

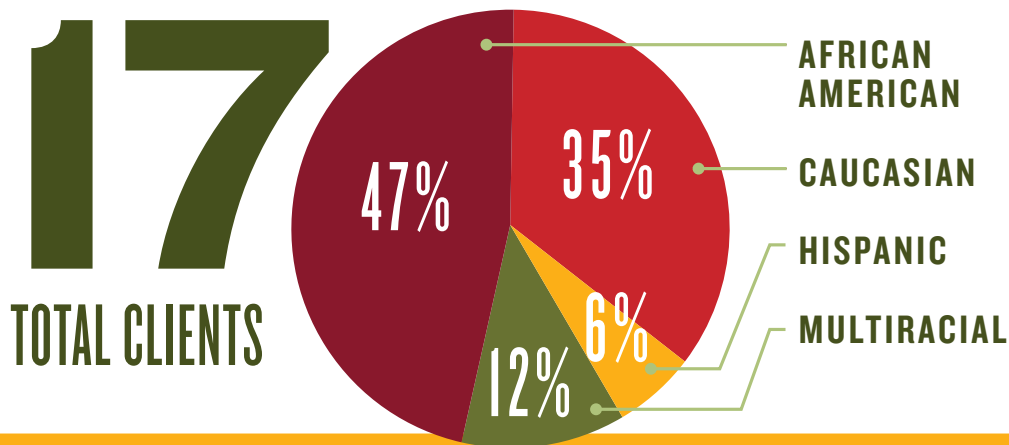


# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

*Thank you for making TCH a safe possibility for us to get better. We appreciate the second chance at life to be better and be a part of society. Thank you for helping us get better in every way, shape, and form.*

~The Covering House Youth

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT DIRECTLY SERVED YOUTH SURVIVORS OF SEX TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION. THANK YOU!



**616 COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

ATTENDED TRAFFICKING IOI PRESENTATIONS THROUGH AWARENESS & PREVENTION PROGRAM

## RESIDENTIAL HOME



9 YOUTH



7 BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED



15 AVERAGE AGE

MAIN REFERRAL SOURCE  
*Children's Division of Missouri*

## COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES



13 YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



18 AVERAGE AGE

MAIN REFERRAL SOURCE  
*former Residential Home Clients*



## A Letter From Our Founder

There's no other way to start this report than to say, "Thank You." We are in awe and full of gratitude for your support in 2022. You've given generously of your financial resources and time, shared in friendship with us, spread the word about trafficking and our mission, and prayed for the youth we serve. **Each and every youth in this report was helped because of you and your generosity.** Because you gave, youth who experienced sex trafficking and sexual exploitation were given the resources to begin healing. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

As we look back at 2022 in gratitude, so much has already happened in 2023 and we have much to look forward to over the next several years. In December, we hired a General Contractor, KAI, for our new residential home and organization headquarters. The decision was made to build a new building rather than renovate the original building. This will be much more cost effective, and the building will be on one level instead of two, providing a safer and more mobile-friendly residential home. Our new residential home is expected to be completed in late 2024.

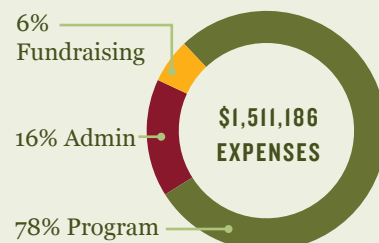
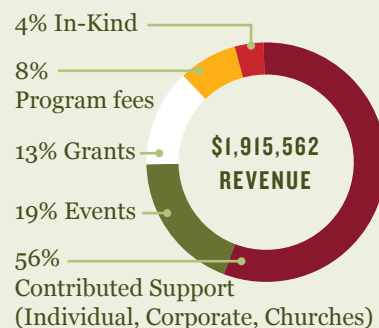
More exciting news is that we are revamping and bringing back Reducing the Risk, our school-based early intervention and prevention program. Reducing the Risk began in 2017 when a local elementary school with suspected cases of sex trafficking pleaded that The Covering House do a prevention training. Three students, aged 7, 9, and 10, were identified as being trafficked. From this experience, our early intervention and prevention program was born. We began training an average of 1,800 students, faculty, and parents each year. The program was temporarily stopped due to the pandemic and challenges getting back into schools. Reducing the Risk will relaunch in schools this fall of 2023!

We hope you are proud to know that everything in this report was made possible because of you. **Thank you for working side-by-side with us to help youth survivors of sex trafficking.**

Warmly,

Dedee Lhamon  
Founder and Executive Director

## 2022 AUDITED FINANCIALS



To see the full audit, please visit [www.thecoveringhouse.org/financials](http://www.thecoveringhouse.org/financials)

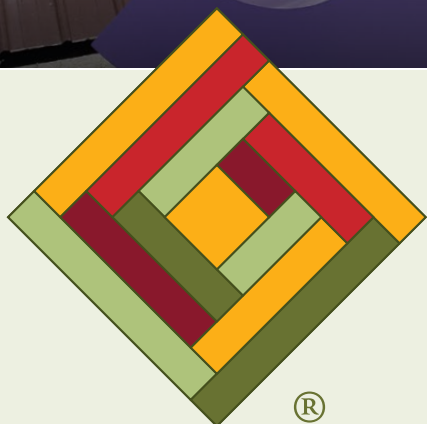
## TAX CREDITS AVAILABLE

When you donate to The Covering House, 50-70% of your donation could be reduced from the taxes you owe to the state of Missouri. For example, your \$1,000 donation could reduce your MO taxes by \$500 (50%). Email [info@thecoveringhouse.org](mailto:info@thecoveringhouse.org) for more information.





# Q & A WITH OUR YOUTH



## QUILT SQUARE EXPLANATION

During the Underground Railroad, it is said that slaves fleeing for their freedom would know which homes were a safe refuge by the types of quilts hanging on their porches. This is why The Covering House logo is a quilt square. The Covering House is a safe refuge for youth fleeing sex trafficking, modern day slavery. Each youth receives her own quilt when she arrives at our residential home, which is both symbolic and provides her with comfort and security.



Monthly Moments

JOIN THE LHAMON QUILT SQUARE SOCIETY

with annual gifts totaling \$1,000+

[www.thecoveringhouse.org/donate](http://www.thecoveringhouse.org/donate)



## WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE ACTIVITIES?

Going to the park, the zoo, gymnastics, horseback riding lessons, school projects, eating big meals

## WHAT PARTS OF THE PROGRAM ARE MEANINGFUL TO YOU?

Equine therapy, counseling, recreation, and school. Because those are things I like to do and need to do in order to get better in life

The group therapy is important to me because that is the main reason why I am here and everybody needs good therapy

## WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU'VE LEARNED?

How to deal with/control my emotions

To not let little things throw you off your square

Miss Britt (*the teacher*) has taught me a lot of school stuff and not school stuff too

## WHAT DO YOU APPRECIATE ABOUT THE STAFF?

They really show they care about us and want us to get somewhere in life instead of jail or something. They actually want to see us in college or on TV. They want us to live the best life possible.

They show us there are not only bad people in this world but there are people that care

They help us get a better understanding of life and how to use coping skills when in a triggering situation.

## HOW HAVE YOU HEALED?

Mrs. Cathy's (the therapist's) way of counseling is both stern and gentle at the same time, and it has really helped me in many situations, especially her wise thoughts/sayings.

## WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE WHO HAS SUPPORTED THE COVERING HOUSE?

*Thank you for helping us and making us feel safe.  
Thank you for protecting us and letting us be here.  
There are not a lot of people like you. We love you.*

## JANUARY-MARCH

Residential client math assessments showed an average of 39% growth in math skills over a 3-month period! TCH has a full, in-house education program.

Youth visited Shaw Nature Reserve to learn about nature and get outside.



## APRIL-JUNE

Graduations! Two youth graduated from the program and gave speeches about their remarkable growth over their 14 months:

College visit at Missouri Baptist University to learn about higher education and life on a college campus. The youth were buzzing with excitement afterwards.

## 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

## JULY-SEPTEMBER

Youth took a family vacation! Some of them had never been on a family vacation before. The vacation home was surrounded by trees and next to a peaceful lake. The youth appeared more relaxed than ever before. They went to the zoo, the movies, shopping for makeup, and the nail and hair salon. We saw their self-esteem raised and confidence built in youth who did not think they were worth it.



## OCTOBER-DECEMBER

Our youth prepared a BIG surprise for Miss Dedee, Founder & Executive Director. They spent hours crafting this custom “quilt” made of wooden squares, each hand-painted by one of our youths. Each square represents something about TCH that is special to that individual.

Christmas was celebrated with gifts under the tree! For one youth, it was her first Christmas. They played games, baked cookies, decorated stockings and more!

*When I first got here, I had a lot of challenges. Loving myself was the hardest for me to do. When I learned to trust (my therapist), I started to tell her everything. It helped me to go through everything and let my past go....To The Covering House, thanks for all the people who helped me while I was here. Never forget me, I'm in your heart.*

~The Covering House Youth

*To the girls still in the program, I know it's hard here, but it's worth it. Stay strong. After a year, you won't even recognize yourself.*

~The Covering House Youth

## YEAR-ROUND, YOUTH RECEIVE:



- INDIVIDUAL THERAPY
- GROUP THERAPY
- EQUINE THERAPY
- HORTICULTURE THERAPY
- FAMILY THERAPY (when the family is willing/able)
- IN-HOUSE EDUCATION
- FIELD TRIPS AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
- CASE MANAGEMENT
- ACCOMPANIMENT TO MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS/JUDICIAL MEETINGS
- LIFE SKILLS TRAINING
- FAMILY-STYLE HOUSING AND MEALS
- RECREATION AND WELLNESS
- REIMBURSING CHILDHOOD (birthday celebrations, welcome home meals, outings)