



Annual Report, 2013

2013

Board of Directors

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Sherri Ingram-Hudgins, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Secretary

Paul Kirkpatrick, Community Crisis Services, Inc.

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John Fritz, The University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Mission

Providing grants that empower the homeless while building community.

Background

A Hat for Harold incorporated in Maryland in May, 2012, received its IRS 501(c)(3) designation as a public charity on September 21, 2012, and distributed its first grants on November 12, 2012.

Distribution of micro grants is accomplished through a peer council where homeless individuals bring their requests and serve on the council. The council votes on authorizing requests based on whether 1) the request is part of the five H's-- heart (motivation/relationships), health, housing, hired, and a little help, 2) the request can only be reasonably obtained at A Hat for Harold, and 3) whether the requestor is a positive participant in the A Hat for Harold community.

Participation in the peer councils provides not only an opportunity to have a need filled that has been difficult previously, but even more importantly, allows the participants to have a voice in the distribution of funds and in determining their own best course of action as they move toward stable housing and employment. A Hat for Harold is hopeful that providing this forum for active participation will rekindle a sense of responsibility and accountability and be a factor in building self-esteem and dignity.

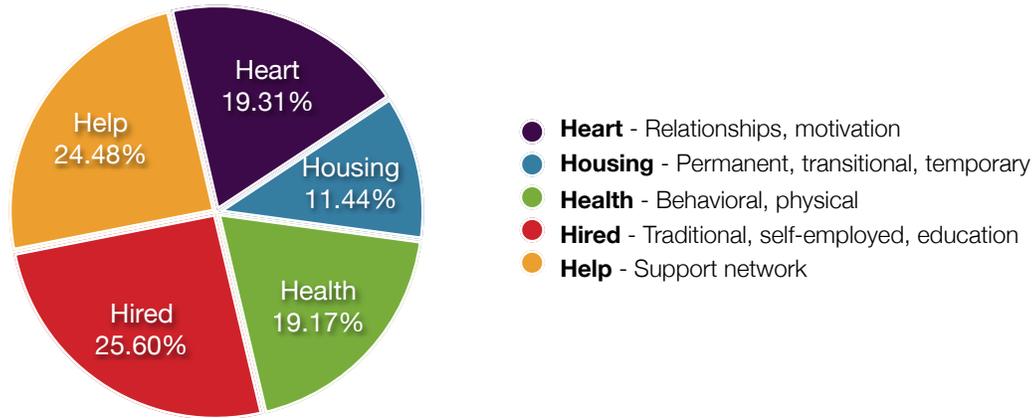
Operation

A Hat for Harold is volunteer-based and holds its council meetings directly in the homeless community, leaving overhead expenses to a minimum.

2013 Finances

Item	Amount	Comments
Balance at beginning of year	\$1,999.12	
Donations	\$15,477.17	
Other income	\$3.02	Interest
Microgrants distributed	(\$5,225.99)	65 microgrants averaging \$80.40 ea
Expenses	(\$1,214.74)	Largest expense: \$600 in Directors and Officers insurance for one year of coverage
Balance at end of year	\$11,038.58	

2013 Distribution of Grants



Reflections

2013 saw several A Hat for Harold clients--including Jerry, Justin, Tony, Jason, Daniel, and more--move from living outside to being sheltered. These clients are now in their own apartments, living with family, or in assisted living facilities. A Hat for Harold has been privileged to be a part of these individuals' lives as they have worked toward establishing stable housing.

Several clients are still attending the peer council meetings and obtaining microgrants as they are eligible. However, they have expressed that participating in the voting process and having the ability to use the preprogrammed debit cards (with restricted purchasing locations) to make their own purchases has provided some dignity in the midst of a difficult time and helps alleviate desperation.

A Hat for Harold is committed to continuing its work to empower these individuals while building community through the peer council process.