OVERCOMING CHALLENGES TOGETHER

2020 Annual Report
Sometimes heroes don’t wear red capes or have the letter ‘S’ emblazoned on their chest. They don’t get all of the glory and the headlines, they just quietly show up and do the work every day. The work of caring for the ‘least of these’ is our primary mission. Our heroes are here 365 days a year just silently and steadily doing the unglamorous work of making sure that everyone gets the care and dignity that they need and deserve. During a pandemic, these jobs take on a new level of hero as they come at a much greater personal risk to the person and their family. But our heroes show up anyway.

Today my message is to one group of people – the ones who do the work. Thank you. Thank you for your dedication, your commitment and your personal sacrifices that you make every day to do this work. And right now, when the stakes are really high, you still do it. You alone give us that glimmer of hope that while today might be dark, tomorrow will indeed be better. We will rise again and be better than we were before. So, thank you for all that you do – today and every day.

“Artist and teen mom Jasmin and her rendition of “Rosie the Riveter” at Ascentria’s Ruth House

Angela Bovill, President and CEO, speaking for all of Ascentria
OVERCOMING CHALLENGES - TOGETHER

As we reflect back on this past year, it cannot be denied that it was extremely emotional in so many ways. We were, and still are, a nation coping with a pandemic, struggling with racial inequity, and dealing with political divisiveness. We’ve felt fear, despair and uncertainty. But we are also starting to see new possibilities. Possibilities in new conversations, new commitment to change, and not just “returning to normal” but building a new, more equitable, more compassionate, more sustainable future.

These challenges have also shed light on our resiliency. Front-line workers bravely continue to provide vital services; a world-wide effort of innovation resulted in vaccines; a dialogue about how to address systemic racism is bringing about real change and we see acts of human kindness and support all around us.

It is in times like these, that the work of organizations like Ascentria is more important than ever. Our work would not be possible if not for the generous support of donors like yourself. You make it possible that teen moms receive the mentoring and shelter they need. You ensure that new Americans have access to the support needed as they assimilate into their new home. You make certain that hundreds of elderly and disabled people receive daily care and companionship.

Alexis de Tocqueville famously observed that the strength of America was in citizens engaging with local and national issues. We were a nation of joiners and that joining together made us all stronger. Thank you for joining together with us in supporting our neighbors. Your support reminds us all of what is good in America.

Please know that you are a valued member of the Ascentria family and make a lasting impact on the lives of the individuals we serve each and every day. Thank you.

William Mayo    Angela Bovill
Board Chair    President and CEO
OVERCOMING CHALLENGES - TOGETHER

DONATED CARS
CHANGED LIVES

These are the faces of a family whose lives have just been changed forever. Thanks to a generous vehicle donor, they can now move forward with their lives, no longer held back by a lack of reliable transportation.

Samantha was awarded a 2009 Honda Civic on October 19. She said to her car’s donor, “I want to personally thank you for what you’ve done for my family. You have helped put my family on the right track towards a better future, new adventures and better education. We promise to pay it forward.”

Since 1996, Ascentria’s Good News Garage program has provided over 5,000 New England families with donated vehicles, empowering clients to move out of poverty and into financial independence and social stability. Our ability to award cars is limited only by the number of cars donated.

You helped 5,000+ families!

Families need your help! Please consider passing the keys for your old or seldom-used car to a family in need and help them work toward financial independence.

DONORS CELEBRATE LUTHER RIDGE STAFF

When the pandemic mandated a no visitor policy at our assisted living facility, Luther Ridge, our staff stepped up to become the only in-person support for our seniors. Our residents’ families were so appreciative that 58 of them donated a total of $2,634 to be used for staff activities to celebrate staff commitment and dedication to their loved ones. Thank you so much for acknowledging what we witness everyday – our employees are simply the best!

HOMEBOUND INDIVIDUALS
SAFELY RECEIVED

When we asked for help outfitting front-line staff with personal protective equipment (PPE), you answered our call! Your gift ensured that the elderly and disabled continue to receive vital daily care and companionship while we all continue to navigate the challenges presented by the pandemic.

You helped us protect: 400+ clients
300+ In-Home Care staff

Samantha and family able to move forward.

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ASYLUM SEEKERS ACCESSED LOW-COST LEGAL REPRESENTATION

In December 2019, the Immigration Legal Assistance Program expanded its low-cost legal services to include full representation in immigration court, appeals to the Board of Immigration Appeals, and US Citizenship and Immigration Services interviews (asylum, naturalization and permanent residency). The new scope of services includes asylum seekers and unaccompanied alien children in the Greater Worcester community who do not meet funder requirements to receive pro bono (free) services.

Many who fall into the gap between free and full cost representation, who are slightly over the federal poverty guidelines, otherwise would struggle to pay a private attorney. Our low-cost program offers services for 10-20 percent of the cost of a private attorney, putting representation within reach of many.

Representation can mean the difference between lawful status and deportation. In the case of asylum seekers who fled persecution, a removal to the country of origin may mean the difference between life and death.

With representation, they are 10X more likely to find freedom & safety in the United States

FOSTER CHILDREN MOVED TO INDEPENDENCE

Last year, you helped our clients in a unique way. Instead of making a monetary donation, donors helped three of our foster children prepare to move to their own apartments by purchasing household items.

Through Amazon Smile, you purchased 92 items valued at $1,783 for our clients! Everything from dish sets to towels to bed pillows. Additionally, your generosity raised $1,030 in funds.

Our supportive donors helped these young adults take the next step in their journey. Thank you and join us in wishing Alex, Olivia, and Vivienne the best of luck in their new homes!
YOU SUPPORTED
TEEN MOMS

Do you know what happens to our teen moms when they turn 22? Sadly, the state funding ends and they become ineligible to access our case management services. Consequently, Ascentria’s formal state-funded relationship with the client also comes to an end. Studies show that the return to homelessness rate for mothers and their children averages around 20 percent after their discharge from a residential service. You helped us find a way to give them the boost they need toward independence – transitional coaching.

After discharge, a transitional coach will continue to assist teen mothers for two more years to build necessary life skills and continue to mature in their ability to deal with their own life’s challenges.

In addition to the coaching support, financial assistance in the form of a tapering subsidy will be provided including cash support for rent, childcare, transportation, education and training.

We are very excited that our innovative transitional coaching pilot program will launch this year. This is a privately funded program that has become a reality because of the generosity of donors.

Your donations help reduce the 20% chance that teen moms will become homeless once again after leaving a residential service.

ASCENTRIA FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total Net Assets:
FY2020: $13.0 Million
FY2019: $13.9 Million

The audited financial statements of Ascentria Care Alliance represent the activity of the parent organization and its thirteen wholly owned subsidiaries.
YOU FOLLOWED YOUR HEART

During our 2020 year-end appeal we asked you to “follow your heart” and donate to the Ascentria program which best reflects your passion to help. And follow you did!

Thanks to your incredible support, we raised $362,000 during our end-of-year fundraising efforts!

You made it possible for New Englanders in need to receive vital support during the pandemic crisis and beyond. Here is some of your impact on New England communities:

- Reliable transportation for New England families
- Transitional coaching for teen parents
- New foster families to care for children at risk
- A van to transport seniors in our care
- Newly trained In-Home Care caregivers
- Laptops for refugees for remote learning and employment searches

DONORS ARE HEROES

You followed your heart and donated to the Ascentria program which best reflects your passion to help. And follow you did!

BENEFACTORS ($10,000+)

- Amelia Peabody Charitable Fund
- Berkshire Charitable Foundation
- Bank of America Charitable Foundation
- Berkeley Bank Foundation
- Angela and David Bolivian
- Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Bucek
- Charles W. Holtzer Trust
- Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation
- The Fish Foundation Family
- Fish and Shapiro Family Foundations
- Greater Worcester Community Foundation
- Hays Insurance Brokerage of NE
- Hoche-Schifield Foundation

CATALYSTS ($2,500 – $4,999)

- The Rev. and Mrs. Carl J. Anton
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
- Defit Group
- First Congregational Church of Milton
- Mr. and Mrs. Ralph F. Gerenz
- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
- George and Clarice Gordon
- Mr. and Mrs. John R. Gaylin
- Habiltzet Trust
- Mr. and Mrs. David R. Greisman
- and Mr. John E. Kenney
- Dr. Stacy Ludin and Ms. Jill Ludin
- Mr. and Mrs. Raymond P. Murray
- Mr. and Mrs. Kevin D. McCarthy

INNOVATORS ($1,000 – $2,499)

- Aetna Foundation, Inc.
- Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Balinskis
- Mr. Richard H. Barklow
- Mr. Thomas N. Berryman and Ms. Joan Ellersick
- Ms. Amy Bollenbach
- Ms. Evelyn Bonander
- The Rev. and Mrs. Joseph E. Bouret
- Ms. Marcia Butzel
- Mr. and Mrs. Vyrl D. Buus
- Mr. Greg Byrne
- Mr. James Chacharone
- Cheshire Lutheran Church
- Mrs. Ruth E. Colson
- Enterprise Holdings Foundation
- Estelle R. Dorrat Trust
- Mr. and Mrs. Steven L. Feye
- First Lutheran Church
- Mr. and Mrs. David P. Forsberg
- Mr. and Mrs. Steven J. Frank
- Ms. Susan Giroix
- The Rev. and Mrs. Ross S. Goodman
- Granite United Way
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Grove
- Mr. and Mrs. Paul Halstead
- Mr. and Mrs. James C. Hamilton
- Mr. Scott Hamilton
- Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare
- The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Albert L. Haversat
- Hellmann Trust
- Hodges Development Corporation
- The Holly & Eric Klose Fund
- Ms. Kiara Howard
- Intel Corporation
- J. Irving England and Jane L. England Charitable Trust
- Ms. Linda A. Johnson
- Mr. and Mrs. Timothy S. Johnstone
- Mr. John Kelbley
- Ms. Lephydi Larioprome
- Michelle and Peter Leare
- Ms. Amy Marchildon
- Mr. and Mrs. William Mayo
- Mr. Michael E. McPhee
- McPhee Electric Ltd

All our donors make a difference in the lives of those we serve. Go to ascentria.org/donors to see them all!

The above lists reflect donors for the period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. Ascentria Care Alliance has made all attempts to ensure the accuracy of the information stated above. If we have inadvertently made any mistakes, please accept our apologies and contact the Development Department with your corrections at development@ascentria.org.
THANK YOU!
YOU CHANGED LIVES

Join our digital family!
Sign up at ascentria.org/email
or scan this QR code with your mobile phone: