



Opening doors to housing and recovery.

## OPCS Grant Request Summary



Our outreach team connects unsheltered Individuals to housing, supportive services, medical assistance, and other resources.



Christina & Josh became homeless due to Josh's illness. The Home Fund paid for their Section 8 Housing move-in fees. They now have a place to call home!



Our Home Fund helps us provide a sense of normalcy to families experiencing homelessness. It also helps kids be kids. The OPCS's Home Funds assists families achieve housing stability.

OPCS is a Tucson-based nonprofit serving Pima County since 1996. We provide housing, counseling and support services to people experiencing homelessness in our community. We serve close to 2,000 households a year including veterans, families, youth, individuals struggling with mental illness and substance use disorders, and those reentering our community post-incarceration. We follow an evidence-based "Housing First" approach which centers on quickly moving people from homelessness to permanent housing, and provide them additional support and services as needed.

The Rotary Club of Tucson's support is more critical now than ever. The Covid-19 pandemic combined with a severe shortage of affordable housing has caused an alarming increase in homelessness in our community. The 2022 Point in Time Count identified a total of 2,227 persons experiencing homelessness. This includes 1,649 people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and 578 people experiencing sheltered homelessness. Unsheltered homelessness is on the rise, increasing by 1,773% from 2018 to 2021.

We are requesting support for OPCS's Home Fund, a program established to ensure that individuals not eligible for government funded programs can access shelter services. Further, it can cover the Section 8 move-in housing fees that are not paid by HUD. Last fiscal year we served a total of 2046 individuals, 818 (40%) of which exited to permanent housing. The Home Fund provided 250 of these individuals the opportunity to find their way home, gain employment, and improve their quality of life.

<p><b>Home Fund 2021 Impact</b></p>  <p><b>250</b> Individuals Served</p>	<p><b>Type of Assistance</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div data-bbox="760 1249 868 1354">  <p><b>62%</b> Permanent Housing</p> </div> <div data-bbox="917 1249 1023 1354">  <p><b>31%</b> Shelter Services</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1079 1249 1185 1354">  <p><b>18%</b> Employment Support</p> </div> </div>			<p><i>"OPCS helped me get my life back.</i></p> <p><i>No... OPCS opened the door for me to get my life back."</i></p> <p><b>Phillip</b>, Former Client</p>
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- ◆ **Shelter/Transitional Housing Services:** Covers the cost for lodging, food, utilities, internet, cleaning supplies, toiletries, housing manager, etc.
- ◆ **Permanent Housing Support:** Covers the cost for Section 8 Housing application fees and deposits, utility connection, prior eviction penalty fees, back rent, beds, basic household items. It also pays for children and expecting mother's needs.
- ◆ **Employment Support:** Pays for work clothes & tools, ID's, computers, training, etc.

Homelessness in our community continues to increase and so do requests for Home Fund assistance. For 2023, we not only expect to serve 350 + individuals (40% more) but also an increase in shelter costs and Section 8 housing fees. By stabilizing people through shelter, moving them into permanent housing, and implementing assistance programs to help keep them housed, we can not only reduce, but eliminate, homelessness in Pima County.