



# **STEP 1**

# **RECOVERY**

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Step 1, Inc., have been serving the men of northern Nevada since 1993. Throughout this report you will come to know who we are what we do, where we are located and how we help the community by providing Transitional Living with outpatient substance use disorder counseling for adult men in recovery for alcohol and or drug addiction.

### **Company Description**

Currently, Step 1 provides supportive transitional housing with level 1 outpatient substance use disorder counseling to low or no income, adult men in northern Nevada. These men, who are homeless as a result of their substance abuse issues and associated criminal behaviors, but demonstrate a strong desire to change their lives, are provided an opportunity for growth and change. Many of the men requesting supportive housing at Step 1 enter the program directly from incarceration, treatment centers or the streets. These gentlemen are in desperate need of housing and re-integration services. The model of supportive transitional housing provided by Step 1 is clinically proven and unique to northern Nevada. Structured transitional housing, combined with outpatient substance abuse counseling and peer-to-peer mentoring creates an environment for promoting responsible, pro-social values.

### **Historical Background**

As a direct result of a Reno resident named Eli Maritano, the Step 1 vision began in the 1950's. Maritano began offering his own home as a meeting place for alcoholics seeking sobriety. Maritano, a passionate believer in providing hope to others, understood the challenges facing those with substance abuse problems. He offered his garage as a dorm type facility so these men in need had a safe place to lay their head and a hot meal at the end of the day. Using his own experiential knowledge, he was convinced that by offering men a home in which to gather strength alongside others with similar problems, they could begin again with dignity and self-respect. When his small garage could no longer adequately provide space for all the men in need, Maritano relocated to a home near the University of Nevada, Reno campus, in 1990. Step 1 continues to provide services in this location today.

Experience proved that kindness alone was not enough to build a foundation for long-term recovery. The men were still relapsing and some, returning to prison. Facing the chronic condition (known as, alcoholism and/or drug addiction), the program design changed, becoming more structured and life-skill oriented so the men could achieve successful reintegration back into the community. In 1993, Maritano formalized his desire to be of service to men in recovery. The organization officially took on the name Step 1, Inc. and received its IRS 501(c) (3) designation in March 1993.

Since 1993 the program had sustained itself through client program fees and in-kind donations. In 2003, Step 1 was awarded its first grant through the Bureau of Justice Assistance and subsequently funded by the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) through the Office of Criminal Justice Assistance in 2006. Although the Bureau of Justice funding is no longer available, Step 1 became a 20-bed licensed facility for the treatment of alcohol & drugs in January 2010.



January 2, 2022

To Our Shareholders, Employees, and Customers

Step 1 has been serving the men of this community since 1993. In that time, over 3,677 men have entered our facility. Since 2012, a total of 688 men have entered Step 1 seeking help. Of those entering the facility, 368 reported being the father of a total of 526 children.

By the time an individual reaches out for help, their addiction has devastated their primary significant relationships with their children, their significant other, and with their employer. There is no doubt that mothers play an all-important, leading role in the lives of their children, but what about a father's role? A Professor of Psychiatry at the Yale Child Study Center wrote, "Men are the single greatest untapped resource in the lives of American children."

We currently live in the best of times and the worst of times for fatherhood. We live in the best of times because fathers who are engaged in their child's life spend more time than fathers of any previous generation. We live in the worst of times because millions of children continue to miss the regular presence of Dad.

When fathers are absent, their absence may negatively impact children's academic achievement, gender-specific development, general behavioral adjustment, and anger management, especially in males.

The men residing at Step 1 depend on this safe environment so they can be given a chance to start over. Step 1 is one of the few organizations that will admit clients with "no money down." Step 1 provides

hope that a life without drugs and alcohol is possible and that families can be put back together, no matter how broken they become.

I can't even begin to imagine what the impact would be on the community if Step 1 could no longer offer men a safe, supportive environment to begin anew. Please help us keep a vital service available in northern Nevada. Your donation of only \$500 can provide shelter, food and ancillary services for one month to a husband, father, brother, or son. **Please donate today!**

Sincerely,

Dani Doehring  
Executive Director

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**“Serving the community by providing transitional housing and supportive services to adult men who have been diagnosed with a substance use disorder and who seek to reenter society as self-sufficient, responsible fathers, individuals and citizens.”**

## **Past & Current Accomplishments**

In 2006 and 2007, Step 1 was in a capital campaign to raise over \$1 million to expand and renovate its facility. The capital campaign was a success and construction began in March 2009. In January 2010, Step 1 completed the long-awaited renovation project and obtained a license from the State of Nevada Bureau of Health Care Quality & Compliance as a "Facility for the Treatment of Alcohol & Drugs." This license allowed Step 1 to open the new section dedicated to the memory of our founder, Mr. Eli Maritano. We now serve 20 residents at a given time.

## **Step 1, Inc. Board of Directors**

### **Officers**

**Jason Perry**  
*Board Chair*

**Chip Cooper**  
*Board Vice-Chair*

**Dominic Sinnott, Esq.**  
*Secretary*

**Merlin Belnap, C.P.A.**  
*Treasurer*

### **Members-at-Large - Non Officers**

**Matthew Jeannes**  
**Dennis Bush**  
**Chip Cooper**  
**Christopher Capurro**  
**Allan Jackson**  
**Janette O’Hair**  
**Racquel Abowd**  
**Tom Bolan**  
**Teresa Courier**

### **Staff - Non-Voting Member**

**Dani L. Doehring, LADC-S, Executive Director**

## Overview of Effective Service Outcomes

The Step 1 program, in its 30<sup>th</sup> year, is a highly structured, alcohol and drug free 20-bed transitional living environment for adult men in need of substance/mental health and re-entry services. The overall goal is to effect positive change in the lives of the men we serve. This is accomplished by providing low-income structured transitional housing, basic needs, and outpatient substance disorders counseling during a 90-day length of stay. Residents are carefully screened prior to admission, assessing level of motivation and readiness to change. Thus, ensuring the highest probability of a positive outcome. **Results** - The program design produces the tools necessary for returning valuable men back to our community and lowering the recidivism rate in our state.

Step 1 provides bed space for up to 20 adult male residents at a given time or the ability to serve approximately 80-100 men annually. Step 1 is licensed by the State of Nevada Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance as a “Facility for the Treatment of Alcohol and Drugs,” and certified by The State of Nevada Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency, (SAPTA). Certification levels include the following: American Society of Addiction Medicine’s (ASAM) Level 1 Outpatient with a co-occurring disorders endorsement and Transitional Living (a non-ASAM level).

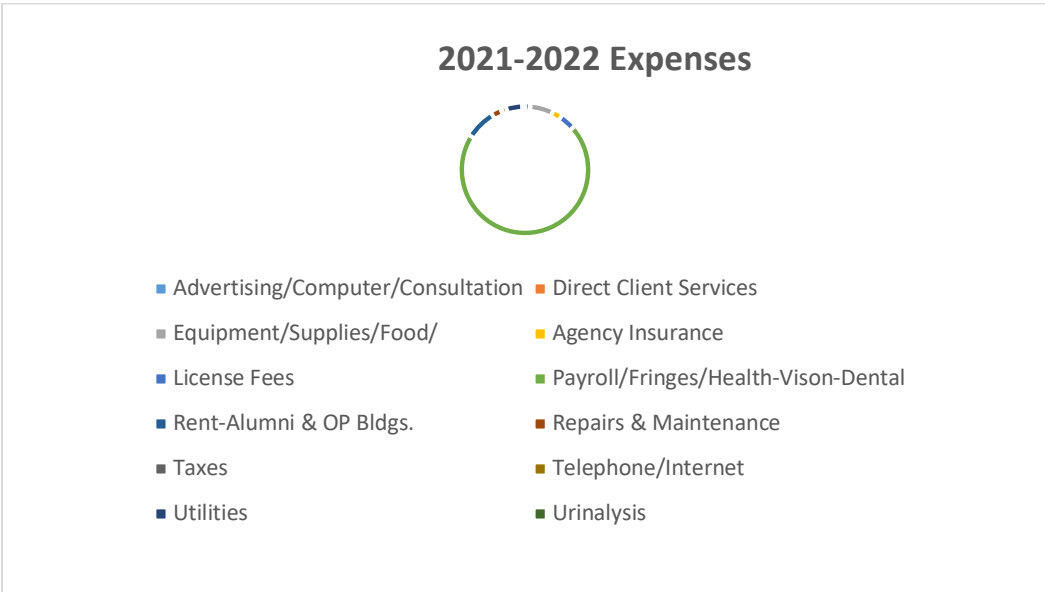
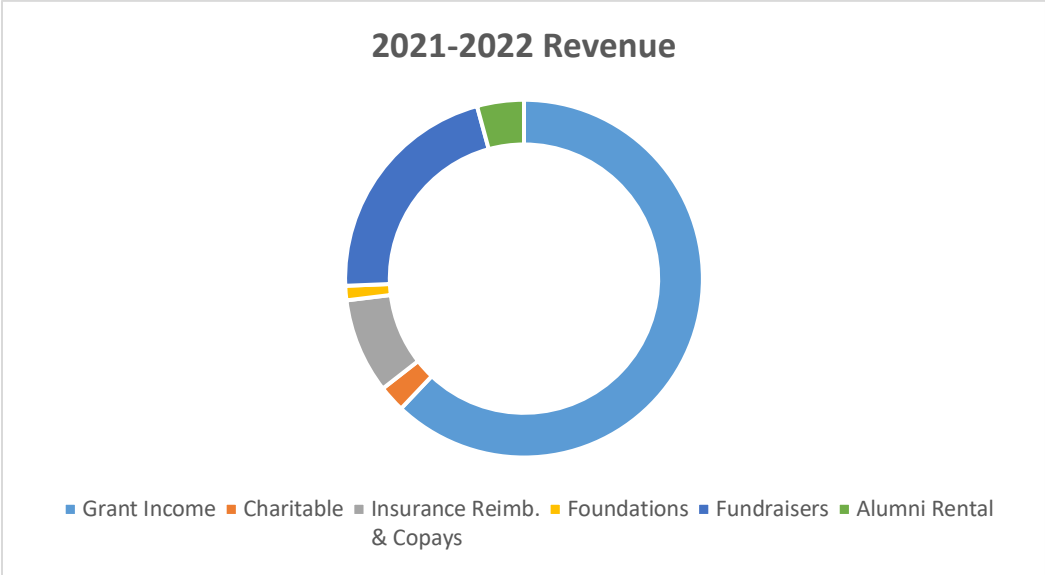
Step 1’s transitional living facility is located near the University of Nevada, Reno at 1015 N. Sierra St., Reno, NV 89503. Residents receive substance abuse counseling/re-entry services strategically located adjacent to the transitional living facility at 1027 N. Sierra St., Reno, NV 89503. Having the counseling component located right next-door decreases “no-show” appointments and eliminates the need for transportation to counseling. The typical length of stay for the transitional living facility is a minimum of three months. However, a client may request a one-month extension 30 days prior to his planned exit date. The outpatient counseling component length of stay ranges from three months up to one year, depending on individual client need.

A unique feature of the Step 1 program is requiring a mandatory savings plan, rather than charging its residents a fee for rent. Since 94% of transitional housing bed nights are funded through SAPTA, Step 1 is not allowed to receive grant funds and charge the client a rent fee. Instead, residents must secure employment within two weeks of admission and then begin paying into their own savings account each week. The amount saved is commensurate with their take home income. This is non-negotiable and an integral part of each resident having funds to secure stable independent housing upon graduation. Even if they leave unexpectedly, the money they saved is returned regardless of how they exit the facility. This reduces reliance on high-risk living environments in weekly/monthly motels, which commonly lead to relapse and re-incarceration.

Treatment also saves money. One study found that each dollar spent on substance abuse treatment saved \$5.60 in terms of fewer arrests, incarcerations, food stamp use, and less child welfare and medical costs. Since, criminal behavior decreases as alcohol and drug use decrease, it follows that drug treatment will save valuable tax dollars. To further substantiate reduction in recidivism and taxpayer savings, we can look at Step 1’s 2022 data. A total of 88 men were provided services. Of those, only 2% returned to prison in the critical first year after graduating or leaving the program. Transitional housing frees up space for individuals awaiting release from prison and saves taxpayer dollars. According to most recent published data from a report titled: The Price of Prisons-Nevada, total cost per individual inmate in Nevada averages \$20,656 annually. ***This means tax-payers realized an annual savings of \$2.1 million dollars in incarceration costs alone.***

# Financial Highlights

**FY2021-2022 Revenue  
\$485,162**



**FY2021-2022  
Expenses \$485,162**

# A Huge Thank You to our Supporters!



Follow us on Facebook

“Like” Step 1, Inc. and view the Thought for Today . . .

**Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment Agency (S.A.P.T.A.)  
Office of Criminal Justice Assistance - JAG  
E. L. Cord Foundation  
Nell J. Redfield Foundation  
Robert Z. Hawkins Foundation  
US Bancorp  
Bryan Drakulich, DoMore Realty  
Washoe County Home Consortium - HOME Funds  
San Francisco Home Loan Bank – Affordable Housing Program  
Charles Schwab Bank  
Raven Construction  
J.R. Romero, Architect  
Erlach Computer Consulting  
StanCan Design  
Ken Bickford  
Axia Home Loans  
One Trust Home Loans  
Western Environmental  
Meadows Bank  
Toiyabe Golf Club  
Lakeridge Golf Course  
ReMax Realty  
Western NV Supply  
Western Turf & Hardscapes  
Renown Medical Center & Hometown Health  
The Eldorado Resort Casino  
Peppermill Resort Spa Casino  
Atlantis Casino Resort Spa  
UNR Athletics  
Crown Electric**