



BRIDGES
to change

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

CREATING HOPE THROUGH COMMUNITY



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This year has been a year of incredible struggle, movement and change. As an organization that is aimed at standing with and providing supports for our most-impacted community members, Bridges to Change has seen the cost to our communities of systemic racism which is intricately intertwined with the devastation of the pandemic. As a nation, we were deeply impacted by the murder of George Floyd and more clearly understood the impacts of racism in our own communities. We have had to look inward, both personally and as a company, at the ways in which we have contributed to these systems and the ways in which we can affect change. At the end of 2019, our team had their sights set on an exciting strategic plan that would encompass social enterprising, expanded services, events and more. As the pandemic and social uprising spread, it was clear that we would need to take a step back, with the rest of the world, and see where we landed. To us, it was also an unexpected opportunity to dig more deeply into the equity work our organization has been committed to. With a call for activists and allies to stand up and walk with our most impacted communities, Bridges to Change

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leadership recognized the need for a more powerful and clear stance on how we approach anti-racism in the work that we do and the partnerships that we have. Included in this report is our anti-racist statement, created with staff, board and leadership input and direction. The work is never done. Bridges to Change is accountable not only to funders and community partners, but most importantly, to those who access and are impacted by our services. We believe that in order to best serve our participants, continue our growth and empower our communities, we must do so united with equity as our foundation. While the struggle of the 2019-2020 year continues to impact us, Bridges to Change has inspiration, determination and a deep commitment to creating hope through community.

THE WORK

In FY19/20, Bridges to Change provided resources to **2,329** individuals through a combination of community-based housing, behavioral health treatment and peer mentor services.

1,973

PARTICIPANTS IN PEER
MENTOR SERVICES

1,795

RESIDENTS
HOUSED

329

PEOPLE RECEIVED
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE

MOBILE OUTREACH

This spring, with the support of **CareOregon**, BTC launched its first ever mobile outreach program: **The Acute Care Team**. The team has 9 peer mentors and 3 counselors, who operate across the Tri-County region with a goal **to provide in-person care to those who have barriers to accessing office-based services**. Not only do these awesome staff deliver trauma-informed, harm reduction services to those who need it most, they are equipped with supplies for our most vulnerable Oregonians to stay safe and warm: tents, tarps, shoes, socks, hygiene kits, flashlights and more.



You can help with supplies by visiting our Amazon Wishlist and shopping on AmazonSmile.

Search:
Bridges to Change
Tax ID: 76-0751239

HOUSING



"It's a place where you can be successful and be right at home. You're never alone."

-Samantha N.



"If I didn't have this, I wouldn't have my kids. Stable housing brought my family back together."

-Jessica J.

Our Next Step House for Women and Children continues to be a success, with families finding stability, connection and joy. The house creates a safe place for mother's to prepare for their next step, whether its reunification with children, finding work or finishing treatment services.

We are so proud to be a part of this process and offer a much needed support for families.

**517 beds are available
across 5 counties**

**77% of our participants
live in BTC housing**

**62% exit services into
stable housing**

EQUITY



In 2019, BTC opened the Miguel Tellez house, culturally specific house for Latino men, in partnership with Central City Concern's Puentes program. BTC also opened the Quest Nest, an LGBTQ+ focused home, in partnership with Quest Integrative Health. BTC is honored and excited for more collaborations with communities in Oregon to bring much needed housing supports.

Bridges to Change launched its own podcast in 2019, Change Talk. Inspired by the voices of staff on their own equity journeys, this podcast is aimed at creating conversation around racial inequities in personal journeys, within the workplace and within society. Most importantly, it is meant to motivate CHANGE. Check out our live episodes on SoundCloud, iTunes or Spotify.



Our Equity and Inclusivity Committee was proud to establish an equity lens through which all decisions are made at BTC. To make it a part of everyday practice, BTC integrated it into branding and our signature lines, to encourage our community partners to ask the same question.

What could we do to help ensure representation, promote meaningful engagement, empower decision making and obtain feedback from the most-impacted community members?



ANTI-RACIST STATEMENT

As an organization, we recognize that our mission is to strengthen individuals and families affected by addictions, mental health, poverty, and homelessness is driven and compounded by systemic and institutional racism. We also recognize that, as an organization with the majority of employees and board members not representing communities of color, that we are part of the systemic problems we wish to change. In order to change injustices, we must acknowledge our own contributions to injustice, and work diligently to improve our organizations impact on the community. Bridges to Change is determined to utilize an anti-racist approach in all things we do. We know that communities of color are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system, impacted by health disparities, police brutality, chronic lack of resources, and interpersonal and systemic violence. As a result, we are determined to continue working against all forms of racism, discrimination, and injustice. We will not stand with the status quo and enable continuations of oppression to impact the communities we are part of. We are actively pursuing action against overt and covert displays of racism, injustices in the way resources are distributed, and negative outcomes for the most-impacted communities. We stand in partnership with black, indigenous, multicultural people of color. Bridges to Change will not waver in our fight for equity. We stand for justice and actively seek guidance from and in partnership with our most-impacted allies. We stand and demand action for positive change from systems of power.

Bridges to Change will not stand silent, we will not be complicit with the status quo, and we will not be complicit to the current structures that create and continue racism and injustice. We will stand with the most-impacted communities and we will be accountable to the community, our program participants, and to our mission.

Bridges to Change is determined to take action in the following ways:

- Bridges to Change will hold our funders and community partners accountable to equitable practices, openly addressing systemic barriers they and we contribute to and decline funding from entities that do not support our anti-racist and equity values.
- Bridges to Change will deepen our commitment to internal organizational action for equity by seeking mentorship from our allies and holding our leadership, board, and staff accountable to our anti-racist and equity organizational statements and values.
- Bridges to Change will create and sustain partnerships with organizations, businesses, and community leaders to support and receive guidance on how we can improve our impact and be better allies.
- Bridges to Change will make ongoing investments in community organizations supporting the most-impacted communities of systemic racism and injustice.

PANDEMIC RESPONSE



In March of 2020, like many businesses across the country, Bridges to Change had to strategize a creative approach to the services we provide. Historically, every way staff interacted with participants was in-person from counseling to peer mentoring to housing. In less than two weeks, BTC transitioned the entire direct service team to either entirely Telehealth services or partial Telehealth services. Our courageous essential workers continued on in programs that required on-site staff with new safety protocols. BTC committed to not reduce the amount of life-saving services we provide. Our homes continue to accept new residents, as do our other services. We cannot thank our frontline staff enough for all of the hard work they put in every, single day to ensure the community has resources during the pandemic and beyond.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Revenue:	
Contributions/Grants	65,176
Rental Income	975,528
Treatment Billing Revenue	1,566,637
Contract Revenue	7,679,303
Refunds and Miscellaneous	14,709
Total Revenue	10,301,353
Expenditures	
Housing Services	3,174,295
Peer Services	3,875,632
Treatment Services	1,867,818
Administration	1,096,980
Fundraising	12,656
Total Expenditures	10,027,381
Change in Net Assets	273,972
Net Assets, beginning of year	1,293,064
Net Assets, end of year	1,567,036

Bridges to Change launched the Acute Care Team in 2020 with the support of CareOregon. BTC historically has relied on county contract funding for its operations. With an aim to serve more community members through diversified funding streams, BTC expanded treatment options, including our outreach team. BTC's total revenue increased 22% from fiscal year 18/19, with billing revenue increasing 32% following the expansion of outpatient treatment services with supportive housing. The increase in billing revenue is especially impressive considering almost all billable services transitioned to telecare in the final quarter of fiscal year 19/20. This means that participants continued to engage in services, get the supports they need and stay connected. BTC continues to see fluctuations in rental income in the wake of the pandemic as residents are unable to pay rent. We encourage those who can give, to consider supporting BTC through donations. Contributions help to offset lost rental payments as we keep our fellow Oregonians in housing.

GET INVOLVED

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Donate cash or goods

Visit our website at www.bridgestochange.com/donate to give online and see what kind of goods we are accepting. You can also send a check to PO Box 16576, Portland OR 97292.

Join our monthly giving program: Housing Heroes

Contribute every month to support our residents by setting up automatic monthly payments. Go to www.bridgestochange.com/donate and select Monthly

Giving Alternatives

Fred Meyer Rewards: Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Bridges to Change at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number (#RV011)

AmazonSmile: Shop for your products on AmazonSmile the same way you do on Amazon and they give back, go to: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/76-0751239>