At CCEJ, we believe in building relationships through personal storytelling. Our Annual Report is a space to share impact stories about CCEJ’s work, but we also want to ask:

How are you?

How has this past year impacted you?

How have you stayed connected to the people who matter to you?

Ten years from now, what is a story that you will tell about this time?

In 2020, we were reminded of the truth of our Restorative Justice value: “Individuals impact community.” During times of pain and struggle for people this year, we tried to center love, kindness, and solidarity. Even when we were fearful, we honored relationships and justice. We are grateful to be in community, together, with all of you. We wish you strength and resilience in the days yet to come.
2020 Program Highlights

GETTING TO OUR CORE PURPOSE

CCEJ has pursued our mission to eliminate bias, bigotry and racism for almost 60 years. When the COVID-19 pandemic closed our office in March 2020, we paused to reflect on how to pursue our core purpose: to build connections between people from diverse backgrounds, to heal conflict, and transform our communities. As communities across the U.S. grappled with racism and violence against Black, Asian, Latinx and other people of color, CCEJ received a surge of requests for training and education from schools, nonprofits, museums, businesses, government agencies, and community groups. To meet the high demand for dialogue, education, and training for equity, anti-bias work, racial justice and Restorative Justice, we adapted and increased our online content to meet our community’s needs in this moment of change.

In March 2020, we welcomed Reena Hajat Carroll, MSW as CCEJ’s new Executive Director, following an extensive Executive search. In March, we also moved to a larger office in Long Beach and we’re excited to host the community in our new space, when it’s safe to do so. Our staff and volunteers now have expertise in hosting interactive online dialogues, trainings, webinars, and community building events for groups as small as five and as large as 400. Our online programs make CCEJ’s work even more accessible - this year we hosted participants from Southern California and beyond, including Baltimore, New York, Washington DC, and even Europe!

Program Demographics

RACIAL IDENTITY:
- 47% Latinx/ Native American
- 18% Black/ African American
- 17% White/ European American
- 12% Bi/ Multiracial
- 6% Asian/ Pacific Islander/ South Asian

GENDER IDENTITY:
- 54% Women- Identified
- 42% Men- Identified
- 4% Transgender/ Non-binary

EVOLUTION & ADAPTATION

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When CCEJ moved our programs online, participants joined us from all over the U.S. and around the world.

“Participating in a Restorative Justice diversion process with CCEJ was like bringing light out of the darkness. I’ve strengthened my relationship with my parents and I want people to feel safe in the same way that I want my family to feel safe.”

– HEALING HARMS DIVERSION PROGRAM PARTICIPANT
GOING DEEPER

CCEJ’s annual Interfaith Intercultural Breakfast in February 2020 was our last public program before COVID closures. More than 800 people listened to Richie Reseda and Taina Edmond-Vargas speak on the harmful impacts of mass incarceration. Gene Lentzner, longtime CCEJ benefactor, passed away just days before the 2020 event. Twelve months later, CCEJ carried on his vision of all people building inclusive communities, with more than 350 people hearing Dr. Leah Gunning Francis’ inspiring call to action for racial justice.

Beyond our Breakfasts, CCEJ supported deepening anti-racist practices and building cultures of respect and love through:

• Elements of Justice online dialogues, held while protests swept the nation following the killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor

• Intergenerational online dialogues on Gender Norms & COVID-19 and Anti-Asian Racism in the Pandemic

• Season 3 of our Whatchu Know About RJ podcast, featuring stories of schools bringing Restorative Justice practices to life

THE SEEDS WE’RE PLANTING

Just as many people all over the world are re-imagining what it means to be in relationship with one another at this time, so too do we continue re-imagining how we can bring all people in our community together to work together for equality and justice.

We are grateful for all those who supported CCEJ in 2020. Your commitment to CCEJ gave us a foundation for sustainability and innovation during a year like no other.

FY 2020 Supporters
Contributions made between September 2019 – August 2020

Visionaries ($25,000 and up)
Albertsons
Binnie & Jack Berro & Family
California Community Foundation
The California Endowment
Los Angeles County Department of Health – Youth Development & Diversion Program
Los Angeles County Dispute Resolution Program
The Rudolph J. and Daphne A. Munzer Foundation
State of California Board of State and Community Corrections
TABC/Toyota
Weingart Foundation
Zwift, Inc.

Champions ($10,000–24,999)
Anheuser-Busch, Inc.
Beachwood BBQ & Brewing
Eugene & Ann Lentzner
Keurig Dr. Pepper
Dr. Mike & Arline Walter
Ralphs/Food4Less
Southern Glazer’s Wine & Spirits
Susan Stuhlbarg

Leaders ($5,000–9,999)
Barilla America Inc.
Bimbo Bakeries USA
Bristol Farms
Capital Investment Advisers/
Emerson Fersch
General Mills

Katy Stone Memorial Fund
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce – Women’s Business Council
MemorialCare
Milton’s Baking Company
The Minute Maid Company
Mondelēz International
Northgate Gonzalez Market
Pepsi Beverages Company
Performance Plus Tire/Hank & Joyce Feldman
Perimeter Sales & Merchandising
Reyes Coca-Cola Bottling
Rosecarrie & Dr. Alan Brooks
Stater Bros. Charities

FY 2020 Budget: $1.95 Million

Revenue Sources:
25% Government
24% Foundations
20% Events
20% Fee for Service
6% Individual Donors
5% Corporate

Allocation of Expenses:
66% Programs
20% Events & Fundraising
14% General & Administrative

Staff
Alejandro Haezart-House
Becky (Bex) Montes
Daniel Solis
Gilbert Salazar
Jessy Needham
Kathleah Consul Pagdilao
Mayra Serna
Paulina Piña Garcia
Reena Hajat Carroll
Sarah Ogdie
Sarah Rana
Vanessa Michelle Petti
Yozmine Modeste

Board
Rabbi Howard Laibson, Chair
Megan Kerr, Chair-Elect
Hank Feldman, Secretary
Yair Katz, Treasurer
Dr. Virginia Baxter
Rosecarrie Brooks
Dana Buchanan
Dr. Rashida Crutchfield
Dr. Minnie Douglas
Desarie Gonzales
Carol Hass
Elizabeth Lindh
Nancy Manriquez-Dowell
Gillian Medina
Braden Phillips
Dr. Shay Sorrells
Dr. Mike Walter

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