



Center in the Park Annual Report FY2020



Our Mission

Center in the Park promotes positive aging and fosters community connections for older adults whose voices are critical instruments in shaping its activities and direction.

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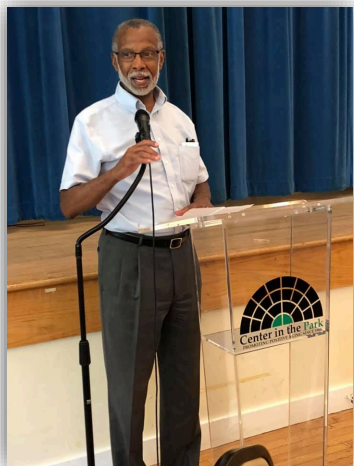
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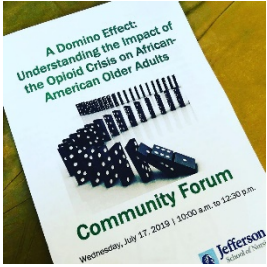
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Center in the Park stands in solidarity with the Black community and condemns all acts of racism, discrimination and violence. All people should have the right to experience positive, healthy aging.

Program Highlights

Center in the Park’s accomplishments in FY2020 include:



SUMMER 2019

CIP held a Community Forum in collaboration with Thomas Jefferson University to present results from a community-based focus group study to understand the impact of the opioid crisis on older adults.

SUMMER 2019

Through a Community Innovation Grant from the Independence Blue Cross Foundation, CIP partnered with the LGBT Elder Initiative to pilot the 10-week Aging Mastery Program to a cohort of 9 LGBT older adults. The majority of participants had never participated at CIP prior to attending LGBT-AMP.



During the year, CIP completed several facility improvement projects including major upgrades to the HVAC system and re-finishing the auditorium floors.

FALL 2019

Received a Senior Community Center Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Aging that will enable us to make equipment upgrades and programmatic enhancements to our fitness center.



“This is something that we are breaking through, that CIP is breaking through, to make a difference in the community. There are so many people in this community that are ‘LGBT-friendly’ that need the support system...and I need that support system...with the Aging Mastery Class, I feel stronger, and I see more people like myself, and I thank Center in the Park.”

- LGBT Aging Mastery Program Participant



Program Highlights (continued)



“It makes my day. It gives me strength to walk the streets and come back here. It gets me started. I appreciate the service. I like everything.”

- R.I.S.E. & Shine Breakfast Participant



CIP was awarded grants from the Digital Literacy Alliance of Philadelphia and Philly Counts for our “Count Me In” initiative. “Count Me In” is a project designed to ensure older adults are counted in the 2020 Census. CIP also hosted an event demonstrating how to use new voting machines.

SPRING 2020

Center in the Park’s R.I.S.E. & Shine Breakfast Program received a national award from the National Institute of Senior Centers (NISC) for outstanding nutrition program in a senior center. Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, the program offered a free breakfast 3 days per week.



Left to right: Philadelphia Mayor, James F. Kenney, Reneé C. Cunningham, CIP Executive Director; Alexis Ball, CIP Program Coordinator



JEREMIAH LASTER
VP BOARD
CENTER IN THE PARK

CIP is proud to have been featured in a recent National Council on Aging video highlighting the critical role senior centers are playing with regard to both food access and social connection during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://youtu.be/HA8ud4PZv-M>

Program Statistics

July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020*



1,178
Unduplicated People Served




242
New Members Joined

13,086
Congregate Lunches Served



4,867
Breakfasts Served

Lifelong Learning & Creative Self-Expression

199
Educational or Lifelong Learning Classes

314
Recreational Activities

516
Socialization Activities



Community Connections
Civic Engagement & Intergenerational Programs

2,792
Total Volunteer Hours



*On-site Programs suspended on March 19, 2020 due to COVID-19



Health Promotion & Evidence-Based Programs

591 attended Health Promotion Activities/Workshops

417 Exercise Participants

241 Nutrition Education Participants

Social Services & Housing

660 received Information and Referrals

504 received Case Management

162 received Services through CIP Neighborhood Energy Center

178 received Housing Counseling/Attended Workshops



“I took housing counseling at Center in the Park as a first-time homebuyer. I went in not knowing a thing about the process, and came out of the process feeling totally confident.”

- CIP Housing Counseling Client

Long-term Care & Advocacy

372 site visits to Long-term Care Facilities

331 received Information & Consultation from Ombudspersons

167 cases Opened by Ombudspersons

123 cases Resolved by Ombudspersons

COVID-19 Response

A LIFELINE FOR OLDER ADULTS DURING COVID-19


March 19, 2020 - June 30, 2020




Through a partnership with the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging and Easter Meals, CIP coordinated meal delivery and “Grab & Go” meals serving **18,774** meals to an average of **173** older adults weekly.




CIP operated our emergency food pantry, through a partnership with SHARE, assisting **327** individuals.

Over 1,100 older adults received wellness check-in calls from CIP staff.
CIP offered monthly housing workshops online.



Remotely provide the In-Home Support, Housing Counseling, Energy Assistance, and Long-Term Care Ombudsman programs.



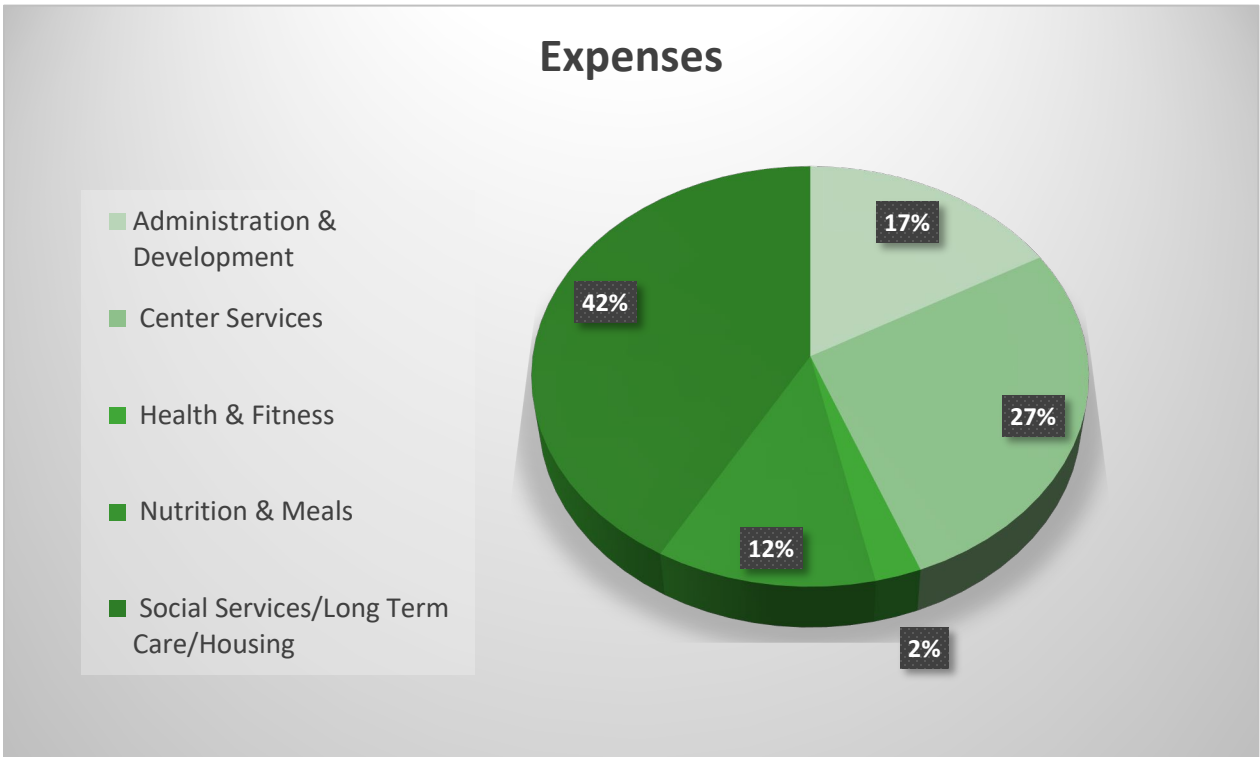
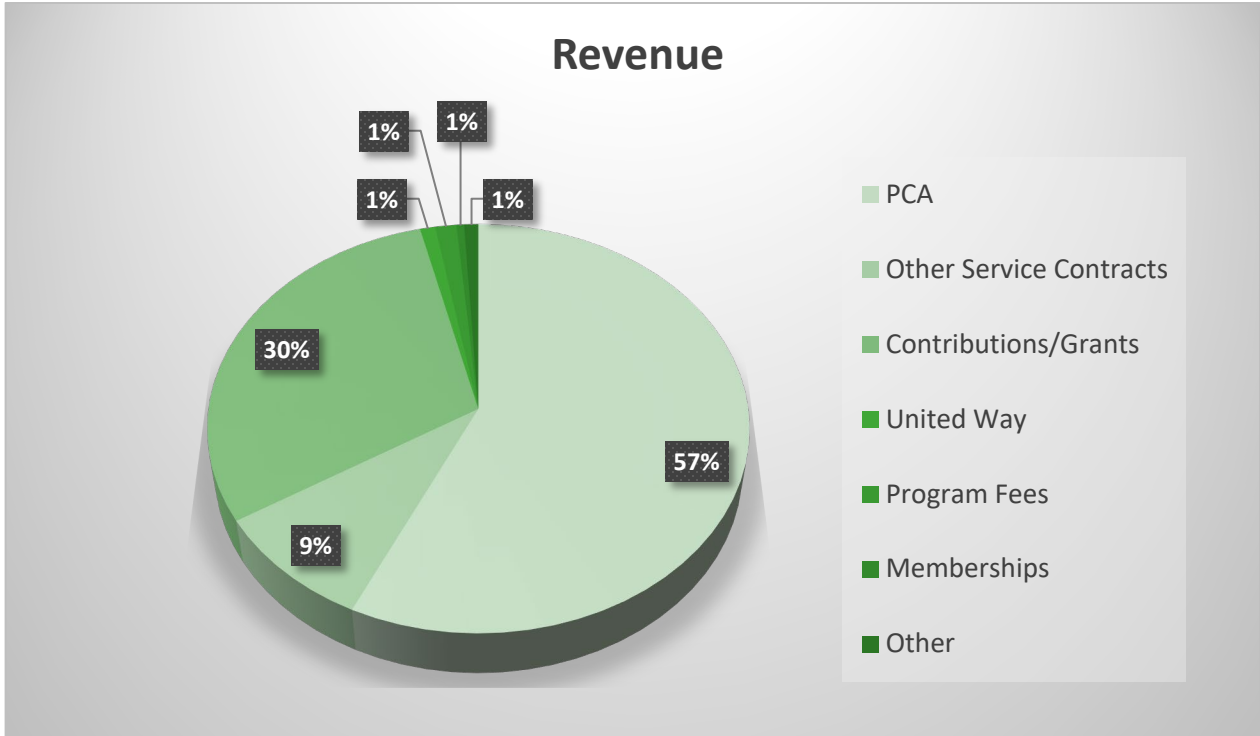
CIP worked to adapt evidence-based health promotion programs to be offered online in the new program year.



“This is a first for me, a first for all of us.”
- CIP Online Program Participant

CIP implemented new weekly online classes/activities including Healthy Connections, Men’s Gathering, Yoga, Sewing, Senior Fitness for EveryBODY, Poetry, and Stretch 4 Life.

Revenue & Expenses



Staff Leadership Team



Reneé C. Cunningham, MSS, Executive Director

Alexis Ball, Program Director

Stephanie Collins, M.A., Director of Social Services & Housing

Megan McCoy, MSS, MLSP, Director of Grant Research & Development

Enjulee Thomas-Finnagan, MHS, Long Term Care Ombudsman Supervisor

Above left to right: Andre Wilder, CIP Advisory Council President & Board Member; Reneè C. Cunningham, Executive Director; Philadelphia City Councilmember Cindy Bass; Stephanie Collins, Director of Social Services & Housing; Enjulee Thomas-Finnagan, LTC Ombudsman Supervisor

Thank you!

Center in the Park has a dedicated staff of 23 full and part-time individuals and over 100 volunteers all committed to furthering the Center’s mission. Center in the Park appreciates the many individuals, foundations, and corporations who sponsored events and made contributions during Fiscal Year 2020.



Photo Credits and Participants Pictured on the Cover:

Left Circle

“It's a wonderful place to go. There's something for everybody. The thing I like the most about the Center is you never feel like a stranger.”

- CIP Participant

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2019-2020

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Art Educator



Left to right: Jeremiah Laster, Vice President & Dr. Sanul Corrielus, President

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