

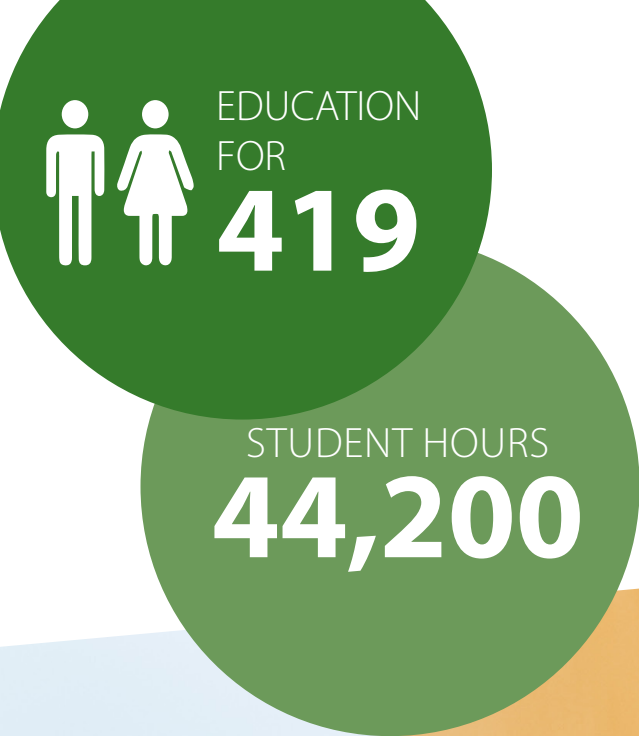


PHOTO: @2018 Steve Kotvis Photography

IMPACT

Students say they feel more confident



ENGLISH

“School helped me learn to read, write, and speak basic words to help me get through the day. Learning English is important to me because my life depends on it. I want to one day make something of myself, and I need an education to do that.”

– Khadra, Student

MEET SUSAN



“I’m very excited right now for the fact that I’m moving into an apartment. This has been a long time coming. I’m so excited, and it’s through help with Our Saviour’s.”

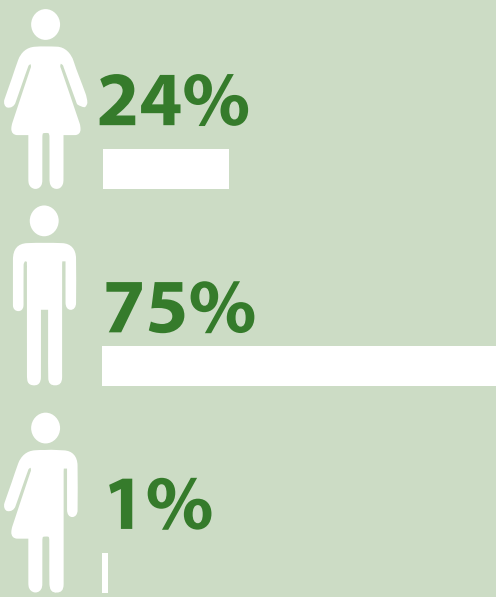
Susan never knew that one workplace accident would lead to twenty years of opioid addiction. After graduating from college, Susan moved to St. Louis, eager to begin a career in occupational therapy. Ten years later, disaster struck. While transporting a wheelchair, Susan got caught between the chair and the van. Her back twisted, rupturing three discs in her spine. She was prescribed painkillers for the injury, and that was it. She was hooked.

Susan managed her addiction for years before she was no longer able to sustain her job. Eventually, she moved to Minnesota for treatment because of the excellent programs in the state. At the end of treatment, Susan wanted to stay in Minneapolis. She’d made some friends and really liked the city, especially the positive and welcoming LGBT community. But when she couldn’t afford the rent for the sober house, she ended up homeless.

For six months, Susan slept in a shelter at night. Then she found Our Saviour’s Transitional Housing Program. It gave Susan the time and space she needed to work on finding permanent housing. “It’s been a wonderful experience, and it has allowed me to be in a safe and stable environment to be able to grow and just get back on my feet.”

Two years later, Susan’s realizing her dream of moving into her own place through Our Saviour’s Permanent Supportive Housing Program! She says, “Oh, it’s awesome! I’m so happy to have my own place, to live alone. It’s absolutely wonderful.” As for her favorite thing in her new place, she pauses before answering, “Having a bathtub!” Sometimes, it’s the little things that truly make a place home.

WHO WE SERVE



- Ages **18-73**, averaging in the mid-40s
- **21-29%** are survivors of domestic violence*
- **In emergency shelter**
 - » **50%** have either been homeless for at least one year or four times in the past three years
 - » **9%** are veterans
- **In Permanent Supportive Housing**
 - » **91%** reported struggles relating to mental health, **61%** to physical disability, and **52%** to chemical dependency

*Ranges result from differences across three programs

BECAUSE OF SHELTER AND HOUSING, RESIDENTS HAVE...

- ✓ Improved Health
- ✓ Saved Money
- ✓ Found Employment
- ✓ Volunteered
- ✓ Gone to School

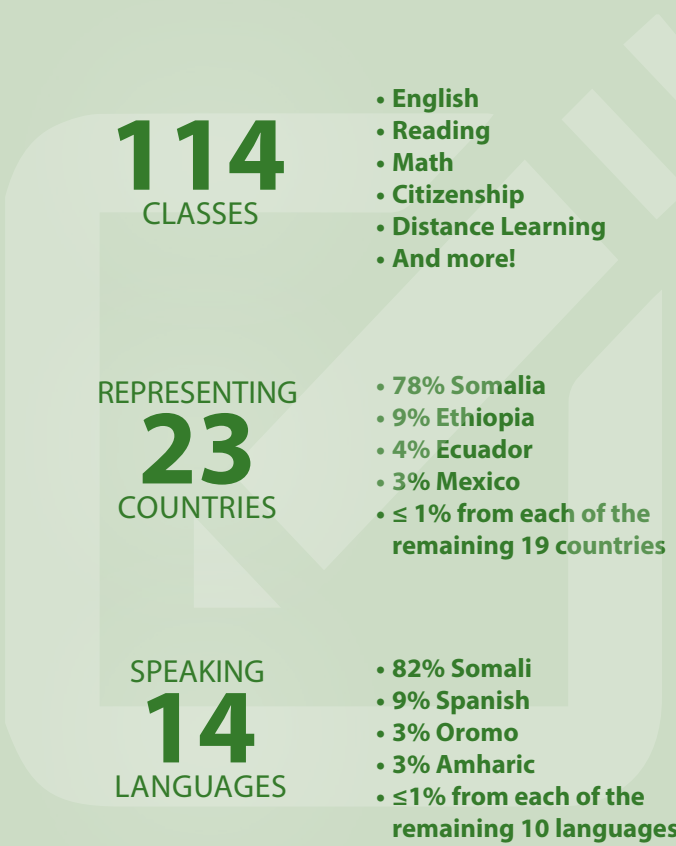
MEET SULEBAN



“I love coming here and have referred friends and family to enroll at school. I like it because the teachers are nice, and the staff helps me a lot.”

Suleban remembers his early years in Somalia with fondness. Everything was so simple then. He went to school and played soccer in his free time. As he got older, he started working in a meat factory to earn a little income. Sadly, those simpler times didn’t last. War came to his home country, and Suleban, like millions of others, fled seeking safety. He spent the next 18 years of his life in a refugee camp in Kenya.

Congratulations to our **9 recent graduates** who have advanced beyond our highest level English class!

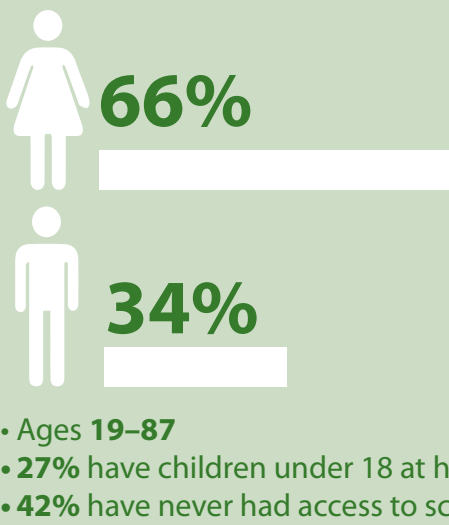


When Suleban received word that he could come to the United States, he was relieved and happy to finally be able to focus on his future. However, after arriving in Minnesota, Suleban quickly learned that claiming his independence would be harder than he realized. Surrounded by a culture and language he did not know, he constantly relied on others for help. Suleban explains, “When someone comes to a new country they know little to nothing of, it is hard for them to start ‘fresh.’”

Today, after two years at the English Learning Center, a lot has changed for Suleban. He can now navigate basic tasks like grocery shopping and going to medical appointments. Suleban is determined to keep learning, drawing inspiration from the Somali proverb, “Without knowledge, there is no light.” The English language is that light for Suleban.

Although it’s easy for Suleban to think back on the hard times, knowing that he won’t have to face those struggles again keeps him looking forward. Instead, he’s focused on the opportunities this country has for him. In the future, he sees himself working in any educational profession, as long as it involves helping others.

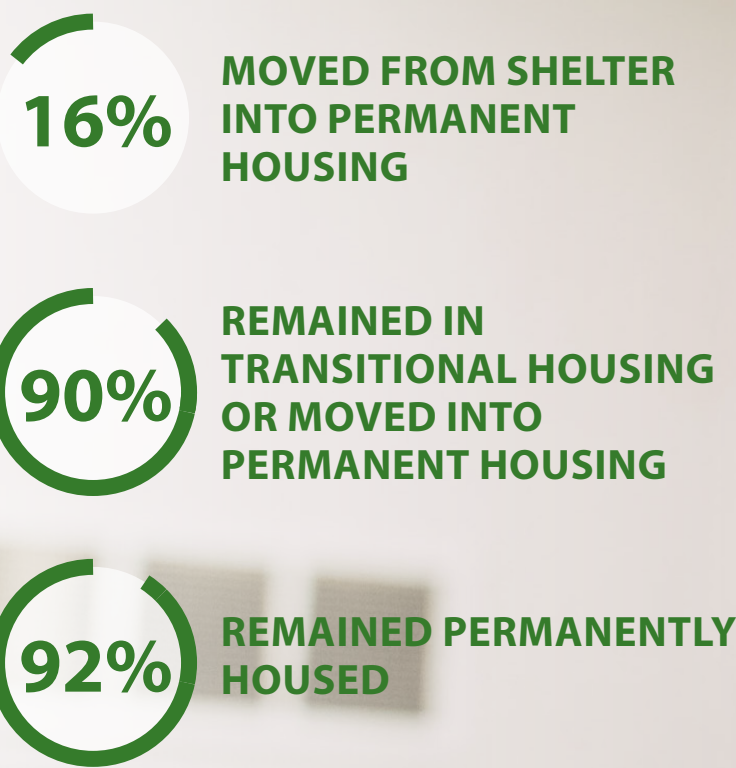
WHO WE SERVE



BECAUSE OF SCHOOL, STUDENTS SAY THEY HAVE...

- ✓ Learned about U.S. Culture
- ✓ Become a U.S. Citizen
- ✓ Gotten a Job
- ✓ Made New Friends
- ✓ Helped Their Communities
- ✓ Communicated with Neighbors
- ✓ Asked for Directions
- ✓ Used a Computer

IMPACT



209 TOTAL PEOPLE HOUSED

“If it wasn’t for this, I wouldn’t be going forward. I got a part-time job. I’m in touch with my children again. I had lost all hope, but I had a chance to get myself together. Our Saviour’s gave me the opportunity to do that. I’m excited about what’s going to happen next.”

– Jackie, Shelter Resident



OUR SAVIOUR'S HOUSING

A PROGRAM OF OUR SAVIOUR'S COMMUNITY SERVICES





YOU VOLUNTEERED.

“ I like to volunteer because I think the U.S. can be a hard place to learn about, and I want people to feel that it's a positive experience to be here. I feel welcomed at school because the students are so kind and eager to learn...even when I make mistakes!”
– Mary, ELC Volunteer



OUR SAVIOUR'S HOUSING

- 2,750 volunteers
- Donated 13,155 hours
- Served 21,245 meals, valued at \$122,253



ENGLISH LEARNING CENTER

- 238 volunteers
- Taught 112 classes
- Totaling 12,933 hours
- **Teacher Retention**
 - » 44% taught for 2-3 semesters
 - » 28% taught for more than one year



26,088
HOURS OF SERVICE

=

12.5
FULL - TIME POSITIONS



AN ESTIMATED VALUE OF

\$ 478,945



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Web | www.oscs-mn.org



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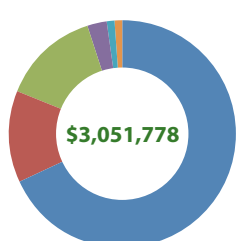
ANNUAL REPORT
2017 - 18



YOU GAVE.

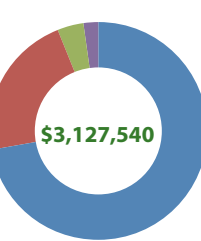


“ We are happy we are able to contribute to OSCS because we know we are giving support and the gift of hope to many who have left unfortunate situations in their search for a better future.”
– Pat and Dave, OSCS Donors



TOTAL REVENUE
\$3,051,778

- **69%** Government Grants **\$2,104,850**
- **13%** Private Gifts and Corporations **\$398,561**
- **14%** In-kind Contributions **\$440,707**
- **3%** Other Income **\$80,067**
- **1%** Rent Income **\$23,478**
- **<1%** MHFA Debt Forgiveness **\$4,115**



TOTAL EXPENSES
\$3,127,540

- **73%** Our Saviour's Housing **\$2,282,296**
- **22%** English Learning Center **\$703,696**
- **3%** General and Administrative **\$75,663**
- **2%** Fundraising **\$64,885**

For a complete list of donors, audited financial statement, and 990 visit www.oscs-mn.org/print.

YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE.

Dear Friends,

Each passing year presents the opportunity to pause and reflect. Once again, I'm fortunate to look back and share with you all that we have achieved together. Once again, I'm overwhelmed with gratitude for you and the many ways you extend your friendship to Our Saviour's Community Services, from donations and volunteer hours to words of encouragement and support.

In the past year, you've made a difference. You made a difference for Suleban, who is learning English so that he can become a teacher and help others, just like the English Learning Center has helped him.

You made a difference for Susan, who was finally able to move into her own apartment (with her very own bathtub!) through Our Saviour's Permanent Supportive Housing.

I invite you to take a moment now to celebrate our success together. Every smiling face, every number, tells a story about skills increased and lives improved...because of you! Thank you. We truly cannot do this work without you.

In gratitude,



Sandra J. Aslaksen
Sandra J. Aslaksen
Executive Director

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*concluded board service during the year