



**URINNYC**<sup>®</sup>  
Urban Resource Institute



# IMPACT REPORT

2023







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Transforming the lives of domestic violence survivors and homeless families

# I. INTRODUCTION

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR

Dear URI Friends and Supporters,

We are proud to share URI's 2023 Impact Report, highlighting this year's accomplishments and the impact we've achieved together.

This year marks a pivotal moment in URI's Strategic Plan as we advance our mission to empower individuals, families, and communities to end cycles of violence, homelessness, poverty, and trauma through expanded services, innovation, and greater impact.

In 2023, we expanded our residential portfolio, offering safety and comprehensive services to adults, youth, and children experiencing trauma. Highlights include opening two new shelters—**Strive and Helping Hands**—which collectively added **158 units and 346 beds** to support survivors and families. These milestones reinforce our commitment to ensuring safety, stability, and healing for New Yorkers.

Our pioneering **People and Animals Living Safely (PALS)** program celebrated its 10th anniversary, launching a year-long recognition of this milestone and its profound impact on pet-inclusive shelters. As part of our ongoing advocacy, URI introduced the **PALS Policy "Pawprint" for Action**—a groundbreaking framework designed to make pet-inclusive shelters the national standard.

Through the lens of prevention and intervention, URI's **Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (RAPP)**, **Early RAPP**, and **Abusive Partner Intervention Program (APIP)** continued to address the root causes of domestic violence. By equipping youth and adults with the tools to foster accountability, respect, and healthier relationships, we work toward ending the cycle of abuse.

Our **Economic Empowerment Program (EEP)** continues to provide life-changing opportunities for survivors, empowering them to achieve financial independence. Notably, the **EEP Career Exploration Program** returned to full capacity, celebrating its **first fully in-person graduation** since 2019, a significant milestone in supporting participants as they rebuild their lives and pursue sustainable economic stability.

At URI, we recognize that achieving our mission requires systemic change. This year, our **Government Affairs team** amplified advocacy efforts, championing transformative policies and supporting initiatives to address systemic barriers faced by survivors.

We are deeply grateful for your unwavering support and shared commitment to advancing URI's vision and mission. With your partnership, we are transforming lives and building brighter futures for those we serve.

In service and gratitude,



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**Nathaniel M. Fields**  
Chief Executive Officer  
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*\* Trustees no longer with URI Board at time of publication.*

# SUPPORTING THE **SAFETY AND RESILIENCE** OF INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

URI understands that safety and healing are not one-size-fits-all concepts. We work tirelessly to remove the barriers that hinder individuals from achieving stability, healing, and independence. Our services are designed to end cycles of violence, homelessness, poverty, and trauma by empowering individuals, families, and communities to reclaim their lives and build a thriving future.

We provide safe shelter and comprehensive services throughout New York City, while also driving innovation and influence both nationally and internationally. Through this work, URI has become a recognized leader in ending domestic violence and homelessness, continually expanding our reach and impact.



## VISION

A world free of domestic violence, homelessness, poverty, and trauma, where individuals and communities are safe, stable, and thriving.

## MISSION

To empower individuals, families, and communities, particularly communities of color and other disenfranchised populations, to end cycles of violence, homelessness, poverty, and trauma by increasing safety, and resiliency.

## OUR VALUES

- Client Focus
- Integrity
- Innovation
- Transparency
- Joy
- Philanthropic Orientation
- Service Excellence



## II. PROGRAMS & SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS

### EMPOWERING LIVES THROUGH ENHANCED SAFETY, HOUSING SECURITY, AND ECONOMIC STABILITY

URI continued to facilitate safety and healing, ending cycles of violence, homelessness, poverty, and trauma through a holistic, trauma-informed, and client-centered approach. Our comprehensive programs and services—spanning prevention, intervention, education, and direct support—addressed the diverse needs of survivors of domestic violence and homelessness, along with their families.



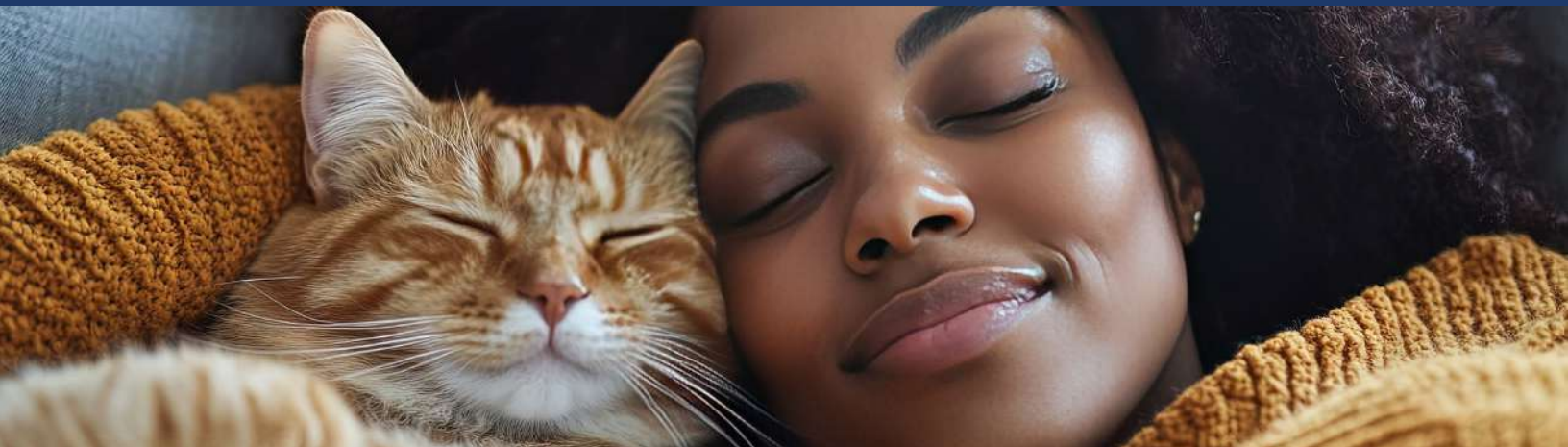
Through our **Domestic Violence Programs and Services**, survivors received critical support, safe shelter, and pathways to independence. The **People & Animals Living Safely (PALS)** program ensured survivors could seek safety with their pets, while the **Crime Victim Services Program (CVSP)** offered specialized support to help navigate complex challenges. Additionally, URI's **Legal Education and Advocacy Program (LEAP)** provided comprehensive on-site legal aid for issues like child custody, divorce, protective orders, and debt, along with training for residents and staff to empower survivors with knowledge of their rights.



Our prevention programs, including the **Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (RAPP)** and **Early RAPP**, empowered youth to build healthy, respectful relationships by equipping them with the tools to prevent and recognize abusive behaviors. The **Abusive Partner Intervention Program (APIP)** addressed harmful behaviors at their root, providing opportunities for change and accountability for people who've caused harm.

With domestic violence contributing to 40% of families entering homeless shelters, URI operated **seven transitional housing sites** across New York City. These programs provided more than just shelter—they offered essential resources and support to help families break free from cycles of homelessness.

URI's **Economic Empowerment Program (EEP)** empowered survivors, homeless families, and youth with tools to achieve financial independence. Through job-readiness training, career development workshops, financial literacy education, and innovative programs like the **Fab Lab**, EEP helped clients overcome barriers, end cycles of poverty, and create brighter futures.



The following highlights demonstrate the transformative impact of these efforts in fiscal year 2023, reflecting the progress made toward advancing URI's mission and vision:

- **Served 1,000 adults and children each night** in our **homeless** shelters, and **1,200 individuals** at sites for survivors of **domestic violence** and their families—approximately **1 in 35 unhoused individuals** in New York City.
- **Opened two new shelters for homeless families: Strive and Helping Hands.** These additions brought **158 apartments and 346 beds**, expanding support for individuals and families in need.
- **Launched a year-long celebration** marking the 10th anniversary of the **People & Animals Living Safely (PALS) program!** For a decade, PALS has provided safe, healing spaces for hundreds of families to remain together with their beloved pets—ensuring safety, stability, and the comfort of their companionship.



**WATCH THE CELEBRATION** begin with the opening of the PALS Place Pet Haven rooftop garden.

The PALS Program includes 9 domestic violence shelters across NYC with 304 apartment units, and a training program that reaches DV service providers across the country – addressing risk factors and delivering effective, innovative safety and healing to those impacted by domestic violence.





- Unveiled the **PALS Policy Pawprint for Action**, a blueprint for city, state, and federal lawmakers to make all residential shelters fully pet-inclusive.



- Delivered essential support to survivors through our **Legal Education and Advocacy Program (LEAP)**. In FY2023, we provided **vital assistance to 192 new individuals**. LEAP also successfully filed four VAWA petitions, helped 11 survivors obtain Employment Authorization Documents (EADs), and supported eight individuals in securing Green Cards.
- The **Crime Victim Services Program (CVSP)** delivered **nearly 10,000 services** to URI residents and NYC community members, providing vital advocacy and support to help overcome barriers to independence. Services included individual advocacy, counseling, emotional support for safety concerns, personal advocacy and accompaniment, information, referrals, and more.
- URI's **Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (RAPP)** and **Early RAPP** expanded to all five boroughs and, for the first time, reached District 75, serving students with **Autism Spectrum Disorders, cognitive delays, and other challenges**.

**RAPP** engaged students in **14 high schools**, educating them on healthy relationships and violence prevention, while its Peer Leadership Program empowered teens to advocate against abuse. **Early RAPP** provided **over 700 workshops** to middle school students, fostering skills to **recognize unhealthy patterns and build safer communities**.

- URI's **Abusive Partner Intervention Program (APIP)** served **230 individuals** through mandated programs in **Westchester County** and both mandated and nonmandated programs in **Manhattan**. Grounded in the belief that change is possible with the right tools, APIP advanced efforts to end domestic violence through behavioral change, education, collaboration, and advocacy.

#### Key highlights include:

- o Trained the 9th Judicial District, including Criminal and Family Court judges.
- o Featured on a Futures Without Violence podcast about APIP Westchester.
- o Presented at the Domestic Violence Council on legal concerns.
- o Partnered with Goldberg Law Firm and the County Attorney's Office on risk assessment.
- o Participated in the screening of Behind the Rage: America's Domestic Violence by Deeyah Khan, followed by a panel discussion.



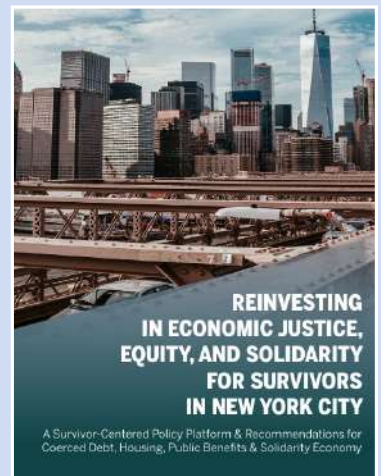


- Our **Economic Empowerment Program (EEP)** supported over **300 adults and children**, delivering more than 7,500 services, including job readiness, placement and retention, internships, financial empowerment, and credit repair workshops.
- Through the **EEP Fab Lab**, we provided a variety of innovative workshops and programs designed to inspire and empower youth participants.
  - **Fab to Future:** A summer program focused on digital design and fabrication.
  - **Dream Screen:** A weekend program dedicated to the art of filmmaking.
  - **What Next:** A weeklong workshop on college and career readiness.
  - **Fab Fashion:** A weeklong program blending digital design with traditional techniques to create hip-hop-inspired fashion.
- **EEP Career Exploration Program** celebrated its first fully in-person graduation since 2019, marking a significant milestone in supporting participants as they rebuild their lives and work toward lasting economic stability. The event honored **13 women survivors of domestic violence and homelessness**, signifying the program's full return.

[Learn more about this inspiring celebration.](#)



- URI, in collaboration with CSAJ and a coalition of advocates, has released [\*\*Reinvesting in Economic Justice, Equity, and Solidarity for Survivors in New York City\*\*](#). The report calls for action on coerced debt, housing equity, public benefits access, and survivor inclusion in economic policy reform.





# III. GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & ADVOCACY

## ADVANCING ADVOCACY: LAUNCHING URI'S GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS TEAM

Urban Resource Institute (URI) launched its Government Affairs team in June 2022 to advance policy change, achieve regulatory reform, secure resources and raise awareness about URI in furtherance of URI's mission to address domestic violence, homelessness, and poverty. The initiative reflects URI's commitment to driving sustainable, positive change for survivors and their families and the staff who serve them.

URI's Government Affairs team is responsible for crafting and implementing strategies to achieve advocacy goals, engaging legislators and regulators to advance solutions to systemic challenges. The team is also tasked with educating policymakers and stakeholders on legislative issues critical to URI's mission, ensuring alignment with URI's Executive Leadership and Board of Directors to maximize impact.

## LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS: DRIVING TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE

Over the past year, URI's Government Affairs team championed policy reforms to address systemic barriers for survivors of domestic violence and families experiencing homelessness. Below are key legislative achievements from July 2022 to June 2023 that support our mission to end cycles of violence, poverty, and homelessness.

### **Domestic Violence Shelter Mental Health Initiative (2023)**

The \$5.8 million initiative expanded access to mental health services for survivors in New York City's domestic violence shelters, including URI's. It supports over 10,000 adults and children, enhancing URI's ability to integrate mental health support within shelter programs. The Initiative has helped provide our clients with the emotional tools they need to heal.

### **Direct Cash Assistance for Survivors**

Direct cash assistance programs are a critical tool that are proven to help survivors access safety. Working alongside partners in government and the field, URI

worked to pass legislation to create a microgrants program for survivors of gender-based violence that provides no-barrier grants for moving and associated costs. URI will continue to advocate for an increase in funding to support this program.

### **New York City Defines Economic Abuse**

URI was instrumental in the passage of legislation that defined economic abuse, including such abuse in the definition of domestic violence. This important recognition signaled the universality of economic abuse and the importance of crafting solutions to address it. It also empowered the New York City Department of Human Rights to take enforcement action against incidents of economic abuse.

### **Economic Violence Reduction Act A.3038 (Rosenthal) /S.1353 (Cleare) (2023)**

Economic abuse is a pervasive issue, affecting over 98% of survivors of violence and often trapping them in dangerous situations without legal options. URI played a lead role in the development and advancement of this legislation, which will provide survivors with a legal tool to address coerced debt and financial exploitation. The act bolsters URI's financial empowerment programs by equipping survivors with tools to rebuild their financial independence and escape financial control.

### **New York State PAWS (Pets & Women's Safety) Act (2023)**

The New York State PAWS Act, inspired by URI's People and Animals Living Safely (PALS) Program, calls for the creation of an operational and capital fund to finance the construction and operation of PALS-like co-sheltering options to shelters across New York State.

### **Budgetary Allocations for Homelessness and Housing (2023 State Budget)**

The FY 2023-24 Final New York State Budget allocated substantial funding to homelessness prevention and affordable housing programs. In addition, because of URI's advocacy alongside its partners, the State committed millions in funding to providers of services to victims of crime, such as URI, to close the gap in federal Victims of Crime Act.

This has directly impacted URI's ability to help our residents and participants heal, access safe, stable temporary housing and secure stable, long-term housing.

### **New York City Budget (2023) and Social Service Funding**

In partnership with our colleagues in the human services sector, URI championed funding for long-overdue human services cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs). The Adopted 2023-24 New York City Budget allocated increased funding for social services, including support for frontline workers in programs like URI's shelters and support services. This funding boost helps improve wages for social service professionals, enabling URI to attract and retain dedicated staff who provide vital care and resources to survivors of domestic violence and homelessness.

### **Accountability Programming Best Practices**

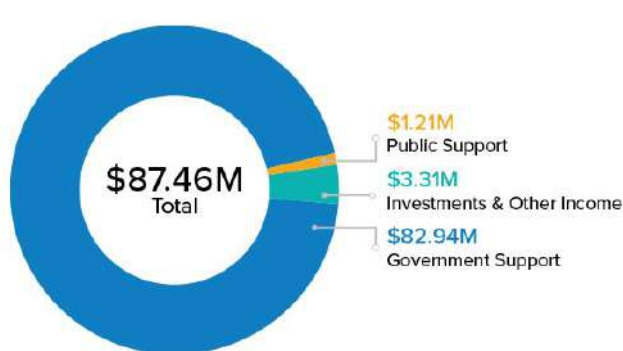
URI led efforts to develop and introduce legislation that would create statewide standards for accountability programming for people who have caused harm. URI believes that we must engage all members of the community in the solutions to end domestic violence, including those who have previously caused harm. Statewide standards for accountability programming will help ensure all providers are employing trauma-informed best practices and ideally lead to an increase in quality programming statewide.





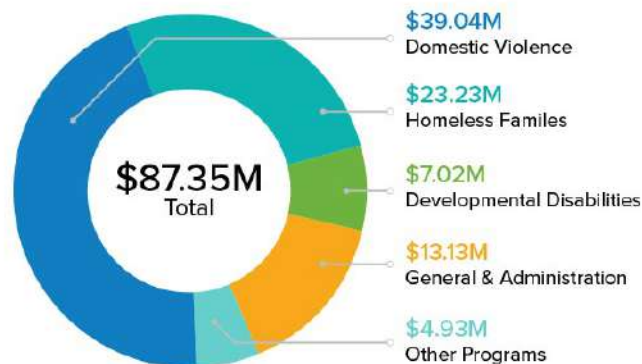
# IV. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## AUDITED FINANCIALS JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023



### Revenue & Support

- Government Support: \$82.94M
- Public Support: \$1.21M
- Investments & Other Income: \$3.31M



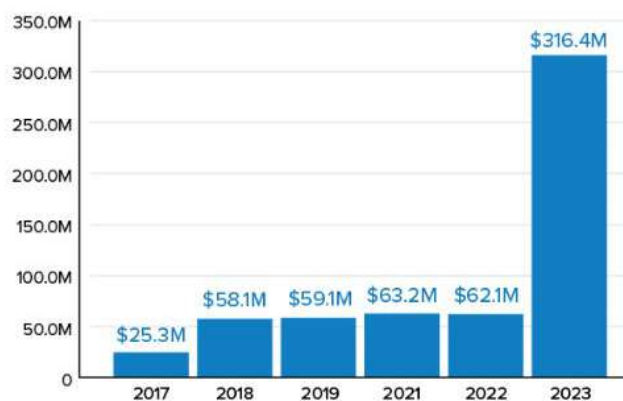
### Program Expenses

- Domestic Violence: \$39.04M
- Homeless Families: \$23.23M
- Developmental Disabilities: \$7.02M
- General & Administration: \$13.13M
- Other Programs: \$4.93M

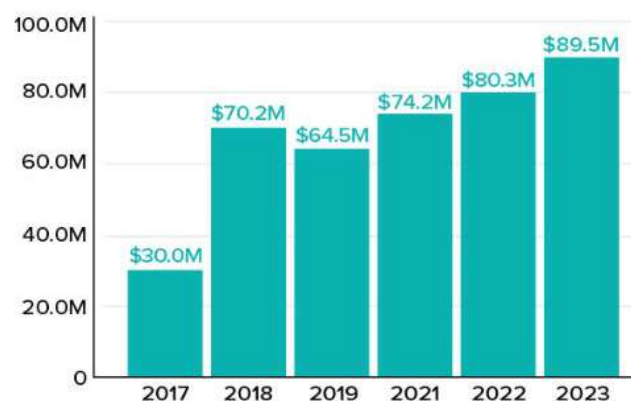
Program Expenses shown are before depreciation of \$2M.

## AGENCY GROWTH

### Assets



### Income



Due to a change from reporting by calendar year to fiscal year, there is no entry for 2020 in Assets and Revenue.

Due to GAAP changes, lease liabilities (\$213.3M) and right-of-use assets (\$210.9M) were added to our Statement of Financial Position in FY23, increasing both assets and liabilities alongside regular growth.

# V. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are deeply grateful to our major donors, individual supporters, institutional and public funders, and in-kind donors for their generous contributions. Your support empowers the individuals and families we serve. We also appreciate the many additional donors not listed here whose contributions make a meaningful impact every day. Thank you for championing our mission!

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