

2019-2020 Report to the Community

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Terry Dunlap, Vice President
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Dear Friends,

As we celebrate the five year anniversary of opening our new Lauri Ann West Community Center, we continue to unite and inspire our community by connecting people to their potential, purpose, and each other. This year has brought tremendous unexpected challenges but also many things that we can celebrate due to the continued loyalty and support from our long-time members and others in our community. Despite having to close our doors for a few months and re-open at a reduced capacity, we continue to provide programs that our community can feel good about in a place where everyone is welcome.

We have navigated the CARES Act of 2020 and received PPP loan funds to help sustain our business during the past months. We have also received generous donations and support from you and your neighbors. This has enabled us to not only retain 100% of our full time staff even during the closure, but also continue to make a meaningful difference in our community. We've accomplished that through terrific programs serving all ages; from summer camps and early education programming to SilverSneakers classes and speaker series. All of our work is underscored by our mission, "to build connections, expand horizons, and impact lives by providing a safe place for all to learn, play, and grow".

We hope that those of you who have taken a break from your membership appreciate the positive impact we have in our community. We look forward to welcoming you back to the Community Center in the not too distant future.

We are proud to share with you this snapshot into the life of the Community Center over the past year. You are an important part of what makes us successful and we appreciate your commitment, participation, and support.

Sincerely,



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Anthony R. Allison Executive Director

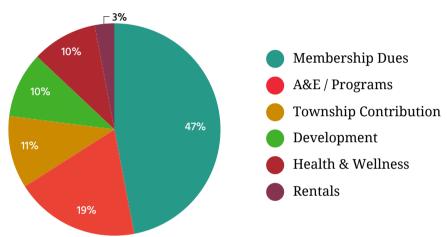


Judy Hannon Board President

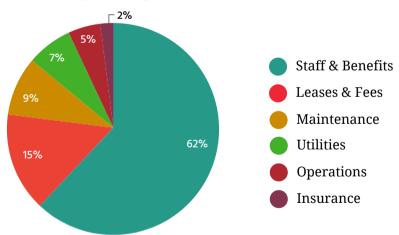
Financials

2020 has been incredibly challenging, but we remain committed to fiscal prudence to ensure the sustainability of the Community Center for years to come. Our team continues to carefully balance revenue and expenses to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our community while being responsible stewards of people's contributions.

2020 Budgeted Revenue



2020 Budgeted Expenses







Membership's Impact on Our Financial Health

We could not weather the financial trials of COVID-19 without our members. Unfortunately, since March of 2020, 30% of our paying members have needed to cancel or pause their memberships due to the pandemic. Despite this, membership dues still make up a significant portion of our annual revenue. The critical funds generated by membership dues allow us to meet our financial obligations and remain open.

Fortunately, generosity from our members and community allow us to make decisions that benefit our community. Since April, we have been providing free, virtual classes to seniors in our SilverSneakers program so that they can safely stay active at home. Our Arts & Enrichment after school program continues to be offered at rates that allow us to break even. And recognizing the incredible need in our community, we are offering full-day care to children who need a safe place to learn virtually.

We are incredibly thankful to those who have been able to keep their memberships. These funds help to ensure that the Center remains an asset in our community when we are needed most.



Uniting

Thank you for being there for us.

We are always incredibly thankful to the donors, members, and volunteers who invest in the Community Center. What we couldn't have predicted was just how much your contributions would impact us this year. While our operations were suspended, the generosity of this community helped us to weather the storm. From notes of encouragement to donations in lieu of monthly dues, the outpouring of support that we received during our nearly three month closure was incredible.

This support proves that COVID-19 does not change the fact that our mission – our reason to exist – remains important and needed for our community. We are committed to remaining a safe place for everyone to learn, play and grow. People like you make this possible, and we cannot thank you enough.





Annual gift means more after COVID-19.

When a donor decided to make their annual contribution to the Community Center, they asked us if there was anything that we had been wishing for. We quickly knew that we'd love to replace the big wooden tables in our Maker Studio, which we'd brought over from the Boyd Community Center. They loved the idea and knew that an upgrade like this could be a big help for our programs. Their contribution allowed us to buy eight modular tables with whiteboard tops. The kids in our after school program loved being able to move them around the room to work on separate projects and pushing them all together to collaborate.

Then COVID-19 hit. When we reopened in June, we knew that our Maker Studio would have to look very different in order to be safe. These new tables proved to be invaluable. Because of this gift, we were able to safely bring summer campers, and eventually school children, into the building and distance them so that each child had their own place to work on projects and still have fun.



Inspiring

Thank you for being our heart.

Now more than ever, our members mean everything to us. Through all that has happened this year, we are proud to serve 4,500 members. Prior to COVID-19, we were excited to be serving an all-time high 5,550 members. The way that we're using the building may be different right now, but the Community Center remains a place to connect with people, improve your health, and nurture your child's potential.

Support from donors allows us to still provide important opportunities for our community, including free memberships for youth in Fox Chapel Area School District's Best Buddies program. And despite the challenges of this year, we are honored to provide 43 reduced rate memberships for first responders and members of the military in our community.



226
new members joined
the Community
Center in the first
quarter of 2020



Living up to the name "Community Center".

We are more than just a gym. Members like Jackie see that first hand. "I'm on the Committee for Young Life Fox Chapel, and it is great that the Center is so gracious to allow Young Life to use the Center to minister to Middle School and High School kids in our community. It is a perfect place for them to gather to play games in the gym and to be mentored by leaders. I know there are other groups in the community that also use the Center as a gathering place and for special events. It truly lives up to the name, 'Community Center' as it opens its doors to various groups and people in our community."

In addition, Jackie's whole family uses the Community Center to stay active. She and her husband work out together early in the morning and her children take group exercise classes together. With everything going on right now, her family still feels very safe coming in. They appreciate the care that goes into keeping everyone safe and they feel "so thankful to have a beautiful and clean facility available at an affordable price."



Learning

Thank you for giving them a safe place.

Hundreds of kids and families depend on the Community Center to provide a safe, fun place to go after school and during the summer. From creative STEAM lessons in our Arts & Enrichment after school program to ballet classes and sports camps, we love helping the youngest members of our community explore and develop their unique passions.

This spring was hard on everyone in our community, especially children. After a difficult few months, it was rewarding to hear from families how happy returning to programs at the Community Center made them and their kids. We are forever grateful to the members and donors whose support ensured that we were able to continue to provide this much needed service for our community as soon as we resumed operations in June.



85 children in our 2019 after school program



A place where kids can be kids again.

Cameron and Harper loved coming to summer camp at the Community Center last year. So much has changed since then, and at only five years old, they didn't grasp the full magnitude of what was going on this spring. What they did know is that they desperately missed their friends and were getting bored of being at home. Not to mention the hands-on learning and creative outlets that a structured setting provides.

With so many things cancelled this summer, their parents were excited that the Community Center was still able to offer camp programs. This gave the girls a way to get out of the house in a safe and socially distanced way, while also giving them a chance to interact with other kids and learn something. Their mom shared that they came home every day happy and energized. "Thank you for creating a safe and fun opportunity for kids during these uncertain and challenging times." We agree, thank you, donors, for making an experience like this possible.



Growing

Thank you for trusting us.

Contributing to our community's health and wellness is an essential part of the Community Center. Our members trust us to provide great equipment, a safe environment, and compassionate staff to help them achieve their goals. We take this responsibility seriously and remain committed to these high standards even in light of COVID-19.

At the beginning of 2020 we averaged 400 visits to our fitness center a day in addition to 57 group exercise classes a week. While these numbers aren't the same right now, we're just as dedicated to changing lives through fitness. Since reopening in June, we have been committed to safely bringing fitness to our community through outdoor classes and more intensive cleaning measures. In just our first month back we provided 150 hours of virtual fitness opportunities for members.



58
hours of free fitness
videos offered during
our closure



Getting the support to never give up.

Liz asked for a membership to the Community Center for Christmas last year, and her life hasn't been the same since. Her health took a backseat to family issues for several years, but she was ready to make a change. When she started, even walking our indoor track was a challenge. What really drew Liz to the Center were our group exercise classes. In January, she tried every single class that we offered and found a lot of options that she loved.

Just weeks before we closed due to COVID-19, Liz decided to invest in personal training sessions with our trainer, Theresa. "Even when you were closed, I refused to stop! I walked every day and Theresa would personally send me workout videos that she knew I could do. Those videos were my salvation." Since January 2, Liz has lost 58 pounds and is on track to reach her goal weight by her birthday. There's no doubt that her mindset got her to this point in just eight months, but she also attributes a lot to the supportive staff and welcoming environment of the Center.





O'Hara Township: An Important Partnership

Before we even opened our doors, O'Hara
Township has stood with us. Today, the Township
supports our work through an annual financial
contribution and significant hours of in-kind
support. This is always important to the health of
the Community Center, but during our three
month shutdown due to COVID-19, it was
essential.

"The Township believes that the great things the Center brings to our community are more important now than ever. At a time when so much is unknown, the Center is a reminder of what is great about our community and what we have to look forward to when COVID-19 is behind us."

- Julie Jakubec, Township Manager

Five Years of Uniting and Inspiring Community

When the Boyd Elementary School closed in the 1980's, members of the community came together to create a local library and community center in the old building. Several decades and thousands of members later, a new vision was born. Once again, neighbors of the Fox Chapel Area School District came together to design a new facility to further enrich their community. The doors of a larger and brighter Lauri Ann West Community Center opened in 2015 with the help of O'Hara Township and more than 700 families, individuals, civic groups, foundations, and local businesses. Today our purpose remains what has always been central to this land, and we will remain the center of our community for years to come.





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