“I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart to all of you at Youth Guidance. Being there and being present for our young people is so critically important always — but particularly now.... I also want to recognize and thank you for really being there. The work that you’ve been doing every single day of this pandemic. Really stretching yourselves, thinking creatively about ways in which you can be there in support of individuals and communities in need. Your accomplishments really, so exceed my ability to say thank you and to articulate the gratefulness that we all feel. But I’ll try and just simply say, thank you so much for your partnership. I really look forward to our continued work together. There is so much we can accomplish, and you are at the center of the hope that we have for our young people in the city.”

- Mayor Lori Lightfoot
“Resiliency means moving towards your goal, despite the circumstances.”
- Luria, WOW Graduate

It has been a profoundly difficult year. As weeks turned into months, our youth and families experienced significant hardship as the impact of COVID-19 disproportionately affected their communities. Without access to typical supports provided by school and community resources, the isolation and stress was acutely felt compounded by the horrors of ongoing racial injustice. And the warm summer months brought an increase in gun violence and tragic deaths to exhausted communities. Far, far too many youth have experienced grief and loss over the past 10 months. Yet our youth and staff have met immense challenges with awe-inspiring strength and resilience.

With your support, our commitment to youth and families never faltered. Our Counselors developed innovative ways to stay connected with their students. Engaging youth in both one-on-one check-ins and virtual groups has countered the isolation of social distancing. Virtual counseling sessions provided critical support as youth grappled with the stress brought on by school closures, health concerns, economic hardship and, in far too many cases, the loss of friends, parents and grandparents. Combined, our Becoming a Man (BAM) and Working on Womanhood (WOW) programs have held nearly 11,000 virtual group counseling sessions over the past 10 months.

Beyond mental well-being, our students and families faced additional acute needs, including financial distress, food insecurity, healthcare, housing and access to technology. We mobilized resources to ensure youth received assistance to these basic needs. We developed an ongoing outreach and assessment process across all programs, including STRIVE, Community After School Programs, and Counseling to identify critical needs and link families to resources.

The traumatic and horrific deaths of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and Ahmaud Arbery further brought to light the social injustice and systemic racism that our children and older youth of color face almost every day. To live in constant fear, year after year, has profound spiritual, psychological and physiological consequences. Our Counselors were able to stay deeply engaged with students, creating safe spaces for authentic dialogue and affirmation and providing guidance as they developed productive actions in the fight against racial injustice. And while our programs go a long way in addressing gaps in access to evidence-based culturally responsive social emotional supports, together we must commit to do more to end racial injustice.

And so we continue. We will walk alongside our youth as our communities begin to heal and recover from the traumas of 2020. We will seek ways to answer the call to deepen and expand our impact. Aligned with that commitment, we are delighted to launch WOW and BAM to Kansas City, Missouri and Dallas, Texas in 2021. We look towards 2021 with hope and anticipation.

Thank you for joining us in our enduring belief in our youth, as they overcome obstacles to fulfill their dreams.

In this together,

Michelle Adler Morrison
Chief Executive Officer

Ann Lennon
Board Chair
Becoming A Man (BAM®) is a school-based counseling, mentoring, and character development program for young men in grades 7-12 from high-risk environments. BAM Counselors work full-time within schools to guide young men in the exploration and development of six core values: Integrity, Accountability, Self-Determination, Positive Anger Expression, Respect for Womanhood, and Visionary Goal-Setting.

Building upon its nationally-recognized impact on student behavior and success, BAM is growing nationally and plans to serve over 9,000 students in seven cities by 2021. This year we heard from our students how important it was that their Counselor kept reaching out to them after schools closed due to the global pandemic. One BAM student said his Counselor had been there for him after a relative passed away from COVID-19, which helped him cope. In the words of another student, “It meant a lot just knowing that someone was calling me to check up on me.”

Youth Guidance envisions a bright and successful future for all our youth. We know that with the right support, our youth will excel in school, develop healthy relationships, and make positive choices that will impact their lives forever. In recognition of the need for trauma-informed support services for students, we are excited to share that BAM will launch in Kansas City, Missouri and Dallas, Texas in 2021.

We enable children to overcome obstacles, focus on their education, and ultimately, to succeed in school and in life.

On average, BAM student attendance exceeds the average rate within their school.

93% of students feel BAM helped them make better decisions
65% of BAM students had fewer suspensions in the program year
96% of BAM students were promoted to the next grade level or graduated on-track

50% Reduction in Violent Crime Arrests
19% More Likely to Graduate High School on Time
$30 In Benefits for Every Dollar invested in BAM

At the beginning of 2020, two BAM students from John D. O’Bryant School of Mathematics and Science were guest curators of Museum of Fine Arts’ exhibit “Black Histories, Black Futures.” The students, Armani and Jaden, worked alongside MFA staff, including conservators, educators, designers, and curators to learn more about what it takes to put together a Museum show. This exhibit was a definitive way that BAM and MFA together empowered student voice to elevate young artists of color and re-frame MFA’s collection through our Boston youths vision.

“I came to the MFA last summer with little to absolutely no knowledge about art, but now I am confident that I can explain pieces and actually have a deep conversation about art.”

Photo credit: Tony Irving and Dorchester Reporter

CNN’s Go There featured BAM Boston’s work supporting youth and adults this past summer. Virtual supports empowered youth to safeguard their mental health by acknowledging their lived experience and providing safe virtual spaces to express and process their emotions during the pandemic.

BAM Boston is thrilled to welcome Somerville Public Schools to the BAM family. Recently, BAM expanded to the Arthur D. Healey School to work with scholars.

BAM partnered with My Brother’s Keeper Boston and Boston Public Schools to organize three virtual youth summits that engaged over 500 participants spanning various sectors, neighborhoods, and schools. The summits also brought together adult stakeholders—including Mayor Walsh, U.S. Rep. Ayanna Pressley, and BPS Superintendent Cassellius — and young people in the community.

“The support I receive from BAM is more than just Circles. I’ve received various support depending on the situation and what was going on with my family, from bringing boxes of produce and goods for me and my family to gift cards that I ended up giving to my mom to help pay the bills... Last year, my grades took a sudden dive when COVID hit. BAM was a guardrail and helped me from veering too far over the side.”

Above is our LA staff along with the Healey staff. Principal Cobbs (far left) and Superintendent Skipper (middle).

**BAM Regional Expansion (SY21)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>7,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>330 (SY22)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total number of students: 9,185
“Staying connected to my WOW Counselor and group during this pandemic made me feel loved.”

- Giselle, Senior at North-Grand High School
Working On Womanhood (WOW℠) is led by Counselors working full-time in schools to guide students as they learn, practice, and internalize social-emotional skills that correlate to positive long-term life outcomes. Our students meet each week in a WOW Circle, small groups of 10-15 peers, that facilitate positive relationships and guide students through an exploration of each program’s core values: Self-Awareness, Emotional Intelligence, Healthy Relationships, Visionary Goal-Setting and Leadership. This year, we are excited to share that for the first time ever, WOW has expanded to two schools in Kansas City, Missouri along with our BAM program. We’re partnering with Hickman Mills C-1 School District to provide WOW at Smith-Hale Middle School and Ruskin High School.

“Joining forces with Hickman Mills and Greenlight Foundation to serve young women and girls of color is as exciting an opportunity as it is vital to the well-being and success of our youth. It is with great joy and enthusiasm that we launch our WOW program in Kansas City to address the impact of trauma, depression and other stressors that can hold back a young person from reaching her full potential and finding life success.”

~ Gail Day, Director of WOW programming.

We are thrilled to share that our WOW program and WOW graduate, Cierra Connet, were featured on WGN’s Cover Story!

Staying connected

“My seniors have so many fears right now. A parent texted me and thanked me for reaching out to her because she felt alone. All of us Counselors in WOW are connecting with our WOW students once or twice a week. We are asking how we can help? Some of our families are facing food insecurity and need food access. Thankfully, we can connect them to the necessary resources in their community. Even in the midst of all this sadness, there is light. One of my WOW students was accepted to Clark University. She shared the acceptance letter with me. It filled my soul with pride and gave me joy. The particular young woman came to visit me almost every day at school, so I’m glad we were still able to connect during the pandemic. I think the work we do in WOW is helping our students see and understand that this too shall pass and life will get better.”

~ Doretha Brown, WOW Counselor at Bowen High School
For almost three decades, Parent & Family Engagement has supported parents through site-based parent outreach, specialized trainings, and family workshops. It provides parents with critical tools and resources to fully support children and ensure youth success. Studies show that children who have highly involved parents perform better academically and have increased self-esteem. This school year, we are working with three schools that have received support from the CPS Sustainable Community Schools grant. Our Parent & Family Engagement work is important because it supports transformational parent and community engagement, representing the whole child approach to education that enhances student success.

During the pandemic, it’s all about loving one another and being kind. Everybody deserves love, which in turn, forms a family. Together, my team lets our families know they are loved and supported. Our programming gives children roots to grow and wings to fly.

- Della Ezell, M.S.W., Program Manager

Our newest PFE partner is Holy Family Ministries School, where since the COVID-19 pandemic, YG has facilitated virtual parents/caregivers support circles every month.

The support circles create a safe, open, and trusting school community where participants share their experiences, build relationships, and collaborate around ideas regarding to their child’s development. Youth Guidance’s Parent and Family Engagement gives them tools to problem solve and best deal with stress. In addition, during the pandemic, we provided wellness support calls to homes, provided PPE to families, connected parents to financial assistance resources, and so much more.

“It has been an experience being able to speak in this circle without judgments and knowing that you are not alone during this pandemic. I encourage everyone to join at least once, I guarantee that it will not be your last.” - Angela Pinson, parent

This year, Parent and Family Engagement, will host a virtual Spring Institute in April 2021. Click here for the most up to date information on the conference.
STRIVE or Strategies to Rejuvenate Interest & Value in Education supports youth in care of the State of Illinois. Most youth in care have experienced trauma or neglect. STRIVE offers comprehensive support, positive adult guidance, and a sense of normalcy. This is essential for healthy social, emotional, and cognitive development. This powerhouse program serves ages 14-21 through one-on-one counseling, college tours, social and educational field trips, parent and family engagement, educational workshops, and more. STRIVE is a collaboration among Youth Guidance, CPS, and Illinois DCFS. It serves nearly 200 youth annually in more than 100 elementary and high school across Chicago.

“To us the pandemic is just another hurdle, another mountain to climb and conquer, and an opportunity to get better.” - Davina Anderson, STRIVE Supervisor

During COVID-19, our Counselors have been creative in ways to engage with our students and provide resources they need. To deepen our impact, STRIVE Counselors have held socially distanced front porch visits. Goal setting visits over pizza, engaging with youth in the park and on the lakefront, often with fitness in mind. And this year, participants visited K-1 racing, which they all loved (pictured above)!

School-Based Counseling

Youth Guidance’s School-Based Counseling team helps students process and overcome the effects of trauma through individual and group counseling. Our Counseling programs serve Holy Family Elementary School and Cook Elementary School and touches the North Lawndale and Auburn Gresham communities, among others. Through an important partnership with Grosvenor Capital, our Counselors at Cook Elementary provide BAM programming and a Girls Academy for students in the middle grades.

“Social work trains us to work through difficult times with our kids and families. The pandemic has challenged us in so many ways because we are working through so many layers of pain. That’s when we call on our superpowers, letting everyone know they are not alone, and we are here to help.” - Theonita Wright, School Counselor

I am learning that a pandemic cannot stop the human spirit from soaring. We learned how to reach lofty goals in a different way and that our reach truly extends further than our grasp. - Herman Dubose, School Counselor
Youth Workforce Development

Our Youth Workforce Development programs empower youth from under-resourced communities, to develop key life skills they need to connect to meaningful opportunities aligned with their interests and passions. The program offers a layered approach of individual services, group support, and resource sharing to connect diverse, qualified youth candidates to career and postsecondary opportunities. Youth Guidance’s vision is that our youth know their value, can envision themselves in a career, and can step into the workforce with confidence and a plan of action that leads them to find success in the workplace.

Student Quote
Youth Guidance’s @Work program has had a major impact on my life ever since last year when I was first introduced to it through BAM. In it, I was offered my first internship with a global company. I made new friendships and connections. I experienced what it was like to work in corporate America. I even had my own office space, getting a first-hand feel at what it’s like working in a professional environment. From this opportunity, I learned so many skills that if I was just going about my life would probably not learn until way down the road. I have met great people and for that and all the opportunities, I am thankful.”

– Bill, BAM and @Work student from Senn High School

As of June 2020
91% of Project Prepare Blue youth have been successfully placed with an employer or have gone on to pursue higher education.

For more than 25 years, Project Prepare has helped students focus on the development of current and future career interests.

Project Prepare Blue is a workforce development program that builds upon its proven in-school programming to serve out-of-school and unemployed youth.

In @Work, juniors and seniors participate in career-readiness focused group lessons with their Counselor that build on their BAM and WOW core values, as well as workshops facilitated by @Work Specialists. Students build their resumes, practice interviewing and personal pitches, network with professionals, and are introduced to post-secondary pathways and workforce opportunities to help guide them to success in life after high school.

Post-Secondary and Workforce Opportunities: Youth Guidance continues to deepen and expand its partnerships to increase access and connection to college, employment, and training programs.

Alumni Engagement: Former participants of Youth Guidance programs who have graduated from high school can stay connected to the agency through the Alumni Engagement Initiative. Opportunities for alumni include mentoring, career and resume help, internships, college campus groups, counseling and support groups, alumni council membership, and the possibility to be featured as a spokesperson at Youth Guidance events.
Community & Afterschool Programs

Through our Community & Afterschool Programs, Youth Guidance supports positive outcomes for Chicago’s students by integrating the Community School philosophy of student supports and systemic change into school-based opportunities for students. We work closely with partner schools to develop and implement programming with a holistic, child-development focus that applies to in-school and out-of-school time throughout the academic year and summer. Research has shown that out-of-school time engagement is associated with positive gains in academic performance, school attendance, cognitive and emotional engagement, and more.

Our Community Schools ensure that each of our programs align out-of-school time with classroom learning, while bringing communities, families, and resources into the schools. Our Community & Afterschool Programs help produce successful students through a commitment to the following objectives:

- Building social and emotional resiliency
- Influencing positive gains in academic achievement
- Positively impacting school culture and climate
- Providing opportunities for family, community, and cultural engagement

We are so very proud to be included in Act Now Illinois’ report on page four.

“Realizing that in these unpredictable times, uniting to support others is impactful and shows that kindness and compassion still exists. It is together, that we overcome these precarious challenges.”

- Dr. Lolita D. Cleveland | Resource Coordinator

7 out of 10 participants reported that the program helps them make friends.

3 out of 4 participants reported that the program helps them do better in school.

96% of parents agree that their child has learned new knowledge or skills through their participation.
More than 600 people from coast to coast attended Youth Guidance’s first virtual Bright Futures Gala. Co-chaired by Jim and Kimberly Mills, Youth Guidance honored United Airlines as our Corporate Partner of the Year.

Throughout their partnership, United has supported Youth Guidance’s mission in so many ways, including hosting youth at Girls in Aviation Day events to explore careers in the air travel industry, creating an internship program for students, and inviting WOW participants to attend a Chicago Bulls game. A very special thanks to our Board member Kate Gebo, Executive Vice President of Human Resources & Labor Relations, and Sharon Grant, Vice President & Chief Community Engagement Officer at United, for graciously accepting this award. During the gala, Youth Guidance was also thrilled to share with our virtual guests that BAM and WOW were awarded the prestigious “Advancing Minority Health Award” from the America Psychiatric Association Foundation.


Save the date for our next virtual gala:
Thursday, May 6, 2021
Individual & Family Donors to our Programs

Ahearn Family Foundation
Robert and Allison Bertrand
Bluhm Family Charitable Foundation
Cabot Family Charitable Trust
John and Jean DeCaro
William and Robin Downe
Mark and Julie Gerstein
Brent and Katie Gledhill
Goodman Family Foundation
Maria Green and Greg Lewis
Dr. Carl Greer

Hecktman Family Foundation
Ryan and Margaret McKillen
Jim and Kimberly Mills
Prosper Road Foundation
John and Diana Raitt
Paul and Diane Reilly
Charles and Lynn Schusterman
Family Foundation
Douglas K. Walker
Sue E. Wallace
Robert and Mary Womsley

Contributed $20,000+
## Statement of Financial Position

**June 30, 2020**

### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and equivalents</td>
<td>$8,267,398</td>
<td>$2,353,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>3,365,517</td>
<td>3,586,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants receivable, net, current portion</td>
<td>1,211,847</td>
<td>1,763,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments, at fair value</td>
<td>17,830,184</td>
<td>18,433,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contra Asset</td>
<td>5,030</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>270,227</td>
<td>99,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>30,950,203</strong></td>
<td><strong>26,236,637</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Other Assets**     |            |            |
| Restricted cash and equivalents | 128,696 | 127,178 |
| Grants receivable, net of current portion | 133,334 | 398,000 |
| Security deposits    | 71,558     | 67,664     |
| Property and equipment | 23,826   | 23,826     |
| Less accumulated depreciation | (7,173) | (4,099) |
| **Total other assets** | **350,240** | **612,568** |

**TOTAL ASSETS** | **$31,300,443** | **$26,849,205** |

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$303,745</td>
<td>$384,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued expenses</td>
<td>1,205,844</td>
<td>1,019,289</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>570,045</td>
<td>41,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBA PPP Loan and interest accrual</td>
<td>3,751,696</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,831,330</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,445,167</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Net Assets**       |            |            |
| Without donor restrictions |        |            |
| Undesignated         | 8,897,160  | 8,823,953  |
| Board designated     | 388,023    | 392,376    |
| **Total net assets without donor restrictions** | **9,285,183** | **9,216,329** |

| With donor restrictions |            |            |
| Purpose restricted     | 16,055,234 | 16,060,531 |
| Perpetual in nature    | 128,696    | 127,178    |
| **Total net assets with donor restrictions** | **16,183,930** | **16,187,709** |

**TOTAL NET ASSETS** | **$25,469,113** | **$25,404,038** |

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** | **$31,300,443** | **$26,849,205** |
# Statement of Activities

*for the year ended June 30, 2020*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020 Without Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>2020 With Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>2020 Total</th>
<th>2019 Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$ 5,070,362</td>
<td>$ 7,225,376</td>
<td>$ 12,295,738</td>
<td>$ 10,513,247</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government grants</td>
<td>13,687,700</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>13,712,700</td>
<td>12,771,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program service fees</td>
<td>1,360,852</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,360,852</td>
<td>1,727,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Revenue</td>
<td>5,030</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,030</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-kind contributions</td>
<td>156,698</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>156,698</td>
<td>93,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous income</td>
<td>26,375</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>26,375</td>
<td>22,718</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment income (loss)</td>
<td>206,238</td>
<td>(237,499)</td>
<td>(31,261)</td>
<td>647,612</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Special Events</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorships and ticket revenue</td>
<td>1,081,384</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,081,384</td>
<td>1,149,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auction and event revenue</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>338,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less costs of direct benefits</td>
<td>(23,868)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(23,868)</td>
<td>(201,496)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net revenues from special events</td>
<td>1,057,516</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,057,516</td>
<td>1,286,032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>7,016,656</td>
<td>(7,016,656)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Public Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,587,427</strong></td>
<td>(3,779)</td>
<td><strong>28,583,648</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,062,858</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>23,421,406</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>23,421,406</td>
<td>21,102,108</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative and general</td>
<td>3,687,203</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,687,203</td>
<td>2,988,254</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>1,409,964</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,409,964</td>
<td>1,268,968</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,518,573</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td><strong>28,518,573</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,359,330</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Change in net assets</strong></td>
<td>68,854</td>
<td>(3,779)</td>
<td>65,075</td>
<td>1,703,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets, Beginning Of Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,216,329</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,187,709</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,404,038</strong></td>
<td><strong>23,700,510</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets, End Of Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 9,285,183</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 16,183,930</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 25,469,113</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 25,404,038</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Board of Directors &

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Ann Lennon, Chair
Managing Director, Accenture
Paul C. Reilly, Vice Chair
Managing Director, Division Executive of the Central North Division, U.S. Trust.
John Raitt, Immediate Past Chair
Retired Partner, President & CEO of Harris Associates, LP
Joan Evans
Director, Prosper Road Foundation
Mark D. Gerstein
Partner, Latham & Watkins
Torrence Hinton
Director of Gas Storage, WEC Energy Group
Edward G. Lance, IV
Senior Counsel, Archer Daniels Midland
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Managing Director, Riveron
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Partner, Laner, Muchin, Dombrow, Becker, Levin and Tominberg, Ltd
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Edgar Delgado
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Scott D. Myers
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Richard D. Patterson
Harry B. Rosenberg, Jr
Managing Director, JPMorgan Private Bank
Lisa Schrader
Head of Operations & Chief of Staff, Luminary Media
Fabian Souza
Senior Vice President & Corporate Controller, Exelon Corporation
Travis Sullivan
Vice President & General Manager, Boeing Distribution Services Inc.
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Learning While The World Crumbles

Tariq Charles, Senior at the John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science

I sit down at my computer in a barren room, angry that I have to stare at Zoom. Then I'm humbled by the news, as they say the illness continues to ravage communities everyday. Nothing could make my mother less afraid to go to sleep. In a bed that wasn't her own and away from her home, My mother was given oxygen and a TV remote. Inside, those hospital walls were cold and lonely; that's where she was. Inside the walls of my own home felt dreary. That's where I was. The whole situation felt phony; My mirror reflects the tears in my eyes like "this can't be real." So much going on, and I'm doing Algebra II. How can I learn when the world is crumbling? They say "Knowledge is power." The phrase used to make my eyes roll. But if I went to science class, Maybe then I'd know, A cure for the infection that has stopped the world. It's sickening, to see a loved one inside of a section. Cut off from the rest the world, Like they are arrested. I take that off my mind for a moment. I'm sitting at a desk with a laptop, Staring into an abyss of a blue screen. My homework written down, Then typed out. The virus possesses the news it seems.