



2020-2021 Impact Report



MERRICK

Community Services

Growing • Stronger • Together



ADAPTING AND EVOLVING



Merrick Community Services' mission is to support individuals and families to navigate life transitions, find health and stability, and promote independence.

This past fiscal year brought forth both unseen challenges and unseen strength. In times of change, the assurance of strong foundations sustains us. For over 113 years, Merrick has been a consistent presence on the East Side of Saint Paul, providing services within this community. Merrick's services have been foundational to the flourishing of the East Side, contributing to a vibrant and healthy community.

MCS' work is defined by external circumstances, knowing that such circumstances filter down to the micro parts of our lives. Both the COVID-19 pandemic and the pandemic of racism have defined the way in which we approach our work, particularly in the last 18 months. Deep, long-existing racial disparities have been further unveiled, illuminating how vastly core needs are impacted by the historic and ongoing exclusion of Black and brown populations. MCS is frequently asking: how do we continue to respond to essential, unchanging core needs in a way that is adaptive to the ever-changing nature of our world?

We are proud of the ways in which we continue to adapt and evolve, to offer the essence of our core services, adapted to the needs of the times. In this report, MCS highlights the reach and impact of our work, the difference we are mutually making with partners, donors, supporters, and East Side residents.

MERRICK BY THE NUMBERS: PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Hot, nutritious meals served to seniors on the East Side

29,000

Seniors provided with hot food and support toward independent living

255

Families received housing and other supports:

433 individuals

Participants prevented from being evicted

412

Placement rate of employment participants in new jobs

70%

Individuals moved toward employment and career pathways

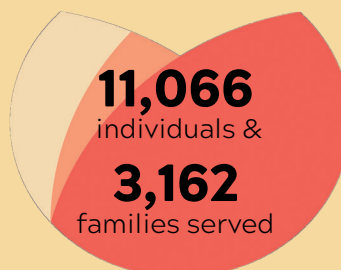
237

Youth reached through our seasonal events

2790

Food distributed

1.5 million pounds



FINANCIAL SUMMARY : STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

Highlights from audited Financial Statement from Harrington, Langer & Associates from the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021

Financial Summary - Statement of Activities

	Total 2021	Total 2020
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Support		
Contributions	\$ 871,599	\$ 1,170,021
United Way	440,133	490,165
Total Support	\$ 1,311,732	\$ 1,660,186
Revenue		
Government grants and contracts	\$ 624,465	\$ 478,615
Program service fees	159,241	57,142
Special events	97,272	132,522
Investment income	1,880	441
Total Revenue	\$ 882,858	\$ 668,720
Total Support and Revenue	\$ 2,194,590	\$ 2,328,906
EXPENSES		
Program services	\$ 1,481,430	\$ 1,331,240
Administrative	243,968	271,677
Fundraising and development	187,848	186,987
Total Expenses	\$ 1,913,246	\$ 1,789,904
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING	\$ 2,131,916	\$ 1,592,914
NET ASSETS, ENDING	\$ 2,413,260	\$ 2,131,916

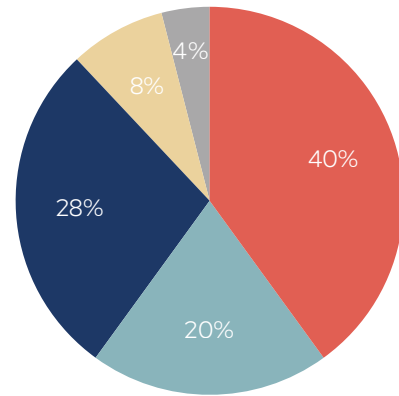
	2021	2020
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS	\$ 1,607,849	\$ 1,314,942
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT	1,261,990	1,334,916
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,869,839	\$ 2,649,858
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 197,023	\$ 196,279
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	259,556	321,663
NET ASSETS	2,413,260	2,131,916
TOTAL NET ASSETS & LIABILITIES	\$ 2,869,839	\$ 2,649,858

Total Cost Breakdown for Each Major Program

Program	Expenses
Food Shelves	\$370,376
Family Services	\$417,897
Employment Services	\$392,793
Meals-on-Wheels	\$240,676
Youth	\$59,688

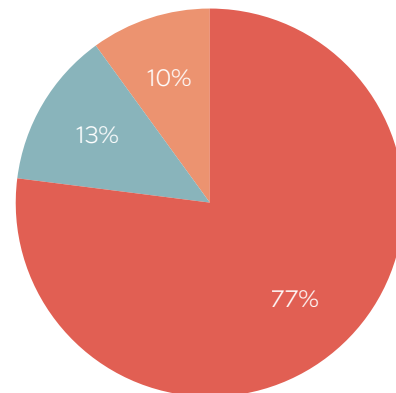
2020 - 2021 Fiscal Year

Operating Revenue



- 40%** Contributions: \$871,599
- 20%** United Way: \$440,133
- 28%** Government grants and contracts: \$624,465
- 8%** Program service fees: \$159,241
- 4%** Special events: \$97,272

Operating Expenses



- 77%** Program Services: \$1,481,430
- 13%** Administrative: \$243,968
- 10%** Fundraising & Development: \$187,848

PROGRAM STORIES

Merrick Community Services has served the East Side of Saint Paul since 1908. Merrick supports individuals and families to navigate life transitions, find health and stability, and promote independence. We believe that by working together, we can transform our community into a better place to live, work and raise a family.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Fadumo is a long-time participant of Merrick. She has been in and out of work. Merrick has helped Fadumo explore several career options, such as a Certified Nurses Assistant, Direct Care Professional and a child care worker. Fadumo expressed an interest in working at a Math and Science Academy as a teacher's aide.

MCS helped Fadumo craft her resume and update her social media presence and apply for the position. Several weeks later, Fadumo got the call for an interview and was hired on the same day! Fadumo is really thankful and continues to receive Merrick support through Merrick's retention services.



FOOD SHELVES

In this past year, MCS Food Shelves adapted to a curbside pick-up model.

Even with this set-up, MCS Food Shelf staff were able to continue distributing culturally appropriate, nutritious food. This year, we distributed 1.5 million pounds of food, distributed over 700 meals as part of our Holiday Share event, and, in partnership with East Side Table, distributed culturally specific meal kits to 50 homes over a 12-week period.



MEALS ON WHEELS

During the COVID-19 pandemic many folks found themselves stuck at home and needing help with food. Meals-on-Wheels was able to provide Anne with free meals while she was waiting to hear back on whether she could get them covered.

Thankfully she was able to transition onto a waiver which provided her with uninterrupted meal services and additional case management support.



FAMILY SERVICES

Heather came to Merrick after fleeing a Domestic Violence situation. She and her teenage child were homeless and her child had recently been hospitalized for mental health concerns. Heather was newly employed; however, she missed work during her child's hospital stay. Heather and her MCS Case Manager called landlords in search of a home that

would accept Heather and her child. Heather had many barriers towards getting safe, secure housing. Heather came across a home in the perfect location, near a school that her child would do well at. With her Case Manager's support, Heather was offered the apartment. The MCS Case Manager networked with other programs to get Heather the funds for a deposit. Heather and her daughter were able to celebrate their first Thanksgiving in their ideal, new home!





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LOOKING AHEAD

Friends & Supporters:

Like most of you, I imagine, I hoped 2020-21 would have represented the end of the Global Pandemic. Unfortunately, those hopes were not to be realized. COVID-19 continued to impact and affect everything we did and all we served last year.

In fact, no one has not been impacted or touched by the Global Pandemic. This is true of our Volunteers, Individual Donors, Funding Partners, Staff, and is especially true for those we are privileged to serve: our participants.

I am so proud of the way Merrick and its staff and programs have adapted to the many challenges COVID has thrown our way. Though we modified how we delivered programs, to ensure staff and participants were safe, we never lost a single day of service due to COVID. In fact, we increased services in several areas to meet the increased need in our community. This includes distributing over 1.5 million pounds of food at our Food Shelves and serving over 29,000 hot and nutritious meals through our Meals on Wheels program and preventing over 400 individuals from being evicted and becoming homeless and assisting nearly 240 individuals move toward employment with a 70% placement rate of participants. Altogether, this past year, Merrick served nearly 12,000 individuals and over 3,160 families on the East Side and beyond.

None of this would have been possible without your generous support. I would be remiss not to also acknowledge the 251 volunteers, who donated over 15,000 hours of service; this equates to over \$400,000 in value to MCS and those we serve. We simply could not operate Merrick without our volunteers.

As 2021 comes to an end, we are excited and optimistic of the new opportunities 2022 will bring. Our hope is that 2022 will be a better year for us all. If you'd like to support the good and important work Merrick is doing, we encourage you to make a donation that will be matched by a \$75,000 corporate match, which is made possible by The Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation, which we so greatly appreciate.

Your continued generosity sustains us and those we are privileged to serve.

Wishing you and yours a Happy & Safe Holiday Season!

Warmest Regards,

Daniel A. Rodriguez
Executive Director

MCS thanks all of our community partners.

HONORED TO PARTNER

All donations go directly to assist East Siders accessing MCS services.

We invite you to consider making a donation to extend our outreach and assist individuals such as Fadumo and Anne. To donate go to www.merrickcs.org or mail to: 1669 North Arcade Street, Suite 4, Saint Paul, MN 55116.



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MERRICK'S WORK AMIDST COVID-19

In what ways has the pandemic impacted Merrick's work?

March 2020 ushered in a new way of work and interaction with our surroundings for all of us! As we've adapted to these shifting realities we've gathered new ways of approaching our work with participants. We've also observed the multilayered complexities that participants have carried in this time--compounded stressors that threaten food, housing, and employment security.

Here are some specific ways we shifted:

- Converted our physical working spaces into safe areas that are properly distanced.
- MCS staff shifted to online work
- Food distribution converted to a curbside model
- Heightened our approach to the importance of working through a racial equity framework and a trauma informed lens.

We continue to monitor the influence COVID is having on our ability to work safely.