

The Greenville Homeless Alliance set out in 2022 to help Greenville County residents better understand what homelessness looks like locally so that our community is equipped to make decisions about policies, practices, and resources that help prevent and end homelessness.

We kicked off the year with our five **Working Groups and Steering Committee** unanimously agreeing on our direction and contributing their time, expertise, and lived experiences to help implement our Strategic Plan. We released the [2021 Report on Homelessness](#) with updates to data, stories, and areas of progress made by Greenville since the initial report released by GHA in 2019. Listening sessions were held with more than 60 different organizations and 120 individuals to develop the [GHA COVID-19 Brief](#) addendum. We held 4 in-person [Stakeholder meetings](#) in partnership with the Upstate Continuum of Care featuring topics including youth homelessness and the tools necessary to build affordable housing. This year also marked our second [iGNITE luncheon](#) showcasing the important role we all have in creating a connected community. The pre-event activities included the release of [GHA's Mythbuster video series](#) and a partnership with GVLtoday that dramatically increased GHA's social media exposure which resulted in growth across all five GHA social media platforms.

Thank you to our Partners and Stakeholders for your contributions. Thank you for recognizing the collective power we have to solve complex issues when we all work together as a connected community.



GHA continues to serve as a convener, connecting organizations and individuals that sometimes aren't even aware of one another, to educate the community, advocate for change, and collaborate to find innovative solutions to help end homelessness.

CONNECTED COMMUNITY

This year's iGNITE luncheon was truly a collaborative effort. It included the unveiling of a collaborative art project created in partnership with Triune Mercy Center's Art Room, an [original poem from local artist Moody Black](#), and [mini-documentaries](#) created by students from Bob Jones University's Department of Cinematic Arts featuring men and women who have experienced homelessness and the direct service organizations that have walked alongside them. There were 14 speakers, 16 volunteers, 6 singers, and more than 76 Partner organizations represented in the event.

Why is this important? Because it is a direct reflection of who the Greenville Homeless Alliance is and what we do. We are a convener, a collaborator, a connector of people, organizations, and ideas with one purpose...to end homelessness for individuals, couples, and families in our community. We invite you to join us in this work. **Educate** the community by hosting one or more of our [Stories of Hope banners](#). **Collaborate** with us by [becoming a Partner](#) or attending a [Stakeholder meeting](#). **Advocate** for change by participating in one of our [Calls to Action](#). **Innovate** solutions by joining one of our Working Groups.

51% ↑
Stakeholders

600+

Volunteer Hours Invested

\$18,000

Value of Volunteer Hours Invested

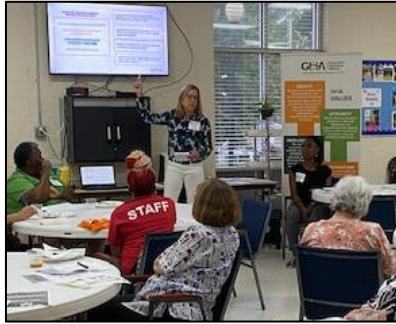


WORKING GROUP HIGHLIGHTS

In 2022, more than 70 stakeholders from 55 different organizations participated in Working Groups. These groups were created to implement GHA's strategic plan. Here are a few highlights:

The **ADVOCATE WORKING GROUP** focused efforts this year on refining the [Advocacy Training Academy](#) curriculum and delivery. They also added a new advocacy workbook for participants. The Academy was developed

to increase the number of local residents who understand and are willing to engage in advocacy that impacts homelessness in Greenville County. In August, the **Sterling Neighborhood Association** hosted



GHA's Advocacy Training Academy at the **Sterling Community Center**. More than thirty neighbors, church partners, and community leaders participated in the session that included insight from **City Councilmember At Large Dorothy Dowe** about advocacy efforts that have been impactful to her as an elected official.



The **INNOVATE WORKING GROUP** focused on **building relationships with the faith community** which increased engagement by 70%. They also **improved the understanding of housing resources** and **potential funding streams** to help

simplify the path to housing stability for individuals, couples, families, and youth experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. Members worked to update the **Housing Resource Guide** ensuring properties near Greenlink routes were noted. In September, they hosted a



Biblical Justice Forum for members of the faith community in Greenville County whose place of worship is in close proximity to one of the 86 Greenville County Schools that had children and their families self report experiencing homelessness during the 2021-22 school year.



The **COLLABORATE WORKING GROUP's** primary goal this year was to begin developing a **Homelessness Resource Guide** to help simplify the path from



homelessness to stability for individuals, couples, families, and youth. This resource will be usable by those experiencing homelessness and be valuable to those who may be walking alongside them, like a librarian or store merchant, by providing key information on how to connect to

resources that help create stability. Data was collected through an extensive survey process which also gathered information used in [GHA's COVID-19 Brief](#).

The **EDUCATE WORKING GROUP** created and produced a [Mythbuster video series and quiz](#) to address common misperceptions about homelessness in our community. They also led the effort to educate and engage a larger community audience by developing a **social media squad** and strategy prior to the 2022 iGNITE luncheon. This effort coupled with a partnership with GVLtoday increased GHA's social media following by 50%.



The **OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE WORKING GROUP** focused efforts in 2022 on working with GHA Staff and Steering Committee to **update and implement a new governance policy** to strengthen the unique role of GHA as convener, collaborator, and connector. Continued focus on Supporting Partners has resulted in a stronger year-to-date financial position.

Thank you to everyone who attended our 2nd annual [iGNITE Luncheon](#) which included 160 people in person at Grace Church and more than 200 virtual viewers. Whether you participated in the program, helped create a tiny painted house, one-of-a-kind ornament, or educational video, were featured in a Story of Hope on a banner, supported us as a sponsor, or attended in-person or virtually, we hope you caught the vision of the power of a connected community. **Many thanks to all the [sponsors](#) that made this event possible.**

This year's event celebrated how GHA Partners and Stakeholders ignite change in our community every day. It featured stories of success from men and women who've experienced homelessness and the organizations that helped them find hope. Speakers also shared ["ignite moments"](#) - the many different ways to engage with GHA and help end homelessness in Greenville County.

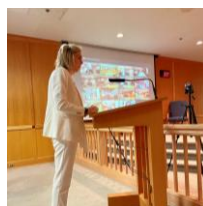
If you weren't able to join us,

- Watch a recording of the event [HERE](#).
- View photos from the event [HERE](#).
- Check out the [STORIES OF HOPE](#) and banners you can display.



MORE 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

- GHA released the [2021 Report on Homelessness](#) in April which provided updates to both data and areas of progress made by Greenville since the initial report released by GHA in 2019. The Report was shared with Councils from all 6 municipalities, Greenville County Council, and the Greenville County School Board of Trustees.
- Findings from listening sessions with more than 60 different organizations and 120 individuals were shared July 28 in the [GHA COVID-19 Brief](#) (an addendum to the 2021 Report on Homelessness).
- GHA sent out 8 [Call to Action emails](#) to encourage stakeholders to engage in advocacy that impacts homelessness in Greenville County. The goal is to ultimately affect policies, practices, and resources in a way that increases options for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in our community.



- GHA worked on [advocacy issues](#) ranging from affordable housing and eviction to fair lending and Homeless Court alongside community partners including Greenville Affordable Housing Coalition, Fair Lending Alliance, Impact Greenville, Greater Greenville Good, and Village Engage.
- GHA [participated in 12 different partnerships and coalitions](#) in Greenville County.
- GHA saw an increase in Partners, Stakeholders, social media engagement, and web inquiries.
- Four quarterly [Stakeholder meetings](#) were held with the Upstate Continuum of Care.
- This year GHA staff and [Partners led more than 50 educational field trips and presentations](#) for local churches, schools, social workers, hospitals, School Improvement Councils, universities, businesses, and elected officials.

THANK YOU SUPPORTING PARTNERS

Thank you to these organizations and individuals that are financially supporting the work of GHA at the level of \$500 or more annually*. For more information about becoming a Supporting Partner, contact Susan McLarty or donate online at www.gvlhomes4all.org/donate.

America's Home Place	Max McClelland
Michael and Beth Andrews	Tish McCutchen
James and Christi Bailey	Miracle Hill Ministries
Albert Blackwell	TealHaus Strategies
Lee Brackett	New Horizon Family Health Services
James M. Bruce III	NHE, Inc.
Buncombe Street UMC	Peggy Stokes Nielson
Christ Church Episcopal	North American Rescue, LLC
Riley Institute's Diversity Leaders Initiative (DLI)	Pacolet Milliken, LLC
Randy and Christy Coffee	Phoenix Center
Rick Conte	Quintero Family Foundation
Stanley Crowe	Grey Register
Taylor Davis	Roper Mountain Animal Hospital
Lawrence Delperdang	Alexander Rosemond
Bob and Nicki Dillon	Saad Resources
Downtown Presbyterian	Tom and Cheri Shumate
Gary and Kacey Eichelberger	Sisters of Charity Foundation
First Baptist Greenville	Southern ID
Fourth Presbyterian Church	Spinks Family Foundation
Dean and Jennifer Fouse Sheorn	Russell Stall
Ned Freeman	St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Brian and Sandy Gearin	The Salvation Army
Jon and Julie Good	TRG Communities
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Matthew K. Johnson Law Firm, LLC	Westminster Presbyterian
R.K. Johnson	Williams Wealth Management
Kellett Family Foundation	Shannan Wren
Lal Family Foundation	Eric and Judy Verhoeven
Kristin Lewis	WYFF
Minnie Mattison	

*This list reflects contributions made from 12/12/21 – 12/12/22.



GHA Steering Committee Members at the 2022 iGNITE Luncheon.



STEERING COMMITTEE

Lauren Stephens, Chair
Director of Social Services
The Salvation Army of Greenville County

Mary Kay Campbell, Vice Chair
Coordinator of Homeless Services
Greater Greenville Mental Health Center

Matthew Johnson, Treasurer
Attorney
Matthew K. Johnson Law Firm, LLC

Brandon Cook, Secretary
Health Care for the Homeless and Medical Respite Program Director
New Horizon Family Health Services, Inc.

Nick Bush
Manager of Place of Hope
United Ministries

Ryan Duerk
President/CEO
Miracle Hill Ministries

Bruce Forbes
Special Projects Manager
SHARE

Jennifer Fouse Sheorn
Pastor and Director
Triune Mercy Center

Nalisha Henry
Vice President of Community Impact
United Way of Greenville County

Kia Keyton
Director of School and Community Engagement
OnTrack Greenville

Stacey Owens
Director of Community Relations
SPINX

Steering Committee Members completing terms in June 2022: Lizzie Bebbler - United Ministries, Tish McCutchen - Jolley Foundation (retired), Scott Turner - Greenville County School District (retired)

GHA STAFF

[Susan McLarty](#), Director
[Heather Gatchell](#), Partner Engagement Dir.

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