Our progress to goal
In total, we met eight of our fifteen fiscal year 2016 goals. While we fell short on seven of our goals, we did surpass last year’s performance in most areas. Highlights of our work include:

1. MK Plate, an innovative tool to measure the quality of the meals we’re serving, has become an important method for ensuring our guests get the nutrients they need.

2. The number of guests and meals served has decreased. We were prepared for this to occur as we shifted away from providing ID and birth certificate funding for non-MK guests and instead focused on housing, income, and health outcomes. This shift has allowed us to provide more intensive services to individuals who have experienced homelessness the longest.

3. Engaging those served by Miriam’s Kitchen in advocacy efforts surpassed expectations. These activities are key to changing the systemic barriers that keep people homeless. Some examples of advocacy opportunities for guests include employment as an Advocacy Fellow; membership on our Guest Engagement Working Group; meeting with DC’s elected officials; and participating in our Storytelling Program.

4. The Development team raised about $100,000 more than last year to ensure sustainability of our programs.

Our stories of impact
Our relationships with guests often start over a healthy meal in our dining room. As those relationships develop, our goal is to help our guests find the housing they need. It’s often not an easy process, but it’s one that is always worth the reward in the end.

One example of this started two years ago, one of our case managers met a guest while working at a partner agency. Together they completed a vulnerability assessment in the hope of finding the right housing solution. The guest shared he was looking for another case manager with whom he had worked about 10 years prior. Our case manager knew exactly who the guest was looking for and reintroduced them. The guest was very happy to be working with someone familiar, while also beginning to work with our case manager.

After about a year working together through the housing process, the guest was matched to a voucher and assigned to Miriam’s Kitchen’s Permanent Supportive Housing program. His fragile health, significant legal issues, mistrust of people, and inability to be located easily were all hurdles along the way. But after several months of intensive work to address these hurdles he moved into his own apartment. He’s now enjoying his apartment and is getting help from his case manager to maintain access to critical medical services.

Maintaining housing stability is also an important part of our work. We maintain strong relationships with landlords to ensure we stay on top of any issues our residents are facing that could lead to eviction. In some cases the decision to relocate a resident is made to maintain their quality of life. A recent example of this is from a guest who was attacked by a neighbor’s guests on his front stoop. He became very fearful of returning to his own apartment and started sleeping at a shelter. His case manager did a lot of work to help him locate a new apartment in a safer neighborhood and will be moving into that apartment soon.
**What happens next**

Moving into an apartment is not easy for our guests. There are many hurdles to overcome even once a guest has received a housing voucher from the city or are matched to a housing provider. The limited supply of available units and landlords accepting housing vouchers greatly impact our guests’ ability to move into safe housing quickly. These all contribute to guest anxiety and disbelief that they will ever be housed.

Given these city-wide challenges, we are grateful that more money than ever was allocated in the city's budget this year for the types of housing we know will end chronic homelessness. In addition, our Advocacy team continues to work alongside members of the Interagency Council on Homelessness to improve implementation of the city’s strategic plan to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring.

Despite strong investments in housing over the last two years, the city is not on pace to end chronic homelessness by 2017. More money is needed to be invested in this work by the DC Council and the city's systems for ending chronic homelessness need to work more efficiently. This is work Miriam’s Kitchen will be deeply focused on in FY 17.
Miriam's Kitchen will end chronic homelessness in DC by prioritizing and monitoring the following work:

**CONNECTION**

**Meals**
The meals team works to ensure quality food is available for individuals who are chronically homeless, and to provide guests with an appealing entry point to our social services.

**Social Services**
The social services team works proactively and collaboratively to support individuals who are chronically homeless access the housing, income and healthcare services they need.

**Outreach**
The outreach team works in the community to support individuals experiencing chronic homelessness access the housing, income, and healthcare services they need.

In addition to the above goals, we are also monitoring two important connection trends for the year:
- 2,368 Guests served
- 4,353 This time last year
- 69,948 Meals served
- 79,107 This time last year

**HOUSING**

**Permanent Supportive Housing**
The PSH team works to ensure their PSH residents, and in particular—those scoring highest on the SPDAT assessment, remain housed.

Current caseload: 102

100% Resident retention
Goal: 95% retention
This time last year: 100% retention

N/A No residents returned to homelessness and needed to be rehoused so far this year
Goal: 90 days to rehouse individuals returning to homelessness

**LEADERSHIP**

**Advocacy**
The advocacy team works to ensure DC creates, funds, and implements the strategy necessary to end chronic homelessness in DC.

- 394 Advocacy actions taken by people served by Miriam’s Kitchen
- 30 People served by Miriam’s Kitchen engaged in leadership advocacy activities

The DC council approved an unprecedented $8.5 million in new funding to house 566 individuals: 55% of our stretch ask and 27% of the total needed to end chronic homelessness by 2017. 100% of the need at the time was funded last year.

While progress in implementing DC’s FY 16 plan is slow but steady, Miriam’s Kitchen has helped ensure progress in 3 key areas: 1. Landlord Outreach Workgroup
2. Ending Veteran Homelessness
3. Coordinated Assessment & Housing Placement

**Development**
The development team works to ensure Miriam’s Kitchen has the non-contract revenue necessary to operate effectively.

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<th>Amount Raised</th>
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<th>Goal</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
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