



ANNUAL REPORT
2019-2021



**The White Family
Foundation**





In 2020, on the 100th anniversary of his family's company, John Hazen White said that "Taco's destiny has never been to just make things. This is a place where our employees and customers can grow, succeed and prosper together. We hope to be good stewards to the world that sustains us, our children and grandchildren." That vision is not only realized through the company, TACO Comfort Solutions, but also expressed through the TACO/White Family Foundation's work in Rhode Island and the communities in which we all live.

"Accordingly," John said, "philanthropy is incorporated into the DNA of both the company and the family through the example of my parents, John and Happy White, whose wish it was that the White Family Foundation provide stability, opportunity and friendship to those who work so tirelessly to help others."

The White Family Foundation recognizes its obligation to support and nourish the communities where its employees work and stand up to make a difference. The Foundation draws its inspiration not only from the example of John and Happy White but from those organizations it supports. It is proud to align itself with organizations who treat community members with kindness, integrity and mutual respect while trying to solve some of society's most difficult problems.

Since 2019, the community at large, businesses and non-profits, have been under siege. Early in 2020, the Foundation's Board recognized the immediate need for food and healthcare and offered support to organizations on the front line. Throughout 2019 and 2020, the non-profit sector never ceased to inspire the Foundation with its ingenuity to adjust to a new paradigm and find creative ways to sustain itself and even grow. This annual report is dedicated to those hard-working individuals and organizations whose efforts and passions help address some of our most complex and difficult social issues.



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THE IMPACT OF COVID

One of the main tenets of TACO is “People Come First.” The impact of COVID 19 in 2020 on the business, the non-profit sector and the Foundation upset the best of plans for everyone as the whole community struggled. The virus placed limitations and strains on the Foundation’s ability to achieve many of its usual

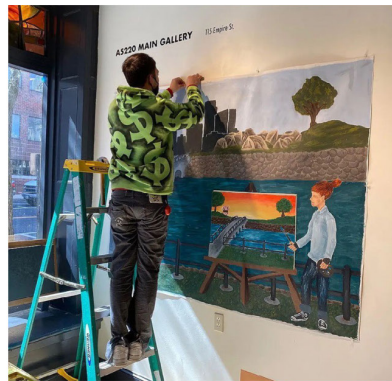
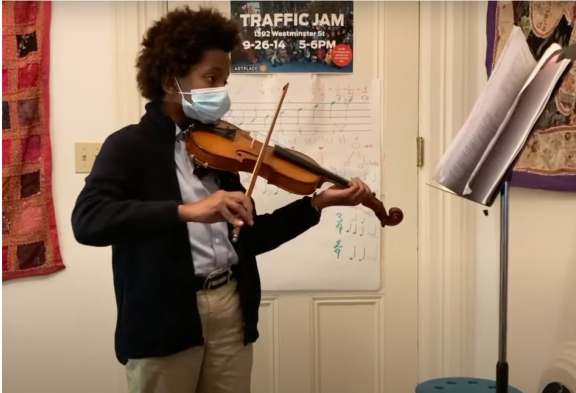
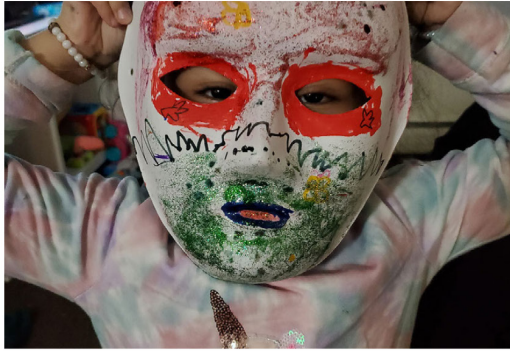
objectives as well as a strain on the resources available for distribution. Through all the difficulties brought on by the pandemic, the Foundation and non-profit organizations alike found new ways to continue to serve their communities.

The difficult work done by the Board in 2018 on redefining its focus provided a formula to commu-



nicate smoothly to the non-profit community about the preferences and aspirations of the Foundation. The decision to concentrate the focus of the Foundation broadly on the arts was a prescient move. While COVID pushed private and public foundations to address the immediate needs of health, food, education and childcare, the arts struggled at all levels. The

breadth of the program descriptions in the applications sent to the Foundation for support showed how integrated the arts are in the health and well-being of the community. The final grant awards covered arts in community service, arts in culture, arts in education and arts in healthcare.



2021 GRANTS

Artists' Exchange
AS220
Boys and Girls Clubs of Fall River
Boys and Girls Clubs of Providence
Bradley Hospital
Community Musicworks
Community Preparatory School
Everett Company Stage School
Genesis Center
Hope Alzheimer's Center
Hope Health Hospice & Palliative Care
JDP Theatre Company
Justice Assistance
Kingston Chamber Music
MS Dream Center RI
New Urban Arts
On Stage Theatrical Productions, Inc.
Providence Performing Arts Center
Rhode Island Free Clinic
RI Philharmonic Orchestra & Music School
Sojourner House
Special Olympics Rhode Island
Spectrum Theatre Ensemble
St. Andrew's School
The Autism Project
The Chorus of Westerly
The Collaborative
The College Crusade
The Gamm Theatre
The Learning Community
The Steel Yard
Trinity Repertory Company
Warwick Center for the Arts
Wheaton College
Year Up Program

2020 GRANTS

American Heart Association
Barrington Early Childhood
Boys & Girls Club of Fall River
Claiborne Pell Elementary School
Crossroads Rhode Island
Hope Health Hospice & Palliative Care
Junior Achievement of Southern MA
MS Dream Center of RI
Providence Performing Arts Center
Rhode Island Food Bank
Rhode Island Council for the Humanities
Rhode Island Free Clinic
Rhode Island Ovarian Cancer Alliance
RI Philharmonic Orchestra & Music School
Special Olympics of Rhode Island
St. Andrew's School
The Autism Project
The Lofa Association of Rhode Island
Trinity Repertory Company
URI Foundation
Wheaton College
Year Up Program

2019 GRANTS

Artists' Exchange
AS220
Blue Pride Ambassadors Club-
Attleboro High School
Boy Scouts of America – Cranston RI
Boys & Girls Club of Fall River
Bradley Hospital
Cambodian Society of RI
Community Musicworks
Community Preparatory School
Crossroads RI
DownCity Design
Everett Company Stage School
Hope High School-Life Skills
Hope Library
Junior Achievement of Southern MA
Kids Philippines, Inc.
Lafayette Band
MS Dream Center of RI
New Urban Arts
Nigerian Community of RI
On Stage Theatrical Productions, Inc.
Project Goal
Providence Performing Arts Center
R.I. Black Storytellers (RIBS)
Re-Focus Inc.
RI Philharmonic Orchestra & Music School
RI Co-Parenting Education Services
Special Olympics RI
St. Andrew's School
The Autism Project
The College Crusade
The Education Center for Arts and Science
The Providence Center
The Steel Yard
Trinity Repertory Company
URI Foundation
Wheaton College
YEAH Corps Fall River
Year Up Program



"Love Yourself!"
Paper Ornaments

2019-2021 GRANT AWARDS

BRADLEY HOSPITAL

From mural making and cardio drumming to hip-hop and improv, the healing arts engage, instruct, and inspire at-risk adolescents coping with serious and complex mental health conditions such as depression and anxiety. When Bradley Hospital opened its doors in 1931, it became the first psychiatric hospital in the nation exclusively for children and adolescents. Today, it remains the only hospital of its kind in the region, treating more than 5,000 patients annually. Their mission of delivering health with care provides a wide range of family-focused, high-quality mental health care to children and adolescents with significant psychiatric, behavioral, and/or developmental disorders. The White Family Foundation grant supports the community artists who work with Bradley's adolescent inpatients.

AS220

The White Family Foundation grant supports out-of-school arts education programming at AS220 Youth's Downtown Studio, which works with 200 youth per year, and provides paid career development opportunities year-round. The program centers youth leadership and provides arts education, workforce development, and mentorship. This work closely connects to the Foundation's funding interests in the arts, youth development, leadership, and community empowerment. AS220 is a non-profit community arts organization in downtown Providence and AS220 Youth works with 450 young artists per year at 3 service sites. The program centers youth leadership and the elevation of youth of color, arts and social justice education, mentorship and peer-to-peer learning.



COMMUNITY MUSICWORKS

Founded in 1997, Community MusicWorks is a "revolutionary organization" (New York Times) with a mission to create cohesive urban community through music education and performance that transforms the lives of children, families, and musicians in underserved neighborhoods of Providence. The free, intensive after-school Youth Music Program provides students aged 6- 18 with age-appropriate opportunities for music instruction, mentoring, and leadership development.

DOWNCITY DESIGN

The White Family Foundation supports DownCity Design's free after-school design program that engages 50 inner city youth ages 11-18 in the basics of architecture, engineering and construction by designing and building service projects to improve public spaces. DownCity Design was named Afterschool Program of the Year by the RI Afterschool Network.



EVERETT COMPANY STAGE SCHOOL

Everett is a multi-disciplinary performance arts incubator in Providence, RI. Encompassing a Company, Stage and School, its ensemble of artists create, perform, teach and mentor new generations of artists within a diverse community. This unique intertwining of a professional company, performing arts school, and theater creates a powerful learning experience for students. For 33 years, Everett artists have used improv, role playing, dance, storytelling, videography, and play to break through seemingly tough exteriors. The work our artists' mentoring youth helps them grow, emphasizes the importance of personal stories to facilitate healing, and develops emotionally intelligent, empathetic young people who are prepared to engage positively with the outside community.



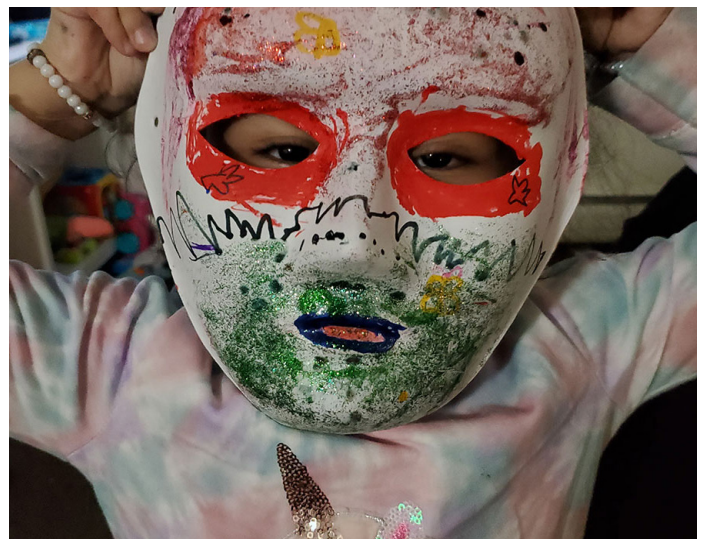
SOJOURNER HOUSE

Founded in 1976, the mission of Sojourner House is to promote healthy relationships by providing culturally sensitive support, advocacy, housing, and education for victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking; and to effect systems change. The Sojourner House offers RI's largest residential services program for victims, including 3 emergency shelters and over 100 apartment units. The White Family Foundation grant supported Alchemy, a program that engages youth, ages 12-18, who have experienced or witnessed abuse, in an expressive arts afterschool experience. The program is designed to be a safe space for the youth to express themselves using art. Activities are tailored to the interests of each group, but typically include mask making, collage, music and songwriting, poetry, dance and painting.



NEW URBAN ARTS

Founded in 1997, New Urban Arts' mission is to build a vital community that empowers young people as artists and leaders to develop a creative practice they can sustain throughout their lives. The program provides Providence youth with free after-school arts education, including mentoring, college advising, and academic support. In 2019- 20, the program enrolled 843 students, making them Providence's largest provider of free afterschool arts programs for public high school students. The White Family Foundation grant supports New Urban Arts free school year and summer arts mentoring programs that bring together diverse groups of local artists and Providence youth.



ON STAGE THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

For more than two decades, On Stage Theatrical Productions Inc.'s "Give Kids a Chance" program has provided lessons and stage performance opportunities in musical theater to underserved young people of Fall River. The program's mission of inspiring students through artistic creation and shared theatrical experiences has helped young people deal with the social isolation, anxiety, and uncertainty brought on by the pandemic. The White Family Foundation grant helped to expand the program's enrollment and provide new programming (such as summer camp, outdoor plays, and on-camera "movie" work). "Give Kids a Chance," led by a staff of experienced arts-based educators, offers students 6 to 18 years old a myriad of opportunities to dance, act, music and preparing theatrical productions which hones teamwork, discipline, and focus.



SPECTRUM THEATRE ENSEMBLE

Spectrum Theatre Ensemble was founded in 2017 with the mission to evolve the awareness, resources, and professionals that empower our neurodiverse community to achieve equal opportunity and full participation in society. STE is consciously composed of neurodivergent and neurotypical artists who produce high-quality theatre; engage and support neurodiverse artists and audiences in developing social skills, empathy, and self-determination and help generate successful and meaningful professional careers. The White Family Foundation awarded a grant to Spectrum Theatre Ensemble for their second Neurodiversity New Play Festival. Through the Neurodiversity New Play Festival, the theatre will work with upcoming playwrights from diverse backgrounds to create and share innovative theatre pieces that accurately portray neurodivergent stories and individuals.



THE COLLABORATIVE

The Art Academy is open to students in grades K-12 from all over Rhode Island, and nearby Massachusetts, though the main focus of the program is the East Bay community of Warren. The Academy offers free or low-cost programming in creative activities after school and during the summer. The nature of the program allows the potential for students from all different backgrounds and experiences to work together on high-quality arts learning with experienced teachers and professional artists. The White Family Foundation expressly supports this program as it hopes to strengthen the East Bay community's access to strong, free programming in the creative arts.



GENESIS CENTER

The White Family Foundation provided a grant to transform the Culinary Training Program to an operational café which provides paid, on the job training and entrepreneurial assistance. It serves as an education and training hub serving job seekers, employers and entrepreneurs in Culinary and Hospitality Industries and it operates out of the Providence Public Library.



THE ARTIST EXCHANGE

The Artist Exchange is located on Rolfe St. in Cranston. The Foundation has provided grants for over five years for its art programs for children and adults with disabilities. It is an organization which creates an atmosphere in which creativity, learning and discovery converge and are celebrated. The Exchange reaches more than 5000 children ages 5-16. The children's program allows children of all abilities to interact in a stress free atmosphere while learning a variety of artistic elements. The program takes down the barriers to learning for many individuals. More importantly, it is in the heart of TACO's neighborhood and its programs are open to the community.

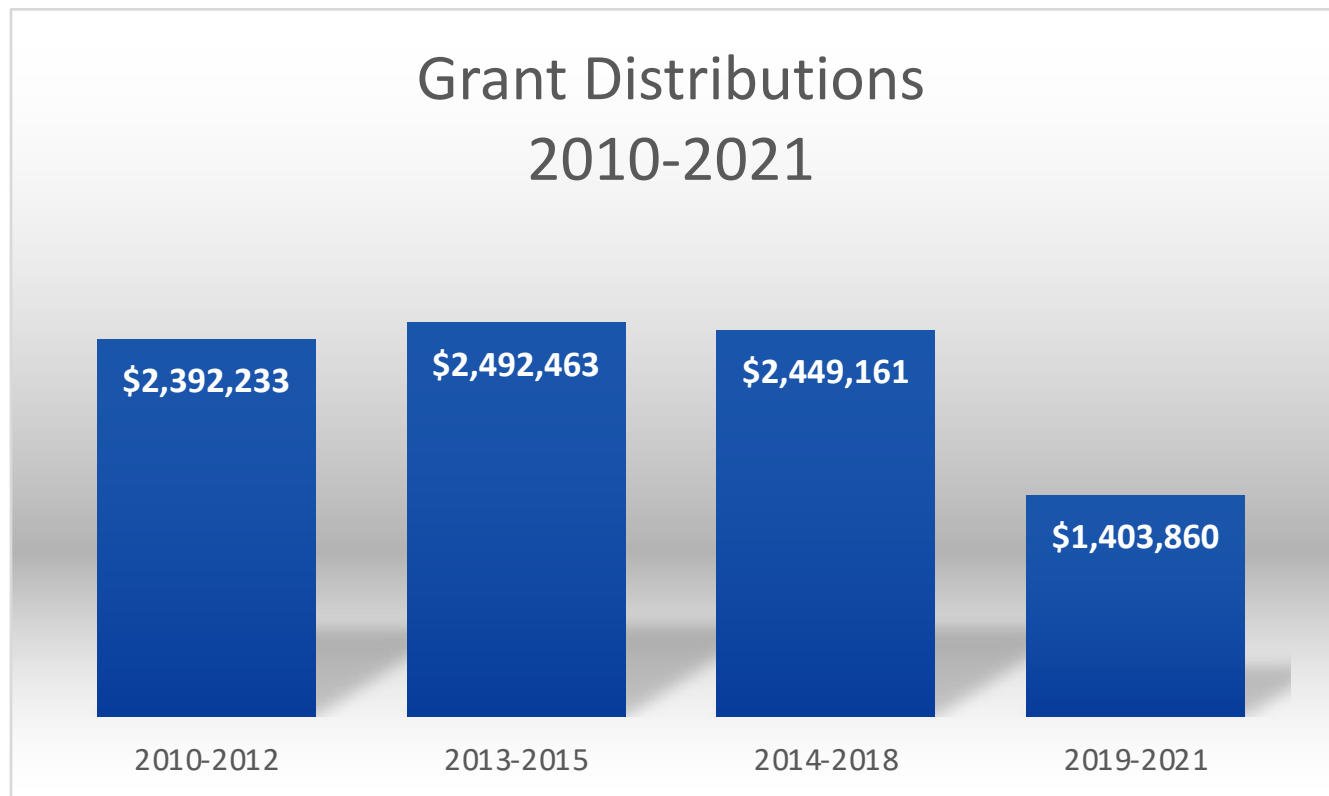
THE STEELYARD

The White Family Foundation provided a grant to support scholarship for the Youth Summer Camp which runs programs that offer solutions to issues around economic justice that participants and their families face. The program offers technical and creative skills in welding, blacksmithing, jewelry, ceramics and iron casting for 14-18 year olds. The organization provides workspace, tools, training and education while teaching craftsmanship. All youth have access to monitored open space, tools and equipment in industrial shop to practice new skills. This program provides an opportunity for teens to learn a skill and visualize themselves being able to shape their economic future. Use of the facility following a successful completion of the camp gives the youngsters a place to go and a focus for their attention. This is a well-run and thought out program serving a diverse population.



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

The White Family Foundation is proud to partner with so many amazing non-profit organizations. Below reflects the distribution of grant awards from 2010 through 2021. Over a twelve year period, the White Family Foundation has distributed \$8,737,717 to the non-profit community in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts.





OUR COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

The Employee Charitable Grant Program provides grants to non-profits designated by TACO employees directly. TACO encourages its employees to volunteer and get involved in local non-profit organizations by supporting those efforts with direct grants to those organizations. TACO employees lend their support to such varied organizations as: Boys & Girls Club of Fall River, Special Olympics, LOFA County Association, Junior Achievement of Southern Massachusetts, Barrington Early Childhood Center, Claiborne Pell Elementary School, MS Dream Center, The Autism Project, Year Up Rhode Island, The Rhode Island Ovarian Cancer Alliance, Nigerian Community of RI, Hope Library, Cambodian Society of Rhode Island and the Attleboro Music Program. The White Family Foundation is proud to partner

with its employees and support their involvement in their communities.

Periodically, the Foundation receives requests from organizations for in-kind help with replacing HVAC equipment or designing an HVAC system for new construction. TACO works with various non-profits to understand their equipment need and, if undergoing reconstruction, encourages them to seek advice from one of TACO's engineers before finalizing their construction plans. While these are not gifts from the Foundation, it is our work in the community that provides access to Taco's expertise and showcases the type of impact that the company and the Foundation can make together.

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Chief Executive Officer, Taco Comfort Solutions



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