



Circle of Concern
FOOD PANTRY
Feeding Families is Just the Beginning

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

A Year Like No Other

The year 2020 will be a topic of conversation and study for a long time, and here at Circle of Concern, we will long remember the extraordinary lengths our volunteers and staff went to to provide service to our client families ... including new individuals who found themselves in temporary need of our services in these unprecedented times.

Our primary effort throughout the year was to establish processes to safely maintain and sustain all the Circle programs on which our clients rely. This commitment to follow public health guidelines was made especially challenging as we watched the number of those clients frequently spike to numbers not seen here in years. We closed our building to clients and visitors, restricted the size of volunteer teams, wore masks, checked temperatures and more to reduce the spread of illness. And then we got busy.



Small, tight-knit shifts of pantry workers braved cold and hot weather and maintained safe distances to distribute bags of groceries curbside. Volunteers in vital receptionist, caseworker and client resource manager roles became living extensions of the phone system, providing the compassionate service over phone lines that certainly equaled the in-person care for which Circle is known. Behind the scenes, committees kept programs running, albeit with some adjustments, such as conducting scholarship interviews via Zoom and offering families gift cards for key programs – Summer Kid Bags, Back to School and Holiday Adoption, for example – in lieu of holding large distribution events.

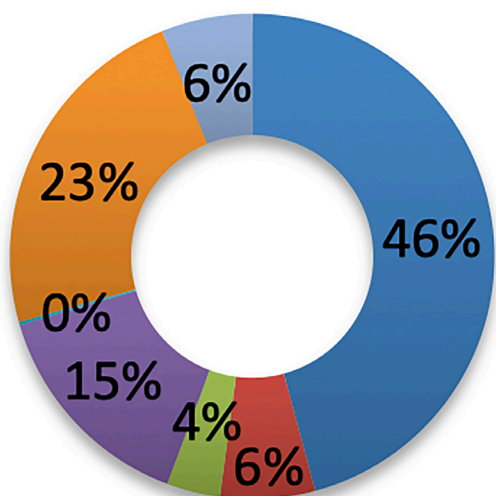
By the end of 2020, we surveyed our landscape, realizing that the adjustments – the machine, if you will – we had made to keep the wheels turning would need to roll into 2021. Volunteers who came in and worked safely – and volunteers who stayed home to be safe but who called in with words of encouragement – were the engine that got this work done. And our donors who recognized the enormity of the need and stepped up to invest in Circle's effort were the fuel to make it possible.

In a year of immense change, our friends in this generous Circle community kept us stable, kept us serving. Our gratitude for their care is unchanging. Thank you.

Summary of Financial Data

2020 REVENUE & SUPPORT

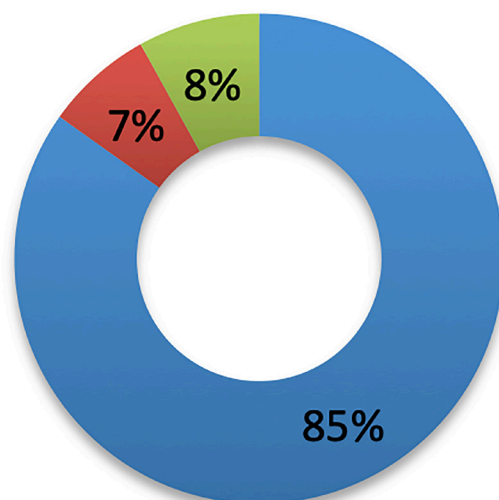
Individuals	\$1,498,845
Businesses	\$206,961
Churches, Community	\$116,761
Foundations	\$481,990
Special Events	\$7,213
In-Kind Food, etc.	\$762,112
Other	\$198,335
	\$3,272,217



**Total Net Assets
End-Of-Year:
\$4,527,532**

2020 EXPENSES

Program	\$1,813,626
Management & General	\$152,306
Fundraising	\$172,012
	\$2,137,944



"In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Circle of Concern as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America."

Brown Smith Wallace, LLP
St. Louis, Missouri
June 4, 2021

Mission Statement

The mission of Circle of Concern is to feed the hungry and provide assistance to low-income families living in west St. Louis County.



Circle of Concern Programs

Food Pantry & Summer Kid Bags

Our Food Pantry that provides fresh fruits and vegetables, milk, eggs and frozen meats along with a wide selection of nonperishable foods. Curbside service assures safe distribution until we return to Client Choice, in-person shopping.

Emergency Financial Assistance

Funds to help prevent an eviction or utility shut-off or to help with other critical short-term needs of established clients. Additional funds helped alleviate challenges resulting from Covid 19 losses.

Scholarships for Youth and Adults

Competitive scholarships for college- and trade-bound young people plus adult client scholarships to build earning potential through job certification, college courses, retraining or GED testing.

Career Mentorship

Community professionals paired with clients to build job search skills and define career goals.

Birthday Club

Personalized gift bags or “towers” along with cake mixes, hats, candles and more to celebrate young children of clients.

Camperships

Summer enrichment through sports teams, Scouts, music lessons and more for children of clients. The program expanded to assist families navigating childcare obstacles during Covid 19.

Back-To-School Supplies

New backpacks, notebooks, markers, calculators and more equip children of clients to succeed in school. Gift cards allowed for safer shopping by families.

Holiday Programs

Thanksgiving Boxes and grocery gift cards gave families turkey and trimmings, while Holiday Family Adoption gift cards, sponsored by community friends, warmed the season.

Board of Directors (as of December 2020)

Michael Bauer, *President*

Amy Vollmer, *Vice President*

Dolores Rodenberg, *Treasurer*

Allison Love, *Secretary*

Lana Biondo

Charlotte Bukowski

Thomas Chibnall

Steven Ernst

Frank Haase

BJ Hillerman

Virginia Pearson

Carol Vandable

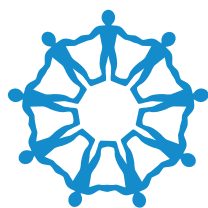
Cindy Wolk

Circle Programs By the Numbers

You - our friends and donors - make the work of Circle possible. Just look at what you accomplished in 2020:

- 3,401 people (unduplicated) from 1,181 families, were fed throughout 2020.
- 766 Summer Kid Food gift cards fed more than 1,000 children breakfast and lunch through the summer.
- 292 families received a total of \$107,818 in Emergency Financial Assistance, including \$33,000 of Covid 19 CARES funding.
- 25 young people received college Scholarships to set them on a hopeful path.
- 7 adult clients also received Scholarships for degrees, certifications and other education to improve their income potential.
- 374 children experienced the joy of Birthday Club gifts, party favors and cake.
- 119 campers learned, played and grew from Summer Opportunities / Camperships.
- 605 students, ready to learn, turned gift cards into school supplies through our Back to School program.
- 707 families feasted with the help of the Thanksgiving Boxes program.
- 2,107 individuals in 700 households relished the warmth of the holiday season, thanks to sponsored gift cards.
- 90 active volunteers gave 14,058 volunteer hours.





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Circle of Concern Food Pantry

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Valley Park, MO 63088

Phone: **636.861.2623**

Website: **circleofconcern.org**