

lesco[®]

Resilient Recovery

DEVELOPMENTS



2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION

Our Mission is to meet the unique and changing needs of New Yorkers experiencing critical life problems with substance use disorder, mental illness, and associated homelessness, with a person-centered, strengths-based, and trauma-responsive approach to care. Using a wide-ranging health and human services network, we support their well-being and empower them to make healthy life choices.

VISION

We aim to help at-risk New Yorkers fully benefit from the social and economic life in their communities. We aspire to provide unsurpassed integrated, person-centered, trauma-responsive behavioral health and social services to transform lives, especially those impacted by substance use disorder, mental illness, and homelessness. Our dream is to serve with the passion and professionalism that generates enduring outcomes, rewarding recovery, and lasting hope.

VALUES

We are committed to ensuring recovery and well-being.
We harness the power of resilience.
We respect every person we serve.
We recognize health disparity and trauma in the community we serve.
We believe each person to be inherently good.

Investing in Development at LESC: Programs, People, Community

The spirit of development has truly defined our work over the past year. More than just a concept, it's been the driving force behind the positive changes we've witnessed in expanding our services, the progress of the individuals we support, and the deepening of our community impact. This year has been a period of significant and exciting growth, laying a stronger foundation for the future of LESC.

One of our most significant achievements was the transition to the Su Casa Residential Redesign Program, which allows us to better support individuals navigating a wider range of substance use challenges. We also launched our Problem Gambling Program, addressing a critical community need and broadening our continuum of care.

The Residential Redesign Program opens doors to new opportunities for both LESC and those we serve. We can now offer a more flexible and responsive continuum of care, better addressing the complexities of substance use disorder.

Our commitment to development extends to both our spaces and our people. This year, we made significant improvements to Su Casa, began a \$9 million renovation of our Sixth Street Supportive Housing facility, and assumed full ownership of Pencer House – all part of our effort to create high-quality, supportive environments. At the same time, we invested in robust training for our dedicated staff, ensuring they're equipped to meet evolving client needs. I'm incredibly proud of their adaptability, professionalism, and unwavering dedication during this period of transformation.

Looking ahead, I envision LESC evolving into an even more integrated and impactful organization. We will continue to seek innovative ways to expand our services, deepen our community connections, and advocate for systemic change.

Thank you to our donors, board, volunteers, staff, and clients—your commitment and generosity power everything we do. I invite you to stay involved: become an advocate, volunteer, or donate. Your belief in our mission is truly making a difference.

“Our doors are now open to a wider population of people who use any kind of substances. So that is the biggest benefit of transitioning to the Residential Redesign Program.”

- VALERIE -



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Valerie" followed by a horizontal line.

VALERIE WALTERS, MBA
President & Chief Executive Officer

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

JUL

EMPLOYEE PICNIC

We had an incredible time at our yearly staff picnic at Krucker's Picnic Ground. A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for a day of fun, laughter, and great company. Your presence made the event truly special, and we couldn't have asked for a better team to share these moments with.



OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Overdose Awareness Day at LESC in 2024. Your presence, support, and commitment to honoring lives and fostering hope made a powerful impact.

AUG



NOV

2024 STAFF HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR AT SU CASA

A fantastic opportunity to focus on our well-being, connect with colleagues, and explore helpful resources. A huge thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the event a success!



HOLIDAYS EVENTS

DRS, Admin, ORS III.



DEC

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Residential Redesign Program Launch

Groundbreaking new approach to addiction treatment at LESC. This program offers a personalized path to recovery, addressing individual needs with a focus on stabilization, rehabilitation, and reintegration.

Pencer House Renovations

LESC has completed the transformative renovation of Pencer House, providing residents with a more comfortable and modern living environment.

Problem Gambling

LESC's Dual Recovery Services (DRS) program was approved by OASAS to provide treatment services for Problem Gambling.

LESC ANNUAL BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

We celebrated community, resilience, and hope with inspiring stories from our residents and clients, honored the memory of Donald Manning with the Lifetime Friendship Award, and we were reminded why creating safe, supportive spaces is at the heart of LESC's mission.



Residential Redesign Program:

A New Era in Substance Use Treatment

LESC is excited to announce the launch of our Residential Redesign Program, a significant step forward in our commitment to serving New Yorkers struggling with substance use disorder, mental health issues, and homelessness. This initiative builds upon our mission by expanding the substances we address beyond opioids to include any substance a client may be facing.

CEO Valerie Walters emphasizes that this program reflects LESK's core values: "Our goal is to continue expanding our efforts, not changing them." A unique aspect of LESK's program is integrating an Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) directly within the residential setting, making us the only non-profit offering this seamless access to medication-assisted treatment.



Launching the Residential Redesign Program has been a collaborative effort, with crucial support from Community Board 3, OASAS, the Department of Health, LESC staff, partner organizations, and the LESC Board. This widespread support underscores the program's importance and potential positive impact.

The Residential Redesign Program is structured around three client-centered elements:



STABILIZATION

This initial 30- to 90-day element focuses on managing withdrawal symptoms and establishing a stable foundation for recovery. Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) is key, helping clients safely navigate detoxification. The duration is tailored to individual needs, allowing clients to adjust physically and mentally for the next stage.



REHABILITATION

Following stabilization, clients can enter an intensive program to develop tools and skills for long-term recovery. Through individual and group therapy, clients learn healthy coping mechanisms, relapse prevention strategies, and positive social skills, empowering them to take ownership of their recovery.



REINTEGRATION

This third element prepares clients for a successful return to the community. Recognizing that recovery extends beyond treatment, this element provides support in housing, vocational training, job searches, and connecting with community resources.

“The clients set their goals,” Valerie explained, “and we work with them to accomplish their goals, whether they hope to find housing and a job, or to be reunited with their families.” This client-centered approach recognizes the importance of individual ownership in the recovery process. Valerie clarified, “People don’t have to go through all three elements. They might come to us and say, ‘I just want to go through the rehabilitation element.’ We work with them according to what their goals are.”

We invite community members, healthcare providers, and referral partners to join us in supporting this transformative initiative. Together, we can create a future where more New Yorkers can access the care and support they need to rebuild their lives.

Facing the Odds:

LESC's Commitment to Tackling Problem Gambling



What begins as casual entertainment—like a quick bet or a trip to the casino—can sometimes become a serious addiction. Problem gambling affects millions, often leading to financial hardship, emotional distress, and strained relationships. LESC is committed to offering real, compassionate support to help individuals regain control.

Understanding Who is Affected

Problem gambling impacts people from all backgrounds. LESC sees a growing need for services, particularly among young men engaged in sports betting and members of immigrant communities. “We’ve seen an increase in demand for multilingual support, especially within the Chinese-speaking community,” says Carol Deng, Director of Dual Recovery Services. “Isolation and depression can lead individuals to gambling, and language barriers make it harder to seek help.”

Shame is also a major barrier. “Many feel they should be able to fix it themselves,” Carol notes. “But addiction doesn’t work that way – it gets worse without support.”

A Multifaceted Approach: LESC's Services and Programs

LESC meets individuals where they are. Some clients seek complete abstinence, while others want to reduce their gambling. “We focus on harm reduction and incremental progress,” Carol explains. “Recovery isn’t one-size-fits-all.”

Services include:

- Individual Counseling
- Psychoeducation
- Group Therapy and Peer Advocacy
- Financial Counseling and Life Skills
- Psychiatric Referrals for co-occurring mental health needs
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)

Through partnerships with the Problem Gambling Resource Center, LESC is expanding outreach and improving access to culturally sensitive care.

Hope Starts with a Call

Many clients struggle to stay in treatment due to denial or family pressure. But every journey starts with a conversation. “Don’t be afraid, don’t be scared. Don’t hesitate to even ask questions,” says Carol. “There’s no downside to reaching out – only the possibility of a better future.”

“Don’t be afraid, don’t be scared. Don’t hesitate to even ask questions,” says Carol. “There’s no downside to reaching out – only the possibility of a better future.”

Together, we can break the cycle of addiction and build a healthier community.

Breathing New Life into Pencer House

The renovation of Pencer House was born out of a clear need: to provide an improved living environment that could better support the residents' journey to independence. As Merry Limbu, LESC's Director of Operations, explained, "This project was about physical improvements and aesthetic enhancement."

The renovation project was designed to address critical infrastructure needs while also implementing moderate apartment updates. The upgrades aim to ensure the building remains a safe, comfortable, and dignified home for residents, free of major issues for the next 20 to 30 years.

The Renovation Encompassed:

Apartment Upgrades: Every apartment received a comprehensive makeover, including new paint, flooring, windows, appliances, and fully renovated bathrooms.

Common Area Enhancements: Hallways, lobby areas, and the building's exterior were revitalized, creating a more welcoming and inviting atmosphere.

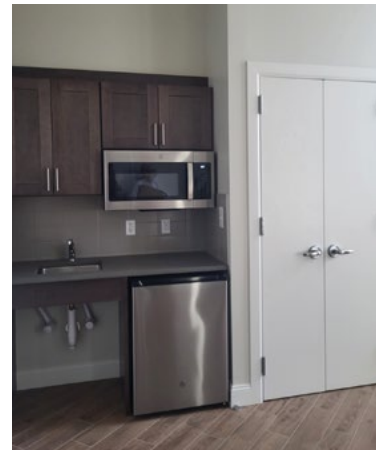
Dining Hall Improvements: The dining hall, a vital space for residents, also received much-needed upgrades, ensuring a more comfortable and enjoyable dining experience.

Funding the Dream

The renovation of Pencer House was a \$19,142,567 project funded entirely through a co-lender agreement without external donations or partnerships. The funding sources are as follows:

- NYC Housing Preservation and Development (HPD): \$13,043,342
- Community Preservation Corporation: \$5,293,100
- LESC: \$806,125

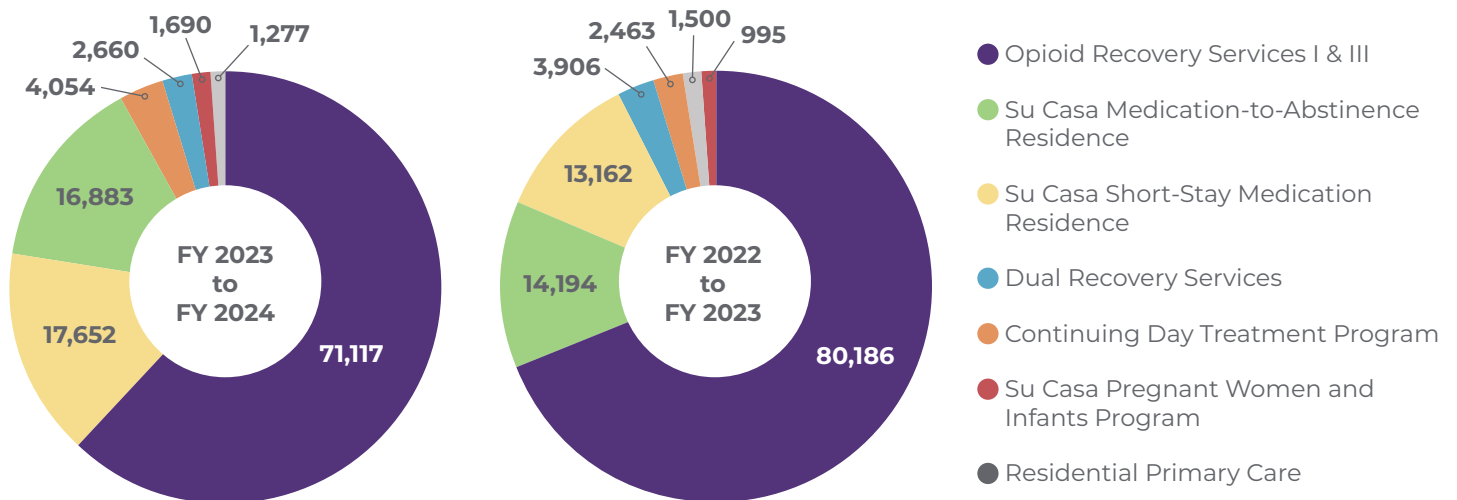
Pencer House Housing Development Fund Corporation, wholly owned by LESC, spearheaded the project. This financial independence highlights LESC's commitment to direct investment in its facilities and residents.



What We Do

PROGRAMS AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	DESCRIPTION
LESC Outpatient Opioid Recovery Services (ORS) - Medication for Opioid Use	Outpatient medication-assisted treatment program.
LESC Dual Recovery Services (DRS) - Integrated Substance Use Treatment & Mild Mental Health Services	Outpatient treatment that addresses both substance use disorder, mild mental health issues, and problem gambling for clients, families, significant others, and household members.
LESC Continuing Day Treatment Program (CDT) - Services in Cantonese	A professional, structured refuge for Cantonese-speaking clients who struggle with mental and emotional illnesses.
LESC Su Casa Medication-to-Abstinence Residence	18-24 month program designed to help adults with sustained histories of substance use disorder taper to abstinence.
LESC Su Casa Short-Stay Medication Residence	6-9 month medication assisted treatment program in a supportive residential environment.
LESC Su Casa Pregnant Women and Infants Program	Residential program focused on aiding expectant mothers and mothers with children aged 0-9 months facing substance use disorder.
LESC Residential Primary Care	Addresses full range of physical health needs for our residential clients, including prevention, immunizations, treatment of acute illness and injuries, and chronic disease management.
LESC HIV and Hepatitis C Education, Testing & Counseling and Referral Services	Residential and Outpatient programs to raise awareness of HIV and hepatitis and educate individuals on risk behavior and options.
LESC Education (GED), Job Training and Placement Assistance	Vocational programs designed to help clients obtain employment.
LESC Supportive Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · LESC Individual & Family Supportive Housing · LESC Scattersite Housing · LESC Transitional Safety Units

LESC Episodes of Care

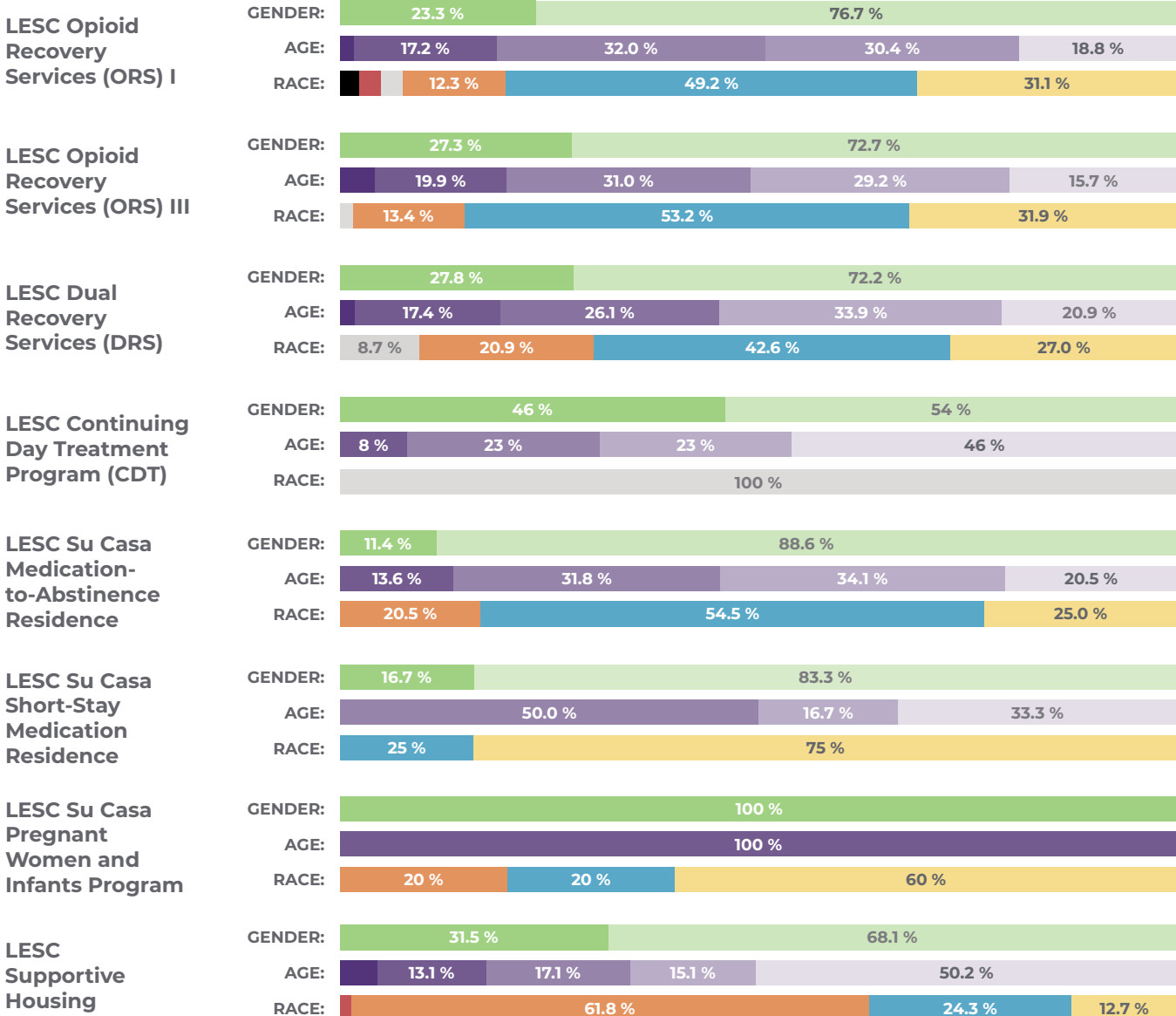


Who We Serve

Individuals Served: 1,097

RACE	% of Clients	AGE	% of Clients	GENDER	% of Clients
Alaskan Native	0.3 %	22-25	2.0 %	Female	24.4 %
American Indian	0.2 %	26-35	16.3 %	Male	75.6 %
Asian or Pacific Islander	4.8 %	36-45	29.4 %	OUTPATIENT	78 %
Black or African American	14.5 %	46-55	32.3 %	RESIDENTIAL	22 %
Hispanic Origin	49.7 %	56+	20.0 %		
White	30.5 %				

Demographics by Program



THANK YOU, DONORS!

AAD Construction Corp.
Tom Amaxas

Ace Endico Foods
Sandy Trimarchi/
Christine Federico

Amy Larovere Consultant

AM&G Waterproofing, LLC.
William Rivera, COO

Anthony Michaels, Esq.
Anthony Michaels

Approved Plumbing & Fire Protection
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CAIPA Foundation, Inc.
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Gerry Devery

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Ebony Office Products Inc.
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Hudson Housing Capital
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J. Pilla Group, Ltd.

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Courtney Horwitz

United Healthcare Services, Inc.
Christine Bannon

Wavecrest Management
Susan Camarata

Weiss Plumbing
Tim Donahue

W&M Fire/Island Fire
Todd Corcoran

Xeron Clinical Laboratories
Jack Jacobi

Individuals:

Robert Bittar

Gooi Seong Chneh

Cindy Harden

Alexis Kuerbis

Howard Leifman

Eliot Locitzer

Donald Manning

Anthony Michaels

Farhad Mirzada

Elizabeth Montgomery

Thomas Odgen

Debra Pantin

Orlando Perez

Carolyn Rainer

Blanca Ramirez

Gail Reid

Peggy Shen

Lolita Silva-Vazquez

Jan Van Arnam

Jacqueline Vargas

Stanley Zareff

Sandra Zhao

Theresa Zuniga

LESC
Board of Directors

Patricia Hoffman | Chairperson

Howard D. Leifman | Secretary

Tony J. Brown

Michael J. Golia

Eliot Locitzer

Dr. Nasir H. Naqvi

Thomas P. Ogden

Blair Pan

Bruce D. Tindal

LESC
Executive Team



Valerie Walters
President &
Chief Executive Officer



Cargil Bernard
VP, Chief Financial Officer



Lolita Silva-Vazquez
VP, Chief Program Officer



Jacqueline Vargas
VP, Human Resources

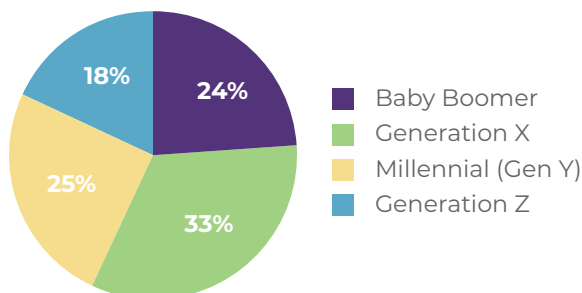


Gail Reid
VP, Corporate
Compliance Officer

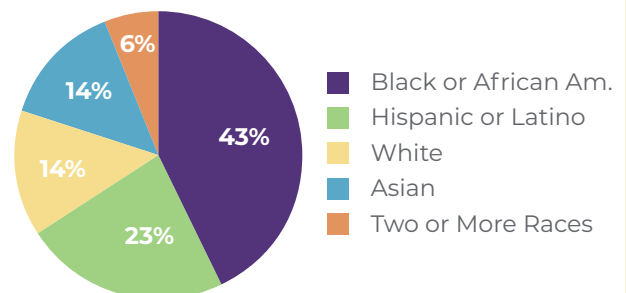
Our Staff

We are proud to support diversity in our workforce. At LESL, diversity in our staff plays a vital role in creating an inclusive and welcoming environment.

AGE / GENERATION



RACE



Client Outcomes

LESC is committed to delivering Resilient Recovery to every individual we serve. Experience has taught us that positive outcomes for clients do not take a single form, so we track a variety of outcomes across our programs.

RESIDENTIAL

12,492

Residential Treatment services provided

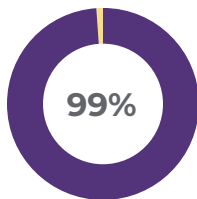
41%

of clients were homeless upon admission

Primary Substance Used Upon Admission to Treatment Program

MTAR, SSMR, PWIP

100% Heroin or other opiates



99% of individuals reduced daily drug use at discharge

OUTPATIENT

91,705

Outpatient Treatment services provided

9%

of clients were homeless upon admission

Primary Substance Used Upon Admission to Treatment Program

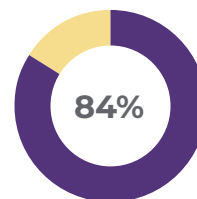
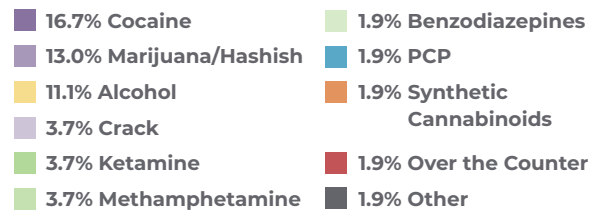
ORS I & ORS III

100% Heroin or other opiates

DRS

38.9% Heroin*

*Heroin or other opiates



84% of individuals reduced daily drug use at discharge

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Residential Outpatient

75 clients obtained employment.



27 clients participated in educational services.



50 clients participated in job training.



CONTINUING DAY TREATMENT

75% of individuals receiving mental health treatment in the CDT program had zero hospitalizations for mental illness.

HOUSING PLACEMENT

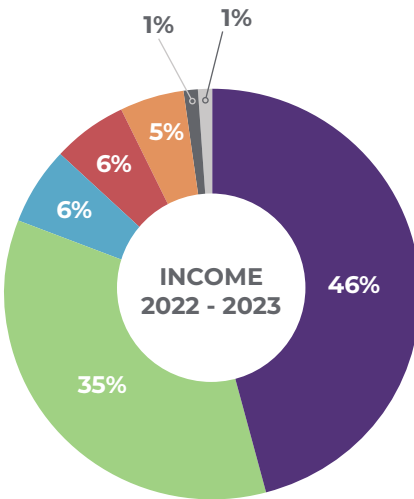
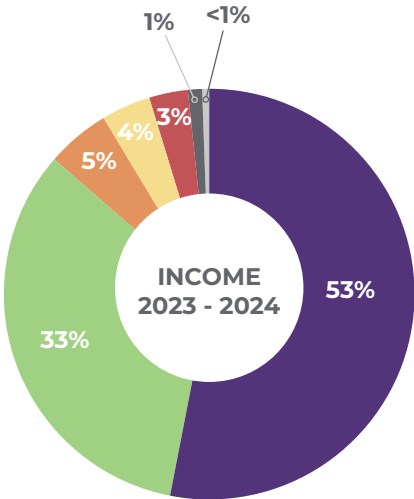
220 individuals in supportive housing

32 LESC clients placed in housing

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

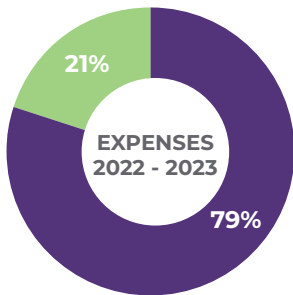
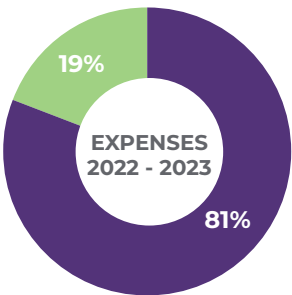
REVENUE	FY 2024	FY 2023
Patient Service Revenue	\$ 5,997,230.00	\$ 6,086,731.00
Client Fees	\$ 152,423.00	\$ 201,757.00
Program Fees	\$ 973,084.00	\$ 901,002.00
Government Grants and Contracts	\$ 9,693,659.00	\$ 8,038,069.00
Contributions	\$ 47,505.00	\$ 48,883.00
Rental Income	\$ 796,157.00	-
CARES ACT Employee Retention Credit	-	\$ 1,106,785.00
Other	\$ 568,164.00	\$ 1,090,596.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 18,228,222.00	\$ 17,473,823.00

EXPENSES	FY 2024	FY 2023
Program Services	\$ 16,715,888.00	\$14,722,867.00
Management & General	\$3,943,600.00	\$ 3,853,462.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 20,659,488.00	\$ 18,576,329.00
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 2,431,266.00	\$ 1,102,506.00



LEESC Income

- Government Grants and Contracts
- Patient Service Revenue
- Rental Income
- CARES ACT Employee Retention
- Other
- Program Fees
- Client Fees
- Contributions



LEESC Expenses

- Program Services
- Management and General



LESC Locations

- 1 LESC Headquarters**
80 Maiden Lane
3rd Floor, Suite #305
New York, NY 10038
- 2 Opioid Recovery Services
Dual Recovery Services
Continuing Day Treatment Program
HIV Early Intervention Program**
46 East Broadway
New York, NY 10002
- 3 Opioid Recovery Services**
62 East Broadway
New York, NY 10002
- 4 LESC Su Casa**
7 Gouverneur Slip E
New York, NY 10002

LESC Housing Locations

- 5 Pencer House**
630 E 6th St,
New York, NY 10009
- 6 Franklin Avenue Residence**
1341 Franklin Avenue
Bronx, NY 10456
- 7 Diversity Works
Scattersite Housing Office**
1932 Crotona Parkway
Bronx, NY 10460



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