

# 2020: A Year of Perseverance



Indianapolis Oasis  
2020 Annual Report



# Greetings from Oasis

Throughout 2020, the world was a unique and challenging place. Indianapolis Oasis is grateful for our steadfast participants, volunteers and community partners who were flexible and patient as we adjusted our programs to keep you active, engaged, and safe. Although the programs and volunteer opportunities we offered looked different last year, we are proud that we were able to continue serving older adults in the Indianapolis community. Some highlights include:

- Nearly 200 classes offered throughout 2020 via Zoom video and in-person combined. Class covered a range of topics, including a virtual Kurt Vonnegut Museum and Library Tour, memoir writing, hot topics from news headlines, and a number of exercise classes.
  - Virtual classes offered participants the flexibility to log in from home. No more worrying about where to park, fighting traffic, or bad weather!
  - Socially distanced fitness classes held in the fall allowed participants an opportunity to get together and exercise.
- Oasis worked hard to keep our tutor volunteers engaged. In November and December 2020, virtual tutor trainings were held for volunteers. Beginning in 2021, Lawrence Township School District participated in tutoring with 12 tutors working virtually with approximately 28 students. Funding from the Noyes and Brave Heart Foundations helped us continue the tutoring program.
- Oasis transitioned the Aging Mastery Program to a virtual format. This 10-class program aims to help older adults take key steps to improve their overall well-being, add stability to their lives, and strengthen their involvement in the community. Classes are held once a week for two hours and include: Navigating Longer Lives: The Basics of Aging Mastery, Exercise and You, Sleep, Healthy Eating and Hydration, Financial Fitness, Advance Planning, Healthy Relationships, Medication Management, Community Engagement and Falls Prevention.

Oasis looks forward to our return to in-person classes in the fall of 2021 and beyond, and we are excited about the future of Oasis programs in Indianapolis.

## Your Indy Oasis Team

Locally, nationally, and globally 2020 was a year like no other. The social and economic impacts of a pandemic were most acutely felt by lower-income communities, families with children at home due to school closures, and those most vulnerable to symptoms of the disease—older adults. Oasis centers across the country were forced to suspend all in-person operations. Exercise, lifelong learning, and social events, classes, and programs were canceled. Tutors were abruptly cut off from the students they were mentoring with our nearly 700 elementary school partners across the country. By the end of March, we faced the immense challenge of sustaining our mission when everything about the way we connected with participants and communities was no longer possible.

Local and national Oasis leaders and teams quickly shifted focus to a contact-free form of engagement, launching virtual classes through national and regional platforms. In June of 2020, our virtual national Oasis center, [oasiseverywhere.org](http://oasiseverywhere.org), was born, and within months over 1,000 people were enrolling in live interactive classes. Local Oasis network centers quickly pivoted in sync, offering virtual courses to their Oasis communities, and simulcasting their best content on Oasis Everywhere. The virtual programs allowed participants to continue lifelong learning while following stay-at-home orders, protecting their health and community. Oasis quickly attracted current Oasis participants, as well as new participants discovering us for the first time as a virtual education resource.

As a leader in technology education, we are committed to teaching new digital adopters the basics of safe internet use and building confidence in navigating a digital world. Conversely, the pandemic revealed the reality of living without home internet. The “digital divide” is very real for hundreds of thousands of American families and seniors. Barriers to technology exist across a range of demographic boundaries. As a result, our virtually engaged audience is less diverse. We recognize the need to span these gaps of disproportion to reach ALL older adults. As we emerge from the pandemic and begin operating as dual-venue centers, offering the option of in-person and online classes, we are addressing disparities between our participants. Through new and renewed partnerships, resource communication, presence in community events, and programs not dependent on technology we are continuing our mission to serve seniors across the country in every economical circumstance. Perseverance got us

through 2020 making us stronger and expanding our mission. We will emerge resilient and look forward to being together again.



**Paul Weiss, PhD**

President  
Oasis Institute

# National Impact

657

Schools

4,500

Volunteers

1,362

Communities Served

4,015

Tutors

82,675

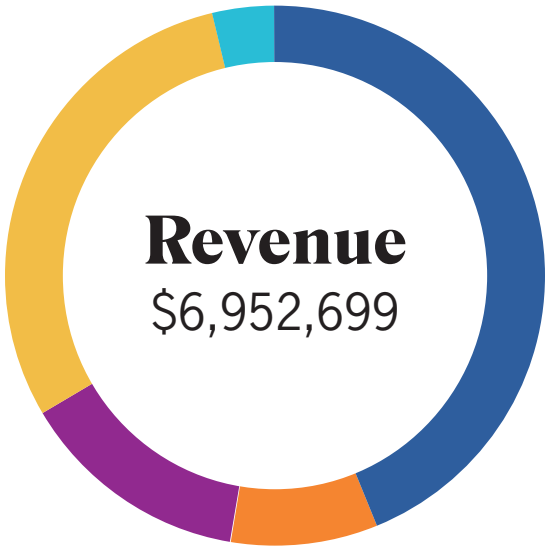
Class Enrollments

115,000

Volunteer Hours

27,250

Participants



\$862,741  
Volunteer Programs

\$2,139,445  
Health Programs

\$604,142  
Fundraising

\$1,488,532  
Education Programs

\$561,469  
Technology Literacy

\$1,750,172  
Administrative

\$257,121  
Other

\$3,049,109  
Contributions & Grants

\$2,074,862  
Government Grants

\$609,670  
In-Kind

\$961,937  
Program & Partner Revenue

\*Source: 2020 Consolidated Financial Audit

# Board of Directors

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## Community Partners

Indianapolis Healthplex  
YMCA of Greater Indianapolis  
Indy Parks  
Senior Life  
Pike Township

Brownsburg Community  
School Corporation  
Warren Township  
Hamilton Southeastern Schools  
Noblesville Parks & Recreation

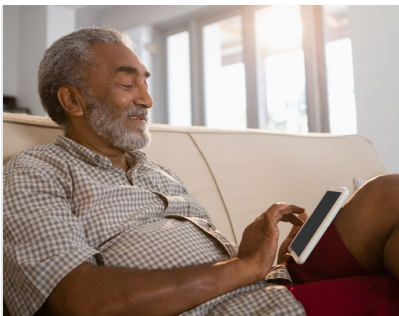
Lawrence Township  
Greenwood Community  
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National Institute for Fitness & Sports  
Washington Township Schools  
Marian University Indianapolis

## Sponsors

Community Hearing  
Health Centers  
Flanner Buchanan  
Washington Park Cemetery Association  
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## Grantors

Central Indiana Senior Fund  
Lilly Endowment  
National Council on Aging  
CICOA Aging & In-Home Solutions  
Noyes Foundation  
Brave Heart Foundation



**To connect with Oasis, call or check us out online.**

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