

REIMAGINE



AGING

HOLLYWOOD

Los Angeles
Oasis
WISE & Healthy Aging

2019 Annual Report

GREETINGS FROM OASIS

Los Angeles Oasis continued to gain momentum in 2019 with increased offerings and participation at our centers in Baldwin Hills and Santa Monica/Westside. We increased our collaborations with healthcare organizations, bringing health lectures to our members from experts at UCLA Health, Kaiser Permanente, and Cedars-Sinai. Our Oasis volunteer tutors supported students in more than ten elementary schools, covering central LA and San Fernando Valley.

The COVID-19 crisis has created unique challenges. Our hearts go out to the families of those we have lost to COVID-19, and those who are still healing. The kindness and care shown by frontline responders is incredible—we are forever grateful for the risks taken by these heroes. I also recognize the social workers and other essential staff at WISE & Healthy Aging who stepped up to support the seniors and caregivers of those we serve, advancing their dignity and quality of life.

Like our Oasis colleagues across the country, our ability to pivot has been tested. With lemons, one makes lemonade! We appreciate the generosity and creativity of our instructors, who along with our Oasis staff, have kept things moving along. Bravo! Throughout the pandemic we shifted to using more technology to support our work. Although we have experienced some bumps in the road, we are continuing to improve our virtual offerings.

With much gratitude in our hearts, you can count on us to keep pivoting so that you are able to stay active and inspired as we adjust to life that has been altered so dramatically.

Stay safe and be well.



Grace Cheng Braun

President & CEO
WISE & Healthy Aging
Los Angeles Oasis

As we look to the future, we reflect on the past. In 2019 every Oasis center experienced expansion in one way or another—class additions, tutoring growth, physical space, new participants, new partnerships, and new opportunities. Entering 2020 with significant momentum, seeds planted in 2019 were turning into green shoots. In March, COVID-19 changed everything, and Oasis swiftly pivoted in response.

When Oasis began shifting programs from in-person to online and via phone, participants quickly made the shift with us. Rather than conforming to stereotypes of older adults being averse to new technologies and change, I saw the exact opposite—Oasis participants embraced it, and we have been inspired by their resilience.

As we navigate the “new normal” in the thick of a global pandemic, we beg the question, “what happens next?” We are compelled to reprioritize and express our mission differently to meet unanticipated needs. Experts paint an altered picture of how life-as-we-know-it will look post-pandemic. How will voluntary social distancing—or lack thereof, affect the lives of older adults? How can we protect the health of aging communities while simultaneously avoiding the adverse effects of social isolation?

Older adults are most at risk of severe complications from COVID-19. But, the dangers of loneliness are not new; our aging family members and neighbors were more likely to experience social isolation before the pandemic and will do so well after.

Let’s unite and reimagine aging in a new climate with both new risks and new opportunities. Whether for yourself or an aging loved one, neighbor, friend—Oasis’ mission applies to all of us. Aging is inevitable. The choices we make influence HOW we age, and the Oasis community learns, expands, moves, and adapts as we grow older. Although we can’t be together in person for the time being, we hope to connect with you through our virtual programs and volunteer opportunities.

Every tomorrow is in the future, and with it a new opportunity to learn, build confidence, and grow. We at Oasis are here for you. Let’s reimagine aging together.



Paul Weiss, PhD
President, The Oasis Institute

NATIONAL IMPACT

2019 *Basis Institute*

5,900
Volunteers

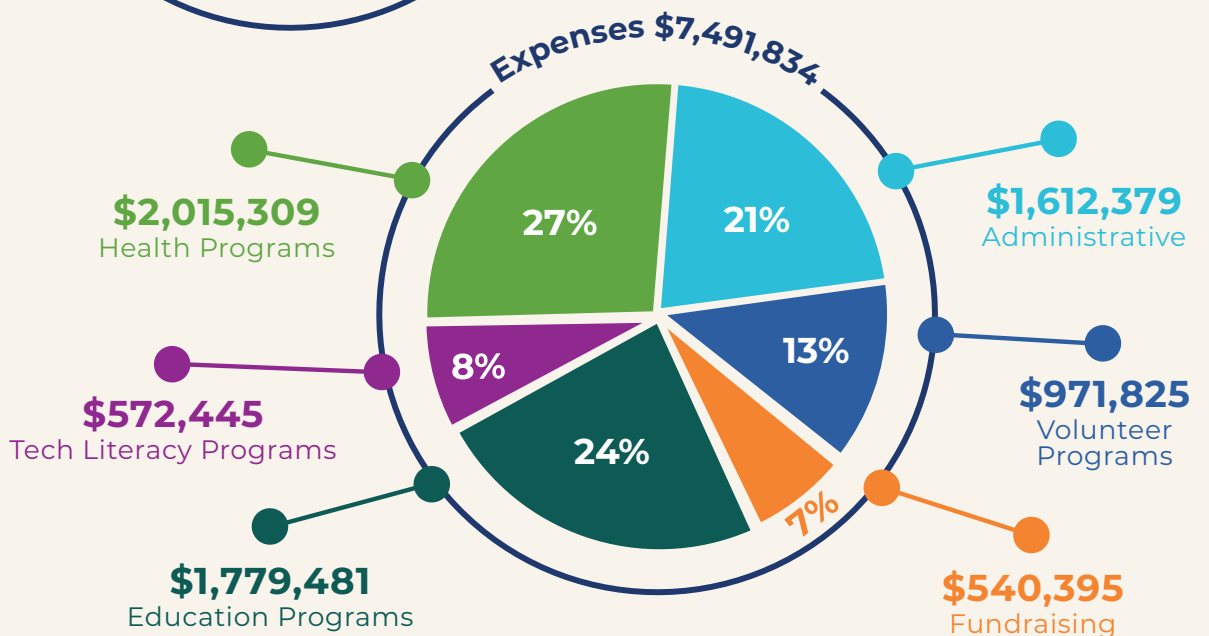
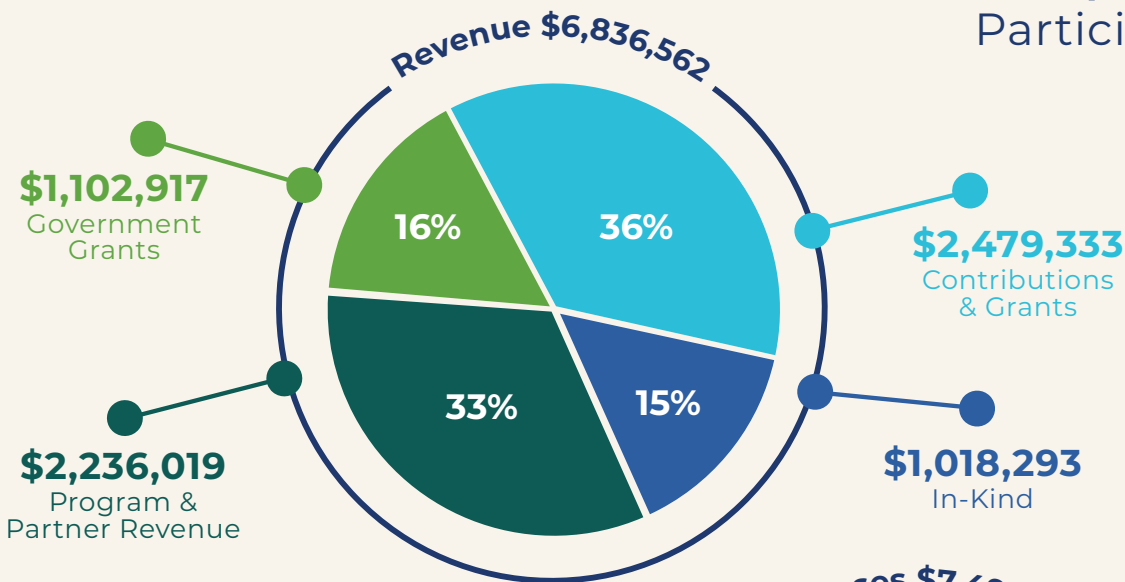
147,500
Class Enrollments

643
Schools

4,500
Tutors

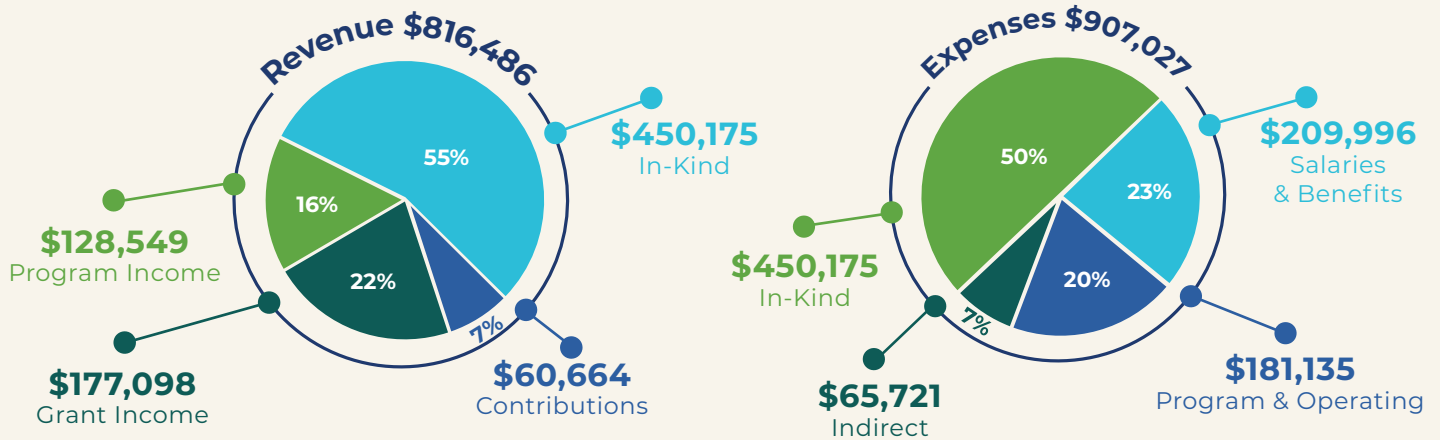
408,000
Volunteer Hours

49,400
Participants



Source: 2019
Consolidated
Financial Audit

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



ADVISORY COUNCIL

2019 Los Angeles Oasis

- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Ishara Bailis, LCSW | Sharon Fine | Iao Katagiri | Teresa Riddle |
| Ronald Banks | Grace Cheng Braun, MSPH | Lois King | Kitty Sankey |
| Danielle Brinney | Ida Danzey, DNP, RN, CNE | Reggie Morris | Cynthia Singleton |
| Miriam Caiden, PhD | Selma Framson | Earnestine Thomas-Robertson, EdD | Nat Trives |
| Jodi Cohn, DrPH | Janie Yuguchi Gates, EdD | Tim Petlin | Kayretha Willis, JD |
| Elaine Cook | Nat Hutton, MBA | Torrence Reese | Davis Park |
| Beverly Davis, CPA | Marie Johnson, PhD | | |

VOLUNTEERS ARE VITAL

We are thankful to the many volunteers who make an impact on the quality of our programs every day. There are several powerful ways to volunteer with LA Oasis. Our volunteers serve as mentors to elementary children through Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring, help staff register participants for classes, serve on committees and even instruct classes. Explore the opportunities and find the perfect volunteer role for you with Oasis!

For more information on volunteering at Los Angeles Oasis, call Volunteer Services at (310) 394-9871, ext. 552.

To reimagine aging with Oasis, call or check us out online.

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