

# THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND'S NONPROFIT SECTOR

January 2023

**1,328**

nonprofit employers

**66,914**

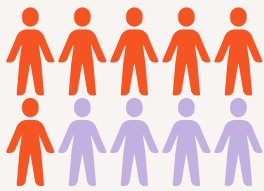
nonprofit employees

**16.5%**

of Rhode Island's private sector employment

**\$4 billion**

total wages paid in 2021



**6 out of 10**

nonprofits are still seeing higher demand for services than pre-pandemic

## SLOW RECOVERY

**.8%**

nonprofit sector employment growth rate in 2021, compared to a much more robust 5% private sector rate

## HIRING CHALLENGES

**47%**

reported staff vacancies longer than 3 months, and 16% took more than 6 months to fill open positions

## STAFF BURNOUT

**82%**

of nonprofits have at least some staff experiencing burnout and emotional exhaustion; 11% say **all** of their staff are burnt out

## LEAVING THE SECTOR

**46%**

of nonprofits have lost staff who have left the sector entirely, and 59% have staff who are considering doing so

## LEADERSHIP

**25%**

reported a leadership transition or succession planning in 2022, and 34% expect transition in 2023



## STAFF TURNOVER

in one in five nonprofit organizations, more than 50% of the staff have been in their roles less than two years

## INFLATION

**80%**

reported increased expenses due to inflation, and 20% have had to scale back purchasing

## CASH RESERVES

**40%**

have 3 months or less of cash reserves. Only 26% have more than six months of reserves

## WAGES

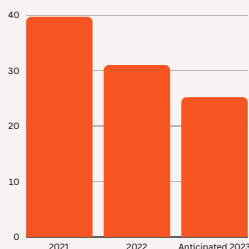
**23%**

pay entry level workers less than \$15/hr, meaning many staff may qualify for SNAP and other benefits

## HIRING FREEZES

**15%**

have paused hiring due to increased inflation-related costs



## DECLINING RESOURCES

while the percentage of nonprofits operating at a deficit has remained steady at 16-17%, the number operating with a surplus is decreasing as COVID resources dry up

## DECREASED GIVING

**27%**

of nonprofits have seen a decline in individual giving, as inflation limits donors' discretionary income

## DONOR POOL

**54%**

had fewer than 100 individual donors, and 38% had fewer than 50 donors

## SOURCES

RI Department of Labor and Training  
2022 RI Nonprofit Survey conducted by Grantmakers Council of Rhode Island and  
United Way of Rhode Island