

# WOMEN THRIVING

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

**LEARNING**

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

**COMMUNITY BUILDING**



# MEETING CRUCIAL NEEDS



It has been our honor and privilege to work with so many others to lead Women Thriving and to witness the growth and transformation within the organization to meet the crucial needs of women in our communities. In 2020-21, women, especially women with low income living alone and women with children at home, reported record levels of isolation and stress. To address this societal issue, Women Thriving increased our programming this year including launching new workshop series and creating comfortable and encouraging communities within them. We increased our numbers of participants and welcomed many immigrant women to our groups.

This spring, Caitlin Starr stepped in as Board President and Ann Brackett assumed the new role of Executive Director. Andrea Johnson continues invaluable advising. Looking toward a brighter future, we are thrilled to work together with so many others to ensure that Women Thriving and its communities continue to *thrive*.

We are truly grateful to all our participants, leaders, supporters, and collaborators!

**Caitlin Starr**  
Board President

**Ann Brackett**  
Executive Director  
Co-Founder

**Andrea Johnson**  
Special Advisor  
Co-Founder

# LEARNING

## 30 Small-Group Workshop Series on Zoom

Facilitated by 6 Social Workers and 15 Specialty Instructors in These Areas

- Resiliency Skills
- Parenting and Self-Care
- Language and Culture
- Health and Well-Being
- Arts

Our Workshop Series, ranging from 4-8 weeks in duration, engaged 132 women—double the number of participants from the previous year. 60% of participants were immigrant women.

One third of our series were language or culture-specific for Latinas or Asians/Asian-Americans.



*Reading and Telling Stories to Our Children: Family Literacy for Asian-American Moms, March 2021*

*“I hope we can continue. My English is improving—speaking, writing, and reading.”*

# IMPACT: Hearing from Thriviers

## RESILIENCY

*“The mantras and the breathing exercises were helpful do it yourself resources and ideas knowing that I’m not the only one dealing with stress.”*

## PARENTING AND SELF-CARE

*“This was an 8-week program for Asian moms and caregivers of children 0-3. Space where we can feel supported as Asians for our needs, including the cultural nuances. An amazing space. I felt wonderfully supported. Healing. We had shared values and understand what it means to be Asian. A breath of fresh air.”*

## HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

*“Pilates changed my life. I am so much stronger now and walk a lot.”*

## ARTS

*“I enjoyed not just the art. But finding yourself through art. It was an eye-opener for myself. Finding where you were and where you want to go—goal-setting....Perfect mix of art and life skills.”*

## LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

*“Now I am more comfortable and confident when I email, when I use the phone. When I’m in a store I can speak.”*

# LEADERSHIP

## 4 Amazing Women Served on Our Leadership Corps

- Outreach to New and Continuing Participants
- Communications—Newsletter, Facebook, Flyers, One-On-One
- Series Facilitation
- Support for Fundraising Activities
- Translation of Materials, Flyers, and Questionnaires
- 42% of our total expenditures went directly to pay Corps members for their work

The Leadership Corps also conducted the immensely successful Courageous Women Leaders public interviews on Zoom.

- Ann Wilkinson, Mentoring Director from My Life My Choice
- Kat Tatlock, Film Director and Writer
- Dania Vazquez, School Leader of the Margarita Muniz Academy, the only bilingual high school in Boston

# COURAGEOUS WOMEN LEADERS INTERVIEW SERIES WITH DANIA VAZQUEZ



Judith Stroum  
Women Thriving Leadership Corps



Bishnu Tamang  
Women Thriving Leadership Corps



Isabel Griffin  
Women Thriving Leadership Corps



Dania Vazquez  
Headmaster, Margarita Muñiz Academy

# COMMUNITY

Community-Building Groups for  
Latinas and Asians/Asian-  
Americans

- Time to be together for fun and conversation
- Time to share ideas for activities and learning
- Comfortable gathering for those with shared culture/language

LATINAS UNIDAS held monthly gatherings focused on cooking, conversation, self-care, and language learning.

ASIAN/ASIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP GROUP held monthly meetings and initiated several learning series this year.

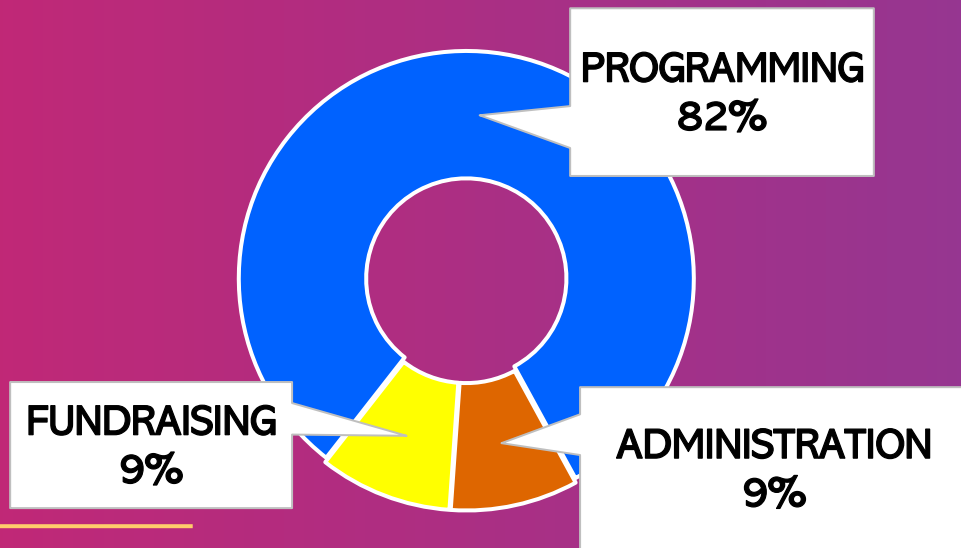


# WOMEN THRIVING FINANCIALS

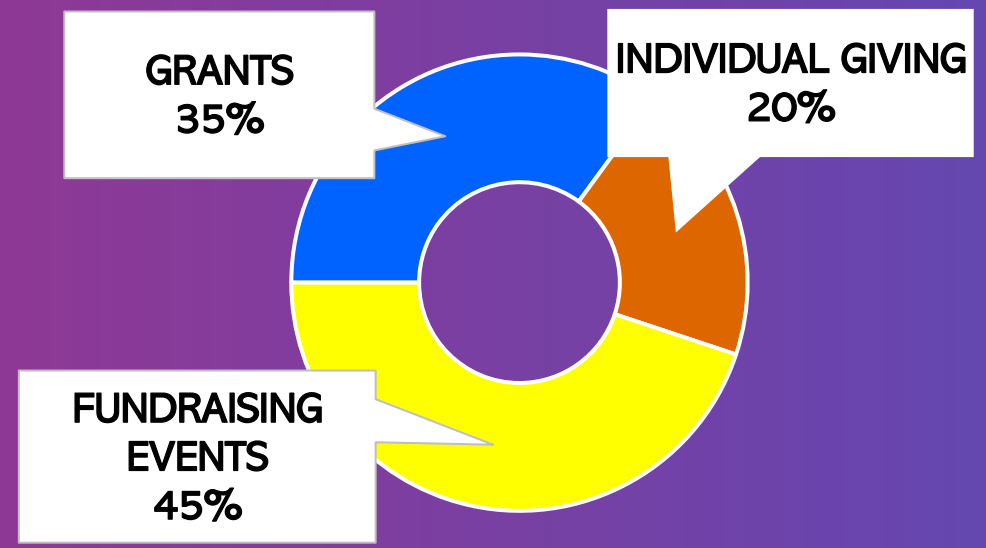
## 2020-2021

Programming always comes first with the help of our community partners and ardent advocates.

### EXPENSES



### REVENUE



## LEADERSHIP

Evelyn Berde  
Ann Brackett, Executive Director and Co-Founder  
Tracy Clark  
Chobee Hoy  
Lisa Goldblatt-Grace  
Susan Howards, Of Counsel  
Misti Jaynes  
Andrea Johnson, Special Advisor and Co-Founder  
Maureen Mayotte, Treasurer  
Danielle Mendola  
Ritah Nakandi  
Vicki Ni  
Jen Paster

Susan Rack  
Felina Silver Robinson  
Barbara Simonetti  
Caitlin Starr, President  
Bishnu Tamang  
Paula Torres  
Carol Steinman  
Julie Youdovin  
Beverly Zibrak

## FUNDERS

Brookline Community Foundation  
Brookline Rotary Club  
Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation  
MetroWest Health Foundation  
Nellie Mae Education Foundation

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Women Thriving's work is made possible by our committed board and committee leadership, sponsors, donors, volunteers, and participants.