

MADE FOR THIS 2020

2020 BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

brookside
community



HERE FOR A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER.

WHEN COVID-19 HIT THE COMMUNITY, even the determination of our resilient neighbors was tested. When schools shut down and businesses began to lay off employees, individuals and families in the Brookside neighborhood were left with few options. Those just getting by were now struggling to survive. Life was turned upside-down, and the bleak realities of trauma, poverty, and addiction seemed closer than ever. For Brookside CDC, it was essential to respond to the immediate needs of the community. Relationships built with neighbors over the last six years allowed our team to connect with those in desperate need and help those struggling from falling through the cracks. When the world looked darker than ever, Brookside was able to provide support when it was needed most.

ABOUT BROOKSIDE

Brookside is a historic neighborhood community located on the Near Eastside of Indianapolis. Since the end of WWII, Near Eastsiders have faced issues such as generational poverty, increased crime, housing deterioration, and underperforming schools. Despite these difficulties, Brookside is an incredibly vibrant and diverse community. Our neighbors take pride in their work and in providing for their families. They are quick to lend a helping hand and are fierce advocates for those they love. What our Brookside neighbors lack in resources, they make up for in grit and compassion.

VISION

We are a family being formed by Christ out of brokenness into unity and new life that is working towards renewal in our community one life at a time.

MISSION

We are a culturally diverse, gospel-centered community that is creating opportunities of renewal and transformation through our reentry, play, and housing initiatives.

WHAT WE'RE DOING IN THE BROOKSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD

REENTRY

Brookside Community Reentry fosters relationships with those reentering society from incarceration, addiction, and homelessness. We are working to see participants built up and established for God's glory.

PLAY

Brookside Community Play serves children, teenagers, and families in our community. Our after school and summertime programs help kids overcome trauma through the power of play and help teens reach their full potential through academic development and employment opportunities.

HOUSING

Brookside Community Housing provides safe and stable housing opportunities for families and individuals that are actively involved in Brookside Community Church or Brookside CDC programs.

MADE TO RESPOND.

HERE AT BROOKSIDE we're accustomed to facing troubles, so last year when troubles came on in full force, our staff, volunteers, and donors immediately stepped up to meet the challenges head on. These are a few of the stories of how God worked through our church and nonprofit this past year to help our community stay on its feet.

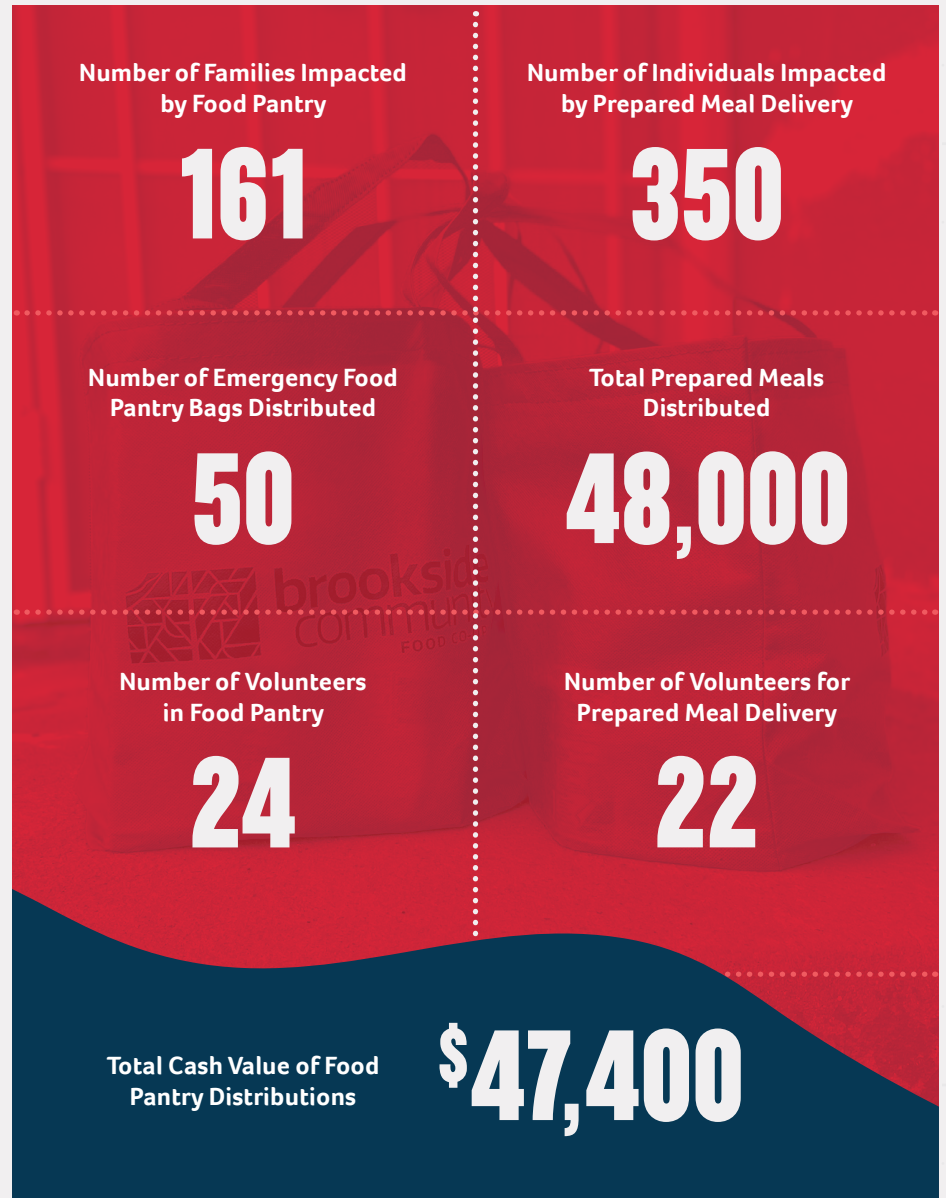


FOOD PANTRY

WHEN THE PANDEMIC HIT in 2020, we responded by temporarily changing our Food Co-op to a Food Pantry, open to anyone in the community. With the rise in unemployment and stay-at-home orders, food insecurity was more apparent than ever. While some were able to make it to the food pantry each week, others were homebound and needed access to ready-made meals.

Through a partnership with restaurant **divvy** and the nonprofit **Indy's Courageous Kitchens**, Brookside began delivering prepared meals to families and individuals across Indianapolis. Each week, the staff at Brookside would receive breakfast and lunch meals from **divvy**, and dinner meals from **ICK**. These high-quality meals were made to be healthy and to taste good! Portions were determined based on household size, with each family receiving five meals per person every week.

When the community needed it most, restaurants and organizations across the city partnered together to make sure that the community did not go hungry. In a time of scarcity, partners like **divvy** and **Indy's Courageous Kitchens** used their resources to give back. When our neighbors are struggling, our city doesn't wait for someone else to help. We respond.



AUGUST 2020

MADE TO RESPOND.

WE KNEW that individuals and families needed more than just food assistance. With many households facing eviction, foreclosure, and loss of wages, the financial outlook was dire. That is why we created the Brookside Emergency Care Fund – to support neighbors when they needed to pay rent/mortgage, utility bills, and childcare.

We also used the Emergency Care Fund to provide our own stimulus to undocumented families. These families couldn't receive access to stimulus funding from the federal government, but their need was no less than others.

Our team discovered just how great the need was early on in the pandemic. Staff members made weekly phone calls to individuals and families involved in our ministries. During one of those calls, we learned that one family had been living off of Gatorade for two weeks. Because the family was undocumented and struggled with a language barrier, they were isolated and vulnerable. The parents were the first to lose their jobs when the pandemic hit. Fearing deportation, the family went into hiding. With no access to resources, they were now going hungry. Brookside was able to respond immediately by providing food and support to the family. The family enrolled in our food pantry and was provided with a much-needed \$500 stimulus. After a few months, this family was able to get back on their feet. They were able to find new employment and their kids are able to participate in our after school program. No matter the circumstances, we are committed to serving every member of our community.

BROOKSIDE EMERGENCY CARE FUND

Number of Emergency
Relief Recipients

1,175

Total Amount Distributed

\$99,000

to cover utilities, rent, childcare,
transportation, etc.

Brookside Stimulus for
Undocumented Families

\$4,000

\$500 per family

LAST YEAR WAS FULL OF UNCERTAINTY.

In March of 2020, no one knew what the future would hold. In the days following stay-at-home orders, schools shut down. Individuals lost their jobs. Families were going hungry. The needs were growing every day and Brookside could not step away. The stakes were high. In the Brookside neighborhood, 58% of adults have at least one health issue that puts them at a greater risk for severe illness. Twenty percent of individuals do not have health insurance, making the risk of illness even more dangerous. How could an organization continue to meet basic needs while working to slow the spread of COVID-19?

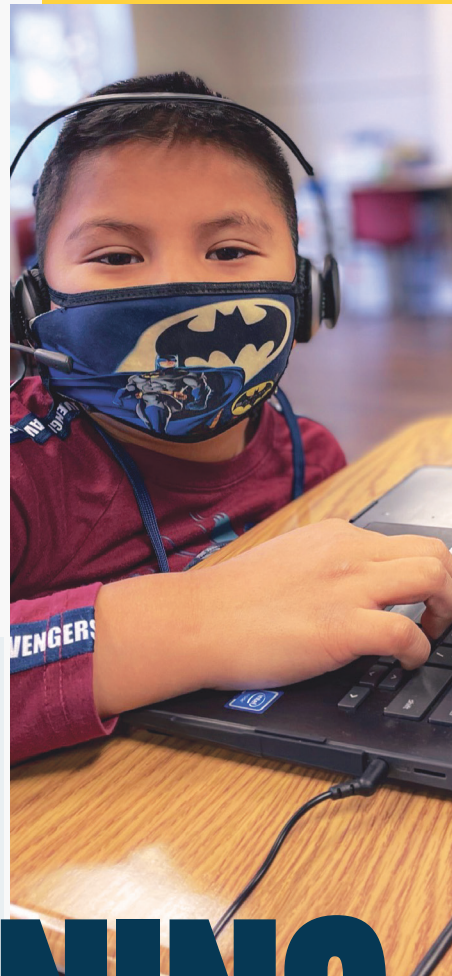
Brookside began working on a plan to protect the community as much as possible. Working with an epidemiologist, a safety plan was developed that allowed initiatives to function while making health a priority.

Fear and confusion about COVID-19 plagued the neighborhood, so health education was added to Sunday services. Each week, a few minutes were devoted to explaining the virus, how it spreads, and how to stay safe. This allowed for open conversation and empowered community members to make informed decisions on how to protect themselves and their family.



EDUCATING OUR COMMUNITY ABOUT COVID-19

When vaccines were introduced, Brookside launched a campaign to help the community sign up to be vaccinated and receive transportation to appointments. Together with our neighbors, Brookside CDC is working to build a more equitable future for the Brookside Community.



“Thanks to your crew, both of the kiddos’ grades have significantly improved from Q1 to Q2.”

e-LEARNING

ON MARCH 19, schools across the state closed their doors to in-person instruction in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19. The ripple effects of this decision reverberated into every city, neighborhood, and household.

For families that were already struggling to overcome the effects of poverty, the pandemic would push them closer to the brink. For children who already suffered from trauma and instability, this would put them further behind. While many of their more stable peers could transition to e-learning, children from the Brookside neighborhood had to overcome barriers such as lack of access to devices and internet, working parents who couldn't provide supervision, and missing vital school-based resources.

With the education gap between low-income, minority students and their peers set to widen, Brookside Community Play saw an opportunity to serve children and families at their greatest point of need. The Play team immediately mobilized to distribute laptops and tablets to students in the after school program, months before Indianapolis Public Schools would be able to provide a device for every child.

While the pandemic forced us to cancel our regular after school programming, we got creative in bringing the heart of play to the homes of over 50 children through our Play at Home box drop offs and online content. Still, the Play Team felt the need to do more.

Countless families had expressed frustration and concern that their children were falling behind without in-person learning. Parents constantly wondered how they would pay bills if they couldn't return to work because they had to be home with their kids. Children quickly lost interest in e-learning and their grades began to suffer.

Brookside Community Play began meeting with The Mind Trust to explore a partnership to provide in-person, e-learning classrooms at Brookside Community Church. In the fall of 2020 when cases spiked, our partnership allowed us to open up e-learning classrooms for 60 students. Parents were able to return to work, students found stability, and many were even thriving! Across the board, grades rose for those participating in the community e-learning site. In fact, some parents reported that their child's grades were higher than ever before. “Thanks to your crew, both of the kiddos’ grades have significantly improved from Q1 to Q2,” Sabrina Lopez told our staff.

We are grateful for partnerships with organizations like The Mind Trust that allow us the opportunity to bring people and organizations together for the good of our neighborhood.

DECEMBER 2020



**MADE TO
RESTORE.**

Number of Women Reentering
From Previous Incarceration
Each Year in Marion County

181

Number of Volunteers in
Brookside Community
Reentry in 2020

36

OPENING OF ISAIAH HOUSE FOR WOMEN

IN THE MIDST OF A PANDEMIC, Brookside Community Reentry was able to significantly expand its mission to care for those reentering from incarceration, addiction, and homelessness. The Isaiah House program was started in 2015 as a ministry designed to walk with men who desired a new approach to life. Over the past six years, 51 men have benefited from the Isaiah House program, but the Reentry team desired to provide these same services to the 181 women who reenter from the criminal justice system into Marion County each year.

Through the financial support of the RJS Foundation, Northview Church, and numerous individual donors, Brookside Community Reentry officially opened the first Isaiah House for Women on May 14, 2020. Throughout the rest of the year, 11 women and children have participated in the Isaiah House program. The house itself has become a place of refuge and hope for those who call it home. With the support of the Brookside Community Reentry team, our volunteers, and several community partners, these women are given dignity and support in their reentry journey.

2020 was a year of uncertainty and turmoil for most. But for the men and women who found community and family through the Isaiah House, the year provided welcomed stability. We saw individuals fight through addiction, overcome setbacks, and maintain employment in the midst of the storm.

EXPANSION IN 2020

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC only illuminated the obstacles that have plagued the Brookside neighborhood for generations. Over the years, the Brookside neighborhood has seen an increase in abandoned and burned down homes. Meanwhile, out-of-state property owners have neglected the needs and dignity of tenants. Brookside Community Housing was created to provide dignity and stability to families and individuals that have long struggled with finding reliable housing. Those that live in a Brookside home are not just tenants. They are family. They are part of a community that supports them and helps them work toward true life transformation.

Over the past year, Brookside Community Housing has experienced tremendous growth. Three additional abandoned homes have been purchased and are scheduled for rehab. Brookside also purchased a seven-unit apartment complex that is just down the street from Brookside Community Church. Over the next three years, Brookside Community Housing will continue to grow its inventory through the purchase and restoration of single family and multi-unit homes.

Number of Properties
Owned by Brookside
Community as of
January 2021

22

MADE TO

REBUILD.

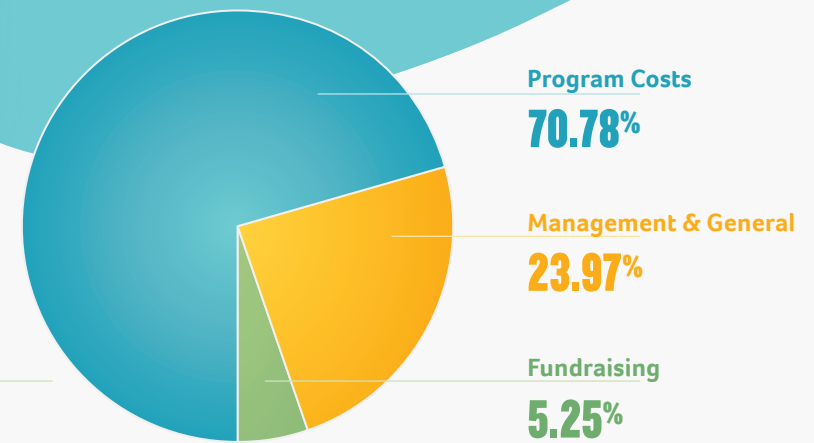
Each of these restoration projects brings together volunteers and staff that reflect the diversity that is so important to the Brookside Community. Individuals who were recently incarcerated work alongside contractors and experienced professionals to complete housing projects that infuse life into the Brookside neighborhood. Each project is more than a home. It's an investment in the people of this community.

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY HOUSING



2020 FINANCIALS

EXPENSES IN 2020



STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

ASSETS	2017	2018	2019	2020
Cash and Cash Equivalents	197,910	137,931	221,594	476,426
Accounts Receivable	8,574	4,620	42,130	23,008
Property and Equipment	73,511	219,278	413,879	1,176,190
TOTAL ASSETS	279,995	361,829	677,603	1,675,624

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	–	300	13,568	18,208
Other Current Liabilities	8,419	17,004	14,887	33,317
Long Term Liability	–	–	–	150,000

NET LIABILITIES	8,419	17,304	28,455	201,525
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Net Assets

Unrestricted	251,576	237,120	520,303	1,299,961
Restricted	20,000	107,405	128,845	174,138

TOTAL NET ASSETS	271,576	344,525	649,148	1,474,099
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	279,995	361,829	677,603	1,675,624
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CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

Net Assets, Beginning of Year	649,147
Net Assets, End of Year	1,474,099

TOTAL CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	824,952
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STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

SUPPORT & REVENUE	BCDC	(PLAY) BCP	(HOUSING) BCH	(REENTRY) BCR	UpRise
Contributions	417,792	207,789	733,273	93,747	54,541
Special Events	91,705	4,694	–	40,756	1,237
Program Fee Income	–	–	61,053	–	–
Other Misc Revenue	–	2,074	–	–	10,000
	509,497	214,557	794,326	134,503	65,778

TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE					1,718,661
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EXPENSES	BCDC	BCP	BCH	BCR	UpRise
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Program Costs	–	240,068	199,680	144,042	48,753
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SUBTOTAL: 632,543 (70.78%) 2019: 74.98%

Mgmt and General	214,205	–	–	–	–
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SUBTOTAL: 214,205 (23.97%) 2019: 19.44%

Fundraising	46,960	–	–	–	–
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SUBTOTAL: 46,960 (5.25%) 2019: 5.58%

	261,165	240,068	199,680	144,042	48,753
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TOTAL EXPENSES					893,708
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THANK YOU.



MAJOR DONORS (\$5,000+)

Amsler Charitable Fund
 Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield
 David and Kris Ashpaugh
 Brookside Community Development Corporation
 Michael and Louisa Chiasson
 Children's Bureau Inc.
 Common Ground Christian Church
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 The Mind Trust
 The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
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 NORTHVIEW CHURCH

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Landon Martin
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