

2020 Annual Report

Scaling Walls A Note At A Time



Give Music
Empower Dreams

Our Mission: To be dedicated advocates for children affected by parental incarceration by providing life-changing intervention through music.

Our Vision: To give America's most vulnerable children hope and a life-changing experience thus improving their lives, our communities, economy, and culture.



The NUMBERS:

209 Children Served

118	School District of Lancaster
11	Red Lion School District
80	Youth Intervention Center
12	Schools & Centers

post pandemic shut-down

34
4
0

907 Music Lessons*

119	School District of Lancaster
7	Red Lion School District
10	Youth Intervention Center
67%	In Attendance
9%	Drop Out
7	Instruments Learned
3	Performances**
8	Teachers

post pandemic shut-down

677
94
0
87%
4%

Music is transforming children's lives placing them on a course toward success.

Program Highlights

Our partnership with the School District of Lancaster, Youth Intervention Center, and Red Lion School District allowed us to teach 907 music lessons to 209 students. In March, our program plans were drastically disrupted with the pandemic shut-down. From March-May, 173 lessons were canceled as well as our 5-week summer camp. Yet by July, students were receiving private virtual lessons with some students receiving two lessons weekly. During the private lessons, our teachers noted that their students were focused and learned quickly, their confidence levels increased, and the students were dedicated to their lessons and daily practice.

*group, private, and virtual, **includes virtual

“When I listen to this song it makes me feel like I’m in a hug.
Izier, Student

“I’ve been practicing and playing this for my grandfather. I had some trouble, so I worked to fix it and now it sounds better!”

Natasha, Student

“When I play music by myself, it sounds cool but when I play with others, it sounds amazing!”

Donny, Student

“I felt sad, not having SWAN class because I knew everyone there better than my school class. And I just love to play music! I’m glad that we can have SWAN lessons but I miss seeing my friends at SWAN.” **Student**



“The songs are actually starting to get harder and harder! I LIKED it! It’s a CHALLENGE!””

Caplin, Student

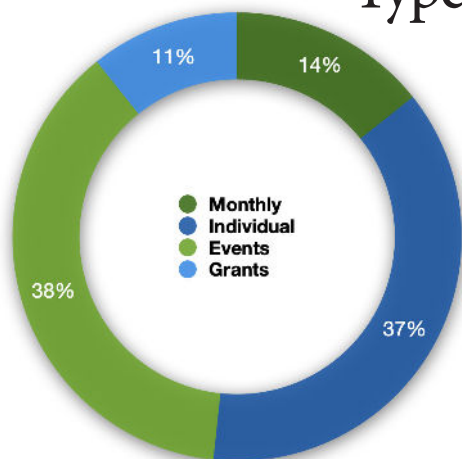
“It has been a privilege to be a part of the SWAN team. Many things have changed this year but one thing that has not changed is the enthusiasm that our students have when they come to their SWAN lessons. No matter what kind of day they have had, after playing or singing they always leave with a smile.”

Lauren, Music Teacher



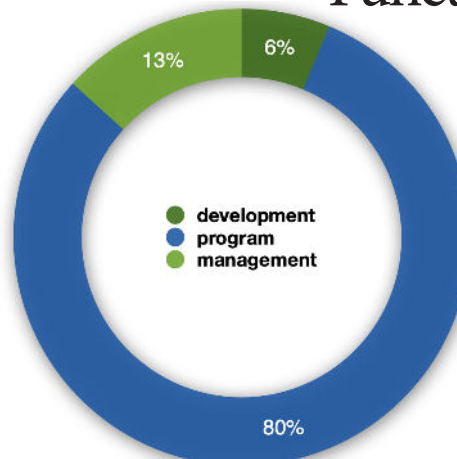
More NUMBERS:

Income by Type



Total \$148,224

Expenses by Function



Total \$134,295

*Our complete financial statement and independent report can be found at <http://www.swan4kids.org/about/>

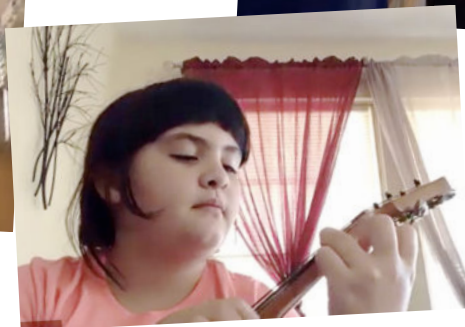
EVENT Highlights:

Extraordinary Give



The Extraordinary Give has been a vital fundraising event for a number of years but in 2020 with all our in-person events canceled it was more critical than ever. Thanks to our amazing supporters, we raised \$63,065 in 24-hours and ranked 45th among the 500+ community benefiting organizations. We are humbled and grateful for the extraordinary support in a year with so many challenges.

We'd like to especially thank our matching gift donors Howard & Connie Livingston, Kevin Strnad, Bob & Betty Stevenson, Jeremy & Jinger Vuolo, Eagle Business Software, John Folkomer, Dan & Sandra Brooks, and an anonymous donor who collectively gave \$17,300.



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— What's NEXT: —

Disappointments have impacted each of us during the pandemic. For our students, it started in April 2020 when they realized that their polished program for SWAN's Spring Soiree would need to be canceled. Abruptly, their lessons stopped as schools shut down and before we knew it, our summer camp that so many were looking forward to had to be canceled as well. We immediately worked out virtual learning plans accessible to every one of our students, but many were unable to engage for a host of different reasons. What has emerged has been the development of virtual, one-on-one lessons. We have predominantly taught our students in groups with the dream that someday we could afford to provide private lessons. That golden opportunity successfully found its way into our "Pandemic Plan". The lessons have been engaging and fun but unfortunately, not all of our students are in a position to have them. Hindrances due to their circumstances and/or their demographics are ever-present but gradually we are getting more students to engage with their teachers online and it is making a significant impact.

Another golden opportunity that the shut-down provided was the time needed to incorporate each layer of our corporate work into the Salesforce platform. As a result, we will be able to handle greater growth in the future.

Knowing how important music instruction is to help children heal and succeed, our goals going forward are to increase the number of lessons and performances for each student, to provide the needed transportation so that more children can be served, and to provide performance attire that will give the students a sense of belonging and pride.

Our students need music in their lives and personal instruction more than ever! We would appreciate your continued financial support and optimistically look forward to the time when we can resume physical classes and celebrate our students' successes together!

Diana Vuolo
Founder, Executive Director



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