



# 2022 IMPACT REPORT

## Serving More Families

## Dear Friends,

Whether being born two months prematurely or being diagnosed with brain cancer, JW Knapen's selflessness and determination turned his challenges into an opportunity to help others. His enthusiasm inspired hundreds of people to join him in his mission to serve families fighting critical illnesses.

From individuals to organizations, the community donated generously. Kids started sending in their lunch money, money from lemonade stands and birthday parties, and Boy Scout/Girl Scout troops. He raised 2.5 million dollars with no professional help - just the dream of a remarkable teenager and his dedicated physician.

In 2022, we returned to a normal operation - sitting and listening to family members, and enjoying communal dinners. JW House's staff and 90+ dedicated volunteers served 1422 guest families across all our programs.

The founders of JW House understood intuitively what medical studies later confirmed: critically ill patients, when surrounded with warmth and care,

have better health outcomes. We provide a home of healing to patients and their families as they face some of the most challenging times in their lives. The quality of life at JW House plays a significant role in the recovery process. Today, we value and celebrate the diverse and unique backgrounds of our guests, staff, volunteers, and community members. We strive to create a sense of belonging for all, ensuring that everyone feels welcomed and respected. As JW House approaches its fifteenth anniversary and the leadership contemplates the next level of growth, we thank you for all that you have contributed towards building this organization and invite you to watch us as we move towards serving more families.



**Richard B. Ajluni**  
Executive Director



**Matt Spencer**  
Board President



**Tom Bondi**  
Board President

## Expanded Wellness Program

From navigating a complex healthcare system to increasing financial burden, families experiencing medical crises face a multitude of challenges. Each day brings a new battle, another mountain. Patients and their families can experience devastating emotional, mental, and physical wounds from the reality of their situations. In an effort to alleviate these stressors and begin the journey to healing, JW House has implemented a holistic approach.

Our **Wellness Program** offers many activities to provide comfort to our guests.

These include:

- ✓Meditation Garden in the Backyard
- ✓Sharkie's Wellness Center and Outdoor Gym
- ✓Beginner Yoga Classes w/ Darcie Green: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month
- ✓Recipes for Relief Saturday Brunch: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month
- ✓Therapy Dog Visits w/ Nicole, Paddle, and Healy: Twice a week



✓Live Music w. Hop3Box: 2-3 times per week  
Special thanks to Darcie Green with Latinas Contra Cancer, Nicholas Truong with Santa Clara University, The Sharks Foundation, Canine Companions, and Hop3Box for making our Wellness Program possible!

Do you have an idea to expand our wellness offerings?

Please email us at [info@jwhouse.org](mailto:info@jwhouse.org).

# JW HOUSE by the Numbers 2022



**741**  
New referrals



**3,396**  
Overnight Families



**1,400**  
Day Use Families

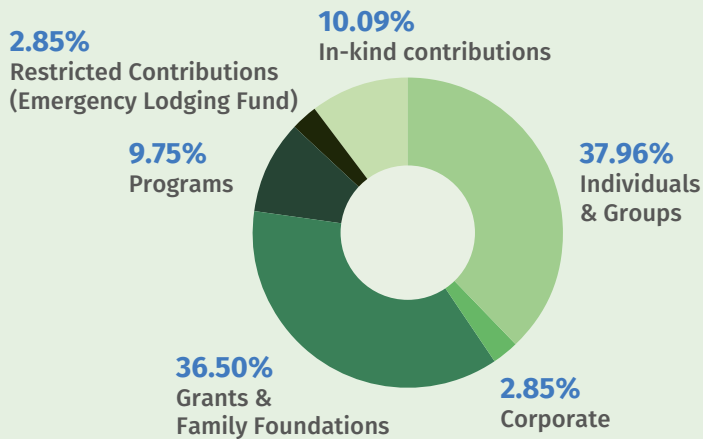


**6,538**  
Meals Served

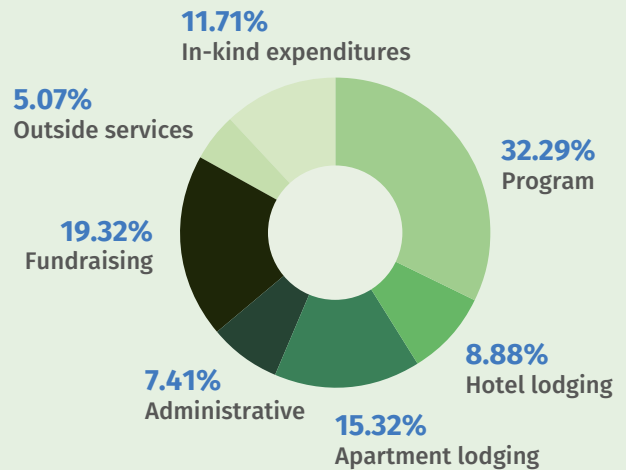


**6,223**  
Volunteer Hours

## REVENUE



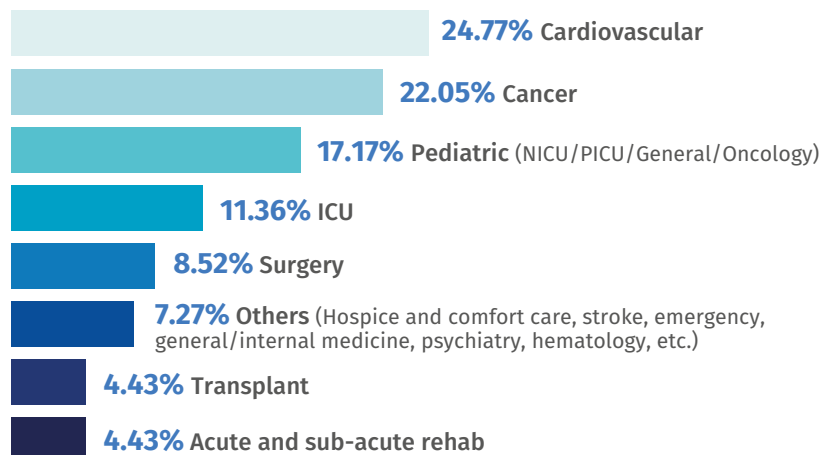
## EXPENSES



## 9 Hospitals Served

- › Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara
- › Kaiser Permanente San Jose
- › El Camino Hospital
- › Stanford Hospital
- › Santa Clara Valley Medical Center
- › Children's Hospital NC Recovery Center
- › Lucile Packard Children's Hospital
- › Regional Medical Center
- › Saratoga Pediatric Sub Acute

## REASON FOR HOSPITALIZATION





## We are celebrating YOUR impact!

Amidst the sea of statistics and accomplished goals, it is the stories of individuals whose lives were touched and transformed that resonate most deeply within us. While we can't share all of them, we'd love to tell you one that filled our hearts with joy.

You may remember Kennedy, a 12-year-old guest born with a heart defect, enduring multiple strokes, three cardiac arrests, and four open-heart surgeries. She urgently needed a new heart. Kennedy, her mother Beckey, and sister Azley had to relocate over 3,000 miles from Alaska to the bay area for a life-saving transplant at Stanford Hospital.

As a single mother, Beckey carried the weight of her daughter's precarious health and the responsibility of finding a safe place for her daughters. She yearned to provide some sense of "normalcy" amid so many changes and uncertainty, but she knew such a place would have a cost she couldn't afford. It is here, dear supporters, that your extraordinary contributions played a transformative role. Because of your support in 2022, JW House was able to provide a furnished cozy apartment and full access to all other JW House amenities and services for seven months to Kennedy and her family.

Within this newfound home-away-from-home, they could remain nearby while awaiting a suitable heart and throughout Kennedy's arduous recovery and subsequent care following the



*"When you're stuck and you're far from home and you have no friends, and no family and no resources and you're terrified and anxious... to be able to have something like JW House – for however long you need it – is the most precious gift that I could even think of."*

transplant. With their daily needs attended to, Beckey could focus on homeschooling her daughters, pursuing her online nursing studies, and maintaining the family in good spirits during this challenging period.

This April, Kennedy, Beckey, and Azley returned to their home in Alaska with grateful hearts and knowing that compassionate individuals stand ready to lend a helping hand in times of crisis. Ultimately, your invaluable financial support provided precisely what Beckey had longed for: a sense of normalcy.

Let us celebrate our 2022 impact and work towards an even better 2023!

## Updated Day-Use Room

In partnership with Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller St. Joseph Commandery, our Day-Use room got a much-needed upgrade! Guests use this space for up to three hours at a time to decompress, utilize our ADA-compliant shower, or rest on our new sleeper sofa.

**The room reopened in August 2022 after being closed for much of the year and was booked for 135 uses!**



# Supporters

Thank You!

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**Thank you**  
to the **752** Companions and  
Friends of JW House who  
gave from **\$1 to \$999**.  
We could not do what we  
do without you!

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Matt Spencer, *Co-Chair*  
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