



建橋者基督教華人社區服務中心

American Chinese Christian Educational & Social Services

ACCESS ANNUAL REPORT 2021

So Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and called it The LORD Is Peace. Judges 6:24a

ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

2021 is a special, blessed, and memorable year for ACCESS. Even as the pandemic is getting worse, we continued to trust God and move forward to manage the organization's daily operation, program activities, partnership building, staff recruitment, new program development and fundraising event. We are very thankful since our vision, guidance, and plan were empowered and guided by God. His protection, provision, and grace enabled us to turn unexpected obstacles and challenges into great opportunities to love, serve, and support children, adults, elders, and partners in the Asian American community. We can be proud and boldly claim that 2021 is the year of peace that God granted and blessed ACCESS.

In 2021, ACCESS had a great success to open our full day service program for kids to come in-person instead of staying home in order to assist them in their remote learning. Our quick response to emergency needs and adoption for frequent changes and uncertainties strengthened our program planning and management, and we developed wide and deep connection with families. Our nine weeks in-person Summer Enrichment Program made huge impacts among kids, families, and our community. We are honored and privileged to have parents' trust and respect. They send their kids to ACCESS where they feel it is a safe, healthy, joyful, and friendly learning environment and a welcoming place for their kids and their families. We strengthened our relationship with families and partners during the difficult time through our quality of services, effective communication, and good collaboration. Our long term and trustworthy relationship with parents and partners in our community has built up ACCESS' good reputation in that it resulted in more and more new families sending their kids to ACCESS for our after school and summer enrichment programs.

We had a great breakthrough regarding staff and volunteer recruitment under the circumstances of the pandemic. In 2021, we had three full-time staff, 14 part-time staff, 25 volunteers and 2 senior helpers from the Great Boston Golden Age Center. ACCESS is very blessed to have many professional, passionate, and talented staff and

volunteers to carry on our mission and serve people in need. We continued to build up a strong, dynamic, professional, and diverse team to provide support to our various programs during this critical, uncertain, and unpredictable time, and that is truly God's amazing grace and blessings.

In 2021, we clearly and strongly recognized ACCESS' big role in the community and in ministry. God has been using ACCESS as a training center for Asian American youth and young adults to be aware of their cultural identity and traditional inheritance, to gain community service experience, to get their feet wet in early childcare and education, to discover and utilize their gifts and potential skills, and to grow in Christian education and faith. Youth's and young adults' professional and spiritual development is becoming one of our focuses, goals, and plans in the near future.



Staff and volunteers during our reflection meeting

In 2021, we continued to look for opportunities to strengthen community education and outreach. We worked closely with Tai Tung Village Management Office to open various classes base on the needs of the Tai Tung residents. Amid fear of the pandemic and the rise in hate crimes towards Asians, we have recognized that the Chinese immigrant population needed emotional healing, comfort, and love. During the spring and summer, we opened fitness classes, an art and craft class, and a singing class for Tai Tung residents. We were excited and

encouraged to see the elderly, mothers and kids joined our class and enjoyed learning new things and felt achievement, excitement and happy to spend time together and appreciate their own handmade artwork and sharing their life stories about their love, family, and immigration journey.

ACCESS expanded our services in our community in many ways. During the pandemic, we developed a closer partnership with the Tai Tung Village Management Office and its residents, and we are glad that God used ACCESS to be a blessing to many others in our community. Even though ACCESS is a small community serve agency with limited manpower and financial resources, God STILL raised up ACCESS to be His light and salt especially when our Asian American community are under prejudice, hatred, and discrimination. We believe only the love of God can heal and restore people who are living under fear and hurt.



Art class students and Tai Tung community leaders

In 2021, we upgraded our internet speed, purchased decent and appropriate school supplies and learning materials. We tried our best to keep our place clean and sanitized to meet the standards of health and safety by following CDC and EEC safety guidance. We also had one professional website designer voluntarily redesigned our website. This is another big breakthrough regarding our social media presence and communication development.

ACCESS board members have been actively and practically engaged in our board meetings, financial monitoring, and program activities. It is impossible for us to sustain and continue our work without support from our board members and donors and friends like you. Thank you very much for your partnership, prayer, and financial contributions.

Pasang Drolma, Executive Director

CHILDREN AND FAMILY PROGRAM

To be honest, I didn't know what to expect as I took over the role of Director of Children and Families at ACCESS, especially in the midst of a worldwide pandemic. After the initial onslaught of COVID-19, we were seeing Boston slowly reopening various key businesses in the area, including childcare centers. The staff and I at ACCESS saw a great need to reopen as well. But instead of continuing to stay remote like we did during the school year and the summertime, we played with the idea to reopen for in-person services. We knew that our children and families desperately needed our services to be in-person. We realized that there has been a significant learning loss all across the board for the children as they were forced to shift into an unfamiliar remote setting. And families were feeling inadequate to support their children with their academics along with their social-emotional regulation through this unusual and difficult time. After weighing out the pros and cons of reopening in-person services, we decided to go ahead and reopen to support the families in our community.

2020-2021 After School Enrichment Program (ASEP) & Family Life

We restarted our After School Enrichment Program (ASEP) with 15 returning students and 6 dedicated teachers. Because Boston Public Schools were starting off the school year with remote learning, we reopened our program to be full day in-person services to help our students who are doing remote learning with their respective schools. We slowly started to learn about the various challenges our students were facing in this new way of learning: learning how to navigate their web apps, communicating with their teachers, Zoom etiquette, providing supplemental material for their learning, etc. With this shift to in-person care for our returning students, we were able to provide academic and personal support as they navigated through the next few months of remote learning.



Students working on homework using their Chromebooks



Classroom prayer before snack time

Through the hard work and dedication of our 6 teachers and 3 volunteers, we served a total of 22 students from 15 families for our full day programming during the entire school year. Even though we were not able to enjoy the fullness of a large student enrollment and freely invite families to our family dinners, we were still able to enjoy the company of our students as they came to do their remote learning at ACCESS and watch them grow as they tried to figure out this new way of learning and living.



Outdoor recess inside Tai Tung's playground area

In February, we began to develop a partnership with Northeastern University with their Service-Learning Course (SL-C) Program. The SL-C Program at Northeastern was developed to be a platform for students to learn about the city of Boston and find ways to be engaged in the city that they are schooling in for the next 4-5 years of their university life. We partnered with two different course groups from Northeastern: one group provided weekly in-person science enrichment for our students to learn more about the sciences in fun and exciting ways, and the other group provided support in administration work for the organization such as grant research and writing. This partnership continued through the rest of the school year, and relationships were built upon this partnership where students from this program saw the value and importance of community work within

the city. What grew from this partnership were volunteers who wanted to come back to serve our students and give back to those who need their care and love the most.



Student playing a word game with their classmate

2021 Return of Summer Enrichment Program (SEP)

As we went into the summer, we needed to focus on giving the students back a summer that they deserved. This summer may have been the biggest turnout that we have seen in SEP history at ACCES. With 38 students enrolled into our program, we had a combined number of 33 staff and volunteers who dedicated their entire summer to serve our students and families. With the lack of field trips and access to open facilities (i.e. gymnasium, pools), we had to be creative with what we did with the students.



SEP 2021 on their last day at Peter's Park

For this particular summer, I wanted our staff and volunteers to focus on building everlasting relationships with our students. Through these bonds, we have been able to get to know each of our students intimately, their home life, their likes and dislikes, and where they stand in their faith walks with God. But the building of friendships didn't stop there. We had staff and volunteers from all walks of life, and it was a huge encouragement to me to see everyone wanting to do life together this summer and encouraging one another in love as they all worked to love and care for our students.



Teachers and volunteers taking a cute selfie together

This summer, I have witnessed so much joy and love spilling out from the classrooms and the people. Everyone that I had spoken to, both staff and students, has expressed how much ACCESS has been a healing space for them, a place to rejuvenate from the stresses of life, and a place where they look forward to coming to every day. As Pasang has mentioned, she envisions ACCESS to be a place for young people to come and train for future careers and ministries. I also see ACCESS as a place for healing and recovery for anyone who needs to witness what hope looks like in their lives.



Ms. Moy and the girls enjoying some Italian ice together



Ms. Liu's & Ms. Lee's classroom with their fun windows

Final Thoughts

This past year has been one full of surprises and challenges, but also great experiences to recognize how much God has been working in the lives of our staff, volunteers, and children. We are so grateful for the dedication, love, and support our staff and volunteers have put into our Children's Programs in the midst of this challenging season. We cannot wait to see what God has in store for us in 2022!

Annie Tran, Director of Children and Families



More teachers and students taking happy selfies together



Students having fun playing with bubbles during recess

2020 ACCESS ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT



Ms. Su helping a student with her morning academics



Mr. Xie teaching the 10 Commandments to the young ones

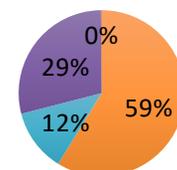


Older students collaborating to finish a puzzle together

Year 2020 was a challenging year for many people due to the COVID-19. Pandemic affected most of the people worldwide. ACCESS was not the exception, and it is impacted like many non-profit organizations. In the beginning of the pandemic, our city Boston was locked down for several months. Most of the small businesses were closed. Many families who were served by ACCESS lost their income. With God's grace and mercy and with our supporters' prayers and donations, ACCESS sailed through this difficult year with about \$20K lower in cash balance from the year end 2019. Our overall financial is still healthy. God's grace is sufficient for us. God's power is made perfect in our weakness. That is what God said to Paul recorded in the Bible in Second Corinthians 12:9. That was what ACCESS experienced through our ministry. We would like to give thanks to all the individual donors and organizational donors from the community that include churches, community organizations, and banks. Most importantly we thank our lovingkindness God.

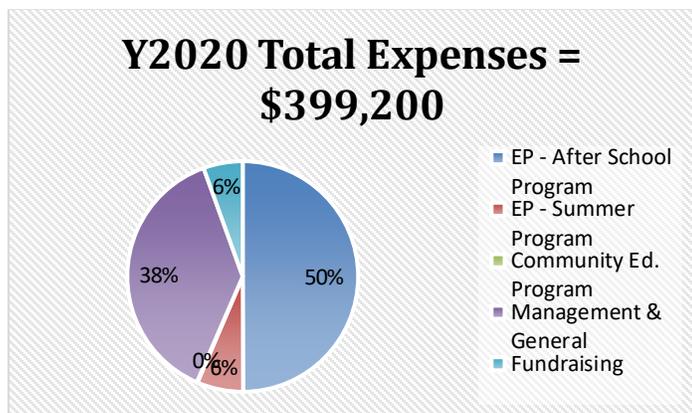
Due to the city shutdown, we could not provide some of the community services for adults and elderly. Our enrichment programs also moved from in-person to virtual. ACCESS stopped tuition collection in April. We offered free weekly tutoring for the children who needed extra academic support. We also delivered books and school supplies to families to help students to progress in their studies. ACCESS experienced a 56% or about \$60K reduction in tuition. However, the funding from the government increased by about 3% or \$3K. Even with the economic pressure, the donations from individuals and organizations went up by 2% or about \$4K. Our total unrestricted revenues for the year were \$384,652. About 12% was from tuition, about 29% was from government, and about 59% was donations. For the donations, the number of individual donors maintained at about 97 units and about 40% of them consistently support ACCESS in the past several years. We also see an increase in donations and grants from organizations in the community. We are so thankful for all the faithful supporters.

Y2020 Total Unrestricted Revenue = \$384,652



■ Donations & Grant ■ Tuition ■ Gov. Funding ■ Other

The total expenses for year 2020 were also dropped from \$420K to \$399K due to the shutdown. Since we could not offer the adult community education programs in person, the associated expenses dropped by 97% to about four hundred dollars. The expense chart shows the distribution of the Year 2020 expenses.



In year 2021, the pandemic is still with us. Uncertainty of the economy is still in many people's minds. But one thing is certain to us, God's faithful provision to us through you our faithful donors. We trust that God will provide when we serve our community according to His will. We pray for God's blessing to all our supporters.

Wilfred Chen, Treasurer

ACCESS BOARD MEMBERS, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

"I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers because I hear your faith in the Lord and your love for all the saints."

Philemon 1:4

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Sudan Huang	SCSEP Senior Helper
Yanna Wu	SCSEP Senior Helper

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 Tai Tung Village Management

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Brian Tan, Calvin Dong, Carissa Moy, Emelyne Su, Erica Mei, Grace Wong, Hadassah Lipnick, Jacky Chen, Jerry Xiang, Nathaniel Xie, Sha Man Lee, Shumin Guan, Susan Lodzsun, Vivian Liu, Vicky Kwan

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