

# 2022

ANNUAL REPORT

## TOGETHER TOWARDS TOMORROW



Ensuring an effective system of response for youth in crisis through public and private partnerships at a local, state, and national level.



NSPN is the national standard for a community-wide response to ensuring all youth are safe and valued. Through unique public and private partnerships, NSPN provides leadership, training, and technical assistance to more than 700 youth and

family service organizations throughout the United States (US). NSPN's proven track record, decades of experience, and strong record of leadership are the cornerstones of the organization's success. To learn more, please visit [www.nspnetwork.org](http://www.nspnetwork.org).

## MISSION

Ensuring an effective system of response for youth in crisis through public and private partnerships at a local, state and national level

## VISION

NSPN envisions a world where all youth are safe.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

NSPN operates the nationally recognized programs Safe Place®, TXT 4 HELP, and NSPN Membership.



### Safe Place®

Safe Place is a national outreach and prevention program for young people in need of immediate help and safety. Nearly 22,000 community and business locations nationwide display the Safe Place sign, making help readily available. To learn more, please visit [www.nationalsafeplace.org](http://www.nationalsafeplace.org).



### TXT 4 HELP

TXT 4 HELP is a nationwide, 24-hour text-for-support service for teens in crisis. TXT 4 HELP can be used for the same reason a young person may go to a Safe Place site - abuse, bullying, family problems, depression, suicidal thoughts, and others. Young people text the word 'SAFE' to 44357 (4HELP) to find the nearest Safe Place location to them. There is also an option '2chat' to text interactively with a licensed counselor. To learn more, please visit [www.nationalsafeplace.org/txt-4-help](http://www.nationalsafeplace.org/txt-4-help).



### NSPN Membership

NSPN provides an array of training and support services tailored to meet the needs of youth service organizations in the most cost-efficient manner. NSPN membership helps support agencies and their staff by focusing on training, organizational development, and professional development. To learn more, please visit [www.nspnetwork.org/organizational-membership](http://www.nspnetwork.org/organizational-membership).

## TOGETHER TOWARDS TOMORROW

As organizations, staff members, young people, and families continue to adjust and navigate a new normal, it's important to reflect on how best to move forward. How do we best address staffing challenges? What should a young person do when they're facing mental health issues? How can a family continue to work with the cost of living skyrocketing? These are just a few of a myriad of questions we can ask as we think about issues needing to be addressed. National Safe Place Network's (NSPN) motto of "Together we can" emphasizes how it is all of us, together, who can find solutions and supports to address some of the hardest problems facing society. This attitude of togetherness is evident in the work completed by NSPN and affiliates throughout the course of 2022.

The prevention and intervention aspects of the Safe Place® program are more important than ever as young people continue facing an onslaught of dangerous issues. Coordinators throughout Safe Place programs have re-energized the outreach of organizations, seeking innovative ways to engage with young people while continuing to participate in community events and present Safe Place information to audiences. TXT 4 HELP numbers continue to rise as young people are educated about the program and utilize its services to receive help through seeking a Safe Place site near them, or by texting interactively with a licensed mental health professional. National Safe Place (NSP) Week was celebrated by affiliates in communities nationwide. Monthly Coordinator Chat Calls and Safe Place eNews editions sought to give staff of licensed Safe Place entities a chance to connect with one another and NSPN staff, discuss issues and identify potential solutions, and share resources, quality assurance reminders, and more. Aside from the important work being done in established Safe Place areas, the impact of the program continues to be evident by the interest communities, organizations, and individuals have shown in bringing Safe Place to their area. This interest resulted in several new partners launching a version of the program and expanding the safety net for youth.

In an effort to address problems facing organizations, their staff, and the young people and families they serve, NSPN spent time in 2022 strategically planning out the course of the next three years. Strategic planning engaged NSPN staff, the advisory board, board of directors, and affiliates to discover priorities and needs. This resulted in three goals of quality, sustainability, and impact which will inform the work NSPN does beginning in 2023. In addition, NSPN continued supporting organizations, both in and out of the Network, through professional development opportunities, such as the popular Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI) and Child and Youth Care (CYC): Foundations course, grant support services, and other trainings and consultations. NSPN also continued important work with national and local partnerships to support the work of the Network.

It is important to note when discussing what was done in 2022 there is no one individual responsible for everything accomplished. All of the trainings, planning, outreach, and more was completed with the help and expertise of NSPN staff, board of directors, advisory board, licensed Safe Place entities, NSPN members, and other affiliates. Everyone is listened to, has input, and works together to find solutions to the large-scale problems young people, organizations, and families face. As we look toward tomorrow, it's important to remember to lean on one another for support. Together we are better. Together we can.

*Laurie Padilla*

Laurie Padilla  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
[National Safe Place Network](http://www.nspnetwork.org)

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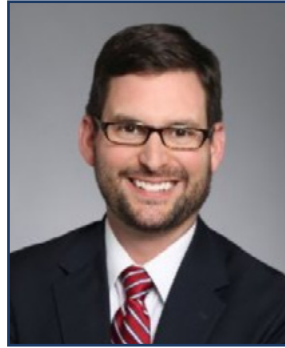
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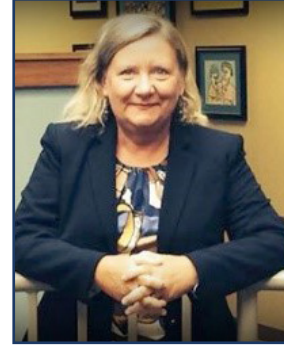
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2022 ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

National Safe Place (NSP) Week 2022 – The Power of Prevention

Young people are faced with obstacles every day, including: abuse, bullying, homelessness, and more. During National Safe Place (NSP) Week 2022, licensed Safe Place entities were encouraged to do their planning for the week while emphasizing and recognizing Safe Place as a prevention program and observing the three national goals. The critical prevention efforts of programs to educate youth on safe options, increase community awareness, and establish a comprehensive network of support to meet identified needs is foundational to the Safe Place effort.

During NSP Week 2022, observed March 20-26, Licensed Safe Place entities across the nation held a variety of events. These include community events, shelter tours, media campaigns, and more. Many of the communities were holding in-person NSP Week events for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020. Social media still played an important role in amplifying the Safe Place message, relaying TXT 4 HELP information, and connecting audiences with the important services licensed entities provide.

Grant Writers’ Skill-Building Retreat



NSPN launched a new event to help meet the unique needs of grants professionals. The Grant Writers’ Skill-Building Retreat was held over the course of two days in St. Augustine, Florida. Event participants learned grant writing tips and techniques, provided mutual support, engaged in practice reviews, and learned how to practice self-care prior to the 2022 grant season. Participants were also provided with a one-on-one consultation related to a current grant opportunity of their choosing.



National Safe Place Network Celebrates 2021 Volunteer of the Year



NSPN honored Eric Peterson, Communications Intern, as the recipient of the 2021 NSPN Volunteer of the year award during the 2022 YMCA Turf Classic. As the Communications Intern, Eric completed activities including the design of the Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI) curriculum, updates to materials utilized for member engagement and services, editing 24 monthly e-newsletters for licensed Safe Place® entities and members, editing virtual learning content, and supporting the management of the Destination for Online Training (D.O.T.) Eric continued to use his skills to support the use of ArcGIS mapping software to identify service gaps and work toward expanding the safety net for youth through Safe Place. Through his time as Communications Intern, Eric provided more than 400 hours of outstanding service to the mission and vision of NSPN.





Safe Place®

TOGETHER TOWARDS TOMORROW



## IMPACTFUL SAFE PLACE® STORIES Providing Support for a Better Tomorrow

Safe Place®, at its core, reflects NSPN's efforts and vision of a world where all youth are safe. This vision is shaped by the prevention and intervention aspects of the Safe Place program – and the young people it serves. As the world continues to change and young people face different challenges, licensed Safe Place entities work with NSPN to ensure support is always available to young people wherever they go.



"A 17-year-old was kicked out of her house by her mother and had been couch surfing. When all of her resources ran out, she reached out to her school counselor for help. The school counselor had prior knowledge of our Safe Place program, due to the school being a Safe Place site for our agency. The youth was scared to enter the shelter, and requested a tour of the facility. After receiving a tour of the shelter, the youth stated "I can see this is a safe place". She entered our program and received services through our education and independent living programs."

"A 13-year-old had no place to stay. They had decided to get on a bus to get warm because they were cold from being outside, but fell asleep and ended up further away than they had planned. They disclosed that the bus driver had told them they would have to get off of the bus, and asked if they had somewhere to stay. The client reported not having anywhere to go, so the bus driver took them to a Terrible Herbst location where they accessed Safe Place. The youth was brought in to the emergency shelter program and has since been reunified with their family."



Support for Licensed Safe Place Entities

NSPN staff support the needs of new Safe Place coordinators and staff at existing licensed Safe Place entities. Through monthly coordinator chat calls, monthly editions of Safe Place eNews, an online support center, email and phone consultation, as well as staff trainings, NSPN works to ensure everyone is operating the Safe Place program to the outlined standards. Organizations continue to navigate a new normal which includes challenges around filling empty positions, as well as covering counseling, crisis intervention, and shelter monitoring. Most significant was the number of new coordinators (52) in 2022. This resulted in increases in requests for new credentials, training support, refresher content, and requests for resources. Efforts to expand the geographic footprint of the program resulted in new licensed entities in Florida, Hawaii, Alabama, Texas, and Maryland and represents growth in each of the models of the program including traditional licensed agencies, TXT 4 HELP partners, transit partners, and first responder partners. Growth in all areas of the Safe Place program shows the continued need to expand the safety net for young people nationwide to ensure better opportunities for tomorrow.

Safe Place by the Numbers

6,288 youth helped at Safe Place sites or over the phone

9,226 texts received via TXT 4 HELP – 1,128 interactive

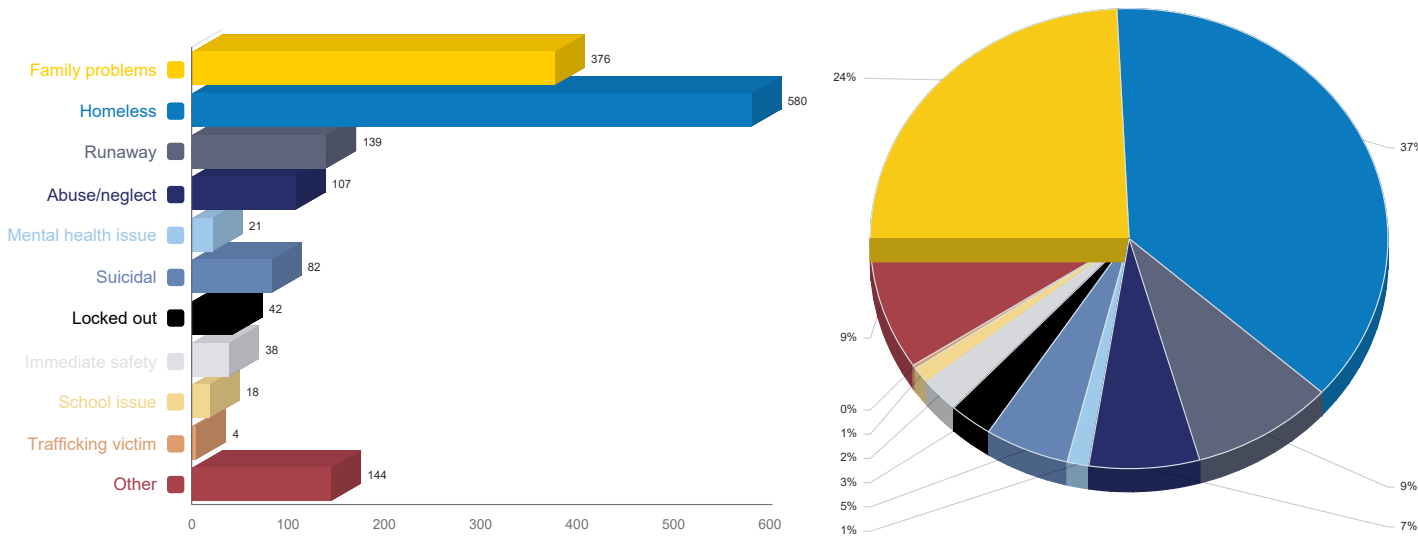
633,218 young people were educated about Safe Place and TXT 4 HELP

137 licensed agencies 1,405 communities in 327 counties

21,431 Safe Place stationary and mobile sites

746 Safe Place volunteers including youth

Reasons Youth Access Services through Safe Place:



Top 10 Agencies Serving the Most Youth Through Sites

- 1. Compass House Buffalo, NY 2,112
- 2. ACH Child & Family Services Ft. Worth, TX 268
- 3. Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth Las Vegas, NV 227
- 4. New Avenues for Youth Portland, OR 225
- 5. Youth Services of Tulsa Tulsa, OK 135
- 6. Chautauqua Opportunities Safe House Jamestown, NY 116
- 7. Youth Service Bureau of Huntington County Huntington, IN 107
- 8. Wichita Children's Home Wichita, KS 81
- 9. Friends of Youth Kirkland, WA 71
- 10. Roy Maas Youth Alternatives San Antonio, TX 69

Top 10 Agencies Distributing Outreach Cards to Youth

- 1. ACH Child & Family Services Ft. Worth, TX 20,558
- 2. Youth Services of Tulsa Tulsa, OK 18,856
- 3. YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne Youth Service Bureau Ft. Wayne, IN 13,497
- 4. Crisis Center, Inc. Gary, IN 12,073
- 5. Roy Maas Youth Alternatives San Antonio, TX 11,235
- 6. Clark County Youth Shelter & Family Services, Inc. Jeffersonville, IN 10,368
- 7. Chautauqua Opportunities Safe House Jamestown, NY 8,687
- 8. The Children's Cabinet Reno, NV 8,409
- 9. Indiana Youth Services Association Indianapolis, IN 7,575
- 10. Friends of Youth Kirkland, WA 6,935

Top 10 Agencies Providing Information to Youth Through Presentations

- 1. Youth Services Bureau of Monroe Co. Bloomington, IN 20,076
- 2. Positive Impact International, Inc. Suwanee, GA 17,801
- 3. Crisis Center, Inc. Gary, IN 17,692
- 4. Friends of Youth Kirkland, WA 16,922
- 5. YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne Youth Service Bureau Ft. Wayne, IN 15,465
- 6. YSB Safe Station South Bend, IN 13,036
- 7. Advocates for Children Cartersville, GA 12,194
- 8. Clark County Youth Shelter & Family Services, Inc. Jeffersonville, IN 11,730
- 9. Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth Las Vegas, NV 10,960
- 10. Youth Services of Tulsa Tulsa, OK 10,736







# NSPN MEMBERSHIP

TOGETHER TOWARDS TOMORROW



## STRATEGY IS KEY TO TOMORROW

In 2022, NSPN embarked on its triennial strategic planning process. The year-long endeavor included interviews with affiliates; surveys distributed to partners, members, licensed Safe Place agencies, and organizations not as familiar with the network. The process also included intensive staff review of identified needs and an extended board of director's retreat to set priorities. The planning process resulted in a staff-recommended and board-approved strategy focusing on the three areas of quality, impact, and sustainability with 15 subordinate objectives and more than 20 associated key performance indicators (KPIs). The plan represents NSPN's ongoing commitment to meeting the needs of youth in crisis, the programs serving them, and communities seeking support to expand opportunities to develop responses to youth in need.

NSPN offers in-person and virtual training and consultation to support the work of youth and family service providers across the country. Members receive discounted support on these learning and networking opportunities. Each event focuses on supporting the efforts of staff both in meeting their current work responsibilities and preparing for the challenges they will face in the future. Participants from 27 different states participated in 2022 events.

## Child and Youth Care (CYC) Foundations Course

NSPN's support of the professionalization of the field of child and youth care work continued in 2022. Participants complete the six week (34 hour course) via this virtual training opportunity which also serves to prepare attendees for the national certification exam. The course features evidence-informed content on professional practice, relationships, communication, brain-based guidance, and developmental practice. 100% of CYC Foundations course participants reported gaining knowledge useful to their work.

*"Great training! Difficult to hold my interest over the course of multiple trainings but NSPN managed to do it! Thank you!"*

*"I have been in the field for a while and wondered if the content would keep me engaged and be relevant to my current role. I wish I had this information when I started working with children and youth and I learned so much that will help me now."*

## Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI)

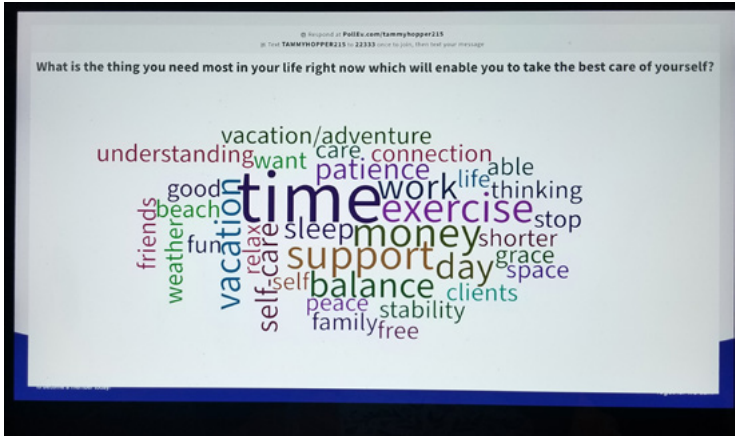


ELI is a six-week 12-hour virtual exchange and learning opportunity that consistently has sold-out each time it's been offered the past few years – with both spring and fall sessions added to meet demand. The content and culture of the training focuses on defining leadership, examining decision making, identifying and maximizing strengths, solution-thinking, and more. Scenarios and personal sharing ensure the experience supports individual needs while building a community. 100% would recommend ELI Participation to a colleague.

*"I loved that ELI is designed in a way that is beneficial for new leaders, as well as for people who have been in leading roles for a while."*



Training of Facilitators and Trainers (TOFT)



This five-week 20-hour virtual training is designed to help new and experienced trainers and facilitators gain skills and examine how they work within groups as facilitators. Participants offer one another mutual support and learning opportunities. They must guide a facilitated activity or conduct virtual training to complete the course. 100% of participants reported the experience was worth their investment of time and resources

*“The facilitator was very kind, easy to listen to, and learn from. I have already asked 3 of my coworkers to sign up for the next training. I am already better at my job because of this training. I will recommend it to anyone I meet who presents, or facilitates groups.”*

*“I thought I would be stressed out the entire time, and probably not improve my skills very much. Presenting is just not one of my strengths. The facilitator made it a very relaxed environment. It was very comfortable and I learned a lot.”*

Beyond training and consultation, NSPN continues to be a well-recognized and respected national organization. Through partnerships, leadership, and contractual engagement, the efforts of NSPN to work together towards tomorrow are clear.

National Leadership

NSPN staff continue to provide support, insights, and guidance to national partners. Staff served as members of the Boards of Directors for National Network for Youth, the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice, and the Child and Youth Care Certification Board. These efforts complement NSPN’s efforts toward achieving its vision of a world in which all youth are safe.

Exemplifying the Importance of Working Together

Working in concert with other national entities and providers is key to NSPN’s commitment to the motto of “Together We Can”. NSPN continued its long-standing partnership with the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) Foundation and presented two workshops at NBCC’s annual Bridging the Gap Symposium held in Arlington, Virginia. NSPN staff also presented an Adolescent Suicide Prevention session at the annual Advanced Child Victimization Training for the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s (FBI) Child Victim Services Unit. Through its partnership with the Academy for Competent Youth Work, NSPN posted online learning opportunities to the Academy’s CYC Source learning platform. NSPN also continued its

contractual partnership with F2 Solutions which utilizes NSPN services to support the training of new reviewers and chairs for the federal grant review process. Each of these engagement partnerships expanded the voice of NSPN and ensured expanded awareness of the unique needs of children and youth served by NSPN affiliates.

NSPN Supports Affiliates in Efforts to Fund the Services of Tomorrow

Each year, NSPN offers proposal review services for funding requests. Although the service is open for review of any funding proposal, federal proposal requests are the most common and the 2022 requests focused on funding to support services for youth who have runaway or have experienced homelessness. The year proved to be another success as 13 agencies participated in services and 12 were funded. A total of just over \$7 million dollars will be awarded to member agencies as a result of these funding requests.

Developing and Distributing Resources

NSPN created new resources and distributed published and academic resources for the use of NSPN affiliates. In 2022, twelve monthly newsletters were distributed with links to more than 40 resources relevant to addressing prevention and intervention programming. NSPNsights also features links to funding opportunities, training announcements, and more.

The featured release for 2022 was the “Gearing Up for Grants Toolkit” which provided tips, encouragement, links, and sample tools for improving the efforts of all staff responsible for development.



**When people support each other,  
incredible things happen.**

2022 CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS

**\$100,000 +**  
QuikTrip Corporation

**\$10,000 - \$25,000**  
Anonymous  
Lisa and James Butcher  
UPS

**\$2,500 - \$9,999**  
AGBO  
Benevity Community Impact Fund  
Cozen O'Connor  
Tammy L. Hopper  
Laurie and Steve Padilla  
Jeff Lenard  
Bank of America

**\$2,000 - \$2,499**  
Adam Jonas

**\$1,000 - \$1,999**  
Pam and Terry Carter  
Howard Elliott  
Fidelity Charitable  
Janet Ramey  
Julia Richardson  
Lauren Sherry  
Michelle Tutunjian  
James T. Wallace, Ph.D.

**\$500 - \$999**  
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Barry Barker  
Children's Aid Society of Alabama  
Dave and Liz Brennan  
Salustra Urbin  
Gayle Watts

**\$200 - \$499**  
Akira Bradley  
Sammie Carlile  
Elaine Cole  
Kevin Grove  
Peggy Kilgore  
Anonymous, in memory of  
Joanne McPherson  
Elizabeth Smith Miller

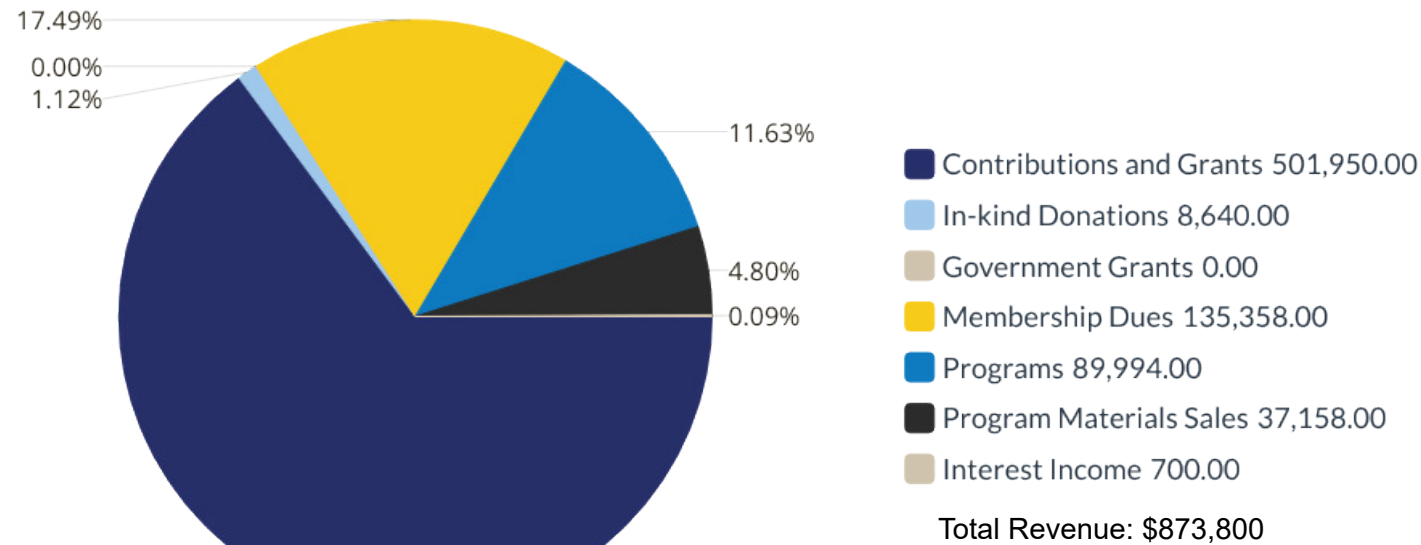
**\$100 - \$199**  
Steven Adams, in memory of  
Mandy Cookson  
Jordan Beeding  
Promod Bishnoi  
Bob and Delores Boellstorff  
Joanne Busa  
Lindsay Clabaugh, in memory of  
Rosalie Ann Meixsell  
Stacy deCarion  
Kathy Hatfield  
Shellay Maughan  
Tibby Milne  
Bonnie Ringle, in honor of  
Jack Moffett  
Autumn Sandlin-Moore

**\$50 - \$99**  
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Sandra Klyn  
David Mount

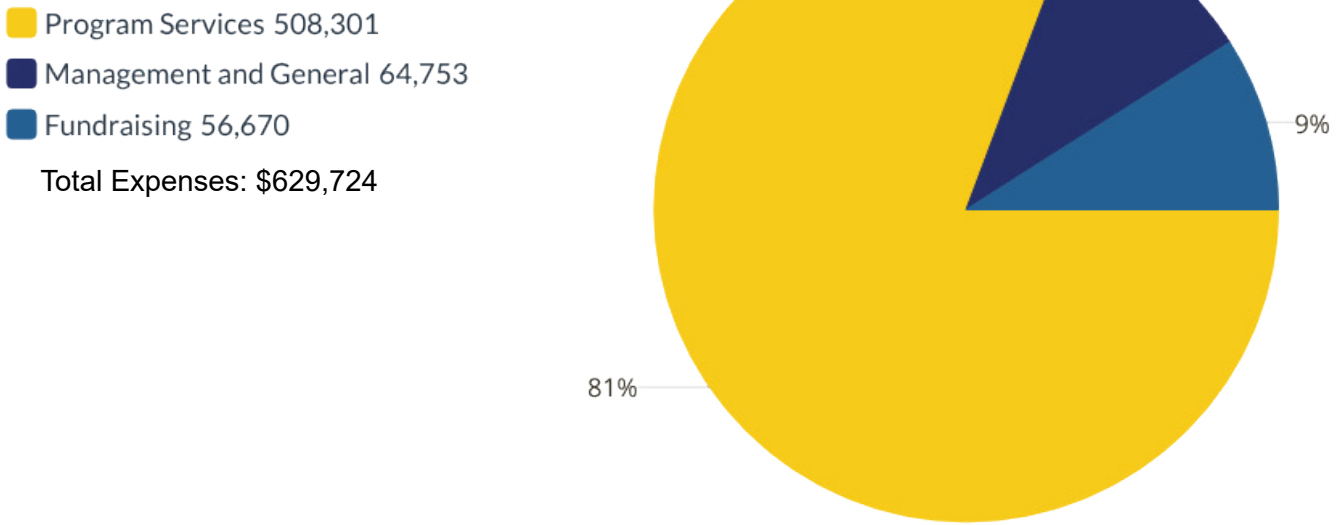
**\$5 - \$49**  
Anonymous, in honor of  
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Daniella Rey  
Kay Sewell  
Eric Tadatada  
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2022 NSPN FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Revenue



Expenses







545 S. 2nd St., Louisville, KY 40202  
(502) 635-3660 | [www.nspnetwork.org](http://www.nspnetwork.org)