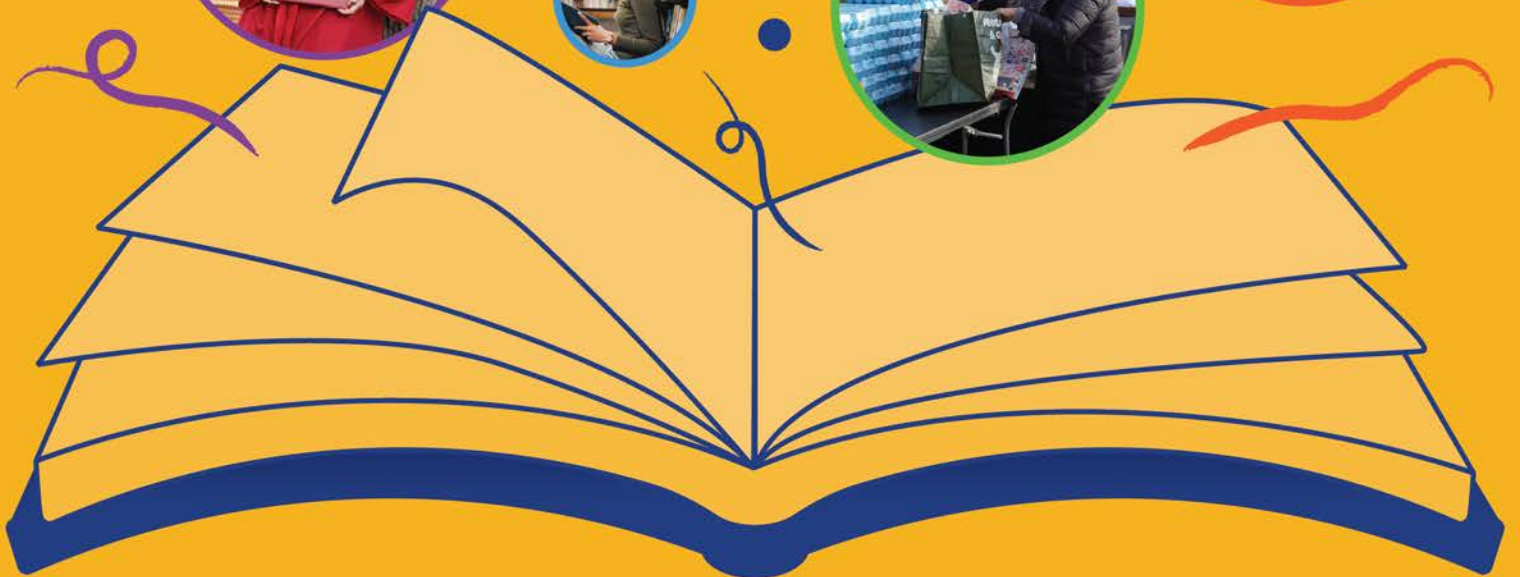


FISCAL YEAR

# 2024 Annual Report

## A NEW CHAPTER FOR SECOND STORY



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jonathan Higgins, Board President  
*Founders Bank*

Kathy Barnes, Board Vice President  
*Watt, Tieder, Hoffar & Fitzgerald, LLP*

Sharon Roman, Board Secretary  
*JMR512, Inc.*

Todd Mayman, Board Treasurer  
*TEGNA (Retired)*

## MEMBERS

Craig Adler  
*Avenu Insights & Analytics*

Rabab Butti  
*Fannie Mae (Retired)*

Aparna Chanda  
*Capital One (Retired)*

Jim Cotton  
*PenFed Credit Union (Retired)*

Jeff Craven  
*Bailey Glasser, LLP*

Kevin Davis  
*Consultant*

Kim Dize  
*Able Moving & Storage*

Melissa Busby Fernlund  
*MBF Marketing and Media Relations  
Consulting, LLC*

Camilo Garcia  
*DPR Construction*

Burt Heacock  
*Paul-Tittle Associates, Inc.*

Frank James  
*WilmerHale*

Shirvan Joseph  
*FitzGerald Financial Group*

Lisa Moffett  
*Coldwell Banker*

Adrienne Rosenbaum  
*DPR Construction*

Cory Scott  
*Macerich*

Jill Weeter  
*EY*

Karen Wirz  
*Karen Wirz, LLC*

## ADVISORY MEMBERS

Catherine Ahearn  
*Tyson's Creamery*

Steven Alloy  
*Stanley Martin Homes*

Jeremy Krasner  
*Stout*

Amy Sanborn Owen  
*QIA Consultants, LLC*

## YOUTH BOARD MEMBERS

Diana Reyes Morales

Meaghan Shepherd

## OUR MISSION

Second Story transforms the lives of children, youth, and their families by providing safe havens and opportunities for them to grow and thrive. Our programs provide support at critical turning points in their lives.

## A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Dear Friends,

I am honored to write to you for the first time as CEO of Second Story. This role is both a privilege and a responsibility, and I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity to continue the important work we've been doing together.

First, I want to acknowledge the incredible legacy of my predecessor, Judith Dittman. For 30 years, Judith led Second Story with unwavering dedication, expanding our mission from a single program to the diverse services we offer today and I'm privileged to carry that work forward.

This leadership transition has been possible thanks to the steadfast support of our Board, with a combined 137 years of service, and our leadership team, with 70 years of experience. Many of our supporters have been with us since our founding in 1972. Though I officially became CEO on January 1, 2025, I've been with Second Story for 16 years, most recently spending the past year shadowing Judith to ensure a smooth transition and a strong, sustainable future for the organization.

When I first joined Second Story, my goal was simple - to give back to young people who reminded me of myself. I began as a volunteer in our after-school programs, and in January 2009, I officially joined the organization. Since then, I've taken on roles ranging from supporting program coordinators to leading outreach, fundraising, and marketing efforts, and more recently, working alongside Judith to guide our strategic direction.

Throughout my time here, I've met many community members and partners eager to help the youth and families we serve. They understand that not all young people start life on equal footing. They have compassion for those facing crises, trauma, and hardship that make achieving dreams and goals even harder. Without stability - especially housing - it's nearly impossible to work toward independence and success. The many societal barriers young people face, especially without proper support and mentorship, often push survival to the forefront. Too many young people in this situation settle for low-paying jobs, watching their educational aspirations fade into the background.

The challenges our youth face today are alarming - exposure to drugs, violence, prostitution, domestic abuse, and mental health struggles. Social media has amplified these issues. These concerns demand our attention, and Second Story is committed to valuing the input and experiences of our local youth and providing the support they need.

As we move forward, we face rising operating costs, a shifting federal landscape, and tighter funding. Yet, Second Story has faced and overcome challenges before, and our 53 years of experience will continue to guide us. Our dedicated staff, the unwavering support of our Board, and the commitment of our community partners will help us navigate these times and stay true to our mission. Now, more than ever, your support is crucial. Together, we have the power to make a lasting impact on the lives of those who need us most - empowering youth, strengthening families, and uplifting our entire community.

**Jade Leedham**  
Second Story CEO



## CONTACT US

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[www.second-story.org](http://www.second-story.org)

Listen to our podcast, Second Stories, on all listening platforms.

Follow @secondstoryorg on:



For help call 1-800-SAY-TEEN or text TEENHELP 855-11 to reach a live counselor.

# OUR PROGRAMS



## SECOND STORY FOR TEENS IN CRISIS

Second Story for Teens in Crisis is a completely voluntary program for young people 13 to 17 years old. In addition to safe shelter, food, and clothing, each teen receives intensive individual, group, and family counseling and help keeping up with their education.



## SECOND STORY FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

Second Story for Homeless Youth helps high school students and youth experiencing homelessness with housing, counseling, and other services.



## SECOND STORY FOR YOUNG MOTHERS

Second Story for Young Mothers provides housing, counseling, and other services to young mothers experiencing homelessness so they can learn to support themselves and their children. They focus on parenting skills, education, job readiness, and self-sufficiency.



## SECOND STORY IN THE COMMUNITY

Second Story serves the communities of Culmore, Annandale, and Springfield through Family Resource Centers, Safe Youth Projects, and a Teen Center. Second Story also proudly serves as the lead agency for the Bailey's Crossroads area as part of Opportunity Neighborhoods (ON). Through ON, we work alongside residents, government, public schools, and other partners to elevate community voices, provide training, and deliver resources to the community.

## MEET ADDISON

As a young mother of two children, "Addison" took the brave step of walking away from a physically abusive relationship with her children's father. By escaping the abuse, she also had to walk away from financial stability. Addison found herself without a safe place to stay, without a job, and without a way to support her daughters. She turned to Second Story for Homeless Youth for help and to avoid moving into an adult homeless shelter with her young girls.

Through our program, Addison received rental assistance and moved her family into an apartment. Once she was out of harm's way, she could begin planning for the future. First, she started attending regular therapy sessions with our counselors to mentally heal from the violence she had endured. Then, we helped her secure childcare so she could attend class and get back on track with her educational goals. She met regularly with her case manager to set financial and career goals and participated in life skills sessions. She learned how to budget, save for the future, apply for a job, succeed in interviews, make healthy choices, and more.

Before long, Addison secured a job that allowed her to save enough money to eventually afford rent on her own and provide for her children. It won't be easy, but Addison feels better equipped to handle the challenges ahead.

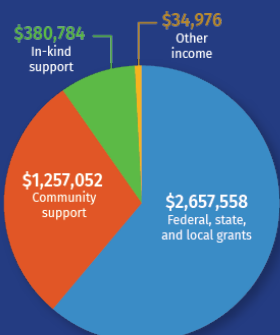


*"Addison's" name and photograph have been changed to protect her privacy.*

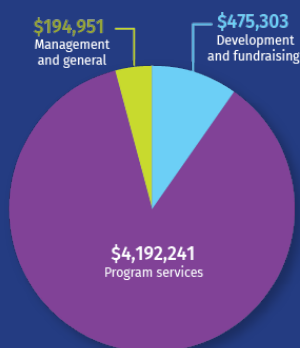
# RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

## FUNDING

### WHERE OUR FUNDING COMES FROM



### WHERE OUR FUNDING GOES



414

VOLUNTEERS

18,153

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Proud to earn a 100% rating from Charity Navigator!



## SECOND STORY FOR YOUNG MOTHERS

- 8 mothers and their 11 children housed
- 126 youth received counseling, baby equipment, or other supplies
- 87.5% obtained a diploma or GED
- 100% of mothers improved their parenting skills
- 100% exited to a safe situation

## SECOND STORY FOR TEENS IN CRISIS

- 77 youth housed
- 90% exited to a safe situation
- 1,002 bed nights
- 100% received daily counseling
- 275 hotline calls



## SECOND STORY FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

### TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM

- 10 youth housed
- 100% exited to safe situations
- 23 youth received case management and other services
- 94% were employed or in school more than 30 hours per week

### FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS/ HY1 YOUTH

- 12 youth and their 2 children housed
- 48 youth received case management and other services
- 100% exited to a safe situation
- 100% of eligible seniors graduated

### RAPID RE-HOUSING

- 24 young adults and their 11 children served
- 75% gained or increased income
- Average length of stay: 425 days
- 100% exited to a safe situation



# COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

## SAFE YOUTH PROJECTS & CULMORE TEEN CENTER

- 412 students served
- 19 high school seniors graduated
- 5,200 individual tutoring sessions
- 10,800 meals provided

## FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS

- 18,105 food distributions
- 19,327 drop-in consultations
- 1,640 community members attended events

895 backpacks distributed

## OPPORTUNITY NEIGHBORHOODS (ON)

- 145 community members attended financial literacy classes
- 542 participated in health literacy classes
- 240 attended local government community conversations
- 2,640 participated in food distribution events

The data included in this report comes from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Second Story is grateful for funding provided by Fairfax County Consolidated Community Funding Pool, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Housing and supportive services are provided to eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, familial status, or handicap, and particularly to those who were least likely to apply in the absence of special outreach.