

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

families mpowered





Metropolitan Family Services mpowers families to learn, to earn, to heal and to thrive.

Part mentor, part motivator, part advocate, since 1857 Metropolitan Family Services has been the engine of change that Mpowers families to reach their greatest potential and positively impact their communities.

mpowered for life



HOLISTIC STRATEGY TO EMPOWER FAMILIES



ECONOMIC STABILITY

We equip strong, self-sustaining families with the tools to find and maintain employment, achieve financial literacy, and build family wealth.



EMPOWERMENT

We help families stand up and be heard by providing legal aid, violence prevention, and domestic violence services.



EDUCATION

We prepare young people and parents for success, from the early years throughout school, and all the way to college.



EMOTIONAL WELLNESS

We encourage healthy and productive lives through counseling and mental health services, parenting and family support and older adult services.

FAMILY Values













To provide and mobilize the services needed to strengthen families and communities.

To be widely acknowledged as a major catalyst and resource for promoting family and community strengths.



FOCUS ON STRENGTHS

As servant leaders, we value individuals, families and communities, their inherent strengths, their ability to learn and grow, be resilient and find solutions to challenges. Our servant mindset inspires us to help people reach their full potential and own their empowerment.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We are honest and transparent, effectively managing resources entrusted to us, and in turn, investing in the people and communities we serve.

MOBILIZE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

We work to increase diversity, racial, gender and economic equity, inclusion and cultural competency in all that we do.

INNOVATIVE CULTURE

We are agile, responsive to complex and emerging social challenges. We are equally agile in our operations and management functions, while maintaining the integrity of our operational and management systems.

LEARNING ORGANIZATION

We value experience gained from mistakes, knowing this is key to continuous improvement and greater wisdom.

YES-MINDED APPROACH

We look for what is possible and find creative solutions, transforming challenges into viable opportunities.

Our Mission

Our Vision

This year, MFS celebrates "community" - and here, community starts from within.

Community is built on people's connections, including in the workplace. Our community continues to touch thousands of clients and families, and our thousand-member staff continues to go above and beyond to ensure our services reach clients where they are. They've continued to innovate through in-person and online services. We are extremely grateful to the MFS team, both for this past year and throughout the pandemic, for their enduring commitment to keeping families and communities strong.

Much has happened in the last 12 months! Highlights include the \$3 million transfer of assets from MFS to leaders in Chicago's West Englewood community through We Grow Chicago (We Grow). We Grow is a neighborhood-based coalition led by Imagine Englewood if, Metropolitan Family Services and three local, Black-led organizations including Growing Home, Grow Greater Englewood and Teamwork Englewood.

We Grow owns 15 properties on the "Peace Campus," which spans the 6400 block of South Honoré Street. We are excited to share that plans are in the works to transform one of the Peace Campus homes into a state-of-the-art digital technology center, operated by MFS and We Grow, where we will train youth for some of the most promising careers of the future. Speaking of the MFS/We Grow partnership, we couldn't be more enthused about local leaders being empowered to chart the future of their communities!

At MFS, we've also been working diligently to improve our infrastructure for better service delivery. That includes refining our behavioral health systems, launching an in-depth review of our careers platforms and processes, and developing a new Intake and Referral Program. The latter will make it much easier and quicker for us to connect clients with services, in ways that more efficiently equip clients to choose the services that best support their unique needs.

Board Chair Ashley Duchossois Joyce culminates her three-year term in October 2022. She graciously extended her tenure for another year, providing the agency with additional stability through the pandemic. Ashley played an instrumental role in increasing Board engagement, further diversifying our Board membership to better reflect those we serve, and changing Board committees to inspire new ideas and impact.

MFS honors Ashley's many contributions to our agency. Her Board service is the most recent example of a deep commitment that spans more than two decades. We also look forward to David Tropp assuming the Chairmanship in fall 2022. Bringing close to three decades of experience with MFS as a Board member, David's leadership shows how our Board is stronger than ever.

All of our growth and transition could not be possible without our community members, drivers and leaders, both internal and external. We thank you so much for your continued faith in our mission to Mpower Chicagoland!

Inales Lather

Ric Estrada President & CEO

Aller Duchessus Joyce

Ashley Duchossois Joyce Board Chair









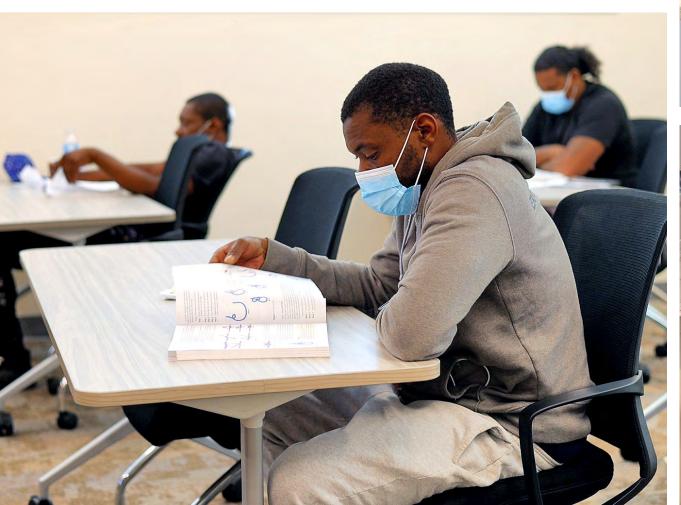
MORE MOWERMENT: HEAR FROM OUR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STAFF AND JOB-SEEKERS MFSANNUALREPORT.ORG/WORKFORCE-DEVELOPMENT



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Workforce Development at Metropolitan means consistently developing and reworking spaces of community. Whether those spaces are physical - gaining hands-on experience at work sites, building a Free Library for our Altgeld Gardens residents - or emotional - cultivating a safety net of wraparound support for jobseekers and their families - we're committed to empowering our communities to persevere through life's challenges.

As we celebrate the culmination of 20 years of Workforce Development at Metropolitan, we've opened a new space dedicated to empowering job-seekers well into the future: our Jones Center! As we expand our programming and develop connections with employer partners, we're seeing growth. Growth of diversity in trades, of bridging our work with youth into our work with adults; we're seeing the benefits in a community's workforce being of the community.







MORE MOWERMENT: WATCH A CONVERSATION WITH AMANDA AND BRENDA MFSANNUALREPORT.ORG/BEHAVIORAL-HEALTH



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Amanda remembers a major moment of progress for her family: sitting down at the dinner table, all together.

Amanda and her husband had received support as foster parents, but those services dissipated once they adopted their children. She and her family needed consistency and support. Her three children had all experienced vastly different traumas, and their unique needs and behaviors created "a state of chaos," as Amanda put it. "When Brenda walked in the door, I was so excited and grateful. There was this calm and this peace. She just heard, and understood, and saw what was happening."

"It's been the consistency and the trusted voice I so appreciate. I'm so grateful for continued services now, because we need them but we've grown so much, and so it's exciting. It's exciting because there's hope."

- Amanda, Metropolitan DuPage client

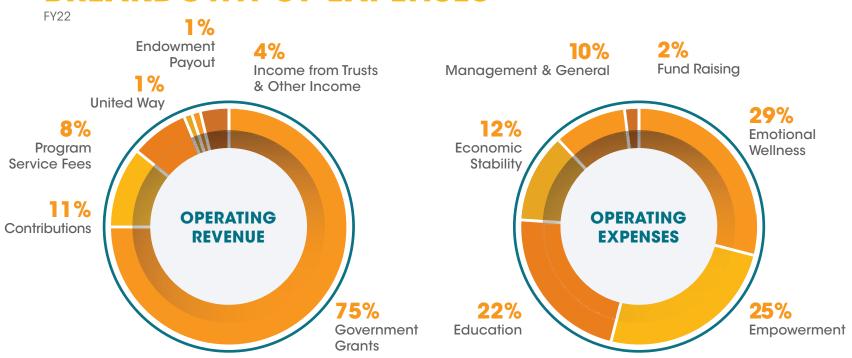




STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Years Ended June 30, 2022 and 2021 Amounts in 000's

OPERATING REVENUE	2022	2021
Government Grants	79,921	65,526
Program Service Fees	8,273	9,235
Contributions	11,370	9,263
United Way	1,403	1,559
Endowment Payout	1,668	1,668
Income from Trusts & Other Income	4,107	8,257
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	106,742	95,508
OPERATING EXPENSES		
PROGRAM EXPENSES		
Emotional Wellness	30,546	25,921
Empowerment	27,254	22,366
Education	23,868	22,157
Economic Stability	12,721	12,647
Total Program Expenses	94,389	83,091
Management & General	10,461	9,691
Fund Raising	2,398	2,533
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	107,248	95,315
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	107,248 (506)	95,315 193
	(506)	193
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(506)	193
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OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	(506)	193
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS Depreciation & Amortization	(506) (1,019)	193 (862)
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS Depreciation & Amortization Net Investment Gains (Losses)	(506) (1,019) (9,562)	193 (862) 11,995
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS Depreciation & Amortization Net Investment Gains (Losses) Change in Pension Liability	(506) (1,019) (9,562) (213)	193 (862) 11,995 4,354
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June 30, 2022 and 2021 Amounts in 000's

ASSETS
Cash
Receivables
Investments
Interest in trusts
Property and equi
Other
Construction work

TOTAL ASSETS

LIABILITIES AI

Accounts payable Investment Bond PPP Loan NMTC Notes Bonds payable Pension liability Other **TOTAL LIABILITIES NET ASSETS**

TOTAL LIABILITIES A

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2022	2021
	12,220	13,512
	22,115	13,507
	42,253	50,732
	16,656	19,873
uipment	22,470	20,683
	1,072	1,067
rk in Progress	4,222	0
	121,008	119,374
		-
AND NET ASSETS		
le and accruals	11,992	11,081
	2,500	2,500
	0	9,670
	10,835	0
	12,700	12,700
	544	2,749
	6,230	6,772
s	44,801	45,472
	76,207	73,902
S AND NET ASSETS	121,008	119,374

117,491 lives mpowered!

Transforming lives across seven community centers, 24 satellite and offsite locations, and beyond



CALUMET 13,613 Clients 235 East 103rd St. Chicago, IL 60628 773-371-3600

Serving Beverly, Chatham, Englewood, Morgan Park, Mount Greenwood, Pullman, Riverdale, Roseland, Washington Heights, Washington Park, West Pullman and Woodlawn



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Serving Brighton Park, Chicago Lawn, Clearing, Englewood, Gage Park, New City, West Englewood and West Lawn





SOUTHWEST 17,004 Clients

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11560 S. Kedzie Ave., Suite 200 Merrionette Park, IL 60803 708-974-5800

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HEADQUARTERS 16,715 Clients

101 North Wacker, Suite 1700 Chicago, IL 60606 312-986-4000

The Legal Aid Society 312-986-4200

Employee Assistance Network 312-986-4249

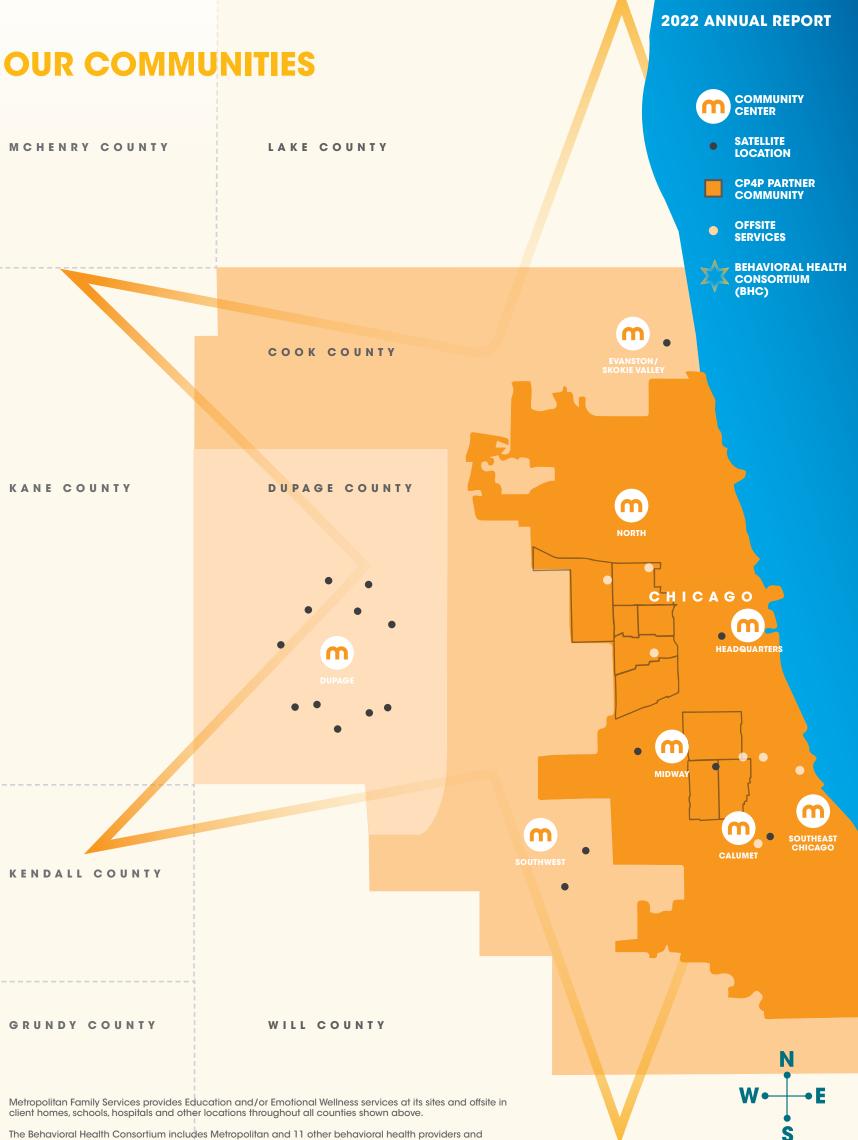
KENDALL COUNTY

GRUNDY COUNTY

client homes, schools, hospitals and other locations throughout all counties shown above.

The Behavioral Health Consortium includes Metropolitan and 11 other behavioral health providers and serves Medicaid, Medicare and commercial insurance recipients

MCHENRY COUNTY



$\mathbf{M} \mid \mathbf{16}$ THANK YOU TO OUR METROPOLITAN FAMILY

Our family of supporters forms the heart of community empowerment at Metropolitan Family Services. Your engagement in and on behalf of the communities we serve transforms challenges into opportunities. Together, we're Mpowering 117,491 children and families to learn, earn, heal, and thrive!

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\$100 to \$249

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This year, Metropolitan Family Services Mpowered 117,491 families to learn, earn, heal, and thrive. When you strengthen your own family's financial future through the Family Trust, you're also strengthening the future of every one of our families, and the future of the communities we all call home.



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Anonymous Natalie Anenberg Patricia Ashbrook Mr. and Mrs. Erik Barefield Robert and Darden Carr Jennifer Comparoni and Matthew Bernstein Dennis Conroy Jennifer Straub Corrigan and Patrick Corrigan **Emily and John Costigan** Marie and Craig Duetsch Jan and Jerry Erickson **Robert and Anne Faurot** Wade and Beverly Fetzer Rhona and Julian Frazin Virginia and Gary Gerst **Julie Hall** Elizabeth Harrington **Kyle Harvey** Jane Holzkamp Jerry James and Kitty Bliss Carol B. Johnson **Richard L. Jones** Ashley and Michael Joyce



"Metropolitan's strong leadership and tangible impact are critical today and it is apparent to us, must endure to positively impact the Chicago area for future generations. Their data focus, strategic plan, and program outcomes make it possible to envision a level of permanence. It was an important decision for my family to establish an investment plan for Metropolitan Family Services in our will and support the perpetuity of their vision. Our commitment to our neighbors and love for Metropolitan Family Services are our driving force to become proud Family Trust members and update our estate plan."

- Mr. and Mrs. Erik Barefield, Members, The Family Trust

Arthur O. Kane **Robb Knuepfer** Nancy and Robb Knuepfer, Jr. Marcia and Dave Knuepfer **Richard Loewentha** Anne and Ed Lyman Nancy Lynn and Andy Teitelman John and Lisa McClure Martha and Richard Melman Diana Palomar Phyllis and Edgar Peara **Barbara** Petersen Ginger and Stanley Pillman Barbara Rapp **Beth Dovenmuehle Rothermel** Patrick J. Schauer **Eileen P. Scudder and Russ** Zimmermann Alfreda Shapere Laurie and Jim Shults John Stitzell James E. Thompson Donna and David Tropp Guy and Janice Vitello



Establish Future Gifts In Your Estate Plan

www.metrofamily.org/family-trust

To learn more, contact: **Barbara West Stone Chief Development Officer** (p) 312-986-4028 (e) westb@metrofamily.org

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HIGHLIGHTS

COMMUNITY CONNECTION IN THE METROPOLITAN FAMILY

How has your sense of place and togetherness changed this year? As we recover together from the pandemic, we're discovering new and reworked spaces of community, both physical and virtual. We're seeing moments of progress big and small take on new significance.

As we're evolving and redefining what support and community look like together, we're proud to be a consistent presence for our families. Metropolitan has been here through it all.

"Since the first time I met and talked with Ms. Ruidias, it was very evident her children were her number one priority."

Ms. Ruidias, a single mother of four whose two youngest children go to our North Children's Center, lost her job in the restaurant industry during the pandemic, and due to various complications, did not qualify for unemployment. She wasn't alone.

Natalie Quintanilla, a Family Support Worker at our North Center, checks in with Ms. Ruidias weekly. She takes advantage of every opportunity and resource Natalie shares, from financial assistance with bills and rent to free internet. Now Ms. Ruidias is working part-time while accommodating her children's schedules, and feels hopeful about the upcoming school year.



Rochelle, a client of the Legal Aid Society's Domestic Violence programs, shared her story of surviving and leaving an abusive situation at our Equal Access to Justice Award Luncheon. "It's just me and my baby. I don't have no parents, I don't have no friends, I don't have too many family members, and I'm so happy I gained a family through the situation I was going through."

Loren Gutierrez, Managing Attorney of LAS' Safety and Family Practice Group, led that family - a team navigating virtual communication and court appearances to work toward an Order of Protection for Rochelle. When the court finally granted her Order of Protection, Rochelle shares,

"I felt like I could breathe and that I could sleep. I felt like I got help and felt like you [LAS] were there with me, even if you weren't there physically."

The Legal Aid Society's **Domestic Violence programs MPOWERED 881 CLIENTS**

Handled 935 CASES involving brief and extended legal services

Handled 278 ORDERS of protection for 151 CLIENTS Our 40th annual Mpower the Night celebrated the power of community transformation. Each element of our program celebrated the progress and impact of collaboration and community connection, including a discussion on the future of urban agriculture and community development with the leaders of the organizations comprising We Grow Chicago.

MPOWERED COMMUNITY PARTNERS We Grow is a new collaborative addressing food equity and community empowerment, led by West Englewood community organizations.

"[We Grow is] a sustainable umbrella organization for supporting West Englewood families so they can go from surviving to thriving," says Michelle Rashad, Executive Director of We Grow and Imagine Englewood if, a We Grow partner organization. "We also hope our Peace Campus will serve as a new place-based model for uplifting Black and Brown communities that can be scaled across the city and nation."







M | 24 HIGHLIGHTS

South Side Weekly featured Vanessa Schwartz, Executive Director of our Southeast Chicago Center and born and raised in the community, about her leadership in a community activism effort to stop a major company, General Iron, from moving a scrap metal plant to the area.





Welcome to our new Headquarters!

"There's something here for everybody," shares Bryan Johnson, Senior Director of Evaluation and Outcomes, referring to Focus Rooms for personal space, Zoom Rooms for virtual meetings, and windows throughout for natural light. "This space will allow for most sites to be empowered; through our grants work, through our evaluation, through our strategy and direction."



Everyone should have access to fresh, healthy food, no matter where they live! Our Calumet Center holds regular food distribution events in our Roseland community. Our Altgeld Youth Leadership Program is fighting food insecurity with its own youth-led food pantry, offering healthy and fresh grocery options in an under-resourced area.

M | 26 HIGHLIGHTS

Mpowered to Advocate

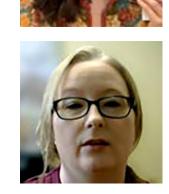
Our first-ever Legislative Roundtable offered our staff and clients a virtual space to connect with their legislators, sharing their experiences and advocating for issues important to them and our communities.

Maciej, a client in our Southwest Center's Behavioral Health program, talked about a safe space he's developed with his therapist, Katie.

"She really saved me, honestly," he shares. "I could see right away that the care was there, like nothing I had experienced before."

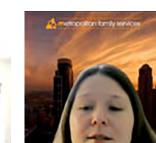
> EBERHART SCHOOL







MORE MPACT ON MFSANNUALREPORT.ORG/HIGHLIGHTS



Especially in our home-based programs, we're grateful for creative new opportunities to gather together – like an afternoon in the park! This socialization event for DuPage Center families focused on gross motor development, or skills that use body movements - in this case, yoga!



Future Kindergarteners coming through! Our Midway Children's Center kids visited their neighborhood elementary school to explore the classrooms they'll be in next year, and really enjoyed this experience as preparation for their big transition.

M | 28 HIGHLIGHTS

Our Southeast Chicago Center's Behavioral Health program hosted a Family Funday to engage staff and families in fun, energizing and physical activities to support community healing. As we emerge from sheltering in place cut off from support systems, to racial violence and injustice, to remote learning and telehealth, and beyond, we appreciated the opportunity to reconnect.





ADEM





A group of volunteers from Mesirow joined our Skokie Center staff to help kick off an exciting refresh of our interior and exterior spaces! Applying more than 14 gallons of fresh paint transformed our waiting room and hallways into a more friendly area for our staff and families. We're also looking forward to welcoming our Skokie Valley community with new landscaping and signage outside.



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2022 ANNUAL REPORT

MPACT IN NUMBERS

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY WRAPS AROUND OUR FAMILIES

ENGAGED 23,540

households and family members of program participants

REACHED 48,434

attendees in trainings, workshops, health fairs, and resource fairs

EMOTIONAL WELLNESS (🐶)

ACROSS OUR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

CLIENTS

FAMILY MEMBERS

of clients shared their overall health improved as a result of MFS services

EDUCATION

Across all Center-Based and Home-Based programs:

268 CHILDREN AGES 0-5

383 FAMILY MEMBERS

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

5,241 STUDENTS enrolled in programming at 28 partner schools, K-12 **580 PARENTS**

enrolled in activities

ECONOMIC STABILITY

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

97% of participants in Workforce Development programs completed a Job **Readiness Training**

63% increased their financial net worth by paying off debts or increasing household income

FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER

417 JOB-SEEKERS EMPOWERED

through career and financial coaching, job training and placement, resume writing, and other employment support

EMPOWERMENT

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

4,757 CLIENTS received Domestic Violence services including counseling, legal advocacy, economic self-sufficiency, and other supports

24,954 PEOPLE

6,507 CALLERS

attended 853 community presentations on **Domestic Violence**

to our 24/7 hotline

connected with support, information, and referrals

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

13,226 CLIENTS including 4,186 FAMILY MEMBERS

435 Orders of Protection legally protected survivors of domestic violence

3,684 connected to additional support via referrals, legal clinics, and know-your-rights presentations

METROPOLITAN PEACE INITIATIVES (MPI)

120 PARTICIPANTS received Workforce **Development support,** including Job Readiness Training, skill-based training, and GED attainment

101 PARTICIPANTS received Behavioral Health support, including counseling and connections to community-based healthcare

COMMUNITIES PARTNERING 4 PEACE (CP4P)

Metropolitan Peace Academy

63 GRADUATES from the 144-hour curriculum professionalizing street outreach

Street Outreach Community canvassing reached 137,791 key individuals spanning 101,003 hours

5,321 MEDIATIONS COMPLETED by identifying and responding to conflicts

Light in the Night **48,730** ATTENDEES at 764 COMMUNITY EVENTS







