





Graving New Partnerships



At HSS, we believe one of the ways to support our mission of Helping All People Live Their Best Lives is to forge meaningful relationships with people, businesses and organizations.

Early in 2022, Lisa Maurer volunteered to give members of our Community Day Services program the opportunity to tour her store, Farm Girl Finds in Waterloo. They were so excited to watch Lisa and her team paint and refinish the furniture pieces that the tour evolved into an ongoing collaboration.

Lisa and two of her staff, Mary and Sandy, now come to HSS every Wednesday to walk the clients through how to clean, paint, price, advertise and sell their pieces.

"Each item we refurbish belongs to the individual, so they have this amazing sense of pride and accomplishment," said Michele Bowen, director of employment and Community Day Services at HSS.

For Lisa and her team at Farm Girl Finds, the relationships formed at HSS have been just as impactful.

"Spending time with the clients at HSS has been so rewarding for me and my FGF team," Lisa said. "We look forward to seeing their smiling faces each Wednesday morning. They are eager to learn the furniture painting process, they work hard and take pride in the work they accomplish."

To learn more about how you can build a relationship with HSS through your interest, hobby or business, please contact Michele Bowen at mbowen@hss1.org or call 618-939-4444.

Partnerships like the one that has blossomed between HSS and Farm Girl Finds helps not only the individuals we serve learn valuable skills and gain experience, but it helps HSS build and strengthen relationships in the community.

How Our Inspact Has Grown:

By embracing the infinite potential of every individual, HSS clients, staff and leadership have made the most of every opportunity 2022 presented. This year, we:



Expanded our crisis services, providing 24/7 support for Monroe County residents experiencing mental health or substance use crises



Added two new mini-vans to our transportation fleet, giving more clients the opportunity to travel to the doctor, the store and jobs



Opened a new residence in Columbia, giving individuals with developmental disabilities a safe, comfortable place to live



Trained two clinicians in Mental Health First Aid one for youth and one for adults







Blossoming Where We. . Live, Grow, Work





individuals with disabilities live with assistance at safe, comfortable homes in Monroe County

people met with a therapist to take a step forward in their lives

multi-residence buildings allow individuals with disabilities to live with assistance in the community

people identified their gifts and talents through our employment services programs

use services

On the cover:

The painting on the cover of this report was created by HSS clients with the help of local artist Nancy Becker. Nancy guided the clients through the creation of the painting, and in the end, said she felt she learned more from the clients than she could ever teach them. Each client painted a flower on the painting, and Nancy came up with an affirmation word for each flower.



Mental Health First Aid is a course that teaches people how to identify and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. The training gives people the skills they need to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis.





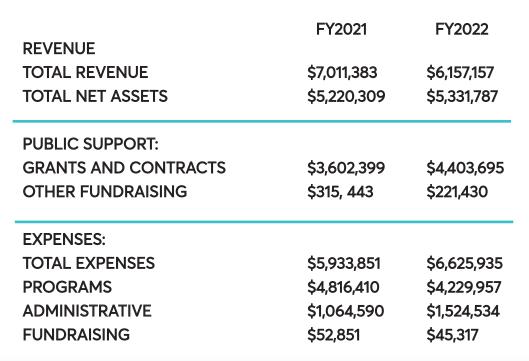














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A note from Stan and Anne:

This year was the beginning of our 50th year serving the people of this comm<mark>unity, but in</mark> some ways, it felt like we were starting something new here at HSS. Perhaps it was the renewed sense of purpose so many of us felt in the post-pandemic world. Or maybe it was the infectious enthusiasm for life that our clients share with us every day. Whatever the reason, the people of HSS, from the board and leadership to the staff and clients, seemed to recognize that 2022 would be a year of both opportunity and resilience. We faced challenges in staffing shortages and rising costs of supplies. But we pressed on, propelling our agency forward.

From expanding our crisis services to opening a new home for individuals with developmental disabilities, 2022 was still a year for growth and fresh starts. We developed partnerships with businesses and individuals in the community, and helped clients learn new skills through a pilot business program. As an agency and as individuals, we learned to grow our community relationships and focus on our talents and abilities. Now, we're excited to invite our stakeholders and the community to join us as we celebrate our 50th year by taking a reflective look back while we aim our sights on the future.









