



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Dear Members of the Street Medicine Institute community,

It is with great pleasure and a deep sense of gratitude that I reflect on the Street Medicine Institute's past year of growth and impact. I have the privilege of witnessing the transformational impact of Street Medicine professionals daily, and I want to express my appreciation for everyone who played a role in the Street Medicine Institute's work in 2022.

Our collective efforts have allowed us to provide critical services to individuals experiencing homelessness, raise awareness of the importance of street medicine, and continue to expand our reach and impact in the communities we serve.



I am continually inspired by the dedication of our members and all in the street medicine community who work tirelessly to provide care to those experiencing rough-sleeping homelessness. Street Medicine professionals are the driving force behind our work, and I am humbled by their expertise, commitment, and passion for social justice.

I am honored to share with you some of the successes that the Street Medicine Institute experienced this year. We saw remarkable growth in our membership, held a well-attended annual symposium alongside our host city partner in Toronto, and provided our members with new educational resources.

I would like to take a moment to extend my gratitude to our donors who have generously contributed to the Street Medicine Institute. Your support and commitment to our mission have been critical to our success, and we could not have achieved our goals without you. Your generosity has allowed us to expand our resources and support our members in their vital work. We are deeply grateful for your commitment to our organization and those we serve.

As we look ahead to the new year, I am excited to continue our work and build on the momentum of the past year. I am confident that our community will thrive, and that we will continue to make a positive impact on the lives of individuals experiencing rough-sleeping homelessness and advance the greater social justice movement behind this work.

Thank you again for your commitment to the Street Medicine Institute's mission. I am inspired by the work that we do together, and I look forward to continuing our efforts in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Rachael Smith-Cohn
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

Inspiring and equipping communities worldwide to provide Street Medicine services to persons experiencing rough-sleeping homelessness.

OUR CORE VALUES

Go to the People – Street medicine is effective only when we meet people on their own terms in their own spaces.

Solidarity – We stand with our sisters and brothers sleeping outside, advocating for others to see them for the beloved human beings they are.

Authenticity – Being genuine, transparent, and honest allows our organization to maintain trust with people sleeping rough and the street medicine teams who care for them.

Transformative Disruption – We drive change in our communities and health care systems to achieve justice and health equity for all of us, no matter where we sleep at night.

Streets as a Classroom – People sleeping rough are our best teachers. In learning from them, we learn how to provide healing for others and ourselves.

Healing Community – In caring for people society shuns, street medicine workers can feel equally marginalized. We offer a place of refuge for people involved in street medicine globally to refuel and grow with each other.



PROGRAM UPDATES

International Street Medicine Symposium

The International Street Medicine Symposium (ISMS) is the world's premier educational event dedicated to the health care of unsheltered homeless populations. The Street Medicine Institute grew out of the Symposium, first held in Pittsburgh in 2005.

In September of 2022, 400 members of the Street Medicine community gathered in Toronto, Canada for the 18th annual International Street Medicine Symposium. The event was co-hosted by Toronto's Inner City Health Associates, who arranged a powerful and informative slate of content for Host City Day to begin the symposium. Street medicine peers, providers, and students led 38 breakout sessions on diverse topics, and attendees learned from one another during three days of lectures, interactive sessions, and networking.

In its 18th year, ISMS remains a unique opportunity for the street medicine community to gather, share best practices, and provide mutual support as we continue our critical work on the streets.



SMI promotes inclusion with intentional ISMS pricing:

Registration fees are tiered based on profession. Members of the Street Medicine Institute receive a 50% discount on registration. Registration fees are waived for people with recent lived experience of homelessness.

DID YOU KNOW?

WITHERS KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr. Kaitlin Schwan, Executive Director of the Women's National Housing and Homelessness Network and a Senior Researcher at the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, delivered the Keynote address at ISMS. Dr. Schwan proposed that:

- Street medicine's commitment to protect and advance the health and dignity of people who are homeless is human rights work. Street medicine practitioners are human rights defenders.
- Street medicine can leverage international human rights law in ways that can result in profound, transformative policy change – locally and globally.

The Street Medicine Institute heeded this call to action and is currently working to develop a protocol based on human rights to housing and health that will be applicable to the global street medicine community.



What did you like about ISMS?

I loved that there was an opportunity to meet and talk with presenters. This symposium was filled with amazing individuals who were one minute sitting in the audience, next minute expert presenters, and next minute, sharing a meal, ideas, and experiences with everyone. This was my first Street Medicine Symposium but hopefully not my last.

There was a wide variety of presentation material and classes to attend. The common theme overall was the respect and dignity of each patient and their individual need(s).

It was so important to come together with a like community to feel validated about the difficult work that we do and exchange ideas to improve care.

Seed Grant Program



In June 2022, SMI awarded its second year of Seed Grants to emerging street medicine programs. Supported through the generosity of the Pulte Family Charitable Foundation, each Seed Grant helps an early stage street medicine program advance toward a more sustainable level of operation through expert consultation, membership in the Street Medicine Institute, and a financial award.

2022 Seed Grant Awardees

HEAL Omaha (Omaha, NE)

HEAL (Health Equity in Action League) Omaha was created to meet the medical and mental health needs of those experiencing homelessness in the Omaha Metro community. Their team of mobile volunteers provides first aid and functions as a bridge to primary care, mental health care and specialty services at FQHCs that already exist in the community. This team is led by family nurse practitioners who have extensive emergency department experience and have worked in the Omaha healthcare community for over 20 years.

The goal at HEAL Omaha is to connect with service providers in the areas of shelter, housing, food pantries, soup kitchens, clothing centers, social services, and the medical community to narrow the health equity gap.



Sidewalk Doc (Lancaster, PA)

The Sidewalk Doc Street Medicine program at Lancaster General Health aims to identify and engage unsheltered individuals who are hesitant to pursue traditional medical care, in an effort to prevent adverse health outcomes and improve overall health.

The Sidewalk Doc street team consists of medical residents (with support from faculty), a nurse from a partner organization serving this population, and an outreach worker who round twice monthly at two locations identified as “hot spot” gathering areas for individuals experiencing homelessness. With the ultimate goal of improving health and well-being by providing equitable access to person-centered medical care, the Sidewalk Doc team uses a trauma informed approach to work with each patient to reduce and remove barriers to care.



STREET MEDICINE COALITIONS

Street Medicine Educator Coalition

The purpose of the Street Medicine Institute Educator Coalition (SMEC) is to be a resource for curricular development associated with teaching street medicine knowledge and skills in both a didactic and clinical setting. It provides a framework for the development of a street medicine curriculum that can be 'right-sized' depending on the specific learning experience envisioned (e.g. clinical rotation, residency, fellowship) and tailored to the learner type (e.g. nursing, medical student). This curricular framework will offer broad guidance as to the foundational principles that should be woven into instructional design.

In 2022, SMEC:

- Formalized its relationship with Street Medicine Institute
- Created an online presence via the SMI website
- Led a round table consultation for street medicine educators at ISMS in Toronto, Canada
- Increased participation to 15-20 volunteers
- Filled Chief Coordinator and Curriculum Development Task Coordinator positions
- Completed objectives for two of six The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education core competencies:
 - Interpersonal and Communication Skills Competency
 - Systems-based Practice

The Street Medicine Institute has given me a way to find my tribe--other people who just get it and who are just as excited to get to do this work as I am. Staying in this work for many years is not only about the relationships we form with our patients on the street, but also with each other so that we can bring our best to all that we do.

- Corinne Feldman, MMS, PA-C
SMEC Curriculum Development Task Coordinator



Street Medicine Institute Student Coalition

The Street Medicine Institute Student Coalition (SMISC) is dedicated to promoting inclusive, reality-based, person-centered care for our unsheltered homeless community members throughout the world. SMISC strives to inspire and equip students to provide high-quality Street Medicine through transdisciplinary student, consumer, and community collaboration. Viewing the streets as a classroom for social justice with the privilege to empathetically learn from the people, SMISC hopes to instill the transcending principles of Street Medicine throughout healthcare systems.



In 2022, SMISC

- Expanded its list of student programs to include over 50 different organizations
- Hosted webinars for over 130 attendees
- Developed guidelines to help street medicine teams navigate the safety risks and liability involved in street medicine
- Started to develop an Advocacy Toolkit, a document designed to help students get started in advocacy.
- Began developing a podcast
- Held a training on writing Op-Eds



Working with SMI and the Student Coalition has made me realize that our organization is not a dry, philanthropic machine but rather a vibrant, interdisciplinary community that works together with our friends on the street to address some of the most pressing issues of our time. I could not be more thankful to join in with these wonderful people to achieve something greater than any one of us could on our own.

- Stephen Venable MPH, RN;
MD Candidate, Wayne State University
School of Medicine

Every time I attend a meeting with the Street Medicine Institute and its Student Coalition, I am reminded of firstly, why I decided to go into medicine and secondly, how important it is that we work together across disciplines to provide health and social services to people experiencing homelessness where they live. I have found my greatest mentors in medicine through this movement.

- Sophie Roe, MD Candidate,
Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine



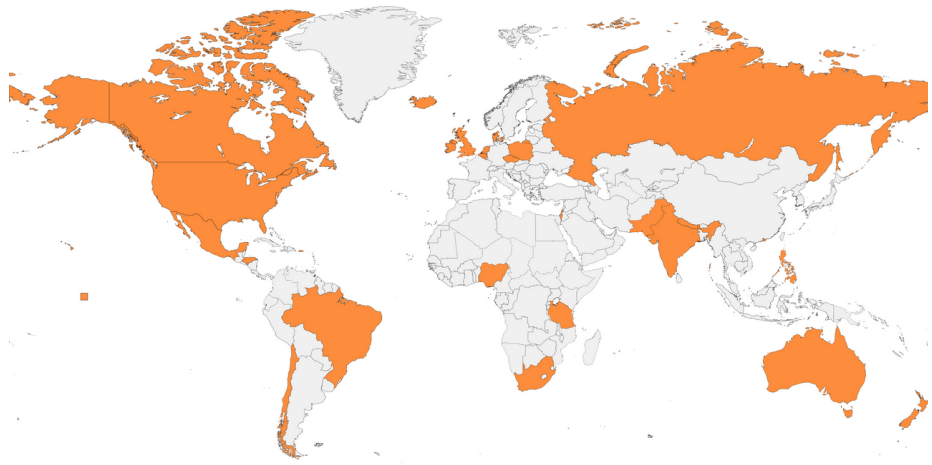
MEMBERSHIP

SMI's membership program fosters connections across the street medicine community, equips street medicine practitioners with resources to improve their practice, and provides financial support for the Street Medicine Institute.

765 SMI members in 2022

47%
from
2021

27 countries



42 program members

Welcome to SMI! New Program Members 2022



Bridge Outreach
Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine
Cornell Scott Hill Health Center
HEAL Omaha
HIV Alliance
Loyola Street Medicine
MLK Community Healthcare
Project HOPE
Regional Health Reach
San Mateo County Healthcare for the
Homeless/ Farmworker Health Program
Sidewalk Doc Street Medicine Program
The Night Ministry
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Indio, California
New Haven, Connecticut
Omaha, Nebraska
Eugene, Oregon
Maywood, Illinois
Los Angeles, California
Wheeling, West Virginia
Rochester, New York
San Mateo County, California

Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Chicago, Illinois
Nashville, Tennessee

New Member Resources 2022

Maintaining Solidarity with the Street and with Each Other: A Guide to Street Medicine Practice in Cities with Multiple Programs, by Brett Feldman, PA-C & Jim Withers, MD

“Working in solidarity with those on the streets and with other organizations is inherent to the deep values of street medicine practice, the direct delivery of healthcare to people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in their lived environment. We are direct witnesses to the systemic violence, exclusion, and fragmented care that those living on the streets have experienced. If street-based programs cannot work in harmony to create a shared environment of trust and collaboration, we risk further traumatization of this valuable population.”

Street Medicine and the Media, by Jim Withers, MD and Joel Hunt, PA

“Images of street medicine naturally evoke social justice or even religious themes in which healers reach out beyond rigid establishment models to meet people where they are. We embrace that visual challenge to the status quo but must be careful about creating a 'hero' persona that maximizes the street clinician's role and minimizes the significance of the person served. But it is also valid to consider the potential benefit of lifting up the type of service and spirit that characterizes street medicine.”

SMI helped me to establish street medicine in Tel-Aviv, Israel. As a social worker who saw the acute health burden of individuals sleeping rough and felt frustrated, when I discovered SMI it was just like finding an amazing treasure. As a member of SMI, I feel connected to the entire street medicine movement. I have opportunities to learn from colleagues and gain the confidence to establish our program in Tel-Aviv in the best way possible for the benefit of our friends in the street.

- Ronnie-Lee Sneh, Co-Founder and Director of Street Medicine Tel-Aviv

SMI provides a forum for fellowship and learning about best practices all over the world. Over the years I have seen how we learn from each other and implement new practices with the hopes of improving care.

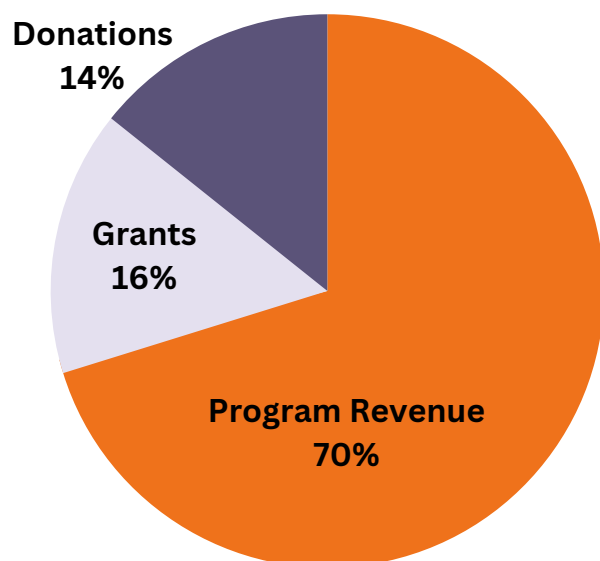
- David S. Buck, MD, MPH

DID YOU KNOW?

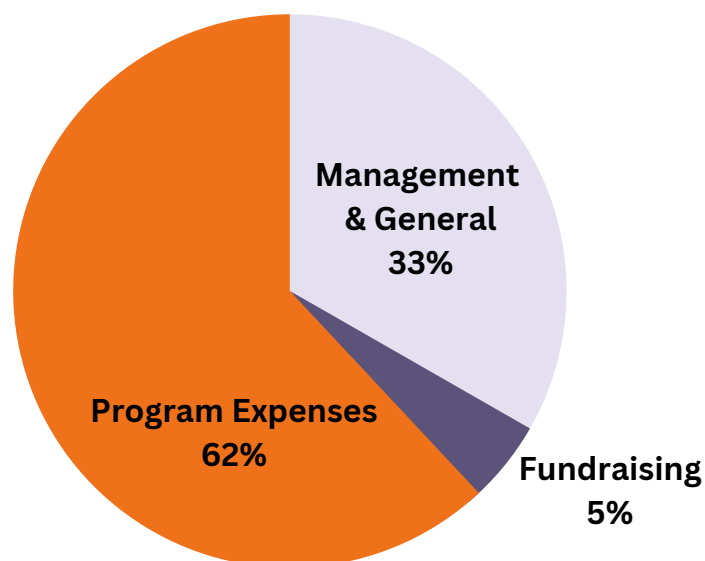
SMI membership rates reflect our value of a healing community for all: Membership is free for people with recent lived experience of homelessness. Other membership rates are tiered based on profession.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Revenue & Support \$225,492



Expenses \$254,858



We are grateful for the generous support of our 765 members, The Pulte Family Charitable Foundation, and anonymous donors.



PULTE FAMILY
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

SUPPORT SMI

Your financial contributions help us expand and improve upon the practice of Street Medicine. A 100% tax-deductible donation to Street Medicine Institute can be made securely at www.streetmedicine.org. Donations in the form of check or money order may be mailed to Street Medicine Institute, P.O. Box 431, Ingomar, PA 15127



A Message from the Board of Directors

As the Chair of the Board of Directors, I am honored to share that the Street Medicine Institute has had a wonderful past year. The organization grew in members, staff, and overall impact. Even further, we have continued to push the needle on important issues around human rights and social justice. Based on the strategic goals that the Board of Directors set for 2022, the organization focused our year on building an infrastructure that will allow us to continue to thrive long into the future, and we have already begun to see the benefits of that work.

First, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the volunteer board of directors for your tireless efforts in advancing the street medicine movement. Your leadership and commitment have been the driving force behind the organization's continued success. The countless hours you have spent volunteering, advocating, and spreading awareness of street medicine are an inspiration, and I am deeply grateful for your contributions.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers who have played a key role in the Street Medicine Institute's Coalitions and working groups. Your contributions have allowed us to reach more people, generate important resources, and build stronger connections with our community partners.

In addition to our volunteers, I would like to extend a warm welcome and thanks to the staff members who joined the Street Medicine Institute in 2022. Your professional contributions have been vital to our organization's continued growth and success.

As we look to the future, we are excited to continue working together to advance the street medicine movement and improve the lives of those experiencing homelessness.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication and support.

Sincerely,

Steve Perry

Board Chair, Street Medicine Institute



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Perry, MS (Chair)
Liz Frye, MD, MPH (Vice Chair)
David Deci, MD (Secretary)
Irene McFadden (Treasurer)
Jim Withers, MD
Joseph Benson
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Brett Feldman, MSPAS, PA-C
Patrick Perri, MD
Henrik Thiesen, MD, GP

COALITION LEADS

Denise Kohl, DO
(Educator Coalition)
Sophie Roe
(Student Coalition)

STAFF

Rachael Smith-Cohn,
Executive Director
Suzanne Lemaire Lozier,
Program Director

Cover photo courtesy of Caitlin Hertzog and the VHP Street Medicine team, Allentown, PA.

Go to the People.
Live among them.
Love them.
Learn from them.
Start from where they are.
Work with them.
Build on what they have.

But of the best leaders,
when the task is accomplished,
the work completed,
the people all remark,
“We have done it ourselves.”

- Lao Tzu



P.O. Box 431, Ingomar, PA 15127
www.streetmedicine.org