



**Hour
Exchange**
PORTLAND

**ANNUAL
REPORT
2020**

24 Preble St. 3rd. Floor
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 619-4437

CONTENTS

- LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
- MISSION AND VALUES
- BY THE NUMBERS
- BUDGET
- MEMBER STORY
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- MEMBER HELPERS



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



SARAH BRAIK
PRESIDENT

Every year I try to think of a metaphor to describe the previous year at Hour Exchange. During 2020 Hour Exchange felt like a bit like a jigsaw puzzle that is constantly expanding and reconfiguring, therefore cannot ever be completed. There was growth, surprise and planned, in some areas, cutting back in others. There were some exciting developments and some disappointments.

The most exciting development is that we hired a 4-hour a week member care coordinator, Monique Barrett, in late 2019. The biggest disappointment is that due to family circumstances Monique resigned during the fall of 2020. We then hired Travis Clough, to start in January 2021. However, after having done a stupendous job for one month he realized that he didn't have the time to put into it, so we accepted his resignation. We have been unable to find anyone to take his place. Without a member care coordinator it is difficult for us to expand our membership and maintain a social media presence. Even though the member care coordinator only works 4 hours a week, it is amazing what can be accomplished in those 4 hours.

Covid-19 loomed large over everything; primarily it led to a sharp drop-off in numbers of exchanges. However, it has also led to some new opportunities. Orion Breen organized a number of us in making check-in calls to members. We began giving time dollars to members providing Covid-related support services to non-Hour Exchange members. Colin McCullough gave a Zoom cooking class: Healthy and Amazing Sauces. Meryl Troop and Diane Brakeley organized a virtual Bizarre Bazaar that was quite successful, though of course we look forward to the next time we can hold it in-person.

Despite Covid-19 we managed to accomplish many other things last year. The Board worked throughout the year to educate itself on issues of diversity, equity and inclusion, devoting half an hour of each Board meeting to discussion, often rather intense discussion.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



SARAH BRAIK
PRESIDENT

We learned that the acronym HEP was used in Nazi Germany so to avoid those connotations we are removing it from all of our messaging and urge members to avoid its use as well. Future plans include convening member Zoom sessions to discuss how we can make Hour Exchange more equitable and how its membership can more closely approximate local demographics.

In February 2020 we held an open house to celebrate our move to the Greater Portland Immigrant Welcome Center that was quite well-attended. Little did we know that would be our last pot-luck of the year.

We began planning a collaborative project with the World Roots Cultural Collaborative which has been slow to launch due to Covid-19, though we did participate in a warm clothing drive in late winter 2021 (more about that elsewhere in this report).

The Farm to Pantry Network is beginning its 3rd year with 30 members and generates a modest number of exchanges. We would like to expand the network of farmers that we have relationships with.

We began a membership campaign in Western Maine, although Covid has temporarily put that on hold.

A member is starting a timebank within our timebank, the Time Exchange Network for Psychotherapists, a network of licensed psychotherapists who exchange services such as case consultation, supervision, and psychotherapy.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



SARAH BRAIK
PRESIDENT

We are well-situated financially and were able to pay all our 2020 expenses solely from member donations. Nevertheless we continue to operate at pretty much shoestring level. Our 2020 plans included hiring a member care coordinator, starting a kitchen cabinet, a team of members who plan member and community activities, and starting a strategic planning process. In each of these areas we hit the same roadblock: we couldn't find enough members to participate. Member Colin McCullough did a valiant job trying to recruit a strategic planning committee and put countless hours into connecting with members and researching timebanking models, but was unable to find participants. We were unable to recruit additional Board members to supplement our Board of 5, and the Vice President position is currently vacant.

Our plans for 2021 include hiring a member care coordinator, embarking on a campaign to grow our membership, convening a strategic planning team and conducting a fundraising campaign to ensure that we have sufficient income to pay the member care coordinator. Travis did some initial work on putting together a Kitchen Cabinet, but it is currently on hold as we do not have anyone to coordinate it. The Immigrant Welcome Center has a new Executive Director, Reza Jalali and we are looking forward to meeting him and continuing our outreach to the immigrant community when it is safe enough to resume office hours.

Another exciting development is that we will be having a summer student intern, Eric Fleischman.

The bottom line is that in order to grow Hour Exchange and accomplish our 2021 goals, we need more member participation. You, our members, are the heart and soul of Hour Exchange Portland!

MISSION



Hour Exchange Portland is an hour exchange based on the equality of time, empowering individuals to utilize their assets and enhance their lives, neighborhood and community.

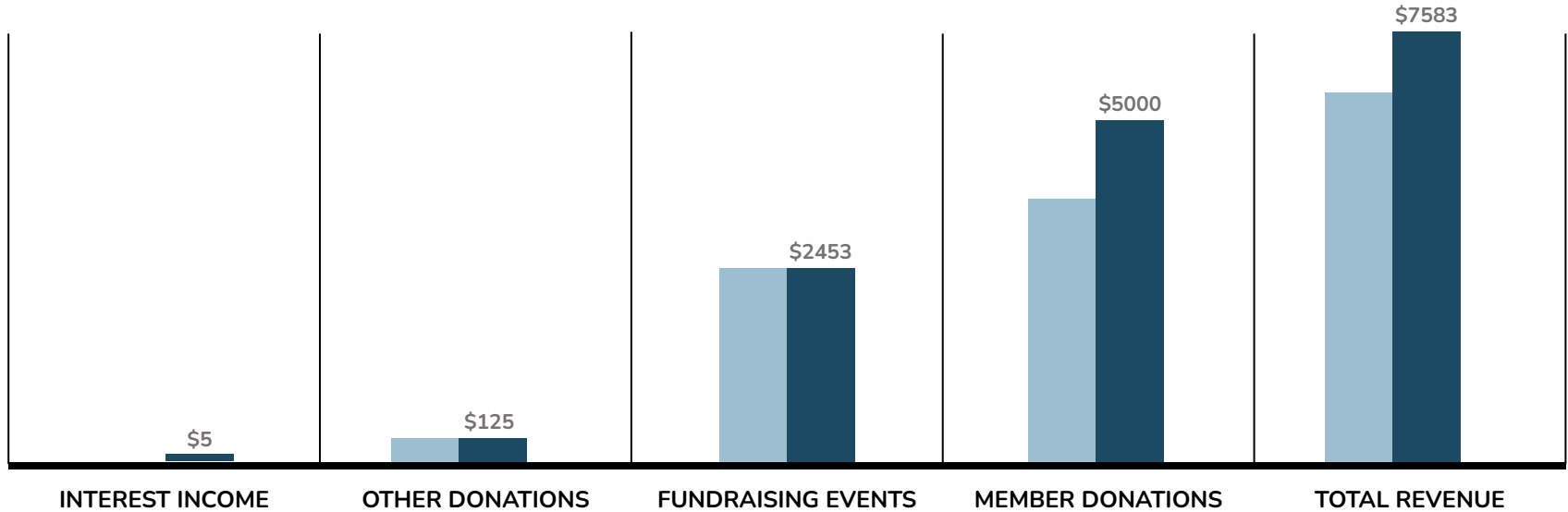
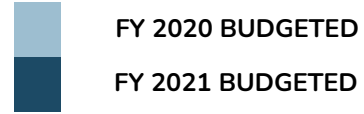
VALUES

- [1] ASSETS**
We are all assets. Every human being has something of value to contribute.
- [2] EQUALITY**
At the heart of every exchange is equality. An hour is an hour, regardless of the service. All people are valued equally.
- [3] RECIPROCITY**
Helping works better as a two-way street. How can I help you? Needs to be changed to how can we help each other build the world we both want to live in?
- [4] REDEFINING WORK**
Work is beyond price. Work must be redefined to include all of the activities it takes to sustain families, neighborhoods and communities, to help democracy work and to advance social justice. This kind of work needs to be honored.
- [5] RESPECT**
Everyone matters. We must respect where people are in the moment, not where we hope they will be at some future point.

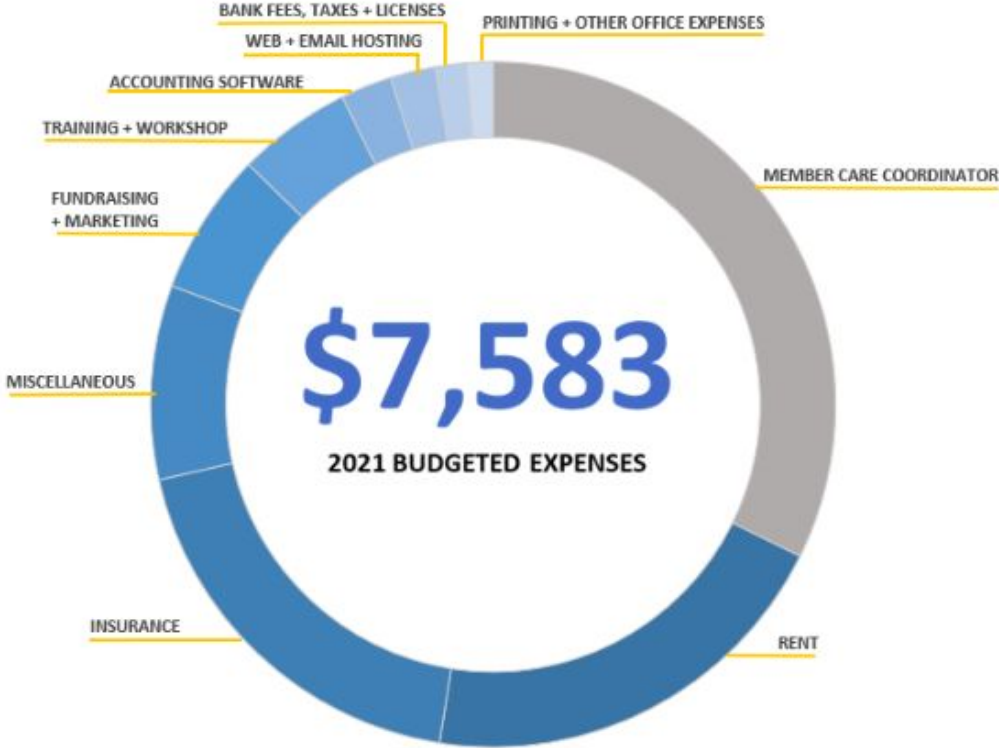


BUDGET

BUDGET



BUDGET



2020 BY THE NUMBERS

455

MEMBERS AS
OF DEC 2019

31%

% OF MEMBERS
ACTIVELY ENGAGING

26

NEW
MEMBERS

295

HOURS PROVIDED BY
MEMBER HELPERS

MOST POPULAR SERVICE CATEGORIES

- Covid 19 Community Support
- Health and Wellness
- Garden/Yard
- Classes/Lessons/Tutor

448

TOTAL TRANSACTIONS
(EXCLUDING BOARD)

2377

MEMBER HOURS
EARNED

337

BOARD HOURS
EARNED



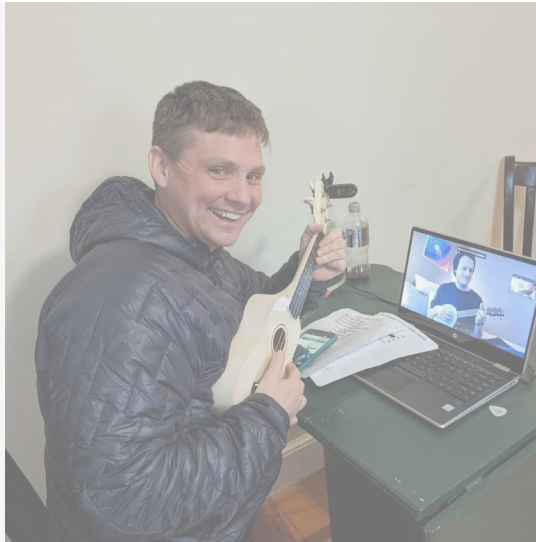
MEMBER STORY

MEMBER STORY



Some of you may recall that one of our then new members, **Patrick Kiruhura**, introduced himself as well as an organization he founded, the World Roots Culture Exchange during our first (and we hoped only) online annual meeting, back in April of 2020. Patrick discussed his personal and organizational goal of not only helping recent immigrants to Maine integrate into the community but also helping existing community members integrate with these new members of our community and benefit from the many ways these new community members can enrich our individual and communal lives.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE ABOUT PATRICKS STORY...](#)



MEMBER HELPERS

MEMBER HELPERS

Thank you to members who provided services to Hour Exchange Portland. We couldn't continue to survive and thrive without you!
Thank you to anyone who we inadvertently omitted and to those who brought food to potlucks. Your contributions make a difference!

Member Services Coordinator

Monique Barrett

New Member Orientation Leaders

Jackie Hawkins, Patty Renaud, Sarah Braik, Carrissa Larsen and Adrienne Brown

Member Leadership

Mario Cardoza

Bookkeeper

Marisa Ihara

Ambassador Tasks, Outreach and Inreach

Sally Trice, Don Kauber, Orion Breen, Sally Lehtinen, Julie Silverman, Paul Manoff, Kathryn Andrews

Administrative Tasks

Karl Trautman, Kathy McGuire, Sharon Sawyer, Karin Belsheim, Adinah Barnett, Maggie Kelley, Sara Jodi, Tahj Hebert, Robbie Harrison, Stacey Zaccaro

Bizarre Bazaar

Meryl Troop, Diane Brakeley, Deena Weinstein, Chrissie Libby, Patricia Campbell, Sally Trice, Carrissa Larsen, David Howard, Adriane Herman, Denise Brautigam, Monique Barrett, Paul Manoff, Sandra Kornblum, Lesley Jones, Nancy Charlebois

E-Buddies

Gail Wyman, Sidra Nasir, Mario Cardoza and Jackie Hawkins

HEP Farm to Pantry Network

Adrienne Brown, Adriane Herman, Ginny Schneider, Michael Michalski

Strategic Planning

Colin McCullough

Events

Travis Clough, Karin Belsheim

Annual Report

Colleen Finnell



**Hour
Exchange**
PORTLAND

**THANK
YOU!**

24 Preble St. 3rd. Floor
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 619-4437