



Project Transformation Indiana

Summer 2020: Together While Apart



2019-2020 Annual Report

Letter from the Executive Director

Ah, Covid. Social distancing, face masks, stay-at-home orders, Zoom calls, and working from home. Who knew that this would be our new normal for the unforeseeable future? Definitely not me. Gearing up for my 5th summer with Project Transformation, I was preparing for every possible scenario that could happen during those summer months that never fail to be the busiest season of my year. Every scenario, that is, except the one that erased 9 months of preparation and called for an entirely new plan, just 2.5 months before we were expecting our first group of interns to arrive. I'm a big advocate for making a plan b (heck, I usually have a plan c and d, too). But what do you do when you have no plan at all and you don't even know where to begin? It was truly a wild concept. However, that was our reality this past summer. I know that you all have your own unique stories from this past year, as well. I've heard a lot of these stories from our parents, volunteers, and young adults over the past 6 months. Many have been plagued with fear, stress, loss, grief, and suffering this year. Widespread illness, death, unemployment, food insecurity, eviction, racism, violence, and isolation have made 2020 an unbelievably difficult and trying year for our country.

I find it to be particularly challenging to place my trust in God when the world (quite literally) seems to be crumbling around me. However, I am once again reminded of God's power to inspire and bring people together (even virtually) through the ministry of Project Transformation. When it seemed like there was no way we could possibly make an impact this summer, I saw a network of PT staff come together to create a beautiful virtual program for children, determined young adults form teams across the country to film curriculum videos and distribute food and books to children, money flow in from generous donors who believe in Project Transformation's power to connect and transform communities, hand-made face masks donated to be distributed to our children and parents, and dedicated volunteers reach out to see what they can do to help us. God is good.

It is with the deepest gratitude that I thank each and every one of you who supported Project Transformation this year in your own unique and special way. It takes a village, and we truly could not have done it without you. I don't know when life will be fully "back to normal" for us, but I can tell you that I have no doubt Project Transformation will continue be a place where relationships grow, leaders emerge, and communities change.

With sincere gratitude and hope,

Sarah Fuquay
Executive Director



Summer 2019
Pictured from left to right: Stephanie McKellar (Missional Wisdom Foundation), Julie Wilke (PT National), Sarah Fuquay (PT Indiana), Allison Galloway (PT Indiana), Casey Camacho (PT National).

Summer 2020: Together While Apart

Project Transformation's response to the global Coronavirus pandemic.

National Collaboration:

On March 20th, 2020, PT National hosted the first of several weekly network-wide Zoom calls with Project Transformation chapter leaders from across the country to co-create summer contingency plans. With such little time to plan, we unanimously agreed that we would be able to create a much better program and reach more people if we all worked together to create one virtual program that would be offered across the country. We utilized the strengths and gifts of each chapter to navigate this new territory and create plans for programming, church involvement, partnerships, volunteer opportunities, health and safety protocol & procedures, supply collection and distributions, and more. Protecting the health and safety of our children, young adults, volunteers, and church/community partners remained the top priority during the entire planning process. Project Transformation chapter staff across the country developed new methods to stay in communication with and support PT's children and families, churches, young adults, and other community stakeholders. Our national office remained committed to adapting our curriculum resources and other

means of support for the network of PT chapters, even if children and young adults could not gather in person. While Project Transformation's mission of transforming communities usually hinges upon in-person relationships that form among children, young adults, and churches, we quickly pivoted to leverage technology and think creatively in order to cultivate these relationships and build community in this new environment.



Guiding Principles:

To create a new plan for the 2020 summer, Project Transformation listened carefully to the needs of our communities, closely monitored the guidelines of federal and local governments, and worked diligently with our board of directors, PT National, and community partners to plan our response to the COVID-19 crisis. Our decision-making process for the 2020 Summer Program was guided by the following key principles:

1. We commit to meet the real needs in our community in the midst of this crisis, though they may be different than what we've encountered before.
2. We commit to stay true to PT's values, mission, and vision, even if we entertain new models and methods.
3. We commit to good stewardship of our human and financial resources, to maximize our assets in ways that benefit the whole and look to the future beyond this crisis.
4. We commit to the highest-quality programming possible for children, youth and young adults.

Program Design

In response to COVID-19, Project Transformation Indiana provided 8-week virtual summer programming (June 8 – July 31) for children and youth in collaboration with Project Transformation National, the network of Project Transformation chapters, and community partners. This re-envisioned program included: 1) distribution of supplies, food, books, and other fun and educational resources, and 2) engaging videos focused on social-emotional learning, reading, and camp-like enrichment activities. These videos were delivered by young adults who worked collaboratively across the Project Transformation national network.

Program Impact

This summer, we connected with our kids and families in two new ways in response to the COVID-19 pandemic: Distributing essential supplies and providing online videos for literacy and enrichment at home. A big thank you to all of our partners, donors, and volunteers who made this possible!

83 children

participated in our supply distributions at our two host churches.



2 young adults

engaged in purposeful ministry serving children and growing in leadership.

170 bags

distributed to children and filled with food, summer fun, and back to school supplies.



230+ people

watched the PT@Home videos in our region with literacy, social-emotional and enrichment activities



224 videos

created by young adults to engage children in at-home learning and fun



375+ books

given to children to encourage their love of reading at home this summer

Internship

This year's young adult experience was a 9-week internship comprised of 4 main elements: leading child/youth programming, participating in virtual Friday experiences, attending small groups for peer-to-peer community and support, and attending virtual worship weekly. For the summer months, our 2 young adult interns worked hard to gather, organize, and distribute supplies to children, and well as working on teams to plan, film, and edit programming videos to be offered to children through our virtual summer program. While we were sad that we couldn't offer the internship opportunity to an entire community of young adults, we feel so blessed to have had an opportunity to work alongside 2 of our most dedicated intern alumni, Madison Schueler and Clayton Wright.

Madison Schueler



Madison Schueler, from Chandler, Indiana, is an Elementary Education major at the University of Indianapolis. Her passion for reading and children's literacy originally drew her to Project Transformation's mission back in 2018, when Madison served as an intern at North United Methodist Church during Project Transformation Indiana's first summer. In 2019 and 2020, she returned to serve with PT to continue her work at North UMC by stepping up to the leadership position of Site Coordinator. Madison has stayed involved with North UMC since her first summer by attending Sunday worship services and even volunteering to teach children's Sunday School. Back at college, Madison stays very busy as a leader of many student organizations at the University of Indianapolis. As a senior this semester, Madison began student teaching and is excited to graduate and teach in a classroom next school year.

Clayton Wright

Clay Wright is a Senior at Indiana University majoring in Social Work. During Project Transformation Indiana's first summer, he served as the Site Coordinator at Cumberland United Methodist Church. Clay immediately became a famous name around Cumberland UMC because of his fun personality and his unique ability to connect with others and make them feel important. Clay was excited to return to Cumberland this summer because of the strong relationships he built with the congregation, particularly Mrs. Joni Johnson, who remains highly loved by PT interns for her infamous dinners. He shared his musical gifts with his fellow interns by participating in the worship team during Summer 2018, providing music each week for our intern community worship service. This semester, Clay is expanding his nonprofit experience with an internship at Spencer Pride, which is an organization that advocates for and serves the LGBTQ+ community, operates the Spencer Pride community center, coordinates the annual Spencer Pride Festival, & hosts the Iris Youth Group. .



Kids' Program

Project Transformation's children and youth summer program focused on 3 areas this summer. In order of importance, we focused on distributing food and supplies to children and families, feeling and play activities (Social-Emotional Learning), and reading (equity/resource gap). The 8-week summer program had 2 main components: bimonthly distribution of resources, and virtual video programming (daily Harambee and Reading Rockstars; weekly Young Artists, Young Explorers, Talk About God, and Healthy Habits).

Here's what our kids and parents had to say:

"Project transformation has a special way to give me what I need and like. My tablet was my favorite color and so was my book bag which is purple."
-5th grade participant

"This program is amazing! I sincerely appreciate everything this team did for these children during these chaotic times. They went above and beyond all of my expectations and I can't even express the level of gratitude I have for them. Thank you you all SO much for everything you've done for our community!"
-Parent of a first-time PT participant

"I loved learning all about the different things in each book I read, but I really missed being there in person. I know there's nothing that could be done with that. I really liked the books and the art projects though!"
-6th grade participant

"I enjoyed the craft supplies, the books that I got to keep, AND THE SNACKS!!!"
-2nd grade participant

"You went out of your way to make sure my children had their school backpacks. I can not tell you how much the packs and the food helped my family."
-Parent



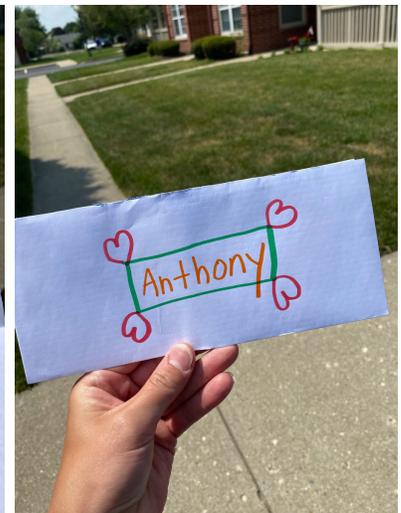
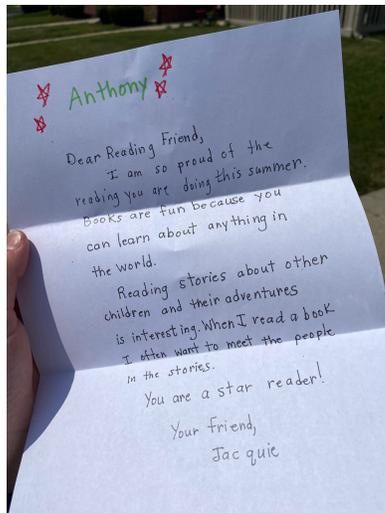
Tablets

This summer, we were able to serve our children in a completely new way by offering tablets to children in need, in order to combat a lack of consistent access to the internet. Nearly all of the children in our program reported that they had internet access. However, few reported being able to get online when they needed to for school or summer programming because they shared devices with other family members.

Thanks to a handful of very generous donors, we were able to distribute tablets to 35 children in need this summer!

Church & Community

This summer, we truly saw the church in action to serve its neighbors. Because we couldn't have any in-person interactive programming this year, our host congregations, North UMC and Cumberland UMC, were unable to build relationships with their communities like they typically would in the summer (reading with children, sharing dinner with parents at Family Fun Night, and greeting families in the morning). However, this did not stop our churches from showing their PT families God's love and support. We saw volunteers go above and beyond this summer by writing encouraging letters to each and every one of our children, filling up shopping carts with food and school supplies to be donated, setting up traffic cones for our delivery drive-throughs, helping pass out distribution bags, donating hand-made face masks for children and parents, and praying for each and every PT child.



2019-2020 Financial Report



Total Revenue (including in-kind gifts)

\$174,658.47

**71.2% of the total budget went directly to the program*

Total Expenses

\$129,095.20



Revenue Breakdown

Individual Donors: 67.6%
Foundations & Grants: 21.2%
United Methodist Conference &
Partner Church Support: 12.6%
Corporate Donations: 0.8%
Intern Fundraising Campaign: 0.01%

When we made the decision to restructure our program in March in response to Covid-19, we created a contingency budget plan and were able to reduce the total budget by 30%. We were also able to save additional funding that is being reserved to ensure our safety and sustainability as an organization throughout the pandemic.

A big thank you...

To all who have supported Project Transformation's ministry throughout this past year. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we were unable to partner with as many people and organizations as usual. We are especially grateful for those of you who were able to support Project Transformation's ministry with your time and treasure this year. If you feel there is an error in your reported giving, please contact Sarah Fuquay at fuquay@ptindiana.org

Friends of PT (up to \$99)

Adams, Anne and Brian
Bower, Deborah
Brady, Barbara
Brandt, Elizabeth
Buddenbaum, Beth
Chen, Susie
Clark, LaNisha
Cleary, Annette
Collier, Sue
Cox, Jaina
Craig, Tracy
Cushman Wood, Darren
Fitzgerald, Megan
Floyd, Joy and Melinda
Galloway, Paul
Gingrich, Sylvia
Hartman, Linda
Heydenburg, Leigh
Hostetler, Ellen
King, Barbara
Lanum, Amy and Chad
Lind, Amanda
Luna, Rachel
Odgen, Jillian
Poulsen, Karen
Powlen, Karen and Patrick
Price, Charlotte and James
Salsbery, Sydney
Sedgwick, Shannon
Shaw, Lydia
Shoemaker, Alice
Stokely, Nancy
Strong, Gail
Thach, Henry
Wallis, Marsha
Wright, Amber

Leaders of PT (\$100-\$249)

Arrieta, Lisa
Bailey, Matt
Black, Julie
Ford, Keristen
Galloway, Steve

Hernandez, Sally
Hopkins, John
Hosfeld, Mark
Leonard, Jack E
Lurie, Marcia
Mast, Max and Cynthia
Nicely, Wayne
Peek, Jeffrey and Debra
Pletcher, Cheryl
Reiman, Tim
Sell, Amy
Shea, Dawn
Svirsky, Carolyn
Young, Linda

Champions of PT (\$250-\$999)

Ahearn, Margaret
Arant, Scott and Linda
Bleeke, Jim and Jennifer
Boswell, Charles
Coyner, Marsha
Devaisher, Linae
Duffy, Joan and Jerome
Fuquay, Anna
Fuquay, Sarah
Galloway, Eric and Beth
Gattone Family
Hawkins, Sam and Sarah
Hoskins, Stephen and JoAnn
Huffer, Denise
Lyday, Jill
Moore, Mindie and Zachary
Reynolds, Marsha
Smith, Mike and Sue
Wever, Nancy
Wood, Barry and Margaret

Visionaries of PT

(\$1000 and over)

Burley, Patrick and Anne
Fuquay, Susan and Rob
Galloway, Charlotte
Kite, Bert and Deb
Kruh, Nancy and Sarah Wilke

Lawton, Nancy and Denny
Rector, Curtis and April
Reed, Mike and Jacquie
Wilke, Richard

Church & Community Partners

Benevity Community Impact
Fund
Cambria Health Foundation
Central Indiana Community
Foundation
Cumberland UMC
Downtown Optimist Foundation
Indiana United Methodist
Annual Conference
Lilly Endowment, Inc.
Meridian Street UMC
Metro Ministries, Inc.
North UMC
Project Transformation National
St. Luke's UMC

Board of Directors

Deb Kite
Jennifer Bleeke
Jill Lyday
LaNisha Clark
Marsha Reynolds
Mindie Moore
Tom Lange

Staff

Allison Galloway
Sarah Fuquay



Board members, staff, and a host church pastor on a visit to PT Tennessee in November, 2019 for board development and strategic planning