

2022 Annual Report



Rebuilding Together®

Kent County

Mission: Repairing homes, revitalizing communities, rebuilding lives.

Dear Neighbors,

We at Rebuilding Together Kent County (RTKC) are working every day to achieve our long-term goal of eliminating substandard housing in Kent County. Since we are the only nonprofit organization in the county solely dedicated to providing free, critical home repairs to income-eligible residents, we take it seriously - and we're making progress.

How and why do we do this? With your help! The relationships we develop with our community allow us to raise funds from diverse sources, recruit volunteers with different skills and passions, and cement relationships with caring contractors, all to make essential repairs for our neighbors with fewer resources.

Our services range from roof replacements to bathroom modifications to handrail installations and much more. All our efforts aim to improve the physical, mental and emotional well-being of the folks living in our community.

These improvements can have the result of decreasing accidents, lowering medical bills, promoting physical and mental health, and enhancing self-esteem and pride. Also, data shows that homeowners who feel secure and safe where they live, are more involved with their neighbors and community.



Solid scientific evidence shows that multiple hazards that pose significant risks to occupants' health and safety are widespread... These add billions to healthcare costs and disproportionately affect low-income persons living in older housing. Evidence-based housing improvements and interventions effectively reduce these risks and prevent unnecessary illness, disease, and death.



National Center for Healthy Housing

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022

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STAFF

Genevieve Croker
Executive Director
Denise Groppe
Program Coordinator

Always mindful of the pandemic, in 2022 we gradually incorporated more local volunteers in this effort again, and they responded in a big way! As you'll see from the numbers in this report, we spent over \$150,000 on critical repairs throughout Kent County using a combination of volunteers and contractors.

In this report, you will see the sources of our funding – government agencies, foundations, civic-minded businesses, and individuals – and we thank you all. Without you we would not be able to serve the people in the county in this way. Our goals are big ones and with your ongoing support, we are growing our capacity to achieve them. We have a diversely qualified board of directors who are fully engaged, and currently two dedicated and talented staff.

Since our founding in 2004, The Presbyterian Church of Chestertown has been our home. Members of the church were our founding force, and the church has provided us financial support and an office out of which we have worked. We are, and will continue to be, eternally grateful. However, we realized in 2022 that we need more space for staff and volunteers, and to store the tools and supplies that support our work. Look for news about our new location soon, and stop in for a visit anytime!

In Gratitude,

Vic Pfeiffer, President

Genevieve Croker, Executive Director

By the Numbers

51

Residents



69

Critical Repairs



32

Homes

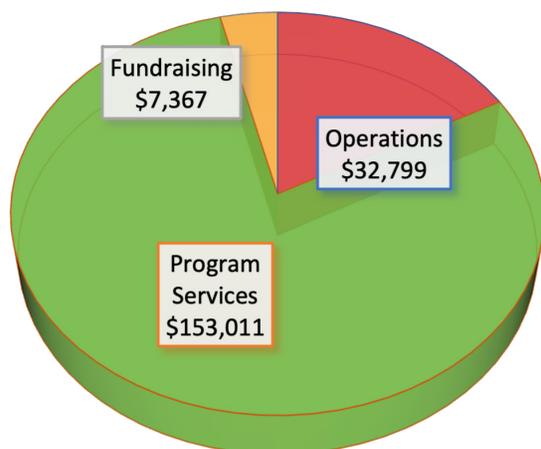


The quality of a house's neighborhood is shaped in part by how well individual homes are maintained, and widespread residential deterioration in a neighborhood can negatively affect mental health. In addition to housing quality, physical, social, and economic conditions within neighborhoods can also impact short- and long-term health outcomes.



Healthy People 2030, Housing Quality Literature Summary

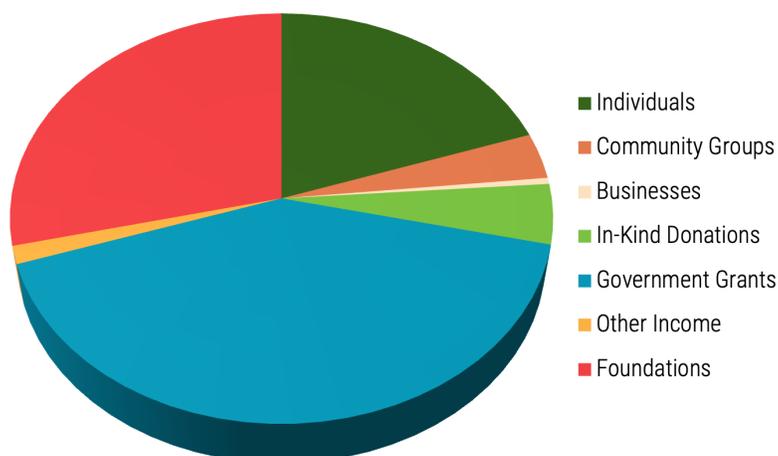
EXPENSES



Salaries and taxes for one full-time and one part-time staff were an additional \$73,725.24.

Government Grants	\$ 122,988.02	41%
Foundations	\$ 85,300.00	29%
Individuals	\$ 58,810.38	20%
In-Kind Donations	\$ 14,046.24	5%
Community Groups	\$ 10,700.00	4%
Other Income	\$ 4,202.36	1%
Businesses	\$ 1,454.21	0%
	\$ 297,501.21	100%

Income by Source



Copies of our 990 are available by calling 410.708.9936.



The Owens Corning Roof Deployment Project is a nationwide effort to show gratitude to the veterans who served our country and the families who support them. In 2022, we were fortunate to continue this partnership with this amazing initiative, replacing two roofs for local veterans in Rock Hall and Fairlee. In 2022, our platinum contractors were JDH Remodeling and MLM Home Improvement.

RTKC didn't just gain a roof from this endeavor – we also have a stellar new volunteer in Ms. Deborah Scott, recipient of one of the two roofs. Deborah joined our Board of Directors in January of 2023, and currently serves on the Volunteer Committee. She is bringing new insight into our governance and mission conversations and we are grateful for her time and talent. In her own words, Ms. Deb shares the story of her roof below.

My first critical repair was the roof of my home. I paid two men for the minor roof repairs, then followed up with three rooms needing dry wall replacement. Later, I met Genevieve from Rebuilding Together Kent County (RTKC), when they were working on a wheelchair ramp for my mom. Genevieve mentioned she was having a hard time finding Veterans in the area. I raised my hand like a first grader and said, "I am a 20-year Veteran." I received an application from RTKC in January and the Director asked if she could nominate me for the Owens Corning Roof Deployment Project, a program to provide roofs for Veterans. Thorough communication took place and one day I was told that RTKC had been notified that Owens Corning had found a potential roof contractor but they couldn't guarantee they would accept my home.

Shortly after that two men from JDH Remodeling came to my home to evaluate and inspect the project. Fifteen minutes later, they said, "the next time you see us we will be replacing your roof." Sooner than I thought a truck delivered the necessary materials.

Next day at 8am the backbone of the company (workers) put on their gear and started the process. A drone was filming, a Kent News lady got her story, the Director of RTKC took photos and checked in with the company at work.

I know God had nurtured these professionals' loving, caring hearts to lift my heart. My heart of love in America was fading. That day I received an overwhelming spirit of joy, hope and peace. There still are great people among us. As a recipient, I encourage you to reach out and become involved in any capacity. I am now living my best life with heartfelt joy and gratitude.

Ms. Deb

If you or someone you know is a Veteran and needs a new roof, please contact info@rtkc.org or call 410.708.9936 for more information.





Volunteers are so critical to the success of RTKC! In 2022, 36 volunteers contributed over 400 hours to ensure that more of our neighbors live in homes that are safe, warm and dry!

Two of our faithful volunteers in 2022 are husband and wife duo, Sarah & Andrew Wright. They had previously worked together at Washington College and after being relocated to Alabama and then Switzerland for work, they decided that Chestertown was meant to be their forever home.

Sarah and Andrew were actively renovating their beautiful house here when Sarah stumbled upon the RTKC booth at the volunteer fair in September 2021. She signed them up and let Andrew know they were going to be putting their skills to work on behalf of their community. They were both looking for a way to meet people and contribute - joining the RTKC team was the perfect solution!

“We’ve always enjoyed being handy and giving back. We feel that having a safe, functional home is a basic right and are happy to help more neighbors enjoy that right.”

~Sarah Wright, Chestertown

Mrs. P is a widow with changing mobility needs who lives in a low-lying area of Rock Hall. To counteract the frequent soggy of her yard, she uses a wooden boardwalk to get from her front door to her driveway. Over time, the boards became unsafe and it became dangerous for both Mrs. P and any visitors to approach her home. In addition, the back porch she uses to let out her beloved dog had also deteriorated. In December of 2022, Todd Steffes led groups of volunteers over three days to repair the worst of both areas. At the end of March 2023, when the weather began cooperating again, Todd returned with volunteers for three more days to finish the job!

“Before RTKC repaired my walkway, ramp and stairs, it was so dangerous to get out of my house. Anyone who visited or delivered packages to my house was in danger of falling through the rotten spots, it was so unsafe. I am grateful for all the work that was done and the volunteers were top notch.”



“There was a hole in the back deck that I covered with a bucket so no one would fall in.”

~Mrs.P, Rock Hall

Community Support is Critical



2022 Volunteers

Phil Anderson
Gregory Ayers
George Barnett
Brian Barrett
Joanne Boyle
Jack Brosius
Jamey Brown
Rachel Carter
Frank Constantino
Darren Davis
Tom DiAngelo
Larry Dinoff
Tom Eager
Frank Ennis
Richard Faulkner
Bill Ghio
Ginny Gorman
John Hauge
David Holyoke

John Leek
Jennifer Lieber
Vic Pfeiffer
Max Ruehrmund
Hester Sachse
Zack Schmitt
Deborah Scott
Amy Sine
David Sine
John Sjostrom
Todd Steffes
Jim Trumbauer
Candy Tyrell
Pam Vogel
John Vogel
Andrew Wright
Sarah Wright
Bill Yoder

411 Hours Donated



Monthly [Re]Builders

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Pat Trams Hollingsworth
M3 Architecture
Mary Hurley
Patricia & Vic Pfeiffer
Stanley Ralph
Jen & Wayne Rickert

Recurring monthly donors.

Organizational Donors

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Home Builders Care Foundation
JDH Remodeling

Kent County Health Department
Lowe's
Maryland Affordable Housing Trust
M3 Architecture
Mid-Shore Community Foundation
MLM Home Improvement
Owens Corning
Presbyterian Church of Chestertown
Qlarant Foundation
Rock Hall Lions Club

Shore United Bank*
Sgt. Preston Ashley Post 228
The Dixon Group*
Unitarian Universalists of the Chester
River
United States Department of Agriculture
United Way of Kent County

**Sponsors of National Rebuilding Day
2022.*

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This list represents gifts received in 2022. We have worked hard to ensure its accuracy as we value all our donors. We apologize for any errors. Please contact Genevieve Croker at 410.708.9936 or gcroker@rtkc.org regarding corrections so we may update our records swiftly.

Rebuilding Together Kent County's programs are equal opportunity and do not discriminate based on race, gender, ability, sexual orientation or any other protected class or characteristic.



Rebuilding Together Kent County
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