



PEASLEE

NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

celebrating 35 years of participatory education and social change

2019 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



A MESSAGE FROM PEASLEE STAFF AND BOARD

Dear Friends,

For over 35 years, Peaslee Neighborhood Center has been a trusted community hub, and we are so proud of this inclusive, welcoming space built through love and hard work. Peaslee's founding women struggled long and hard to acquire this former school building until the keys were finally theirs. In those early days, the women of Peaslee were "making a way out of no way." Thirty-five years later, Peaslee continues to make a way toward our vision of a healthy and just community where all people's voices and lives are valued. Now more than ever, as a constant in a changing world, Peaslee can serve to anchor and sustain our community through the challenges ahead.

Although our on-site programming is temporarily paused, we are reimagining our programs and engaging our participants in new ways. Youth are connecting and conversing online while children, parents, and grandparents practice piano together at home. Meanwhile frontline staff and volunteers safely package groceries to help neighbors experiencing hardship as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. This essential work is made possible through your connection to Peaslee. We appreciate any gift you can make at this time to support this life-giving work and our community center.

In solidarity,
Peaslee Staff and Board

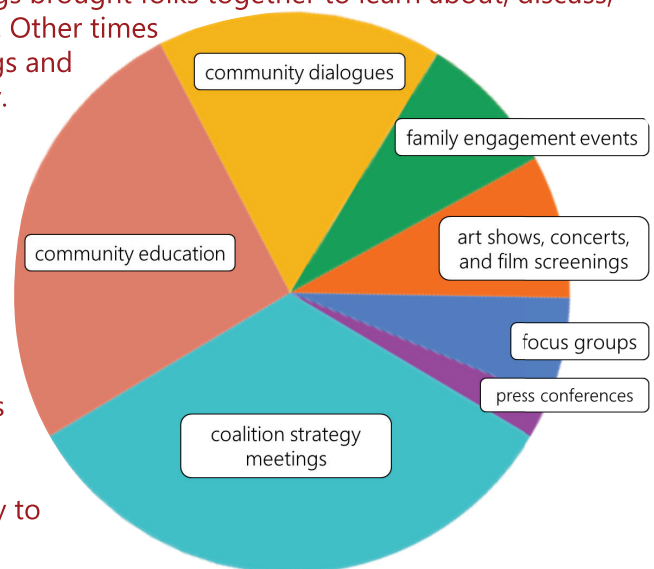


Mission: Peaslee Neighborhood Center is a peaceful place in Over-the-Rhine where residents create and engage in participatory education to foster creative expression, self-determination, and social change.



COMMUNITY HUB

Peaslee is home to six non-profit partners that are also engaged in education and social change work. Sharing a building encourages collaboration and strengthens our collective impact. In 2019 Peaslee and our partners hosted more than 80 on-site events attended by 2,130 community members. Most gatherings brought folks together to learn about, discuss, and take action on justice issues in our city. Other times it was our privilege to show off the learnings and artistic accomplishments of our community. Family engagement events included movie nights, program showcases, a recital, and a preschool graduation. Piano students and their families were treated to three concerts by professional pianists. Our lobby also became a gallery twice in 2019, displaying stunning works by local artists in art shows presented by Queens Village Cincinnati and Cincinnati Interfaith Workers Center. The seeds of grassroots change are sown in community, and we are privileged to hold space at Peaslee for our community to grow, thrive, and generate change.



PIANO

48 students



Our piano program served students ages 6-70 in spring, summer, and fall, including ten first-time piano students. More than 200 people heard students play in recitals and other community performances in 2019. Students also participated in two Master Classes with professional pianists through a partnership with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

Thank you for your support! Andrew Jergens Foundation, Christ Church Cathedral, Keyboard Club, Matinée Musicale Endowment Fund

WRITING

This year Peaslee continued to facilitate weekly Girls Writing Circles with students in grades 4-6 at Rothenberg Preparatory Academy. In each circle, girls read inspirational texts, wrote their own creative responses, and shared their writing with the group. At the end of each semester, the girls shared their writing at community showcases attended by 315 teachers, classmates, and family members. In addition 2019 was the first year that writing circles were included in Rothenberg's summer school curriculum.

*"I rise on the worst of days
and then shine on the best of the days
because I'm powerful.
You are too.*

Don't let anyone tell you different." -Lesharii Harris, 5th grade



The Justice Seekers Women's Writing Circle also continued to offer women a space to reflect on poetry, follow their muse, and affirm the voices of sister writers.



43 participants
8 youth pieces
published
in Streetvibes

Thank you for your support! Andrew Jergens Foundation, Charles Dater Foundation, Christ Church Cathedral, Congregation of the Humility of Mary

SERVICE LEARNING



Peaslee continues to facilitate Affordable Housing Simulations, Community Journeys, and service learning activities for groups visiting Over-the-Rhine to learn about issues of race and class in the community. This year a record number of local residents served as Community Mentors co-teaching in Peaslee's junior seminar for Miami University's Urban Cohort program, exploring structural injustice and social change with future urban professionals.

Thank you for your support! Christ Church Cathedral, Charles Dater Foundation, Congregation of the Humility of Mary

790 participants
13 schools/universities
16 other programs

COMMUNITY BUILDING AND ORGANIZING

Keep Our Courts: Do Development Differently Campaign

As part of the coalition's ongoing work to protect and invest in public space while prioritizing community voice and benefits, Peaslee engaged 215 community stakeholders through surveys and door-to-door canvassing. The resulting community input was analyzed and shared with all survey respondents, three community councils, three City departments, and all City Council members. We also connected with 320 community members through engagement events including a Gardening Night, Outdoor Movie Night, and Community Campfire.

Equitable Development Rubric

Peaslee has engaged the leadership of eight community councils in using this educational/organizing toolkit to evaluate development projects. 2019 also saw the rubric endorsed by 12 organizations; featured in five print, radio, and podcast media outlets; and presented at 11 public events. The rubric is also one of four major equitable development initiatives advanced by the Communities Act Now (CAN) platform.



500 residents
educated and engaged



Thank you for your support!
CPPS Heritage Mission Fund,
SC Ministry Foundation,
Seasongood Good
Government Foundation,
Unitarian Universalist
Association of Congregations



AGENTS OF CHANGE

Our self-expression and social change program for youth ages 11-15 is going strong in its fifth year, at full capacity in both summer and school year sessions. In 2019 an expanded social justice curriculum emphasized civic action. Students discussed and participated in the global day of action on climate change, as well as a local march for affordable housing. They also flexed their critical thinking muscles through a mock impeachment, investigating allegations that Ms. Jenn embezzled funds allocated for fast Wi-Fi (violating one of the sacred principles of the Agents of Change manifesto). In the summer program, Agents chose young adult novels to read and discuss in book groups, offering the opportunity to reflect on themes of identity, voice, and youth agency.



"Agents has made me more responsible, more politically active in my thoughts and my community—more 'woke,' as the children say."
-JT Sedgwick

21 youth
11 field trips

Thank you for your support! Andrew Jergens Foundation, ArtsWave, Dominican Sisters of Hope, Manuel D and Rhoda Mayerson Foundation



PEASLEE KIDS SUMMER CAMP

Our Peaslee Kids summer camp offers a safe, supportive space for learning, positive youth development, and fun for children ages 6-10 from Over-the-Rhine and other urban core neighborhoods.

Peaslee Kids participated weekly in Brazilian drumming, swimming, and gardening lessons, along with local field trips. This year for the first time, campers ages 8-10 also met for weekly writing circles.

Following group discussions about different aspects of social justice, campers presented their ideas for how to solve issues like bullying and animal cruelty. They were so inspired, they even organized a drive to collect necessities for a local animal shelter!

At the end of the program, campers presented their writing and other learnings at a public showcase for their families and community members.

Thank you for your support! ArtsWave, Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Summertime Kids Program, Miami University, Robert Reakirt Foundation

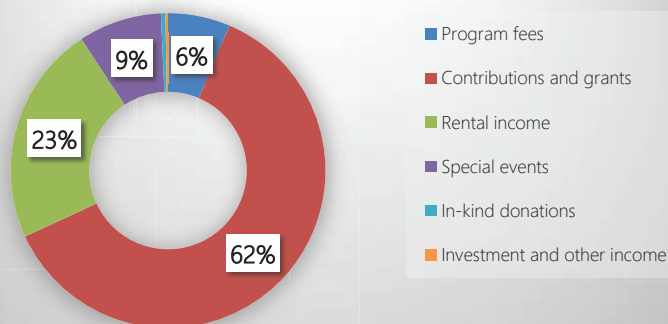


8 weeks
25 children
10 field trips

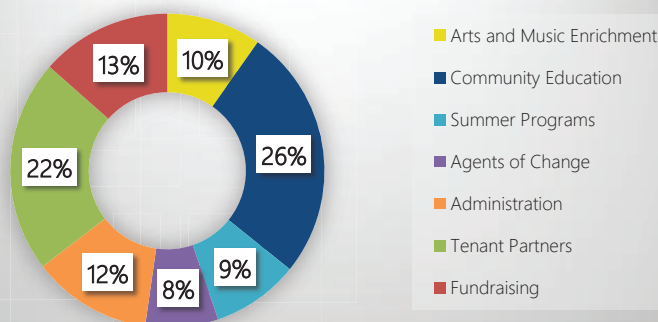
PEASLEE THANKS THESE BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT

3CDC	Greater Cincinnati Foundation	Petersburg Parishes
Amazon Smile Foundation	H&A Market	PNC Foundation
Andrew Jergens Foundation	Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish	Power Inspires Progress
ArtsWave	Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center	Printers Emergency Service
Ben and Jerry's Foundation	Iron Workers Local 44	Revel OTR
Charles Dater Foundation	The Keyboard Club	Rhinegeist Brewery
Children, Inc.	Kneflin-Dillhoff-Hils & Kruse Agency	Robert Reakirt Foundation
Christ Church Cathedral	Kroger Community Rewards	Ruth J and Robert A Conway Foundation
Christian Women's Ministries, Fifth Christian Church	Louise Taft Semple Foundation	SC Ministry Foundation
Church Women United	Manuel D and Rhoda Mayerson Foundation	Seasongood Good Government Foundation
Cincinnati Bell	Mary Martha Magee Foundation	Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
Cincinnati Development Fund	Matinée Musicale Endowment Fund	St. Joseph Church
Cincinnati Interfaith Workers Center	Miami University	Truist
Congregation of the Humility of Mary	Miami University Center for Community Engagement in Over-the-Rhine	TruPartner Credit Union
CPPS Heritage Mission Fund	Miami University Department of Teacher Education	Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations
CSC Special Events	MSA Design	Urban Sites
Dominican Sisters of Hope	Mt. Healthy Christian Church Women's Fellowship	Venice on Vine
Elder High School	National Heating and Air Conditioning Network for Good	Woods Hardware
Emanuel Bachmann Foundation	Northern Kentucky University	Xavier University Student Liturgies
First Financial Bank	OTR Marianists	
First Unitarian Church	Parking Lot Management of Cincinnati	
Franciscan Friars	Perfection Group	
GE Evendale Plant Employees Community Service Fund		
General Mills Foundation		
Good Shepherd Lutheran Peace Circle		
Gray & Pape		

2019 REVENUE



2019 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES



2019 INCOME & EXPENSES

Income		Jan-Dec 2019
Program fees		27,358
Contributions and grants		264,279
Tenant income		96,783
Special events		36,568
In-kind donations		2,001
Investment and other income		<u>1,112</u>
Total Income		428,101
Expense		
Direct program		39,001
Personnel		257,757
Professional fees		9,494
Occupancy		59,853
Office		6,585
Outside services		2,990
Training and development		4,292
Special events		9,028
Other		<u>1,166</u>
Total Expense		390,166
Net Income		37,935

PEASLEE THANKS THESE INDIVIDUALS

SUPPORTING

Janet Albright-Willis
June Alexander
Anonymous
Jenn Arens and Shannon Hughes
Caitlin Behle
Kate Bennett
Amelia Berry
Judith Blackburn
Kenneth and Barbara Boesherz
Susan Brownknight
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EDUCATING

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Fanni Johnson
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Diana Klinedinst
Andrea and John Kornbluh
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Bill Woods

ENGAGING

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EMPOWERING

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Julia Weaver



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Dominican Sisters of Hope

Andrew Jergens Foundation
Robert Reakirt Foundation
Ruth J and Robert A Conway Foundation