

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



For the past five years, the programs and people of Curt's Café have been transforming lives: In that short period, over 185 underserved students have moved from hopelessness and at-risk behaviors to personal strength and hope, guided by professionals and dedicated volunteers who have encircled them with a carefully structured program of work and life skill opportunities, a broader vision of their future, and—quite simply, love.

*"The experience of supporting our young students through the Curt's Cafe Mission gives us such an incentive for growing our brand. A bright future awaits us as we continue this valuable work."*

*Board President, Rick Marsh*

curt's north

Four or five students at a time, for three months, draw strength from restaurant training, counseling, mentoring, career coaching, and job placement, overseen by our paid staff of a dozen dedicated individuals. Full-time social service workers and other staff offer help with subjects from anger management to household budgeting. Two cafes in Evanston welcome our students, who are eager to learn, grow, and expand their horizons. The Curt's community teaches trust, empathy, joy, and possibilities to students who have in the past experienced violence, homelessness, abuse, and despair.

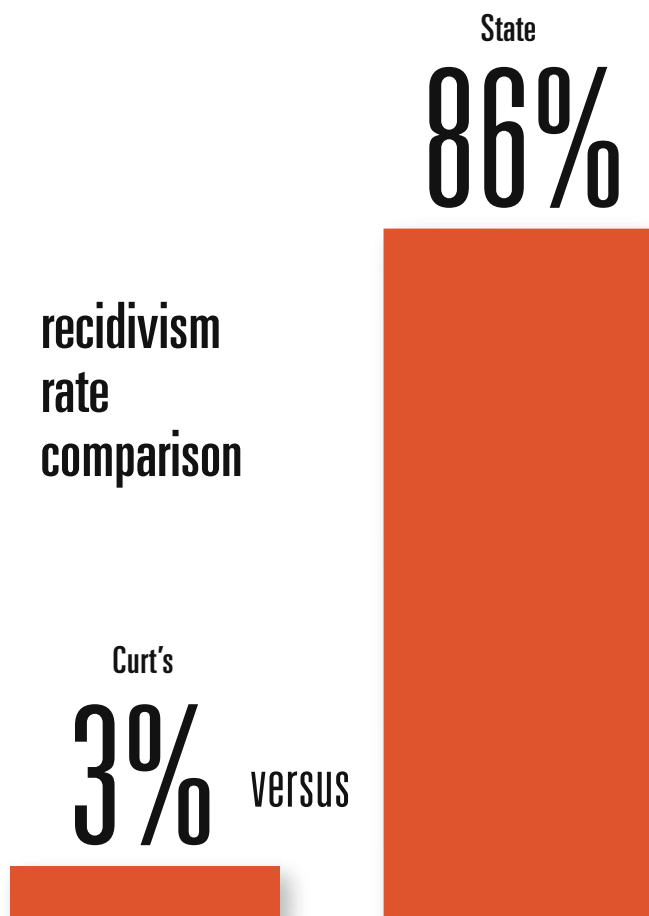
curt's south

## stats

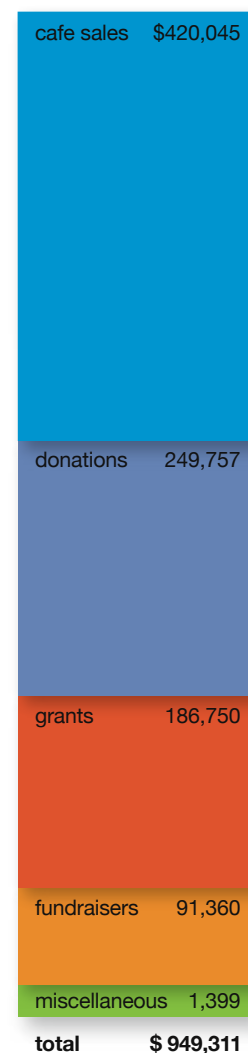
Good feelings aren't enough; Curt's tracks the achievement of goals such as stable housing, school continuance, job placement, and even staying out of prison. Our students boast a 3% recidivism rate, vs the state rate of 86% for youth. Eighty-two percent of Curt's students are getting jobs or staying in school! Our students' journeys are not without struggle, yet so many have succeeded!

195 students have been through the program • 30% have children of their own • 80% are homeless or in unsafe housing when entering program • 63% are actively in jobs • 10% are currently in program • 10% are currently looking for jobs • 13% we continue to work with on life skills and job placement • according to the Justice Policy Institute the cost to incarcerate one young adult per year is approximately \$148,767 versus Curt's cost per student which is \$8,334 per year, a savings of \$140,433 savings per student, per year.

## recidivism rate comparison



## income



## expenses



The larger community of Evanston and the North Shore have responded enthusiastically and warmly to our mission. Our volunteer pool of 30 continues to grow, allowing us to increase catering sales, maintain and audit accounting books, pay bills, keep our cafes inviting, and most importantly, educate our students in subjects such as interviewing, safe sex, domestic violence, legal rights, and much more. An active Board of Directors meets monthly, professionals who too are passionate about the work we do and help us reach success on all fronts. Quite simply, our students have struggled alone; but with your help, their lives are being truly transformed!



# donors

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Jane & Stephen Trueheart Huels  
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Denise & Timothy Voss  
Joan E. Yohanan

**ESPRESSO** Under \$500  
Almost 500 generous donors have supported our Students with donations from \$5 to \$499. Thank you to all who also donated via our tip jars and one cup of coffee at a time.

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Rebuilding Warehouse

Thank You for the many “Gifts In Kind” that our students rely on every day to live their lives in dignity. And Thank You to the students and teachers from Northwestern University, Roosevelt University and Kellogg School of Business.

“Curt’s is a branch provided for those who only receive weeds.”

# board

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
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Rohini Menezes  
Derrick Q. Milligan  
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# staff

**STAFF**  
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Amy Heppner  
Ashor Jajou  
Laurie Kaplan  
Mary Elizabeth McMahon  
Rebecca Parmet  
Trudyann Smith  
Tasha Triplett  
Susan Trieschmann

# volunteers

**VOLUNTEERS** 3-5 years  
Libby Lewis, *Volunteer Coordinator*  
Ann Airey, *Marketing*  
Matt Barton, *Taxes/Accounting*  
Donna de St. Aubin, *Job Placement Coordinator*  
Therese Delli Paoli, *Teacher*  
Bonnie Dohogne, *Baker/Consultant*  
Howard Frank, *Art Curator North*  
Annie Haddad, *Window Display North*  
Carol Hammerman, *Art Curator South*  
Bekki Kaplan, *Baker*  
Lisa Levin, *Front Line Support*  
Rick Marsh, *Mentor*  
Marcia Mead, *Job Placement Coordinator*  
Derrick Milligan, *Mentor*  
Leon Mitchell, *Mentor*  
Wilma Nachsin, *Human Resources*  
Vicki Newman, *Front of House*  
Dan Paschen, *GED Coordinator*  
Kathy Pilat, *Teacher*  
Harry Policape, *Mentor*  
Rebecca Raus, *Baker*  
Mark Westcott, *Accounting*





Sponsors and partners in job placement have been essential to our success, as have other local non-profits who have shared programming with us, offering increased opportunities for our students. And, of course, our faithful donors who have contributed in so many ways to help our students stay on a successful path.

**We welcome your support!**

#### **CURT'S CAFE NORTH**

2922 Central, Evanston

847.868.8385

[www.curtscafe.org](http://www.curtscafe.org)

[info@curtscafe.org](mailto:info@curtscafe.org)

catering orders & inquiries:

[catering@curtscafe.org](mailto:catering@curtscafe.org)

#### **CURT'S CAFE SOUTH**

1813 Dempster, Evanston

847.563.8883

Curt's Café is a 501C3  
organization