

Well People

One out of five. 43.8 million. 60%. Those are the numbers*—the statics—that describe the broad impact of mental illness in America. Skip, Tammy, Matthew. These are the people—the members of The Well Community—who live every day with persistent and chronic brain disorders.

The Well Community cares for and serves people with the profound physical, emotional and spiritual needs that are so prevalent when dealing with mental disorders. Through this holistic approach The Well provides compassionate programs and services. The organization creates a place of belonging and acceptance for individuals who are otherwise isolated and lonely, and for those who have been stigmatized and forgotten by society.

In this report you will find numbers that count the people served, figures about our funding and statistics reporting on volunteer hours. My hope, though, is that what you will primarily discover are our people: members, volunteers and staff who together make The Well not just a service provider but a community of people who share help, hope and life.

Alice Zaccarello, Executive Director

www.wellcommunity.org/about-us-2/the-facts

The Well Community is the
only faith-based nonprofit in
the Dallas Metroplex working
exclusively with those who
suffer from
MENTAL ILLNESSES.

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“This is
our home!”
— Burl Skipwith

Real Life

On just about any day of the week, you can find The Well Community member Burl Skipwith sitting on the front porch of Jacob's House, chatting with other residents and calling out greetings to passing neighbors. "Skip" is 57 and battles schizoaffective disorder, a mental illness that has features of both schizophrenia and a mood irregularity like major depression or bipolar disorder. He lives at The Well's boarding home for men and believes that The Well and Jacob's House together have made all the difference in his quality of life. "Mental illness may not be curable, but you can learn to live with it," he says. The Well provides a place for members not only to live, but to thrive despite their mental health difficulties. "The Well and Jacob's House are beautiful things," Skip proclaims.

Empowered Life

Helplessness and hopelessness can be constant companions for those dealing with severe mental illnesses. However, finding access to services, which empower individuals to meet their own basic needs, brings dignity and supports individuals as they move toward independence. In 2015 staff devoted more than 27 hours each week to "case management," which included helping members access needed resources such as food stamps, clothing, housing, transportation and connection with family members, doctors and other health care providers.

Another important aspect of an empowered life is the ability to participate in a wider community. In 2015 some members of The Well joined with the Dallas Street Choir to perform the Street Requiem at the Dallas City Performance Hall to a sold-out audience. Members also participated in other community events such as the Oak Cliff Mardi Gras Parade and the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Daily Life

According to the local point-in-time annual survey by the Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance, nearly half (48%) of the homeless population in Dallas report having a mental illness. Many members of The Well Community have lived "on the streets" at various times in their lives. Finding or retaining safe, decent and affordable housing is nearly impossible without help. The Well assists Community members in securing appropriate housing. The supportive housing program helps higher-functioning individuals secure private apartments. In addition, as mentioned above, The Well manages Jacob's House, a two-story house in Oak Cliff where eight male members live in a structured community. "This is a good house and I believe in it," says resident James Johnson. "This is our home," adds Burl Skipwith.

In just a few words we have highlighted a number of special opportunities The Well Community experienced throughout the year in 2015. But what we hope you have also seen is the steady, stable care that has provided firm footing each day for those whose lives are often confusing and chaotic. Through the generous gifts of supporters, the dedicated efforts of professional staff and the heroic participation of the members themselves, during 2015 The Well was indeed a community of people who shared help, hope and life.



Volunteer Life



"Everyone should be able to use their gifts to bless others," says Diann Warnock. Fortunately for The Well Community, her gift is cooking and for nine years Diann chose to share her talents two to three times a month year round, preparing lunch for members. A sous chef at Sur la Table, Diann made sure meals were both nutritious and lovely. "When it comes to food, color represents 'healthy,' so we always made sure we had greens and other vegetables along with a lean protein," Diann explains. Over the years she recruited other volunteers including Evelyn Simmons, Jackie Howard and Esther Ginnochio. The Well depends on the gift of time from volunteers to help enrich the lives of members. In 2015, 260 volunteers like Diann gave 2,856 hours of their time to prepare and serve meals, help with special events or provide special classes such as art or computer training.

Community Life

Open Mondays through Wednesdays, The Well's Community Life Center (CLC) offers a restorative environment for people who have had their lives drastically disturbed and need the support of others in moving toward mental health. The nearly 300 people who came to the CLC in 2015 had the opportunity to access care and participate in community life, both so necessary for recovery. At the CLC, the focus is on the strengths, talents and abilities of Community Members, not their



illnesses. "On the street, you're an eyesore. Here, they embrace you. ... It's just the love. You feel comfortable. It's the first place I've found like this," says Tammie Green, a Well Community member.

Spiritual Life

Unique among agencies serving those with mental health difficulties, The Well Community provides holistic opportunities for recovery, which includes addressing the spiritual dimensions of life. In fact, when it was founded in 2002, a primary goal was to provide a place where those who struggle with mental illnesses could worship without having to conform to the expectations of traditional churches. In 2015 Thursday Night Life continued to offer that opportunity. Each week members worshiped, read scripture, listened to a message and prayed for one another. Throughout the year, 166 volunteers from 10 supporting churches assisted with these services.



In addition to the weekly gatherings, The Well hosted spiritual retreats twice in the year for its members. These overnight getaways allowed time to gather together in a beautiful space in the country, hosted by Mt. Lebanon Baptist Encampment. Members played games, took hikes and had fellowship with one another. In addition, they had times for spiritual reflection and prayer.

"Nurturing spiritual growth for those with a faith background is as important to them and their recovery as is medication or education," says Alice Zaccarello, Executive Director. Well member Matthew Guenther agrees: "My job on Earth is to let Jesus have victory over my life."

"I find it amazing the depth of faith members have," says Katie Webb, Community Life Center Manager and Worship Leader. "They challenge my faith."

2015 Review

Revenue	\$291,539
Individuals	41%
Churches	19%
Foundations and Trusts	16%
Corporations and Businesses	1%
Local Associations & Service Groups	2%
Special Event: Recovery Live	6%
Earned Income: Jacob's House	15%
	100%

Expenses	\$303,159
Program Expenses	79%
Management and General	10%
Fundraising Expenses	11%
	100%

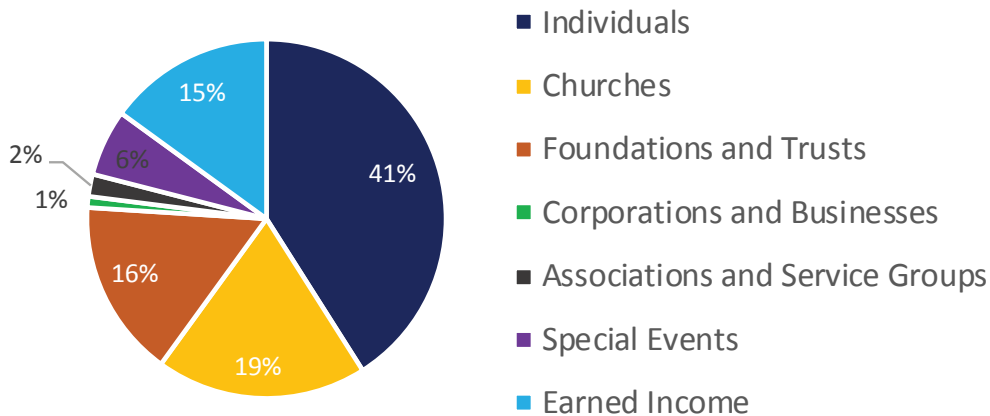
People Served: 298
 41% White; 35% Black; 24% Hispanic
 63% Male; 37% Female
 18-76 years of age

Nutritious Meals Served: 14,848

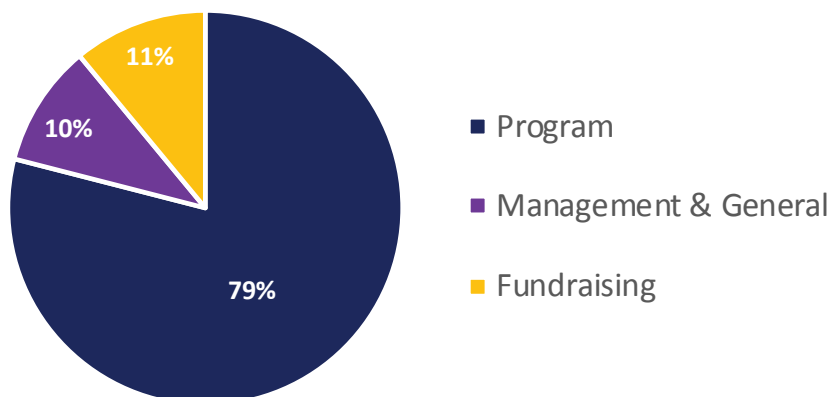
Volunteers 260
 Number of Volunteer Hours 2,856
 Volunteer Investment \$70,429
 (Corporation for National and Community Service)

Staff Time
 Direct Service Hours 15,716
 Case Management Hours 1,359

Revenue



Expenses



Thank you to all of our Individual Donors and Special Event Sponsors, including the following Churches, Foundations, Trusts, Corporations and Local Service Groups:

Cliff Temple Baptist Church
 Morning Star Family Foundation
 Hawn Foundation
 First Baptist Frisco
 Gaston Episcopal Hospital Foundation
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 Assemblies of God/South Dallas Section
 Junior League of Dallas
 Old Oak Cliff Conservations League
 All Saints Dallas
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 Wooden Camera
 Kessler Park Baptist Church
 Kessler Park United Methodist Church
 Forest Meadow Baptist Church
 Kessler Community Church
 The Galli Group
 Dallas Trinity Rotary Club
 The Table
 The Rosewood Foundation
 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
 Eastfield Bible Chapel
 Park Cities Baptist Church

2015 Volunteer Church and Community Groups:

All Saints Dallas
 Arbuckle Family
 Arcadia Park United Methodist Church
 Christ Church Episcopal
 Cliff Temple Baptist Church
 First Baptist Church Frisco
 Kessler Park United Methodist Church
 Kirk Lauterbach and Friends
 New Life Bible Church
 Alexandra Nolan and Friends
 Park Cities Baptist Church
 Trinity Church
 Tyler Street United Methodist Church
 Diann Warnock and Friends

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