



New Directions Addiction Recovery Services



Letter From The Director

Thanks to overwhelming community support, 2024 was another outstanding year for New Directions and those we serve. I can honestly say that I am prouder of this team now than ever before. Witnessing the passion and dedication these individuals bring to selflessly support others in recovery is both humbling and inspiring. During this year's strategic planning session, leadership revisited our Mission and Vision statements. These guiding principles help provide direction, and each staff member has them posted at their workstations as a reminder of why we are here each day.

Our Mission: Inspiring Recovery, Fostering Community, Saving Lives

Our Vision: To be a beacon of hope for the recovery community through sustainable programs led by peers providing excellence in programming for people with substance use disorders.

The New Directions Sober Living Program is still considered the gold standard of housing support for those in early recovery, proudly based in McHenry County. We now have five former residents of New Directions on our peer support staff, sharing their stories of hope in their daily work. We look to expand our $\frac{3}{4}$ living program in 2025 with the construction of a 6-unit, 12-bed apartment building in Woodstock, which we will break ground on this spring. This will provide our residents with a stable, affordable housing option beyond sober living.

The Other Side has truly become one of the most unique, innovative, and impactful SUD projects in the Midwest. By blending SUD recovery support work with an alternative entertainment venue, we offer entertainment and community support in a positive, often inspiring, alcohol-free environment. The addition of a free Narcan vending machine and the exponential growth of our support group offerings have significantly contributed to our success there over the past year.

In what may be our most exciting accomplishment of 2024, our A Way Out Program peer support team is now stationed inside Northwestern-Woodstock Hospital to offer face-to-face peer support to patients on-site. This initiative is crucial for reducing overdose rates, breaking cycles of chronic relapse, and providing a personal touch that many struggling with SUD may otherwise never experience.

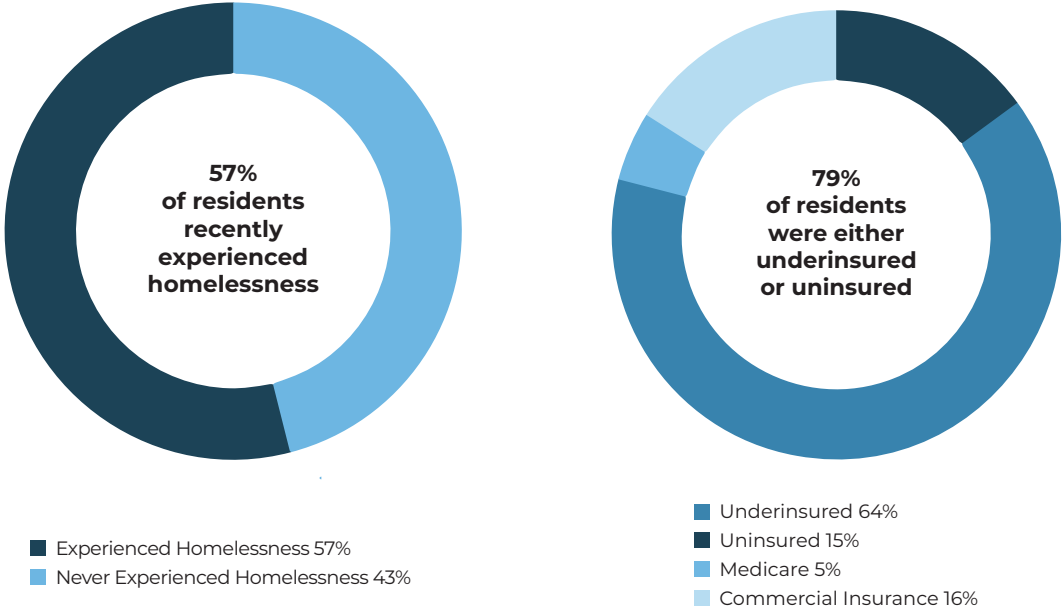
From the top down, this organization continues to be led by peers in recovery with the simple goal of giving others the same opportunities to recover and thrive that we have been blessed with in our own lives. We do recover, and lost dreams awaken. Watching our residents and participants find new life has been one of the biggest honors of my life. I encourage you to join our mission as a donor or volunteer and see for yourself exactly what I mean. It is truly a gift.

Bobby Gattone
Executive Director



Community Impact

Meeting The Need



Our Network of Services



372

people have participated in New Directions' weekly Family Support Group at The Other Side in 2024.



2,339

participants were served through the A Way Out program in partnership with the McHenry County State's Attorney's Office 2024.



665

individuals have been served in New Directions' housing and sober living programs since 2017.



Sober Living Retreat & Housing

New Directions Sober Living Program continues to provide the gold standard for supportive sober living in Illinois. In 2024, our dedicated peer support staff guided residents through their early recovery while helping to navigate any hurdles related to getting their lives back on track. The metrics shared in this report show the success of our sober living initiatives, showcasing our commitment to providing structured housing that promotes personal growth through 12-step recovery principles.

Throughout 2024 New Directions' peer support staff continued to grow together as a team. Late in the year we added an Intake and Employment Specialist, to further support workforce development of our residents. Intake hours were expanded to make our housing more accessible, and demand for our housing continues to grow.

New Directions is in the midst of building a 12-bed apartment complex in Woodstock, and the goal is project completion at the end of 2025. This will create much needed affordable housing for those transitioning out of the sober living program. Safe and affordable housing beyond the first year of recovery will be a huge benefit for our residents as the work toward long-term recovery.

The data presented in this report is derived from our call-tracking system, participant surveys, and internal metrics, ensuring accurate tracking of program impact.

SOBER-LIVING HOUSING HIGHLIGHTS

January 2024 - December 2024

150 individuals

150 individuals served with housing in 2024

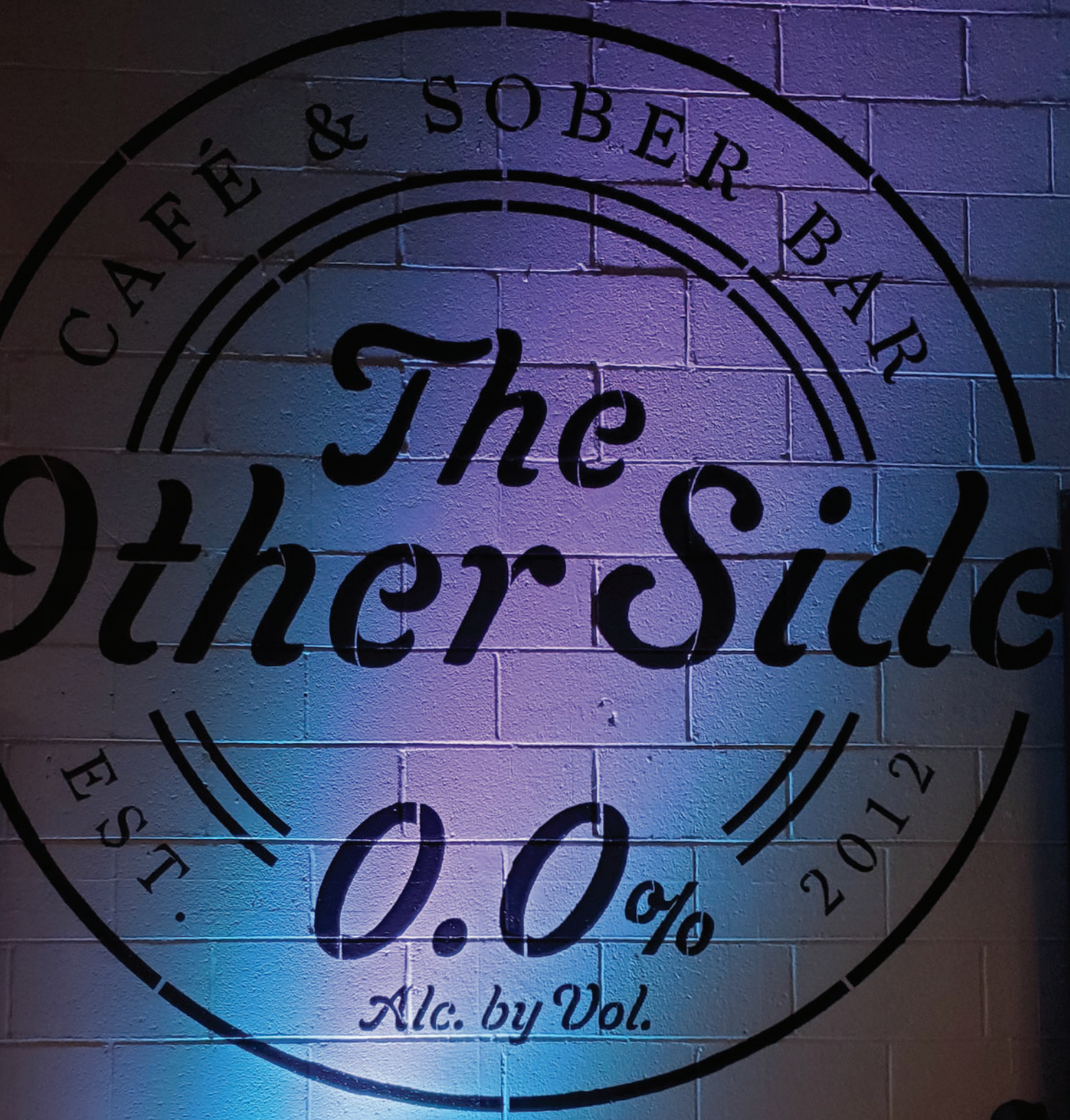
92% of participants

92% of participants served in housing were low to extremely low income at intake

47% of residents

47% of residents had recently experienced homelessness prior to intake





THE OTHER SIDE CAFE & SOBER BAR
Back Wall Mural



The Other Side Sober Bar & Cafe

THE OTHER SIDE HIGHLIGHTS
January 2024 - December 2024

372 Participants

372 individuals attended our family support group sessions, fostering a supportive community for families affected by addiction.

572 Recovery Meetings

572 recovery meetings were held, providing a safe and welcoming space for individuals to connect and support one another on their recovery journeys.

45 Narcan Trainings

45 Narcan training sessions were conducted, empowering community members with the skills and knowledge to effectively respond to opioid overdoses.

The Other Side is a vital community hub dedicated to supporting individuals and families affected by addiction through a variety of recovery services. In 2024, we proudly hosted 572 recovery meetings, providing a safe and welcoming space for attendees to connect and support one another on their recovery journeys. Our commitment to community wellness is further exemplified by our family support group sessions, which saw 372 participants engaging in meaningful discussions and receiving essential resources.

In addition to our meetings, we conducted 45 Narcan training sessions, empowering community members to effectively respond to opioid overdoses and save lives. Throughout the year, The Other Side was open for an impressive 5,512 hours, ensuring consistent accessibility and unwavering support for those seeking recovery and healing. Together, we are fostering a stronger, healthier community, one that thrives on connection and understanding.

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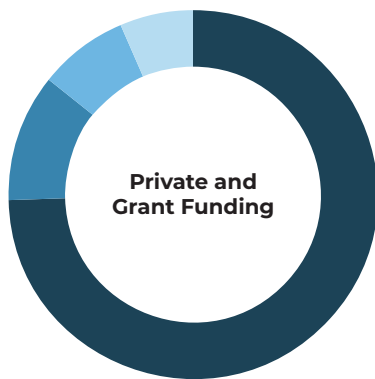
Sources of Financial Support

New Directions Addiction Recovery Services operating funds come from four main funding sources: revenue from grants, Sober Living fees, The Other Side, and general charitable contributions. Total New Directions' operating revenues for Fiscal Year 2024 were \$1,796,225.19. New Directions' total operating expenses were \$1,898,302.15.

Fiscal Year 2024 (December 1, 2023 - November 30, 2024)

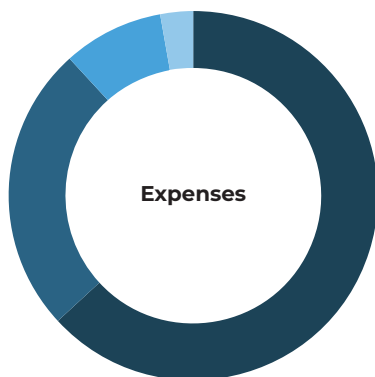


■ Housing (Fees)	\$ 285,345.31	67.5%
■ The Other Side	\$ 133,609.10	31.6%
■ Miscellaneous	\$ 3,601.67	0.9%



■ Operating Grants	\$ 1,024,201.99	74.6%
■ Capital Grants	\$ 1,530,41.87	11.1%
■ Special Events	\$ 1,089,98.87	7.9%
■ Charitable Giving	\$ 87,426.38	6.4%

Total: \$ 1,796,225.19



■ Personnel-Related	\$ 1,198,450.11	63.1%
■ Operating	\$ 479,147.71	25.2%
■ Facilities & Capital	\$ 165,951.46	8.7%
■ Fundraising & Marketing	\$ 54,752.87	2.9%

Total: \$ 1,898,302.15

About New Directions

Board of Directors



Christopher Reed
Board President



Joe Bongiovanni
Board Vice President



Nancy Howley
Board Treasurer



Julie Pirtle
Board Secretary



Miranda Alt
Board Member



Nick Howell
Board Member



Brady Coleman
Board Member



Rob Ryberg
Board Member

Who We are

At New Directions we are committed to inspiring individuals on their path to recovery, building a supportive community and saving lives through our peer support programs. Since 2011 we have been making significant improvements to our community's capacity to support others, through addressing service gaps in the SUD support network. Today our Sober Living Program, A Way Out Program and The Other Side Programs all work interconnectedly to create a true continuum of care for those with SUD in McHenry County.

www.ndars.org | (779) 220-0336

**Support New
Directions Today**



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donate now. Together,
we can make a lasting
impact!