



**Turning Point**  
Community Services

# 2025 Impact Report

A Safe Stop on the Way Home

TPCSINC.ORG



# LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

When Turning Point Community Services was established in 2002, we began with a singular and urgent business purpose: to provide safe emergency shelter for mothers and families in crisis. What started as a place of refuge has, over the years, become something far greater.

In 2025, we celebrated a transformational year, one defined not only by growth, but by deepening impact.

Today, TPCS is a fully wraparound services organization. We are a comprehensive support system designed to meet mothers and families wherever they are on their journey and walk alongside them toward long-term stability and independence.

This year marked the expansion of our Clinical and Supportive Services, strengthening access to mental health counseling, case management, life skills development, and individualized goal planning. We enhanced our housing solutions, supporting families as they secure permanent housing, reconnect with supportive networks, or transition into stable next steps aligned with their unique circumstances.

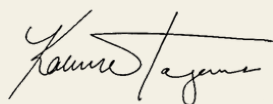
We also invested in infrastructure to match our mission. Our growing team now works from expanded office space designed to foster collaboration and innovation. A new commercial kitchen and pantry allow us to nourish families with dignity while also creating opportunities for skill-building and shared community meals. New social and educational spaces provide room for workshops, programming, connection, and healing.

The physical expansion of our facilities reflects something even more powerful: the evolution of our vision. We understand that housing alone is not enough. True stability requires clinical support, economic empowerment, community connection, and the tools to build a sustainable future. TPCS now stands as a model of comprehensive care, meeting immediate needs while building long-term pathways forward.

None of this would be possible without the unwavering support of our donors, partners, volunteers, and advocates. Your belief in our mission fuels every milestone. Because of you, mothers are gaining employment, building savings, accessing therapy, strengthening parenting skills, and securing homes of their own. Children are experiencing safety, consistency, and hope.

As you read this 2025 Impact Report, I invite you to see beyond the numbers. See the resilience. See the courage. See the futures being rewritten. Together, we are not just providing shelter. We are creating lasting change.

With gratitude and determination,



Karimah A. Hagans, Esq.  
Executive Director, TPCS

# ABOUT TPCS

## MISSION

To positively impact the lives of women and their families experiencing homelessness and abuse through innovative programs and resources that support independence, nurture intrapersonal growth, and prepare them for a more prosperous future.

## VISION

To be a comprehensive solution that adequately addresses all of the challenges faced by women experiencing homelessness.



# CRISIS IN NUMBERS

**13,748**

persons were experiencing homelessness within the State of New Jersey. This is an 8.4% increase in the homelessness population.

Irvington has the

**4th**

largest homeless population within the county.

Essex County had the largest number of homeless persons within New Jersey, encompassing

**17.5%**

of its total homeless population.

New Jersey has an affordable housing shortage of

**200,000+ units**

SOURCE: NJCOUNTS 2024 (THE ANNUAL POINT-IN-TIME [PIT] COUNT OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN NEW JERSEY)

# PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

For nearly 25 years, TPCS has been a steadfast ally to families experiencing homelessness, evolving from a traditional non-congregate shelter into a comprehensive, family-centered support system. Here we feature three mother-led families whose journeys reflect the impact of our programs and the path to safe, stable housing. To learn more about our programs, please read on.

Ms. Carrasquilla is a dedicated first-generation citizen and domestic violence survivor who has prioritized her children's safety and education. During her time at the shelter, she displayed positivity and determination while engaging in financial literacy and housing assistance programs. Recognized as a respectful and helpful resident, she insisted on including her children in a photo to commemorate their shared journey. After overcoming challenges related to homelessness and trauma, she is now stable, with a housing voucher, a job, and her children thriving in school.

Meet Ms. Rodriguez, a true warrior exemplifying resilience and strength. Despite significant challenges, she remained dedicated to improving her life and her son's. Ms. Rodriguez utilized TPCS resources, actively participating in counseling and job readiness programs, which led her to secure a job and permanent housing. Her journey is a powerful testament to the impact of determination and hard work.

We proudly highlight Ms. Dejesus, a dedicated mom who sought shelter during a tough time after facing housing loss. Instead of giving up, she fought for her family's future, utilizing our case management and housing navigation services. In less than three months, her hard work led to stable housing for her and her two daughters, demonstrating that with determination and support, positive change is achievable.

**TPCS is proud to be a safe stop on the way home for our mothers and their families.**



Ms. Carrasquilla + her children



Ms. Rodriguez + her child



Ms. Alexa Dejesus

# EMERGENCY HOUSING



Since 2002, Turning Point Community Services Emergency Shelter known as Servant's House has been a non-congregate, family-centered program providing safety, dignity, and stability for families experiencing homelessness. The shelter can serve up to 24 families (approximately 70 individuals) at any given time.

## Private & Comfortable Living Spaces

- Private bedrooms to promote dignity and privacy
- Shared bathrooms and kitchenettes within each unit
- Designed to support independence and family stability

## Daily Living Support

- Commercial kitchen for meal preparation and classes
- On-site food pantry for personal family use
- On-site laundry facility for resident convenience

## Growth & Supportive Services

- Dedicated spaces for life skills workshops
- Case management and supportive services offices
- Meeting rooms for family goal planning and resources

## Welcoming Intake & Community Spaces

- Reception area for:
  - Initial intake, meet and greet
  - Resident sign-in and sign-out
  - Daily questions and assistance
  - Connection to staff support
- Social and fitness spaces to encourage wellness and connection

## Resident Advisor Support

- Daily operational support for families
- Assistance tailored to mothers' and children's needs
- Weekly community meetings
- Holiday events and celebrations to create normalcy and belonging

<p><b>PERSONS SERVED</b> 191 INDIVIDUALS 76 FAMILIES</p> <p><b>LENGTH OF STAY</b> 4.4 MONTHS</p>
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# CLINICAL + SUPPORTIVE SERVICES



Turning Point Community Services Clinical + Supportive Services (CSS) Department was created and implemented in 2023 to provide comprehensive, trauma-informed support to the women and families we serve, helping them build stability, independence, and long-term success.

## Intensive Case Management

- Individualized service plans
- Goal setting and future planning guidance
- Minimum of weekly check-ins with mothers and their children
- Progress monitoring to support stability within 6 months

## Mental Health & Wellness

- Mental health services and specialized referrals
- Emotional wellness and coping strategies
- Trauma-informed, family-centered care

## Life Skills & Education Workshops

- Financial literacy
- GED support and educational guidance
- Parenting classes
- Job readiness & resume building

## Housing & Stability Focus

- Collaborative support with the Emergency Shelter Team
- Partnership with the Housing Solutions Team
- Partnership with 5 NJ Managed Care Organizations to develop infrastructure to provide Housing Supports Services
- Goal of transitioning families to safe, stable, independent housing within 6 months

**CASE MANAGEMENT  
SERVICE ENGAGEMENT  
RATE 86.91%  
PERSONS SERVED  
161 INDIVIDUALS**

**MENTAL HEALTH  
PROGRAM  
SERVICE ENGAGEMENT  
RATE 93.42%  
PERSONS SERVED  
71 FAMILIES**

Through coordinated care, structured support, and consistent engagement, the Clinical + Supportive Services Department empowers families to move from crisis to confidence, creating a foundation for long-term independence and stability.

# HOUSING SOLUTIONS DIVISION



Turning Point Community Services Housing Solutions Department (formerly known as Housing Assistance Program) was fully implemented in late 2025 to help women and families transition from homelessness to safe, stable, and permanent housing through personalized support and housing navigation services.

## Housing Navigation & Placement

- Individualized housing search assistance
- Landlord engagement and advocacy
- Support with rental applications and documentation

## Rapid Rehousing Support

- Short-term rental assistance
- Move-in cost support (deposits and utilities)
- Stabilization services to promote long-term success

## Ongoing Supportive Services

- Coordination with Clinical + Supportive Services
- Referrals to community resources
- Continued check-ins to ensure housing stability

## Housing & Stability Focus

- Collaborative support with the Emergency Shelter Team
- Partnership with the Clinical + Supportive Services Team
- Partnership with 5 NJ Managed Care Organizations to develop infrastructure to provide Housing Supports Services
- Goal of transitioning families to safe, stable, independent housing within 6 months

**PERSONS SERVED**  
**32 FAMILIES**

The Housing Solutions Division is committed to helping families overcome barriers, secure permanent housing, and build a strong foundation for independent, stable living.

# RIBBON CUTTING EVENT

It was with immense pride that we marked this milestone together! For over two decades, Turning Point Community Services has been dedicated to supporting unhoused mothers and their families. This celebration represented a powerful step forward, an expansion made possible by the unwavering generosity of our donors and a governmental partner.

Through thoughtful renovations and new construction, we expanded office space for our Clinical + Supportive Services and Housing Solutions teams, strengthening our ability to serve families with comprehensive, coordinated care. The project also introduced a new commercial kitchen and pantry for personal use and nutrition-based cooking classes, along with enhanced social, fitness, and educational workshop spaces designed specifically for the women and families we serve.

This milestone reflects our continued commitment to providing dignity, opportunity, and pathways to long-term stability.

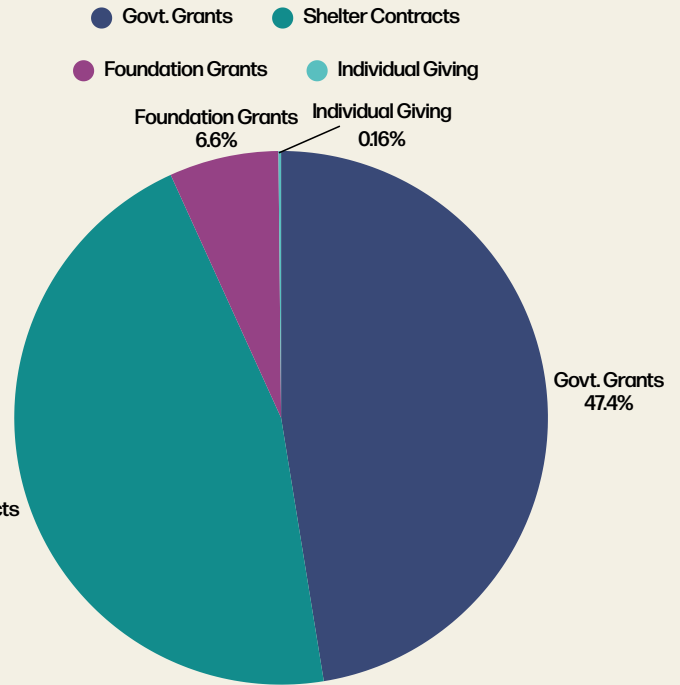


# FINANCIALS

In 2025, TPCS received \$1,780,004 in revenue. This is a 50% increase from 2024.

## Private Funding

- Healthcare Foundation of NJ
- Schumann Fund for NJ
- Rutgers University
- Hyde & Watson Foundation
- Jewish Women's Foundation of NJ
- Columbia Bank Foundation
- Turrell Fund
- Investors Foundation
- Citizens Bank Foundation
- Fidelity Charitable



## Government Funding + Service Contracts

- Essex County
  - Division of Family Assistance and Benefits
  - Division of Community Action
  - Division of Housing and Community Development
- Township of Irvington
- New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



Karimah and the CSS team with the The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey



ECP's annual holiday gift giving for TPCS families



Executive Directors of Schumann Fund for New Jersey and TPCS at NJRBP panel discussion

# THANK YOU

Thank you for your time, energy, and resources. We invite you to support our mission through the following initiatives:

- New Clinical + Supportive Services Center: Help us build out our Center, which will include two family-sized permanent supportive apartments on the top floor.
- Charity Care Program: Provide assistance to families in need.
- Skill Building and Education Workshops: Contribute to workshops that empower individuals with essential skills.
- Collections Drive: Donate new Twin XL bedding, towels, hygiene products, and laundry supplies.
- Shelter Holiday Events: Support our special holiday events for our families like Juneteenth, Halloween, Christmas, Easter, and Mother's Day.

## Your Generosity Can Make a Significant Impact in Our Community!

1. Explore our [Website](#) and follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#)
2. For inquiries and tours to see a best-in-class human services organization contact Dawn Schwartz at [dschwartz@tpcsinc.org](mailto:dschwartz@tpcsinc.org)

