



EVOLVE
2021 Washington Metro Oasis Annual Report



Our hopes for an end to the Covid-19 restrictions and a return to our “former normal” did not take place in 2021. What did transpire? An evolution of programming in response to the needs of our community—a change which will surely include a permanent online component as we move forward. We will continue to evolve and respond to the many twists and turns of this pandemic as well as the resulting changes in consumer behavior that we see amongst our community of learners.

Despite the uncertainty that we currently find ourselves in, I have found that beginning every day with a note of gratitude keeps me on track to purposefully fulfill our Oasis mission.

Our world has evolved, but so have we. Our resolve to move forward over the past year has deepened our commitment to foster aging with curiosity, strength, and resilience.



ANNA STOKES
Executive Director
Washington Metro Oasis

2022 is a milestone year for Oasis as we are celebrating 40 years. As we reflect on Oasis’ work last year through our 2021 annual report, we do so through the lens of the global pandemic and how it has affected all of us. While two years is a short time compared to 40, the last two years were possibly the most challenging. It makes us appreciate our roots, the journey to get here, and our impact over these first 40 years that much more. It’s even more important to consider what the NEXT 40 years of Oasis will look like. The United States is on the cusp of an unprecedented population shift. By 2060, U.S. Census projections anticipate that half the population will be over 50, with a 92% increase in adults aged 65 and over. This shift in age distribution is attributed to decades of lower birthrates, medical advancement, and more attention to the impact of healthier lifestyles. Longer retirement periods spark a reconceptualization of what living out the “golden years” looks like. Oasis is evolving to accommodate these changes. We hope that you, and new generations of older adults, will join us on this transformational journey over the next 40 years!



PAUL WEISS, PHD
President | Oasis Institute

GREAT DECISIONS

In partnership with Syracuse Oasis, Washington Metro Oasis collaborates with the Foreign Policy Association’s Great Decisions 2022, America’s largest discussion on world affairs. The program highlights eight to nine critical foreign policy challenges facing Americans each year. In groups across the country, participants discuss and debate each issue and complete a national opinion ballot to communicate their view to Congress and the White House.

While the pandemic was the catalyst for the Syracuse-Washington Metro Oasis collaboration with the Great Decisions program, the program continues to evolve and grow today. Great Decisions offers a unique platform for sharing varied perspectives and lively, enlightening conversations.

Jack Welch (pictured below, left) from Washington Metro Oasis moderated the Great Decisions discussion group in collaboration with Shelly Lee from Syracuse Oasis. After working for Voice of America for more than 30 years, Jack was well suited for his moderator role. “As a news junkie, I was always interested in current affairs and politics. It gave me an ideal background to moderate the Great Decisions group.”

To prepare for the 8-session class, the group receives a book with eight to nine essays on different foreign policy topics such as Russia, China, space, drug policies and climate change, along with questions. The group tackles one topic every other week.

When Allan Sull (pictured below, right) learned Oasis was offering a structured foreign policy discussion—the Great Decisions program—he jumped at the opportunity. The retired history teacher has participated in the discussion group twice already, squeezing in the Great Decisions program between his other daily Oasis classes and ballroom dancing classes. “If they offer it again, I’ll do it a third time because the program is great,” Allan says. “There will always be foreign policy problems.”

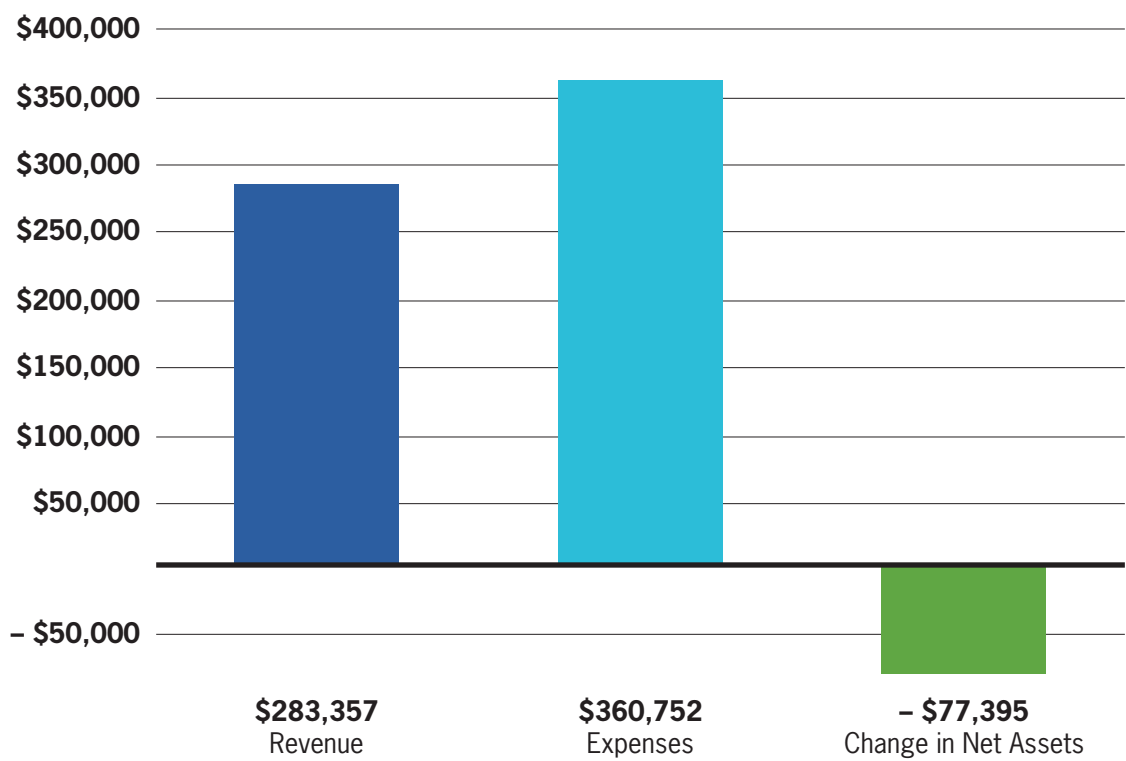
The Great Decision participants offer feedback online after each topic, which is then shared with Congress and the White House. “This feedback gives a sense of what citizens are thinking on important foreign policy issues,” Jack says. “Great Decisions is a great program to get people informed and engaged.”

“The quality of conversation has been a good learning experience and expands my thinking,” he says. Because of technology, we can have this discussion no matter where participants live. Plus, I’ve gotten to be friends with Shelly Lee, my co-facilitator, even though we live 500 miles apart.”

Like Allan, Jack says he is an “Oasis addict” since he started taking classes after he retired five years ago. “Oasis has terrific speakers and very interesting topics. With the pandemic, Oasis evolved so we’re no longer limited to classes in the Washington area or to how far people will drive. We have a lot of flexibility. Oasis rose to the challenge and didn’t skip a beat.”



WASHINGTON METRO OASIS FINANCIALS



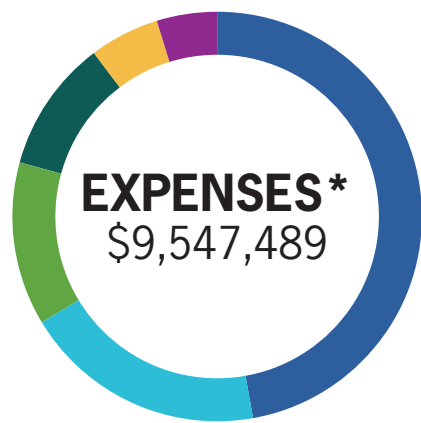
NATIONAL IMPACT

Partnered with **281 schools** across the country. Placed **1,230 tutors** in the Tutoring Program. Provided **46,250 volunteer hours** to local communities. Provided **2,250 volunteers** to local communities.

Enrolled **78,225 participants** in Oasis programs. Served **1,044 communities** across the country. Supported **15,750 participants** through Oasis programs.



- **\$5,585,044**
Government Funding
- **\$2,535,594**
Contributions & Grants
- **\$888,305**
Program & Partner Revenue
- **\$310,146**
In-Kind Contributions
- **\$102,838**
Other



- **\$4,510,929**
Health Programs
- **\$1,837,158**
Administrative
- **\$1,215,897**
Education Programs
- **\$998,187**
Volunteer Programs
- **\$531,905**
Fundraising
- **\$453,413**
Technology Literacy Programs

*Source: 2021 Consolidated Financial Statement Audit

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

AARP

CarePlus Home Health

Kay Family Foundation

Macy's Foundation

Montgomery County Community
Grants Program

Richard E. and Nancy P.
Marriott Foundation

Suburban Hospital, John
Hopkins Medicine

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotary Club
Family and Nursing Care

Go4Life

Jewish Council for the Aging of
Greater Washington

Kensington Park Senior Living

Montgomery Art Association

Montgomery County Historical Society

Montgomery County Public Schools

Montgomery County
Recreation Department

Montgomery County Volunteer Center

Planet Word

Starbucks Coffee

Village Ambassador Alliance

Washington Performing Arts Society

Woodend Nature Sanctuary



Connect with Oasis, call or check us out online.

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