



# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

*July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018*

Facing Forward   
to end homelessness





## Facing Forward

ends homelessness  
for families and  
individuals by  
offering hope, help  
and housing. Facing  
Forward provides  
permanent housing,  
education, advocacy,  
and social services.

# MISSION



# OUR APPROACH

**Housing First** is central to our approach. A safe and stable home is the best foundation upon which one can rebuild and prepare for a life of increasing self-sufficiency. When basic needs are met, clients can begin to focus on addressing the root causes of their homelessness. When a home is paired with skilled and compassionate services, clients can choose to face forward toward emerging dreams and possibilities.

## **HARM REDUCTION**

We meet clients where they are. Rather than set up often impossible barriers to needed help, Harm Reduction pairs with Housing First to generate an environment set up for success. Reducing harm is a continuum of successful progress rooted in the freedom to choose. Personal responsibility, paired with hope, facilitates lasting and internalized change.

## **TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE**

Most homeless families and individuals have experienced at least one traumatic event. Trauma affects how we see the world and how we interact with other people. Our program creates a safe place for healing from trauma, where our residents are supported in making their own choices and in regaining control of their lives.

## **STRENGTHS-BASED PRACTICE**

We do not ask, “what’s wrong with this person?” Instead, we ask, “what has this person triumphantly survived?” We build service plans in collaboration with our clients to enhance their natural strengths, resources and preferences. All of our programs are client directed — we believe our clients are experts in their own lives.



# PROGRAMS & SERVICES

**Permanent Supportive Housing** is the primary service that we provide at Facing Forward: housing with no pre-determined end date and comprehensive clinical case management for those experiencing chronic homelessness and living with a disability. We welcome clients as they are, support them as they discover where they want to go, and help them grow in self-determination and self-sufficiency to get there. PSH is both compassionate and smart - our program saves tax payers an estimated average of \$30,000 per year per client.

## HOUSING NAVIGATION

We assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness with identifying and accessing appropriate permanent housing opportunities. We provide guidance and support through the entire housing process, including obtaining documents and attending appointments, often using motivational interviewing techniques to help clients achieve their housing goals.

## HEALTHCARE

Healthcare is a serious issue for people experiencing homelessness and an expensive one for our communities. Unaddressed health needs, including mental health, both contribute to and are exacerbated by homelessness. At Facing Forward we provide preventative healthcare and healthcare navigation. By facilitating access to quality healthcare, we increase quality of life, remove barriers to education and employment, and drastically reduce systemic costs.

## LIFE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Life skill development starts with identifying strengths and resources of each client and moves to identifying and developing areas for growth. Each person is different so our case managers work with each resident to develop individualized goals and identify available resources. Regular workshops also addresses topics such as tenant rights and responsibilities, interpersonal skills, and self-care.

## RESOURCE ADVOCACY

We facilitate self-sufficiency by assisting clients in accessing a wide variety of resources available to them at Facing Forward and in the community. These include mental health services; substance abuse treatment; domestic violence support; education resources for adults and children, including those with special needs; legal advocacy; parenting support; and employment navigation.

## MOVING ON

Our Moving On program helps residents identify their readiness to successfully transition from the supportive environment at Facing Forward and prepares them for long term success. Once a client moves on from our program, we stay in touch with them for at least a year to ensure a smooth transition and provide support if needed.



# STORIES OF CLIENT SUCCESS



When Laporsha was connected to Facing Forward in November 2017, she and her two sons were homeless. Laporsha had been without a home since before her children were born, kicked out when she turned 18, temporarily housed with relatives, and ultimately left to sleep on the streets, in cars, and in shelters.

Today, the three are living in a three-bedroom apartment near her oldest son's school, where Laporsha often volunteers. Through Facing Forward, she has accessed vital health resources and family assistance like diapers and clothing. With her family stably housed, she was also able to secure employment. She is relieved to offer her children safety, security, and a place to call home.



Raquel began struggling with alcoholism after she started drinking as a teenager. After being incarcerated for a drug offense and completing a recovery program in prison, Raquel was sober when she exited prison. But with no place to go, she slept in her car while her children stayed with her mother.

Today, after being referred to Facing Forward, Raquel is reunited with her children and never forgets where she's been. She is thankful for the stability of her home and sobriety, for the structure that Facing Forward provides, and for the care and respect of her case manager.

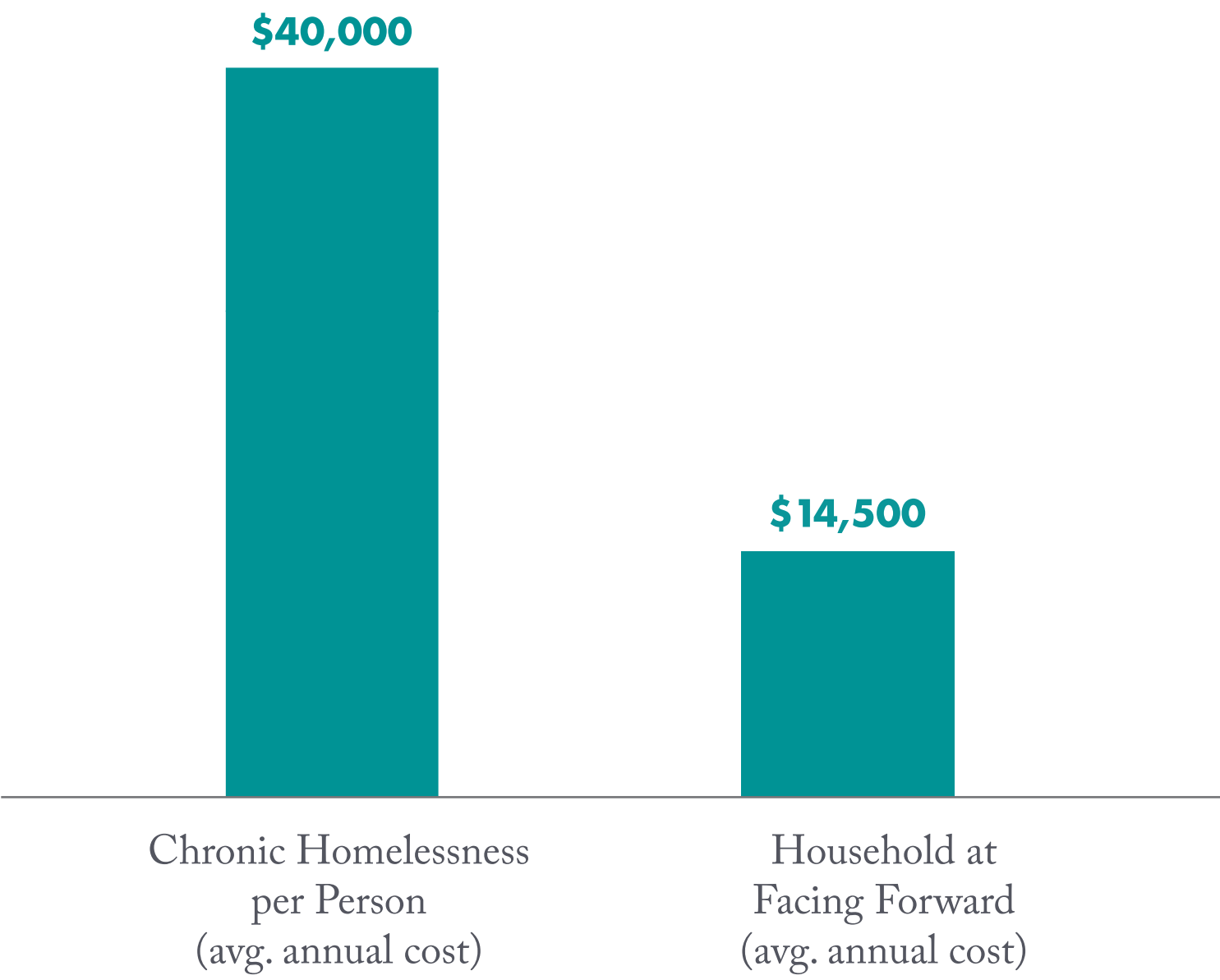


Lesby is a single mother of three and a tireless advocate for her children. When domestic violence put Lesby and her children at risk for homelessness, she found a stable home for her family at Facing Forward. Whether accessing medical care for her daughter, who has autism and epilepsy, or connecting to resources at the Erikson Institute for her two sons, Lesby is determined to ensure that her children will thrive.

Despite many challenges, Lesby is incredibly positive and uplifting. If asked how she's doing, she'll likely reply, "I'm blessed, how about you?" Lesby keeps hope alive for her family and is empowered to create the best life for her children.



# THE DIFFERENCE: HOUSING COST



[https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset\\_library/Ending\\_Chronic\\_Homelessness\\_in\\_2017.pdf](https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset_library/Ending_Chronic_Homelessness_in_2017.pdf)



# 2018 OUTCOME HIGHLIGHTS



## SERVED

701 individuals (300 children, 376 adults, 25 seniors)  
301 households (73 onsite at Sanctuary Place, 228 scattered sites in Chicago)



## HOUSING

99% of residents in their first year at Facing Forward remained stably housed  
91% of exiting residents moved on to other stable housing



## HEALTHCARE

97% of residents were enrolled in health insurance  
79% of residents received preventative care



## SELF-SUFFICIENCY

79% of residents maintained or increased their household income  
70% of households demonstrated increased life skills



# A HISTORY OF FACING FORWARD

Organization is founded as **Interfaith Council for the Homeless (ICH)**

**1984**

ICH begins providing **mental health, case management, and medical support services** to persons in emergency shelters

**1999**

**Interfaith Homes** is established with City of Chicago to promote faith community involvement in homelessness solutions

**2005**

Facing Forward is awarded a **HUD grant** to provide services to 15 additional scattered site households

**2013**

Facing Forward **doubles in size**, growing to 245 households and 22 full-time staff

**2017**

**1994**

ICH opens **Interfaith House**, a respite care facility for homeless persons to recover from an injury or illness

**2003**

ICH becomes a **Housing First** provider, serving 69 households at **Sanctuary Place** and 29 in scattered sites across Chicago

**2010**

Interfaith Council for the Homeless changes its name to **Facing Forward to End Homelessness**

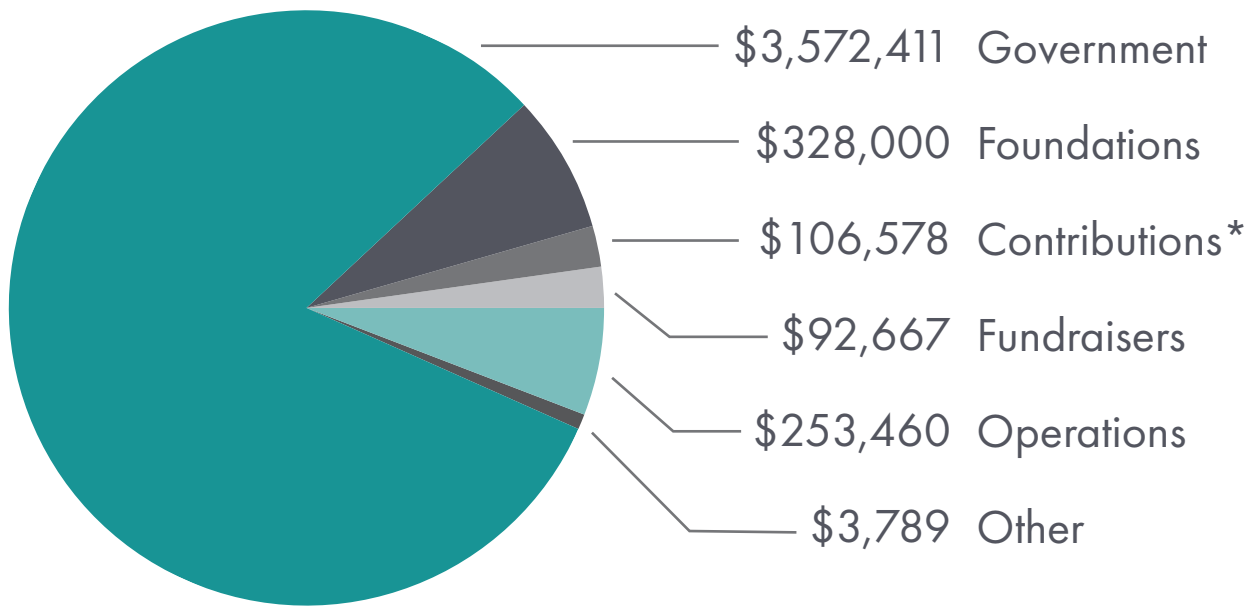
**2015**

**Vital Vets** program is initiated, Facing Forward expands program to provide services to Chicago's homeless veterans



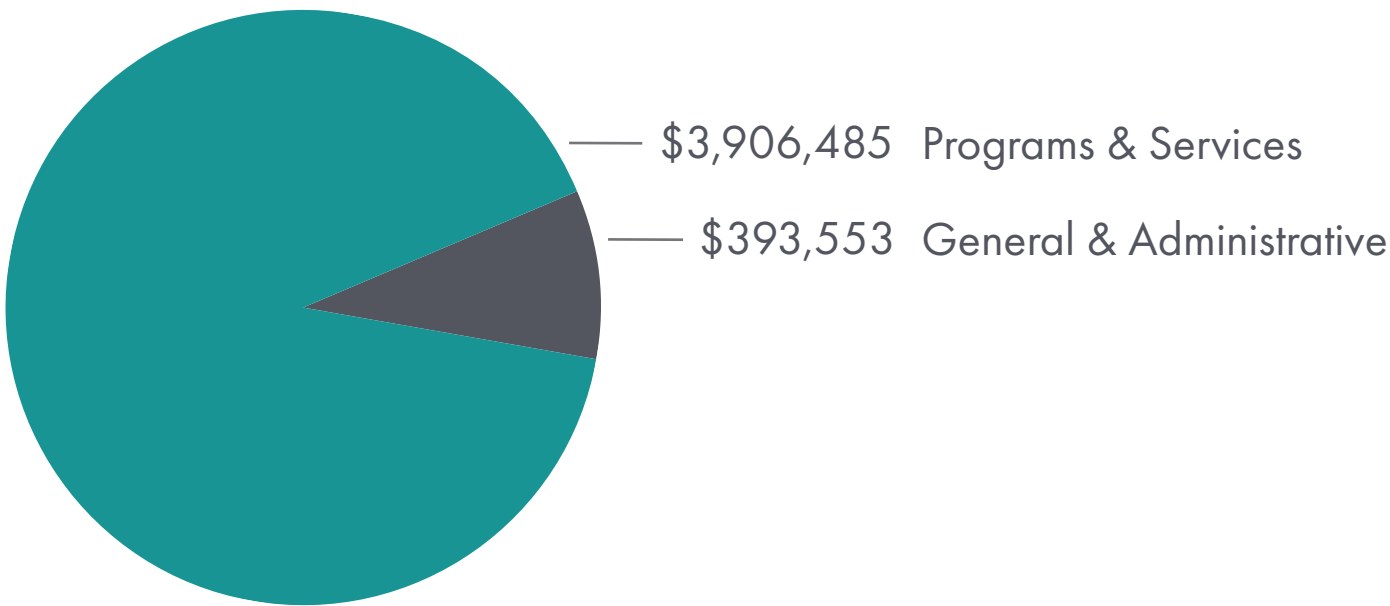
# 2018 FINANCIALS

## REVENUE: \$4,356,905



\* Individual, Corporate, Judicatory, In-kind

## EXPENSES: \$4,300,038



## NET ASSETS

Total Assets:	\$465,125
Total Liabilities:	\$63,085
Total Net Assets:	\$402,040

This information summarizes Facing Forward’s financial activities for the period between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. The data was extracted from the organization’s financial statements as of the period ending June 30, 2018, which were audited by an independent accounting firm. Because the information does not include all of the disclosures as required by generally accepted by accounting principles, it is not intended to present our financial condition or our operational results. A copy of the audited financial statements will be provided upon request.



# LOOKING TOWARD 2019



Dear Friends,

At Facing Forward, we believe that each person is an expert in his or her own life, and that each has the inner strength, the right, and the responsibility to build his or her own future. Our clients do that important work every day, though they never do it alone. Our work at Facing Forward is to support the building process, leveling the ground through advocacy and partnership, being present and ready with tools as they're needed, and cheering on the work as it builds, action by action, the successes that our clients envision for themselves.


Following our expansion over the last two years, fiscal year 2018 brought opportunities to strengthen our foundation at Facing Forward. We entered into new collaborations, such as the Families in Transition program in partnership with Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. We gained new resource partners, like the Chicago Period Project and Cradles to Crayons. We continued to build knowledge and skills to best serve our clients, learning from and sharing our expertise with organizations whose missions, visions, and work complement and enhance our own. These partnerships are key

to the strength of our services and to the success of the social service community overall. We build, but never alone.

With your support, we will continue to invest in a strong foundation and a future in which even more Chicagoans end their homelessness with help from Facing Forward. We will continue to empower our clients to envision and pursue their goals, ensuring that every person we have the privilege of serving has the tools and supports needed to succeed.

We are deeply grateful to all of our partners in the mission of ending homelessness. Thank you to our Board of Directors, who ensure effective governance, strategic vision, and sustainable funding. Thank you to those who volunteer time and expertise to enhance our work. Thank you to our funders who care deeply about our neighbors in need and who invest in Home, Help, and Hope for all persons. Action by action, from one success to the next, we are building stronger futures together.

With enduring gratitude,

  
Rev. Douglas W. Bradshaw

**Facing Forward**   
to end homelessness





## CONTACT US!

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

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## WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Corporate Partnership • Tax-deductible Gift • Volunteer • Host or Attend an Event

Donation Drive (Housewarming Baskets, School Supplies, Toys, Hygiene Items)



# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

We truly appreciate the generosity of our corporate, foundation, government, individual (names not listed), and judicatory donors. You've helped end the cycle of homelessness for hundreds of families and individuals in 2018.

## Foundation

AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
American Kidney Fund  
Anonymous  
Bright Funds Foundation  
Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Crown Family Philanthropies  
Forefront  
Full Circle Foundation  
Helen & Curtis Pinnell Foundation  
Leva Family Foundation  
Michael Reese Health Trust  
Northern Trust Charitable Trust  
Pierce Family Foundation  
Polk Bros Foundation  
Sally Mead Hands Foundation  
VNA Foundation  
W.P. & H.B. White Foundation

## Government

Chicago Department of Family and Support Services  
Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Illinois Department of Human Services

## Corporate

All Chicago  
Auction Results  
Augusta & Paulina Auto Service  
Bridgewater Group  
Chicago Wolves Charities  
Chubb  
Cisco Systems  
Echo Global Logistics  
Emerald Property Holdings, Inc  
Field & Goldberg, LLC  
First Bank of Highland Park  
First Eagle Bank  
FS Houses  
GC Realty  
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Horwood Marcus & Berk  
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Maloney Appraisal  
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Northern Trust  
Pioneer Engineering & Environmental Services  
PMPC Architects  
Porter Law Network  
R-T Specialty, LLC  
RFOP Properties  
Rush University Medical Center  
Seyfarth Shaw LLP  
Tenant Advisory Group  
The Horton Group  
Transunion  
Zeus Battery Products

## Judicatory

Channahon United Methodist Church  
Church World Service, Inc.  
First United Methodist Church of Downers Grove  
Kingswood United Methodist Church  
Northern IL Conference of the United Methodist Church  
Morgan Park United Methodist Church  
Presbyterian Church of Western Springs  
Presbytery of Chicago  
River Glen Presbyterian Church  
Temple Jeremiah  
Yorkfield Presbyterian Church

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Timothy O'Connor | *Booth Fellow*



### In-kind Support

Abt Appliances and Electronics  
Amadeus North America, Inc  
Amy Beyer Photography  
Benny's Chophouse  
Bert Menco  
Binny's Beverage Depot  
BMO Harris Bank  
Boka Restaurant Group  
Chicago Architecture Foundation  
Chicago Blackhawks  
Chicago Botanic Garden  
Chicago Bulls  
Chicago Cubs  
Chicago Mar Thoma Church  
Chicago Opera Theater  
Chicago Period Project  
Chicago White Sox  
Chicago Wolves Charities  
Chicago Yacht Works  
Coldwell Banker Halsted  
Comedy Sportz Chicago  
Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurants  
Cradles to Crayons  
Cream Wine Company  
Dana Hotel and Spa  
Eataly  
Embellish Boutique  
Few Spirits  
First Eagle Bank  
Gene Siskel Film Center  
Giordano Dance Chicago

Greater Illinois Title Company  
Green Spoon  
Harvey "Cookie Man" Blender  
Hoopla Communications  
House Theatre of Chicago  
Illinois Sports Facility Authority  
Insight Enterprises  
+Intention  
iO Theater  
Kingston Mines  
Koval Distillery  
Laura Mitchell Film Services  
Long Grove Confectionery Co  
Lynfred Wines  
Midtown Athletic Club  
Morton Arboretum  
Museum of Contemporary Art  
Museum of Contemporary Photography  
Music Box Theatre  
Music Institute of Chicago  
National Museum of Mexican Art  
NBC5 Chicago  
Near North National Title  
Northlight Theatre  
Old Chicago Inn  
Peaceful New Beginnings  
Porchlight Theater  
Precision Control Systems  
Presence Resurrection Medical Center  
PRP Wine International, Inc  
Revolution Brewing

Rush University Medical Center  
Scraps on a Mission  
Share Our Spare  
SpiderMeka Photography  
Tasting deVine  
The Annoyance Theatre and Bar  
The Clayton Cigars  
The Cubby Bear  
The Lagunitas Brewing Co  
The Metropolitan Club  
The Mid-America Club  
The Peace School  
The Shakespeare Theatre  
Toys for Tots  
Untouchable Tours  
WBEZ Chicago  
Wyndham Grand Chicago Riverfront  
Zanies Comedy Nite Club

