

January 2020



Dear Friend of Millionair Club Charity,

**As we enter the new decade, I am excited to share the success of Millionair Club Charity's robust, job-focused solution to address the growing homelessness crisis.** As a supporter and champion of this cause, you make the solution possible. Even though poverty and homelessness persist in 2020, we are working hard to meet the needs of the community and its people.

Our latest information estimates that 30% of those experiencing homelessness in Seattle attribute their dilemma to loss of a job. That's nearly 4,000 people who very likely could regain stability with the right job opportunity and a few fundamental support services. **In 2019, MCC was able to employ 907 workers, roughly 60% of whom did not have stable housing.** Imagine hundreds fewer people living in poverty each year— thanks to you, this is a real possibility.

With so many individuals in need, we simply can't do it alone. We've been fortunate to have partnerships with United Way of King County, Murdock Charitable Trust, Seattle Jobs Initiative, Stand Together Foundation, the Celebrity Waiters Luncheon, REDF, and others in order to continue funding and executing our jobs first solution. All of your combined support helps place our workers with employers like Centurylink Field, Compass Group (catering at Amazon and Microsoft locations), Ethan Stowell and Tom Douglas restaurants, King County, and more.

In 2019 we were fortunate enough to receive a donation matching fund from Stand Together Foundation where we had over \$80,000 in donations matched. What a tremendous showing of support from everyone involved – thank you! And to make things even better, **the Stand Together Foundation matching opportunity has been extended through the end of March 2020!** You can keep on visiting [www.MillionairClub.org/Match](http://www.MillionairClub.org/Match) to access the special matching link, and please feel free to share with your friends and colleagues. Your gift will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$1,000 (if you already had \$1,000 matched in 2019, it reset in 2020 so that you can keep making the greatest impact).

A standout program in 2019 was our STEP 2.0 advanced career workshop. The curriculum, meant to help our workers “Lead and Inspire,” prepared men and women for interviewing and earning permanent jobs. An astounding rate of over 50% of the program graduates landed permanent jobs shortly after completion! Graduates “learned a lot and appreciated all the new opportunities,” and thanked us for “giving [them] a chance to rebuild [their] lives.”

Building off of STEP 2.0's success, Millionair Club Charity began working with Seattle Jobs Initiative to power STEP 3.0, which provides job-training opportunities that prepare workers for jobs with livable wages. One of the most frequent questions we're asked is whether or not our

workers are able to escape homelessness as a result of the jobs we provide. While some jobs are meant to be stepping stones toward a more long-term placement, this new initiative has workers training for specialized roles that provide steady income capable of affording rent and living expenses in the Seattle area. We're excited by our initial progress and the engagement of our first program participants.

You may have seen another program that made headlines in late 2019 – Millionair Club Charity partnered with King County and White Center to provide a service to clean up the community streets. A team of five Millionair Club Charity workers joined Executive Dow Constantine and Councilmember Joe McDermott to speak with news crews about the six-month pilot program. Local business owners are already singing their praises and are thrilled with the trash reduction, graffiti removal, and overall appearance of common public spaces. We're optimistic that we'll be able to grow this program into additional neighborhoods in King County and have steady long-term work lined up for more workers.

Here at the office, **we're all looking forward to March 2021 which will mark our 100<sup>th</sup> year in operation!** As one of the oldest Seattle institutions still in existence, we recognize this momentous occasion as something that couldn't be achieved without the hard work, dedication, and support from both our staff and community partners. We will celebrate our centennial in the coming year, and we look forward to seeing you there. Stay tuned for more news about the event!

I believe 2020 to be full of promise and opportunity. Thanks to your compassion for helping others, thousands more lives will be changed for the better. **Stability and prosperity are not just a pipe dream for those experiencing homelessness or poverty in the greater Seattle area.** Together we can achieve that goal for the people of our city, and it can all start with a job at the Millionair Club Charity. Thank you for keeping the hope alive and making all the difference.

Sincerely,



Jim Miller  
Executive Director  
Celebrating 99 years of service to the Seattle community



**P.S. Millionair Club Charity's 100<sup>th</sup> Year Centennial Celebration is just a year away! Mark your calendars for March 2021 to join us in celebrating an entire century of helping the Seattle community.**