

Windsor County Mentors

HELPING YOUTH THRIVE



Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Now Serving Sullivan County New Hampshire!

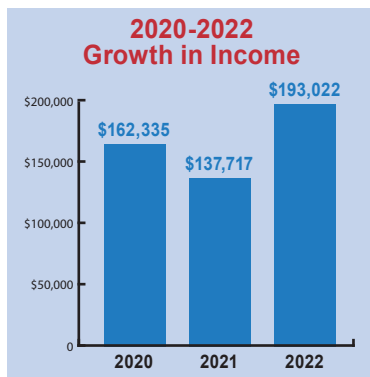
We had a great financial year – and we're expanding into New Hampshire!

After two years of pandemic-related lockdowns and stop-and-go alerts to wear masks and socially distance, we may finally be leaving the dark tunnel of Covid-era mentoring. Throughout the last year Windsor County Mentors has continued to create and support mentoring matches, both in the community and in our school programs, and we've had some wonderful successes.

Our biggest news this year has been expansion into Sullivan County, New Hampshire. After nearly 50 years of serving Windsor County, we were lured into New Hampshire by a group of local community organizers. These Claremont and Newport NH groups were looking for a way to support their local youth, who have only limited options for healthy activities outside of school. Naturally, they considered bringing a mentoring option to their area, and when searching for a provider, landed on us, with our long, proven history of helping kids.

Our NH expansion is starting slowly, but we anticipate a busy Fall recruitment season there, for both mentors and mentees, especially once schools are open again (Covid permitting!).

On the financial side, we've been very gratified at the continuing support of individual donors, local businesses, and state and national grant-making organizations. We had a great year on the income side and mostly due to ongoing Covid closures on the school side, saw reduced spending on the expense side. We're well poised financially for the next year.



Continued from page 1

Some of the fun things we've done this year include an outing to the Vermont Institute of Natural History, in Quechee, lots of interesting trainings, and a rollicking year-end picnic in August at the Hartland Dam Recreation Area.

- Matthew Garcia, Executive Director



Thank You to All of Our Donors and Volunteers!

Future Goals

- Preparations for our 50th anniversary
- Continue to expand in Sullivan County

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From the President

As we close out the fiscal year of 2021-2022 we look back at both challenges and successes. The pandemic continued to affect schools, children and families until things finally began opening up during the summer and start of the 2022 school year. People were tired, vaccinations and boosters had not necessarily picked up, and whether or not to wear a mask was confusing. Our mentor matches figured it out, however so they could keep meeting and some of our school programs started up again.

Our faithful donors, individuals and businesses, continued to generously support our programs. Our Executive Director, Matthew Garcia, also wrote renewal and new grants to sustain our work. We are grateful to end the fiscal year in excellent financial shape.

We were excited to be able to expand into Sullivan County, New Hampshire with our programs moving into Claremont and Newport. The need in that area is also great and we are working to find mentors and financial support there to serve their children.

We were also able to finally have some all group events not possible during the pandemic. We hosted mentors and mentees at VINS in Quechee and at a few Hopkins Center offerings. We celebrated the end of summer at an all mentor, mentee and family picnic at the Hartland Dam, complete with games and a Good Humor Ice Cream truck that brought back memories especially for the parents and older mentors!

Our staff remains stable and are doing great work. We have added one new board member with no one retiring this year. We are starting to plan for our 50th anniversary celebration in 2024!

We look forward to a new year, making progress toward our Strategic Plan goals, finding new mentors and being able to match all the children and youth referred from schools, social service agencies, health care providers

and after school programs. Our goal is to help our mentees sustain hope and good mental health after some trying years. This is a true community effort to provide the support needed to promote connections and care for our children.

- Megan Culp, Board President



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