It takes courage, risk, and a lot of faith to believe in something different for our world and our neighborhood.”

— Bonnie Neumeier, OTRCH Resident Board Member
There are so many people living in Over-the-Rhine, some of whom have been here for decades, who are doing things every day to make their community better, not just for themselves, but also for their neighbors.”

– Hayley Huge, Miami University Residency Program Student, Class of 2016
Linda thought she was done raising children, but when she got the call asking her to take custody of her three grandchildren, Robin, Will, and Amoz, she responded with a resounding “YES!” Linda could embrace this unexpected challenge because she lives in a stable, affordable home that doesn’t cause her undue financial stress. Amoz is leaving for college in a few weeks, a testament to the hard work he put in under his grandmother’s watchful eye and roof. Will looks up to his brother and is following his footsteps. Robin holds Linda’s hand when they walk down the streets of OTR. Their grandmother is the epicenter of their home and invites joy and purpose into all that they do together. Instead of feeling overwhelmed with anxiety over how to make enough money to keep her grandkids safe and supported, Linda’s moments are spent holding Robin’s hand as she listens to her talk about her day at school.

— Sophia Cunningham, Youth Development Coordinator

The challenge of affordable housing is easy to grasp—affordable rent is lower than the cost of developing and maintaining an apartment. Our residents make important contributions to society, but many of them do not earn a living wage.
Preserving Affordability in Pendleton

Over-the-Rhine Community Housing develops new properties and rehabilitates existing properties to provide high-quality affordable options for our residents and commercial tenants. In 2016, OTRCH rehabilitated existing affordable housing in the Pendleton area through the Cutter Apartments project in partnership with Wallick Communities.

Importance to the Neighborhood:
All units in Cutter Apartments are subsidized by a project-based subsidy through HUD. This subsidy allows residents to pay 30% of their adjusted gross income on rent and utilities. These buildings were renovated in the 1990’s, but were in desperate need of improvement to meet today’s living and safety standards. This affordable housing will be preserved for another 30 years, which is critical as the Pendleton neighborhood has recently seen an increase in market rate development near the new casino.

New Projects in 2017!
OTRCH was one of 7 organizations in the state of Ohio to have two or more projects selected to receive Low Income Housing Tax Credits in 2016. The Ohio Housing Finance Agency selected only 42 projects out of 93 applications and OTRCH received two of the awards! OTRCH is excited to start construction on both projects (Morgan Apartments and Carrie’s Place) this year.
As part of our mission, Over-the-Rhine Community Housing endeavors to ensure that residents have a say in organizational governance. OTRCH resident Bridgette Burbanks said, “OTRCH gave me my very first apartment. They even gave me the opportunity to be a resident board member. Thank you so much for believing in me.”
“Having this apartment has been a blessing, because sometimes I struggle - it gets hard having 5 kids and trying to work. I don’t like asking for help, which sometimes puts me in bad situations, but I get past it and get to work. I love my apartment.”

– Stacey, OTRCH Resident

RESIDENT SERVICES

A Safe, Dignified, Affordable Apartment is Only the Beginning

During a period of homelessness, Stacey and her five children found themselves in a shelter. Without a kitchen, how could Stacey make her kids breakfast before sending them off to school? Without a quiet place to study, how would they be able to finish their homework? Without a home, these everyday activities become overwhelmingly difficult. In 2013, they finally found a safe, dignified, affordable apartment on E. Clifton. Stacey’s family has flourished with the support of affordable housing. With this vital safety net, she could secure employment and stay in a neighborhood she loves.

Stacey lives near Findlay Market where she and her family are greeted with friendly, familiar faces each time they shop. She uses public transportation to get to work, so living in a neighborhood where the bus is accessible is important. Stacey and her family feel safe in their apartment, and she says she is grateful to be a resident of OTRCH.

“Having this apartment has been a blessing, because sometimes I struggle - it gets hard having 5 kids and trying to work. I don’t like asking for help, which sometimes puts me in bad situations, but I get past it and get to work. I love my apartment.”

– Stacey, OTRCH Resident

At Over-the-Rhine Community Housing, we are focused on ensuring affordable housing for low-income residents and providing supportive services that improve their quality of life. Our resident services staff works with residents on an individual basis to help them achieve their personal goals while maintaining housing. Below are only a few of the many ways our resident services team supports our residents:

- accessing physical and mental healthcare
- connecting with educational resources
- securing employment
- maintaining utilities

In 2016, 32 children experienced the magic of summer camp at YMCA’s Camp Ernst.

– Lauren Stoll, Resident Services Advocate
Program Snapshot

Our resident services staff is also responsible for coordinating programs and activities that support residents as they grow and flourish.

At Children's Creative Corner, we seek to cultivate an environment in which youth of Over-the-Rhine may grow personally and creatively while developing a strong sense of community both inside the classroom and out.

Developed to offer a nurturing and creative outlet for low-income youth in the neighborhood, the program is structured to be highly accessible, meeting twice weekly at 220 East Clifton Ave, a space central to many young families in the community.

Women of Over-the-Rhine is a peer-to-peer support group that formed in December 2015 and is facilitated by Over-the-Rhine Community Housing resident Angie Merritt. The program seeks to address the needs of low-income women by achieving three primary objectives:

1. The group provides emotional support to members in order to promote strength and solidarity for low-income women.
2. Members receive assistance with resume writing, job searching, and connecting with other employment resources to aid in professional growth.
3. Women of Over-the-Rhine inspires group members and broadens their experiences by inviting guest speakers, organizing community events, and planning field trips.

When the weather warms up, we celebrate OTR's ever-present beauty and camaraderie and throw block parties for our residents.

Sara had just moved to Cincinnati from Florida with her 3 year old daughter. They were homeless and struggling to find stability when they met Valerie, who brought them to a Women of Over-the-Rhine meeting.

“The only place I could think to bring her was here. There is still hope in Cincinnati.” said Valerie Dowell.

– Valerie is a Community Outreach Advocate with the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission and is one of the founding members of Women of Over-the-Rhine.

Miami University's Over-the-Rhine Residency Program

In 2016, we hosted 18 students for the 11th year of this community/university collaboration. Students worked with schools and community organizations throughout OTR and Lower Price Hill. Miami Architecture Professor and program founder Tom Dutton said, “Our cohort this year was terrific—totally engaged, open to learning and wanting to put themselves in unfamiliar situations in order to push their learning.” Thank you Miami University for another year of mutual growth and real benefit for all.
**SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**

The Invisible Hand That Lifts Our Residents: CR’s Story

When you work at length with those in poverty, those who struggle with homelessness, mental illness, substance abuse, and trauma, you must accept that no matter what you do, their life is their own. In the life of CR, much of our work is in the background. Housing is sometimes an invisible hand that supports CR as he struggles with the neuromuscular disorder that twists his body, and will eventually end his life.

Though CR is in the later stages of this illness, he spent 2 years on the street before coming to the Jimmy Heath House, and he continues to be fiercely independent. Despite the physical challenges that inhibit his gate and make the slightest movement difficult, CR leaves his apartment almost every day, and with the determination of a boxer stepping back into the ring, he walks the 7 blocks to Our Daily Bread. It seems clear that this daily connection to the community is of vital importance to CR, and if we extend the metaphor of CR as a boxer stepping into the ring for a fight, then the Jimmy Heath House is his “Corner.”

We stay in the background, but we are here to support him in his fight. We are a refuge when he needs to rest, we are present to address his wounds, and we are his coaches and cheerleaders as he takes his swings. We are a place for him to return to, and when he cannot make it on his own, his supporters in the community know where to bring him. Ultimately, the fight is CR’s and we are privileged to be on his side.

— David Elkins, Jimmy Heath House Program Coordinator

**2016 FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

- **Income:** $4,278,405
  - Rental Income: $1,498,569
  - Supportive Housing: $1,483,859
  - Fees Earned: $68,496
  - Grants: $447,180
  - Fundraising: $141,661

- **Expenses:** $4,235,327
  - Property Management: $2,027,401
  - Administrative and General: $347,833
  - Supportive Housing: $1,209,777
  - Housing Development: $197,342
  - Resident Services: $452,974

*Based on unaudited numbers*
STAFF

ADMINISTRATION
Mary Burke Rivers - Executive Director
Tyrone Black - Finance Director
Lisa Cecil - Controller
Steve Franklin - Accountant
Katherine Cunningham - Fund Development Manager

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE
Tanya Murphy - Director of Property Management
DaKenya Gunn - Compliance Specialist
Cynthia Talbert - Property Manager
Cynthia Bell - Leasing Manager
Carol Strayhorn - Front Desk Manager
Carl Combs - Director of Maintenance
Tim Carter - Maintenance
Jason Gudorf - Maintenance
Paul Sweet - Maintenance
Bobby Taylor - Maintenance
Maurice Wagoner - Maintenance
Bill Haigh - Maintenance
Harper Andrews - Groundskeeper

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT
Ashleigh Finke - Director of Real Estate Development
Ryan Dyson - Asset Manager

VOLUNTEERS/INTERNS
Claire Cawley - Student, Miami University
Andrea Harrison - Volunteer, Property Development and Asset Management

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING
Andrew Hutzel - Director of Housing Services
Christine Wooten - Recovery Hotel Program Coordinator
Jill Stein - Shelter Plus Care Administrator
Jacob Merritt - Resource Coordinator
Amy Silver - Resident Services Coordinator
Sophia Cunningham - Youth Development Coordinator
Lauren Stoll - Resident Services Advocate
Patrice Smoot - Resident Engagement Specialist
Angela Merritt - Women of Over-the-Rhine Coordinator
Milton Keith - Recovery Hotel Building Monitor
David Elkins - Jimmy Heath House Program Coordinator
Joe Wynn - Jimmy Heath House Front Desk Staff
Wister Ausberry - Jimmy Heath House Front Desk Staff
Robin Boles - Jimmy Heath House Front Desk Staff
Robert Bowman - Jimmy Heath House Front Desk Staff
Mike Brown - Jimmy Heath House Front Desk Staff
Bonnie Seymore - Jimmy Heath House Front Desk Staff
Glenn Ward - Jimmy Heath House Front Desk Staff

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Roger Auer - President
Georgia Keith - Vice-President
Jonathan Diskin - Treasurer
Bonnie Neumeier - Secretary
Michael Bootes
Kenneth Bordwell
Bridgette Burbanks
Nicholas DiNardo
Brian Fagan
Fanni Johnson
Robert Pickford
Jai Washington
Allen Woods

STAR AWARD
Each spring, the Over-the-Rhine Chamber of Commerce recognizes outstanding individuals and businesses in Over-the-Rhine during its Annual Star Awards event. Over-the-Rhine Community Housing was the recipient of the 2016 Nonprofit of the Year Star Award.

The following staff members were recognized in 2016 for their accomplishments and contributions to the community:

Ryan Dyson
2016 Outstanding Thesis and 2016 AICP Award for Outstanding Master’s Student at University of Cincinnati’s College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning.

Mary Burke Rivers
Ohio CDC Association’s 2016 Ned D. Neuhausel Award honoring housing developers who demonstrate a lifelong commitment to people with disabilities.

Amy Silver
Greater Cincinnati Homeless Coalition’s 2016 Julie Martin Service Provider of the Year.

Lauren Stoll
National Association of Social Workers Ohio Chapter M.S.W. Student of the Year.
FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS

$10,000+
Christ Church Cathedral
Finance Fund
Helen Steiner Rice Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation
Josephine Schell Russell Charitable Trust
Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing
PNC Bank
Thomas Emery Memorial Foundation

$9,999 - $5,000
Anonymous
The Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile, Jr./U.S. Bank Foundation
Manuel D. and Rhoda Mayerson Foundation
The CDC Association of Greater Cincinnati
Union Savings Bank

$4,999 - $2,500
Anchor Properties, Inc.
BB&T
3CDC
First Financial Bank
Gregory and Susan Friedmann
William Groneman and Maureen Flanagan
Economics of Compassion Initiative
William and Suzanne Joiner Family Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation
Kingsley + Co.
West Sixth Brewing

$2,499 - $1,000
Anonymous
Martha Bolognini
Mike Bootes
Cincinnati Area Board of Realtors
Community Shares of Greater Cincinnati
Robert Donovan
Elder High School
Eli’s Barbeque
The Carter Memorial Fund, First Unitarian Church of Cincinnati
Greater Cincinnati Foundation
Jan Hirlinger
Cynthia Goslee
Mackaron Bar
The Marianist Province of the United States
Robert McGonagle
Miami University Center for Community Engagement in Over-the-Rhine

$999 - $500
Roger and Mary Glynn Auer
Kenneth Bordwell and Mary Anne Curtiss
Roger and Janice Brown
Gregory and Michelle Budzek-Brodrick
City Studios Architecture
Parking Lot Management of Cincinnati
Jonathan Diskin and Diane Stemper
Brian and Cathleen Fagan
John Gardner and Kathy Woebner Gardner
Gregory and Kathleen Harmeyer
Patty Hord
Andy Hutzel and Amy Harpenau
Interact for Health
Scott Knox
Matthew Latchaw and Lyric Morris
Christopher Ledwin
Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati
Xin Lu
Mark Manley and Annette Wick
Srs. Monica McGloin and Janet Linz
Charles McIntosh and Jamie Williams
Model Group
HGC Construction
Daniel and Tanya Murphy
Cassie and Parker Niemann
Catharine and Joseph Pflum
Margaret Quinn
The Home Depot Incentive Program

$499 - $250
John and Jenny Benton
James and Christine Chase
Robert and Victoria Cianciolo
Dorothy Day Center for Faith and Justice, Xavier University
Cathy and Brian Fowler
Paul Gaitan

$249 - $100
Charles Addei
Deborah Andrews
Douglas Appler
Ronald and Chris Auer
Beyondbeing
John and Megan Statt Blake
Jonathan Blickenstaff and Angela Denov
Ellen Briggs
Bea and Richard Broder-Oldach
David and Patricia Brown
Michael and Marianne Brunner
Dorothy Christenson
Patti and Larry Cunningham
Steve and Stephanie Cunningham
Claire Daughtery
Nicholas and Anne DiNardo
Nita “Catalpa” Dotson
Bob and Carrie Dricha
Samuel and Nancy Duran
Martin Eisen
Steve Elliott and Janet Weber
Joseph Feldhaus and Marcheta Gillam
John and Barbara Fillion
Lydia Fitzpatrick
Gerald Froehlich and Laura Goodell
Alphonse Gerhardstein and Miriam Gingold
John Getz and Jo Anne Gibbons
William and Louise Gioielli
Goodfellas Pizzeria
Thomas Grogan
Francis Gudorf
Peter Hames
Mindy and Eric Hammer
Jim Hider
Carol and David Holt
Lawrence Holt
Teal Horsman
Fanni Johnson
Carla Kampschmidt
Robert and Barbara Knueven
Samuel and Marie Schotz Kocoshis
John and Andrea Kornbluh
Tim Kraus and Lois Gish
Dave Logan and Dale Hodges
Sabrey and Anne Glynn Mackoul
Kathleen MacQueeny
Anne Martina
Meisel Family Foundation
John and Mary Carol Melton
Ann Meranus
Clarence and Emily Miracle
Victoria Montavon and James Myers
Paul Muller
Kathryn Murphy and Steven Plachinski
Robert and Judith Neal
Donald Nesbitt and Jeanne Kortekamp
Marianne Newman
North American Properties
Sharon Nuckols and Steve Richey
Michael Otting and Stephanie Blount
Peaslee Neighborhood Center
Marianne Lamey Pod and Janice Vogeler
David and Laura Rapien
Jeff and Lori Raser
Rhinegeist Brewery
Nancy Richardson and Elaine Huber
John and Rebecca Ristau
Leslie Ritter
Robert and Mary Ann Roncker
Harriet and Alvin Saperstein
Schickel Design Company
John and Ruth Schrider
Tammy Schwartz
Dianna Schweitzer
Ann Seller and Robert Honkonen
Amy Silver and Josh Spring
Kenneth and Alice Skirtz
Martha and Jerone Stephens
Ellen Straus
Gerald Stricker II
Jennifer Summers and Brennan Grayson
United Methodist Financial
Kenneth and Elizabeth Weartz
Marcus Wolnitzek
William Woods

**Up to $100**
David Adams
Rebecca and Jose Algenio
Joan Allen
Stefan Athanasiadis
Henrietta and Franchot Ballinger
Cynthia Campbell Bell
Sandra Bell-Branham
Gina Bergher
Mary Anne and James Berry
Tom Borcher
Deborah Brod
Shirley Burke
Michael and Nedra Burson
Evelyn Butt
Lisa Cecil
Dale and Dianne Clark
Contact Center
Over-the-Rhine Learning Center
Katherine Cunningham
Susan Davis
Kathleen DeLaura
James Denker
Dominican Sisters of Hope
Ryan Dyson
Robert Egbert
Kara and Gregg Feltrup
Kira Fenske
Andrea Ferguson
Brian Ferguson
Ashleigh and Andrew Finke
Katherine Goslee and Laura Bogle
Jeffrey Grothaus
Dale Hayes and Terry Miller
Shannon Hughes
Mona Jenkins
John Joerling and Teresa Clear
Nathaniel Kaelin
Georgia and Milton Keith
Diane Laake
Johanna Looye
Kathryn and Steven Lown
James Luken
Bryan and Carolyn Madison
Hannah and James Maloney
Doug and Sheila Mansfield
Jacob Merritt and Merilee McElveen
Joe and Carol Metz

Hannah Meyer
Barbara Neumann
New Jerusalem Community
Jeanne Nightingale
Jane Orthel
Raymond Owens and Leah Hoechstetter
Angela Pancellia
Kirk Phillips
Claire Pickus
Alvin and Patricia Piller
Michael Privitera and Marcia Kaplan
Recovery Hotel Support Group
Zach Rios
Edward and Julia Rush
Margaret Saunders
Christine and Robert Scheckler
Larry and Kathy Schwab
Kevin and Jane Shea
Edward Slater
Clifton Sneed
M. Judith Webb Squire
Jill and Karl Stein
Rebecca Stone
Paul Sweet
Sweet Petit Desserts
John and Eunice Timoney Ravenna
Frances Turner
Charles and Fian Van Amburgh
Amy Weber
Bethany Weber
Tom and Paula Williams
Russell Winters
Rob Wissel
Allen Woods

**Gifts In-Kind**
Artonomy
Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
Kismet OTR
Macaron Bar
Timothy Petit and Cliff Dase
Marianne Mara and Randy Lykins
Alex Parks
Photonics
Rhinegeist Brewery
Pippin Rush
Schmidt Heating and Cooling

Thank you for your support!
Our 2016 Annual Report is here!

JOIN US

Over-the-Rhine Community Housing (OTRCH) is a non-profit community development organization that provides a wide spectrum of affordable and supportive housing options with life-changing programs to help low-income residents grow and flourish. For over four decades, OTRCH has never wavered from our commitment to:

• build a sustainable, diverse neighborhood that values and benefits low-income residents
• create an inclusive community in this evolving historic district, and
• advocate on behalf of all our residents.

Please join us in making Over-the-Rhine a diverse, inclusive neighborhood:

• Visit www.otrch.org to learn more about us, sign up for emails and newsletters, or make a secure donation.
• Contact us to see how your skills and interest align with our mission, or set up a time to tour our properties.
• Register OTRCH as your charity of choice with Kroger Community Rewards and AmazonSmile.

“Over-the-Rhine Community Housing goes far and beyond with help they give their tenants. They don’t just give individuals an apartment to live in. They give them hope for the future.”

– Angie Merritt, OTRCH Resident and Women of Over-the-Rhine coordinator