

# **Southside Harm Reduction Services**



**2022 Annual Report**

# Letter from the Executive Director

In 2022 Southside Harm Reduction Services continued to meet the need for comprehensive Harm Reduction services in MN, as overdose deaths continued to increase, as did the number of people living outside and the number of encampments, alongside the continuation of the HIV outbreak - all with drastic underlying racial disparities that disproportionately impact communities of color. Harm Reduction offers real solutions that not only reduce overdose deaths and prevent the transmission of HIV, but also offers dignity, and actively works to improve people's quality of life no matter where they are at. It is truly transformative work, and is often a missing but essential part of our healthcare, social services, and the larger community.

We put the full spectrum of Harm Reduction into our work - from embracing people who are actively using drugs, to those that are sober, and everyone in between. We recognize that positive, supportive connections are just as essential as the syringes. We recognize that much of the harm faced by people who use drugs is created by the racialized war on drugs and larger systems.

Southside Harm Reduction hopes to continue and grow our work into 2023 - continuing to make connections with participants and provide syringe services, while working to bridge our participants into meaningful policy and systems change. As the overdose crisis continues worsening, we plan to keep syringe exchange at the center of the work we do, while exploring new ways to build connections and improve our impact with the resources we have. Within the large, complex challenges being faced, we hope to make this work more sustainable and supportive for the people doing the work - our staff, volunteers, and participants. Thank you to all of our amazing staff, volunteers, community partners, funders, and donors - we cannot do this life saving work without you!

-Jack Martin, Executive Director, Southside Harm Reduction Services

# Board of Directors

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- Jenny Bjorgo
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- Jack Martin, *Executive Director*
- Rodrick Fields, *Operations Director*
- Zachary Johnson, *Programs Director*

# Staff

- Shannon Clancy, *Overdose Prevention Lead*
- Grace Hallberg-Gain, *Community Coordinator*
- Colnese Hendon, *Development Lead*
- Kriss Jessen, *Volunteer & Hiring Coordinator*
- Claire King, *Finance Lead*
- Tammy LaVelle II, *Overdose Prevention Trainer*
- Gracie Lindblad, *HIV Counselor*
- Ash Monk, *Fundraising Leader*
- Angela Richards, *Referral Coordinator*
- Lexus Stokes, *HIV Counselor*
- Onishona Villareal, *Community Coordinator*
- Abby Walker, *Delivery Lead*

# 2022 Financials

## Income:

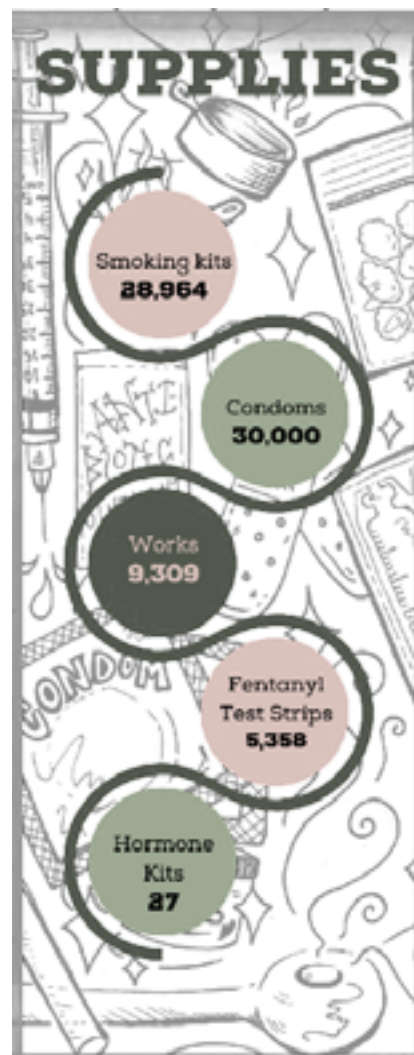
- Grants: \$769,984.80
- Contributions: \$101,642.68
- In kind donations: \$47,049.61
- Other income (merch sales & interest): \$2,182.10

**Total revenue: \$920,859.22**

## Expenses:

- Program Costs: \$736,579
- Administrative Costs: \$151,148
- Fundraising Costs: \$50,832

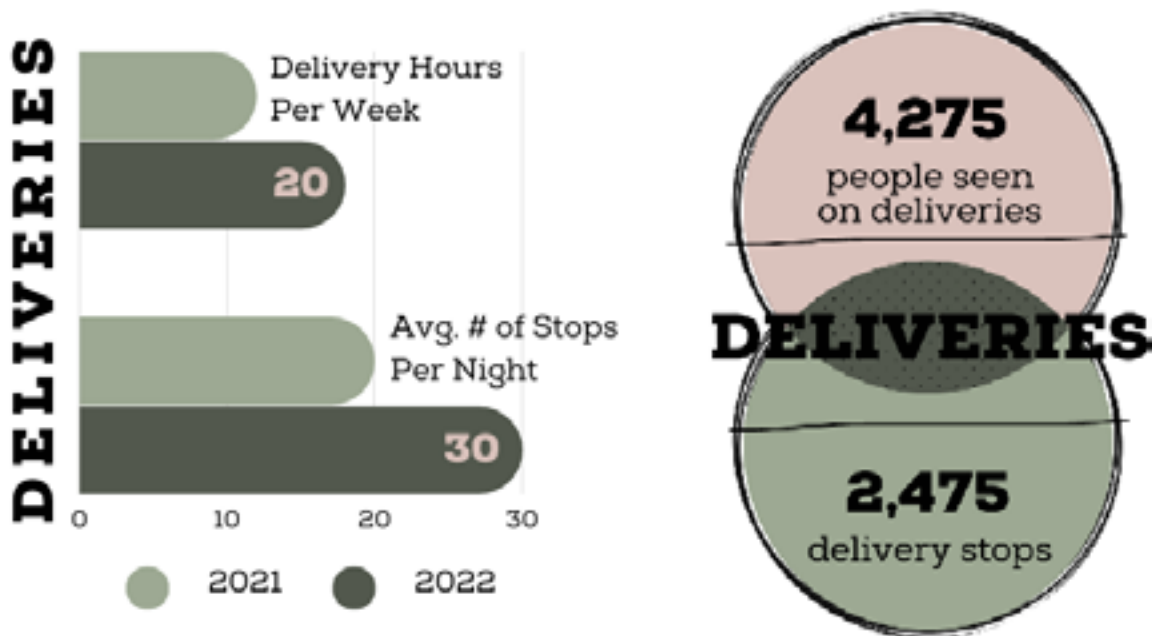
**Total Expenses: \$938,559**



# Program Services

## Deliveries

In 2022 the deliveries team both added many new program participants, and continued maintaining strong relationships with all regular participants that have been engaged over the years. 2022 marked the first full year of having a new 3 delivery cars per night schedule, which enabled the team to increase weekly delivery hours and number of stops by 67%. To increase capacity, SHRS held the first delivery driver volunteer orientation since COVID began, and added 10 new people to the deliveries team. The deliveries team was able to provide more consistent services by refining the delivery radius to no longer include St. Paul. 2022 also marked the first year of delivering hormone injection supplies.



## Street Outreach

In 2022 the outreach team expanded outreach partnerships and continued reaching large numbers of people through street outreach and monthly HIV pop ups, where they distributed supplies and connected people to resources as requested. Outreach consistently, successfully matched unhoused participants with housing at Avivo Tiny Homes throughout the year.





## Overdose Prevention Training

In 2022 SHRS more than doubled (64%) the amount of overdose prevention trainings offered to the community, which led to a huge increase in the number of people trained (265%) compared to 2021. Trainings covered how to respond to an opioid overdose, overdose prevention, harm reduction and the work of SHRS, and other unique topics, such as wound care, vein care, person-centered and trauma informed care, and more.

## Secondary Exchange

At SHRS we know that there are several barriers to accessing care and safe use supplies. Most of our participants are picking up supplies for friends, relatives, or their community that may not be able to access our services due to distance and travel, comfort levels, our hours of operation, etc. To support our participants and acknowledge the work they are doing to keep community safe, we have a secondary exchange program where we create an arrangement on a monthly or bi-monthly basis, and give them a larger amount of supplies for distribution.



## HIV Testing

The HIV program solidified and grew in 2022. Interorganizational pop-ups successfully continued, along with a flourishing delivery testing program, both of which bring testing directly to participants. HIV knowledge was shared with staff, volunteers, and participants through new trainings and literature. The team also laid the groundwork to begin a Hepatitis C program in 2023.



## Community Coordination

The community coordination team regularly hosted meetings with participants throughout 2022, where folks collaborated to host events, practice community care, share knowledge, cook, and make art together. Last summer, SHRS and participants hosted a neighborhood block party in East Phillips in partnership with Neighbors for Harm Reduction, where folks ate together, played games, learned about harm reduction, made new connections and strengthened growing relationships; the turnout was incredible! The team also published a study guide on overdose prevention centers and recorded and edited the first season of the Southside Audio Project, which has since been released on the SHRS website and social media channels, and continues to air weekly on KRSM.

## Community Clean Ups

2022 Saturday syringe cleanups brought new and long-time volunteers together in the Phillips neighborhood, with many days led by volunteers. The collaborative playlist and portable speaker made a comeback and many conversations with neighbors were had to discuss who we are, how we work to minimize syringe litter, and how you can safely clean up syringes on your own.



## National-International Reach

This fall staff attended the National Harm Reduction Conference in Puerto Rico, and presented to an international audience on “Relationship Based Work as a Path to Resiliency.” Staff also visited overdose prevention centers (OPC) in New York. These visits provided one-of-a-kind opportunities for staff to exchange ideas and cutting-edge practices with a diverse community of stakeholders, and address a wide range of complex issues facing the harm reduction movement.

# Thank you Southside Harm Reduction volunteers!

In 2022 52 volunteers contributed 1,500 hours!





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Office hours: Mon-Wed, 2-6pm

 [shrs@southsideharmreduction.org](mailto:shrs@southsideharmreduction.org)

 [@southsideharmreduction](https://www.instagram.com/southsideharmreduction)

 Southside Harm Reduction Services

**Deliveries:** 612-615-9725 (Mon-Wed)

**Referrals:** 612-355-1267 (Mon-Thur)

**Learn more & get involved:**  
[SouthsideHarmReduction.org](https://SouthsideHarmReduction.org)