



tacoma catholic worker  
beauty & grit: a lookbook  
[2023 annual report]



ZUCCHINI \$1.99/lb  
LOAF OF ZUCCHINI BREAD \$10  
ZUCCHINI BREAD MADE IN 2023 \$150





I cannot tell you how the light comes,  
but that it does.  
That it will.  
That it works its way into the deepest dark  
that enfolds you,  
though it may seem long ages in coming  
or arrive in a shape you did not foresee.

And so,  
may we this day turn ourselves toward it.  
May we lift our faces to let it find us.  
May we bend our bodies to follow the arc it makes.  
May we open and open more and open still  
to the blessed light  
that comes.

- Jan Richardson







Dear community,

People say that the love with which a meal is prepared can be tasted, and I hope that the love with which our work is done can be felt too, and seen in the pages you are holding. We are delighted to be on this journey together, with all its beauty and grit, even when it's difficult, and we are grateful you are on it with us.

Peace be with all of you in the new year.

With love from all of us on G Street.

P.S. In this report, we are exploring the tension between community life—which is abundant, mysterious, and always greater than the sum of its parts—and the ordinary items that help it happen. In the following pages, we've attached the market value of some of these items. What does this contrast evoke for you?







We create community with and for people who have experienced homelessness—a community which is defined by deep respect and mutual belonging, where each person can step into their chosen future. Our central work is transitional housing, and each member of the extended neighborhood community plays a role supporting this work. Our community includes 10 homes including transitional houses, affordable rentals, housing for workers and elders of the community, and a beautiful garden. None of us receives a salary for this work, and we multiply your financial gifts wherever possible by working together to care for the land and buildings ourselves.

We invite people who need a place to stay and who want support in pursuing their goals to move into a room at Guadalupe House. Each journey is unique, and the path from homelessness to stability and safety is seldom straight-forward. Each week we meet with guests to set goals and solve problems. Throughout their stay guests share chores in the house, save a portion of their income for their future, and work on their goals—which often include looking for work, seeking out counseling, paying off debt, and strengthening positive relationships.



**PILLOWS** \$15  
**SUPPLIES** \$30  
**ALARM CLOCK** \$10  
**BLANKETS** \$30  
**TOILETRIES** \$30  
**CARPET/FLOOR** \$200  
**PAINT** \$50  
**ROOM KEYS** \$25

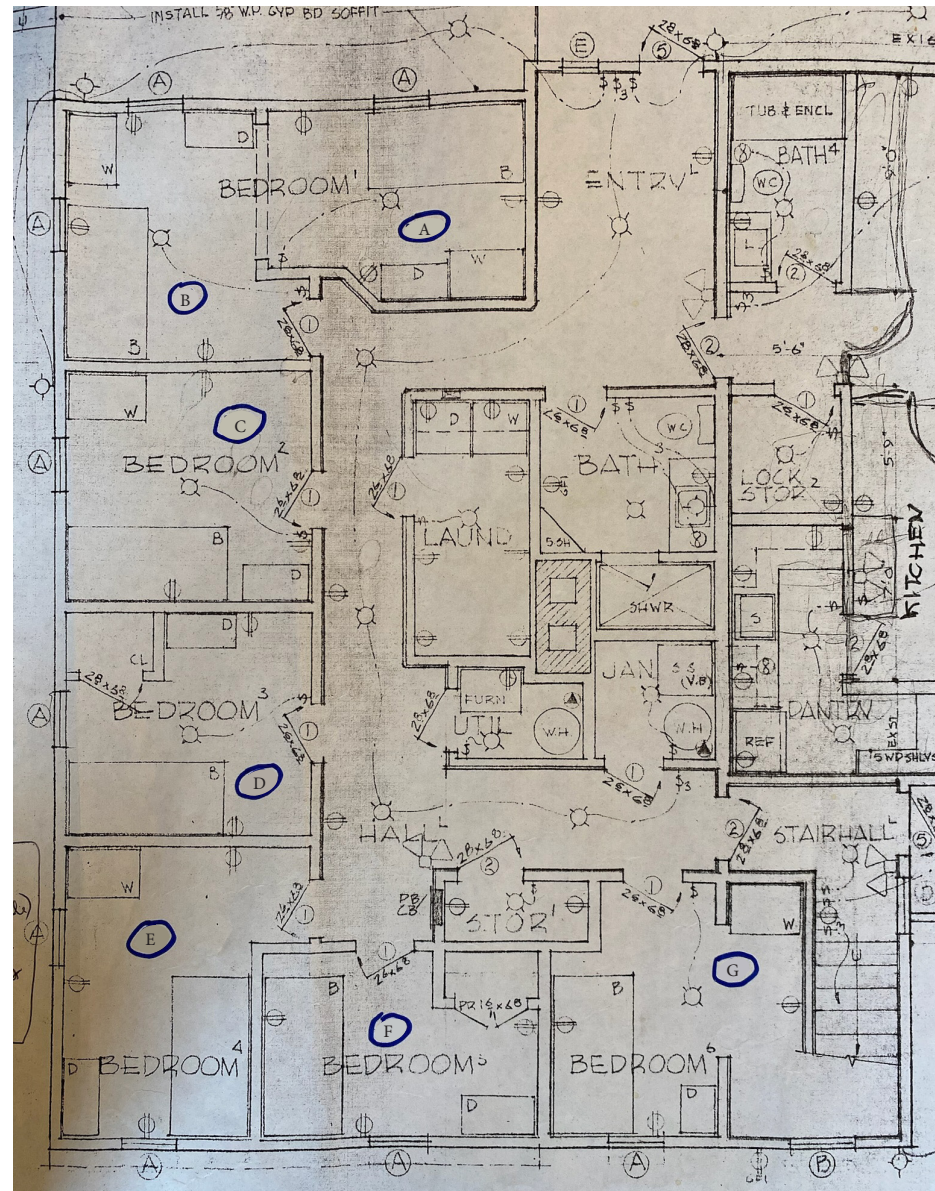


MOTEL FOR 1 NIGHT, AVERAGE \$68  
MOTEL STAY FOR 1 MONTH, AVERAGE \$1950

**GUADALUPE  
HOUSE**



Guests who have completed our program have saved enough money for a deposit along with first and last month's rent, and found a place they can afford. We hope guests leave Guadalupe House with a renewed sense of dignity, agency & their profound worth.





NYCHEN  
HEVS

- A. I haven't seen my son in 8 years, and I don't know when I am going to be able to see him.
- B. La audiencia legal para obtener mi permiso de trabajo es dentro de dos años. Como voy a vivir de aquí a la fecha?
- C. Mis hijos dependen de mi para proveer por medio de envíos de dinero.
- D. Cruzar el río durante el invierno casi nos congela. Me preocupaba no poder lograrlo.
- E. I've been in and out of the hospital all year. I want to keep working, but my body won't let me.
- F. I'm on the waitlist for senior housing and it will take 2 years for a place to open up, in the meantime my income isn't enough for anywhere else.
- G. Se me prometió un buen trabajo, pero cuando llegue me di cuanto que era una situación muy peligrosa y me tuve que ir.

Scan this QR code with your phone for translations.



Every Tuesday members of the extended community share their experience of God. We do this through shared prayer and making new ones. This tradition of Tuesday is passed on, invited, again and again, to practice being present and pray that this practice may continue to move us.





ed community, housed and unhoused, living far and near, have gathered at Guadalupe House to share with each other our shared prayer, food, and fellowship. Every week we open our doors at 5 pm with the intention of welcoming old friends and Tuesday Night Liturgy has been going on for the better part of 34 years. We deeply value this time and space where we are all present to one another. We believe that this practice nourishes our experience of a God who is present to us, as we are. We move us, again and again, to make manifest the works of mercy and justice in our world; to embody the change we wish to see.



APPLES \$2.49/LB  
APPLES PROCESSED IN 2023 \$249

We love storytelling, cups of tea  
But one of the miracles of cooking  
ordinary d  
—of which, lets be honest, t





of tea together, and shared meals.  
of community-building is the

# daily work

est, there is always plenty.



“The work of the world is as common as mud.  
Botched, it smears the hands and crumbles to dust.  
But the thing worth doing, well done  
has a shape that satisfies, clean and evident.”

To Be of Use, Marge Piercy









It is the first time  
in a long time that  
I have had some  
peace and privacy.

My job pays enough to cover  
rent, but this is the only  
way I can save enough for a  
deposit on my own place.







Now that I don't have to worry about where I will spend the night, I can focus on getting a job.

Managing medical appointments was impossible living in my car. I can finally take care of my health.

# FURNACES AND TRUCKS THAT HELP

October 2022–October 2023



A. GROCERIES AND HOUSEHOLD NEEDS \$3,720  
B. UTILITIES \$24,350



C

C. GARDEN \$1,130  
D. MAINTENANCE \$64,000



D

E. COMMUNITY VEHICLE \$4,800  
F. OPERATIONS \$4,800



# SOCKS AND OTHER THINGS HELP US GO

October 2023 Expenses

E



H



F



I



G



J



**VEHICLE EXPENSES** \$2,900  
\$4,800

**G. BUILDING RENTAL** \$4,800  
**H. INSURANCE** \$25,530

**I. PROPERTY TAXES** \$9,210  
**J. MAILINGS AND FUNDRAISING EVENTS** \$6,200

In so many ways we are living with wild abundance: abundance of purpose, of connection, of community. And an abundance of hope, born out of seeing what can happen when we do what we can, together, right where we are. "Holy Socks!" Bix would be saying. The miracle of community continues.

And our Catholic Worker Community continues because of you—your help and support. People who need a safe place to live are counting on us. Something so much greater than the sum of its parts, really needs each and every one of its parts to be that whole. There is something beautiful and improbable that continues to thrive on G Street, which still relies on your support. For each utility bill, furnace technician's time, or jar of spaghetti sauce, there is someone like you who has supported this mission. Whether it is enough for a bag of onions or covering the entire maintenance bill for the year, we hope you will consider supporting us in 2024.

None of this could happen without the care and support of a wide circle of friends; you are a vital part of our miraculous whole. Thank you.





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