



Center for  
Transforming Lives  
From Poverty to Prosperity. Together.

# 2020–2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# RESILIENCE



# FROM THE CEO

Dear friends,

After deciding that our report this year would focus on resilience, I checked the dictionary, where I found the following definitions:

- The capacity of a person to recover quickly from difficulties or the ability of an object to spring back to its original shape.
- The ability to mentally and/or emotionally recover from crisis or return to pre-crisis state quickly.

What is this quickly business? Why is it defined by returning to the same condition as before? Can you not be resilient if you've been changed?

Friends, if you are like me, the past two years has changed us, and we are not the same as before. We've been permanently impacted by the hardships, the emotional intensity, grief and loss, and the constant state of uncertainty. We've been challenged. Some have risen to that challenge with grace and fortitude. Others have been crushed under the weight of day after day of difficulty and isolation.

I can tell you with confidence that **Center for Transforming Lives** has been changed. In our 2021 year, we grew our programs, changed more lives, and met our strategic milestones. More women and their children turned to us for guidance, education, and support than ever before and we were ready to receive them.

Last year, 312 more families engaged in services, a 25% increase than the year before. But they were different. As they came to us, they told us of more unemployment, more violence, more hopelessness, more family disruption, more trauma. In response, we expanded our Clinical Counseling team, providing more mental health supports than ever, including 40 children. We got creative with our small business programming so that women had alternative sources for income. Fifty small businesses were created or expanded. We gave out \$1.9M in direct assistance, paying rent, utilities, groceries, car repair and much more. As you'll see in the following pages, our case managers, teachers, and coaches worked hard alongside families as they overcame adversity and recovered.

Transforming Lives takes time. Nothing quick about it. We won't return to our pre-pandemic state. Our families won't either. We're something new. Stronger. I believe we are even more resilient. And so are they.

Be well,



**Carol Klocek**  
Chief Executive Officer  
cklocek@transforminglives.org



## 2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

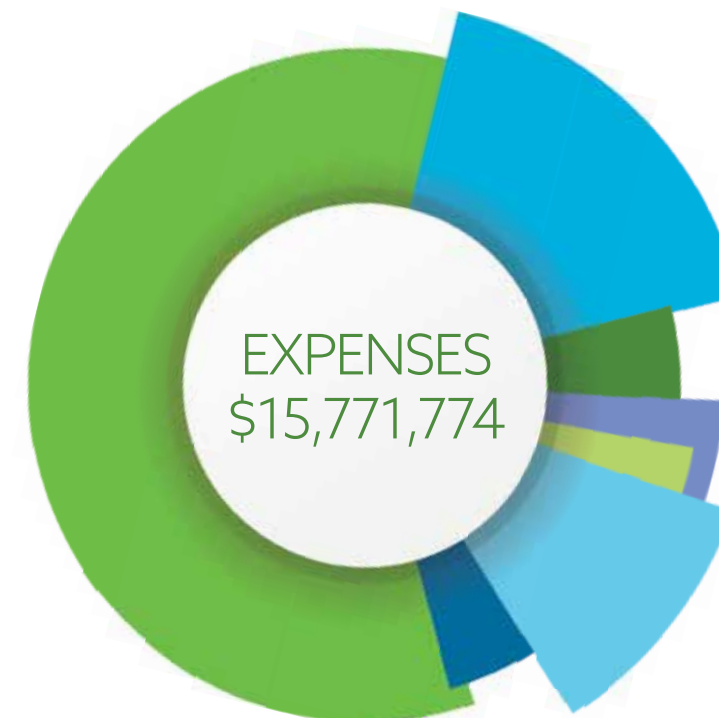
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# FINANCIALS

September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021



The **Center for Transforming Lives** works side-by-side with women and their children throughout Tarrant County to disrupt the cycle of poverty by providing comprehensive homeless services, early childhood education, economic mobility services, and clinical counseling.

\*Reflecting audited financials 9/1/2020 – 8/31/2021

# ECONOMIC MOBILITY SERVICES

Creativity and perseverance are key components of resilience. To create, a person needs to have an idea and believe in themselves enough to put that idea out into the world. This year, **Center for Transforming Lives** supported those exploring entrepreneurship and current entrepreneurs to create and sustain small businesses. Small businesses have been particularly vulnerable. These businesses augment family income while strengthening families and communities. Coaches also work with those who are interested in earning more income, saving more dollars, and reducing debt, to achieve their goals. Economic mobility services help families - rocked by pandemic waves of unemployment, lack of childcare and health challenges - to persevere into a better future.



**1,232** individuals served and benefited

**50** small businesses created or sustained

**\$3,849** is average debt decrease

**\$612,011** in rent assistance provided to **194** households

**68** entrepreneurs were enrolled in Level Up, **50** of these created or sustained small businesses



# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



**667** children (**375** Early Head Start, **166** Head Start, **126** traditional)

**86%** ready for school

**22%** qualify for specialized intervention

**65%** Black, **24%** white, **10%** Hispanic

**32%** 0 -18 months, **16%** 18-24 months, **25%** 25-36 months, **15%** age 3, **7%** age 4, **4%** pregnant mothers



The first years of life are our most important, creating a foundation for all that follows. Our early childhood specialists, whether in the classroom or in the home, work with parents and children to assess, educate, and intervene so that children from homeless and low-income families have the best chance to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. Our curriculum addresses development in language, social, and emotional skills, as well as cognitive and physical ability. Children are resilient, but that resilience is only possible when a caring, compassionate, trusted adult is present in their lives. Our specialists serve as that trusted adult, while supporting parents who are struggling with mental health, poverty, and homelessness. **Center for Transforming Lives** offers full-day traditional childcare, Early Head Start, and Head Start services, so that working parents can focus on taking care of their families.



# HOUSING SERVICES



**366** families were housed; **811** individuals

**52%** (418 of 811) of these are children

**\$1,496** average increase in monthly employment income

**96%** families remained housed

**70%** of individuals served in housing are Black, **13%** are white/non-Hispanic, **13%** white/Hispanic, **4%** other

Building resilience begins with creating a place of safety. Women with children who are experiencing homelessness first begin to feel safe when they turn the key to lock their own front door. Case managers locate families living in shelter or on the streets, work with them to search for the right apartment, help get them settled, and create a plan for how to move forward. CTL pays a portion of the rent, while case managers work to resolve barriers to transportation and childcare, and connect women with education and employment opportunities, mental health counseling, health care and more! Our goal is that families will remain in their homes after rent support ends, supporting themselves financially and being emotionally ready for the next step in their lives.



# CLINICAL COUNSELING

The demand for mental health services has skyrocketed in the past year, but access for those services for low-income families remains as limited as ever. Because of the high demand, **Center for Transforming Lives** expanded to create a brand-new department in 2020. Our Clinical Counseling team offers high-quality mental health counseling and trauma intervention services to women and their children, engaging more than ever before in 2021. Research indicates that the experience of trauma and poverty go hand-in-hand. Our clinicians provide intensive, compassionate therapies on an individual and group basis, including play therapy for the youngest children. This intensive work intervenes in times of crisis, while building capacity for resilience in the face of the many adversities of pandemic life struggles.



**2,874** hours of individual, compassionate therapy provided.

No one was turned away due to inability to pay.

Therapists worked with individuals from **221** families, including **206** adults and **49** children.



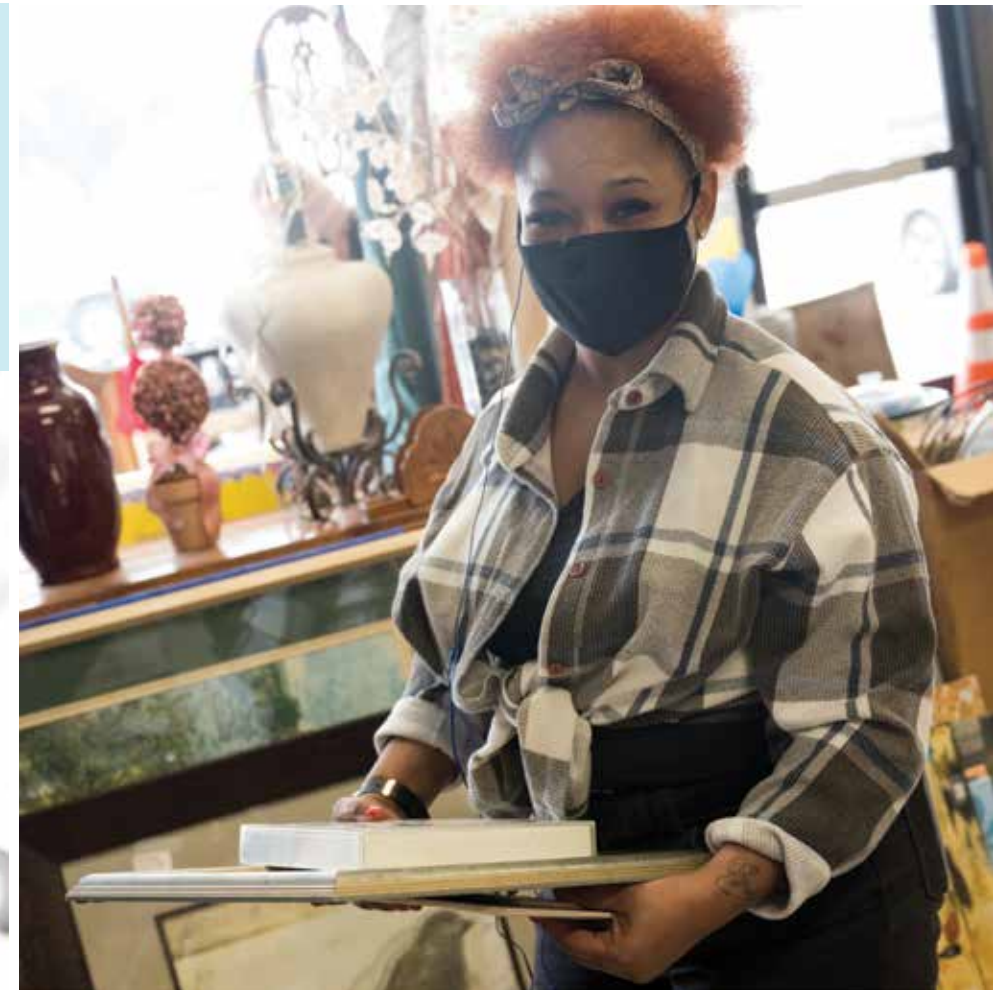
# SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Center for Transforming Lives owns and operates two social enterprises that generate income for our programs. Our social enterprises employ former participants of our programs.



## The Resale Shop

The Resale Shop is a thrift shop in Fort Worth that offers quality merchandise at affordable prices. Every donation and purchase supports **Center for Transforming Lives** programs.



## Historic 512

Historic 512, in downtown Fort Worth, offers an ideal event space in a landmark building reflecting both the architectural and social character of Fort Worth in the 1920s. Designed by noted Fort Worth architect Wyatt C. Hedrick, the building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Historic 512 is owned and operated by **Center for Transforming Lives**.



# WINGS OF HOPE GIVING SOCIETY

As loyal friends of CTL, our Wings of Hope Giving Society members support our programs through sustainable, five-year pledges of \$5,000+.

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\* In Memory

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As valuable partners, our Corporate Sponsors support our programs with gifts of \$500+ annually.



## IN KIND PARTNERS

As important allies, In Kind Partners provide volunteer teams and/or products which are vital to our programming.

Bell - ACE Employee Resource Group	Fort Worth Action Ambassadors	National Charity League	Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants
Building Owners and Managers Association-Fort Worth	Freedom Church	Nautilus of The Woman's Club of Fort Worth	The Woman's Club of Fort Worth
Country Day	Frost	North Texas Beard Alliance	
Crossroads Arlington	J. Crew Cares	Origin Bank	
Fort Flannel	Junior League Fort Worth	Overture River District	
	Keller Williams Realty		



# LIFE TRANSFORMERS

As vital supporters, Life Transformers provided generous support with one or more gifts during our fiscal year.

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Hilary A. Weinstein  
Deborah and Jim Whitton  
The Woman's Club of Fort Worth  
Elizabeth Yeargain

“

*CTL does critical work in our community. They are a part of what makes Fort Worth special.*

- Diana R.

”

## \$1,000-\$1,999

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First United Methodist Church Inquirer's Sunday School Class

\* In Memory

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“

*I wouldn't be where I am today without their help!*

- Mandy V.

”

## \$100-\$499

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Paulette Dubofsky

“

*I moved to Fort Worth with my little sister and my suitcase not knowing if I'd get in or not. They are so awesome that they provided me with structure and loving care that I needed to build myself back up and step out there and build a life for myself.*

– Abigail J.

”

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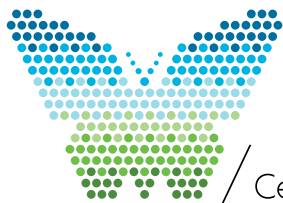
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