## FAIR TIDE ANNUAL REPORT FY-19



# A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### Dear Friends,

I was recently reminded of one of my favorite parables where, following a big storm, thousands of starfish had washed up onto a beach. A young girl began throwing them back into the water one by one, when an elderly gentleman approached. He questioned the mission of the girl, asking, "Young lady, there are thousands of starfish and only one you. What difference can you make?" She thought for a moment before bending down to pick up another, and as she tossed it into the water she replied, "I made a difference to that one."

The issue of homelessness can seem insurmountable when we look at the vast number of folks without a stable place to call home. It can feel easier to simply throw in the towel rather than go up against the economics of increasing rents, stagnant wages, and historically low vacancy rates. It is tempting, for many, to continue blissfully ignoring this problem and accept that we have done all that is possible within the limits of societal systems and governmental resources.



But then we encounter clients like Genevieve, who came to us with four kids in tow after having lost her job, her housing, and her savings. We wrapped our arms around her and her family, found them stable housing, worked tirelessly to connect them to local and federal resources, and provided the necessary support to get their lives back on track. To this family, and the several others we housed this year, we made a life-changing difference that will be felt for generations to come.

Some may label Fair Tide's mission as overly ambitious or unattainable. While we are not naive enough to believe we can solve homelessness, you better believe, that with your help, we are doing everything in our power to save as many starfish as possible. Thank you for your continued support.

With sincere appreciation, Emily Flinkstrom

### BY THE NUMBERS





80 clients supported through housing & case management

Moved 23 individuals from homelessness into housing



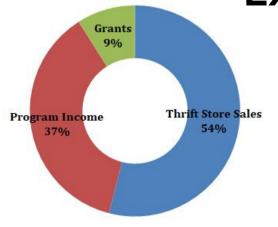
1,404 thrift store volunteer hours donated to Fair Tide

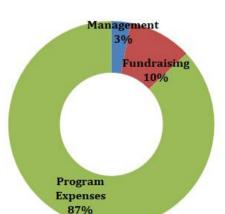
#### **Income Total:**

\$336,873

**Expenses Total:** 

\$326,945





## STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN PROGRESS

Moving **40** households from homelessness into permanent housing



#### Fair Tide House

#### Private Market

#### New Development

#### **Five Year Goals**

Convert 5 units from transitional to permanent housing.

Partner with landlords to open up 15 units in the private rental market to households moving out of homelessness.

Partner with affordable housing developers to bring 20 new affordable housing units to the area.

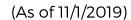
#### **Second Year Progress**



100% of units
serve as
permanent
housing for
five formerly
homeless
households.



Seven
households
placed into
permanent
housing in the
community.





Two sites in progress, one smaller project and one larger development.

## LANDLORD ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

Due to low vacancy rates and high rental costs, households with rental vouchers often cannot locate a landlord who will accept their subsidy. Fair Tide's LEI program was launched this year with a goal of incentivizing landlords to rent their units to households who have a rental voucher.

#### **Guaranteed Rent**

Rent is directly deposited into bank account via a Federal Rental Subsidy



## Vacancy Loss Coverage

One month's rent to hold a unit while voucher process is underway



## Damage Loss Mitigation

Coverage up to \$2,000 for damages above and beyond security deposit



#### Sign On Bonus

One time, \$500 per unit sign on bonus



# Case Management Support

Both the case manager and executive director serve as resources for the renter and landlord



#### **Rent-Ready Tenants**

Tenants go through an educational course preparing them for the responsibilities of being a renter



Check out our website www.fairtide.org/How-to-help to learn more!

# CASE MANAGEMENT: THE KEY TO SUCCESS WITH KERRY

Fair Tide's model of permanent housing coupled with case management services has proven to be successful in not only keeping people housed, but helping them achieve their goals and become active, contributing members of the community. The Commission for Case Management Certification explains the purpose of this work well stating, "Its underlying premise is that everyone benefits when clients reach their optimum level of wellness, self-management, and functional capability."

But what exactly is case management, you ask? Kerry Brent who has served as Fair Tide's case manager for over three years explains it in this way:



To me, case management is a collaborative process. It's very much tailored to client specific needs. We assess needs, make a plan, and set goals for the future. I advocate, research, and link to area resources to meet goals. My end goal is for the client to gain life-long skills and maintain independence.

#### RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

"Fair Tide has restored a sense of security, safety, and belonging which has allowed me to begin to heal and create a better future for my family."



Genevieve, first and foremost, is a mom. With four kids of varying ages she has her hands full, but it is evident in the way she talks about them that they are her world. It is for this reason that when her life started to crumble around her, following several traumatic events, she relentlessly fought to stay afloat. Genevieve is a talented nurse, but the P.T.S.D. robbed her of her job and, eventually, of her home.

Homeless, jobless, and struggling to find a semblance of security, Genevieve reached out far and wide for assistance. After Fair Tide's case manager met with her, we knew that her only hope in getting her family's life back on track was to find stable housing.

A month later, when a unit in the Fair Tide House opened up, Genevieve and her kids moved in. With the incredible stress of being homeless lifted, and with the support from Fair Tide's case manager, Genevieve has been able to focus on piecing other aspects of her life back together. Her kids have a place to call home, a table to host family dinners, and a bed to themselves every night. Genevieve has a safe haven to process through her trauma and begin finding her way out of the darkness.

#### SUCCESSFUL EVENTS

Fair Tide's Annual

#### SPRING DINNER

HOSTED BY: THE BLUE MERMAID



More than 120 community members gathered at Blue Mermaid for an evening of food, drinks, music and fundraising. Fair Tide's 2019 Spring Dinner and Auction brought in a record breaking \$35,380 which will go a long way in providing housing and supportive services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Fifth Annual

# HIKE FOR THE HOMELESS

FROM SEA TO SUMMIT

For the fifth year in a row, Charlie Simpson and Mac McAbee made their way from the Seacoast to the summit of Mount Washington. This year, due to injuries, they rode their bikes from Kittery to the base of the mountain and trekked to the top. The journey began on Monday, September 2nd and concluded with a successful summit around noon on the 5th.

With the support of all those who donated, we raised almost \$8,000!



## THRIFT STORE: LIFE CYCLE OF A DONATION



The Fair Tide Thrift Store has continued to grow and gain support from our Seacoast community! We raised over \$181,500 this past fiscal year through the purchases of our pre-loved items. Thank you to all our generous in-kind donors and customers!

#### Fair Tide's Board of Directors

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\*Not pictured, Brianna Gleason

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If we have misspelled or omitted your name, please accept our sincerest apologies and let us know our error. Email: executivedirector@fairtide.org

Joanne Small

#### Thank you for your support from July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019!

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