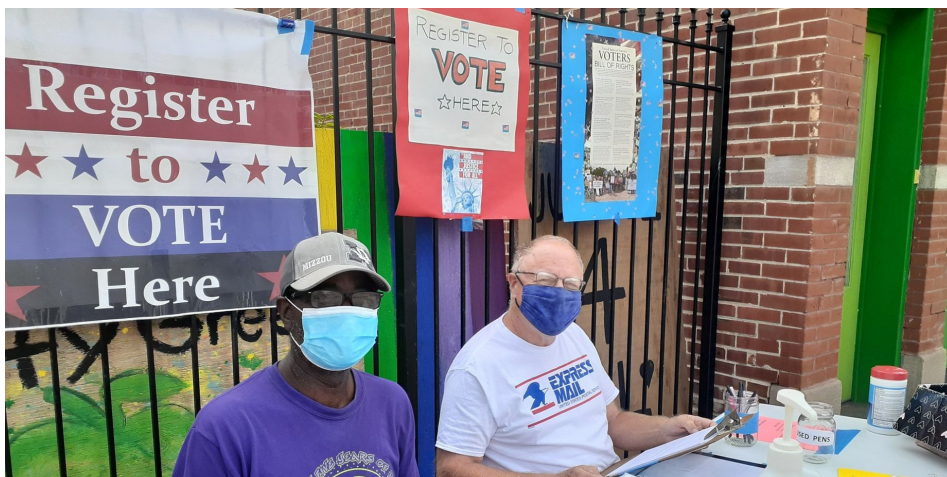


# MIDTOWN COMMUNITY SERVICES 2020 IMPACT REPORT

LOVE. HOPE. RESILIENCY.



314-534-1180  
info@midtownstl.org  
midtownstl.org

St. Louis  
1202 S. Boyle Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63110



# TO OUR FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS:

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The challenges many of our families face each day are devastating – from overwhelming poverty and gun violence to social injustice and systemic racism. While the pandemic impacted all of us, for those already struggling, the hit was especially hard.

As a haven of hope for families, Midtown was heartbroken to suspend in-person programming for those who need us the most. But through the generosity of our supporters, the resiliency of our staff, and the trust of our community members, we refused to let COVID-19 put a stop to our mission. Within days, we brought all of our programming online, and within weeks, we put tablets in the hands of our families, food in their refrigerators, and hope for a brighter tomorrow.

However, we couldn't have made it through this past year without every single person and organization listed in this report. Because of you, a family or senior came out of 2020 stronger than ever and is taking on 2021 with unwavering confidence. We hope you will continue to join us in building stronger families and stronger communities, no matter what the new year brings.

*Sincerely,*



**Tim Ripplinger**  
*Board President*



**Barbara Schaefer**  
*Executive Director*

## 2020 ADVISORY BOARD

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# HOW MIDTOWN HAS BECOME FAMILY

## TO JAURICE AND HER CHILDREN

Since Jaurice was a child, Midtown has been by her side, at every stage of her life. Today, as a mom of three, she not only takes advantage of our Family PRIDE program, but has also enrolled her older children, Jayden and Selena, in the same Youth Development program she attended growing up.

“I wanted my children to be a part of Midtown because it felt so much like family,” said Jaurice. “It was a natural choice to want my children to experience the same happiness and joy I received as a child here.”

While her older kids benefit from afterschool and summer camp, Jaurice attends Family PRIDE with her youngest child, Jada. According to Jaurice, she loves the sense of community the program offers, its strong emphasis on education, and the variety of workshops it hosts. Most important, Jaurice’s participation in Family PRIDE has been beneficial to her entire family.

“Family PRIDE makes me a stronger parent by bringing me closer to my children. We have activities we can do together, and I grow as a parent by learning new things. Jada loves Family PRIDE because she can socialize with other children and learn from them. She has developed in so many ways by being a part of the group. For example, we made sensory pillows over the summer, and now Jada can zip her coat and is more comfortable with buttons all thanks to Family PRIDE.”

When COVID-19 hit, Midtown became a lifeline to Jaurice’s family, especially when we launched our mental health initiative in June.

“Family PRIDE has helped me so much during the pandemic by calling and checking on my mental health and seeing how my family is doing. Virtual therapy has also helped me see how much all of the parents have in common right now and how we are truly supportive of one another through our shared experiences. Family PRIDE has supported me through good times and not-so-good times, and I’m so happy to be a part of Midtown!”



Thanks to a grant from the St. Louis Community Foundation, Midtown delivered fresh food bags, including meat and produce, to 150 families in underserved neighborhoods in May.



# 2020 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



## FAMILY PRIDE

In 2020, 50 Midtown families were able to participate in virtual parenting workshops, home visits and playgroups online. Plus, thanks to grants from NISA Charitable Fund and FLOURISH St. Louis, we launched our first mental health initiative, offering culturally responsive virtual group and individual therapy for our moms. To close out the year, Family PRIDE director Charlie Williams-Moore became a certified doula, allowing us to provide an even higher level of support for 2021.



## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

This summer, 65 kids at risk attended virtual summer camp so they could participate in cooking classes, arts and crafts activities, and sports training. With help from Erace The Hate, we were even able to bring our annual Peace Parade online by writing, producing and performing a song about staying safe. We're currently offering virtual tutoring, homework help and education activities after school to build on what children are learning in the classroom, which has been critical as their schools went remote this fall.



## ADULT PROGRAMMING

Because social isolation and loneliness are two of the biggest risk factors to a senior's overall health, we ensured our older adults stayed connected to Midtown and each other in 2020. With the generous support of our donors, Midtown was able to purchase tablets and assist our seniors with securing free WiFi so they could join us for workshops, Coffee Talks and other social activities while they stayed safe at home.



## CITY GREENS COMMUNITY GARDEN

In early 2020, we began harvesting our first winter-grown greens from our brand-new hoop house. The Garden also supplied our seniors with fresh fruits and vegetables during the pandemic. In addition, Midtown's kiddos showed off their green thumbs - they planted sweet potato slips that yielded 200 pounds of potatoes (which many kids turned into pie during a special afterschool cooking class) and were supplied with their own garden pots to grow cherry tomatoes, salad mix and herbs at home!

*"I enjoy Family PRIDE for so many different reasons – socialization for my son, knowledge and wisdom for me, and the strength and encouragement provided by so many wonderful women."*

– Family PRIDE mom



# BY THE NUMBERS: MIDTOWN'S

## COVID-19 RESPONSE



### 700 CHECK-INS

Midtown checked in with our community members more than 700 times online or by phone since March to see how we could help them.



### 500 VIRTUAL HOME VISITS

Family PRIDE staff met virtually with families to address their challenges, including anxiety and depression, childbirth during COVID-19, and activities to keep toddlers engaged.



### 100 ONLINE WORKSHOPS

Midtown hosted virtual learning opportunities for clients of all ages, including yoga sessions, science classes, story times, and Coffee Talks.



### 120 DELIVERIES EACH MONTH

Every month, Midtown delivered diapers from the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank to 38 Family PRIDE families and 80 food boxes from the St. Louis Area Foodbank to seniors.



## A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

In a year that was difficult for so many, Midtown was overwhelmed by the generosity of our supporters this past December. During our annual Christmas Adoption program, 58 families were blessed with gift cards from donors to ensure their children had presents to open Christmas morning, and 57 seniors received special holiday gift bags. We even celebrated the season with a virtual "Breakfast with Santa" event!

Plus, after we had to cancel all of our in-person fundraising events in 2020, our supporters joined us online for our first-ever Virtual Year-End Gala, helping us raise almost \$50,000 for Midtown programs!

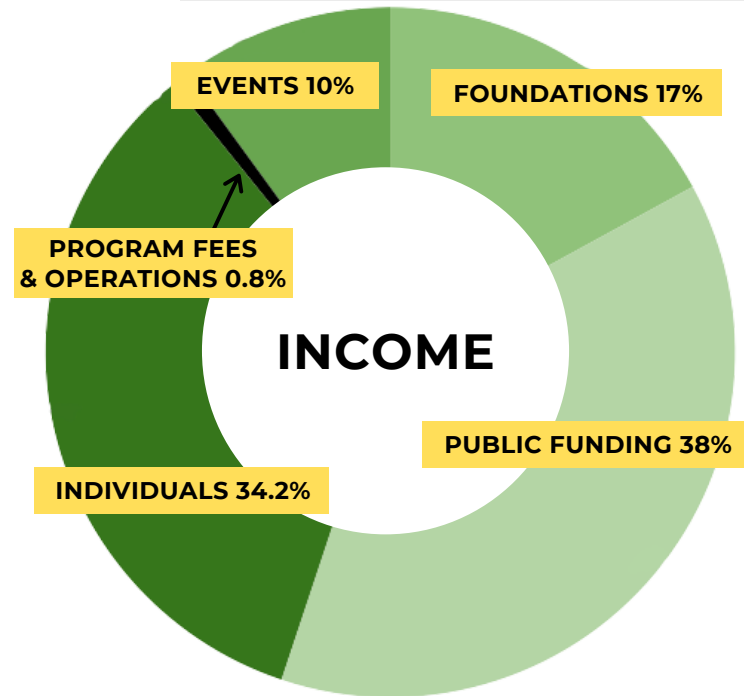
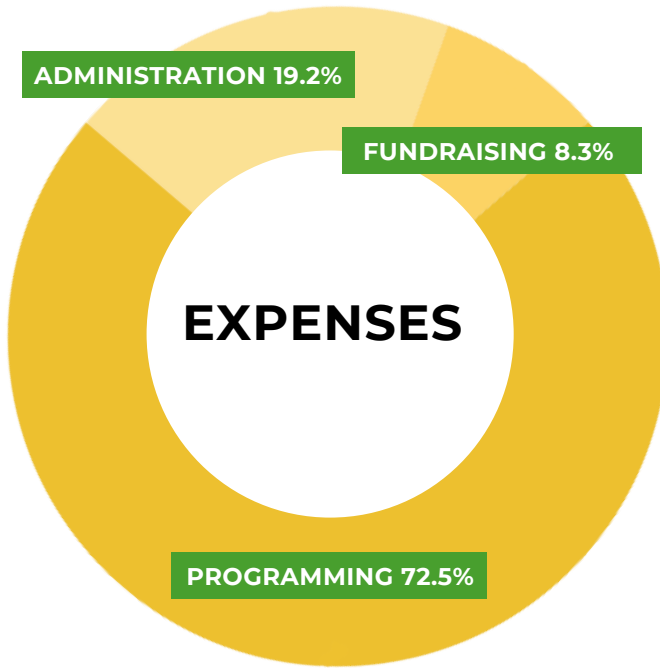
***Thank you to everyone for your love and generosity!***



# 2020 FINANCIALS

## Pregnancy Resource Center Tax Credits

Starting Jan. 1, the tax credit percentage a donor will receive by donating to Midtown using PRC tax credits will increase to 70% from 50%! Visit [www.midtownstl.org/prc](http://www.midtownstl.org/prc) to learn more.



Our full 2020 financials can be found on our website, [www.midtownstl.org](http://www.midtownstl.org).

## OUR GENEROUS DONORS

### DEFENDER OF HOPE - \$10,000 AND OVER

- Area Resources for Community and Human Services
- Matt Borst
- Christopher J. Grimaud Charitable Foundation
- East Missouri Foundation
- Episcopal Presbyterian Health Trust
- Steven and Mary Frank
- Mary Margaret Kleba
- MAC Sports Foundation
- NISA Charitable Fund
- Dr. Edward and Cheri Reh
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- Philip Heagney and Barbara Prosser
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- St. Louis Philanthropic Organization
- Watson Pointe Dental

- Judy Miniace
- Missouri Foundation for Health
- Don Moser
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- Cynthia Jordan Littlefield
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- Christopher McDonald
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- Paul Ohlendorf
- Barbara Paulus
- Matthew and Dolores Perlow
- Rainbow Park Arts Council
- Peter and Julia Reinecke
- Donald and Nancy Ross
- Running Niche
- Fred Sauer

### GUIDING LIGHT - \$5,000 TO \$9,999

- William and Anna Maria Borst
- Charless Foundation, a component fund of the St. Louis Community Foundation
- City of St. Louis Senior Citizen Services Fund
- FLOURISH St. Louis
- Bob and Mary Alice Helmsing
- Incarnate Word Foundation
- Fr. Gerald Kleba
- Herman T. and Phenie R. Pott Foundation
- St. Louis Community Foundation
- Dominic and Marcy Soda
- Trio Foundation of St. Louis
- Vatterott Foundation
- Bob Viragh

### GOOD NEIGHBOR - \$1,000 TO \$2,499

- Noel and Joann Abkemeier
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- Cardinals Care
- Douglas and Deborah Char
- Church of the Annunziata
- Cigna
- Commerce Bancshares Foundation
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- Dede Coughlin and Ralph Levy
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- Lawrence and Dianne Kriegshauser
- Kuhn Foundation
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- Fr. Pedro Lleo
- Joellen McDonald

### \$500 TO \$999

- American Endowment Foundation
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- Capellupo Foundation
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- Joe and Sylvia Dunne
- Don and Mary Ann Eggleston

### HELPING HAND - \$2,500 TO \$4,999

- Patricia Holloran Ackerman
- American Family Insurance Dreams Foundation
- Anonymous In honor of Black Lives Matter
- Delta Dental of Missouri



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- Daniel Schreiber
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Midtown Neighborhood Opportunities Corporation  
1202 S. Boyle  
St. Louis, MO 63110



## MIDTOWN'S MISSION

*To provide a wholesome, peaceful center where individuals, families and especially children can be nurtured, supported and build community together. Midtown offers people access to connections and resources for realizing their value and full potential.*

## GET IN TOUCH

Midtown Neighborhood  
Opportunities Corporation  
1202 S. Boyle  
St. Louis, MO 63110  
314-534-1180  
[www.midtownstl.org](http://www.midtownstl.org)  
[admin@midtownstl.org](mailto:admin@midtownstl.org)

