2022 Annual Report

*made in house

Doing Whatever It Takes Since 1953
To the Whatever It Takes community,

As we reflect on the past year, it’s impossible to ignore the challenges that our communities have faced. We live with the ongoing impacts of the pandemic and the housing and healthcare access challenges it exposed and exacerbated. The housing crisis continues to affect every neighborhood we serve. But we are proud to do “whatever it takes” to overcome these barriers and build towards a future where all people are healthy, safe, engaged in community wellness, and with access to quality housing.

Throughout it all, we have been continually inspired by the resilience and persistence of the people we serve. They have faced incredible challenges on their behavioral health and housing journeys, facing significant barriers with unwavering determination and courage. It is their strength that motivates us to do everything in our power to support them.

I would like to draw your attention to three specific outcomes from this past year that truly demonstrate the power of our mission to make a difference:

2,820 households stayed housed, on the verge of homelessness, with our prevention program
1,000 people moved from homelessness to permanent housing
3,173 people got BACS support in a behavioral health crisis, instead of emergency care

BACS’ solutions work. All of these outcomes were made possible by the unwavering dedication and hard work of our team, and by the incredible support of our funders, donors, volunteers, and community partners. We are grateful to the community for reaching out to BACS when there is a challenge, whether it is an individual in crisis or a city leader with a new idea for how to help.

Together, we are making a difference in the lives of those we serve, and I am excited to see what the future holds as we continue to work together to create positive change.

In solidarity,

Jamie Almanza, MBA, CEO
Who We Served

This year, BACS provided services to 19,320 unique individuals. 22% of the people we serve identify as Hispanic/Latino/a/x. BACS’ services stretched from where we were founded in Oakland across the bridge to San Francisco, from Sacramento to Salinas, and nearly everywhere in between.

### Race/Ethnicity

- Black/African American, 50.4%
- White, 25.9%
- Multi-Ethnic/Other, 15.6%
- Asian, 3.5%
- Native American, 2.4%
- Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian, 2.1%

### Age

- Under 18, 1.2%
- 18-24, 3.4%
- 25-34, 18.1%
- 35-44, 25.7%
- 45-54, 18.9%
- 55-61, 13.5%
- Over 62, 14.2%

Snapshots of our Work

BACS welcomes all families in need of housing - including those with pets! Inaugural partnership with BirchBark.

Monterey County Supervisors Luis Alejo & Chris Lopez help build garden planters for fresh food at SHARE Center.

BACS participants on their way to culinary careers through job training.

Rep. Khanna and Fremont Mayor Mei visit the Fremont Navigation Center.
Larry (pictured with staff Richard Williams) was on the streets for 20 years before coming to BACS’ Housing Fast site in Oakland. He was constantly scared living for his life while living outside, and overcame many challenges to reach stability. BACS helped Larry find an apartment that he can call home.

“I am really grateful to BACS and to Richard Williams for helping me find a place to call home. I wish I had found BACS sooner because they were always available to help, no matter what I needed.”

Dylan, in our Full Service Partnership wraparound program for transition-aged youth, came to BACS after multiple arrests for assault and property desecration. He was experiencing delusions, and did not want to take prescribed medication. BACS helped him stabilize, take control of his treatment, navigate the Behavioral Health Court, and start making truly positive moves.

“I can barely think about how bad it was. I lost my family, I was hallucinating and didn’t trust anybody. But BACS didn’t let me destroy myself. They had my back, even when I lashed out. I got treatment. My grandmother invited me to her house for the first time in years, and I just started a union job. I get to be the adult I want to be.”

After 15 years of being homelessness in Contra Costa County, on February 1, 2022 Eduardo Magana, a single father of four, and his brother were able to turn the keys to the door of their new home. The Magana family moved into a large 3-bedroom apartment thanks to BACS. They lived with friends/family, in their van, anywhere he could keep them together. During COVID, BACS got them into emergency housing - and then finally into stable housing in Richmond.

“My family and I would not be able to call a place home if it wasn’t for BACS. I am going to build up my positive network and make sure I have the community support so this never happens again.”
Year in Review

Keep Oakland Housed becomes Keep People Housed at BACS

Keep Oakland Housed (KOH) was incubated in 2018 at The San Francisco Foundation, with services led by BACS and two other local non-profits. Today, KOH has found its home as a flagship program of BACS. KOH has proven that homelessness prevention works, for a fraction of the cost of waiting until vulnerable community members actually become homeless. More than 7,000 people have been helped since 2018, and services continue to expand as part of the Keep People Housed network.

More than 1,000 People Got Crisis Support in Sacramento

BACS founded the Crisis Navigation Program (CNP) to help individuals in the midst of a mental health crisis navigate available resources for ongoing support and stability. Care Coordinators, many of whom have lived through similar challenges, work side-by-side with clients to bridge gaps in the mental health system and provide support for other urgent needs like housing. In its first year, CNP served more than 1,000 people.

BACS Adds More than 100 Units of Permanent Supportive Housing

BACS added more than 100 units of permanent housing! We purchased several homes through our Project Reclamation with support from generous community members and foundations. BACS purchased two former hotels thanks to Project Homekey, creating Golden Bear Homes and Piedmont Place. BACS is proud to create dignified, stable housing opportunities for community members who would otherwise be homeless.

Housing Fast at Delta Landing opened in Pittsburg

BACS brought “Housing Fast” to Pittsburg at Delta Landing, a low-barrier, interim housing service with a focus on quick transitions to permanent housing with intensive aftercare support. The site provides 172 units of interim housing, using a model which has successfully housed over 3,000 people in the past 11 years. Originally a Project Roomkey site in 2020, in its first two years, BACS housed 366 people, with more than 80% of people exiting to permanent housing.

BACS Wellness Centers Reach Sacramento

BACS partnered with Sacramento County to bring our signature Wellness Center model north! These CORE Wellness Centers include an outpatient mental health component, and will have three sites/teams working for the community. BACS has been operating Wellness Centers in the Bay Area since 1969, which have been hubs of behavioral health, housing, employment, and community-building services for thousands of people, supporting transitions to lower levels of care.
This year, BACS spent $22,145,000 on clients’ direct needs, including food, clothing, medical expenses, rental assistance, security deposits, and move-in assistance. We use funds flexibly to meet individual needs, breaking individual barriers preventing the people we serve from being healthy, safe, and housed.

BACS’ growth is a direct investment in our neighborhoods and communities by all our funders - foundations, donors, and government agencies. County partnerships increased, meaning that BACS has been able to start new programs, hire additional staff, and make a greater difference in the lives of the people we serve.

How Our Work is Funded: BACS Revenue

How the Budget is Used: BACS Expenses

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Community Support

Every year that BACS grows to help more community members in need, our work is uplifted by the thousands of volunteers, community partners, and donors who make our impact possible. Every success story this year is thanks to you.

BACS thanks:

San Francisco Foundation   •   Crankstart   •   Tides Foundation   •   Tipping Point Community   •   Kaiser Permanente   •   New Venture Fund   •   Cecile T. Weaver Estate   •   Walter and Elise Haas Fund   •   Alta Bates Summit Medical Center   •   Jamie Almanza   •   Wells Fargo Foundation   •   United Way of the Bay Area   •   Sauyeh Jahann   •   Ilene Weinreb   •   Stefani di Vito   •   Shipley Foundation   •   Marin Community Foundation   •   Jack and the Heart Family   •   Barbara MacAuiffe   •   Harold Borkowski and Janice Grau   •   East Bay Community Foundation   •   BAYER   •   Oakland Athletics   •   Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation   •   John Steinfirst and Sharon Collins   •   Kathie and Joseph Barkow   •   Amazon   •   Comcast   •   Sameer Samat and Neesha Dave   •   Sweet Maria’s Coffee Inc.   •   PC Professional   •   Matt Steinfeld   •   Edith and Herbert Lehman Foundation   •   Nikola Filby   •   Alderyn Fund   •   Mary Jane Dean   •   Mary Turnipseed   •   Vernon Anderson   •   Paul Bickmore   •   Judith Bloom   •   Dennis and Marcia Elchesen   •   Daniel Katz   •   Glenn Batchelder and Candace Young   •   Michael Ward   •   Anneliese Olson   •   Rena Rickles   •   Michael Bliss   •   Jeremy Woodburn   •   John and Romer Stevenson   •   Robert Miller and Judith Wilber Fund   •   Kristen Towne Smith   •   Peter and Bonnie Sherwood   •   Philip Soffer and Samantha Cooper   •   Hewlett Packard   •   Warren and Karen Bird   •   Mrs. Sonami   •   Hok Min Lie   •   Eric Dyce   •   Leabah Winter   •   Patricia Quejada Montoya   •   Quinn Lung   •   Kathie Jacobson   •   ImpactAssets   •   Jamie Bramwell   •   Porsche Gordon   •   Anne Pardee   •   Debra Goldentyer   •   Zoe and Ivan Siffrim   •   Devin Rand-Giovannetti   •   Bob Dinetz   •   Alexander Teran   •   Howard Rosenberg   •   Bright Funds   •   NAMI Solano County   •   Bonnie Steinbock   •   Robert Walker   •   Karin Cooke   •   Optas Capital   •   Lauren Salvo   •   Gretchen Brosius   •   David Adams   •   Mary Steel   •   William and Carolyn Ahern   •   Richard Robbins   •   Wayne and Diane Diamond   •   Pam Dernham and Gregory Linden   •   Richard Hawkins   •   Sarah Hawkins   •   Sarah Kim   •   Michael Gilson   •   Ely Greenfield   •   Lisa Seitz   •   Theodore and Rona Bar-Din   •   William Giammona   •   Edward and Sallie Arens   •   Sara Warshaw   •   Monica Mehta   •   Jennifer Ott and Darin Smith   •   Roger and Marian Gray   •   John and Sandra McGonigle   •   Robert Miller   •   Jean Follette   •   Christopher Lopez   •   Pam Dernham and Gregory Linden   •   Stuart Flashman   •   as well as more than 384 donors and families who made meaningful contributions and made our work possible. This year, and these successes, would not have been possible without each of you.

Neighbors donated hundreds of socks for unhoused community members.

Girl Scouts bring “Home in a Baskets” for people moving into new housing!

Kids Bike Lane donated bikes to help our partners get to work.

100 Black Men help celebrate Thanksgiving.

Mr. Garcia brought brand-new blankets for Fremont Navigation Center.
This year, BACS’ 430 team members brought our “whatever it takes” mission to life. Our staff has been nothing short of extraordinary in showing up every day to provide support, guidance, and care to some of the most vulnerable members of our society. Their hard work has had a profound impact on the lives of countless individuals and families. Our staff goes above and beyond to ensure that everyone who comes through our doors receives the care and support they need to thrive. Our motto of “whatever it takes” comes to life every day with our staff’s compassion, professionalism, creativity, and deep sense of purpose.

Our staff are from the community and for the community. Our team is embedded in 72 cities across California.

BACS combines proven evidence-based practices with lived expertise to make our services have a deep impact. By investing in our team, we invest in the community, and make sure that equity, inclusion, and representation are a core part of what makes BACS unique.

Board of Directors
BACS is governed by an independent Board of Directors. Everyone in our organization is committed to our mission: to uplift under-served individuals and their families by doing whatever it takes.

We are a 501(c)3 non-profit. Our volunteer Board members guide BACS activities, in accordance with our mission, vision, values, and in compliance with all regulations and best practices.
BACS released our Strategic Plan, for 2021-2023, and these initiatives are currently underway. BACS’ participants, board members, funders, staff and community supports partnered together to understand systemic gaps, individual needs, and agency strengths/opportunities. As we set our strategic priorities, we heard from thousands of community members of their struggles – generational poverty, inequitable policing, racism, disability, injustice, trauma.

Systemic oppression prevents the people BACS serves from being healthy, safe, and housed. Our community is calling out for freedom – this strategic plan has guided our response for the past few years.

**Strategy #1 - Breaking Barriers is the response**

We will lead local and regional collaborations to reach shared goals, without duplicating resources.

We will advocate for the services we know work - and the funding to make it happen - with government and funding partners.

We will bridge the gap between mental health and housing care, and help the “whole person” no matter what they need.

**Strategy #2 - Neighborhoods are the response**

We will bring our expertise in deep-rooted, integrated housing, clinical, and behavioral health services to meet community needs.

We will create and expand housing options for un-housed community members.

We will reclaim neighborhoods for community benefit by purchasing housing dedicated to ending homelessness.

**Strategy #3 - Community Justice is the response**

We will work with legislators, funders, and justice institutions to end the cycles of incarceration and institutionalization. We will provide and support services that decrease reliance on police.

We will fight displacement and gentrification by preventing homelessness before it starts and preserving housing for people in need.
Our Mission
Our mission is to uplift under-served individuals and their families by doing “whatever it takes.”

Our Vision
We envision a world where all people are healthy, safe, and engaged in community wellness, with access to quality housing.

Our History
Bay Area Community Services (BACS) was founded in 1953 when a council of churches and advocates came together to respond to the growing needs of elders and people with mental health issues.

As the agency grew in size and expertise, we focused on the connections between mental health and lack of affordable housing. By 1965, BACS was targeting rising homelessness around our community. For decades, BACS has steadily grown throughout Northern California to meet the rising needs of communities.

Our Future
As our community moves out of the full-time COVID crisis, other major challenges are following closely behind. We need to end the housing crisis - get people off the street, keep folks in their housing, and end the fear and division that makes us otherize our neighbors who do not have homes. We need to modernize mental health, and be ready for the changes that California policy is shaping in community care options. We are excited to build on our past successes to achieve even greater impact in the years ahead. We are confident that with the continued dedication of our staff, volunteers, and supporters, we will be able to achieve that vision.

BACS is going to keep doing “whatever it takes” to meet the needs of our community. Here’s how you can help make sure neighbors are healthy, safe, and housed next year and beyond:

- Let your elected officials know that you want more funding & support for mental health & housing programs in the community;
- Donate to BACS by mail or online;
- Ask your employer to match your donation to BACS;
- Volunteer to create a “Home in a Basket” (great for kids!) for people moving from homelessness into housing;
- Make a lifetime impact with a legacy gift in your will;
- Pick up a gift card of any amount for next time you are at a grocery or department store, to help the people we serve get interview clothing, a hot meal, or other needs met.

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