



# MENTAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS

*Together, we build hope.*

Together...

we tear down stigmas.

we find courage.

we build hope.

JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

## MISSION

Mental Health Partnerships collaboratively builds hope and promotes the well-being of people in recovery through innovative peer-centered advocacy, learning and services.

## VISION

A community where people flourish, live the lives they imagine for themselves and engage in the promotion of mental well-being.

## MODEL OF PEER SUPPORT

No one walks alone on their journey of recovery. Our staff of trained and certified peer support specialists use their own lived experiences of recovery, in conjunction with therapeutic and wellness techniques, to provide support and interventions to those who are looking to recover from mental health and addiction challenges. More than 60 percent of our staff are individuals with lived experience.

Together,  
We Build Hope.

# FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I am honored to share with you a report on the activities and accomplishments of our 2022 fiscal year.

Our work this year was marked by a renewed sense of strength, inspired by what we've accomplished through the most difficult days of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. At the same time, we recognize the struggles that mark daily life for so many of the participants and families we serve. In the face of so much need, we're determined to keep building hope for thousands of people on their journeys toward recovery. Our work is made possible by so many: our inspiring team, our dedicated board, and supporters like you.

In 2022, demand for our services soared ever higher. We tuned in to the needs of our community and stretched every resource and partnership at our disposal to get things done and achieve meaningful change for people across the greater Delaware Valley.

Throughout our 71 years of service, our programmatic philosophy based in peer support has set our work apart. We were the first in Philadelphia to establish a comprehensive curriculum and certification program for peer specialists. My team and I are inspired by the individuals who pursue a career centered on helping others and so generously share their lived experiences on behalf of those most in need. I look forward to welcoming more than a few of our hard-working students as colleagues in the coming years.

Training the next generation of peer support professionals covers only a small fraction of what we do. When reading through this report, I hope you will draw inspiration from the staff, participants, partners and supporters who make up the fabric of Mental Health Partnerships.

A mission as far-reaching and visionary as ours can only be accomplished by those who are dedicated to making a difference. I'm grateful to you for being a part of our work and sharing our determination to build hope.

With gratitude,



Dr. Adriana Torres-O'Connor  
President & Chief Executive Officer



# MORE THAN 12,000 PARTNERS WORKING TOWARD WELLNESS AND RECOVERY IN 2022



Our Mobile Peer Teams reached **405** people.

We engaged with **388** new participants across our six Recovery Learning Centers.



Our Representative Payee program aided **587** participants in managing their social security benefits.

We served **34** people through Community Residential Services.



Our Targeted Case Management team cared for **425** participants in their homes.



**195** Certified Peer Specialists graduated from the Institute@MHP.



**574** individuals took part in our continuing education offerings and workshops.

**Over 80%** of our Career Development and Readiness program graduates achieved job placement.



Through anonymous surveys, our participants awarded us an **overall satisfaction rating of 94%!**



# PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

## CENTER-BASED SERVICES

Across the greater Delaware Valley region, our six **Recovery Learning Centers** offer a welcoming and safe space for participants at every stage of their recovery journey. With unique resources in each location, our teams answer urgent needs and provide connections to resources and long-term support.

## COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

Our mobile teams meet vulnerable individuals where they are, with special focus on young adults, unhoused people, individuals on the autism spectrum, and those struggling with co-occurring challenges. One-on-one support and targeted case management allow us to address a wide breadth of needs quickly and effectively.

## HOUSING SERVICES

Securing a safe and stable place to live is a persistent challenge for many of our participants. Our **Homeward Bound** and **Rapid Rehousing Program** teams help people get back under a roof quickly, and access resources to help them gain short and long term housing.

## ADVOCACY

We help our participants navigate the often complex process of accessing essential social services, building their self-reliance along the way. Our chat line and warmline operators provide referrals, peer support and an empathetic ear, just a phone call or text away. On an organizational level, we leverage our decades of experience and relationships to represent our community's needs to law and policy makers, pushing for necessary resources and reforms.

## FAMILY PEER SUPPORT

When a loved one struggles with their mental health, an entire family is impacted. Family members, friends and partners can access a variety of supports through MHP and connect with others who are experiencing similar challenges. Our services range from individual consultations and monthly support meetings to skill-building workshops — all for low or no cost.

## TRAINING AND EDUCATION

We were the first to professionalize peer support in Pennsylvania. Today, we are one of only three agencies in the state that offers certification for peer specialists. **The Institute@MHP** empowers students with high-quality educational offerings, both virtual and in person, often at low or no cost. Our coursework is complemented with continuing education, training, and support as our specialists pursue meaningful careers in mental health.

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Learning and professional opportunities at MHP continue beyond graduation day. Our peer specialists can access job readiness training and continuing education to set them up for lifelong success. Through our **Individual Coalition Action Network (ICAN)**, we provide scholarships for Certified Peer Specialists and peer support staff to attend conferences and access continuing education.

# PEER SUPPORT IS AT THE HEART OF WHAT WE DO



**Our 71-year track record proves that the peer support model is a powerful approach that achieves results.**

**Our certified peer specialists are our biggest success stories — people who have transformed their own lives now reaching out to those in need. Their experiences help them build trust and connection with those who are actively engaged in their recovery journey.**

## MEET CORRIE

**Corrie Decker**

*Outreach Supervisor, Mental Health Partnerships*

**Q: Tell us about your work: what is a typical day like for you?**

**A:** "I am coming up on my five-year work anniversary at MHP. As the Supervisor of Outreach at our Parkside location, I oversee two teams, based in West Philadelphia and at the Philadelphia International Airport, who are out in the community supporting individuals experiencing homelessness. Because my teams work evening and overnight shifts, I support them during the day by following up on housing placement, providing court testimony for participants who may have been involuntarily hospitalized due to their mental illness, and developing discharge plans for those individuals once they are ready to transition back into the community. I am in close contact with many different partnering agencies that may not be available during the hours my teams are operating."

**Q: What do you find most challenging, and most rewarding, about your work at MHP?**

**A:** "What I find most challenging is working in partnership with other organizations that do not understand peer support. Different organizations may look for a quick solution, not understanding that peer support is a process with proven results. What is most rewarding about working for MHP is that I do not have to hide from my past or present. I can use my lived experience in supporting others. I also enjoy working in a peer environment where we are able to show support to each other."

**Q: Peer support is MHP's core value. When you're working with participants and mentoring colleagues, how does peer support play a role in what you do?**

**A:** "My role allows me to help those I supervise with professional development, and create an environment with mutual respect and understanding. I am able to advocate for my teams, and educate them on the best ways to self-advocate as well. As a team, we use what we learn together, and apply it in the work that we do. Not only do we pull from our lived experiences, but we also use what we have learned to support participants with stable housing, recovery based supports, and connecting them to services."



## MEET OUR PARTICIPANTS IN THEIR OWN WORDS



When I was referred to Mental Health Partnerships, I was in crisis. Today, though I am without family to lean on or a home to call my own, I am safe and surrounded by the caring staff of MHP. I am finally at peace. My success story is that I feel alive again, thanks to MHP for giving me hope and security.



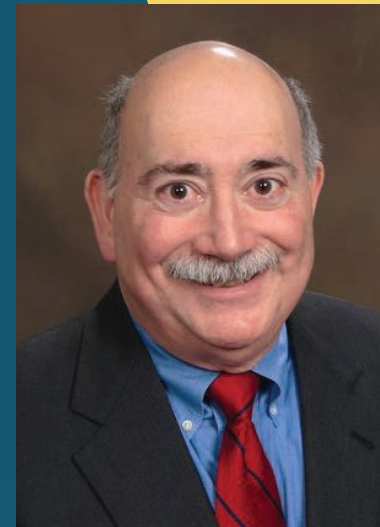
I am proud to say because of the support of MHP, I have been able to get the resources I needed, and I've been in recovery for the past four years.



I've struggled with homelessness and alcoholism for 25 years. As much as I tried to bounce back, something always brought me back down a rough road. I appreciate MHP for all they do and the resources they provide. I know I have a long journey ahead of me but for the first time in life I am hopeful. I am determined to move forward, forgive myself, and let the past be the past.



Setbacks left me vulnerable, frustrated, and homeless. I was completely on my own and needed to figure out how to restart my life. I heard about Mental Health Partnerships and decided to give it a try. As soon as I walked in, I had a good feeling that they actually cared and were there to help. The feeling was unexplainable, but it felt like a family. Today, I have regained my freedom and independence. I would never be where I am without MHP and the wonderful supportive staff. I am proud to say that because of MHP, I can feel good about myself and take care of myself, my daughter, my family, and my community. I'm forever grateful.



## MEET RICHARD

Richard Muhlberg  
*Board Chair, Mental Health Partnerships*

As a volunteer and board member of several mental health agencies, I was aware of Mental Health Partnerships' work and advocacy for years. MHP has built nationwide awareness of its work to harness the power and potential of peer support in behavioral health settings. I was honored to join MHP's board and help the organization leverage its large scale and pioneering ideas to reach even more people throughout our region.

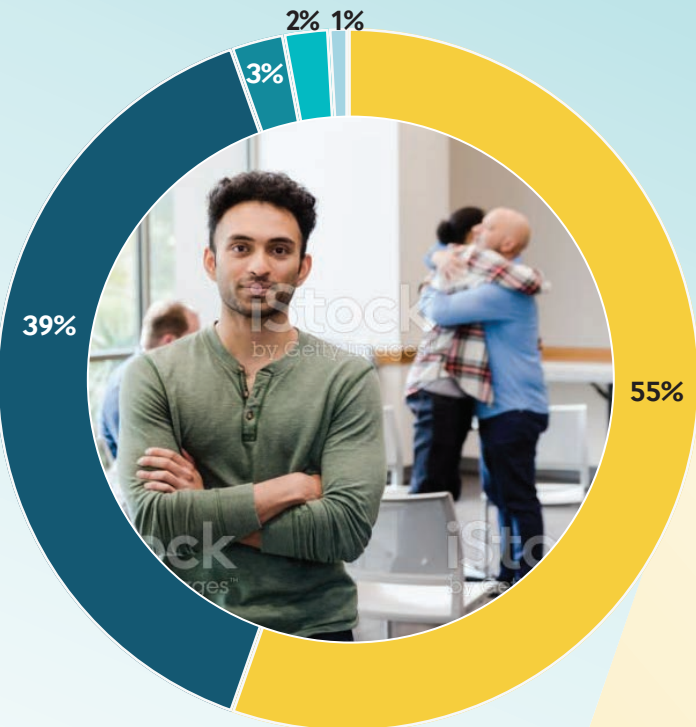
Mental health affects all of us. It's essential to our well-being, and more than half of us will experience some form of mental or behavioral health challenge in our lives. As I've deepened my involvement in the mental health community over the years, I've learned that, like many physical ailments, mental illness is not always obvious — and whether you realize it or not, you likely know someone in treatment or someone who could use some help.

Every day, I am inspired by the radically simple idea at the heart of MHP's approach: that individuals living with mental health challenges deserve our respect and support. This core value informs everything our dedicated staff takes on. Erasing the stigma and shame that still cloud so much of our collective understanding of mental illness is an ongoing process, and the caring, professional team at MHP go above and beyond to help people access the help they need and deserve.

I am proud of all that we achieved in 2022, and I am grateful to every partner, volunteer and donor — at every level — who has joined us in support of this important work. At MHP, we know that every journey starts with a single step, and you are making those steps toward recovery and wellness possible.

# 2022 FISCAL YEAR

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

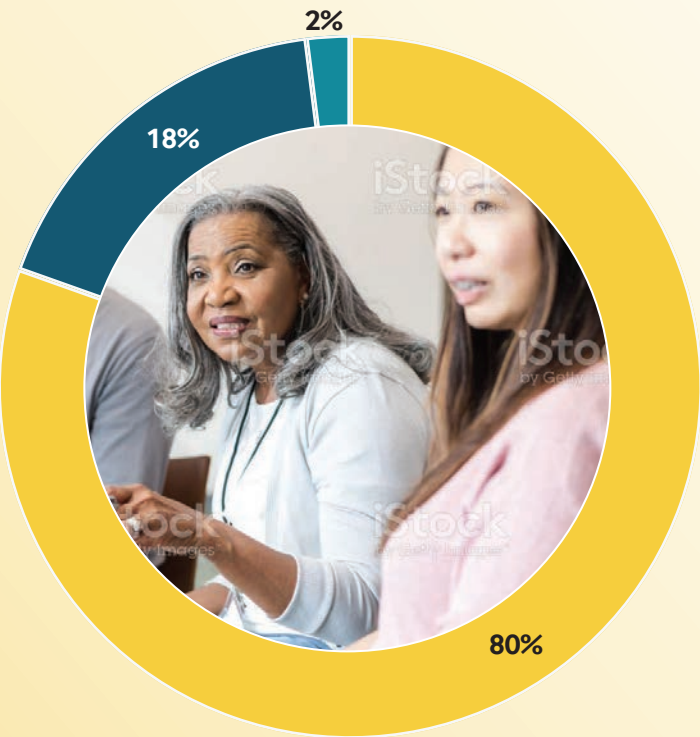


## REVENUE \$15,607,439

- \$8,641,581 Grants and Contracts
- \$6,125,013 Program Service Fees
- \$379,947 Consulting and Training
- \$323,492 Contributions
- \$137,406 Other Income, Interest and Dividends

## EXPENSES \$13,666,370

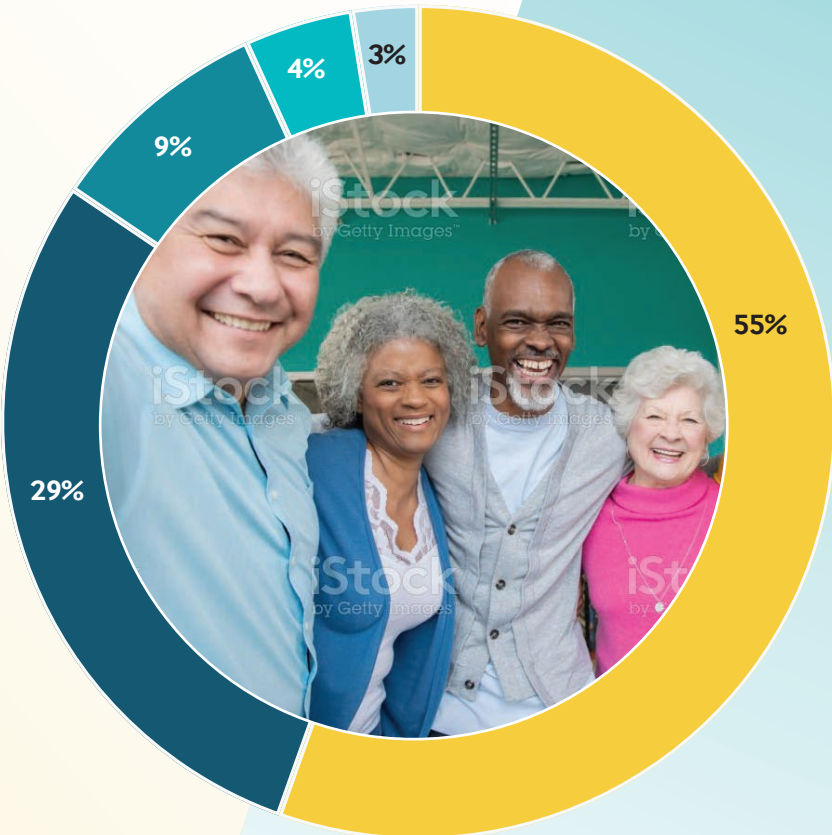
- \$10,991,680 Programs and Services
- \$2,400,128 Administrative Expenses
- \$274,562 Fundraising Expenses



**80%** of our funding directly supports our participants' services, programs, and educational opportunities.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- \$6,093,174 Residential Treatment
- \$3,189,388 Community and Mobile Services
- \$962,575 Training and Education
- \$463,854 Advocacy and Special Projects
- \$282,689 Family and Youth Services



Thanks to our funders and generous donors, the majority of our services are made available to our participants for no or low cost.



# OUR LEADERSHIP

## EXECUTIVE TEAM

**Dr. Adriana Torres-O'Connor**  
*President & Chief Executive Officer*

**Dr. Tasha Jackson**  
*Chief Operating Officer*

**Racquel Assaye**  
*Chief Financial Officer*

**Brittany O'Neill**  
*Director of Government Relations and Advocacy*

**Cheryl Smith**  
*Director, Quality Affairs*

**Andre DiCicco**  
*Director, Human Resources*

**Rosabel Poll**  
*Executive Assistant*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Richard Muhlberg, CHAIR**  
*President Emeritus, Philadelphia Securities Association*

**Irene M. Hurford, M.D., VICE-CHAIR**  
*Owner, Irene Hurford MD PLLC*

**D. Gregory Ullman, TREASURER**  
*Director of Finance, Crompco LLC*

**Lisa Kubisiak, SECRETARY**  
*Executive Director, ResCare*

**Eugene T. Diebold, CPA**  
*VP Finance, Health Partners Plans, Inc.*

**Michael DeHaven**  
*Shareholder, Rainer & Company*

**Perry Kaplan**  
*Managing Director, Savills Studley*

# OUR PARTNERS IN BUILDING HOPE

The generous foundations, corporate sponsors, and individuals who supported us in 2022 made our work possible. You are making a difference on behalf of thousands of people in recovery.



Your contributions to Mental Health Partnerships are gratefully accepted, are 100% tax-deductible, and boost our efforts to reach even more people in need across the Delaware Valley.

Learn more and make your gift securely online at [www.mentalhealthpartnerships.org/donate](http://www.mentalhealthpartnerships.org/donate).





P.O. Box 40049  
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# HERE TO SERVE YOU

Contact us to learn more or to  
access the services you need:

**1-800-688-4226**

[info@mhphope.org](mailto:info@mhphope.org)

[www.mentalhealthpartnerships.org](http://www.mentalhealthpartnerships.org)  
(featuring chat assistance)



Mental Health Partnerships is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of Pennsylvania.

(Federal Tax ID 23-1425035).

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