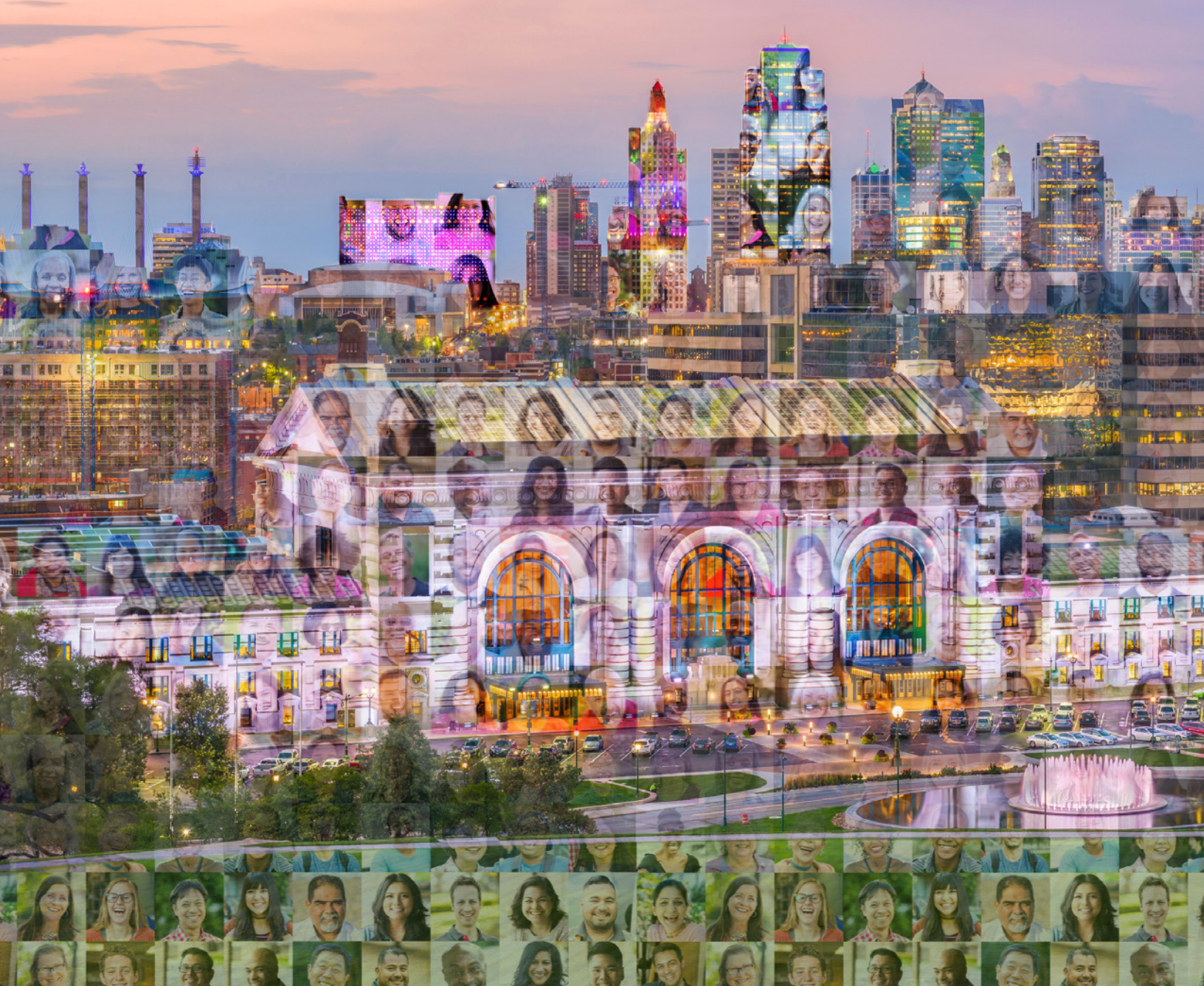




**Working
Families'
Friend**

2021 GRATITUDE REPORT



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We believe that by providing emergency assistance before a family is forced into economic hardship, starting a financial downward spiral, we can help maintain a healthy and productive workforce that continues to support a healthy and productive community.

**SCAN TO
DONATE NOW**



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Bridgette Williams

PRESIDENT

Joan Putthoff

OUR MISSION

To gather community resources in order to enable employed and recently unemployed individuals to sustain and maintain quality of life through assistance, training, advocacy and financial support.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As 2021 began, we hoped to put the previous year and its effects behind us. However, many people continued to face economic challenges and hardships. Thanks to the generous support from people like you, Working Families' Friend was able to assist more families in one year than ever before in the agency's eighteen-year history. When 2021 came to an end, it was evident that we had much to be grateful for. The services we were able to provide impacted so many families in a positive way.

As Working Families' Friend continues to grow, we stay true to our original mission and goal to provide advocacy and Emergency Assistance to hard-working men and women who are experiencing a one-time crisis and don't qualify for traditional social services. Our assistance to working families comes in many forms. For one single mother of two, it came at a critical time of need. We were able to stop a shut-off notice scheduled for her electricity, which would have left her and her children in a cold home without heat in December.

As you'll see in this year's Gratitude Report, sometimes our help comes in the form of advocacy instead of direct financial assistance. Often working people simply don't have the time to be their own advocate and fight for themselves. Please take a few minutes to read the stories on the following pages. You'll also see how we were able to save an additional 104 families from eviction or foreclosure thanks to a generous grant we received in 2021.

We remain always in gratitude for the support we get from individuals, corporations, local unions, local government and community organizations who value the work that we do and the lives that, together, we change. In the words of one grateful family that you helped us serve, "you changed our lives by making it possible for our lives not to change." The people we serve express their appreciation in a variety of ways, such as a card, a letter, or even a phone call. Sometimes a small donation comes later when they are back on their feet. But all are so very grateful for the unexpected help available because of you. So, on behalf of all those who you have helped serve, **THANK YOU.**

We continue to believe that by providing Emergency Assistance before a family is forced into economic hardship and facing a financial downward spiral, we can help maintain a healthy and productive workforce that continues to support a healthy and productive community.

In Gratitude,



Joan E. Putthoff
President



WE ADVOCATE FOR **YOU** WORKING PEOPLE

Working Families' Friend (WFF) has served the working people in the community for eighteen years thanks to the ongoing, generous support from **YOU** – our donors. In addition to financial emergency assistance, WFF staff provides strong **ADVOCACY** for working people facing hardships.



One example is Carol – a teacher spending all of her time at work in the classroom. She lives alone and is partially deaf. A friend visited her home and realized Carol's toilet was running. Carol was completely unaware of this but had it fixed the following day. When she received her water bill, it was over \$1,200. She made payments on the bill over the next couple of months while going through the petition process but **was now facing a shut-off notice**. Headed into the end of the semester with no free time during the day, she had made no progress on her effort to get the bill reduced.

WFF stepped in to advocate for her, and after many hours of work, we were able to get her water bill reduced to \$79.



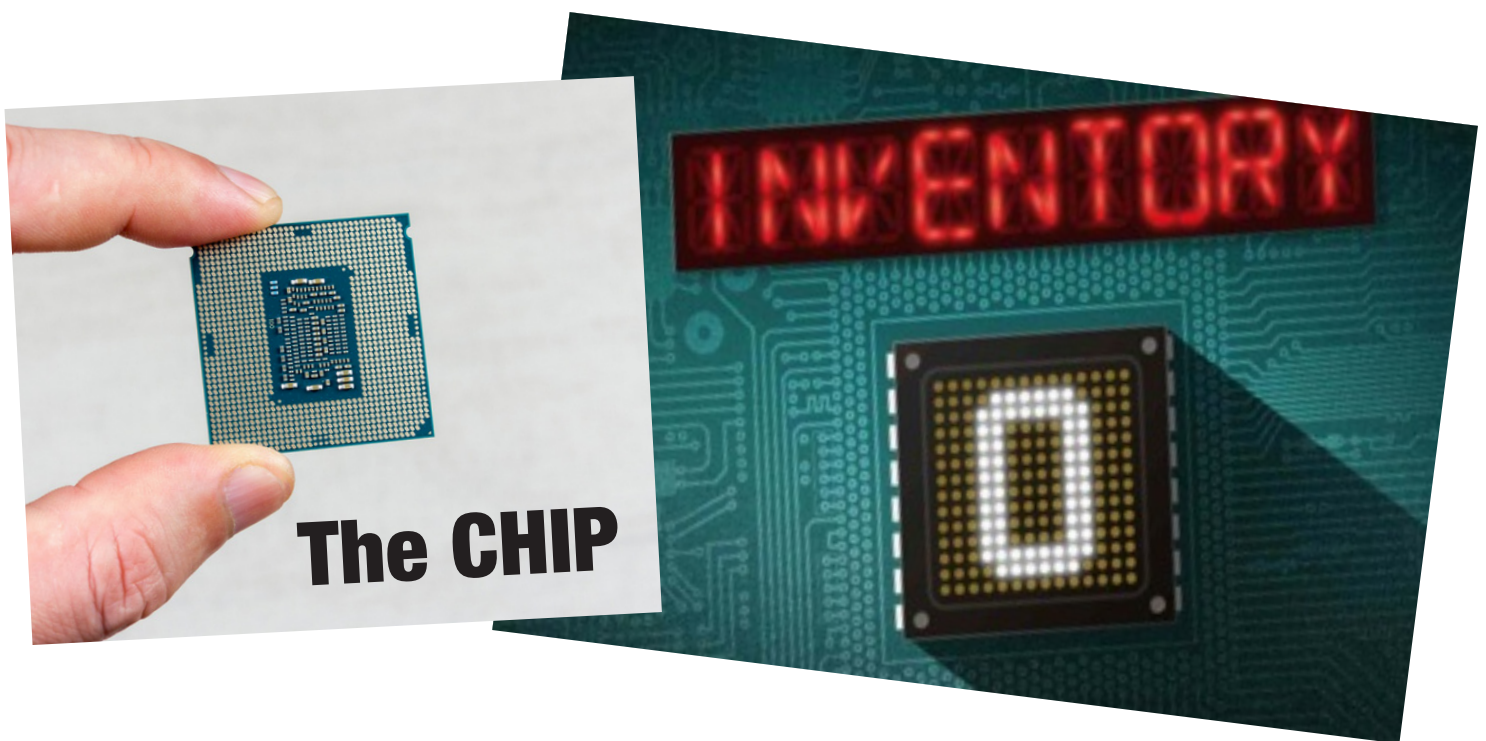
Another example is Allie – a young woman living in an apartment where her bathroom ceiling caved in from a plumbing leak. She opened a maintenance request to get it fixed. Six months had gone by, and there was still a gaping hole in her ceiling, a bucket catching the dripping water, mold growing all over the walls, and insects infesting the room. The apartment manager wouldn't return her calls or meet with her when she tried to follow up on the situation.

We intervened on her behalf and were able to meet with the apartment manager. Allie's bathroom was restored to perfect order by the end of the week.

THE UNDER-EMPLOYMENT CRISIS

Under-employment was one of the significant battles that working families faced in 2021. Supply chain issues and shortages caused thousands of people with good jobs to be temporarily laid off or have their hours drastically cut. Nearly all industries were affected.

The chip shortage impacting the auto industry received significant news coverage, locally and nationally. A staggering number of people employed at these plants found themselves, without warning, unable to go to work and earn a paycheck. This crisis lasted many months.



Families' savings dwindled, as paying bills became more and more difficult, and some faced eviction, foreclosures, and utility shut-off notices. WFF is uniquely positioned to help families during this type of crisis. **No other agency could help** these families with financial assistance the way Working Families' Friend could. With our help, and **WITH YOUR HELP**, hundreds of people avoided losing their homes and kept their essential utilities connected and working until they were able to return to work.

Thank you for helping us HELP OTHERS.
AS WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER - WE ARE SUPPORTED

ROOF OVER HEAD KANSAS CITY



Early in 2021, Working Families' Friend was contacted by the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation with some great news. The Price Brothers Charitable Foundation was looking for an agency that provides emergency assistance to working people facing the risk of eviction or foreclosure on their homes. After a meeting with Price Brothers' leadership, we all agreed that Working Families' Friend was the perfect choice to be the recipient of the generous grant being offered to assist working people.

Roof Over Head is a Price Brothers Program dedicated to ending the cycle of homelessness by ensuring families have adequate housing and job opportunities. The Price Brothers Charitable Foundation Fund granted Working Families' Friend \$75,000 to provide emergency assistance exclusively for rent and mortgage payments for working people in the Greater Kansas City area. They wanted to help families who were facing financial hardship and were at risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability. In the first month, WFF used that funding to help 30 Families with rent or mortgage totaling \$33,146. **In less than four months, the entire grant had been used to help 104 families stay in their homes.**



Thanks to the Price Brothers Charitable Foundation Fund, we were able to assist families who otherwise may not have been served and, in many cases, would have faced homelessness.



COMMUNITY IS THE KEY

YOU CAN HELP US BE THE HELPING HAND AT A TIME OF NEED



DONATE TO WORKING FAMILIES' FRIEND

Write a check- Automatic Withdrawal from your Account (ACH)- Visit our website wffriend.org to use a credit card or PayPal – you can now make a RECURRING monthly gift

SET UP PAYROLL DEDUCTION

United Way of Greater KC - Combined Federal Campaign – Employee Charitable Campaign for State of MO or KCMO City employees

SMILE – IT COSTS YOU NOTHING

IF you choose to shop on Amazon, PLEASE use AMAZON SMILE and choose Working Families' Friend as your charity of choice. The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate a small percentage of your purchase to WFF at NO EXTRA charge to you

EVENTS AND MORE

Attend or sponsor our fundraising events or host an event to benefit WFF - Set up a Facebook Birthday Fundraiser selecting WFF as your Charity of Choice – Donate on Giving Tuesday - Memorial Gifts to honor the passing of a loved one



**SCAN TO
MAKE A
DONATION**

WFF FUNDRAISING EVENTS WERE BACK IN 2021

Our 3 events raised over \$164,000 to help provide emergency assistance to working people at a time of unexpected need.

THANKS TO ALL WHO WERE ABLE TO ATTEND THESE EVENTS OR PROVIDE SPONSORSHIPS TO HELP US MEET OUR GOALS

PENNY PER HOUR PROGRAM

Organizations can elect to donate one penny per hour worked by their members or employees.

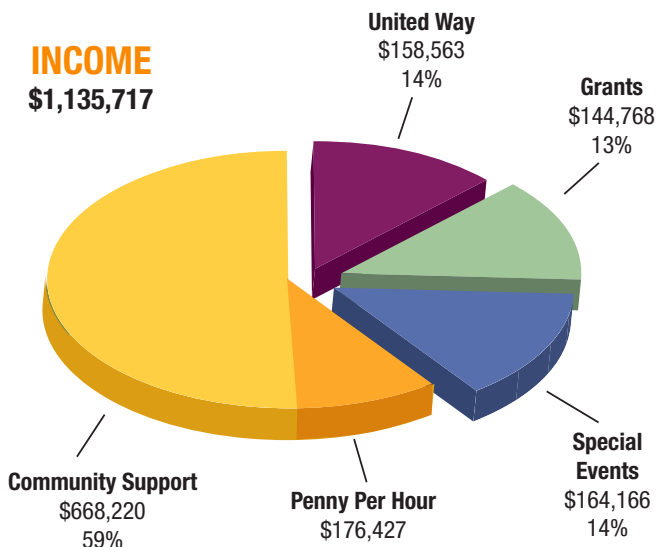
This equates to about \$20.80 per employee per year. We extend our great appreciation to each participant for their commitment to support our mission.

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|---|
| Carpenters Local #315 | IAFF Local #3112 | Plasterers & Cement Masons Local #518 |
| Construction and General Laborers Local #264 | IAFF Local #3808 | Plumbers & Gasfitters Local #8 |
| Construction and General Laborers Local #1290 | Painters Local #2012 | Security Police Fire Professionals of America |
| Floor Layers Local #1181 | Painters Local #2015 | Sheet Metal Workers Local #2* |
| IAFF Local #42 | Pipefitters Local #533 | Teamsters Local #541 |

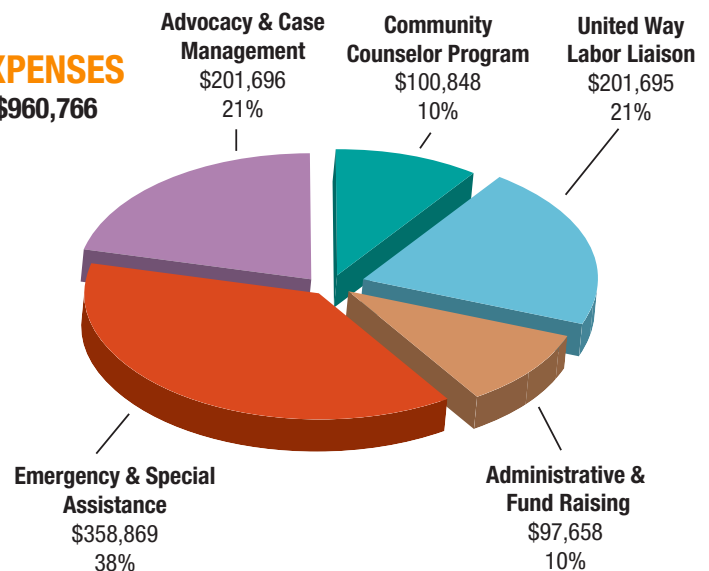
*Special thanks to Sheet Metal Workers Local #2 for leading the way by being first to reach the 2 cents per hour level of giving!

FINANCIAL REPORTS

INCOME \$1,135,717



EXPENSES \$960,766



WORKING FAMILIES' FRIEND 2021 DONOR PARTNERS

**BECAUSE OF YOU – WE ARE HERE FOR YOU, YOUR FAMILIES AND OTHERS
THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING US AS WORTHY STEWARDS OF YOUR GIFT**

We are grateful to all who support Working Families' Friend. Our incredibly generous partners believe in our mission. There is no better community of support than the individuals, corporations and organizations listed here. We make every effort to ensure this list is accurate and complete. If you contributed to Working Families' Friend in 2021 and are not listed, please accept our deepest apology and contact us immediately to correct our records. Again, we THANK YOU for your generous support! Your recent gift has life-changing effects and has already been put to work assisting working people at a time of need.

\$20,000 & ABOVE

Argosy Casino Hotel & Spa
Carpenters Local #315
Frontstream
Greater KC AFL-CIO
IAFF Local #42
IBEW Local #124
Iron Workers Local #10
Jackson County
Every
Pipefitters Local #533
Price Brothers Charitable
Foundation
Sheet Metal Workers
Local #2
SPFPA Local #249
Teamsters Joint Council #56
UAW Local #249
UAW Region 5 Midwest
States CAP Council
United Way of Greater
Kansas City
UPS Foundation

\$10,000 - \$19,999

Thomas P. Burke
Kansas City Building &
Trades Council
Laborers Local #264
Operating Engineers
Local #101
Painters Local #2012
Plumbers & Gasfitters
Local #8
Teamsters Local #41
Unified Government-
Hollywood Casino
Grant Fund

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Amalgamated Transit Union
Local #1287
Blue Cross Blue Shield of KC
Bricklayers & Allied
Craftworkers #15
Carpenters Local #1127
CWA/AT&T Charity Golf
Tournament Committee
IAM Local #778

Laborers Local #1290
Laborers Local #663
NALC Branch #30
Painters District Council #3
Roofers Local #20
Teamsters Local #455
Teamsters Local #541
UFCW Local #1

\$1,000 - \$4,999

AFGE Local #1336
APWU Local #238
Arnold, Newbold, Sollars &
Hollins, P.C.
Asbestos Workers Local #27
AT&T Employee Giving Fund
Anita Autrey
Awards & T-Shirts
Specialists, Inc.
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Benevity Giving Campaign
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Carpenters' Regional
Council KC Office
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Working Families' Friend

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