



Annual Report

October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023

Patchwork's Mission:

Patchwork Central creates community, honors personal dignity, empowers people, and encourages spiritual and social growth through its programs and hospitality, its opportunities for learning, its creative atmosphere and cultivation of the arts, and its work toward reconciliation and a more peaceful and just world.

Our programming:

Patchwork has been serving our neighbors near downtown Evansville since 1977. We are a place where many different people can come together and find respect, safety, and support. Below is a list of our core programming and the numbers of people served by each program during our most recent fiscal year. All of our programming was in operation throughout the entire year, though on occasion our capacity was reduced in accordance with covid-19 safety protocols. All of our programming was offered in person. All numbers reflect the people served between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023, unless otherwise noted.

The Patchwork Central Emergency Food Pantry – Last year, our food pantry served 1858 individuals from 1120 households by distributing over 16 tons of food. The Pantry is open Monday-Thursday mornings and is one of six that make up Evansville's Emergency Food Pantry Consortium (EEFPC). Individuals are eligible for a food order every 30 days. Our main office staff manage intake and verify eligibility through the EEFPC call center. Each food order includes 3-4 days' worth of food, meaning we distributed approximately 22,000 meals-worth of food. Our food pantry also distributed over 1350 pounds of pet food from the Tuly Fund so recipients would not have to choose between feeding themselves or their pets.

Arts & Smarts After School and Summer Children's Programming – From September 2022 through August 2023, 37 children and youth in grades K-8 attended at least one day of Arts & Smarts activities. A total of 123 days of activities were offered in that time, resulting in 696 individual afternoons of creativity, learning, and growth. Of those children, 78% belonged to low-income families. All of our programming was offered at no cost to the children's families. Daily activities included one-on-one homework help, visual arts, gardening, leadership training, and substance abuse prevention. Through these activities, children gained important skills for life. Our program evaluation indicated that they built relationships within a supportive community of adults and fellow participants who encouraged them to explore their interests and to do better, which are indicators of future success.

Neighborhood Hospitality – One service Patchwork provides to our neighbors is simply our presence in the neighborhood. We call it Neighborhood Hospitality. Last year, we logged approximately 9167 instances of hospitality. These included cups of coffee, phone use, bread, fresh vegetables, and referrals to other local agencies better equipped to assist the individual with their needs. It also included 1275 showers for individuals who, for various reasons, had no other access to shower facilities. We also brewed approximately 1210 pots of coffee and mixed up 169 pitchers of lemonade. Sometimes this hospitality is simply having a staff member able to lend a respectful listening ear to hear our neighbors' frustrations, anger, or celebrations.

Bike Shop – The Bike Shop provides refurbished bikes – to people who need them for transportation and repairs bikes to allow existing bike owners to keep their means of transportation roadworthy. Last year, we provided 166 refurbished adult bikes to new owners, five bikes to the Arts & Smarts Program to use as incentives, and we provided numerous repairs for walk-in clients.

Sozo Health Ministry – The Sozo Health Ministry promotes health and wholeness through weekly health screenings, education, advocacy, non-emergency medical transportation, complementary and alternative medicine services, and spiritual care. Last year, we provided 2353 total health encounters for about 220 total clients. Services included 131 instances of transporting clients to medical appointments, 392 checks of blood pressure, and 1724 instances of medical supplies distributed. Last year we also provided or distributed 145 complementary and alternative medicine services or supplies. They also included 19 occasions in which staff identified emergency health situations in clients and 911 was called or the client was transported to an ER.

Building Use – Patchwork provides space for other organizations who, like us, are working to make a stronger, healthier, and more peaceful community. Many people pass through our building on a weekly or monthly basis to visit these

organizations. Last year, these groups included Narcotics Anonymous, the Evansville Friends Meeting, and the Greater Evansville Youth Group.

Community Garden – Patchwork maintains an urban garden next to our building, and we have since 1995. It provides pleasant green space for our neighborhood, and it serves as an educational tool to use with the children in our programs.

Worship – Patchwork holds weekly worship services on Sunday evenings at 5:15 pm. Services are ecumenical and completely volunteer-led. Worship has been important at Patchwork since its beginning as a neighborhood ministry in 1977. Worship services are held both in person and on Facebook Live.

Our Board (2022-2023):

Veltri Taylor –President
Isabella McCool – Secretary
Kristina Coon – Treasurer

Jane Johansen
Jill Hemminger
Joyse Rivers
Karen Edwards

Michele Fralick
Robyn Musgrave
Stephanie Morris
William Twymon, II

Our Staff (2022-2023):

John & Amy Rich, Co-Directors
Jane Case Vickers, Director of Art and Education
Shawn Craddock, Main Office Coordinator
Katie Loehrlein, Associate Health Minister

Molly Fahrlander, Program Assistant
Bailey Korschgen, Program Assistant
Pete Emery, Volunteer Bike Shop Coordinator
Bill Hemminger, Volunteer Food Pantry Coordinator

Additionally, 82 adult and high school volunteers contributed 2,900 hours of volunteer time to Patchwork’s programming.

Contacting us:

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