Jana
At age 50, Jana left her home after suffering abuse for more than 20 years. Prior to working with reStart, she lived on the streets and in several domestic violence shelters. When Jana first arrived at reStart she suffered from fear and anxiety. She was isolated and afraid to go outside.
The staff at reStart worked with Jana to find safe, permanent housing as well as offered her counseling services to address underlying issues. Through the help and services provided by reStart, Jana is living in permanent housing and has become more confident and outgoing. She is active in her church and helps a friend with her business.
Jana is enjoying a higher quality of life. She socializes with her neighbors, attends group activities and special celebrations with other tenants in her building. Jana is taking care of herself by participating in domestic violence groups and receiving individual therapy. Permanent, supportive housing provided a safe environment for her to heal and grow.

Joshua
Joshua is a Marine Corps veteran who suffered a traumatic brain injury during active duty. Since returning home, he has struggled with severe Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Prior to arriving at reStart, Joshua lost his job and his life started spiraling out of control.
Joshua entered reStart’s Veteran Services Program and within 15 days he was placed in permanent housing. Shortly after being placed in safe, supportive housing, Joshua enrolled in school and began working. The Veteran Services Program enrolled him in a program to train service dogs. He graduated from the program and is currently training service dogs for veterans.
In addition, Joshua is leading Odyssey groups for other veterans suffering from PTSD. He attributes all the positive change in his life to the support from reStart’s Veteran Service Program.
10 years ago the Downtown Council (DTC), NourishKC (formerly Episcopal Community Services), and reStart formed a partnership to open the Downtown Community Services Center (DCSC) to serve the homeless population in Downtown Kansas City.

In 2007, the DTC established Downtown Kansas City Civic Ventures, a 501c3 corporation, to purchase a building in close proximity to overnight emergency shelters. Each year, the DTC raises $50,000 to maintain the facility to the highest quality standards. The DCSC is the point of entry for homeless persons needing showers, laundry, counselors, nutritious meals and housing referrals.

This past year, the DCSC reached new milestones with reStart and NourishKC at its home at 8th & Paseo.

**reStart**
The DCSC’s first tenant, reStart’s Housing Solutions Center, marked its tenth anniversary of providing shelter as well as supportive services to homeless men, women and youth with the goal of helping them move toward self-sufficiency and ending homelessness.

In 2017, reStart served 2,914 households at the DCSC including 470 people served through permanent housing and Rapid Rehousing programs. Of the 470 served through reStart’s permanent housing program:

- **82%** EXITED TO PERMANENT HOUSING
- **98%** STAYED IN PERMANENT HOUSING MORE THAN SIX MONTHS
- **73%** INCREASED THEIR INCOME

The additional households were served through drop-in services, including weekly vet outreach, health department services, Havesters, Swope Health Services Mobile Clinic and mail services.

“The Rapid Rehousing programs placed us at the forefront of a new approach to working with the homeless in our community: helping prevent at-risk families and individuals from becoming homeless in the first place, or helping to rapidly find housing for them if they do lose their homes,” said Evie Craig, reStart executive director.

**NourishKC**
In February 2016, the Kansas City Community Kitchen made international headlines with the launch of the Dining with Dignity restaurant-style service. Featured on NBC Nightly News, The Huffington Post, The Kansas City Star as well as several other national media outlets, NourishKC continues to be a leader in Dining with Dignity, Changing Lives in Kansas City.

Since starting their Dining with Dignity program, NourishKC has served more than a million meals at the DCSC. With the relaunch of the Culinary Cornerstones Training Program, the Community Kitchen implemented a full menu for guests in 2017. NourishKC continues to be a leader in Dining with Dignity, Changing Lives in Kansas City.

The Kansas City Community Kitchen by the numbers:

- **1,000,000** HOT, NUTRITIOUS MEALS OVER THE LAST EIGHT YEARS
- **148,867** MEALS SERVED INCREASED MORE THAN 20% OVER THEIR PREVIOUS LOCATION

The Kansas City Community Kitchen is the point of entry for homeless persons needing showers, laundry, counselors, nutritious meals and housing referrals.

“The committee works hard to ensure that human service needs of Downtown residents are met using best practices and to ensure a high quality of care and effectiveness of operation,” said Sean O’Byrne, DTC vice president. “An important goal of the committee is to provide a safe, accessible, daytime, multi-use facility to assist the homeless community in the delivery of services Downtown.”

The Downtown Council championed the private fundraising of more than $1 million to purchase the Downtown Community Services Center at 8th & Paseo in 2007. This year we celebrate 10 years as one of Kansas City’s most successful homeless services provider. Our results have been very gratifying, but we are just getting started. The DCSC will continue to be a source of hope and restoration for men, women, and youth seeking a better future.

The Downtown Council, NourishKC, and reStart are very grateful for your ongoing support. Through your partnership we are transforming the lives of many homeless in our community. The success achieved in such a short time, signals greater things to come.

**DCSC Budget - $91,184**

**INCOME**

- **$69,148** 33% CORPORATE DONATIONS
- **$17,000** 17% CONTRACT SERVICES
- **$20,036** 83% BUILDING MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

**EXPENSES**

- **$54,539** 13% MISC GRANT
- **$16,250** 5% BUILDING EXPENSES

The Downtown Community Services Center is a collaboration between the Downtown Council, NourishKC, and reStart Inc.

Donations can be made to:

Downtown Kansas City Civic Ventures
1000 Walnut, Suite 200
Kansas City, MO 64106

816-421-1539