

A&G FOUNDATION

Testimony Impact Report | 2023–2024

Voices of Change: Stories from Our Community

Prepared for Our Donors & Supporters
www.aghelps.org | (908) 867-8069

A Message from Our Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Every number in this report represents a person — a neighbor, a parent, a veteran, a child — whose life was transformed because of your generosity. As we reflect on the 2023–2024 program year, we are humbled by the profound ripple effect our community's investment continues to create.

A&G Foundation exists because of a simple belief: everyone deserves a safe place to call home, the support to live with dignity, and a community that stands beside them. This year, that belief translated into real, measurable change for hundreds of individuals and families across our region.

The testimonies in this report are real. The struggles are real. And because of you, the victories are real too. From individuals with disabilities finding independence to families breaking cycles of housing instability, your partnership has made this work possible.

We are also proud to highlight the extraordinary contributions of our volunteers, whose time and dedication extend our reach far beyond what staff alone could accomplish. They are the heartbeat of our organization.

Thank you for believing in this work.

With gratitude,

Nicolette Vanterpool

Executive Director, A&G Foundation

About A&G FOUNDATION Community Services

A&G Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing comprehensive social services and housing support to vulnerable populations in our region.

Our mission is to empower individuals and families experiencing crisis to achieve housing stability, personal independence, and long-term well-being — with dignity and compassion at every step.

400+

People Served

94%

Housing Retention Rate

\$90,00+

Community Impact
Value

5,000+

Volunteer Hours

Our programming reaches three primary subgroups whose needs, strengths, and stories shape everything we do. This report shares impact data and first hand testimonies from individuals with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness, and the dedicated volunteers who make our work possible.

Subgroup 1: Individuals with Disabilities

For many individuals living with physical, developmental, or cognitive disabilities, access to safe, affordable, and accessible housing is among the greatest barriers to independent living. A&G Foundation & Housing Program bridges that gap through individualized case management, housing navigation, adaptive living support, and peer mentorship.

In 2023–2024, our team worked alongside 164 individuals with disabilities — helping them secure stable housing, access benefit programs, develop daily living skills, and connect with their communities in meaningful ways.



Client Testimony: Marcus, Age 34

Marcus was referred to our program following a traumatic brain injury that left him unable to live independently. With no family support and a maze of benefit applications ahead of him, he felt lost. Over eight months, our case manager worked with Marcus to secure accessible housing, connect him to a peer mentor with similar lived experience, and navigate his SSI application.

"I had given up on thinking I could ever have my own place again. My case worker didn't give up on me. Now I have an apartment, a job coach, and I'm actually looking forward to things. That's something I hadn't felt in years."

— Marcus D., Program Participant, June 2024

Program Highlights

This year we expanded our Peer Mentor Program, training 14 individuals with disabilities as certified peer support specialists. Peer mentors provided 1,860 hours of guidance, emotional support, and practical assistance to fellow participants — a model proven to significantly improve long-term housing stability and well-being outcomes.

Subgroup 2: People Experiencing Homelessness

Homelessness in our community has complex roots — job loss, domestic violence, mental health crises, substance use challenges, and systemic gaps in affordable housing. A&G Foundation, prioritizing immediate placement into stable housing before addressing other life challenges.

In 2023–2024, we served 139 individuals experiencing homelessness through emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing pathways. Our average time from intake to housing placement was 47 days — down from 68 days in the prior year.



Client Testimony: Denise, Age 47

Denise had been sleeping in her car for four months when a hospital social worker connected her to our rapid rehousing program. She had lost her apartment after a medical emergency wiped out her savings. Within three weeks of intake, Denise was placed in a furnished unit with rental assistance and paired with a financial wellness coach.

"The night I slept in a real bed again, I cried for an hour. Not from sadness — from relief. These people saw me as a whole person, not just a problem to solve. They helped me build back something I thought I had lost forever: my self-respect."

— Denise R., Rapid Rehousing Participant, October 2023

Systems Change & Advocacy

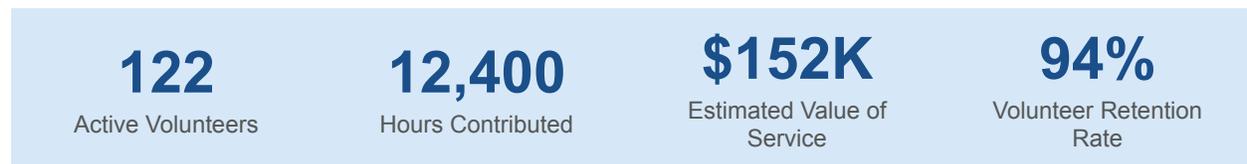
Beyond direct services, our team participated in 10 community coalition meetings, testified at three local budget hearings. We believe lasting change requires not only serving individuals in crisis but reshaping the systems that create that crisis in the first place.

Subgroup 3: Volunteers — The Heart of Our Mission

A&G's Foundation work would not be possible without the dedication of our volunteer community. In 2023–2024, 112 individual volunteers contributed 12,400 hours of service — the equivalent of more than 9 full-time staff positions. Their skills, compassion, and commitment amplify everything we do.

Volunteers serve in a wide range of roles: direct client support, administrative assistance, facility maintenance, tutoring, fundraising, mentoring, and community outreach. Many volunteers have

themselves been served by our programs and come back to give others the same chance they received.



Volunteer Testimony: James, Age 62

James retired from a 30-year career in construction management and came to A&G Foundation looking for a way to stay connected to his community. He now leads a monthly home repair and maintenance crew of 12 volunteers, helping ensure that formerly homeless individuals in our transitional housing units have safe, functional living spaces.

"I thought retirement would feel like freedom. Instead, it felt empty. Coming here changed that. When I fix a leaky faucet in someone's first apartment after years of homelessness, and I see the look on their face — that's the most meaningful work I've ever done. And I built skyscrapers."

— James K., Lead Maintenance Volunteer, January 2024

Volunteer Testimony: Aaliyah, Age 24

Aaliyah, a graduate student, joined as a tutor. What began as a field placement became a weekly commitment she has now maintained for 18 months.

"Watching a child go from hating reading to asking me what book comes next — there are no words. These kids don't need pity; they need consistency and someone who shows up. I'm just glad I get to be that person."

— Aaliyah M., Hope Scholars Tutor, April 2024

Your Support Changes Everything

Each testimony in this report represents a turning point — a moment when someone's life shifted from crisis toward stability. Those moments don't happen by accident. They happen because donors like you believe that everyone deserves a chance.

As we look to 2025, we are committed to deepening our impact: expanding our disability peer mentor program, launching a second family stabilization site, and developing new partnerships to shorten the path from homelessness to permanent housing.

With your continued support, these goals are within reach.

2023–2024 By the Numbers	How Your Dollar Works
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ 400+ individuals and family members served✓ 164 individuals with disabilities connected to housing✓ 122 volunteers contributing 5,000+ hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$25 One week of case management support\$50 Emergency housing supplies for a family\$100 One month of tutoring for a child\$250 Rental assistance deposit contribution\$500 Six months of peer mentor support\$1,000 Full housing navigation for one individual

To make a gift or learn more about our work, visit www.aghelps.org | Donate by phone: (908) 908-8069

A&G Foundation Community Services is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit. EIN: 41-2586034. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.