



EVOLVE
2021 Upstate Oasis Annual Report



If 2020 was our year to change course because of a pandemic, then 2021 was the year we utilized our national connections, and Upstate Oasis as we know it, evolved. We learned that online classes were here to stay as many Oasis participants were freer to travel and continue to take Oasis classes virtually. This meant we needed to get creative with the content we offered in order to continue our robust class offerings. Through our partnerships with other Oasis centers, we were able to offer interesting topics and new instructors vetted by the other centers. Our “snowbirds” were able to continue classes as they went south. Others chose to remain online for health and safety reasons. Some even brought along a few new friends to class with them as they shared their love of Oasis. As more and more people enter retirement and the older adult population grows, Oasis programming will be more important than ever in keeping us connected and living our best lives.

Here's to the continued evolution of our Upstate Oasis as we meet the needs of older adults here in Central New York, across the country and around the world!



CYNTHIA WOODS

Executive Director | Upstate 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, United States 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 for a world in which adults are working and living longer. 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

TIMELY TOPICS & OPEN MINDS

In partnership with Washington Metro Oasis, Upstate Oasis collaborates with the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions, 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.

With a background as a retired police officer, military veteran and Homeland Security employee, Mark Wadopian was immediately drawn to the Great Decisions program. “The topics are so timely,” he says. “We have discussed Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how China's role in the supply chain affects interest rates around the world, among others topics. Great Decisions gives us a better perspective on the interplay of all the events happening in the world.”

Participants are given a book with articles and background on eight to nine foreign policy issues to read before discussions. The program spans 18 weeks, with discussions every other week. “Joining with the Washington Metro Oasis offers a better blend of ideas,” Mark says.

“Not everyone agrees with each other, but we have polite, interesting discussions without shutting others down. The discussions are well moderated. Many participants are well-educated and well-traveled with worldly points of views to present valid arguments. I've learned quite a bit and see other ways of looking at things.”

The Great Decision group participants offer feedback online after each topic, which is then shared with Congress and the White House. “This allows our opinions to have more horsepower behind them,” Mark says.

Mark has taken two Great Decisions classes so far. “We have different topics each time,” he says. “I've seen how the world changes and how that influences our topics. I most enjoy the interaction between people. We listen and comment in a well-organized format where we all cooperate.”

He says he is impressed by how Oasis adapted during the pandemic. “Oasis transitioned to online classes smoothly and gave us the ability to continue taking courses with more flexibility. It also opened the door and highlighted the national Oasis Everywhere program. Oasis continues to offer a wonderful forum and opportunity to interact.”



UPSTATE OASIS FINANCIALS



- \$656,901 Revenue
- \$619,540 Expenses
- \$37,361 Surplus

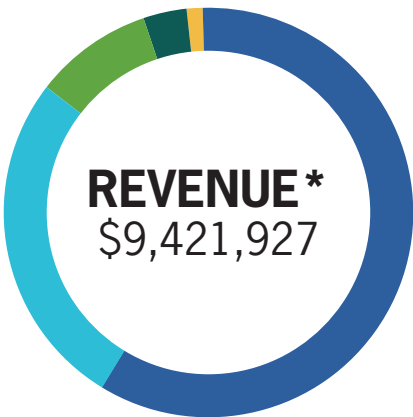


- \$459,139 Partner Support
- \$154,723 Earned Revenue
- \$23,345 Investment Income
- \$19,694 Individual Contributions

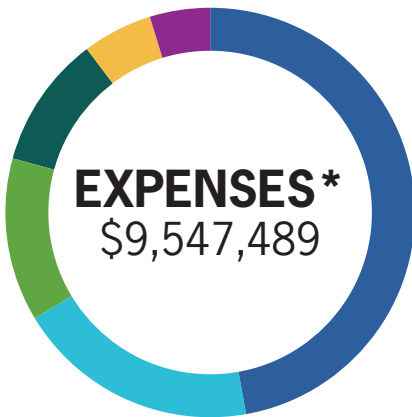
NOTE: Not included in the graphs, Endowed Funds have a combined balance of \$337,087 as of 12/31/2021.

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

ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Michael Ratner, MD
Co-Chair | Development &
Marketing Committee

Eric Rogers

Martha Ryan

Diana Biro

Tom Henry
Vice Chair
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Leah Caldwell
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Shelly Lee
Tutor Coordinator

