



A Letter from our CEO, Periann Pulliam:

Periann,

As I reflect on my 15 years with Upward Transitions, I can't help but be moved by the care and compassion our team gives to the most vulnerable in our community. Day in and day out, our frontline team members encounter people from all walks of life. Most are in crisis, seeking our help to make a better life for their families. Every one of their stories is different, and each person faces a very personal set of barriers to a stable life. The issues of homelessness and poverty are complex. Upward Transitions cannot address every barrier, but with your help, we can remove or lower obstacles to housing, employment, transportation, and critical services, and perhaps, provide a little hope along the way. Please join us in our mission by making your gift today.

This past fiscal year, July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, our team worked with more than 50 partner agencies throughout Oklahoma County to address issues and remove barriers to self-sufficiency for more than 4,000 individuals. A common challenge people experiencing homelessness encounter is obtaining identification documents such as birth certificates and state IDs. Many of the people we serve are not able to obtain the documents they need without our assistance due to literacy, behavioral, and cognitive factors as well as cost. Last year, Upward Transitions provided nearly 2,600 documents and state IDs which opened doors to employment, housing, benefits, and other vital services.

Preventing families and seniors from becoming homeless is another critical service Upward Transitions provides to our community. Last year, through our rent and utility assistance program, we diverted evictions for 854 individuals in 300 households. These services along with case management helped keep children safe and healthy by ensuring their families remained in their homes and had access to needed support services for nutrition, medical care, education, and employment.

In 2025, Upward Transitions will celebrate 100 years of service to Central Oklahoma. In the latter part of the past 100 years, we have worked to build a sustainable future for the organization including creating a fulltime development and public relations staff position, maintaining a debt-free organization, and establishing investments and reserves equal to more than four months of operating expenses. **We want to ensure Upward Transitions will be here in the next century to serve those facing homelessness and have set a goal to raise \$100,000 to commemorate our**

100th year. Please help us continue to clear the path to self-sufficiency and make your one-time or recurring gift today.

With gratitude,



Periann Pulliam, Upward Transitions CEO

P. S. Your gift of \$1,000 qualifies you for our Circle of Hope.

[Make Your Gift Today](#)



United Way
of Central Oklahoma
Community Partner

For more information, please contact Conna Dewart at cdewart@upwardtransitions.org or 405-232-5507 x113.

Visit us online at upwardtransitions.org.

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