

**Lenny and the DreamMakers**

**Annual Report 2022**

2022. A year where we experienced the small bits of individual helping. Face to face, hand to hand, heart to heart. Touching one life at a time with simple acts of kindness. Sometimes it can feel like it is too small to mean anything or to actually make a difference. Then there are the great times when the small endeavors protect our happiness to keep it from getting consumed by the big.

**In many ways we have done small endeavors this year and found happiness. These include:**

* Pipes breaking at the stability site – we brought buckets of water to them to at least have water for washing hands, etc. They were without water for more than three days. We were happy to help.
* 14 Welcome box orders in January – This is our most ever for one month. We ran out of a lot of normal items and were concerned we would not be able to keep up the pace. Fortunately, the requests slowed down in the following months so that we could stay mostly stocked.
* Huge donation from the Party Store – We made Easter goody bags, saved a lot of toys for Christmas, and boxed up fun items for the Welcome Boxes and the Women’s Shelter.
* Cake pops – One generous donor gave us enough hand-made, fancy cake pops to give to all our residents at the stability site for dessert saying sometimes you just need to do something impractical and fun.
* Garage Sale – turned into a smaller endeavor than we hoped as the rain fell and we scrambled to borrow enough canopies to cover our stuff. We still made $1600 with $200 of that given as donations.
* School Supplies – We collected $1700 in cash and about $500 in supplies in honor of teacher Judy, a long time teacher and volunteer for Lenny.
* United Way – Continued our relationship with United Way Gifts in Kind program where we “shop” once a month for the items we need.
* Cleaning out estate sales – We were asked to take what we wanted and could use from several sale locations during the year. That filled up our storage sheds!
* Microsoft - Became a charitable recipient with a full match of employee donations from Microsoft.
* Halloween party – Gathered and delivered costumes and prizes to the women’s shelter for their party for the kids.
* Thanksgiving – Another generous donor bought pizza for the November meal at the stability site. Thanksgiving pizza – a new tradition?
* Christmas – We sorted, wrapped, and delivered gifts for two families with a total of 6 kids, the 60+ residents at the Stability Site, and the 21 staff members at the Site. More than a small endeavor, this one.



**A quick look at our income and expenses for 2022**

 The biggest portion of our income (44%) comes from Individual donations, which was $5090 this year.

**Some of the notable endeavors for 2022**



* We brought 720 meals to the stability site. Mostly fried chicken, but some pizza and sandwiches too. When we arrive with our van full of food and goodies, the staff sends out the message to people that ***the DreamMakers are here!*** People start coming out of the big tent to help unload and set up the food. All the smiling faces are filled with gratitude.



* 106 households requested and received **Welcome Boxes**. That translates to 294 people, up from 129 folks the year before. One woman who requested Welcome Box items was setting up an apartment for the first time ever in her life! She is 50 years old and for several difficult reasons has been institutionalized up until now.

We spend about $19 cash per person, but they receive over $300 worth of goods due to the donations we receive and pass on through the Welcome Box program.

* At our monthly sorting parties, we have gone through over 9000 pounds of donated clothing and soft goods. Most items we sort are donated directly to the Tacoma Rescue Mission’s Women’s Shelter, the Stability Site in the port of Tacoma area, and the Altheimers Family Shelter. We bag up the rest for the FunDrive with Value Village where they pay us per pound for the soft goods we can’t use. We earned over $1500 with three FunDrives throughout the year.

* **Garage Sale** - proceeds were an amazing $1622!
* **Greeting Cards** - Made and delivered over 360 cards to Hospice and St Michael’s Medical Center.
* **Pillowcases** - Made and donated 172 pillowcases and 200 blankets.
* **Volunteer hours** - 21 dedicated people logged 1829 hours throughout the year. These are how those hours are spent:
	+ - *616 hours for caper prep and delivery*
		- *373 hours for Welcome Box order filling and organizing.*
		- *513 for Admin, Storage, hauling, delivering, and packing.*
		- *327 hours for other work done such as the garage sale, bookkeeping, and advertising.*
* We had our biggest year ever with 106 Welcome Box families which served 294 people.
* **2022**
* **Lenny and the DreamMakers**

We do second chances.

We do grace.

We do mistakes.

We do I’m sorrys.

We do small endeavors.

We do fellowship.

We do happiness.

*Face to face, hand to hand, heart to heart. Touching one life at a time with simple acts of kindness.*