

IMPACT REPORT



FOREWORD

LISETTE LE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
2017-2022

Dear Friends:

As an organization, our mission is to strengthen the Vietnamese community and Fields Corner neighborhood through our programs and services. There was no greater test of our mission than the past 2 ½ years as we navigated the COVID-19 pandemic and assessment of the community's needs.

As with most organizations, in April 2020, when we realized that the pandemic would have a dramatic impact on our community and the world, VietAID pivoted our resources as quickly as we could to meet the community's needs. We leveraged our assets that included turning the Great Hall into a makeshift food pantry and distributing millions of pounds of culturally sensitive food items (such as bún, rau muống, and jasmine rice). We brought on additional staff to assist thousands of community members apply for services from rental assistance to unemployment.

For existing programs such as Au Co and the Senior Program, we shifted to new models of engagement. Teachers successfully transitioned our bilingual curriculum to virtual. For our seniors, we made regular phone calls and delivered hot meals to those who lived alone. Staff worked incredibly long hours and took on the role of service provider and trusted counselor. Although we helped with an issue like unemployment, we also provided connections and a wide range of resources to families.

As we move into a new phase of the pandemic, we are re-imagining our programming so that VietAID continues to provide the same level of support to the community. We have kept our service and food access work as a core program, recognizing that food insecurity and language barriers persist. This would not have been possible without the incredible generosity of our volunteers and funders. Many people stepped up by helping to pack grocery bags, became regular donors, and opened the door for VietAID to access new funding. We still need you and hope that you continue to be with VietAID.

Best,



Lisette Tường Le
Executive Director



TABLE OF CONTENTS

02 Letter from Executive Director

03 Table of Contents

04 2020 & 2021 Expenses

05 2020 & 2021 Revenues

06 Statements of Financial Position

07 Programs

13 Contact Info

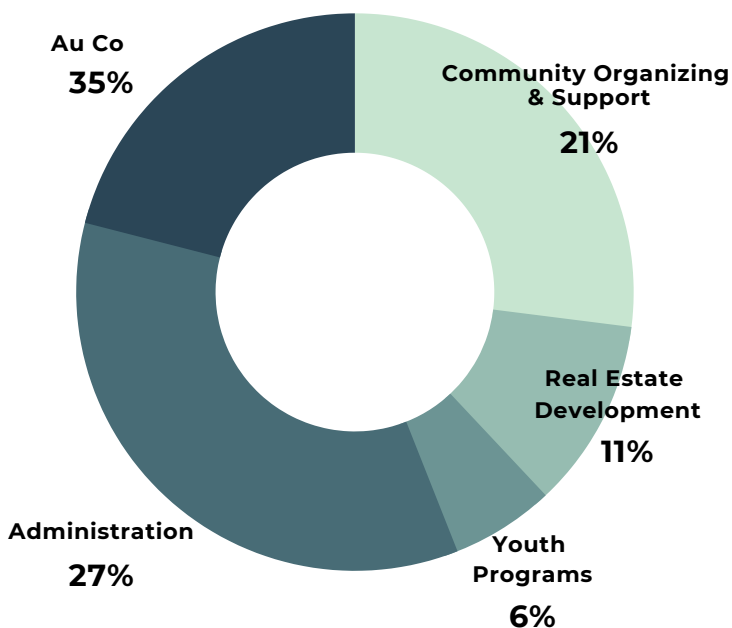


EXPENSES

2020

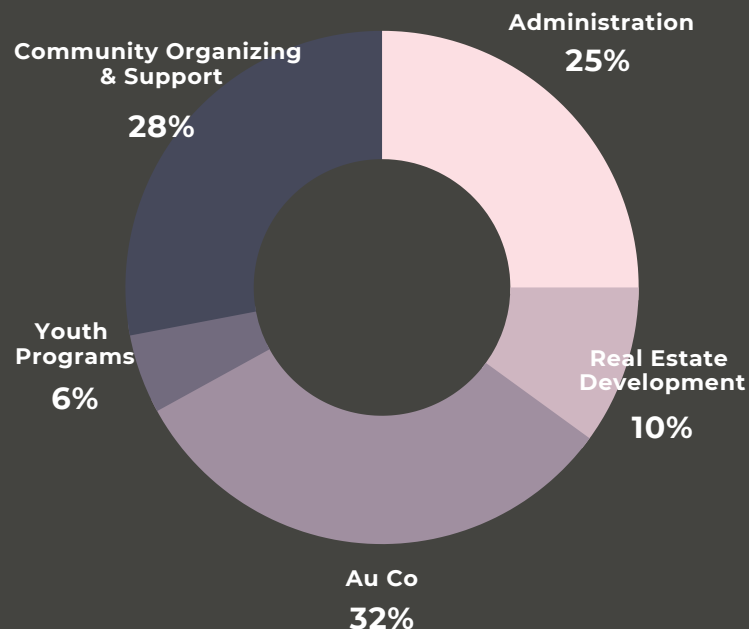
The turn of the decade brought about a pandemic that challenged us globally. VietAID pivoted to adapting our programs to continue to serve our communities that needed support more than ever.

Administration includes IT, facilities, and accounting. Community Organizing and support includes food services (new in 2020 to support during the economic turndown) and senior services, where we included food delivery and distribution to those most vulnerable during COVID-19. The total expenses for 2020 was \$1,753,000



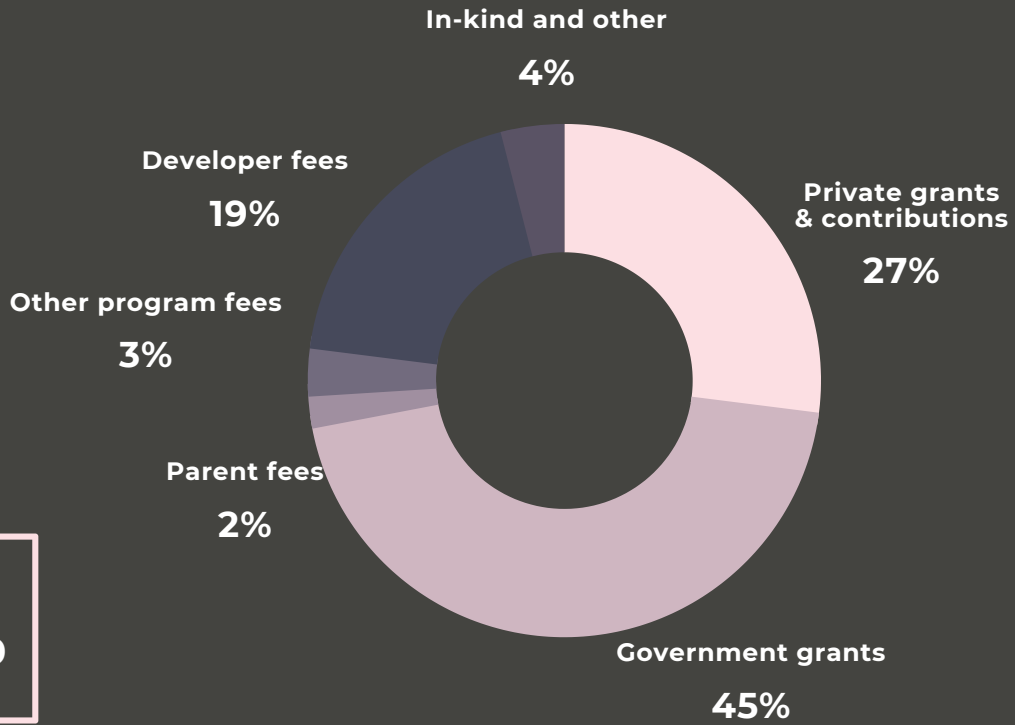
2021

The following year, as our communities continued to navigate COVID-19, we also saw an increase in anti-Asian discrimination. To address this, we poured in efforts to increase our community services, such as food distribution, benefits navigation and guidance, and economic support. As in 2020, many of our programs also required adherence to COVID-19, including PPE and IT adaptations for remote work. The total expenses for 2021 was \$2,159,000.



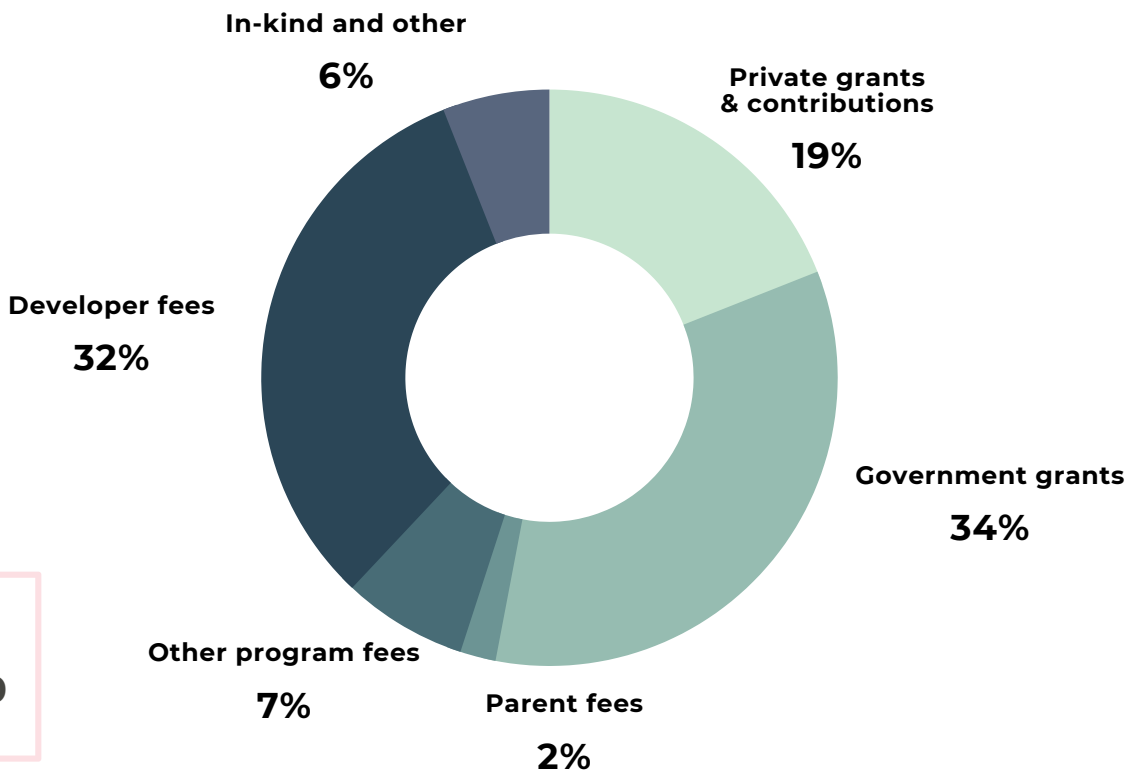
REVENUE

2020



TOTAL
\$2,040,000

2021



TOTAL
\$2,394,000

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

During 2020 and 2021, VietAID maintained its programs, continuing to serve the community despite COVID. Preschoolers and their families adjusted first to remote learning, then to masked attendance in person. We added a food distribution program and served seniors remotely. A PPP loan from the federal government and grants from generous funders allowed us to keep our staff intact and to provide continuous coverage in all our services. In addition, we earned developer fees related to the ongoing construction project at 191-195 Bowdoin Street in Dorchester. In all, we were able to report significant positive earnings in both 2020 and 2021, bringing our unrestricted net assets to a positive balance for the first time in several years.

Comparative Statements of Financial Position - December 31, 2021 & 2020	2021	2020
Cash and cash equivalents	\$410,000	\$203,000
Accounts and grants receivable, net	201,000	292,000
Other current assets	382,000	206,000
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	993,000	701,000
Due from related parties	838,000	1,000
Projects under development	1,120,000	3,091,000
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	2,634,000	2,788,000
TOTAL ASSETS	\$5,585,000	\$6,581,000
Line of credit payable	\$150,000	\$350,000
Current portion of long-term debt	17,000	15,000
Current portion of accounts payable and accrued expenses	216,000	235,000
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	383,000	600,000
Non-current accounts payable and accrued expenses	55,000	581,000
Conditional advance	121,000	69,000
Long-term debt	1,362,000	1,970,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,921,000	3,220,000
Net assets without donor restrictions	3,587,000	3,322,000
Net assets with donor restrictions	77,000	39,000
TOTAL NET ASSETS	3,664,000	3,361,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$5,585,000	\$6,581,000

PROGRAMS



ÂU CƠ

Founded in 2005, Âu Cơ Preschool is the first and only Vietnamese bilingual, bicultural preschool program in Massachusetts. Âu Cơ is a Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care licensed program (EEC and NAEYC accredited as well) that costs significantly less than most childcare programs in Massachusetts. Children can be supported for tuition from the government or through our scholarship program.

Run by seven experienced bilingual and bicultural educators, Âu Cơ prepares our students to enroll into kindergarten programs in the Boston Public Schools, with an approach to education that supports physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development. Starting in September of 2019, Âu Cơ PreSchool joined in partnership with Boston Public Schools to become a Universal Pre-K program.

After closures due to COVID-19, Âu Cơ pivoted to providing classes over Zoom and then reopened its doors again in September 2020. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of teachers and volunteers, the program was able to implement health and safety measures to resume in-person programming during the pandemic. In July 2021, the school successfully organized a graduation event, broadcasted over Zoom, and in-person to celebrate our students.

For academic year 2020-2021, Âu Cơ supported **46 students**. Surveys show that **95%** of Âu Cơ families feel happy with the program and services they're receiving at the school.



COMMUNITY CENTER

Since 2001, the Vietnamese American Community Center has been a safe and welcoming space where Dorchester residents can celebrate, organize, gather, and access needed services. In 2020, the Community Center remained true to its original vision to be a place for the community to turn to for needed services and resources during the height of the pandemic.

From unemployment support to food distribution, VietAID prioritized rapid response programming to ensure that help would be provided to all those in need. Prior to the pandemic, we primarily served members of the Dorchester/Fields Corner community. However, the programs began to see residents come from neighborhoods like Quincy, Braintree, Randolph, and more for support. In addition to being an indicator of the success of our outreach, it also highlights the needs that exist beyond just the Fields Corner area, and just how far-reaching the news of our impacts have been.

Among our proudest achievements was the total funds we were able to help people receive for Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT), which helps households in stable housing when facing eviction, loss of utilities, and other housing emergencies; and Unemployment Insurance (UI) for workers, which provides temporary income assistance. In 2020, we supported with an approximate total of **\$800,000** for RAFT and **\$1.1 million** for UI; for 2021, **\$1.5 million** for RAFT and **\$3.6 million** for UI. We continue to provide these services and have helped distribute **nearly 5 million lbs. of food**.



REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

As a community development corporation, VietAID's primary goal is to contribute to the positive development and support of our community. One way we have worked to achieve this goal is by building affordable housing developments and managing them in perpetuity to create stability among housing offerings in the community.

At the height of the pandemic, we worked to ensure that residents were able to remain housed in their homes, a crucial need given COVID-19, economic turndown, and the intersection of many other barriers that families and individuals alike faced. VietAID joined efforts with the CDC to halt evictions during this time, allowing for renters to remain safe and secure. We continued to move forward with our 195 Bowdoin Street project, with 41 units of affordable housing and commercial space for a neighborhood grocery store. Additionally, the project reserved 36 units for age restricted housing for older adults who often disproportionately face housing insecurity.

During 2020-2021, VietAID housed **123 families**, totaling approximately 145 people. Units in construction totaled 41 (74 bedrooms) and 36 units in permitting (36 bedrooms). VietAID is excited to provide 41 more families the same opportunity to be housed in light of 191-195 Bowdoin Street opening summer of 2022. This project will provide a total of **74 bedrooms** to help further address Boston's affordable housing crisis, particularly in light of the pandemic.



SENIOR DAY PROGRAM

VietAID's Senior Day Program is designed to provide care and companionship for community members to age strongly. Prior to the pandemic, the program operated on weekdays at the community center, offering healthy meals and a variety of recreational and social activities.

During the height of COVID-19 in 2020, we pivoted to find ways to support our 'golden age' community by conducting regular phone check-ins and delivering hot meals to those who lived alone. We also provided grab-and-go grocery bags for up to 200 seniors and distributed 150 daily hot meals from Ethos to ensure that seniors remained supported during this difficult time.

In July 2021, we reopened the center, acclimating the program again with 30-40 seniors participating in person. Over time, we have reached capacity with more than 70 seniors visiting for daily yoga, bingo, tai chi, and karaoke activities. We continue to observe health regulations and protocols and update our participants regularly.

In the past year, we have seen our senior community thrive again, with high numbers of participants in our physical activities, and have also celebrated different occasions, including the 60th anniversary of a couple who participate in the program together. Surveys have shown that 90% of seniors are happy with the program and consider it as a place where they have a "second family."



YOUTH PROGRAMS

At the beginning of the pandemic, our youth program identified food insecurity and racial tension as some issues in the Dorchester community. They designed and implemented a campaign to advocate for a pilot community garden at Towns Field Park to provide green space for low income BIPOC community members and to bring community power and solidarity. They spent the last couple of years outreaching to city councilors and people who can support build the garden, connecting with community members, and participating in social justice workshops and activities. The garden is now beginning its **build of 10 raised beds** through this advocacy!

In 2021, there was an increase from 22 youth participants to 38. The youth reflected on the kind of summer leadership program they wanted, gathering in a safe space to reflect on their personal identities and social justice issues closest to their hearts. By the end of the school year, **100%** of youth identified that they were proud of their identity and community. The intentionality and ferocity that these youth showed, particularly during the pandemic, is a foundational aspect of what VietAID believes in. We prioritize providing a safe space for their collective care as we also empower them to find their voices as the leaders of today.

One participant shares, "I do feel supported emotionally, professionally, and personally thanks to how people treat each other like family at VietAID."





**WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT OF
OUR VISION AND WORK.**



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