



BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS – OCTOBER 2020

Audit Committee Report: Eva Maria Janerus - Chair

The Committee held its kick-off meeting with the auditors (Bruce Blasnik & Winfred Lam from PKF O'Connor Davies) and the outsourced accountant (Kelly Ferrick from Martin, DeCruze & Company) on July 21. Eva Maria has checked in with Bruce a few times during the audit to make sure things are running smoothly and there are no issues/surprises. Things continue to go well with this remote audit and confirmed that all confidential materials are being uploaded through a secure portal and not being emailed.

Draft financials have been provided to David and Jeremy. They are expected to go to the Audit and Finance Committees shortly.

We have a joint Finance and Audit Committee meeting with Management, Auditors and Accountants on October 26th at 5pm and Eva Maria will be reviewing them in advance with David and Jeremy the morning of October 22nd. This is actually a little ahead of schedule from last year and will give us an additional buffer in case there are questions that need to be answered or changes that need to be made (for example we made changes to footnotes and descriptions last year) in advance of the Financials going to the Board.

Board Designated Reserve Fund (BDRF) Committee Report: Mario Forlini - Chair

- 3rd Quarter call yesterday well represented by GUW
- Brown gave full required updates on: 1) Market 2) Allocation 3) Performance
- Strong 3rd Q translated to the BDRF being up net 5.7% YTD (2.8MM total value)
- Well positioned for expected volatility, risk and opportunities ahead
- Happy to furnish additional details if necessary

Community Planning Council (CPC) Committee Report: Joui Hessel - Chair

Thursday 9/17, 8:30am, Topic: Basic Needs – Speakers: Fred Camillo, First Selectman of Greenwich and Caroline Baisley, Director of Health, Greenwich Health Department

According to the Greenwich United Way's 2016 Needs Assessment, the economic stability of our state and of our town is challenged. We, as a town, need to ensure the GUW continues to mobilize the community in strategic efforts to identify and address the critical human service needs right here in Greenwich.

The presentation covered the roles and responsibilities local government, local human service agencies and the Greenwich Health Department played during the public health crisis, COVID-19 and the impact the virus has had on the Greenwich community. The presenters covered:
-Health and safety measures – continuing to stress the importance of mask wearing, social distancing and promoting public health recommendations



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- COVID-19 statistics and trends – ongoing efforts to track and share cases with key stakeholders
- Safely re-opening – ongoing efforts to open local businesses, community centers and schools
- Financial Impacts – creating ways to support local businesses, some examples discussed were outdoor dining and the potential for a local trolley
- Accessibility and distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- COVID-19 impact on older adults – the Greenwich Senior center was the first center to close in the state and remains closed, efforts are being made to support older adults with basic needs and mental health services
- Providing accessible sidewalks and street crossings - particularly for individuals who are less mobile when trying to navigate Greenwich Avenue

Local government, businesses and community members collaborated since the outbreak began to keep COVID-19 cases 'stable.' The Director of Health stated that it is important to continue public health recommendations for all residents and that they will continue to refine their approach to help keep the number of COVID-19 cases stable or reduce them over time.

Next CPC Meeting: Thursday, 10/29, 8:30am, via Zoom, Topic: Children and Youth/Education

Direct Impact (DI) Programs Committee Report: Nancy Weissler - Chair

Report Period: September 2020

The DI Programs Committee continues to meet regularly to discuss program topics for the Early Childhood Achievement Gap Solutions (ECAGS) program and expanding/enhancing Youth Impact (YIP) programs. The Committee met in September to discuss project timelines, staffing, event planning, research and program data, fiscal monitoring, program improvement strategies and partner relations. The next meeting is scheduled for November 9th.

The COVID-19 public health crisis continues to have an impact on all programs.

The Director of Community Impact will oversee the field placement work of an MSW candidate from Fairfield University, who will work 14 hours a week, unpaid, for a year. She started in September and she will be supporting the pre-school instructional coach by providing social work services to students and families. She will also help with the Needs Assessment and Community Investment Process.

I. Early Childhood Achievement Gap Solutions Update:

Staffing: The program is fully staffed.



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Data and Measurements: The DI Committee and staff reviewed the Year 2 ECAGS Program Progress Report. The report detailed the outcomes of both programs over two years. Overall, the programs are operating smoothly and an initial key finding is that our first cohort of Free or Reduced Price Lunch (FRL) ECAGS students are performing slightly better on the Kindergarten Entrance Inventory (KEI) compared to their FRL district peers. The KEI was designed to provide a statewide snapshot of the skills students demonstrate, based on teachers' observations, at the beginning of the kindergarten year.

Fiscal: G UW staff continues to review all invoices and supporting documentation to ensure accurate payment. G UW staff received the July invoice in September.

Greenwich Parents as Teachers (GPAT)

Program Updates: Overall, GPAT is operating smoothly and FC program staff completed all program reports on time. G UW staff and GPAT staff continued their regularly scheduled program meetings, all of which are virtual. Monthly GPAT Group Connection meetings are being conducted virtually and the next two group topics include: Health, Safety and Mask Wearing and Temper Tantrums. The program has 36 families enrolled and two still pending enrollment; the maximum capacity is 40 families.

Family Centers has prepared to start in-home visits again, but it is up to the families if they would like to continue the virtual or in-person visits.

Data and Measurements: G UW continues to review and analyze data for accuracy and make program improvements. The first quarter report is due in October. G UW staff will review Penelope, Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) and Life Skills Progression (LSP) data, the latter two being PAT-recommended assessments, with Family Centers leadership.

Pre-School Instructional Coach (PSIC)

Program Updates: Virtual instructional coaching continues since the pre-school closures in March 2020, there continues to be a no visitor policy at the pre-schools. The PSIC and Early Childhood Expert (ECE) continue to speak weekly to discuss program barriers and make improvements.

The PSIC has been working with infant/toddler and pre-school teachers since the start of the academic year. She has not reported any major issues and continues to work on routines, lesson planning and the classroom environment with teachers to start the school year. Data and

Measurements: G UW staff continues to review and analyze data for accuracy and make program improvements. G UW staff is in the process of collecting enrollment reports for the 2020-21 school year, reviewing staff professional development activities and family demographic information for the program. Now that the Greenwich Public Schools (GPS) have reopened for the year, G UW staff plans to meet with GPS staff to address unresolved data issues



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II. Youth Impact Programs Update:

Reading Champions: G UW staff continues to work with staff at the following program sites: Boys and Girls Club, YWCA and Department of Human Services After-School (New Lebanon School) to plan for changes to the program. Reading Champions will occur at all of these sites this fall with a focus on virtual delivery of the materials. The after-school program staff will be providing more support and assistance than in previous years due to the lower number of volunteers we are allowed to have on site.

G UW staff met with GPS leadership in October to discuss the program moving forward. As of now, the program is expected to begin in January with a reduced number of students and volunteers. The program will be delivered virtually, in a small group setting of 3 students, who are reading at a similar level. Another call is being scheduled for the end of October to discuss additional program details.

Greenwich Junior United Way (GJrUW): GJrUW continues to host weekly, virtual meetings. Members are working to make the group an official after-school club at Greenwich High School and are supporting CCI's Homework Helpers program this fall. GJrUW members will tutor students in the program remotely.

Finance Committee Report: Debra Hess – Chair

Nothing to report

Fund Development & Marketing Committee Report: Diane Viton – Chair

Sole Sisters Luncheon – Update from Kirsten Riemer

Our virtual luncheon took place at the end of September with a VIP reception over Zoom on September 21st and the guided conversation with Candace Bushnell broadcast on September 22nd. We've received phenomenal feedback on both events. People especially liked the guided conversation format. Hagar Chemali did a fabulous job facilitating that. Some Sole Sisters hosted socially distant watch parties. The lunch provided by GCC was great! Thanks to the match by the Lifetime Sole Sisters the paddle raise raised a bit over \$50k. While some people commented that they missed the vendor boutique, it was just too difficult to pull off for this year as not all of our vendors have adequate online platforms. Overall, despite the delay and pivot in format, the funds raised met the projected budget.

Golf Tournament – Update from Mario Forlini

Event took place last Monday, October 5

- Wrap up call hasn't occurred yet but great turn out and great feedback from many
- Raised \$41,022 which was great since 13 less golfers and no live auction this year



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Brew Ha Ha – Update from Alysse Scott

At Home Edition scheduled for Friday, October 16

- Sold 116 tickets as of Tuesday morning (10/13)
- 4 food truck “showstopper” level packages reserved to date
- Wish-list style donation link is live (scroll over the amounts to see examples of high-need projects); we will direct viewers to this throughout the show
- We’ve encouraged the formation of small, outdoor watch parties to enjoy the show together (the co-chairs are setting up projector screens in our yards, weather dependent).
- We recommend enjoying dinner from 6-8pm, the livestream begins at 8.

Annual Campaign – Update from Diane Viton

Refer to Campaign Status Report

Marketing – Update from Hagar Hajjar

- Sole Sisters Luncheon: covered by LOOK, numerous social media posts by Candace Bushnell, Starr Films, and others. Possible interview with Greenwich Magazine
- Brew Ha Ha: successful social media posts
- Everyone should have received marketing materials in the mail. Maybe we can follow-up and encourage people to share those with their friends, leave them in mailboxes, etc.
- I connected Bazini Hopp with the editors of Greenwich Magazine and Greenwich Lifestyle Magazine to pitch a story about Greenwich United Way.

Direct Impact Programs – Update from Anne Sherrerd

The DI Fundraising Committee will meet this month to review a plan developed by David and Jeremy for resuming fundraising after our COVID-19 hiatus. We will be reaching out to current Direct Impact donors to steward their gifts and ask for new pledges and will be identifying and engaging with prospective donors. The plan also envisions a crowd-sourcing type campaign that will allow GUW to reach a broader base of support for our DI programs.

Governance Committee Report: Bill Finger - Chair

Nothing to report

Grants Committee Report: Erin McCall - Chair

The Grants Committee often had weekly meetings during the height of COVID for the COVID-19 Community Relief Fund process. The past month has slowed down with no request for the committee to review.



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Human Resources Committee Report: Eva Maria Janerus - Chair

Nothing to report

Nominating/Officers Nominating Committee Report: Grace Djuranovic - Chair

Committee members are engaged in ongoing conversations with several prospective board candidates and continue to discuss additional candidates for further consideration.

Strategic Initiatives Committee Report: Grace Djuranovic - Chair

Nothing to report