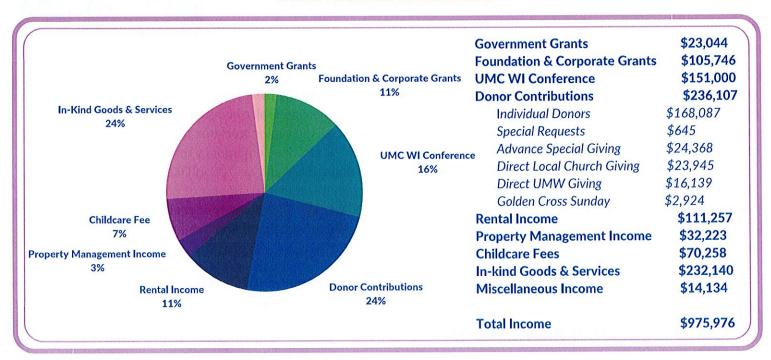


# United Methodist Children's Services of WI, Inc. 2020 Annual Report

In this most unusual and challenging of years, United Methodist Children's Services (UMCS) managed to not only weather the storm but also expand its services to meet the growing needs of the most vulnerable families here in Milwaukee's Washington Park neighborhood and nearby areas. None of this would have been possible without the hundreds of individuals, churches, and institutional donors who stepped up to provide assistance when it was needed most. We also salute the grit, determination, and commitment to service of our incredible UMCS staff members and volunteers who bravely accepted the heightened risks, maintained a sense of humor, and never once complained about the challenges they faced. We end 2020 with a deep sense of reverence and respect for the difficult road that so many have traveled over the past year, and we look forward to a new year of hope, healing, and bridge-building.

### 2020 Revenue Breakdown



## 2020 Program Area Expenses

UMCS delivers care to individuals and families through 4 focus areas: Housing, Childcare, Resources, & Community Engagement. These 4 program areas, along with our General Administration & Fundraising costs make up our agency expenses.

#### Housing — 35.55% of Expenses

The UMCS supportive housing program is a mission-driven endeavor that recognizes the fundamental importance of safe, quality, and affordable housing for people to live their lives with dignity, raise their families and pursue their dreams. Of our 72 units, a total of 15 apartments are dedicated to families who have been referred to UMCS by the Milwaukee County Housing Division. Historically these referrals have primarily been from the Behavioral Health Division, and recently we have shifted emphasis to welcome many recently homeless and at-risk families through the Milwaukee County Housing First program and the Impact-led Coordinated Entry system. In summer 2020, UMCS took on the direct property management of our housing portfolio to ensure that all our resident families receive compassionate, high-quality services, and support in a manner that is consistent with our mission. This has allowed our social service staff and property management team to work together throughout the pandemic to connect resident families with financial assistance, troubleshoot other challenges, and keep them in stable housing.

#### Childcare - 7.91% of Expenses

The Growing Tree Children's Center, our State licensed childcare center, was unfortunately closed for much of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to protect childcare staff and families, but we are very excited to be gearing up to safely reopen in early May 2021. Our Director and childcare staff are diligently preparing the center and incorporating a variety of new measures to keep all children, staff, and families safe and healthy. UMCS is eager to resume this vital service to our housing residents and other working families in the Washington Park community.

#### **Community Engagement - 10.03% of Expenses**

As with everything else in 2020, UMCS Community Engagement programming had to adjust to a new normal. Our Community Health Worker took her outreach and education online with Zoom learning sessions and e-newsletters to residents. Her personal attention to residents has helped to reduce feelings of isolation, improve health outcomes and foster a greater sense of togetherness and community. UMCS also lead several neighborhood-wide clean-ups and outdoor community events that engaged area residents, businesses, restaurants, and other community organizations to gather safely, engage in fellowship, share resources and contribute to a cleaner and safer living environment.



#### Basic Needs and Resources - 28.54% of Expenses

Despite the many challenges of the past year, UMCS is proud to report that our Family Resource Center kept its doors open throughout the entire pandemic. Staff, volunteers, and community partners embraced the uncertainty, innovated and adapted to new realities, and incorporated new safety measures, all of which allowed us to continue uninterrupted with critically important emergency food pantry services, the senior stockbox program, and the distribution of health care information, COVID-19 safety tips, masks & sanitizer, emergency rent/financial assistance and other vital resources. Throughout 2020, our emergency food pantry served over 700 individuals per month and distributed over 130,000 pounds of food to the community. Through the immense support of our community and area UMC congregations, we received and distributed over 22,000 pounds of donated food and hygiene items. Our Family Resource Center continues to be a hub for the community, where individuals know they will be treated with dignity, respect, and compassion.

**General Administration - 16.59% of Expenses** 

Fundraising - 1.38% of Expenses

## A Heartfelt Thanks to our Supporters!

We are extremely grateful for the time, skills, in-kind support, and financial contributions that our dedicated supporters have contributed to UMCS throughout this difficult year. During an unprecedented crisis, UMCS's donors rose to the occasion once again to help us serve the most vulnerable. More than 662 unique donations were received, with a median gift amount of \$100, while in-kind donations totaled over 22,000 lbs! Thank you for walking with us on this journey and helping us fulfill our mission to serve. THANK YOU!



#### **Priorities for 2021**

As we all hope for an end to the pandemic and brighter days ahead, UMCS is focused on welcoming children and their families back into our childcare center, broadening our community engagement and organizing activities in the Washington Park neighborhood, and continually expanding the range and quality of services that we offer to residents through both our own programs and in collaboration with our many partners. Please contact us with any thoughts or questions, and we hope to see you all soon!

