

The Campaign for Renaissance:
**Building Capacity to
Accelerate Impact**



RENAISSANCE
SOCIAL SERVICES

Solutions to homelessness.



Our Vision

Renaissance's vision is to create a Chicago without homelessness or inequities.

Our Mission

Renaissance's mission is to empower Chicagoans for long-term success through innovative and comprehensive supportive services and housing.

Preparing for Our Fourth Decade of Service

Dear Friends,

Renaissance Social Services is a leader in Chicago's response to homelessness. We provide a range of proven solutions including prevention, outreach, rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, behavioral health care, and clinical case management.

Since its founding in 1993, Renaissance has addressed rising homelessness with compassion and innovation. We plan to serve 4,000 people in 2024 and add more than 200 units of permanent supportive housing with rent subsidies, supportive services, and behavioral health care.

To ensure that Renaissance is able to deliver the highest quality housing and services to our participants now and throughout our fourth decade of service, we are launching **The Campaign for Renaissance**.

This \$1 million fundraising effort will enable Renaissance to make critical investments in the organization's people, programs, technology, and sustainability.

Renaissance is at a critical juncture. As our programming has grown rapidly, it will be important to ensure that we have sufficient unrestricted funds to provide stability to the organization and support capacity-building investments that public funds are unable to fully support.

This is not a capital campaign designed to build an endowment. Rather, your support will provide greater operational and financial stability to ensure that Renaissance can continue to scale to provide the highest quality support to the neediest populations in the Chicagoland region.

We invite you to join us in strengthening Renaissance's capacity to prevent and end homelessness for thousands of people in crisis each year. We would be pleased to meet with you to discuss giving opportunities.

With gratitude,

Michael Banghart, MA
Executive Director

Susan Schierl Sullivan, JD
President, Board of Directors


Danny Jisa
MBX Group
Co-Chair, Capital Campaign Cabinet

Johnny Pesenti
Cboe Global Market
Co-Chair, Capital Campaign Cabinet

"This is a nice building, well kept up and secure. Everyone is nice and kind to one another. My case manager, home health worker, and physical therapist help me a lot."

– Glenn





“Thank you. You helped me out when I was in need, at the lowest of the low. Before I lived here, I was homeless, I wasn’t taking my medication, and I wasn’t eating right. This is my first apartment. Everything changed when I moved here.”

– Deandre

**KEY
MOMENTS
1997-2023**

1997

Renaissance started with one case manager and one part-time director, providing supportive services to residents in one building. By 2022, Renaissance served more than 3,800 people – individuals and families – in multiple buildings and hundreds of scattered-site apartments, with a diverse team of 59 employees.

2007

Renaissance created the Chronic Homeless Initiative, the first of its kind in Chicago. This initiative helped chronically homeless individuals, who were historically underserved in permanent supportive housing, move into a beautifully renovated building in Wicker Park using a housing-first perspective and provided them with supportive services to help them attain stability and increase their self-determination.

Our Leadership

Capital Campaign Cabinet

Danny Jisa, MBX Group, *Co-Chair*
Johnny Pesenti, Cboe Global Markets, *Co-Chair*
Susan Schierl Sullivan, President, Board of Directors
Richard Day, Boston Consulting Group

Board of Directors

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Deputy Governor Bria Scudder, State of Illinois,
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Jim Scudder, CIBC US
Mindy Wade, OneGoal
Michael Banghart, Renaissance Social Services,
Executive Director

Michael Banghart, Executive Director
John W. Pfeiffer, Director of Philanthropy
Sandra Robinson, Deputy Director of Philanthropy

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EJ Karobath, Epsilon Economics
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Kathleen Provost, Cboe Global Markets
Abby Schierl, Sallie Mae
Nisha Singla, CBRE

“A January 2024 point-in-time count found that non-migrant homelessness in Chicago increased by 25 percent. Now more than ever, Renaissance is being called upon to deliver proven solutions to homelessness that help individuals and families achieve lasting stability.”

– Michael Banghart, MA
Executive Director



2010

Renaissance received notification that it was one of seven recipients in the United States to receive a five-year Services in Supportive Housing grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The Supportive Housing Outreach Team was created to serve Chicagoans who had been homeless the longest and who had the most severe disabilities.

2017

Renaissance launched the Family Support Program – a new program to provide supportive housing for 45 chronically homeless families. The Family Support Program’s primary funding is a \$1.4 million annual grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Our Approach to Ending Homelessness



Outreach & Engagement: Street outreach teams visit shelters and encampments on a regular basis to engage with people and support them in moving into housing and engaging in health care. As a key partner in Chicago's Flexible Housing Pool (FHP), Renaissance conducts outreach to homeless people who have been identified as high utilizers of the health care system and engages them into support services, housing, and health care.

Homelessness Prevention: Renaissance prevents homelessness in Chicago by providing short-term emergency funds and services to people at risk of losing their homes.

Diversion Housing: Renaissance provides temporary housing for individuals with serious mental health issues awaiting placement into permanent housing. Temporary housing is more stable than shelter or hospitalization and can improve individuals' health outcomes.

Rapid Re-Housing: For individuals and families who do not need intensive and long-term supports to exit homelessness and maintain permanent housing, Renaissance provides short-term housing assistance and case management that focuses on building individuals' income and strengths.

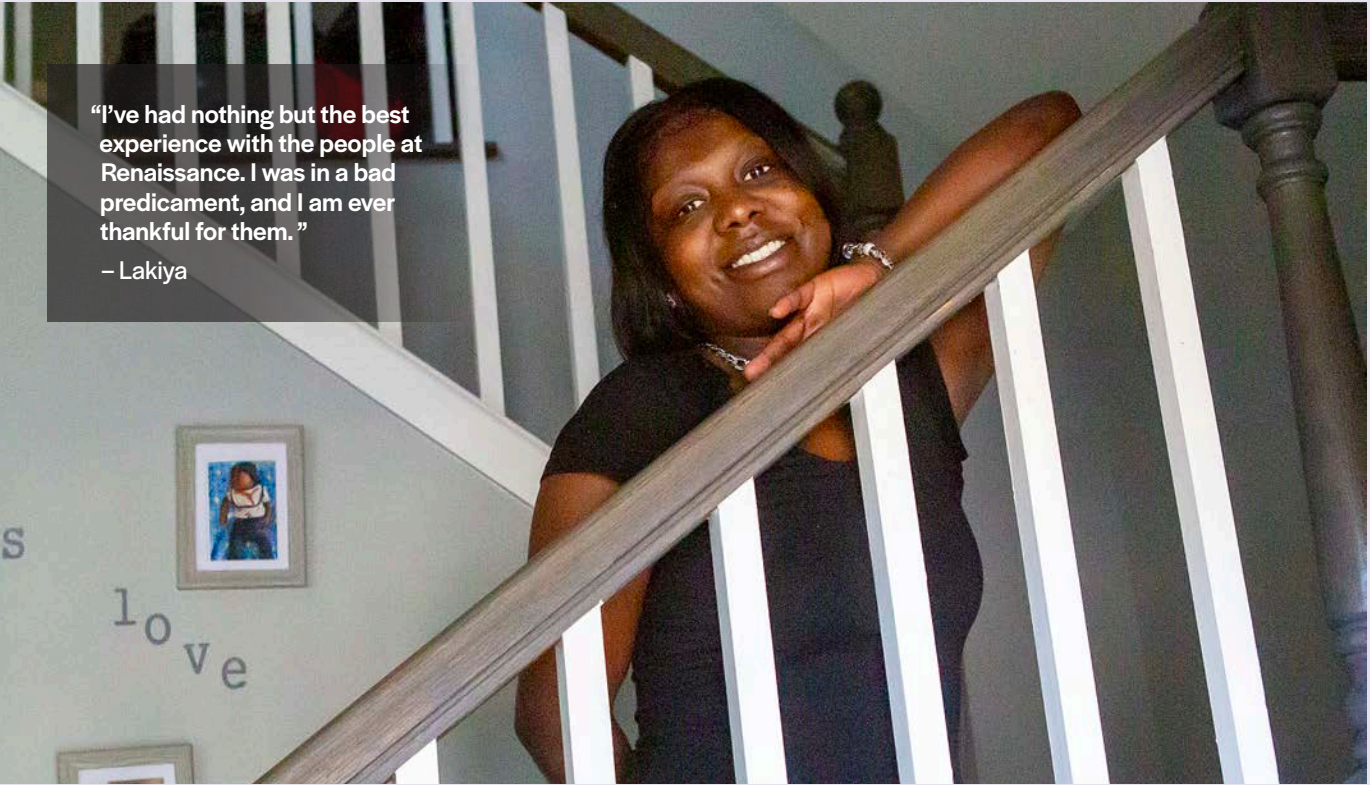
KEY MOMENTS 1997-2023

2018

Renaissance became a State of Illinois-certified Community Mental Health Center and in 2021 became accredited by CARF International for the delivery of mental health services to children and adults.

2019

Renaissance became a lead partner in Chicago's Flexible Housing Pool, a coordinated effort to provide permanent housing and wraparound services to the most vulnerable Chicagoans experiencing homelessness. To date, more than 1,200 people have been housed, resulting in a 33% reduction in inpatient hospitalization days.



“I’ve had nothing but the best experience with the people at Renaissance. I was in a bad predicament, and I am ever thankful for them.”

– Lakiya

Permanent Supportive Housing: In partnership with landlords across Chicago, Renaissance operates site-based and scattered-site permanent supportive housing programs, offering rent subsidies, wraparound supportive services, and behavioral health care to help individuals, families, and seniors increase their stability and autonomy.

In 2024, Renaissance will launch a Triage Bridge Housing Program to provide immediate access to a temporary, furnished apartment to vulnerable people engaged through its Homeless Street Outreach Program. Once housed, Renaissance assesses their needs and places them into appropriate permanent housing.

Behavioral Health Care: Renaissance provides mental health and substance use recovery services to individuals and families in their homes. The Hospital Engagement Pilot Program supports unhoused adults following their discharge from West Side safety-net hospitals, providing recovery support services, housing placement assistance, and connection to resources.

2020

Renaissance opened a peer-led mental health crisis drop-in center in the Austin community called The Renaissance Living Room, which brought much needed access to quality mental health services in a community lacking access to such care.

Today

Renaissance provides a range of proven solutions to homelessness from eviction prevention funds to street outreach, to short- and long-term supportive housing for families and individuals. We will continue to expand and adapt our services until homelessness is eliminated in Chicago.

Transformational Impact

In 2023, Renaissance served more than 3,600 unhoused and housing insecure people throughout Chicago, including:

2,186

individuals (911 households) who received resources to prevent homelessness.

468

participants who lived in the agency's permanent supportive housing, including 158 families.

258

individuals who were rapidly re-housed.

723

people living on the streets and in shelters who were connected to housing, health care, and/or behavioral services.

With support from Renaissance's dedicated and compassionate team members, participants achieved significant personal outcomes in 2023:

94%

of participants remained in housing for at least one year.

92%

of participants achieved at least one of their stabilization goals.

94%

of participants avoided unnecessary hospitalizations.

99%

of participants avoided evictions.

100%

of participants avoided incarceration.

94%

of participants avoided psychiatric hospital admissions.

For the community as a whole, Renaissance's services deliver significant social return on investment. Homelessness is expensive. Research from a team at the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business found that dollars invested in Renaissance yield substantial savings in medical bills, law enforcement, and shelter costs — even before accounting for the long-term costs of homelessness.

- Every dollar invested in our Permanent Supportive Housing program yields \$1.27 in social savings.
- Every dollar invested in our Family Support Program yields \$1.90 in social savings, largely due to the added benefits of serving children.
- Every dollar invested in our Homelessness Prevention Program yields \$1.46 in social savings, because preventing an eviction in the first place is much less costly and disruptive for families.

Recent Growth

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Renaissance leveraged its strengths and government funding opportunities to serve more people in need. Over the last five years, Renaissance's:

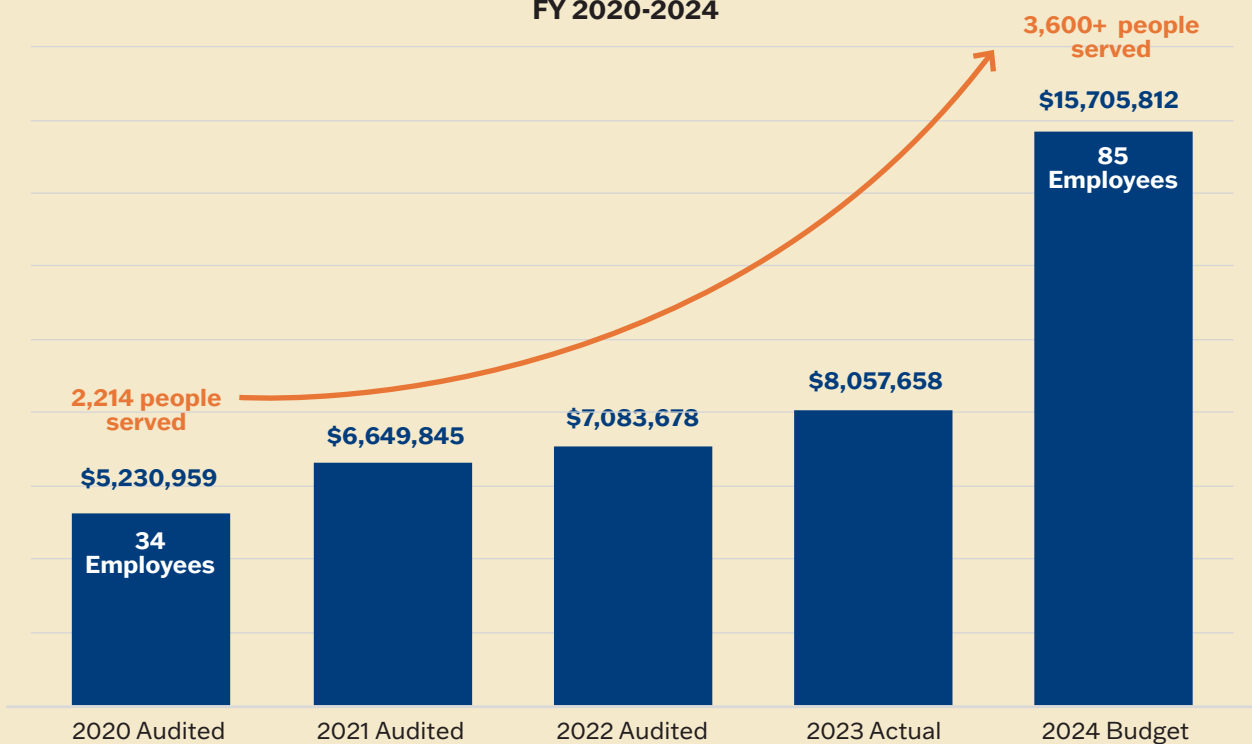
- operating budget quadrupled in size, growing from \$5.2 million to \$15.7 million;
- staff grew from 34 to more than 80 employees; and,
- total people served increased from 2,214 to more than 3,600.

"Renaissance is a big, big blessing for my family. You have changed our lives for the better. We've got stability, shelter, mental health support, and even birthday cards for my kids."

– Anastasia



Renaissance Social Services
Total Public Support and Revenue
FY 2020-2024



Building Organizational Capacity to Transform Lives

To support its growth and maintain the highest levels of quality, Renaissance needs to make critical investments in the organization’s people, programs, technology, and financial sustainability. Through **The Campaign for Renaissance**, we seek to raise \$1 million to establish the following funds.

Renaissance Forward Fund

Goal: \$500,000

The Renaissance Forward Fund will provide an operating reserve to increase Renaissance’s financial sustainability, enabling the organization to manage cash flow and deliver vital services more easily. The Renaissance Forward Fund will also allow Renaissance to respond to new opportunities to advance the organization’s mission, including new partnerships with other service providers and housing developers.

Renaissance has a history of careful financial management but operates on narrow margins, as do most human services agencies. This approach is consistent with our goal to provide for the needs of as many community residents as possible. With significant funding coming from government partners, Renaissance is buffeted by delays in payment for services performed under contract, as well as by private donor funding cycles.

Participant Needs Fund

Goal: \$200,000

The Participant Needs Fund will enable Renaissance to meet the emerging needs of the unhoused and housing-unstable men, women, and families we serve. Team members will be able to access resources to help

participants achieve their personal goals related to health and wellness, personal safety, education and economic mobility, and housing stability. Your support will supplement limited public funding for critical participant needs.

Technology Fund

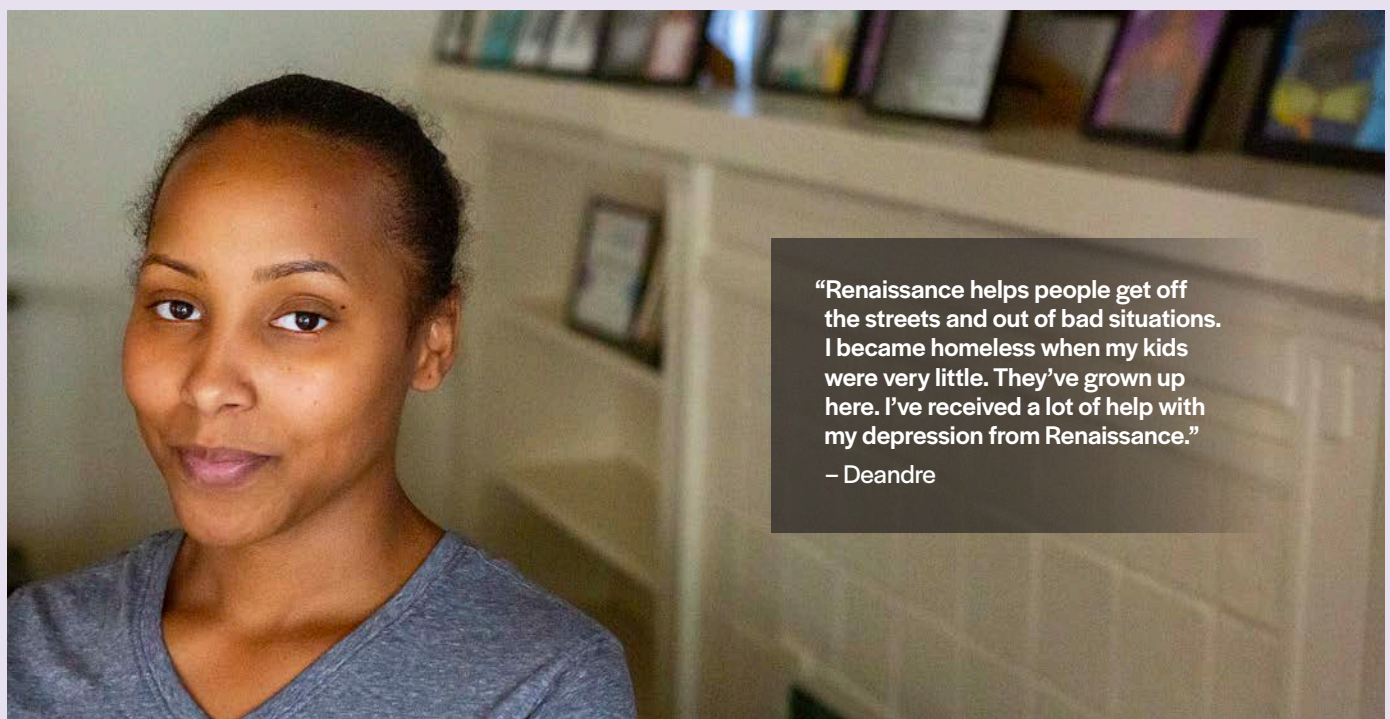
Goal: \$200,000

The Technology Fund will allow Renaissance to update its technology and cybersecurity systems to better support its citywide operations and reduce risk. Renaissance seeks to replace its electronic health records (EHR) system with a state-of-the-art application that will support the delivery of exceptional behavioral health care and social services and facilitate seamless Medicaid billing.

Team Development Fund

Goal: \$100,000

The Team Development Fund will allow Renaissance’s staff to access a wider array of training resources to support their professional development and enable the organization to deliver transformative services to our participants.



“Renaissance helps people get off the streets and out of bad situations. I became homeless when my kids were very little. They’ve grown up here. I’ve received a lot of help with my depression from Renaissance.”

– Deandre



Giving Opportunities

Through the generous support of friends like you, Renaissance will be able to provide access to life-changing housing and services for Chicagoans in crisis.

All donors to **The Campaign for Renaissance** will be recognized on our website and a permanent donor recognition display at our Washington Boulevard headquarters.

Information for Donors and Advisors

Donations pledged to the campaign may be fulfilled over three years.

Any gift can be made as a memorial or honorary donation. Please speak with us about naming opportunities, including:

- Renaissance Forward Fund
- Participant Needs Fund
- Technology Fund
- Team Development Fund

Campaign gifts may be made as outright gifts of cash or securities or as planned gifts, all of which must conform to Renaissance's gift acceptance policy. A supporter 65 years of age or older may receive credit for a confirmed bequest provision or a gift in the form of a life income trust.

A gift of real estate or tangible personal property will be credited at the appraised value of the gift at the time it is made.

Donors wishing to restrict their gifts to specific purposes should explain so in writing when the gift is made.

Donors may fund their donation in a variety of ways, including:

- **Cash** – Most campaign gifts are paid by check, wire transfer, or credit card. Cash gifts are typically the easiest gifts for supporters to make and for the organization to receive. Monthly bank drafts through a bank account or debit card are also available.

- **Securities** – Appreciated assets such as stocks and bonds are a great way to give. Compared with donating cash or selling your appreciated securities and contributing the after-tax proceeds, you may be able to automatically increase your gift and your tax deduction.

- **Other Types of Gifts** – The following types of gifts will be considered, in accordance with our gift acceptance policy, and may offer tax advantages to the donor:

- Qualified Charitable Distributions from Retirement Plans
- Beneficial Interest in Brokerage Accounts
- Real Estate
- Tangible Personal Property
- Life Insurance
- Charitable Lead Trusts

Your contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Renaissance Social Services (FEIN 36-3900116) is a tax-exempt charitable organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Renaissance is proud to have earned the Four-Star Charity rating from Charity Navigator and the Platinum Transparency rating from GuideStar.

Please Contact Us

Thank you for your consideration of our request for support. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the work of Renaissance Social Services and charitable giving opportunities, please contact:

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 srobinson@rssichicago.org, 773-645-8900 ext. 107



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SOCIAL SERVICES

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