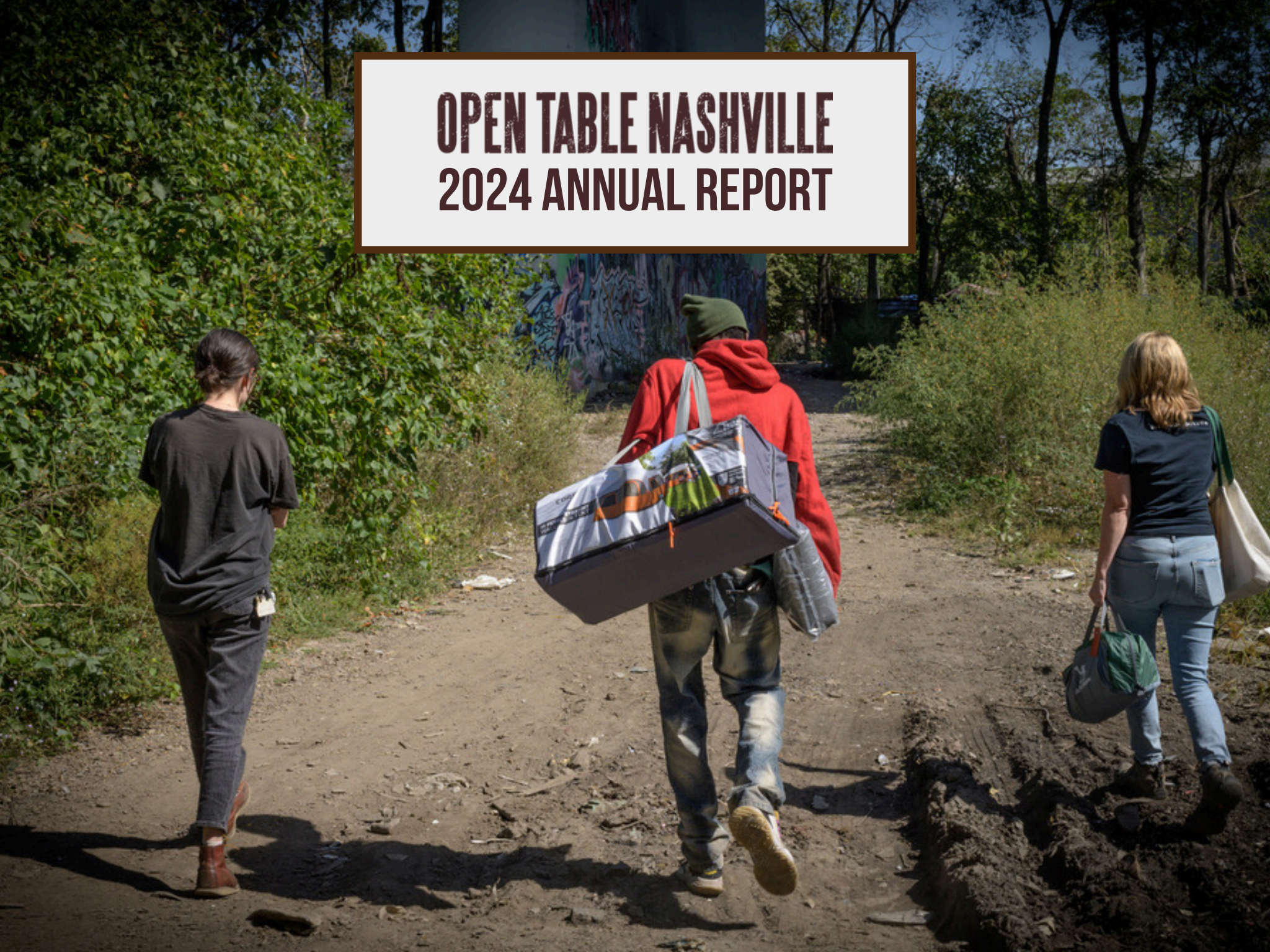


# OPEN TABLE NASHVILLE 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Last year was a difficult year for our organization. As I reflect back on our previous year, it's hard not to immediately think of last summer when we made the decision to reduce the size of our staff. Despite what was a financially challenging year, OTN remained committed to providing services with excellence. Less staff never meant a reduction in the quality of our services. When you are a service provider and responding to folks who are in crisis, it's hard to admit capacity is lower. Many who work in this field give so much of themselves to the work. It's actually one of the things I love so much about leading the team at OTN. The staff I have the privilege of leading care so deeply about the work we are doing. Compassion, solidarity, and meeting people with dignity is a natural outpouring of who they are. I am in awe of them. Who else could spend countless hours on hold with the food stamp office or the social security office if you didn't care deeply about what happens on the other end of those calls?

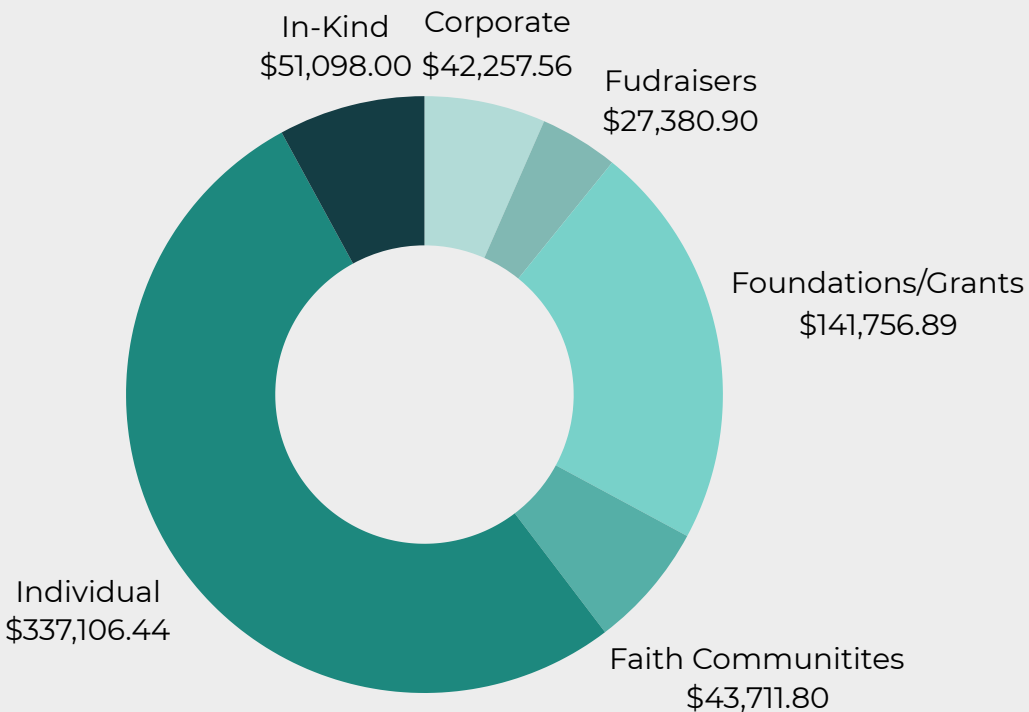
Our impact in the broader community does not happen without the staff who pour countless hours and energy into living out the mission of OTN. Our team deepened partnerships with local, regional, and national organizations and expanded our advocacy work to the national level. Our team is present when folks unlock the door to their own apartment after living on the streets for years. They've witnessed people putting a new set of dishes into their own kitchen cabinets. It is an honor to witness what seems like a small thing, but in reality, is a person having their life stabilized again.

We are already making strides towards getting back to where we want to be. Of course, that's in large part to the generosity of people like you, who are taking the time to read this report. Thank you for being on the journey with us. For believing in our mission and supporting the work we are doing. We cannot do it without you.

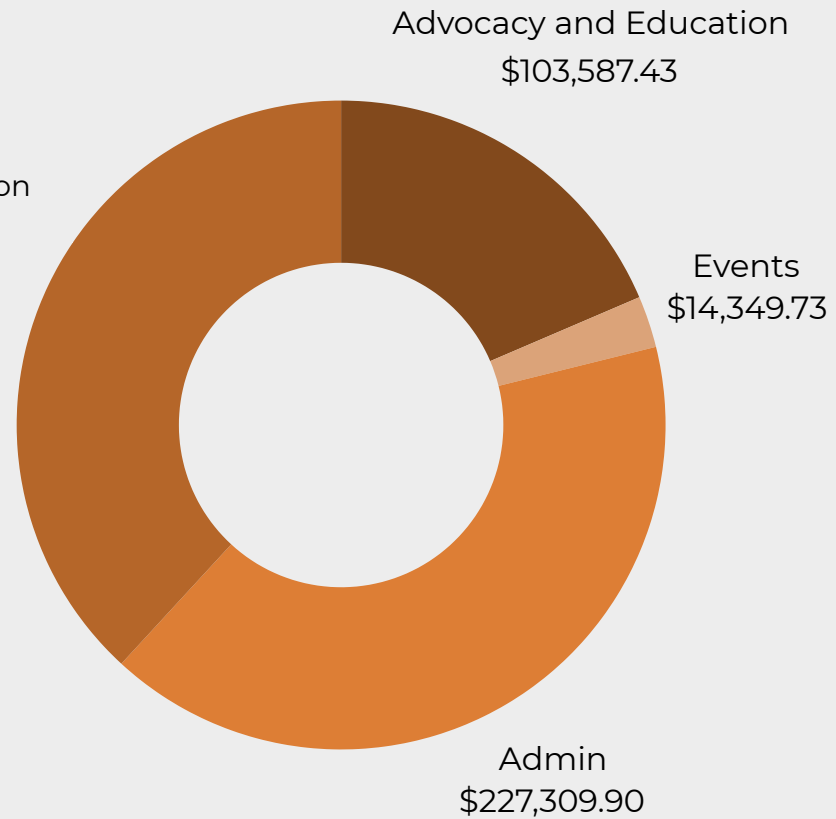
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allie Wallace". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*Open Table Nashville Executive Director*

# 2024 FINANCIALS



Street Outreach  
& Housing Navigation  
\$213,005.46



# HOUSING. HEALING. HOPE.

*In 2024, we continued to provide housing, healing, and hope through our **Street Outreach and Housing, Advocacy, and Education** programs.*



# STREET OUTREACH AND HOUSING NAVIGATION

Open Table Nashville remains committed to meeting people where they are, on their terms, to develop authentic relationships built on trust, dignity, and solidarity. We journey with folks, navigating a complex web of social services and resources. Our outreach team takes on multiple roles daily— one day may look like supply distribution to a camp, the next looks like filling out applications for housing. The care we provide is individualized to each person we are working with. The process to house a person can be long and arduous but we stay with people every step of the way.

# OUTREACH AND HOUSING IMPACT

5,181

OUTREACH  
CALLS  
RESPONDED TO

68

DOCUMENTS  
ORDERED

OVER  
1,800

OUTREACH  
SUPPLIES  
DISTRIBUTED

20

SECURED  
HOUSING

79 PEOPLE SIGNED  
UP FOR SNAP

16

EVICCTIONS  
PREVENTED

27  
VOUCHER  
RECERTIFICATIONS

322 RIDES GIVEN

OVER  
4,600

MEALS DISTRIBUTED

149

POST  
HOUSING  
VISITS

29

ONGOING HOUSING  
SUPPORT

***“Having my own place has been the biggest blessing ever. I don’t have to sleep outside anymore and worry about freezing to death, or someone trying to hurt you on the streets. If it wasn’t for India and Open Table Nashville, I’d still probably be homeless. I can’t thank them enough.”***

— Scott, housed in July 2024

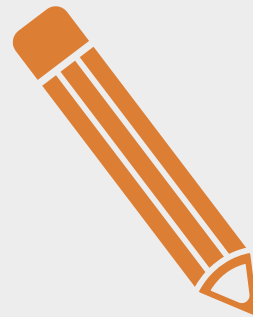
# EDUCATION

Here at Open Table Nashville we believe deeply in the power of education and learning together in community. Since our inception, we have taken the time to develop and offer trainings and education sessions framed in a systemic analysis of homelessness. We know that in order to break cycles of poverty, we must first understand these cycles. We love having the opportunity to provide these sessions to the broader Nashville community and remain committed to always centering the voices and experiences of those with lived experience of homelessness.



**24**

GROUPS  
RECEIVED  
EDUCATION



**1,230**

INDIVIDUALS  
RECEIVED  
EDUCATION





# ADVOCACY

We know that providing safe, dignified, and accessible housing is the only solution to ending homelessness. Even so, we are witnessing troubling and increasing trends across our country that would rather seek cruel and punitive measures against people who simply cannot afford a place to call their own. We will never arrest our way out of homelessness, and we will continue to fight for solutions-based approaches because everyone deserves a safe place to call home. We continue to support greater investments in the creation of affordable housing and will never stop fighting unjust policies that harm the most vulnerable among us!

# ADVOCACY IMPACT



**78** PARTICIPANTS FROM **28** CITIES

MET WITH **65** LEGISLATORS AT OUR

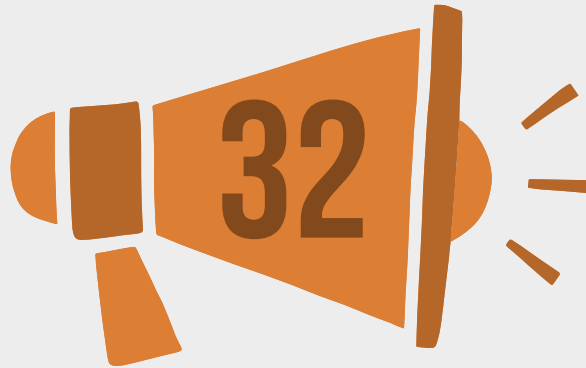
SECOND DAY ON THE HILL FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

**533**

MEMBERS OF THE  
TN SOLIDARITY NETWORK FOR  
HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

**52**

ADVOCACY  
LETTERS  
WRITTEN



PUBLIC MEETINGS,  
LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS,  
AND PUBLIC ACTIONS  
ATTENDED

WE PARTICIPATED IN  
MONTHLY POLICY  
CALLS FOR **TWO**  
NATIONAL COHORTS

# JOHNSON V. GRANT'S PASS

In April 2024, the Supreme Court heard the most significant homelessness-related bill in decades.

Grants Pass, Oregon v. Johnson would decide if it is constitutional to ticket, fine, or arrest people who are unhoused for sleeping outside with a pillow or blanket, even when there are not enough shelter beds available in that community.

OTN was invited to work on an Amicus Brief in partnership with the National Homelessness Law Center, Community Solutions, Pathways to Housing DC, and a pro bono legal team.



The purpose of the brief was to call attention to the immensely damaging impacts of criminalizing homelessness. The brief combined research and data around solutions to homelessness with real-life examples of the barriers faced by people we work with who have experienced homelessness.

# JOHNSON V. GRANT'S PASS

## *(Continued)*

When it was time for the justices to hear oral arguments of the case, we were able to travel to DC to join activists, organizers, and advocates from across the country to participate in a rally held on the steps of the Supreme Court building. In June, SCOTUS released its ruling: they ruled to overturn Grants Pass, thereby setting a precedent that anti-camping laws could continue to be passed AND enforced even if the availability of housing and shelter beds was not sufficient.

We know that allowing communities to respond to our housing crisis by punishing people with nowhere else to go will do nothing to effectively end homelessness.

While the Supreme Court has ruled what communities can do, this is not a mandate. Communities don't have to turn to policies that are cruel and ineffective. Our hope remains in the power of people who come together to resist injustice. **We will continue to organize, mobilize, and support one another to build a world where everyone has what they need to thrive.**



# VOLUNTEERS

We know the work we do is not possible without the commitment and support of our volunteers. Whether they are delivering food boxes, participating in foot clinic, or sorting donations at our office, they do so with dedication and passion! We are especially thankful for the numerous volunteers who put in extra time and care in the winter months on Nashville's coldest nights. These individuals choose to spend their evenings scouring the downtown area to make sure folks are taken care of and know their shelter options for the night. Brutal temperatures do not stop our canvassing volunteers and we are so grateful for them!

**191**  
VOLUNTEERS



**539**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

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