



L'ARCHE[®]
USA

2020 IMPACT REPORT

A Year of Learning



Dear Friends,

If you read this report, you have likely, in some form or fashion, lived this year 2020 in the L'Arche boat, alongside L'Arche, or within eyesight of our vessel. What a challenging year for all of us. I invite you to take a moment and think back, scan through your experience: what do you recall? What memories are stirring in you? What do you sense? What do you feel as you remember?

L'Arche's people have amazed me in this year 2020. Each of the 1000+ members in the United States lived their own personal experiences, like you and I. L'Arche's people began the year with the unexpected and shocking news of the spiritual, sexual, and power abuse of L'Arche's founder. Yet, they stood with admirable integrity and an unwavering commitment to the here and now of L'Arche's mission. With this news barely processed, our people were thrown into the pandemic and onto its frontlines, the hidden frontlines, as disability still is at the margins of our societal discourse. Quarantine brought community life to Zoom, spiritual life became socially distanced, direct support was performed through masks and PPE, a constant fear of disease and death was present, etc. Challenge upon challenge upon challenge. Then our members witnessed and engaged this country's long-overdue reckoning with its history and systems of racism. This call hit close to home for L'Arche's people. We know that our mission, to create inclusive spaces of belonging for all, resonates now more than ever. And we know that what has been good needs to become better, in this case broader and deeper, to meet the demands of this diverse society and our time.

2020 humbled us. It challenged L'Arche in many new ways. We don't yet know the full implications of those challenges. It was not always pretty, but hard things tend to be our best teachers. I learned a lot in 2020. Our people learned a lot. And I bet you did too. Throughout this report, you will find the voices of our members sharing their 2020 learnings. There is recognition in those words. There is celebration. There is gratitude.

As you peruse a glimpse into L'Arche USA's activities and numbers, may our people's words mirror your 2020 reckonings, bring up your own celebrations, and inspire your gratitude.

In communion and with much hope for L'Arche and the world,

Tina Bovermann, L'Arche USA Executive Director & National Leader

Pushing Through Stagnancy

SURVIVAL MODE, STAGNANCY, GROWTH... SOUND FAMILIAR? This year took each of us on a journey through many ups and downs. And while we all discovered a new meaning to the word “alone,” many of us also redefined our understanding of the experience of “connection.”

It is no surprise that L’Arche USA joined the masses and took to Zoom to foster a place of connection for our members. We had a lot to learn (How many times did you start talking while you were still “muted” this year?), but thanks to the support of our donors, the push from our members, and the creativity of our team, we managed to develop various effective virtual engagements and formations. Here are some examples:

US TOGETHER – a monthly space for connecting all who joined through song, reflection, and activities. These sessions held a particular focus on community and core member leadership. One participant was excited to “*see folks in other communities and experience core members leading. I enjoyed when people shared or we made things together—art, music, poetry, or dance.*”

BE TOGETHER – a weekly space for centering and quiet reflection. One participant appreciated “*the simplicity, just a little pocket of time, not too much to take in, that offered an opportunity to be.*”

LEARN TOGETHER – a monthly space where external and internal experts led members into dialogue on topics central to life in L’Arche. One participant noted, “*I like that there’s a chance for development and deeper thinking with people across L’Arche. More learning from each other is needed. ... I feel that I am not alone.*”

Because of the accessibility of virtual programming, we were able to connect with more members, friends, and supporters of L’Arche than ever before - a unique gift from this extraordinary year!

While we are excited to return to in-person spaces when we are able, we have discovered the impact and potential of these virtual connections. We plan to continue advancing our virtual programming, fostering growth and leadership, and widening the invitation to the never-ending journey that is L’Arche. We hope you will join us.

“I took away a commitment to continuing to grow. I think over the past few months I’ve been in survival mode... I feel motivated to push through stagnancy and into working on growing myself as a leader.”

Anonymous Participant of L’Arche USA Leadership Formation

“ THIS YEAR WE LEARNED:

...that we can share stories and meet new friends across the Federation without leaving our own homes.

...that meaningful connection via zoom is possible when engaged with intention and creativity.

...that our spiritual growth, as individuals and as communities, is our most needed & important endeavor.

”

Engagement Statistics:

Nearly **500** members and friends participated in virtual engagements like the **Be - Us - Learn Together** events.

Participants shared a collective **1300+ hours** at L’Arche USA virtual formations and events.

An average of **14** L’Arche members were present each weekday at the **L’Arche Pop Up Café**, an impromptu virtual gathering space from March to May.

Follow [@larcheusa](#) on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter for invites to virtual events!





“

THIS YEAR WE LEARNED:

...that we can be proud of our creativity and innovation to find fun and creative ways to lift one another's spirits when we all needed it the most.

...what it truly means to recognize and accept our need of one another.

...that our world is even more interconnected than we might have ever imagined before and that L'Arche has some very important contributions to make to a humane and celebratory approach to that interconnection.

”

Visit the [“Meet L'Arche”](#) page on our website for compelling stories from L'Arche members across the country!

The L'Arche Twist

L'Arche communities are rich with stories, and what a story there was to tell during this year 2020. We all experienced a year unlike any other year - a L'Arche unlike any other L'Arche.

In light of the pandemic and the need to quarantine, L'Arche USA made building storytelling skills amongst community members one of its many focuses for the year. External experts partnered with us to provide a variety of storytelling trainings for community members and a Storytelling Community of Practice began to meet monthly, providing a space for a group of members to hone their skills and engage in thoughtful dialogue centered on the importance of the “L'Arche story.”

What stories come to mind when you reflect on your experience of 2020? This year included themes of shock, uncertainty, and loss alongside themes of courage, creativity, and love. Each person, each community, offered their own perspective, their own “L'Arche twist”, forming a multiplicity of stories on the L'Arche experience.

What is the L'Arche twist? It is receiving the news of the inquiry results about L'Arche's founder, while responding with courage and commitment. It is embarking into a period of lockdown with no certain end, while building makeshift movie theaters and convenience stores for your housemates to enjoy their favorite activities safely from home. It is experiencing the loss of a community member, while bearing witness to the endless ripples of their love as friends, new and old, show up to celebrate their life.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the incredible support of our donors and friends. We hope that you found your own “twists” on the events of 2020 woven into our tapestry of stories. And, with storytelling being so central to community life, we are looking forward to bringing you many more twists and turns, stories of celebration, hope, and humanity.

**“I didn't know I would be entering a house with such a strong and sacred history...
It's been a gift to learn how to honor that history and find my place in it.”**

Therese, L'Arche Portland

Founding a New Community

The following is an interview between Thomas Marquis, Manager of Community Support & Learning with L'Arche USA, and Megan Guzman, the founding Community Leader of L'Arche Frederick. Megan has been a member of L'Arche in various roles since originally joining L'Arche Greater Washington, D.C. in 2007.

Thomas: What draws you to L'Arche's mission?

Megan: I am drawn to the idea that everybody has something to offer in this world. And that there need to be spaces where they can share those gifts. Those spaces are not always available, particularly for people with disabilities.

Thomas: What called you to apply for your role as the founding Community Leader of L'Arche Frederick?

Megan: L'Arche is a force of good in whatever community it grows in. So, I really wanted to help L'Arche grow. And I am from Maryland, so I feel so proud to be helping L'Arche grow in the place where I grew up. .

Thomas: How would you describe the role that L'Arche USA has played in this process?

Megan: My first week was filled with meetings from L'Arche USA at a very challenging time in L'Arche's history and our world. But I felt great honesty, authenticity, and comfort from that Zoom screen. And that has held up since. I know that I have people that I can reach out to... and people reach out to me. They ask how it is going, what Frederick needs, and what I need.

Thomas: What are the challenges of founding a new community?

Megan: A challenge that I have had is showing what L'Arche can be. L'Arche is so much about the experience of being in community with other people and witnessing these beautiful mutual relationships. It can be hard to put into words.

Another challenge has been becoming a provider of human services through the state. We want core members to walk into the home on the first day and have all the support they could possibly need already in place. That takes a lot of preparation, people, and funding.

Thomas: Are you close?

Megan: We are getting there. We have a wonderful home that we purchased – I am sitting in it now! I walk around and know what this home will be, and I am so excited.

Thomas: What are you most looking forward to?

Megan: I can't wait to eat dinner with everyone. My fondest memories with L'Arche, on the hard days and good days and everything in between, were when we came together around the table. We broke bread together, we laughed, and we ate whatever somebody might have burned—usually me. We celebrated being together and being a community. I can't wait for that.

Thomas: What will the menu of that first dinner be?

Megan: We will have enchiladas. That is one thing that I don't burn.

“ THIS YEAR WE LEARNED:

...that we provide services (and much more) competently and so very well.

...that when we assumed it would be back to business as usual, our core members have resolutely said “no”, taking the opportunity to ask worthwhile questions, calling us to re-envision how we provide support and care.

...that in a year that forced us to adapt to previously unimaginable situations, it was our core members who led the way in showing us how to adapt.

”

“Today, every day, the table holds our first-glance experiences of ourselves and each other. It serves as a setting for talk and eating, for fuel and centering, a place where we process our lives together.”

Grason, L'Arche Atlanta

Help sustain and grow L'Arche in the United States by donating online at www.larcheusa.org/donate!



A Growing Movement

“I really wanted to be a part of a L’Arche community because it brings joy, laughter, & a family who truly loves me.”

Leslie, L’Arche Wavecrest



“It’s a place of rawness and vulnerability in relationships. It is messy, but there is something real and holy here and it’s where I call home.”

Meredith, L’Arche Greater Washington, D.C.



- 18 MEMBER COMMUNITIES Independent 501(c)3 Entities
- 5 EMERGING COMMUNITIES (Projects)
- 7 PRE-FOUNDATION GROUPS



Financial Statements

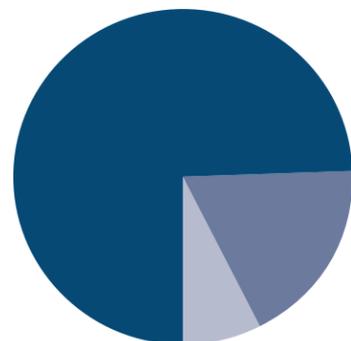
The work of L'Arche in the United States is vast. From the one-on-one moments of care between daily life members, to the hours of phone calls and meetings held by leadership teams, to the numerous spreadsheets, projects, and trainings developed by staff members...an unimaginable amount of work happens each day in L'Arche across the country. This became even more true during such a unique and challenging year.

Moving through 2020 would not have been possible without the support from our donors and friends. It is with our deepest gratitude that we thank you for your remarkable generosity and encouragement. You make the work of L'Arche possible.

SUMMARY OF L'ARCHE USA'S 2020 FISCAL YEAR STATEMENTS

REVENUE

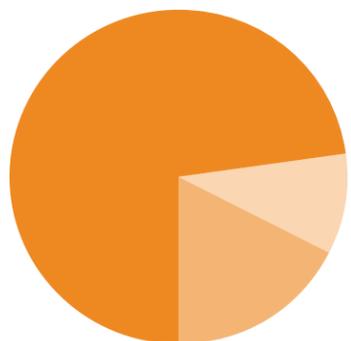
| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| ■ Contributions* | \$2,266,971 |
| ■ Membership Fees | \$555,576 |
| ■ Other Income | \$222,335 |



Total Revenue \$3,044,882

EXPENSES

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| ■ Program | \$2,104,600 |
| ■ Administration | \$277,698 |
| ■ Fundraising | \$504,663 |



Total Expenses \$2,886,961

Total Assets: \$1,735,757

Total Liabilities: \$482,770

Total Net Assets: \$1,252,987

**Includes gifts from foundations, corporations, faith-based organizations, individuals, and others.*

“L'Arche invites people with and without disabilities into a community that strives to value people as they ought to be valued... I support L'Arche because I want to live in a world more like that, like L'Arche.”

Kevin, L'Arche USA Donor



Thank You!

Although the challenges of the year 2020 have been overwhelming, I am filled with appreciation for the support L'Arche has received. Our mission is important for people with and without intellectual disabilities, now more than ever. The resilience of our core members, the extraordinary leadership of our community leaders and national team, and the generosity of our donors give us hope for a bright future. Thank you to all our community members for making L'Arche a sign of peace to the world.

Wendy Sullivan,
L'Arche USA Board President

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Alan Hannibal | Bernie Malonson | Clark & Sandy Powell | Edward & Julie Watkins | Heather Charron & Matt Segedi | Jim & Susan Hasselle | Karen Monroe | L'Arche Wavecrest Lakeside Industries | Mary Lippiatt | Oracle | Robert & Cynthia Heller | Sony Interactive Entertainment (PlayStation Cares) | Theresa O'Donnell |
| Alan Hilling | Bill Gaventa | Colin Torretta | Egan Cannon | In memory of Robert J. Willis | Joan & John Winchester | Kate Asselin | Larry Merkle | Mary Provo | Ovide & Maria Miller | Robert & Eileen McKenzieSullivan | St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church | Thomas and Nancy Alfonsi |
| Alexandre Gagnon | Bob & Lisa Shaffer | Colleen Lagan | Elizabeth Black & John Cook | Jack O'Connor | Joan Mahler | Kate Marshall | Laura Goble | Mary Ruppert | Parker Davis | Robert & Nancy Shannon | St. Scholastica Monastery | Thomas G. Bauer |
| Alexis Harris | Brandon Menc | Connie Dahlberg | Elizabeth Gilbert | James & Josie St. Peter | Joan Ryan | Kate Schulte | Laura Wolff | Matt Barmore | Pat Barnes | Robert & Nancy Shannon | St. Scholastica Monastery | Thomas Havey |
| Alfonso Caprara | Brendan Murphy & Catherine Larimer | Cynthia Rybakoff-Shapoff | Ellen & David Johnson | James & Patricia Gorman | Joe & Kelly Flynn | Kathleen Casey | Lauren Wang | Matthew and Lynette Wilson | Pat Kennedy & Melissa Ries | Robert Jungerhans | Stacy & Joe Cates-Carney | Thomas Marquis & Julian Magennis |
| Alisha Armstrong | Brian Fay | Dane R. Evig Johnson & Jean M. Evig Kapple | Ellen Eischen & Dominic Caruso | James Hoey & Eunice Park | Joe Oliveri | Kathleen Maguire | Liberty Mutual | Matthew Chavez | Paul F. Snow | Robert Rieck | Stan Entsminger | Thomas Murphy |
| Amanda & Knox Burnett | Brian Torretta | Danelle Harris | Elvia Puccinelli | James Meyer | John & Rebecca Grantland | Kathryn Broyles | Lillian Sun | Matthew McGeorge Rhodes | Paul Lipscomb & Lynn Cartwright | Robert Sackel | Stasya Erickson | Tim Scheiderer |
| AmazonSmile Foundation | Carlos A. Orellana | Daniel Coleman | Emily Krall | James Melendez | John & Valarie Ross | Kathryn Ivey | Linda Elbow | Maureen Costello-Shea | Paula Olson | Robert Wenson | Steffen Cretella-Costantini | Tina Bovermann & Anna Hutto |
| Amy Langston & Michael Foat | Carol Cutler | Daniel Cordero | Eric and Hallie Wells | Jameson & Melissa Natwick | John Biggs | Kathy Goodman | Lisa & Patrick Schiltz | Maureen Schuler | Peculiar Treasure | Robert Wood Johnson Foundation | Stella Hlad | Tina M. Wallace |
| Andrew Blair | Carol Wesley | Danielle Alex | Eugene & Jean Bay | Jane MacNeil | John Endrud | Kelly Ratchford | Lisa Cataldo | Michael & Kay Carroll Miller | Perry & Doug Mouncey | Ronald Hafidson | Stephen Kang | Tom & Anna Danley |
| Andrew Callahan & Anna Downing | Carole Brown | David & Judy Jones | Frances Clem | Jane Zema | John & Heather Knechtle | Ken Bernhardt | Lisa Orsic | Michael & Lee Barry | Peter Berman | Rosemary Revoir | Stephen Rothrock & Tessa Keating | Tom & Anne Caruso |
| Andrew Filachek | Caroline Bareau | David Atcheson | Frank Cihlar | Janice Glor | John Koncoli | Ken Johnson | Lolly Rothrock | Michael & Marcia Eischen | Peter van Nifterik | Roslyn Barry | Stephenie Landry | Travis Case |
| Andrew Orr | Carolyn Gothard | David Jenkins & David Spivey | Gael M. Mooney | Janece Orlando | John LaBella | Kevin & Lynn Reimer | Lorrie & Dave Brown | Michael & Teresa Spezio | Phil Mendelson | Sabine Zwettler | Steve & Bethany Keener | Travis Miller |
| Andrew Osmun | Carrie Smith | David Palmer | Gatine Magary | Janece Orlando | John Manice | Kevin Bezy | Lucie Roberts | Michael Ferkovic | Pledgeling Foundation | Sal & Melinda Affronte | Steve Kramp & Sarah Thorpe | Trish O'Leary |
| Anita Maroun | Catherine Norcott | David Southwick | Gary Fallon | Jean Smith | John Potyondy | Kevin McCabe | Lucy Walter | Michael Flannery | Prudence Carter Beatty | Sanjay and Leslie Patel | Steve Lawrence | UnitedHealth Group |
| Anne Drager | Catholic Diocese of Cleveland | Debi & Dave Hudacek | George T. King, III | Jeanne & Charles McConologue | John Selby | Kimberly Elliott | Luther Smith | Michael Lisanti | Pulte Family Charitable Foundation | Sarah & Andrew Armstong | Stewardship Foundation | Ursula & Michael Bowling |
| Anne Jameson | Chai Ho | Deborah Anderson | Georgette Ledgister | Jeanne Downing | John Templeton Foundation | Kirstin De Mello | Lynda Bersani | Michael Rench | Rachel Knoke & Erin Hahl | Sarah Mahoney | Stewardship Foundation | Veronica Schaedler |
| Anne Marie Brown | Charlene Serfozo | DeDe & Dean Hall | Gilbert Marquez Jr. | Jeannie & Jim Berwick | John W. Madsen | Kurt Beidler | Lynn Davis | Michelle Barrall | Rachel Rhodes | Sarah Parish | Stewardship Foundation | Vicki & Steve Washek |
| Anne Sadowski | Charles Tucker Johnson | Dennis Kresco | Google, Inc. | Jeffrey & Amanda McPheeters | Jon & Angie Fadely | L'Arche Atlanta | Lynn Dempsey | Microsoft Matching Gifts Program | Rebecca Davidson | SC Ministry Foundation | The Berg Family | Vincent Lefebvre |
| Anne Vandenebeele | Cheryl Morse | Diane & Robert Stonecipher | Gregory Deddo | Jennifer Daugherty | Joseph & Shirley Angelo | L'Arche Boston North | M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust | Mike & Mary Lee | Rebecca Walter | Seneca Real Estate Group | The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation | Walt Disney Company |
| Anne-Claire & Maxime Genin | Chris Craven | Domaine Serene | Gregory Paglia | Jennifer Grunebaum | Joseph Irwin | L'Arche Chicago | Mal & Ann Young | Mike King | Rev. Frederick Cwiekowski | Shannon Harder Ronald | The Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities | Wendy Sullivan |
| Anne-Laure Allehaut | Chris Maggio | Dominican Sisters of Hope | Hall Houseman Family Foundation | Jennifer Rosenberg | Juan & Natalie Rodriguez | L'Arche Cleveland | Margaret Claar Jackson Memorial Fund | Mike Munro | Rev. James P. O'Donnell | Shannon Luis | The Taylor Family - Grace, Chapman, Crawford, Jade, and Jarman | William & Jane Muir |
| Bailey Carrick | Christina Springer | Dorothy & Arnljot Wagsholm | Harry Rhoades | Jenny Williams & Michael V. Seipp | Judith & Dane F. Smith | L'Arche Clinton | Margaret Orlando | Miriel Reneau | Ric Torres & Nat Damon | Sharon & Parker Palmer | The Taylor Family - Grace, Chapman, Crawford, Jade, and Jarman | William & Jeannemarie Baker |
| Bailey Dingley | Christine & Bo Bazylevsky | Edward & Charlotte Rossi | Heart to Heart New Hampshire | Jerome Simmons | Judy & Chuck Miller | L'Arche Erie | Marge & Joe Hall | Monastery of St. Gertrude | Rick Theders | Sharon Miyakado | Theo Latiolais | William Dever |
| Bank of America Charitable Foundation | Christine & Warren Beaver | | Heather & Christopher Reck | Jessica Bridges | Julia Churchill | L'Arche Greater Washington, D.C. | Marilyn & Dean Hammond | Nate Ortiz | Rita Reichert | Sheryl & Robert Lane | | Zena Neds-Fox |
| Barbara Flynn | Christine Ruppert | | | Jill Argo | Karen Bergman | L'Arche Jacksonville | Mark Lepper | Network for Good | | Sisters of St. Benedict | | |
| Barbara McGrath | Christine Vollmer | | | Jill Sitkin | Karen Carr | L'Arche Mobile | Mark Schoen | Nicole Bonk & Jason Wahleithner | | So Hum Foundation | | |
| Ben Gaffney | Christopher Black | | | Jill Walker | Karen Genest | L'Arche Portland | Martha Wilson | Ole Petter Wiik | | | | |
| Bernard Herberholt | Christopher Konrad | | | | Karen Hoppe | L'Arche Seattle | Mary & Guy Van Pelt | | | | | |
| | Christopher McNair | | | | | L'Arche Spokane | Mary Ann Corbett | | | | | |
| | | | | | | L'Arche St. Louis | Mary Ellen Dingley | | | | | |
| | | | | | | L'Arche Syracuse | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | L'Arche Tahoma Hope | Mary Ellen Ried | | | | | |

36 L'Arche USA donors chose to remain anonymous.



Communities of friendship and belonging where people with
and without intellectual disabilities share life together.

310 SW 4th Ave, Suite 840
Portland, OR 97204
503-282-6231
www.larcheusa.org

[f](#) [@](#) [in](#)
@larcheusa