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Neighborhood Alliance has been compassionately caring for the community since 1927. We are helping our community grow stronger by caring for our clients' most basic needs. We provide emergency shelter, homeless outreach, daily meal delivery, nutrition services including an emergency food pantry and socialization activities for seniors, childcare and child enrichment programs, and access to family support programs such as Help Me Grow for those in need.

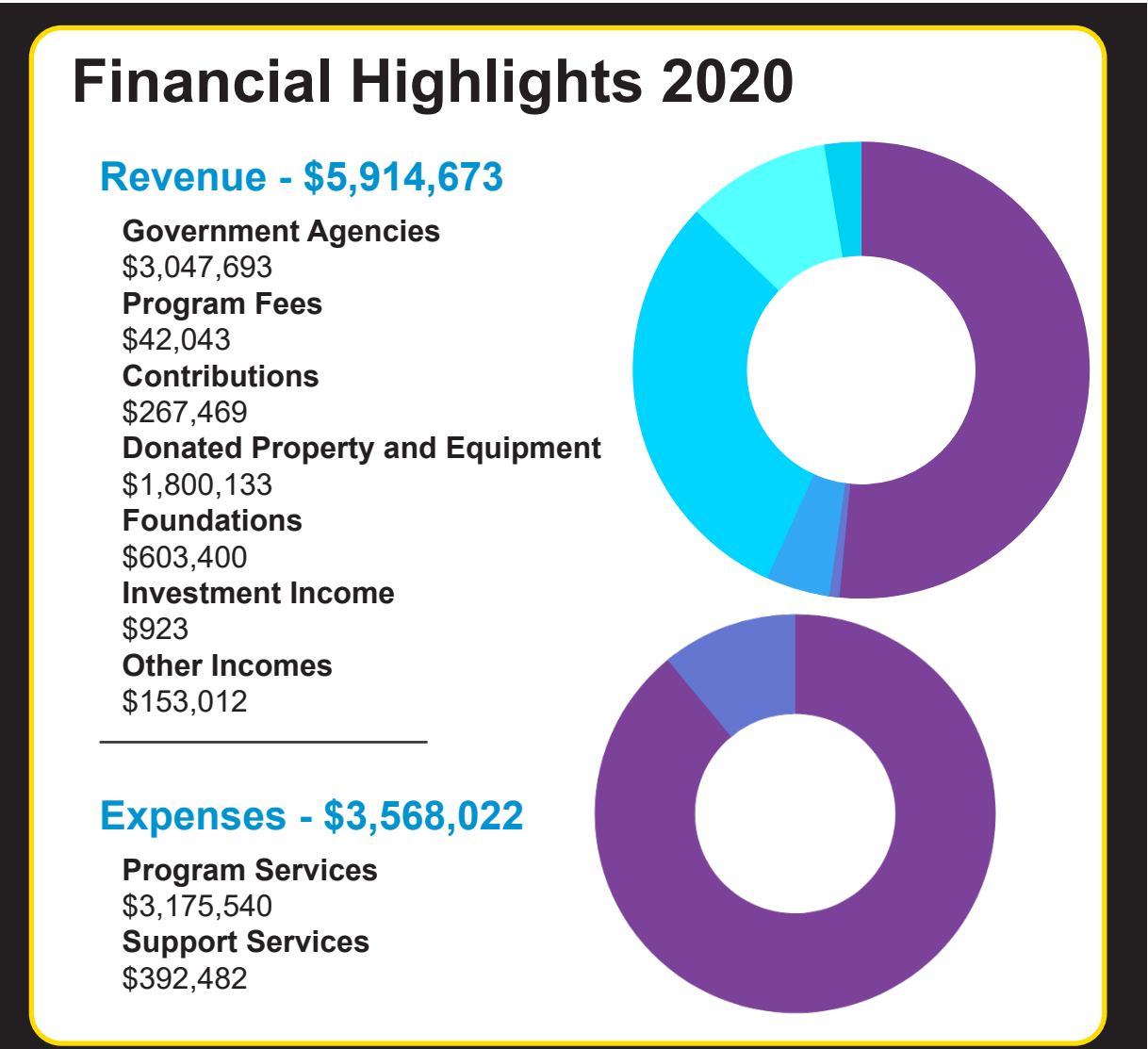
We are empowering the people of our community with the tools to create a better life for themselves. With our inspired mission of strengthening neighborhoods, we continue to expand programs and services to address the diverse and changing needs of families and individuals in Northeast Ohio.

1536 E. 30th St.
Lorain, Ohio 44055

Neighborhood Alliance
Child Enrichment Services
Family Support Services
Senior Enrichment Services
Shelter and Emergency Services

The mission of Neighborhood Alliance is to help communities grow stronger by meeting critical needs and empowering individual and families. We strive to achieve this mission by focusing on 4 core service areas which include Child Enrichment, Senior Enrichment, Shelter/Emergency and Family Support. Many of our participants come to us during a time of crisis. Our goal is to help them get out of the crisis they are in and find ways to prevent that from happening in the future by empowering them to move forward with their lives and reach their goals.

Programming for infants, toddlers, preschoolers (kindergarten readiness) , and for school-age children before and after school.	Facilitated in-home parenting education and developmental support for families with children prenatal up to three years old.	Active Senior programming and Home-delivered meals to Homebound Seniors throughout Lorain County.	24-hour, 7 days a week extended stay family shelter , with additional services available to address the various needs of the residents.
Children	Family	Seniors	Homeless



Neighborhood Alliance Annual Report

2020 we are on this journey together

**EVERY action, NO MATTER how small,
CAN make a difference!**

Several years ago, one of our team members gave my daughter a book, *Back in the Bay* by Philip Bovenkamp. I have read the story of the many starfish who were stranded on the shore to my daughter many times over the last several years. We have talked about the various people who come along in the story and see the starfish but do not know quite how to help. And the little boy who made all the difference in the world as he simply picked up a starfish and threw it back in the bay. While he could not save all of the starfish, he did what he could. This story proved to be a source of inspiration for my journey throughout this last year.

Neighborhood Alliance has served Lorain County for 94 years, and over that time, we have seen our share of challenges. From funding cuts and program closures, to creating new services or revamping old ideas, changes in leadership, and modification of our mission. However, nothing could have prepared us for the challenges the Covid-19 pandemic would bring. Throughout 2020, our programs went through some serious changes, sometimes on a daily basis as new orders came through, limiting contact with others, closing programs, and changing everything we thought we knew about meeting the needs of our community.

We began program by program, systematically, looking at all of the things that we were being told we couldn't do, all the things we've done for years, and facing the possibility of not being able to offer the services in the way that we had in the past, which could have meant that we couldn't offer services at all.

It was in those conversations where we were talking about what we could not do that I began to think about the story of the starfish.

**We had to take stock of the things that we could no longer do
and then we had to figure out what we could do.**

At the beginning, we did not know exactly how all of the pieces would come together, but we started making small changes, things that seemed at the time so tiny and like they would not make any difference at all in meeting the critical needs in our community.

Our team figured out that by modifying our services, we could serve more people. These models have sparked further discussion about the design of our services, our current locations and the building donated to us in 2020. We hope to implement more creative solutions as we move forward with our renovation plans in 2021.

I found myself thinking about the story of the Starfish every time we were faced with challenge after challenge in a year that was incredibly difficult. I took from that book that sometimes it is not about how big we are or how fancy our services are but it is about doing small things to help those who need us. If we each do our part, if we each do what WE can, we can make a difference. We just have to pick up that first starfish, and throw it back into the sea.

Alicia Foss, President & CEO of Neighborhood Alliance

UNITY • RESILIENCY • HUMILITY • TEAMWORK

Looking back on 2020, I am so very proud of everything this team has accomplished and the willingness to adjust to things I never saw us doing. Resiliency is the best word I can think of to summarize the efforts of each individual whom contributed to not only maintaining the services we provide to our community but to also cultivate them. While we do not know what 2021 will look like and when we will be allowed back in the homes I feel whatever the year has to throw our way we are ready to face it head on as a team. As a resilient work family.

Laura Kraps, Director of Family Support Services - Help Me Grow Home Visiting

In 2020 we received funding from grants and foundations to buy four new delivery trucks!!!! Our Senior Nutrition staff members and Child Care staff members were able to get to know one another. We learned to be patient, to anticipate, and to be open to each other's suggestions and struggles. We all realized that what we did each day made a true difference in the life of someone else. As a whole the organization came together to relay updated rules, essential supplies, and help meet the needs of each other's departments.

Amy Anderson, Director of Senior Enrichment Services

2020 truly showed me how the community came together in the hour of need, when we had to empty our shelter and house the clients in hotels throughout the county, our community partners as well as people who lived within our community and out of our community came together and offered their help to pack meals, bring in food, deliver meals and even helped with monetary funds to be able to support the work load that it was going to take to serve well over 100 individual which included 45 children, to ensure that they were fed, clothed and had whatever they needed to be able to have a safe place with a roof over their heads and being able to social distance. Thanks to everyone that assisted in helping we couldn't have done it without you.

Gloria Olivencia, Director of Shelter & Emergency Services

2020 was a year of many challenges not only to our program but the world. If I could sum up 2020 in one word it would be teamwork. The Child Enrichment Services program was able to continue serving our parents and families through turbulent times with the support and dedication of our community and our partnership in many collaborative supports. Together, we were able to provide consistency and peace of mind to our families. When we were able to open our doors we were able to ensure they had a safe and educational place for their children to attend while they worked. 2020 opened our eyes to the support we can provide with the dedication of our team and the collaboration of our community. To quote Helen Keller "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." If nothing else 2020 has shown us that teamwork and dedication can help us reach a common goal.

Sarah Bishop, Director of Child Enrichment Services



Helping communities grow stronger by meeting critical needs and
empowering individuals and families.

www.MyNeighborhoodAlliance.org