

**IMPACT
REPORT**

FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO



Thank you for being the fuel that sparked our 2021 achievements!

From start to finish, 2021 proved to be a challenging yet very rewarding year at Omaha Home for Boys. Together, we saw growth and collaboration that stimulated positive changes in our youth, our programs and our organization, despite the many challenges presented by the ongoing pandemic.

As you'll see on the following pages, the power of your support is immense. The impact of your support can certainly be seen in the numbers, data and statistics reported, but most importantly, it can be seen on the faces and heard through the stories of the young adults you'll meet in this report.

You helped Taegen move into his very own apartment, the first place that he's ever felt safe and secure. You transformed Malaki from an unmotivated, inattentive student into a teen who is eager to go to class and has hope he'll graduate. And as Kenya shared, your generosity finally gave her a stable adult in her life who actually cares and checks in on her.

You have truly made a difference by graciously giving of your time, talents and resources and for this, we are tremendously thankful and humbled. I invite you to take a look at the following pages to see what we accomplished together in 2021 and ask that you join us in making the most of the opportunities that lie ahead.

Sincerely,

Jeff DeWispelare
President & CEO

THE NUMBERS BEHIND THE NAMES

OF THE YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS WHO SEEK THE GUIDANCE OF OHB:



81%

Have a household income of less than \$35,000 per year



87%

Have experienced one or more Adverse Childhood Experiences

64%

Have never participated in an extracurricular activity



41%

Have run away from home



67%

Come from a single parent home



49%

Have a parent that has been incarcerated

When youth who are **unprepared** and **unsupported** transition to adulthood, there are many negative impacts and high costs to the community. That's why we're so grateful that you believe in our mission to support and strengthen youth, young adults and families through services that inspire and equip them to lead independent, productive lives. Your support creates a stronger, more thriving community by helping struggling youth realize their full potential.

TRANSFORM A LIFE. STRENGTHEN A COMMUNITY.

IN 2021, YOUR GENEROSITY TRANSFORMED THE LIVES OF
1,276 YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:

96%

of clients agree that staff
treat them with dignity
and respect.

of clients agree there is
a trusted adult they can
turn to at OHB.

of clients agree with the
statement, "I am satisfied
with the services I'm
receiving at OHB."

94%

of clients agree that
OHB's programs
have made a positive
difference in their life.

of clients agree that
staff teach them skills
that will help them be
successful.

93%

of clients would
recommend OHB's
services to others.

CONTINUUM OF CARE

Our continuum of care involves
guiding clients through our
comprehensive array of
programs and services that
span all levels of care. Programs
and services are integrated to
help youth and families address
immediate needs, plan for the
future and ultimately become
independent and self-sufficient.

OUR CONTINUUM OF CARE

Clinical Services
—
Crisis Stabilization
—
Residential Living
—
Transitional Living
—
Independent Living
—
Supportive Housing

NEVER ALONE AGAIN

Taegen grew up in a single-parent home. His parents divorced when he was a toddler and he doesn't recall a time when they were together as a family. Throughout his younger years, he encountered a lot of scary, traumatic situations and felt as if he didn't have a stable adult that he could turn to for support.

As Taegen entered his teenage years, the instability in his life continued. Things came to a head on his sixteenth birthday when his mother kicked him out of the house at 2:00 in the morning. On his special, milestone birthday, he spent the night in a 24-hour grocery store sleeping behind a stack of toilet paper rolls on a metal shelf.

**He was 16. He was desperate.
And he was alone.**

Several months of couch surfing and staying with friends followed, all while Taegen tried tirelessly to keep up with his schoolwork. Graduating high school had always been an important goal for Taegen and he felt like his dream was slipping away from him.

Eventually, Taegen was referred to Omaha Home for Boys by a social worker.

"I went in there and I was pretty hopeless," said Taegen. "I didn't really have a lot of things to look forward to or people I could count on."

Even as one of the youngest clients to ever enroll in OHB's Branching Out Independent Living Program, Taegen proved to be one of the hardest workers the program has seen. One of Taegen's biggest accomplishments during his time at OHB came the day that Sarah, his Independent Living Coordinator, helped him move into his very own apartment.

"It was the first time I really had a place that I knew I wouldn't get kicked out of," said Taegen. "My whole life I'd been scared of getting kicked out of where I was living."

In addition to moving into his own place, with the aid of OHB, Taegen was able to graduate high school and buy his own car. While he appreciates that Omaha Home for Boys was there to help him attain these goals, he most appreciates that OHB provided him with a caring mentor.

"Without having parents to talk to and to ask advice, I like that Sarah taught me the things that adults should teach you, like budgeting for one," said Taegen. "If you don't have an adult in your life to get that from, OHB gives you the information you need to make it on your own."

Today, Taegen is still living as an independent young adult. He continues to work full time while taking a full load of college courses. He is utilizing a scholarship from OHB to help pay for school and is even taking night classes in order to become a certified phlebotomist. He has his sights set on medical school.

Taegen knows that he can always count on Sarah and others at Omaha Home for Boys. "OHB has some of my favorite people I've ever met," said Taegen. "You guys have really changed my life. You're invaluable to me. I don't know where I'd be without you."



**Meet Taegen and other OHB youth at
[OHB.org/story](https://www.ohb.org/story)**

LIFE SKILLS

Mastering basic life skills is a fundamental building block to becoming independent. That's why we focus on teaching life skills throughout all of our programs. We cover everything from house cleaning, doing laundry, and cooking, to time management, shopping on a budget, and personal care. Thank you for helping our youth and families learn and practice these basic skills that will benefit them for a lifetime.



96% OF CLIENTS
maintained or improved
their life skills outcome



OVER 3,000
family treatment team meetings and
service development meetings held



137 VITAL DOCUMENTS
were obtained such as driver's
licenses and birth certificates



OVER 200
medical appointments, such as dental checkups,
annual physicals, and eye exams, were completed



8,213 SERVICES
including 1-on-1 meetings,
mentoring and support, provided

EMPLOYMENT

Upon entering our programs, many youth have never been employed or are working at jobs that don't provide a livable wage. Thank you for connecting youth with resume writing classes, interview preparation, job search training and work attire so that they can gain and maintain stable employment.



627
employment services and
trainings provided



70
new employment
experiences gained by clients



78%
of young adults were employed while
participating in programming



96% OF CLIENTS
maintained or improved their
employment outcomes

TRANSPORTATION

Access to reliable, affordable, safe transportation is a common obstacle that stands in the way of youth, young adults and families becoming fully independent. Your support provided trainings on navigating the public bus system, funds for fuel, driver's education courses, and ride share gift cards. Thank you for helping youth and families address their immediate transportation needs and plan for future, sustainable transportation.



432 SERVICES
and trainings related to
transportation provided



95 CLIENTS
assisted with accessing
public transportation



130 CLIENTS
participated in bus training



100% OF CLIENTS
have access to public transportation
or a licensed and insured vehicle



100% OF CLIENTS
maintained or improved their
transportation outcomes

“This program is one of the best programs I’ve ever been to because of how one-on-one people are and how helpful everyone is. It definitely made a big impact on me.”

Justice, youth in OHB's
Residential Living Program



EDUCATION

No matter where a client is on their educational journey, we meet them there. Your support helps students take the next steps towards gaining their GED, graduation, trade school, or higher education. Teens in our Residential Living Program attend our on-campus OHB School and other educational services are woven throughout all of our programs.



98% OF CLIENTS maintained or improved their education outcomes



While at the OHB School students **DOUBLED THEIR GPA**



Each OHB School student earned an average of **6.4 SCHOOL CREDITS**



275 CREDITS were earned by students at the OHB School



Students at the OHB School completed courses with an **80% GRADE AVERAGE**



99.5% OF CLASSES are passed by students attending the OHB School



OHB School students have **NEAR PERFECT ATTENDANCE**

SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to a number of faithful and generous friends of OHB, we have a scholarship fund that provides assistance to current and former OHB youth who are seeking higher education. The scholarship fund provides school supplies and books, assists with tuition, and helps pay for room and board, opening the doors to higher education that were once closed for many youth at OHB.



\$72,848 was awarded in scholarships



Scholarships supported students attending **7 DIFFERENT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES**



15 OHB YOUTH received scholarship funds

THIS IS MALAKI

Aggressive. Insulting. Unmotivated.

This is how Malaki speculates his public school teachers in his hometown would have described him, and Malaki agrees that they weren't off the mark when using these unappealing labels. "I just didn't care about school," Malaki says.

The teenager spent most of his time smoking and hanging out with poor influences. He rarely saw the inside of a classroom, and when he did, he was combative and unruly. He was falling further and further behind in school. Eventually, Malaki was court ordered to enter OHB's Residential Living Program.

"Honestly, when I came to OHB, I didn't have any goals at all," says Malaki. "I thought this was just another program that I would fail out of and no one would care, just like all the others."

The 17 year old had a rough start at OHB. His bad habits of ignoring authority and using aggression as a resolution to conflicts were so ingrained in him that they proved nearly impossible to overcome. "I can remember when Malaki first came here and we bumped heads," said Kevin Mosley, Academic and Behavioral Assistant at the OHB School. "He was very rude to me and I was called every name in the book. I couldn't get Malaki to stay on task and he didn't display any effort."

Despite Malaki's hurtful words and actions, no one at OHB gave up on him. It took some time and lots of patience, but slowly Malaki's walls started coming down and he began developing new, positive skills. He learned how to accept consequences and take responsibility for his actions. He also learned new coping strategies that helped him refrain from fighting.

While Malaki's behavior improved, he was also making great strides in the classroom. His attendance at the OHB School was nearly perfect and the individualized instruction he received proved to be a good fit. He enjoyed the small class sizes and the freedom to work at his own pace.

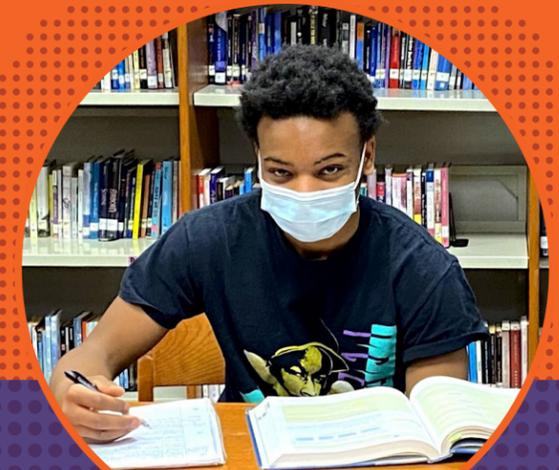
He describes the school as giving him his "own little space" to work on studies that was free of many of the typical distractions of public school.

And there, every day in his corner cheering him on, was Mr. Mosley, the man who had once been the target of so much of Malaki's animosity. "I've seen so much growth in Malaki," said Mr. Mosley. "Now he's just turned it all the way around. It's such a big difference than when he arrived and it's all for the better."

So far, Malaki has earned 23 credits at the OHB School. That's enough to put him ahead of grade level expectations for his junior year of high school, something he never thought was possible to achieve.

When Malaki was asked what he thought his previous teachers at his former public school would say about him now, he replied with a beaming smile, "They'd be shocked. They'd be like, 'What? This is Malaki?'"

Yes, THIS is Malaki!



Meet Malaki and other OHB youth at [OHB.org/story](https://www.ohb.org/story)

HOUSING

Whether youth and young adults move into our on-campus housing or whether they are connected with housing resources in the community, we help clients find safe, secure, stable living arrangements. Your support provides housing assistance and solutions, meeting a basic need that many of our clients lack before connecting with OHB.



135 YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN were provided safe, stable housing



OVER 926 essential needs items, such as cleaning and laundry supplies, distributed to young people transitioning into independent living



853 HOUSING SERVICES and trainings provided



97% OF CLIENTS maintained or improved their housing outcomes

MENTAL HEALTH

When a critical need for services that address mental and behavioral health issues in the Omaha community was identified, OHB filled this service gap by opening our Clinical Services Program. Many services, such as counseling, therapy, evaluations and family support, are encompassed by this program. Your generosity helped provide these highly needed services, some of which expand beyond clients enrolled in one of our programs to members of the general public.



96% OF CLIENTS were engaged in their therapy sessions



85% OF CLIENTS scored at "safe" or higher on the outcomes matrix for substance abuse



81% OF CLIENTS maintained or improved their mental health outcomes



OVER 1,200 individual, group and family therapy sessions provided



85% OF EMPLOYEES at OHB agree that staff at all levels are trauma informed

BECOMING MORE

The electricity was cut off again. There was no food in the house. Child Protective Services was called.

These are all raw, hurtful memories that still hold a place in 22-year-old Kenya's heart today. Even though she wasn't even a teenager yet when they happened.

Kenya had a tumultuous childhood. Her mother struggled with addiction and her father was not in the picture. She recalls being juggled among family members or other caretakers for most of her younger years. Kenya was eventually placed in the foster care system where she longed for a stable, safe home.

When Kenya aged out of the foster care system, a leader at the youth group she was involved in said he knew of a program that may be able to help her. That program was Omaha Home for Boys.

Kenya enrolled at OHB and got straight to work setting goals, one of which was to go to college. She attended time management and budgeting classes at OHB and also applied for and received one of OHB's Scholarships to help her pay for tuition, books and a computer. And, best of all, says Kenya, is that she had a supporter and trusted mentor in her corner cheering her on through it all.

"My favorite part about OHB is that they actually care and it shows," said Kenya. "They check up on me. I always get messages from the OHB crew, and I really appreciate that. It's a connection. I feel very connected."

Today, Kenya is excelling in college, earning all A's and B's. She works full time as a certified nursing assistant and medication aide. She hopes to one day become a registered nurse.

Kenya has accomplished a lot outside of the classroom as well. She has been in her house for over a year, the longest period that she has ever lived under one roof from what she can recall. She leaned on OHB's Rental Assistance Program to help her achieve housing stability.



"I feel like an adult!" shared Kenya. "It feels good to be able to have my own place. I hated staying with other people, always feeling like I was going to get kicked out."

Kenya has many amazing qualities, but one of the most admirable may be her genuine appreciation for those who have helped her become the resilient, happy, independent young woman she is today. She speaks for herself and other youth at OHB in thanking you, our faithful supporters, by saying,

"Without your help, we wouldn't be the people that we're aspiring to be. With your help, we are becoming more than what we were in the past."

Meet Kenya and other OHB youth at [OHB.org/story](https://www.ohb.org/story)

VALLEY VIEW 4-H AND COOPER MEMORIAL FARM

An integral support component of OHB's core programs is the Valley View 4-H Club. It is the oldest known club in Nebraska and began in 1948 with seven donated calves. Since then, the club has gone on to serve hundreds of youth.

Youth from OHB's Residential Living Program have the opportunity to participate in 4-H where they learn accountability, responsibility and the value

of hard work. These youth find strength and confidence in themselves that they didn't know existed.

Additionally, the therapeutic benefits of working with livestock in the fresh air at OHB's beautiful Cooper Memorial Farm are immense.



- 21 youth from OHB and six from neighboring Uta Halee Academy participated in 4-H
- 4-H youth showed livestock at three shows and county fairs
- 4-H youth earned one Grand Champion honor, one Reserve Grand Champion honor, and countless purple and blue ribbons
- Youth spent more than 1,200 hours working at the farm
- 6,240 pounds of beef were produced by OHB's cattle, some of which was utilized at OHB's Dining Hall

Cooper Memorial Farm not only serves as a space for OHB youth to develop valuable hands-on work experience, but also as a place that several partners from across the community utilize. The farm's impact is far and wide through services provided by the following partners:

- Douglas-Sarpy County Extension
- City Sprouts
- Whispering Roots
- Lutheran Family Services (Global Roots Program)
- Nebraska Extension
- Refugee Women of Nebraska
- Cooper Farm Urban Agriculture Education Center

LIFELONG LESSONS

When Larry Williams was 15 years old, he remembers thinking of himself as a "really bad kid." He was constantly in trouble in school and outside the classroom. He smoked a lot of weed and found himself involved in the juvenile justice system. In fact, this involvement is what led him to connect with Omaha Home for Boys.



As you can see from this picture of Larry taken in 2003 on the day he entered OHB as a teenager, he wasn't thrilled to be here, but his discontent and restlessness didn't last long. He soon formed a bond with his house parents, Chris and Angela. Chris was a youth pastor and made sure Larry and his peers went to church together every Sunday, something Larry didn't love at the time but now realizes it helped him on his journey to adulthood.

"Chris was like a father figure to me while I was at OHB," shared Larry. "He kept me on track so that I stayed out of trouble. He was a good dude."

Larry also credits the campus jobs he had at OHB with helping him develop skills that still benefit him today. He worked on the farm crew and also recalls working on the grounds and in the kitchen.

"OHB taught me a lot of things," said Larry. "I learned a lot of conversation skills and that you have to respect authority. I really enjoyed that I had the independence to have a job."

Larry's stay at Omaha Home for Boys was just 18 months, but it left a lasting impression on his life. After leaving the program, he admits that the road was a little rocky and it took him a while to truly stay on the straight and narrow.

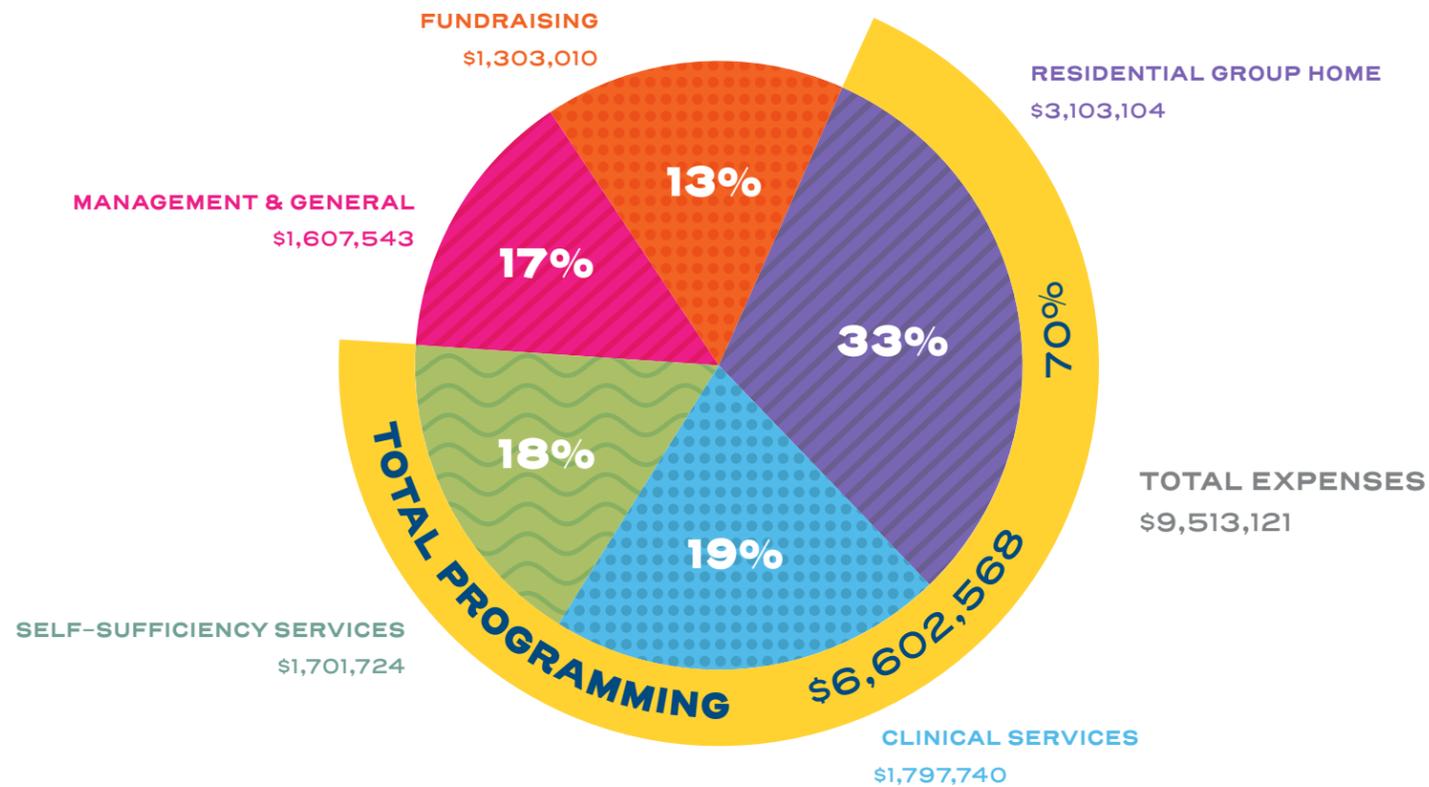
But today, Larry is thriving and happy. He's 33 years old now and the father of a two-year-old little boy who is the joy of his life. He's the general manager of a restaurant and still to this day, almost 20 years after leaving the program, uses many of the skills he learned at Omaha Home for Boys.



"Overall, my time at OHB was a good experience," said Larry. "I like to think my life without OHB would still be okay today, but I'm not sure that it would. I know being there helped."

**Meet Larry and other OHB youth at
[OHB.org/story](https://ohb.org/story)**

USE OF FUNDS



Thank you to the many foundations and corporations who provided generous grant awards in 2021. Grant funding provided everything from interview clothing, driver's education and outdoor play equipment, to therapy, school supplies and hygiene essentials. We greatly appreciate your support!

- Anonymous
- Bank of the West
- Oliver & Ferrol Barklage Foundation
- The Fred & Sally Bekins Foundation
- BNSF Railway Foundation
- Dillon Foundation
- First National Bank
- Git-R-Done Foundation
- The Hawks Foundation
- Todd & Mary Heistand Family Foundation
- Gilbert M. & Martha H. Hitchcock Foundation
- The Kim Foundation
- Charles E. Lakin Foundation Inc.
- Mammel & Associates Family Foundation

- Matthews Children's Foundation
- Mutual of Omaha Foundation
- Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation
- Nebraska Children & Families Foundation
- Pacific Life Foundation
- Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District
- Helen A. Pearson Charitable Trust
- QuikTrip Corporation
- RBC Foundation USA
- William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation
- Union Pacific Foundation
- United Way of the Midlands
- Webster Family Foundation

FUNDING SOURCES

Contributions	\$4,176,697
Program Service Fees	\$1,336,022
Endowment Draw	\$3,203,000
Other	\$314,374

TOTAL **\$9,030,093**

Complete audited and certified financial statements and 990 are available at OHB.org or by emailing info@OHB.org.

\$90,492,879 total net assets as of December 31, 2021



WORKING TOGETHER

Collaboration is our key to success. OHB's main campus is located in an area of Omaha where an excellent opportunity exists to improve access to a variety of services. The Empowerment Network, Charles Drew Health, and Omaha Bridges Out of Poverty are all located on our main campus and provide services to the North Omaha Community.



In 2021, we collaborated with a number of partners who helped us provide a wide variety of services to our youth, young adults and families.

- Local health facilities donated their time and expertise to educate our young people about sexually transmitted infections, healthy relationships, safe sex, and taking care of their bodies and personal needs.
- A community partner volunteered monthly to help our young people with college planning, applying for financial aid and completing scholarships.
- We partnered with Douglas County Probation to evaluate what treatment needs exist in the community and what OHB could potentially do to meet these needs.
- We worked with numerous area partners to collaborate and address the following community issues: homelessness, joblessness, unsupported youth aging out of the foster care system, affordable housing, supporting families, and lack of transportation.

LEADING THE WAY

In 2021, the process began to restructure OHB's dual governance Board of Directors. Having a dual governance structure has been confusing, not in line with best practices, and has in the past over-complicated timelines for getting work accomplished. Recognizing this, the Board of Directors and Trustees approved a restructure, restated Articles of Incorporation, and revised Bylaws.

The restructure was completed at the close of the Board of Directors Annual Meeting in January 2022. The restructure transitioned the Board to a singular governance and reduced the number of members from 22 to 11. Most importantly, the new board structure makes the governing body nimbler and more effective, paving the way for further growth and streamlined decision making.

Executive Committee

- Allen Straub – Board Chair
- Rebecca Atkins – Vice Chair
- James E. Kelley – Treasurer
- Victor Baez – Secretary

Board of Directors

- Randy Behounek
- Freddie Clopton
- Micah Evans
- Jason Gustafson
- Serenna D. Russell
- Mark Seip
- Janis L. Yergan

Leadership Team

- Jeff DeWispelare – President and CEO
- Brandy Gustoff – Chief Operating Officer
- Jodi L. Ross – Chief Strategy Officer

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

INVEST in Our Mission

- Cash gifts
- Bequests or planned giving
- Monthly giving
- Gifts of livestock or grain
- Employer matching gifts

ENGAGE in Our Conversation

- Social media
- OHB Guild
- Awareness events

SUPPORT Our Youth & Families

- Attend a fundraising event
- Volunteer
- Donate needed goods
- Organize a donation drive

CONNECT in Our Community

- AmazonSmile
- TAGG
- Share Omaha

Make an impact today at OHB.org/donate

Ready to get involved? Contact Kelsey Ridder, Senior Director of Development, at giving@OHB.org or **402.457.7014**

“OHB has the structure that I need but also the freedom to make me feel like I’m working towards independence.”

– Miguel, youth in OHB's Transitional Living Program





OHB.org | info@ohb.org

