



Kennett Area Community Service

2017 Annual Report



*Serving People
in Their Time
of Need*



Hello friends,

As we reflect on 2017, it was a year of wonderful opportunity and new challenges. Thanks to you, our community, KACS was again able to rise to a new set of community needs and discover new ways to serve.

The Emergency Assistance program was busier than ever. A shortage of affordable housing has plagued the Southern Chester County region, as it does the nation. Cost of living rose quickly in the Kennett area as investors purchase low cost rental properties and convert to luxury residential living spaces. It's a wonderful time to live in the beautiful region. However, this economic activity has a down side.

In 2017, the number of households experiencing homelessness that came to KACS for help increased 100% over 2016. As we teach in our Bridges Out of Poverty workshops, Housing does not cause poverty – but *Housing Drives the Chaos of Poverty*. In response, the KACS team sought partnerships and resources beyond the Southern Chester County region, forging exciting new partnerships and advocating for our most vulnerable community members. Our staff are now in the participants' home, supporting our local seniors, families and individuals to create connections that last.

The Kennett Food Cupboard continues to end hunger thanks to our generous donors. And in doing so, gives opportunities to bring together people from every economic group, forging meaningful relationships. Through the Food Cupboard, everyone in our community can contribute and learn to understand the experiences of our participants. New and continuing partners bring healthy, consistent food choices and the program provided more lean proteins, dairy and produce than ever. Nutrition education, meal preparation demonstrations and gardening workshops gave participants new tools to provide healthy options to their families. And of course, we continue all the special projects that KACS is best known for coordinating and distributing to hundreds of families– the Christmas Baskets, Thanksgiving Turkeys and Longwood Rotary Backpacks.

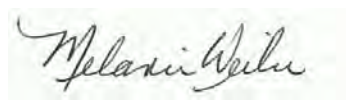
Expansion of the Resource Building activities included Bridges Out of Poverty workshops for the community and professionals. The Getting Ahead graduated 30 adults that have developed their own SMART goals and relationships to increase their resources to increase their economic independence and gain a better quality of life. Together with the Graduates and Bridges participants, we are developing a common language around poverty so every can join the community table. We walk the journey together to build opportunities, reduce poverty and a better quality of life for generations of people in our region.

All this good work is possible because of you – our donors and volunteers. We express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for your belief in our mission, values and work. Thank you.

Yours in service,



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Executive Director

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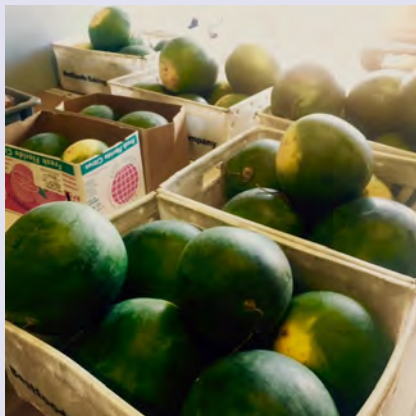
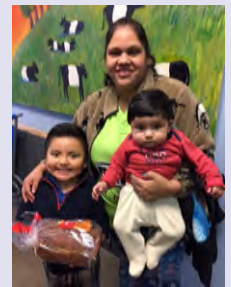
L. Peter Sororuf, MD

Debra Swayne

Kennett Food Cupboard



\$1 million of food came to the Kennett Food Cupboard through donations in 2017. This happens through community partnerships and because of caring citizens like you!





- ♥ 786 Families received food at the Cupboard throughout the year, including 1,068 Children, 1,130 Adults & 269 Seniors (not including Emergency Boxes)
- ♥ Families selected an average of 107 lbs. of nutritious food on monthly trips to the Cupboard
- ♥ 43,441 lbs. of food moved through the Kennett Food Cupboard monthly
- ♥ In cooperation with the Kennett Consolidated School District, 365 students received nutrition assistance through the Summer program
- ♥ 96% of Food Cupboard visitors enrolled in the Healthy Options program to secure additional healthy nutrition and participate in Case Management services to gain resources and minimize food insecurity

Ending Hunger

By the Numbers

- ♥ 94% of food is provided through local grocers, partner agencies and local drives
- ♥ \$33,543 of fresh meats, dairy and produce are purchased by KACS for consistent, quality nutrition
- ♥ An additional 68 Emergency Boxes were distributed to non-Food Cupboard families experiencing crisis
- ♥ Thanks to our volunteers & partners, 98 seniors receive home delivery each month

Emergency Services



Co-locating Agency Partners



(Above) Laundry and Shower facility for local homeless



KACS remains a primary provider for Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing services. Sadly, 2017 set new records for homelessness in the region as the downside of gentrification impacted the Kennett area. Over a half dozen market-rate affordable housing complexes were converted into condominiums or purchased and converted into single family dwelling, displacing dozens of families. KACS was there to provide housing plans and support to end the crisis for most and worked with our local partner agencies to support others.

Ending Homelessness

By the numbers

In 2017

- ♥ KACS provided motel fees for 453 nights with 53 families diverted from the overburdened Chester County shelter system
- ♥ 958 households received on-site case management or related support
- ♥ 158 people used the laundry center
- ♥ 59 homeless individuals took showers in a private, sanitary, and welcoming environment
- ♥ 27 families received homeless prevention services to avoid eviction or utility shut off
- ♥ 24 heating oil tanks were filled
- ♥ \$13,398 was paid for security deposits for permanent rental housing
- ♥ Homeless Prevention & Rapid Rehousing services provided to the homeless in Kennett Square, Avondale, West Grove, Oxford and Nottingham
- ♥ Overall, \$125,558 was provided to support 287 households in crisis

Resource Building



Getting Ahead in a Just-Getting-by-World Class Graduations (February 2017 - top left, August 2017- above)

The Bridges Out of Poverty Initiative continued to grow and develop in 2017, creating dozens of exciting opportunities for increasing sustainability at the Individual, Institutional and Community levels. The start of the Bridges Planning team engages individuals and institutions into a collaborative model and works to bring resources, talent and all economic groups to the planning table. The first Community-wide Bridges meeting occurred in October 2017 with 85 interested community members learning about the causes of poverty within our own community and seeking solutions together.

Within KACS programs and leadership, Bridges concepts are shaping processes and relationship building for long-term engagement and sustainability. Participants are engaging in Committees and volunteer aspects of KACS and helping to shape programs that empower and build motivation for participants.



Reducing Poverty

At a Glance

- ♥ Continued Bridges Out of Poverty classes for professionals and the community, trained 96 community members and 36 partner agency staff about creating a community of opportunity for under-resourced families
- ♥ 35 participants started 'Getting Ahead-in-a-Just-Gettin'-by-World' Class to learn about each of 11 resources needed to find economic mobility
- ♥ 207 families participated in cooking demonstrations or workshops with recipes and food sampling for families when they visit the Cupboard
- ♥ Hosted 8 Agency partners in the Resource Center to provide family benefit assistance, employment resources and CareerLink, legal services and more

Look for more information about the Southern Chester County Opportunity Network!

Volunteer & Community Support





Volunteers are the heart of our work. Each week 75 volunteers give their time to build relationships, walk the journey with our participants and let them know the community supports them in their time of need and on the path to independence.

A True Community Agency

By the Numbers

- ♥ KACS is led by 5 committees, a dedicated Board of Directors and a team of staff and participants that develop and innovate to find new programs that alleviate crisis and create pathways to self-sufficiency
- ♥ An average of 1,000 hours are volunteered every month
- ♥ Volunteers provide service in every area of the operation - leadership, serving, reception, driving, sorting, cleaning, administrative work, data & trends analysis, special projects and so much more.
- ♥ Over 400 volunteers participated in the assembly and distribution of the 64th Annual Christmas Basket program, Backpacks and Thanksgiving Turkeys, providing much appreciated relief during stressful holiday and back-to-school times
- ♥ 32 volunteer groups, employers, scouts, churches and more, completed projects at KACS
- ♥ 80+ small and large Community Food Drives fill the shelves with shelf-stable nutrition in the Food Cupboard annually

Serving People in Their Time of Need

2017 By the Numbers

Kennett Area Community Service STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	2017	2016
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 125,572	\$213,763
Gift cards on hand	9,547	4,076
Inventory	11,838	17,502
Grants Receivable	22,790	15,773
Promises to give	89,385	83,805
Prepaid Expenses	12,273	11,507
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	271,405	346,426
FIXED ASSETS		
Building	1,095,176	1,081,007
Equipment & vehicles	78,805	78,805
Accumulated depreciation	(207,076)	(172,698)
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	966,905	987,114
Investments	74,341	-
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,312,651	\$1,333,540
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	12,576	\$ 15,593
Payroll liabilities	9,391	11,895
TOTAL LIABILITIES	21,967	27,488
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	1,186,299	1,212,247
Temporarily restricted	104,385	93,805
TOTAL NET ASSETS	1,290,684	1,306,052
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$1,312,651	\$1,333,540

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ending September 30, 2017

SUPPORT & REVENUE

Contributions	\$ 528,383
In-kind donations	929,296
Net special events	50,422
Interest & Misc. Income	5,858

Total support and revenue \$1,513,959

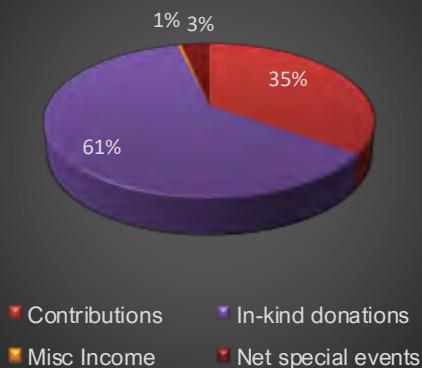
EXPENSES

Program Services	\$1,464,170
Management & General	50,865
Fundraising	14,292

Total Expenses \$1,529,327

Change in Net Assets	(\$15,368)
Net assets—beginning of year	\$1,306,052
Net assets—end of year	\$1,290,684

KACS 2017 Income



KACS 2017 Expenses



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Avondale United Methodist Church	Sally & Wayne Braffman	Suzanne & Joseph Claricurzio
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Paul Surian	Vanguard Charitable	Robert & M Lynn Woods
Lewis & Debra Swayne	William & Helene Vanhoeven	Bob & Sue Woodward
Elizabeth Sweet	Donald & Janet Vassallo	Deborah Woolson
Alma & Conrad Szablewski	Stephen & Mary Beth Verget	Works Kennett Square
Theodore & Gail Szklenski	Mark & Elizabeth Vergnano	Mildred C Worth
Karl Tackitt	Kenneth & Dorothy Verna	Patricia Wozniak
G & M Tandarich	Tom Vernon	WSFS Bank
Taylor Oil & Propane Inc	Robert Vignola	Jim Wurster
Cyril & Nancy Taylor	Alice Waegel	June V Yeatman
Francis W Jr & Joanne Taylor	Abraham & Lela Ann Wakil	Pennock & Sandra Yeatman
Richard & Ruth Taylor	Kathy Walker	W. Jeffrey & Carol Yetter
Gail Tefft		Young Adult Group
		Gerald & Crystal Young

Thank you for Supporting our Neighbors in Need

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And Thank You to the 100+ anonymous donors that support our neighbors in their time of need



Thank you for Supporting our Neighbors in Need

The Kennett Food Cupboard is filled and run by you! Our thanks to the thousands of individuals that fill the Cupboard by growing vegetables, bringing in food donations and supporting Food Drives in our area. And a big thank you to the Grocery Store and Produce sellers that donate nutritious foods to keep our community healthy!

Acme Market	Greenwood Elementary School	MLK CommUnity Food Committee
After the Bell	Hamorton United Methodist Church	Mom's Club of Kennett Square
Anson Nixon Community Gardens	Harvest Market	Philabundance
Avon Grove Charter School	Italian American Citizens League	Pocopson Elementary School
Avon Grove School District	Jenners Pond Community	Prudential Fox & Roach
Avondale Family Dentistry	Kaolin Mushroom Employee Gardens	Redner's Market
Avondale Presbyterian Church	KARMA	RMCI, Inc.
Avondale United Methodist Church	Richard Kee	Salon Secrets
Jeanie Baird Poultry/Eggs Farm	Kendal Community	St. Cornelius RC Church
Barnard's Orchard	Kennett Consolidated School District	St. Gabriel's RC Church
Berkshire Hathaway	Kennett Fire Company	St. Michael's Lutheran Church
Blitz Automotive	Kennett Friends Meeting	St. Patrick's RC Church
Boy Scouts	Kennett Grange	Share the Harvest
Brandywine Valley Association	Kennett High School Humanitarian Club	Strohmman Bakeries
Mary Lynne Burns	Kennett Presbyterian Church	Super Fresh Market
CCIU TLP Program	Kennett Preschool Coop	The Garage Youth Center
Charles F Patton Middle School	Kennett Rotary	The Produce Place
Chester County Food Bank	Kennett Senior Center	Tick Tock Early Learning Center
CHOP Kennett Square	KMC Dance & Gymnastics	TJ Maxx
Church of the Open Door	Ladies of St. Patrick's	Unionville Mom's Club
Cross Penny Farm	Lions Club of Kennett Square	Unionville Post Office
CrossFit Kennett	London Grove Friends Meeting	Unionville Presbyterian
Crosslands Community	Longwood Gardens	Upland Country Day School
Diwali Food Drive	Longwood Rotary	US Postal Service
Episcopal Church of the Advent	Mala Galleria	Walmart
Exelon Generation	Maris Grove Community	West Chester Amish Market
First Baptist Church of Kennett Square	Richard Marquard	Willowdale Chapel
Genesis Healthcare	Robert & Diane McGovern	Andrew Yetter
Giant Markets		
Girl Scouts		

Thank you to the hundreds of anonymous donors that provide food and produce to the Food Cupboard! You join the community in feeding our friends and neighbors in need!



Every attempt is made to ensure accuracy of this list. Please contact Melanie Weiler for errors. We apologize for any omissions.



Christmas Basket set up

The Mission

Serving People in Their Time of Need

The Vision

We are an organization committed to serving families and all individuals in the fight against hunger and homelessness in the Kennett area and surrounding communities.

We are responsible stewards of the community, helping members of the greater Kennett community to lift themselves in a dignified manner out of the cycle of poverty.

We achieve this goal by both raising awareness in the community to the needs of the under-resourced, working with them to identify and work towards solutions to their challenges through a network of community connections that care.



136 West Cedar Street, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania 19348

(610) 925-3556

www.KACSONline.net

