

## 2020 Annual Report

# SEE WHAT IS POSSIBLE

## CELEBRATING





# **Our Mission**

VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired is a nonprofit rehabilitation and social service organization. VISIONS purpose is to develop and implement individualized programs to assist people who are blind and visually impaired of all ages to lead independent and active lives, and to educate the public to understand the capabilities and needs of people who are blind and visually impaired.



All of the services we offer are **free of charge** thanks to government & foundation grants, and private donations



Our programs are tailored to the **specific needs of our participants**, no matter how complex those needs are



We offer services in 16 languages, including English, Spanish, Chinese dialects, Russian, and American Sign Language (ASL)



**1/3** of VISIONS staff is blind or has a visual impairment

# President and Executive Director/ CEO Message

In March 2020, COVID-19 halted business as usual, closing programs as required by New York State, which led staff to pivot and work from home for three months. In July, staff were able to resume in person services at VISIONS Center on Blindness (VCB), and in-person training in the home and community. To our delight and surprise, blind youth returned for Pre-Employment residential training and parents brought 23 blind children and their siblings to the August 2020 overnight Rehabilitation and Recreation Program (R&R). VISIONS Center on Aging remains closed for in-person services and congregate meals, however, staff



have created 100 remote weekly classes. Our social work team reached 300 participants with counseling to allay fears, anxiety and stress exacerbated by COVID-19 and social isolation.

Virtual programs were created by our inventive community advisory boards and staff while in-person events remained canceled. VISIONS Board of Directors approved an application for a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan, which was received in April and forgiven in December 2020. We avoided staff terminations, layoffs, and salary reductions while adding an extra Board meeting in the summer, to closely monitor the pandemic and its impact on VISIONS.

We are grateful for VISIONS staff who have gone above and beyond, and proudly report that no one has contracted COVID-19 from operating or attending any of our programs as a result of closely followed safety protocols while serving our participants. With sadness, we did lose participants, volunteers and many of our own family members to COVID-19. We are providing anti-racism training and focusing on diversity, equity and inclusion agency wide, at all levels. Thank you to the foundations, Board members, supporters, volunteers, staff and especially our participants, for believing in us and trusting us during this trying time.

Robert School

Robert Schonbrunn President, VISIONS Board of Directors

Mancy & Miller

Nancy D. Miller VISIONS Executive Director/CEO



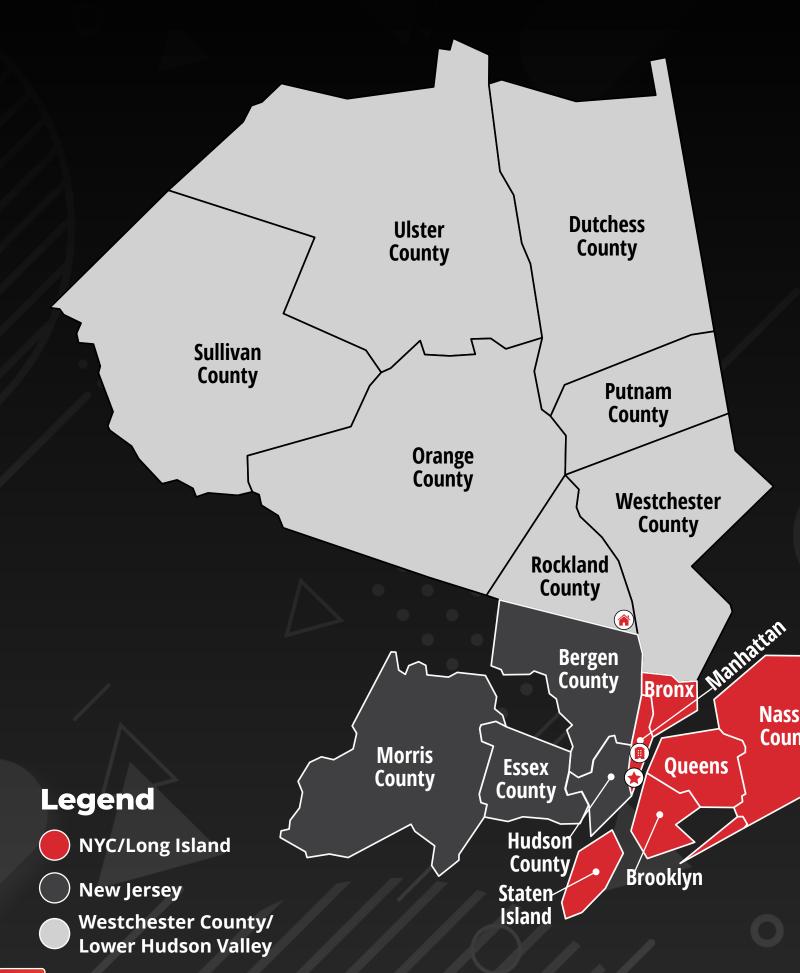
**89¢ of every dollar is spent on programs**, with only 11¢ spent on administration and fundraising



In 2020, VISIONS had a **7%** staff turnover rate, much lower than the NYC average for nonprofits!



VISIONS Workforce Program was ranked **#1 in Job Placements for the 5th consecutive year**. The New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB) quality assurance review **gave VISIONS Workforce Program a 10 out of 10** for providing excellent job placement services.



# **VISIONS Reach**

VISIONS serves participants in all boroughs of NYC, as well as Long Island, Westchester County, the Lower Hudson Valley, and several counties in New Jersey.

All legally blind and visually impaired persons sponsored by their state commission for the blind are eligible for residential short-term training at VCB.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

VISIONS is the sole provider of vision rehabilitation programs and services in Westchester County.

Suffolk County

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ity

**Program Sites** 

VISIONS Headquarters 500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302 New York, NY 10013



VISIONS at Selis Manor 135 West 23rd Street New York, NY 10011

VISIONS Center on Blindness (VCB) Vocational Rehabilitation Center (VRC) 111 Summit Park Road Spring Valley, NY 10977

# **VISIONS Services**



## **Vision Rehabilitation**

In-home instruction for all ages, on key skills to living with vision loss, safely traveling in the community, and maintaining independence



## **Assistive Technology**

Instruction on using screen-reading or magnification software on computers, as well as accessibility features available on mobile devices



## **VISIONS Center on Aging**

Programs and services designed for adults ages 60 or older, including free meals on weekdays, benefits counseling, health-focused activities, support groups, classes and workshops, social activities, and mail reading



## Residential Short-Term Training

Residential, short-term training in vision rehabilitation, job training, and assistive technology for individuals and families, held at VCB and the VRC



## **Job Training/Placement**

Instruction on resume writing, computer literacy, applying/ interviewing for jobs, and techniques to thrive in the workplace



## **Youth Services**

Internships and job training for young adults 14–21 years old, as well as precollege programs to prepare highschool students for life's next steps



## **Unpaid Caregiver Support**

Free resources and support for caregivers assisting visually impaired and blind older adults (60+), and visually impaired grandparents (55+) who serve as the primary caregiver to a child under 18 years old



## **Community Outreach**

Presentations and staffing events to help raise awareness of the needs and abilities of people with visual impairments; as well as information and referrals through Blindline®

# 6,906 Participants Served in 2020





**Porfiria Landeros, and her two children, Dayonara (age 10), and Jose (age 9)** from Staten Island, NY, are among the many wonderful families who attend VISIONS Center on Blindness (VCB) in the summer. Like many, they return year after year to learn, connect, and grow with staff and families like theirs.

The Landeros' VCB journey began four years ago, when they first attended at the recommendation of their New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB) counselor, Paul Geraci. Initially, after aging out of one vision rehabilitation agency, and being turned away by another, Porfiria was concerned that VCB staff may not be able to work with her son, who has a learning disability. To Porfiria's surprise, VCB staff told her they **COULD** work with her family, and would even provide her son with an individualized plan to meet his needs.

Over the next four summers, the Landeros family participated in VCB's **Rehabilitation & Recreation Program (R&R)**, a week-long program in which children with visual impairments and their families learn how to safely navigate, and utilize adaptive equipment for completing household tasks such as cooking and cleaning. Additionally, families enjoy socializing and connecting with other children and families during supervised activities including swimming in an accessible pool. Porfiria recalled one year, where VISIONS staff went above and beyond in their work with Jose, to help him get over his fear of the swimming pool. "Staff took their time, got on his level, and gave him the confidence to get over his fear. I was very proud of that moment and found it to be very memorable."

Each year, Porfiria leaves the R&R Program with a newfound confidence that a visual impairment will not stop her children from living a life full of joy and exploration. "Vision loss doesn't stop you; there are no limits to what people could do, or where they can explore." Porfiria also knows that with each year, she is able to meet other families with whom she can relate, and be part of a great community. "Don't think about it twice. Take the opportunity. Meet other people and learn from them. This program helped my children come out of their shells, and learn what they're capable of. Any parent considering this program will not regret it!"

When Porfiria and her family are not at VCB, her children attend school, and receive VISIONS services in the home to help strengthen their skills, and get them ready for the experience they will have next year at VCB!

# **Participant Stories:**

## **VISIONS Center on Blindness (VCB) and Youth Services**



**Jitka** (pictured left) is the mother of twins: Samba (pictured right) and Valeria (pictured center).

Valeria (age 13) is visually impaired and deaf. The family has attended VCB for over 5 years. When asked about coming back to VCB during the middle of a pandemic, Jitka stated she had no fears or reservations. *"I trusted the judgment* of the amazing leadership. We were required to wear masks and social distance, so I think that was good enough for me."

Jitka struggled with having some sort of normalcy in her children's lives amid the pandemic. The family longed for the sense of community and support that they get each year when they return to VCB. **"It's just great that I can come to a place that is accessible for all, people who have different or no forms of vision".** 



Vinnie, a sophomore at the New York Institute for Special Education (NYISE) was diagnosed with Retinopathy of Prematurity at birth. Being totally blind has never stopped Vinnie from living life to the fullest. Prior to the pandemic, Vinnie enjoyed visiting popular New York City landmarks, playing the piano, and traveling with her parents.

Vinnie has participated in multiple VISIONS programs, including the **Summer Transition Program (STP)**, where she utilized assistive technology to complete assignments, learned adaptive cooking techniques and kitchen safety, and built confidence through the practice of safe travel techniques. She also participated in VISIONS first **Virtual Pre-Vocational Program** (due to COVID-19 stay at home orders). Vinnie was also featured as a panelist in a Facebook Live event "**Seeing Participants Through a Pandemic**", and is currently enrolled in the **Pre-Voc Enrichment Program**. She hopes to attend **VISIONS Pre-College Program** in July 2021.

# **Volunteer Experiences:**



## Agnes' Volunteer Story (Video)

Agnes, a volunteer through New York Cares, got to witness the power of community firsthand when she continued working virtually with older adults at VISIONS Center on Aging throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. From watching participants adapt to a new community environment, to being there as participants supported each other during difficult moments, Agnes shares her thoughts with VISIONS in this brief video, linked below.

Watch her story by visiting: https://youtu.be/lpyrJzfKYjw

## Great Nonprofits Volunteer Feedback Read More: <u>bit.ly/VISIONSGN</u>

### ☆☆☆☆☆

The staff are extremely kind, welcoming and friendly. From my experience volunteering, I can say that the work this nonprofit does has a positive impact on everyone involved. Volunteering at VISIONS is a very fulfilling experience. – *Volunteer* 

### $\bigstar \bigstar \bigstar \bigstar \bigstar$

I volunteered here last summer and had such an amazing experience. Everyone was so welcoming and friendly (especially Natasha!), and willing to help. From volunteering to go on walks with the senior citizens to opening and helping with mail, I was able to learn a lot and reach beyond my comfort zone. As a pre-optometry student, VISIONS has opened a lot of doors for me and introduced me to others who have constantly helped and encouraged me. *– Christina* 

### $\bigstar \bigstar \bigstar \bigstar \bigstar$

I worked here for a summer last year. Met lots of wonderful folks who helped run things there as well as other volunteers. I am an optometry student and the people at VISIONS (Natasha's the best!) organized a little get together and I got to help some preoptometry students out as well. I worked directly with clients doing reading and also participated in some of the dinner services. Everything was really well run and the people I encountered during my time there were all warm. Would recommend this service! *– Jonathan* 



## **Lions Clubs Volunteers**

VISIONS would like to thank the Brentwood Islanders Lions Club, Bronx Lions Club, Brooklyn Midwood Lions Club, Phil-Am Lions Club, Winthrop Lions Club, and Yonkers Millennium Lions Clubs for volunteering their time and helping to clean and prepare the VCB Campus for its upcoming programs. VISIONS greatly appreciates the many wonderful contributions the Lions Clubs have made throughout the years, and the contributions they will continue to make in the future.

# **Program Highlights**



Older adults at Selis Manor received hundreds of hot meals donated by New York City Council Speaker, Corey Johnson.



Photo of an older adult holiday virtual Arts & Crafts activity where participants made gingerbread people

VISIONS Center on Aging has added over 100 virtual classes per week, and continued serving over 400 older adults throughout the pandemic.



The VRC's 15-Week Employment Readiness and Pre-ETS Program prepared three more participants to enter the workforce.



Children with visual impairments and their families came together over the summer to participate in VCB's socially distanced Rehabilitation and Recreation Program.

# **Support Highlights**



VISIONS was awarded a \$50,000 grant by the Field Hall Foundation to support the expansion of our Adaptive Living Program (ALP) for older adults living in Westchester County.



The Kessler Foundation awarded VISIONS two grants in 2020. A one-year grant to fund the development of jobs in New Jersey, and a COVID-19 Emergency Fund grant in support of virtual work readiness training.



VISIONS once again congratulated Travis Joseph, on receiving the Harriette K. and Burton M. Strauss Jr. Scholarship for the second year in a row!

# **Virtual Concert Series**



During the spring and summer, a number of musicians (pictured left to right) including Drew Bordeaux, Gene DiNapoli, Kristin Kelleher, Los Ciegos Del Barrio, Vinnie Medugno, and Laura Shoop provided VISIONS with pro-bono concerts. These events provided a much needed respite to our supporters and participants during a very difficult time.

# **VISIONS Leadership**

## Officers

Robert Schonbrunn\*∞ President

Nancy T. Jones\* Past President

**Dr. Cynthia Stuen**∞ *Vice President* 

Burton M. Strauss, Jr. Treasurer

Kenneth J. Gralak∞ Asst. Treasurer

Jasmine Campirides Secretary

## Directors

Sheldon I. Berg Steven E. Bernstein∞ Dr. Andrew S. Fisher Lucius L. Fowler\* **Frances Freedman** Gloria Fu **Robert Heidenberg** Steven E. Kent Theodore P. Klingos\* Dr. James McGroarty∞ Denise G. Rabinowitz Jagadish B. Rao∞ Peter A. Roffman Henry Saveth∞ Anusha Sharma Yan "Tuiggy" Zhang

## Executive Team

Nancy D. Miller∞ Executive Director/CEO

Carlos Cabrera Chief Financial Officer

Ruben Coellar∞ Chief Program Officer

**Russell C. Martello** *Chief Development Officer* 

Diane Weiss Chief Program Officer

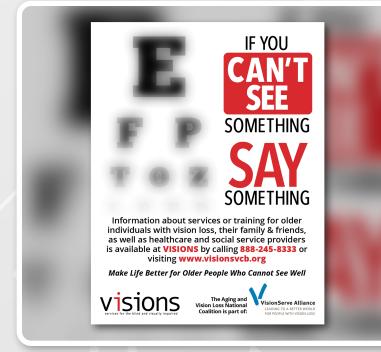
Natalia S. Young∞ Chief Operating Officer

## Advisory Council

Lois Wagh Aronstein Mal L. Barasch Joseph L. Corace Ronald C. Delo Donald F. Dunning Susan Hale Robert S. Loeb Michael O'Halloran David J. Orenstein Angelo Purcigliotti Dr. Albert D. Widman John Winthrop Stuart S. Wizwer Nora Xie

## **Advisory Boards**

Bronx-Westchester Brooklyn Manhattan Queens Center on Aging Staten Island VCB \* Trustee, Fund for the Blind ∞ Lion ^ Kiwanian



## **Help Spread The Word**

VISIONS created a public service announcement (PSA) campaign to build awareness for the services VISIONS offers to its participants.

This campaign, which originally started as a flyer, will soon be featured as an audio described movie trailer set to hit theaters throughout Westchester.

You can view the trailer on YouTube by visiting <a href="https://youtu.be/vja0qHJR010">https://youtu.be/vja0qHJR010</a>

Please e-mail **marketing@visionsvcb.org** if you or someone you know would like resources to share this campaign across your social media or professional networks.



#### **OFFICERS**

President Robert Schonbrunn<sup>\*</sup> Past President Nancy T. Jones\* Vice President Dr. Cynthia Stuen® Treasurer Burton M. Strauss, Jr. Asst. Treasurer Kenneth J. Gralak® Secretary Jasmine Campirides

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Sheldon I. Berg Steven E. Bernstein® Dr. Andrew S. Fisher Lucius L. Fowler\* Frances Freedman Glorta Fu **Robert Heidenberg** Steven E. Kent Theodore P. Klingos\* Dr. James McGroarty\* Denise G. Rabinowitz lagadish B. Rao« Peter A. Roffman Henry Saveth\* Anusha Sharma Yan "Tuiggy" Zhang

#### **ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Lois Wagh Aronstein» Mal L. Barasch Joseph L. Corace^ Ronald C. Delo<sup>®</sup> Donald F. Dunning<sup>®</sup> Susan Hale Robert S. Loeb<sup>®</sup> Michael O'Halloran<sup>®</sup> David J. Orenstein Angelo Purcigliotti<sup>®</sup> Dr. Albert D. Widman John Winthrop Stuart S. Wizwer<sup>®</sup> Nora Xie

#### ADVISORY BOARDS

Bronx-Westchester Brooklyn Center on Aging Manhattan Queens Staten Island VCB

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO Mrs. Nancy D. Miller®

\* Trustee, Fund for the Blind ∞ Lion ^ Kiwanian

A copy of our most recent financial statement is available by writing to VISIONS or the NYS Dept of Law Charities Bureau I 20 Broadway, 3rd Floor NY, NY 10271

#### **VISIONS Treasurer's Letter**

To provide VISIONS services, we received funds from a number of sources. During the year we generated \$8.4 million, excluding realized and unrealized gains in our investment accounts (down from \$8.5 million in the prior year). In 2020 \$3.8 million was appropriated for expenditure from endowment funds for general operations (up from \$2.7 million in the prior year). Interest and dividends received equaled \$1.8 million, down from \$1.9 million last year. Contributions and bequests and special events were unchanged at \$1.6 million. Governmental support rose slightly to \$5.0 million from \$4.9 million in the previous year. These sources generated 99% of our total receipts with the remaining revenues derived from miscellaneous sources.

Operating expenditures for VISIONS fiscal year ending September 30, 2020 were unchanged at \$10.4 million compared to the previous year. Of this amount, \$9.2 million (89%) was spent for program services at VCB, Selis Manor and in the many communities we serve. The financial statement shows the breakdown of this spending between our three programs. Management and general costs equaled 8% of our expenses while fundraising requirements were only 3%. Salaries and benefits comprised 80% of our total expenses.

VISIONS net assets increased 7% to \$114.7 million. Of this amount, only 17% (19.1 million) are unrestricted assets, with the remaining 83% being permanently or temporarily restricted with substantial restraints attached to their use. Within the \$19.1 million unrestricted net assets is \$8.4 million of fixed assets.

Since 1984, our financial statements have included sizable permanently restricted net assets. These net assets largely reflect endowment moneys known as "The Fund for the Blind," which is now a part of VISIONS. It is important to note several factors regarding the Fund so as to accurately interpret the data. The Fund for the Blind is a separate perpetual endowment fund operated within VISIONS by four independent selfperpetuating trustees, not by VISIONS full board of directors. It was created by a court order upon the dissolution of an agreement with Beekman Downtown Hospital which transferred to VISIONS funds its trustees had managed within Beekman. The order provided for VISIONS to receive the income of the Fund, gave the trustees complete control over its management and distribution in perpetuity and permitted additional distributions to VISIONS at the trustees discretion. The Fund's assets, therefore, are not controlled by VISIONS nor freely available for its use and are not subject to VISIONS spending policies relating to permanently restricted assets. The trustees determine the amount of the Fund that will be made available for operations and, occasionally, the programmatic or capital uses of a portion of the funds. Restrictions exist which impede even the Trustees' ability to expend principal from The Fund for the Blind.

unton M. Strauss,

Burton M. Strauss, Jr. Treasurer

Promoting the Independence of People of All Ages Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired VISIONS CENTER ON BLINDNESS (VCB) VISIONS AT SELIS MANOR VISIONS REHABILITATION SERVICES

VISIONS/SERVICES FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED 500 Greenwich St. 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10013-1354 Tel: 212-625-1616 Fax: 212-219-4078 E-mail: Info@visionsvcb.org Website: www.visionsvcb.org



Tel: 212.812.7000 www.mazars.us

## **Independent Auditors' Report**

#### The Board of Directors VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, which comprise the statement of financial position as of September 30, 2020, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired as of September 30, 2020 and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



#### Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired's September 30, 2019 financial statements, and our report dated March 11, 2020 expressed an unmodified opinion on those audited financial statements. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended September 30, 2019 is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Mayer USA LIP

March 9, 2021

### **Statements of Financial Position September 30, 2020**

(With summarized comparative amounts as of September 30, 2019)

	2020	2019
Assets		
Cash	\$ 1,693,989	\$ 754,801
Investments - without donor restrictions (Note 4)	8,778,252	7,445,398
Interest and dividends receivable	99,289	143,611
Government grants receivable	692,171	1,310,265
Contributions receivable (Note 3)	575,000	250,000
Prepaid expenses and other assets	224,043	181,283
Fixed assets, net (Note 5)	8,412,526	8,906,189
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts (Notes 4 and 6)	3,804,237	3,647,785
Long-term investments - with donor restrictions (Notes 4 and 6)	91,120,858	84,877,678
Total assets	\$ 115,400,365	\$ 107,517,010
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 414,215	\$ 410,874
Government advances	321,499	381,031
Total liabilities	735,714	791,905
Net assets		
Without donor restrictions	19,051,223	17,657,308
With donor restrictions (Note 6)	95,613,428	89,067,797
Total net assets	114,664,651	106,725,105
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 115,400,365	\$ 107,517,010

#### Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets Year Ended September 30, 2020 (With summarized comparative amounts for the Year Ended September 30, 2019)

					 Тс		
			Vithout Donor Restrictions	Nith Donor Restrictions	 2020		2019
Revenues, gains and other support							
Contributions and bequests		\$	402,692	\$ 1,098,514	\$ 1,501,206	\$	1,435,759
Community events	\$ 76,41	8	,	, ,	, ,		, ,
Less direct expenses of community events	(14,32	8)	62,090	-	62,090		101,586
Government support			88,508	4,925,600	5,014,108		4,906,784
Special events	49,30	8					
Less direct expenses of special events	-		49,308	-	49,308		78,845
VCB contributions			1,926	-	1,926		15,462
Interest and dividends			143,331	1,648,826	1,792,157		1,922,308
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments,							
net of investment fees of \$592,526 and \$612,234	, respectively		1,258,588	8,432,378	9,690,966		5,173,052
Other revenues			21,308	3,352	24,660		25,636
Net assets released from restrictions (Note 6)			9,719,491	 (9,719,491)	 		-
Total revenues, gains and other support			11,747,242	 6,389,179	 18,136,421		13,659,432
Expenses							
Program services							
VCB Community services			2,687,056	-	2,687,056		2,539,503
Selis Manor			4,906,239 1,582,753	-	4,906,239 1,582,753		5,198,229 1,508,289
			1,002,100	 	 1,002,700		1,000,200
Total program services			9,176,048	 -	 9,176,048		9,246,021
Supporting services							
Management and general			833,996	-	833,996		847,987
Fundraising			343,283	 -	 343,283		284,277
Total supporting services			1,177,279	 -	 1,177,279		1,132,264
Total expenses			10,353,327	 -	 10,353,327		10,378,285
Increase (Decrease) in fair value of beneficial inter	rest						
in perpetual trusts			-	 156,452	 156,452		(122,272)
Change in net assets			1,393,915	6,545,631	7,939,546		3,158,875
Net assets - beginning of year			17,657,308	 89,067,797	 106,725,105		103,566,230
Net assets - end of year		\$	19,051,223	\$ 95,613,428	\$ 114,664,651	\$	106,725,105

## **Statements of Functional Expenses**

## Year Ended September 30, 2020

(With summarized comparative amounts for the Year Ended September 30, 2019)

		Program g	<sub>S</sub> ervices			Supporti	ng Services		Tc	otal
	VCB	Community Services	Selis Manor	Total	Management and General	Fund- Raising	Direct Expenses of Events	Total	2020	2019
Salaries Payroll taxes and employee benefits	\$ 1,220,027 335,421	\$ 2,879,733 1,455,608	\$ 1,002,634 348,715	\$ 5,102,394 2,139,744	\$ 492,061 246,571	\$ 199,912 103,249	\$ - -	\$ 691,973 349,820	\$ 5,794,367 2,489,564	\$ 5,489,187 2,210,591
Total salaries, taxes and employee benefits	1,555,448	4,335,341	1,351,349	7,242,138	738,632	303,161	-	1,041,793	8,283,931	7,699,778
Occupancy	5,145	23,299	5,689	34,133	5,731	1,966	-	7,697	41,830	40,909
Insurance	56,956	98,047	21,737	176,740	16,860	5,784	-	22,644	199,384	192,038
Utilities	207,152	17,447	2,429	227,028	2,447	839	-	3,286	230,314	207,375
Telephone	13,774	14,361	11,411	39,546	1,319	452	-	1,771	41,317	44,968
Postage	755	11,344	826	12,925	761	705	-	1,466	14,391	20,641
Printing	5,135	14,828	4,093	24,056	1,666	6,983	-	8,649	32,705	29,898
Subscriptions, dues and conferences	2,783	14,578	4,712	22,073	2,786	3,102	-	5,888	27,961	42,823
Transportation	24,592	31,871	1,278	57,741	405	1,849	-	2,254	59,995	102,532
Food	162,714	7,500	106,729	276,943	-	-	-	-	276,943	466,292
Laundry	365	-	-	365	-	-	-	-	365	7,219
Professional fees	3,437	97,486	1,995	102,918	39,162	-	-	39,162	142,080	392,363
Awards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,285
Community and special events admissions and donor costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,328	14,328	14,328	96,141
Office supplies	2,425	4,929	2,280	9,634	1,121	534	-	1,655	11,289	19,748
Program supplies and expenses	9,059	129,033	4,640	142,732	-	-	-	-	142,732	196,140
Repairs and maintenance	176,167	59,328	38,717	274,212	11,587	7,740	-	19,327	293,539	283,109
Staff recruitment and development	2,632	10,080	3,005	15,717	2,479	851	-	3,330	19,047	21,647
Miscellaneous	4,626	13,542	12,987	31,155	3,331	7,358	-	10,689	41,844	104,268
Depreciation	453,891	23,225	8,876	485,992	5,709	1,959		7,668	493,660	503,252
Total expenses	2,687,056	4,906,239	1,582,753	9,176,048	833,996	343,283	14,328	1,191,607	10,367,655	10,474,426
Less expenses deducted directly from revenues on the statement of activities and changes in net assets							(14,328)	(14,328)	(14,328)	(96,141)
Total expenses reported by function on the statement of activities and changes in net assets	\$ 2,687,056	\$ 4,906,239	\$ 1,582,753	\$ 9,176,048	\$ 833,996	\$ 343,283	\$ -	\$ 1,177,279	\$ 10,353,327	\$ 10,378,285

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements. 5

## Statements of Cash Flows Year Ended September 30, 2020

(With summarized comparative amounts for the Year Ended September 30, 2019)

	2020			2019			
Cash flows from operating activities							
Change in net assets	\$	7,939,546	\$	3,158,875			
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash							
used in operating activities:							
Depreciation		493,662		503,252			
Decrease (increase) in fair value in beneficial interest							
in perpetual trusts		(156,452)		122,272			
Realized and unrealized gain on investments		(10,283,492)		(5,785,286)			
Contribution restricted for endowments		(3,101)		(98,229)			
Increase (decrease) in cash attributable to changes in							
operating assets and liabilities:							
Interest and dividends receivable		44,322		(96,508)			
Government grants receivable		618,094		589,341			
Contributions receivable		(325,000)		(140,727)			
Prepaid expenses and other assets		(42,760)		(58)			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		3,341		(44,888)			
Government advances		(59,532)		91,517			
Net cash used in operating activities		(1,771,372)		(1,700,439)			
Cash flows from investing activity							
Proceeds on sale of investments		41,141,210		21,113,645			
Purchase of investments		(38,433,751)		(19,338,240)			
Purchase of fixed assets		-		(41,849)			
Net cash provided by investing activities		2,707,459		1,733,556			
Cash flows from financing activity							
Investment for permanent endowment		3,101		98,229			
Net cash provided by financing activities		3,101		98,229			
Net change in cash		939,188		131,346			
Cash - Beginning of year		754,801		623,455			
Cash - End of year	\$	1,693,989	\$	754,801			

#### Notes to Financial Statements Years Ended September 30, 2020 and 2019

#### 1. Description of Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Organization and Nature of Operations**

VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired ("VISIONS") is a nonprofit rehabilitation and social service organization whose purpose is to develop and implement programs to:

- Assist people of all ages who are blind or visually impaired to lead independent and active lives in their homes and communities; and
- Educate the public to understand the capabilities and needs of people who are blind or visually impaired so that they may be integrated into all aspects of community life.

VISIONS fulfills its purpose by providing:

- Individualized rehabilitation training at home or in the community and in group settings
- Social services
- Employment training and job development
- Group and community education and activities

VISIONS programs focus on individuals with low income who are located primarily in the Greater New York Metropolitan area who are blind or visually impaired, including those with multiple disabilities, elderly, limited-English speakers and culturally diverse consumers.

In connection with the services it provides, VISIONS operates a training facility renamed VISIONS Center on Blindness ("VCB"). This facility was formerly known as Vacation Camp for the Blind. VCB is located in Spring Valley, New York. A new building and program called the Vocational Rehabilitation Center opened at VCB in August 2017. In addition, VISIONS is the service provider for the residents and guests of the building at Selis Manor located in New York City.

VISIONS is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and has been classified as a public charity as defined in Section 509(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"), thereby qualifying donors for the maximum charitable deduction allowed under the IRC. VISIONS is funded primarily through investment income, government support and contributions.

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP").

#### Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Financial Statement Net Asset Presentation**

Net assets and revenues, expenses, gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

*Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions* – Net assets without donor restrictions are available for use at the discretion of the Board of Directors (the "Board") and/or management for general operating purposes. The Board may designate a portion of these net assets for a specific purpose which makes them unavailable for use at management's discretion.

*Net Assets With Donor Restrictions* – Net assets with donor restrictions consist of assets whose use is limited by donor-imposed, time and/or purpose restrictions. Some net assets with donor restrictions include a stipulation that assets provided be maintained permanently (perpetual in nature) while permitting VISIONS to expend the income generated by the assets in accordance with the provisions of additional donor-imposed stipulations or a Board approved spending policy.

As of September 30, 2020 and 2019, there were no net assets with board restrictions.

#### Investments

Investments are stated at fair value. Investments, in general, are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, credit and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investments, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term, based on market fluctuations, and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the financial statements.

#### **Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trusts**

VISIONS has beneficial interests in funds held in perpetual trusts by other entities as trustees. The fair value of VISIONS beneficial interest in these perpetual trusts is estimated to be equal to the fair value of the portion of assets underlying the trusts attributable to VISIONS interest and is classified as net assets with donor restrictions. These assets are not controlled by VISIONS nor are they available for use, therefore, these assets are not subject to VISIONS investments and spending policies relating to investments with donor restrictions.

#### **Fair Value Measurements**

Fair value measurements establish a framework for measuring fair value. The framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below. Level 1 inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that VISIONS has the ability to access. Level 2 inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability. Level 3 inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement. The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used as of September 30, 2020 as compared to those used as of September 30, 2019.

**U.S. Treasury and government agency obligations, exchange traded funds, and equity securities** - Valued using pricing models maximizing the use of observable inputs for similar securities.

**Corporate obligations and mortgage-backed securities** - Valued at fair value by discounting the related cash flows based on current yields of similar instruments with comparable durations considering the creditworthiness of the issuer.

**Mutual funds** - Valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded.

Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts - Valued based on the fair value of the underlying assets.

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while VISIONS believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

See Note 4 for the table that sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the assets at fair value as of September 30, 2020.

#### **Government Grants Receivable**

VISIONS records receivable from government grants based on established rates or contracts for services provided. Interest is not charged on overdue receivables.

#### **Contributions Receivable**

Unconditional promises to give are recognized as revenue when the promise is received. Unconditional promises to give that are expected to be collected within one year are recorded at fair value. Unconditional promises to give that are expected to be collected in future years are recorded at the present value of their estimated future cash flows. The discounts on these amounts are computed using risk-adjusted interest rates applicable to the years in which the promises are received, if material. Amortization of the discounts is included in contribution revenue. Conditional promises to give are not included as support until the conditions are substantially met.

#### Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

VISIONS has determined that no allowance for uncollectible government grants receivable or contributions receivable is necessary as of September 30, 2020 and 2019. Such estimate is based on management's assessments of the creditworthiness of its funding sources, the aged basis of its receivables, as well as current economic conditions, subsequent collections and historical information.

#### **Fixed Assets**

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. These amounts do not purport to represent replacement or realizable values. Acquisitions with a cost of \$5,000 and an estimated useful life greater than one year are capitalized at cost. Depreciation is provided on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

#### **Government Advances**

Advances represent grant funds received in advance, attributable to future periods.

#### **Government Support**

Revenues from government agencies are recognized when earned. Expense-based grants are recognized as allowable expenses are incurred. Performance-based grants are recognized as milestones are achieved. There were no provisions for disallowances reflected in the accompanying financial statements, since management does not anticipate any material adjustments.

#### **VCB** Contributions

VCB contributions for services are based upon ability to pay as determined by the participant.

#### **Occupancy Expense**

Occupancy expense for the year ended September 30, 2020 consists of office condominium maintenance charges.

#### **Functional Allocation of Expenses**

Expenses directly attributable to specific functions of VISIONS are reported as expense of those functional areas. The financial statements report certain categories of expenses that are attributable to more than one program or supporting function. Therefore, these expenses require allocation on a reasonable basis that is consistently applied. The expenses that are allocated include salaries, payroll taxes and employee benefits, occupancy, telephone and utilities, which are allocated on the basis of estimates of employee time.

#### **Summarized Financial Information**

The financial statements include certain prior-year summarized comparative information in total but not by net asset class. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with U.S GAAP. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with VISIONS financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2019, from which the summarized information was derived. Certain 2019 amounts have been reclassified to conform with 2020 financial statement presentation.

#### 2. Liquidity and Availability

VISIONS financial assets available for general expenditures, that are without donor restrictions limiting their use, within one year of the statement of financial position, comprise the following:

	2020	2019
Financial assets:		
Cash	\$ 1,693,989	\$ 754,801
Investments	99,899,110	92,323,076
Interest and dividends receivable	99,289	143,611
Government grants receivable	692,171	1,310,265
Contributions receivable	575,000	250,000
Beneficial interest in trusts	3,804,237	3,647,785
Financial assets available at year-end	106,763,796	98,429,538
Less:		
Amounts unavailable for general expenditures within one year due to:		
Endowments and beneficial interest in trusts	(94,925,095)	(88,525,463)
Restricted by donors with purpose or time restrictions	(688,333)	(542,334)
Total financial assets available to management for		
general and operational expenditures within one year	\$ 11,150,368	\$ 9,361,741

VISIONS maintains a policy of structuring its financial assets to be available for its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations as they become due. In the event of unanticipated liquidity needs, the investments without donor restrictions can be liquidated when such funds are needed.

#### 3. Contributions Receivable

	 2020	2019		
Amounts due:				
Within one year	\$ 425,000	\$	175,000	
Within two to five years	 150,000		75,000	
Total contributions receivable	\$ 575,000	\$	250,000	

#### 4. Assets Measured at Fair Value

VISIONS investments are stated at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The following table presents the financial assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis and are categorized using the fair value hierarchy. The fair value hierarchy has three levels based on the reliability of the inputs used to determine fair value as follows: level 1 consisting of quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; level 2 consisting of significant other observable inputs; and level 3 consisting of significant unobservable inputs.

Assets measured at fair value as of September 30, 2020 are as follows:

		Total	 Level 1	 Level 2	 Level 3
Corporate obligations	\$	14,172,297	\$ -	\$ 14,172,297	\$ -
U.S. Treasury and government agency obligations		4,714,076	-	4,714,076	-
Mortgage-backed securities		6,909	-	6,909	-
Equity securities		71,671,332	71,671,332	-	-
Investment funds		377,317	377,317	-	-
Exchange traded funds Equity funds \$ 3,129,247 Fixed income funds Total exchange traded funds	-	5,200,215	 5,200,215	 	-
Total investments reported on their fair value hierarchy		96,142,146	\$ 77,248,864	\$ 18,893,282	-
Cash and cash equivalents		3,756,964			
Total investments	\$	99,899,110			
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts	\$	3,804,237			\$ 3,804,237

Investments at fair value as of September 30, 2019 are as follows:

			Total	 Level 1	 Level 2	 Level 3
Corporate obligations		\$	14,773,636	\$ -	\$ 14,773,636	\$ -
U.S. Treasury and government agency obligations			3,645,821	-	3,645,821	-
Mortgage-backed securities			23,850	-	23,850	-
Equity securities			64,589,529	64,589,529	-	-
Investment funds			223,405	223,405	-	-
Exchange traded funds Equity funds \$ Fixed income funds Total exchange traded funds	\$ 2,829,464 2,052,219	_	4,881,683	4,881,683	-	_
Mutual funds Domestic			228,850	 228,850	 	-
Total investments reported on their fair value hierarchy			88,366,774	\$ 69,923,467	\$ 18,443,307	-
Cash and cash equivalents			3,956,302			
Total investments		\$	92,323,076			
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts		\$	3,647,785			\$ 3,647,785

Total investments as reported on the statements of financial position are comprised of the following as of September 30:

	2020	2019
Investments without donor restrictions	\$ 8,778,252	\$ 7,445,398
Long-term investments with donor restrictions	91,120,858	84,877,678
Total investments	\$ 99,899,110	\$ 92,323,076

#### Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trusts

The table below sets forth a summary of changes in the fair value of the Level 3 assets pertaining to the Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trusts for the years ended September 30, 2020 and 2019:

	 2020	 2019
Balance at beginning of year Increase (Decrease) in fair value	\$ 3,647,785 156,452	\$ 3,770,057 (122,272)
Balance at end of year	\$ 3,804,237	\$ 3,647,785

#### 5. Fixed Assets

Fixed assets consist of the following as of September 30:

	2020	Estimated Useful Lives	
Land	\$ 94,500	\$ 94,500	
Office condominium	1,100,000	1,100,000	40 years
Office condominium improvements	481,451	481,451	15 years
VCB building, equipment and vehicles	2,362,984	2,362,984	3-15 years
Furniture, fixtures and office equipment	237,427	237,427	3-5 years
Selis Manor improvements	26,096	26,096	15 years
Selis Manor office equipment	135,976	135,976	3-5 years
Vocational Rehabilitation Center	9,165,624	9,165,624	5-30 years
Total costs	13,604,058	13,604,058	-
Less: accumulated depreciation	(5,191,532)	(4,697,869)	
Net book value	\$ 8,412,526	\$ 8,906,189	

#### 6. Net Assets With Donor Restrictions

Net assets with donor restrictions are available for the following purposes at September 30:

		2020		2019
Subject to expenditure for specific purpose:	<b>•</b>	000.000	<b></b>	100 504
Community services	\$	688,333	\$	463,584
VCB		-		31,250
Selis Manor		-		47,500
Total subject to expenditure for specific purpose or time		688,333		542,334
Donor restricted endowments subject to VISIONS				
spending policy and appropriation:				
Fund for the Blind		83,450,501		77,842,280
Ilma F. Kern Fund		3,112,126		2,750,066
Selis Manor Fund		1,300,000		1,300,000
Edna F. Blum Fund		1,583,951		1,468,721
Ilma F. Kern Fund of Selis Manor		1,139,652		1,007,067
Wick Stern Fund		293,576		271,592
Strauss Tuition Assistance Fund		122,330		119,229
Other endowment funds		118,723		118,723
Total endowments subject to VISIONS spending policy and appropriation		91,120,858		84,877,678
Perpetual Trusts:				
Martin S. Paine		1,998,813		1,911,381
Adrian Jackson		1,000,524		961,654
Maude Aguilar Leland		790,725		761,672
Charles H. Ruhl		14,175		13,078
Total perpetual trusts		3,804,237		3,647,785
Total net assets with donor restrictions	\$	95,613,428	\$	89,067,797

During the year, net assets with donor restrictions were released from restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purposes as follows:

	 2020 2019		2019
Community services	\$ 3,745,999	\$	3,525,483
VCB	1,167,996		793,206
Selis Manor	964,371		939,152
General operations	 3,841,125		2,675,596
	\$ 9,719,491	\$	7,933,437

Net appreciation (depreciation) on the assets of the Fund for the Blind are expendable for general purposes. Income generated by the remaining funds is restricted.

#### Fund for the Blind

In accordance with the Fund for the Blind documents and VISIONS by-laws, there are multiple limitations set forth preventing VISIONS from freely accessing the investment earnings derived from the funds' assets. Therefore, the asset value reported on the accompanying statement of financial position does not purport the useable value to VISIONS.

#### General

VISIONS restricted net assets consist of 12 endowment funds whose assets are to be held in perpetuity. The income from the assets can be used for general operations.

As required by generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), net assets associated with endowment funds are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

#### 7. Endowment Funds

#### Interpretation of Relevant Law

The Board of Directors of the organization adopted the New York Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (NYPMIFA). NYPMIFA moves away from the "historic dollar value" standard, and permits charities to apply a spending policy to endowments based on certain specified standards of prudence. The organization is governed by the NYPMIFA spending policy, which establishes a maximum prudent spending limit of 7% of the average of its previous five years' balance. As a result of this interpretation, VISIONS classifies as restricted net assets (a) the original value of gifts donated to the donor restricted endowment, (b) the original value of subsequent gifts to the donor restricted endowment, and (c) accumulations to the donor restricted endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument at the time the accumulation is added to the fund. The remaining portion of the donor restricted endowment fund that is not classified in restricted net assets is classified as restricted net assets until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by VISIONS in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by NYPMIFA.

#### **Return Objectives, Strategies Employed and Spending Policy**

The objective of VISIONS is to maintain the principal endowment funds at the original amount designated by the donor while generating income to support its programs. The investment policy to achieve this objective is to invest in low-risk securities. Investment income earned in relation to the endowment funds is recorded as income with donor restrictions appropriated for the expenditures for which the endowment fund was established. The Trustees of the Fund for the Blind voted a 4.5% monthly distribution for VISIONS based on a 5-year rolling average calculated in December calendar year end for the purpose of operational needs, beginning October 1, 2018. All principal and appreciation/depreciation is considered net assets with donor restrictions. The 4.5% transfer is all revenue without donor restrictions.

Changes in endowment net assets are as follows for the years ended September 30:

	2020	2019
Endowment net assets at beginning of year	\$ 84,877,678	\$ 80,830,230
Contributions	3,101	98,229
Interest and dividends	1,648,826	1,775,390
Net realized and unrealized gains	8,432,378	4,849,425
Appropriated for expenditure	(3,841,125)	(2,675,596)
Endowment net assets at end of year	\$ 91,120,858	\$ 84,877,678

#### **Funds with Deficiencies**

VISIONS does not have any funds with deficiencies as of September 30, 2020.

#### 8. Retirement Plan

VISIONS sponsors a defined contribution pension program under Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code. Employees may make voluntary contributions to the plan. VISIONS contributes 5% of an eligible employee's salary provided that such employee has been employed full time by VISIONS for at least one year. For the years ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, such contributions resulted in expenses of \$245,791 and \$226,441, respectively.

#### 9. Concentrations and Contingencies

VISIONS maintains cash balances at multiple financial institutions. As of September 30, 2020, cash exceeded Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation limit of \$250,000 per institution. The total uninsured cash balance as of September 30, 2020 was approximately \$1,722,000. Management believes that credit risk related to these accounts is minimal based on the historical credit worthiness of this financial institution.

VISIONS investments are concentrated in marketable equity securities and funds that invest in marketable equity securities. Such securities are subject to various risks that determine the value of the funds. Due to the level of risk associated with certain equity securities and the level of uncertainty related to changes in the value of these securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in market conditions in the near term could materially affect the value of investments reported in the financial statements.

Effective February 1, 2001, The Associated Blind Housing Development Fund Corporation ("HDFC") and VISIONS entered into a service provider contract. The term of the agreement is for twenty-five years, terminating January 31, 2026, with an automatic annual renewal unless six months prior notice is given by either party. To maintain the contract, VISIONS is required to provide social, recreational and volunteer services for the residents and guests of Selis Manor, a housing complex located on West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street in Manhattan. Should the level and/or quality of service provided be deemed unsatisfactory, under certain conditions, VISIONS may be required to return the initially funded capital. The "fund" consists of \$1,300,000.

#### 10. Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trusts

Four perpetual trusts were established for the benefit of VISIONS. Under the terms of the trusts, the income generated is payable to VISIONS. The contributions were classified as restricted support and the annual distributions from the trusts are reported as investment income.

#### 11. Related Party Transactions

The firm providing investment advisory services to The Fund for the Blind included a Board member, who was also a Trustee of The Fund for the Blind at various times during the year ended September 30, 2019. Fees paid for investment advisory fees during that period totaled approximately \$259,000. There were no related party transactions for the year ended September 30, 2020.

#### 12. Paycheck Protection Program

On April 6, 2020, VISIONS entered into a loan agreement with JPMorgan Chase for a loan of \$1,166,875 pursuant to the Payroll Protection Program ("PPP") under the CARES Act. This loan is evidenced by a promissory note dated April 6, 2020 and matures two years from the disbursement date. These funds have been received in the form of a loan, and subsequent to meeting the respective forgiveness guidelines, were treated as income. This loan bears interest at a rate of .98% per annum, with the first year of interest deferred.

Under the terms of the PPP, up to the entire amount of principal and accrued interest may be forgiven to the extent loan proceeds are used for qualifying expenses as described in the CARES Act and applicable implementing guidance issued by the U.S. Small Business Administration under the PPP.

VISIONS has accounted for the loan proceeds in accordance with ASC 958-605 and considered the loan a conditional contribution which will be forgiven once certain requirements are met. Based on qualifying expenses incurred as of September 30, 2020, the amount eligible for forgiveness amounted to \$1,166,875. Visions has determined that as of September 30, 2020, conditions for forgiveness have been met, and accordingly, has recognized the full amount of the loan as government support, included in the accompanying statement of activities and changes in net assets.

#### 13. COVID-19

In early 2020, the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic has led to significant disruption in the not-for-profit industry. For the year ended September 30, 2020, VISIONS experienced slight decrease in community events revenue due to COVID-19 and has had to change in-person events for the foreseeable future. Other revenue streams have not been impacted during the year ended September 30, 2020. VISIONS is monitoring this evolving situation closely and evaluating its potential exposure. As of the date of this report, it is uncertain what impact, if any, the disruption may have on the future operations of VISIONS.

#### 14. Subsequent Events

Subsequent events have been evaluated through March 9, 2021, the date the financial statements were available for issuance.

# Contributions: 10/01/19 – 09/30/20

\$10,000 - \$499,999: Allene Reuss Memorial Trust Anonymous Con Edison Company of New York, Inc. Estate of Arlene Rapp Estate of Mannie Corman Estate of Marilyn Hodes Estate of Miriam S. Enders **Field Hall Foundation** Lucius L. ans Rhonda N. Fowler Nancy T. Jones JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. **Kessler Foundation** Lavelle Fund for the Blind, Inc. Moses L. Parshelsky Foundation Norman & Bettina Roberts Foundation, Inc. Denise G. and Jonathan D. Rabinowitz **Robin Hood Foundation** S&P Global Ratings Robert A. Schonbrunn Harriette K. and Burton M. Strauss, Jr. The David Kimmel Foundation The New York Community Trust The Sweat, Dustin Blood Trust William G. & Helen C. Hoffman Fdn.

#### \$5,000 - \$9,999:

Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Sandra Bass Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Davis Demarest Lloyd Jr. Foundation Ed Lucas Foundation, Inc. Dr. Andrew S. and Lois Fisher ludith Rock Goldman Goldman Sachs Charitable Human Services Council of New York Lions Club of Mount Vernon Clara F. Londoner Martha W Straus-Harry H Straus Fdn. Nancy D. and Gerald Miller OSIA NYS Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc. Rita J. & Stanley H. Kaplan Family Fdn., Inc. Rochelle & David A. Hirsch Foundation, Inc. The Taft Foundation VASCA, Inc.

#### \$1,000 - \$4,999:

1919 Investment Counsel Jennifer Allen American International Group John D. Belanich Stephanie Belanich Steven E., and Joy Blair-Bernstein Douglas Andrew Borck Tammy Bordeaux Francis J. Bravin

Franco Chiaramonte Elisabeth Depicciotto Christina H. Eisenbeis and Ralph Martin Estate of Claire Wagner Estate of Eli & Diane Rudolph Norma P. Eversley Michael S. and Julia Featherston Foreseeable Future Foundation Frances Freedman Gloria Fu Inspired Memory Care, Inc. Dr. Vasundhara Kalasapudi and Dr. Srinivas K. Rao Steven E., and Catherine G. Kent Theodore P. and Linda Klingos Deborah F. Knight Anthony and Linda Lemma Lilker Associates Consulting Engineers, PC Lions Club of Larchmont Little Neck Douglaston Lions Club, Inc. James and Jane McGroarty Metzger-Price Fund, Inc. David Murrav Nathan and Augusta Simpson Foundation New York Hunts Point Lions Club **Oyster Bay Lions Club** PDG Jagadish B. Rao Richmond County Savings Fdn. Peter A. Roffman Rye City Lions Club Henry Saveth Jean Sheng Dr. Cynthia Stuen and Rev. William Weisenbach The Doolittle Trust The Lois & Richard Nicotra Foundation Michael A., and Jean M. Weisburger

#### \$500 - \$999:

Allison Aguilar Fredric C. Apter Holly and Joseph Bonner Dale Brown Christin Burgin John L. Cohn/Growth Resources Group LTD Michael Cush Sharon Dane Derek Bauer Consulting and Trial Prep. John F. Duane Donald F. Dunning Matthew Elefant Davin and Julie Gebauer **JDJ** Charitable Foundation Miriam Josephs Joseph Kelleher Thomas R. King

Yuet Ming Rosalind Lam Christina Ludvigsen Matt Kaplowitz Bridge Multimedia Modern Optical International New York Boringuen Lions Club New York Impacto Lions Club Norman G. Newman - CPA North Babylon Lions Club North Rockland Lions Club North Sea Lions Club North Shore Lions Club Michael O'Halloran Paul M. Maintenance, Inc. Mr. & Mrs. Carl Pforzheimer III Port Jefferson Lions Club Virginia Skar St. Michael's Cemetery Strong Foundation of New York Stuy Park Lions Club The Randi and Clifford Lane Foundation, Inc. William Wegman West Side Food, Inc. Woodside Interamerican Lions Club Michael Zumoff and Judith Wink

#### **In-Kind Donations**

Acquista Trattoria/Fabio Acquista Aegea West American Council of the Blind/ Carroll Foreman Amphibious Zoo Music/Mike Hicks Ben's Kosher Delicatessen Restaurant & Caterers Aaron Bethea Bocconcini Pizzeria/Gus Kercuku Nuala and Aoife Bonner Drew Bordeaux Bourbon Street/Lara Fois Rita Brackeen Brooklyn Nets/Joe Grande Melissa Brown and David Siegel Kristen Cappelli Mary Cappelli Michael Caruso CBS News/Lisa Rozner Regina Cohen, LCSW Christie & Company Salon & Spa/Lois Christie Crabtree's Restaurant Designs by Clara Stokolosa/Clara Stokolosa Gene DiNapoli Donovan's Grill and Tavern/Martin Picone Estate of Beverly Wettenstein Exit 32 Hair Design **Robert Friedland** Glenmar Studios/Alison Spalter

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John Twohie Vision Music and Entertainment/Joe De Piola Naomi Weinberg Yaffa Salon & Spa

Lions: PDG Maybelle Twohie/Ramapo Lions Club

#### Special Thanks for their Support 2019-2020:

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**U.S. Congress** Grace Meng lerrold Nadler

**NYS Governor** Andrew M. Cuomo

**NYS Senator** Brad Hoylman

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NYS Office of Children and Family Services Sheila J. Poole, Commissioner

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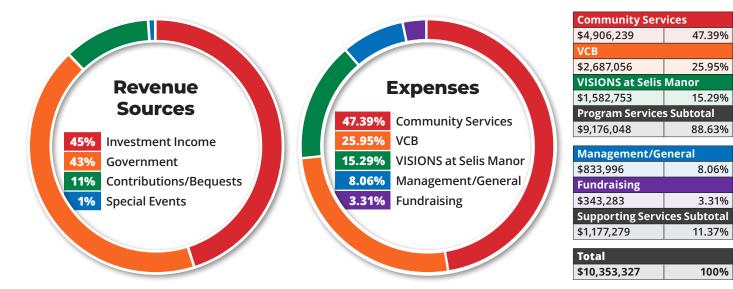
**Government Contracts** 

NYC Department for the Aging NYS Commission for the Blind NYC Department of Youth and **Community Development** Small Business Administration

#### Contracts

New York State Preferred Source for the Blind VIA (Visually Impaired Advancement) State of New Jersey NJCFS

We apologize for any omissions. To report any concerns please email nsy@visionsvcb.org



47.39%

25.95%

15.29%

88.63%

8.06%

3.31%

11.37%

100%

## Social Workers Support Participants Through the Pandemic

VISIONS social work department provided over 300 participants of all ages with individual and group services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff provided referral, casework, and counseling services to individuals in all five boroughs of NYC, Long Island and Westchester, many of whom are facing additional challenges due to the pandemic, such as food and housing insecurity, and loss of employment.

Staff continued to provide short term counseling on adjustment to vision loss, and in a call to meet additional needs, developed virtual support groups in partnership with our Workforce Development and Youth Services Departments. These collaborations helped job seekers address vocational stresses during the pandemic, and provided students enrolled in VISIONS after school and summer programs the tools to continue positive social and emotional development.

The majority of services were delivered remotely, however, our social workers have safely met participants in person, when possible.

# **Participant Feedback**

## VISIONS CENTER ON AGING

## Of 125 random participants surveyed:



**80%** of participants met new people and felt good about their ability to relate to others



**79%** better understood the importance of exercise and physical fitness



74% of participants felt more satisfied about their lives after participating in senior programs

## **VCB AND VRC**

## Of 110 random participants surveyed:



78% of participants met new people and felt good about their ability to relate to others



72% of participants increased their participation in other social activities after completing VCB/VRC programs



**62%** of participants felt more satisfied about their lives after participating in VCB/VRC programs

# **How to Support VISIONS**

\$	

## Make a Donation

Whether you give us an individual donation, or a lead to a Foundation Grant, or Corporate Sponsor that is aligned with our mission, every effort helps!

## Ways to Donate:

- Online, at: visionsvcb.org/donate
- Donor Advised Fund
- Gifts of Appreciated Stock
- Qualified Charitable Distributions
- Include VISIONS in your Will\*

\*If you would like to consider naming VISIONS in your Will, or making a testamentary gift, simply share the following information with your lawyer:

- Legal Name: VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Tax ID: 13-1624210
- Address: 500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302 New York, NY 10013

If you have any questions about ways to donate or know of individuals, foundations, or corporations interested in supporting VISIONS, please contact Russell C. Martello, Chief Development Officer at **rmartello@visionsvcb.org**.



## Join a Borough Advisory Board

Grouped by borough, members of VISIONS Advisory Boards help promote the issues important to the agency, represent VISIONS at community events, assist in raising funds to support the amazing work we do, and help solicit new contributors for our annual fundraising events.

Learn More: bit.ly/20IIMZu



## Volunteer at our Senior Center

VISIONS Center on Aging located in Manhattan is always looking for volunteers. Volunteers may assist participants with reading mail, and other types of written materials, escorting them in the community for shopping and appointments, and helping in a variety of programs (i.e. quilting, arts & crafts, knitting, photography, ceramics, and technology training).

Learn More: bit.ly/31IHBNE



## Help Jobseekers Gain Work Skills

There are many ways to help make a difference in the lives of jobseekers with visual impairments:

- Host an intern
- Host a training
- Be a presenter
- Hire a jobseeker

For more information, contact Michael Cush, Senior Director of Workforce Development at mcush@visionsvcb.org

Learn More: bit.ly/2WJYXt7



500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302 New York, NY 10013



## **Donate to VISIONS Today!**

Donate online or download our donation form at: visionsvcb.org/donate





# VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired 500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302, New York, NY 10013

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