20 YEARS + THRIVING!

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



HELLO FRIENDS,

Rosemary Fagrelius and Pat Leseman will be the first to tell you that having children with disabilities was never part of their plan. But they will also quickly add that their sons John and Mike allowed them to meet the many wonderful members, families, caregivers, supporters, staff and volunteers who make Highland Friendship Club an incredible organization that has enriched our community.

"When we first started HFC, Rose and I promised you that HFC would never go away. Twenty years later, we are affirming our promise," Pat told about 200 people who gathered in person in May 2022 to celebrate HFC's twentieth anniversary.

It was fitting that HFC celebrated its anniversary on a sunny day where our circle of friends was able to gather in person for the first time since the pandemic had started two years earlier. It was our opportunity to come together, celebrate our mission, and share excitement for the years to come.

We reflected on the early days of HFC, which started with a Saturday morning walking club for teens and adults with disabilities. It then grew to include movie nights, game nights and more. Now, HFC offers more than 30 classes every week in music, fitness, art, book clubs, adventure days, and, still, walking clubs.

We also celebrated our current achievements, which included resuming inperson classes while also providing virtual classes to expand the number of teens and adults with disabilities we serve. We celebrated successful navigation of challenging times, during which we continued finding ways to keep our members active and engaged.

Thank you for believing in us then – and now. We're excited to see what the next 20 years bring.

With gratitude,

Patty Dunn

Executive Director

Circle of Friends

Thank you for being a part of our circle of friends. What started as a small walking club has grown into an organization made up of about 180 members, 15 board members, two full-time and 14 part-time staff members, and more than 30 classes each week. None of that could happen without the hundreds of donors, volunteers and supporters along the way.

Highlights of Support in 2022:

HFC received grant funding from

- Allina Health Foundation
- Kind World Foundation
- The Lanners Family Foundation
- Minnesota State Arts Board
- The Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
- TruStone Foundation



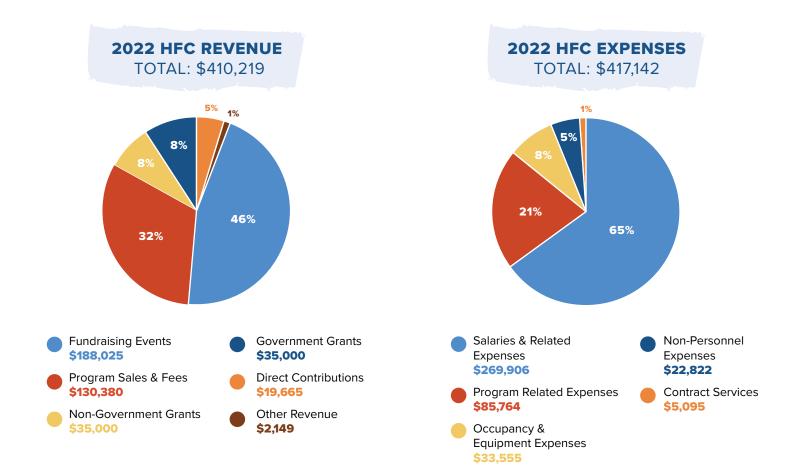
Lunds & Byerlys Highland Bridge continued to sell HFC membermade greeting cards in their store and support HFC throughout the year in many ways.



Our **Lanes for Friendship** bowling event reached its highest fundraising level in its 16-year history, welcoming HFC supporter Joe Mauer, about 150 sponsors and donors, community partners, staff members, volunteers and HFC members for a day of fun.

Friends for Good was a new event this year.

Financials









HOW YOU CAN Help



www.highlandfriendshipclub.org/get-involved/membership



www.highlandfriendshipclub.org/get-involved/volunteer



Online at www.givemn.org/organization/Highland-Friendship-Club or by mail: HFC PO Box 16437 St. Paul, MN 55116

Share our story through social media. Find us here:



twitter.com/HFCupdates



instagram.com/highlandfriendshipclub



facebook.com/HighlandFriendshipClub

in

linkedin.com/company/6597667

Become a corporate partner:

Reach out to Patty Dunn at pattyd@highlandfriendshipclub.org or 651-239-8906









Mission

To serve teens and adults with disabilities by providing programs that foster friendships, strengthen self-advocacy and explore lifelong learning.

Vision

Through their experiences at HFC members acquire skills that promote and enhance their unique abilities to enjoy a high quality of life. HFC offers programs that are developed and updated in response to the hopes and dreams of its members. HFC's core beliefs include the importance of inclusion, integration and a sense of belonging in all activities of the communities in which we live.

Values

- \cdot We value all people regardless of disability.
- We value programs and services that remove barriers to achieving choice, independence and inclusion.
- We value self-advocacy, connections and friendship in an emotionally safe environment.
- We value lifelong learning whereby people recognize and cultivate their own personal strengths.
- We value families, caregivers, partners, collaborators and volunteers who support our members in achieving a high quality of life.
- \cdot We value our grantors and donors whose financial resources sustain our work.



Thank you for believing in us then – and now.



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