roles and engaging in decision making. We function as a community in which persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness work side-by-side with other volunteers from diverse backgrounds, serving in solidarity as equals.

We are 53206

The MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary serves those in need in Milwaukee. Because our Sanctuary building is located in the 53206 zip code, the majority of our guests live in the immediate neighborhood.

53206 is the poorest zip code in Wisconsin and one of the poorest in the country.

Milwaukee mayor Cavalier Johnson, a long-time resident of 53206, notes that it is plagued by “Substandard housing, familial violence, gun violence, food scarcity, eviction, theft and threat of death.”

- Hunger, homelessness, and housing insecurity have risen significantly since the onset of Covid in Milwaukee. 53206 is a “food desert” without a single dedicated grocery store.
 - 82% of residents live below the threshold for food assistance programs. More than two-thirds of the children in 53206 live in poverty.
 - A third of Milwaukee's 2,940 vacant lots are located in 53206.
 - Nearly 95 percent of its residents are black. No other ZIP code has a greater percentage of African Americans.
 - Residents received the lowest rating for health outcomes, based on access to quality healthcare; health behaviors; physical environment; poverty and education.
 - More than 5,600 housing code violations were filed in 2021. Evictions are the highest in the state.
- 

Our Board

- Sister MacCanon Brown, President & CEO,
- Karen Dubis, Vice President
- Sister Deb Murphy, Treasurer
- Holly Morse, Secretary
- David Holmes, Member-at-Large
- Cynthia Stokes-Murray, Member-at-Large

Emeritus Board Members

- Sonya Lee Ball
- Dorothy Jackson
- Lisa Rosier
- Carmella Thomas

Staff 2022

In 2022, 13 part-time employees worked to keep our doors open and to serve our guests.



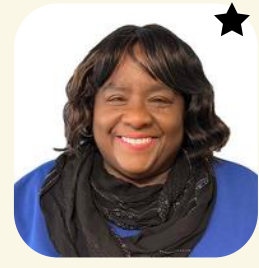
Adekola Adedapo,
Performing Arts
Coordinator



Karen Dubis,
Executive Associate



Aaron Cook,
Center Associate



Katie Doss, Lead
Program Coordinator



Jahmes Finlayson,
Cultural Coordinator



Carol Knox, Registration
Desk Coordinator



Michael Kowske,
Purchasing Agent



Sarah Lipo, Interim
Administrative Assistant



Cory Moore,
Food Manager



Jill Newton Moore,
Communication & Social
Media Specialist



Susan Neidorfler,
Data Base, Coordinator



Dale Wilborn,
Security Associate



Raymond Woods



Sister MacCanon Brown

★ New hire in 2022

Our Impact



Guests Served
10,400 +

- Food Distribution
- Clothing Distribution
- Hot Meals and Bag Lunches
- Essential Items
- Personal Hygiene



Community Building Events

- Summer Family Fun
- School Supply Giveaway
- Christmas Gift Distribution

Health and Well-Being

- Health Checkup
- Needs Assessment
- Covid Vaccinations
- Mask Distribution
- Lead Awareness



Better Living

- Summer Fans and Air Conditioners
- Sleeping Bags and Blankets
- Winter Coats
- Mercy Mats
- Crock Pots and Hot Plates
- Electric Heaters



Education

- Literacy Tutoring
- Math Tutoring
- Water School
- Lead Ambassadors
- Conflict De-escalation
- Nutrition and Urban Gardening
- Defib and CPR Training



Cultural Appreciation

- Kwanzaa Celebration
- MLK Day Program
- African Drumming
- Sanctuary Singers
- Junteenth Day
- Ramadan Meals
- Tzu Chi International

Trauma Reversal Activities

- Woodburning
- Themed Crafts
- Jewelry Making
- Singing
- Speak Out Against Gun Violence
- Gardening

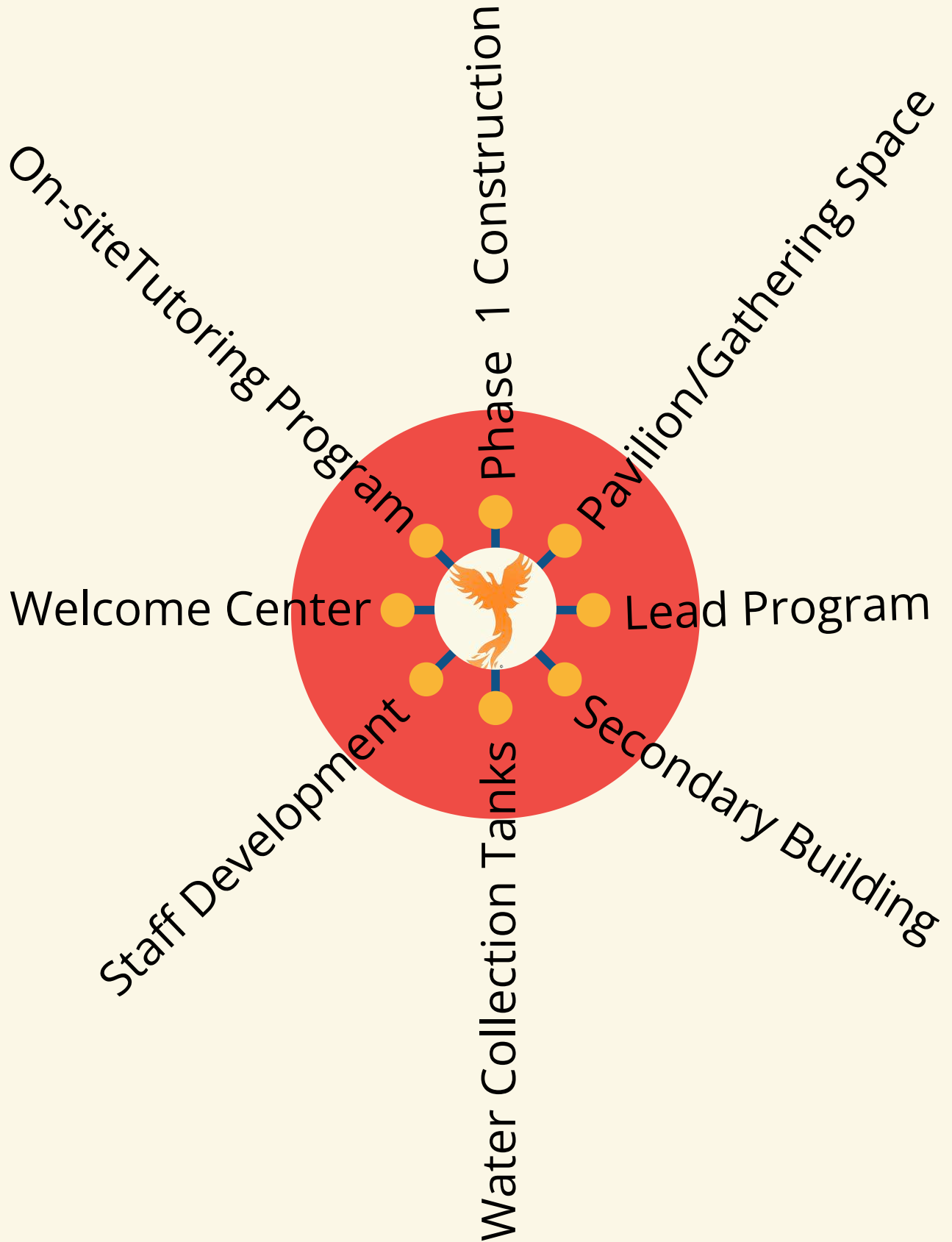


Personal Empowerment

- Legal Action of Wisconsin
- Legal Aid of Wisconsin
- Coalition on Lead Emergency
- Tenants' Rights
- Employ Milwaukee



Focus Projects of 2022



Quarterly Summary

January – March

Festival Foods became a partner of MBHS

The Pavilion structure was completed

We were gifted a washer and dryer

Welcome Center obtained defibrillator

Welcome Center staff and volunteers received CPR Training

We reopened Fridays at Hephatha Lutheran Church

MBHS hired Katie Doss as Lead Program Coordinator

MBHS hired Jahmes Finlayson as Cultural Coordinator

April – June

Our Welcome Center opened to guests

Four water tanks were installed in our Community Gardens

Fantastic Fridays resumed at Hephatha Lutheran Church

The first cohort of Lead Ambassadors received their certificates

MBHS Lead Ambassadors joined Milwaukee Commons Water School

Aquaponics fundraiser began

Martha Watts fundraiser began

The Milwaukee Bucks and Pick 'n Save donated \$50,000 worth of grocery gift cards to MBHS

S. MacCanon joined the keynote panel at Alverno College's Building a Better Milwaukee Conference

Occupancy permit for Phase I was granted

July – September

MBHS hired Catherine McCray as our Volunteer Coordinator

We made significant progress on the stairwell and new door for Doorway Ministry

Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett designated July 22 MacCanon Brown Day

Lights were installed in our basement, making it easier to use the space.

Training session for our Nursing and Governance teams on Conflict De-escalation, Trauma, and Building trust.

October - December

MBHS hires Adekola Adedapo as our Performing Arts Coordinator

MBHS was chosen as a recipient of a Community Thrives grant from the Gannett Foundation

MBHS signed an agreement with Galbraith Carnahan Architects to provide services for designing and constructing our aquaponics system

Exterior stairs were completed for our Doorway Ministry

Our tutoring program began, in partnership with Literacy Services of Wisconsin and North Division High school

At our 5th annual Christmas Giving celebration, we distributed more than 800 gifts for 386 children and teens



A world A county A city...Our city Milwaukee

It's not possible to ignore the divisions all around us. They call out to us from every newspaper, demand our attention on television, and rule on millions of the 1.3 billion websites we can access with a few keystrokes.

It has never been more important to reach out to others in kindness, generosity, and compassion, to celebrate diversity, and to be intentional in seeing the shared humanity of all people. Our diverse MBHS volunteer team experiences this daily.

If you are interested in supporting our mission by volunteering, we have a place for you, from working in our community gardens to distributing food, clothing, and other essential items at our Doorway Ministry, to offering professional services. Our volunteers do it all.

Whether you are looking for an ongoing, onsite activity or a periodic work-from-home contribution, we can find a spot that suits your time and talent. Please visit our website to see how to donate, what volunteer opportunities we have, and how to contact us.



Other ways to be involved

Bring a group to tour our facility
Organize a donation drive
Create a fundraiser

Invite Sister MacCanon Brown to speak at your event

For more information on volunteering or visiting,
please visit our website

<https://www.mbsanctuary.org/>