



Dear Friends...

2020 was a very difficult year. From the social, economic and public health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to uprisings in protest of racial injustice to an incredible surge in community needs. 2020 was a stark confirmation of the depth of the issues many have been working on for decades. We supported our Investee organizations as they found new ways to do their work in 2020, and we thank them for everything they did to meet the many needs of youth in our community.

This last year has been a deeply reflective year for all of us at Social Venture Partners Minnesota (SVP). Our staff, board and community stakeholders spent time in 2020 to create our direction and strategy for the next three years. This impact report outlines SVP's 2021-2023 Strategic Plan, as well as our revised mission, vision and values which embody our renewed sense of commitment and purpose. This impact report also introduces the mission and work of the organizations we are currently investing in. There is so much work we need to do to create real change in our society and we will be focusing on organizations that serve those furthest from racial, economic and social justice.

SVP Minnesota, as well as our global network, is positioned to catalyze and accelerate equitable social change through the engaged work we do collaboratively with community leaders. By utilizing our collective resources, we believe we can rise to the challenges of today and assist in expanding impact where it is needed most.

Thank you for all you are doing to be a community in action—helping to create the world we envision—where every young person's future can unfold uncompromised by systemic injustice.

TOGETHER, WE'RE WORKING FOR BETTER FUTURES.

In community,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deb".

Deb Salls
Executive Director



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda".

Linda Ireland
Board Chair

COVER PHOTO © 30,000 FEET

MISSION

We catalyze equitable social change by expanding the impact of youth-serving organizations, and building an effective community of engaged philanthropists.

VISION

Every young person's future unfolds uncompromised by systemic injustice.

CORE VALUES

Equity is imperative.

It is central to how we view the world and do our work.

Relationships propel us.

We build relationships across the breadth of our community to co-create solutions.

Impact demands systemic change.

To ensure a promising future for all young people, we must create sustained, equitable change in our community.

We must be bold.

Catalyzing equitable social change requires imagination, innovation, courage and perseverance.



2020 Financials

REVENUE

Individual Partner Contributions	\$209,675
Corporate Partnerships	47,500
Special Initiatives	15,000
Other Income	11,329
TOTAL REVENUE	\$283,504

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$243,198
Fundraising	35,951
Administration	29,840
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$308,989

ASSETS

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$233,407
Other Current Assets	5,519
TOTAL ASSETS	\$238,926

LIABILITIES

Accrued Expenses	\$1,111
Credit Card	320
PPP Loan	35,100
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$36,531

NET ASSETS

Retained Earnings	\$64,533
Restricted Funds	85,586
Unrestricted Funds	77,757
Net Income	-25,480
TOTAL ASSETS	\$202,395

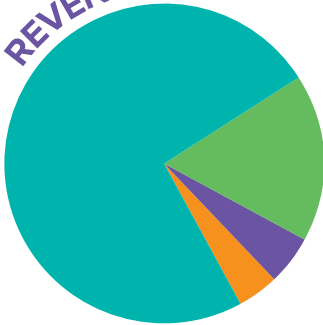
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As we look to expand our program, Avanzando through College, we're looking to SVP for any knowledge, insight and best practices, especially in the areas of creating a sustainable internship program.

— Angelica Klebsch, Sr. Director of Community Leadership & Advocacy, CLUES

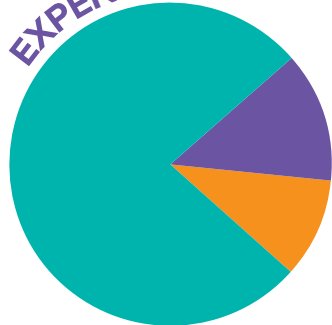


REVENUE



- PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS • 74%
- CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS • 17%
- SPECIAL INITIATIVES • 5%
- OTHER INCOME • 4%

EXPENSES



- PROGRAM SERVICES • 79%
- FUNDRAISING • 12%
- ADMINISTRATION • 9%

“

Our relationship with the SVP team has been most beneficial in having people from outside the organization peer inside and listen, observe and comment on our programming and organizational goals...SVP team members also introduced us to new contacts in the community that assisted with expanding our network of consultants and advisors. Having SVP as a sounding board also helped Elpis make adaptations in response to COVID-19 protocols. The adaptations preserved our employment readiness training's impact and also the well-being of our trainees and staff.

— Paul Ramsour , Executive Director,
Elpis Enterprises



Strategic Impact Goals

Over the next three years, SVP will work towards reaching the following goals:

Our programs and practices are centered on catalyzing equitable social change.

Key Strategies

- Conduct an equity audit and take action on what we learn.
- Operationalize the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion in all of our programs, policies and practices and commit to being an anti-racist organization.
- Use mutual discovery and shared learning with our Partners, Investees and community to create change within our organization.
- Be a thought leader in the SVPI network and Twin Cities community on evolving the role of philanthropy.
- Ensure our portfolio of work is weighted towards addressing root causes/systemic issues that impact youth.

We develop more and deeper relationships with our Investees and the broader community.

Key Strategies

- Develop relationships with Investees that are more collaborative, less hierarchical and clearly driven by their needs, recognizing that people who are most impacted by an issue hold the keys to solving it.
- Build and deepen relationships with individuals and organizations who can help us expand where we don't yet have a presence, be ambassadors for and partners in our work, and align with our commitment to work toward systems change.
- Amplify youth voice—within our organization, in our communications and in the decisions we make.
- Collect and use data to assess and improve our impact, tell our story and engage our stakeholders in our work.

“

Through our SVP relationship, we hope to gain guidance and direction that helps accelerate our growth and development as an organization; while simultaneously having a domino effect on the impact we are able to make in the community.

— La Tasha Shevlin, Executive Director, UpTurnships



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Hope 4 Youth is thrilled to have SVP Partners come alongside us in developing an efficient and effective marketing plan. Working collaboratively on this capacity building project will help us in telling stories of success and sharing our needs to our audience of stakeholders and youth.

—Linda Bryant, Executive Director, Hope 4 Youth



We build an effective community of engaged philanthropists who bring a diversity of experiences, talents and resources to the work.

Key Strategies

- Create a continuum of opportunities for connection, co-learning and collaboration with and between Partners, Investees and the community.
- Create a system to better match Partner skills, preferences and time with the Investees' goals.
- Broaden our options and networks for becoming an SVP Partner that include a range of contribution, skills, engagement levels and lived experiences.
- Provide programming that is responsive to current events and current Partner needs, and that address SVP's long-term goals.

Our organizational and financial model is sustainable and advances our mission and values.

Key Strategies

- Leverage a diverse array of financial and other resources to ensure sustainability and abundance.
- Grow and retain the number of Partners, donors and supporters.
- Optimize our committee and organizational structure to achieve our vision and strategies.
- Build robust communications to better tell our story and articulate our mission and impact.
- Identify and measure expected outcomes for all SVP efforts that are meaningful, achievable and defined in partnership with those closest to the work.

2020-2021 Investees

Connections to Independence (C2i)—SVP Investment 2019-2021

Mission: To provide unique programming and advocacy for foster care youth, ages 14–24, to promote a successful and healthy transition to living independently as they reach adulthood.

Cookie Cart—SVP Investment 2018-2020

Mission: To provide teens 15 to 18 years old with lasting and meaningful work, life and leadership skills through experience and training in urban nonprofit bakeries.

Elpis Enterprises—SVP Investment 2018-2020

Mission: To foster youth employment and career pathway building through social enterprise.

RECLAIM—SVP Investment 2020-2022

Mission: To provide financially and culturally accessible care to queer and trans youth and their families, as well as continue to train practitioners and partner in community to create systems of change at the intersection of gender and racial justice.

New Vision Foundation—SVP Investment 2019-2021

Mission: To create pathways to success by motivating disadvantaged youth in Minnesota through coding and digital literacy classes.

30,000 Feet—SVP Investment 2021-2022

Mission: To empower African American students in Saint Paul through culture, art, technology and social justice.



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Our partnership has proven to be extremely invaluable and helped us create capacity to build our financial processes. This is the first time, since our inception in 2010 that we have had an approved working budget prior to the new fiscal year...getting our financial processes to a solid foundation is a huge part of our future growth.

—Jessica Rogers, Executive Director,
Connections to Independence (C2i)

“

The opportunity to partner with SVP could not have come at a better time for Cookie Cart and we cannot imagine more perfect partners.

They brought skills, resources and perspectives that were invaluable during a time of growth and significant challenges. They helped us respond during the COVID-19 crisis while maintaining strategic focus. As a result of their support, I can confidently report that as COVID-19 retreats, Cookie Cart is on track to be stronger and more impactful than any time in its 30+ year history.

—Matt Halley, Executive Director, Cookie Cart



CLUES (Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio)—SVP Investment 2021

Mission: To advance social and economic equity and well-being for Latinos by building upon our strengths and cultures, uplifting our community and activating leadership for systemic change.

Green Garden Bakery (Urban Strategies, Inc.)—SVP Investment 2021

Mission: To support the leadership development, community engagement and economic mobility of youth in Heritage Park (North Minneapolis).

Hope 4 Youth—SVP Investment 2021

Mission: To provide pathways to end youth homelessness.

UpTurnships—SVP Investment 2021

Mission: To inspire UpTurns to be prepared, equipped and experienced with a plan for their future.

RECLAIM

“Despite massive challenges, we made substantial progress towards our capacity-building goals. The Interim Executive Director and the board of directors led improvements to our operations and financial management as outlined in our strategic plan. We added development and operations capacity with a new FTE. And we are delighted to announce that a new, permanent Clinical Director has started with RECLAIM.”

— Marcus Waterbury, Board Chair



CONNECTIONS TO INDEPENDENCE (C2i)

“Connections to Independence (C2i) was able to thrive during the double pandemic. Although our youth and staff were impacted negatively, we were able to harness that energy into getting creative and working hard to transition our organizational processes and services to web-based platforms. We engaged more youth this summer than we ever have in recent years, we were able to meet the needs of youth who had aged out who were struggling with rent, food and basic needs, due to Covid relief grants, and create engaging and creative programming via zoom.

We were still able to celebrate our high school graduates with a daylong graduation caravan to each graduate's home. We held our annual Turkey Day celebration in the parking lot of Sabathani with a food truck and had staff pick up youth to come get a meal to take home along with some other goodies like gift cards and scarves. Our annual holiday party is usually our most favorite event of the year, and our team was able to pull it off with an online holiday event. Youth were delivered a snack and activity box to join with on zoom. We played bingo and decorated cookies, all online. Our young people were also part of a national event that only 100 foster youth were invited to. They got to interact directly with Tiffany Haddish and musician/rapper Tyler the Creator. So, all in all, 2020 wasn't so bad after all. I am so honored to be the leader of C2i and work with such amazing staff, youth, board and our SVP Partners as part of our C2i family. We are so excited to see where the next two years of our SVP partnership will take us.”

— Jessica Rogers, Executive Director

“

Urban Strategies Inc./ Green Garden Bakery is looking forward to collaborating with SVP to plan a long-term sustainable and prosperous future for Green Garden Bakery's youth social enterprise.

—Elana Dahlberg, Project Manager, Urban Strategies, Inc.



ELPIS ENTERPRISES

“With the majority of Elpis Enterprises’ trainees identifying as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and already stressed by their own and loved ones’ vulnerability to COVID-19 and the economic fallout of stay-at-home orders, the killing of George Floyd brought out many emotions. We worked with our trainees to identify ways our social enterprises could be used to promote community healing and bring about community change. Trainees were part of community healing by:

- Working in our screen-printing enterprise on t-shirt orders related to the protest events.
- Identifying Adirondack chairs as a new Elpis product. The chairs invite individuals to converse and find common ground, while socially distanced.
- Developing a sales model for the Adirondack chairs that included donating a chair for every two chairs bought. Chairs were donated to 180 Degrees and Ain Dah Yung, and Elpis trainees collaborated on workshops at these two youth-serving organizations.
- Manufacturing face coverings with some donated to several nonprofit agencies struggling to obtain sufficient coverings for staff and clients.





These new products and related orders allowed us to continue to provide an impactful paid work experience. The earned income from these new products also partially offset the decrease in earned income we experienced as our usual customers were impacted by COVID-19 and unable to place orders.

Despite all the challenges that 2020 presented to our trainees and to Elpis staff, among trainees who completed our program in 2020, 95% reported when moving onto their next opportunity that they would recommend our program to others. It was the highest percentage reported since we began tracking that metric in 2017.”

— Paul Ramsour, Executive Director

“

Even in a pandemic year, New Vision Foundation had a very impactful growth year in 2020. Revenue increased by almost 200% and the number of youth served also increased by almost 200%. We were also able to create new strategic partnerships with employer partners as we looked for ways to increase minority participation in the high tech workforce. Our partnership with SVP has allowed us to enter this fast growth, inflection point with renewed confidence knowing that we will have professional guidance from SVP partners that will help us achieve our strategic goals.

—Hussein Farah, Executive Director,
New Vision Foundation



...for our Partners, Investees, Board of Directors and community members who care deeply about supporting under-resourced youth.

Staff

Deb Salls
Executive Director

Esther Goldberg-Davis
Deputy Director

Lea Blackwell Favor
Operations Director

2020 Board of Directors

Linda Ireland, *Chair*
Community Volunteer /
Multiple Boards

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Consultant

Linda Bryant, *Secretary*
Hope 4 Youth

Josh Susser, *Treasurer*
Cascadily

Jeff Arnesen
Marsh USA

Ben Burgum
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Nathan Espinosa
Lube-Tech

Dionne Gumbs
GenEQTY

Veronica Hawman
Redeemer Center for Life

Carla Pavone
University of Minnesota

Daniela Vasan
Wildflower Foundation

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Community Volunteer /
Multiple Boards

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Cascadily

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University of Minnesota

Dionne Gumbs
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Diane Harper
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Veronica Hawman
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Holly Parker
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Daniela Vasan
Wildflower Foundation



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In appreciation of our investing Partners and supporters who believe in SVP's mission. Your generosity advances our work in creating a world where every young person's future unfolds uncompromised by systemic injustice.

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Cyndie Leary
Amy Jo Van Culin
Tyler Van Eps



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(In memory of former
Board Member,
Ellen Mitchell Gallagher)
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Guff Van Vooren

Gifts In Kind

Lauren Klemstein
Dr. Erin Raab

**Deceased*

You. Make. A Difference.

Find your path to meaningful, hands-on investment in community. The SVP model centers equity, emphasizes impact, builds relationships and takes bold steps toward collaborative solutions. Together, we're building better futures for youth.

**Join our movement to
catalyze equitable social
change. Want to learn
more about SVP?
Contact us today!**



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