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[www.more-empowerment.org](http://www.more-empowerment.org)

Providing refugees and immigrants with the education and support they seek to become fully engaged members of our community.

December 4, 2020

Dear Friend of MORE:

Unprecedented. Unparalleled. Extraordinary. Just some of the words that have been used to describe 2020. There's no denying that the COVID19 pandemic and the murder of Mr. George Floyd including the subsequent uprising, impacted all of us and caused significant stress, suffering and, well, change. And just like the rest of the world, **MORE has adapted.**

MORE's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2020 is enclosed. It contains specific financial information for the organization as well as more detailed service statistics. **The report lists all the amazing individuals and organizations that supported MORE throughout that year.** We are proud to share this information to help you have a clear understanding of MORE and the impact of your contribution. I'd like to take this opportunity to provide you with some updates that go along with our Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2020 as well as some of the ways that MORE has modified in order to continue to serve the community.

First, early in 2020, we were so **excited and honored to learn that MORE had been granted our very first VISTA Volunteer through Literacy Minnesota's Literacy Leader VISTA Program!** Americorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) members work to build an organization's capacity to serve the community, with the goal of alleviating/eliminating poverty. The focus of MORE's VISTA project is to grow our capacity to provide non-traditional English language learning opportunities through workplace Onsite English classes. We've already seen some successes in growing community partnerships to bring English Learning to people where they are at rather than only offering learning opportunities through our traditional classes. We had just begun a class in mid-March in St. Paul for parents of students at Cesar Chavez School. We were just about to start another class for Karen Elders at Daphne Elders Center. Of course, those are on hold for now.

MORE's Literacy Leader VISTA started in August. We happily welcomed our new VISTA, Tori Gale a few months ago. We have slightly shifted the focus of the project for the time being. She is currently working to help us to create tools that will help **remove barriers for learners to participate in English class virtually.** All of us are looking forward to increasing our service to the community with her help.

After COVID19 forced us to move all of our classes online, we adjusted how we provide Basic Needs and Social Services support as well. MORE applied for a Paycheck Protection Program Loan through the CARES Act and Small Business Administration. Working with Affinity Plus Credit Union, **MORE received a PPP Loan in the amount of just over \$44,000.** This funding supported vital staff during the difficult months of April, May and June and ensured we did not have to furlough any employees. The loan shows up in our FY 2020 annual financial report as a liability. While it appears that MORE had a deficit when comparing expenses to revenue, the PPP funds supported our cash flow. We have already applied for and received PPP Loan Forgiveness in October 2020 – after the fiscal year ended on June 30<sup>th</sup>. In FY 2021, the loan will no longer be a liability and will be counted as revenue for the organization.

Another important note to make about MORE's FY 2020 Annual Report is related to our Expense by Function report. The Charities Review Council says, "Strong nonprofits strive to efficiently and effectively use funds to achieve their mission while investing in infrastructure, administrative capacity, and the communities they serve." They require that an organization have a minimum of 65% of a three-year average of their expenses going towards programs in order to meet their standard. In our report for FY 2020, 59% of MORE's expenses were used to support our Programs for the year. The reason for that is we had received a grant from The Saint Paul Foundation to enhance Resource Development. With that funding, we had more expenses related to Fundraising than ever before, shifting the percentages. The good news is that this fall, **MORE once again met the Charities Review Council's Accountability Standards.** MORE's three-year average percentage of our resources going to support our Programs is 77.4%, well within the "promising practice".

**None of this would have been possible without the tenacity, devotion to our participants, and willingness to try new systems and approaches to providing service, managing programs and governing the organization by MORE's Staff, Board and Volunteers.** Seriously. Just imagine – you're using a virtual meeting tool that you are still learning, and you're helping an English learner with little to no digital literacy skills and little to no English skills log into a virtual class meeting step-by-step for the first (or tenth!) time. And it is taking a LONG time. It would be so easy to say, this isn't going to work, it's too hard, and can't we wait until it's easier? But they haven't and they won't. And neither do our participants. The absolute dedication by all involved is awe-inspiring.

As we embark on this season of giving, a financial gift will help to ensure that MORE continues to be a safe place to land for over 600 neighbors every year, today and into the future. With your help, MORE can continue to be the "model of how to respect, love, and support people from all over the world who are trying to build new lives in the United States." **Please join us in this critical work and donate to MORE today.**

Whether making a one-time gift or becoming a Give MORE Often Champion with a recurring gift, any amount helps and is greatly appreciated. **Your tax-deductible gift will be used to support refugees and immigrants in our community.** (Please note that there are special tax deduction benefits in the CARES Act that your gift may be eligible for through December 31, 2020 – even if you don't itemize deductions!) Please call the office at 651-487-2728 with any questions about other ways to give, such as gifts of stock.

Wishing you peace and happiness in 2021.

Sincerely,



Cathy Rucci  
Executive Director

P.S. To make a one-time or recurring donation via credit card, visit <https://www.more-empowerment.org/support>.

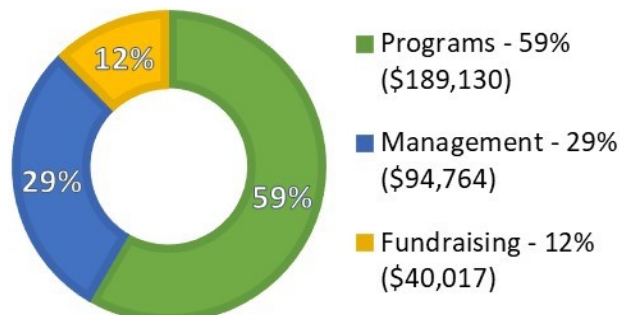


# Annual Report to the Community FY 2020

## FY 2020 Financials

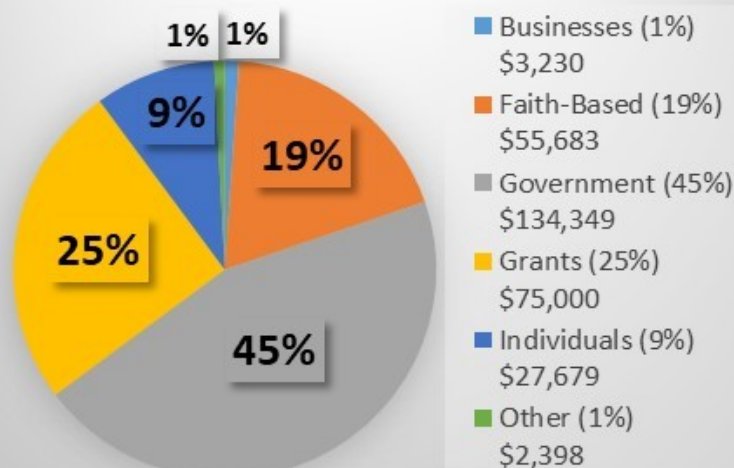
Total Revenue	\$298,339
Total Expenses	\$323,911
Revenue less Expenses	\$(25,572)
Total Assets	\$369,689
Total Liabilities	\$ 52,843
Net Assets	\$316,846

## EXPENSE BY FUNCTION:



- Total Number of People Served: 627 (unduplicated)
- Total Community Impact: 3,135 people (unduplicated)
- Total Expenses: \$323,911
- Total Hours of Service Provided: 9,025
- Cost per Hour of Service: \$35.89

## Revenue by Source:



### Education Program (expenses - \$209,255):

Participants are assisted in acquiring basic skills in English Language communication, work-preparedness and digital literacy. Our goal is **teach adult refugees/immigrants the life skills needed to live successfully in the United States**, prepare them for employment and support acculturation to their new environment.

54 individuals spent an average of 120 hours each learning English with MORE.

### Social Services Program (expenses - \$114,656):

Participants are assisted with **navigating the systems** whose paperwork and processes can be overwhelming and extremely difficult to navigate. Additionally, we help **financially stabilize families** through distributing donated food, clothing and household goods, and provide other emergency assistance as available.

534 participants were provided Social Services assistance an average of 4.4 times.

## MORE's Board of Directors:

Kelly Dolphin, Chair  
Sandy Donovan, Treasurer  
Courtney Kozel, Vice Chair  
Chris Newberry, Secretary  
Adaïre Lassonde, SSND  
Dan Orozco  
Aleshia Peña  
Terra Shockman

Executive Director: Cathy Rucci

## Sister Kathleen Spencer Volunteer of the Year - Trescia Dunn

Trescia became involved with MORE very early on while Sister Kathleen was living at McDonough. She arranged the very first Friday Food donation. "It was my hope to bring healthy food to MORE and working at Whole Foods helped me in this process. I can't remember the exact year but I think it was in the early 2000s. Whole Foods decided to start a daily food donation program. There were many nonprofits who wanted to be recipients and I was able to get MORE on the Friday AM list. In those days, I would go into work early and punch out to pack food and bring it to MORE, then go back to work," says Trescia. She continued to manage the distribution even after moving on from Whole Foods. She has handed over the coordination of the Friday Food Distribution this year but all of us are incredibly grateful to Trescia for the critical work she has done at MORE over the past 30 some years. **It was our privilege and honor to present Trescia Dunn with the 2019 Sister Kathleen Spencer Volunteer of the Year Award.** Congratulations, Tree!



## Financial Supporters (FY 2020)

### Individuals:

Anonymous  
Jody Baber  
John Bauer  
Kim Berndt  
Steve Boland  
John Boor  
Rene'e Buchanan  
Tom Byrne Estate/Ms. Dorothy Rose  
Therese Cain & Sharon Doherty  
Dagmar Christensen  
Jeanne & David Cornish  
Charles & Monica Davis  
Virginia Dehen  
Ann Deprey  
Kelly Dolphin\*  
Linda Dolphin  
Sandy Donovan\*  
Karen & Dave Dudley  
Trescia & Dan Dunn  
Sister Sue Eichler  
Elizabeth & Ryan Elder  
Diana Elhard  
Mary Lou Fink  
Gayle Foster Lewis  
Sieglinde Gassman  
Barbara Gilbertson  
Tom & Mary Gorzycki  
Sister Carol Ann Gosse  
Lesley Guyton  
Mark & Kelly Haider  
Mary & John Haider  
Lois Hamilton  
Joan Hannasch  
Nancy Hansen  
Alyssa Hedenstrom\*  
Paul Hedlund  
Dave Heller  
Martha Hicks-Courant  
Kyin Hla  
Ruth & John Huss  
Grace Hyser  
Veronica Ivans  
Sue Kainz  
Mary & Jimmy Kauffman  
Kacie Kline  
Helen Kock  
Courtney Kozel\*  
Bonnie & Hank Kremer  
Sister Adaire Lassonde\*  
Carolyn Lebrun  
James & Erinn Letts  
Deborah Lewis  
Sisters Audrey Lindenfelser & Jill Laszewski  
Kim McConnell  
Jeanne & Jeffrey McLean  
Chris Miller  
Sophia Modeas  
Marylou Mohn  
Corinna Moncada  
Karen Moore\*  
Ken & Barbara Neihart  
Chris & Ashley Newberry\*  
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Joanne Nielsen  
Susan Oddsen  
Donna Oman  
Robert Peick  
Aleshia Peña\*  
Jennifer Powell  
Bonnie Prokosch  
Marilyn Quigley  
Chuck Regal  
Eileen Reuss\*  
Beth Robelia  
Ruth Robelia  
Lucy Rogers & Larry Grant  
Marge Rosenau  
Cathy & Nick Rucci\*  
Sister Marguerite Samz  
Berta Sanchez  
Dara Schur  
Howard Schur  
Rhonda Shockman  
Terra Shockman & Blake Larson\*  
Nicole Smith\*  
Samantha Solberg  
Sister Kathleen Spencer  
Mary Catherine Steenberge

Victoria Stewart\*  
Sheila Stuhlman  
Sister Anita Swansen  
Mu Hah Taw & Lwei Eh  
Alix Theissen  
Mary & John Thoenke  
Sister Denay Ulrich  
Ramata Verbaten  
Cady & Abby Voigt  
Dennis Wagner  
The Warec Family Charitable Fund  
Kathy & Steve Weihrauch  
Nancy Wenkel  
Gay Wilker & Ann Bergstrom  
John & Marilyn Wolkerstorfer  
John Wollum & Cindy Lien  
Dana & John Wood  
Jeff Wood

*\*Employees or Board Members*

### Grants:

Kinney Family Foundation  
Marbrook Foundation  
Ramsey County Public Health  
The Saint Paul Foundation

### Faith-Based Organizations:

Ascension Episcopal Church  
Cathedral of St. Paul  
Compassion of Christ  
Roseville Lutheran Church  
Saint Patrick's Church  
Saint Peter's of Mendota  
Saint Raphael Church  
School Sisters of Notre Dame

### Businesses:

M Health Fairview  
Medtronic Foundation Volunteer  
Grant Program  
State Farm Companies Foundation  
Whole Foods Co-Op

**And all 2020 Virtual Run for  
Refugees 5K Supporters!**