

2020 Annual Report



It was a strange year...

... filled with challenges and opportunities. We would like to thank all the people who helped us focus on possibility and potential, folx from all over the Tri-Cities area as well as across the state and even across the country.

Board of Trustees

- **Khia Hudgins-Smith**, marriage and family therapist at the Journey Center for Healing Arts
- **Paezha McCartt**, doctor of public health student at ETSU
- **David Wood**, MD, tenured professor and director of Adolescent and Young Adult Clinic at ETSU's Quillen College of Medicine
- **Darlene Fogg**, MD, FACOG, Ob/Gyn at State of Franklin Ob/Gyn in Kingsport


Leadership Team

- **Cindi Huss**, cofounder, managing director, OWL facilitator (kindergarten through older adult)
- **Sarah White**, cofounder, team member, OWL facilitator (kindergarten through older adult)
- **Jessie Birkeland**, event coordinator, certified OWL facilitator (7th grade through older adult)
- **Ivan Porche**, team member, certified OWL facilitator (7th grade through older adult)
- **Ann Livengood**, team member, certified OWL facilitator (kindergarten through older adult)
- **Kade Miles**, social media maven
- Prof. **Audrey Besch**, team member

Intern Leah Patton, master's public health student, ETSU



Milestones

- First **kindergarten-2nd grade** sexuality education **class**
 - **Advocacy** for reproductive health and freedom in Nashville
 - **Received 501(c)(3) status!**
 - First meeting of our newly installed **board of trustees**
 - First offered our newly developed **Trauma-informed Ministry** workshop
 - First **Lunch and Learn--Gender Diversity**
 - First meeting of RISE's new **Peer Sexuality Educator program** for high school students
 - First class offered at the TN Dept. of Corrections **Day Reporting Center** in Johnson City
 - First **out-of-state online class** offered through the Center for Sexual Pleasure and Health
 - First **Collective Impact Convening**
- 

Education

Who we
served
this year

Children
ages 5-16
in the Tri-Cities

Low- and
no-income women
in the Tri-Cities

Formerly
incarcerated
adults in
the Tri-Cities

Church leaders
in the Tri-Cities

Community groups
in the Tri-Cities

Adults overcoming
substance misuse
in the Tri-Cities

Adults around
the United States

Pregnant people with
substance misuse
disorders in TN

Teachers and social
service providers
in the Tri-Cities

LGBTQ-owned
businesses in TN

Trans youth
in TN

TN foster
children

All public school
students in TN

TN public
school students
who menstruate

Uninsured
Tennesseans

LGBTQ-led
families in TN

Pregnant
incarcerated
people in TN

Local gov'ts with
nondiscrimination
policies

Pregnant students
and employees
in TN

Advocacy



Education & Activities

- **January:** Kindergarten-2nd grade sexuality education classes begin
- **February:** Presentation to Women Matter Tri-Cities + Advocacy for reproductive health and freedom in Nashville + 4-6 grade sexuality education classes begin + "Let's Talk About Sex" workshop at ETSU
- **March:** Women's Health Fair at The Oasis of Kingsport + COVID strikes and all currently planned events are cancelled, including classes in progress
- **April:** Leah develops measurement tool for Menstrual Cup Program
- **May:** Online sex ed trivia
- **June:** "Trauma-informed Ministry" online workshop + "Gender Diversity" online Lunch and Learn + "Gender Diversity" workshop for Red Legacy
- **July:** "Stop Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Before It Happens" brochure with TN Coalition published + Kade takes on social media management and nearly triples RISE's IG followers
- **August:** New Peer Sexuality Educator program for high school students begins + "Inclusive Sex Ed" webinar for YWCares + "Gender Diversity" Lunch and Learn for TN Coalition's Inclusivity Committee
- **September:** "Inclusive Sex Ed" online Lunch and Learn for TN Coalition's Inclusivity Committee
- **October:** IGTV program for Sexy Sex Ed + "Relationships, Communication, and Health" classes begin for TN Dept. of Corrections Day Reporting Center in Johnson City
- **November:** "How to be an Ally" workshop with Bethany Novotny for peer sexuality educators + Inclusive YA literature and sexual assault resources added to website
- **December:** "Let's Talk About Sex" class offered through the Center for Sexual Pleasure and Health + Collective Impact for Sexual Health Convening

2020 in review



Partners

- Carter County Drug Prevention Coalition (Elizabethton TN)
- Center for Sexual Pleasure and Health (Providence RI)
- Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church (Gray TN)
- The Oasis of Kingsport (TN)
- Red Legacy (Elizabethton TN)
- Sexy Sex Ed (Whitesburg KY)
- A Step Ahead Tri-Cities (Johnson City TN)
- Sullivan County (TN) Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition
- Sullivan County (TN) Sexual Assault Response Team
- TN Coalition's Inclusivity Committee (Nashville TN)
- TN Department of Justice Day Reporting Center (Johnson City TN)
- Washington County (TN) Sexual Assault Response Team
- Women Matter Northeast Tennessee (Johnson City TN)
- Bellafina Chocolates (Kingsport TN)
- Gypsy Circus Cider Company (Kingsport TN)

Challenges

Like everyone, our biggest challenge this year was COVID. The pandemic led us to cancel a great deal of in-person programming we had planned and made it harder to do our work. As a result, our program fee income this year is way down,

On the other hand, our innovation is way up. We have been able to move on several projects that have been on our back burner for some time, and that is our silver lining. People still are sexual beings during a pandemic. They still have relationships, they still can become pregnant or contract STIs, and they still need education during a pandemic.

2020 Grants

Unitarian Universalist Fund for Social Responsibility

- \$8,000 (general operating expenses)
- \$2,000 (tech and business expenses)
- \$5,000 (matching grant for new sources)

Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation

\$3,000 (high-school peer sexuality educator program start-up)

Southern Equality Fund

\$200 (Relationships, Respect, & Responsibility class for 7- through 9-grade students)

- Audrey Besche
- Jessie Birkeland
- Shannon B
- Megan Dew
- Aubrey Everheart
- Ann Livengood
- Kade Miles
- Ivan Porche
- Will Powell
- Jilian Reece
- Sarah Sanders
- Rebecca Tolley
- Sarah White
- Brandie W

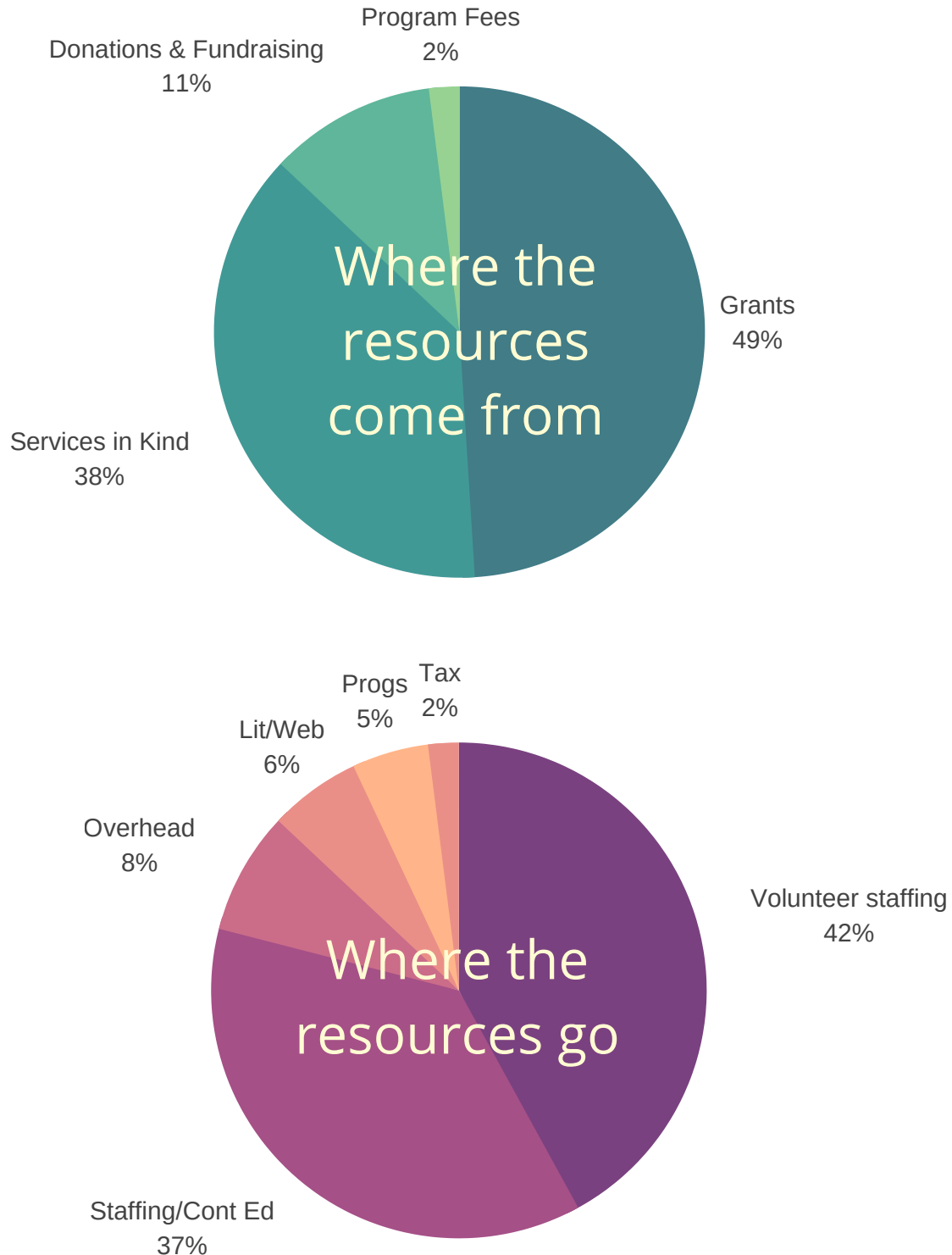
Dedicated volunteers

In addition to these fantastic folks, in a year other than 2020 we would have been blessed with a whole host of outreach opportunities, and we know many others would have shown up!

2020 Donors

- Dana York
- Maggie Wood
- Angie Winters
- Stephen White
- Jen Wahlund
- Maureen Visneski
- Melissa Story
- Anoushka Sckellekens
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- Jess Kaz
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- Ann Johnson
- Cindi Huss
- Beth Huber
- Wendy Hearl
- Cynthia Hatch
- Janeen Gibson
- Bobby Funk
- Dr. Darlene Fogg
- Pascale De Coninck
- Brittany Butler and Charlie Miller
- Thomas Burns
- Rev. Jeff and Kate Briere
- Anita Bowman
- Dottie Blades

The Figures



Looking ahead to 2021





RISE: Healthy for Life

227 Sullivan St.

Kingsport, TN 37660

423-250-3046

info@riseHFL.org



@riseHFL



Rise.HealthyforLife

www.riseHFL.org