



2020 Annual Report

Mission, Values, Governance, and Staff

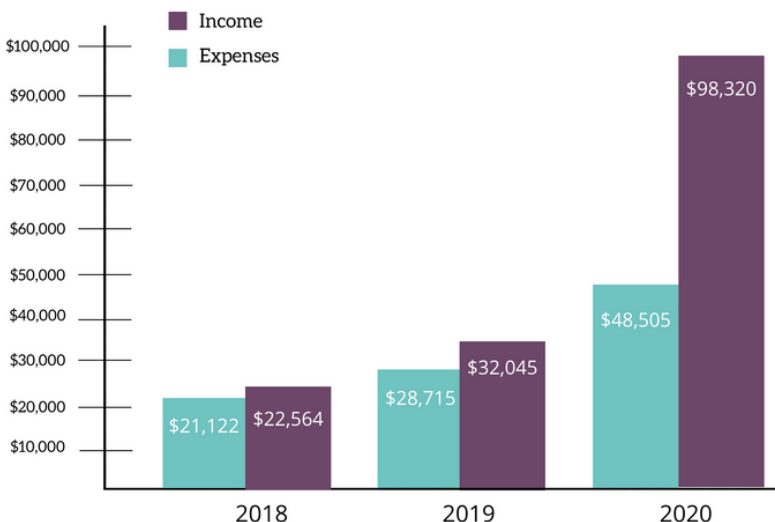
MISSION: The Center for Chronic Illness (CCI) promotes well-being and decreases isolation for those impacted by ongoing health challenges through support and education. CCI offers free, in-person and virtual support groups facilitated by licensed mental health professionals. *During the COVID-19 pandemic, all support groups were held virtually.

VALUES: Compassion, Respect, Empowerment, Inclusion, Community

GOVERNANCE: CCI had eight board members during the 2020 year, including: Adam Halpern, MSW, LICSW, Karan Dawson, RPh, MS, PhD, Ansley Hack, MSW, Alison Ryan, MSN, RN, FNP-C, Shane Larson, CFP, Deepa Yerram, MD, Caroline Kasman, and Nichole Leibov.

STAFF: Allison Fine, MSW, LICSW served as the executive director. Carrie Pope, Bartja Wachtel, Angela Farrar-Small, MSW, LICSW, M.Div., Alicia Sloan, MPH, MSW, LICSW, Natalie Hopkins, MSW, LICSW, and Kerry Heckman, MSW, LICSW were the contracted support group facilitators.

2020 Financial Report and Growth



This year presented innumerable challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic transformed our daily lives in previously unimaginable ways. We are grateful to report that we made it through the 2020 portion of the pandemic intact with unprecedented growth.

In 2020, the Center for Chronic Illness brought in \$98,320 with \$48,505 in expenses. On December 31, 2020, CCI received a \$35,275 corporate donation earmarked for new 2021 rare disease programs. In 2020, CCI also received a \$5,000 grant from the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, a \$6,320 grant from the Paul Glaser Foundation, and a \$1,000 grant from the Awesome Disability Foundation.

Our organization continues to be supported by the community as well as grants, corporate donations, and sponsors. In November 2020, we hosted our first virtual wine and chocolate tasting fundraiser, raising over \$8,000.



2020 Support Group Programs

2020 Virtual Support Groups

Free, professionally-facilitated support groups for those impacted by ongoing health challenges

Living with Chronic Illness
4th Wednesday, 6:30-7:30pm (WA state only)
4th Monday, 7-8pm PST (national)



Living Mindfully with Chronic Illness
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 6-7pm PST (national)

Rare Chronic Illness
1st Tuesday, 4-5pm PST (national)
2nd Friday, 1:30-2:30pm (WA state only)

Parenting Chronic Illness
2nd Monday of each month, 4-5pm PST (national)

Living with Cystinosis
3rd Tuesday, 4-5pm PST (national)

Visit www.supportgroupscentral.com/CCI to sign up for our web-based support groups. For more information, visit www.thecenterforchronicillness.org or contact us with questions at (425) 296-2705 or info@thecenterforchronicillness.org.

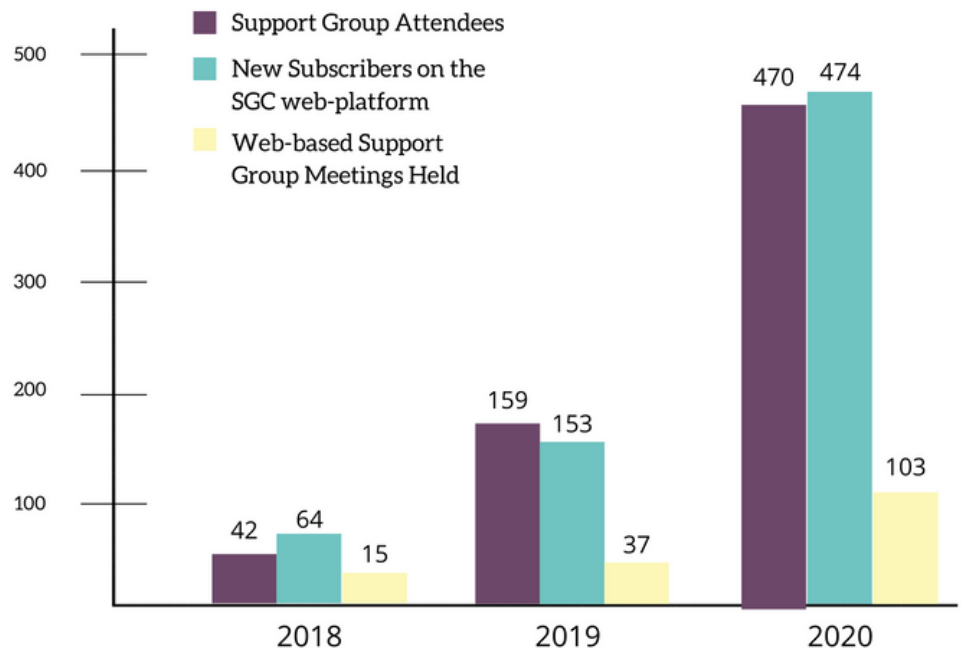



Isolation is a familiar concept for those impacted by chronic illness. Unfortunately, many in our community were at higher risk for complications from COVID-19 and had to stay even more isolated in order to stay safe. We watched our number of program attendees grow exponentially as those in the chronic illness community looked for ways to connect virtually. In 2020, attendees joined our support groups from over 40 states as well as from Canada and the United Kingdom.

At the start of 2020, CCI was offering six in-person and six web-based support groups. In March 2020, things quickly transitioned when the COVID-19 pandemic began, and we shifted all of our programs online. Because we already offered virtual programs on the Support Groups Central web-based platform, this made our virtual transition fairly seamless. We combined our community and Seattle Children's Hospital parenting support groups and created one group online for parents living anywhere to attend. Our two community Living Mindfully groups became a twice monthly national Living Mindfully virtual group.

With the financial uncertainties wrought by the pandemic, we decided not to begin any new programs during the 2020 year.

Support Group Attendance, Web-platform Subscribers, and Meeting Statistics





Center for Chronic Illness

Thank You to Our 2020 Supporters!

Shelley Ackerman
Randy Adamson
Jamil Akram
Jennifer Alford
Nicole Bahr
Darren and Amy Baker
Simon Balfre
LaShunta Banks
Hillary Beierle
Sarah Benner
Jeannie Berwick
Carole and Thomas Brennan
Sheletha Brumfield
Meresa Buhler
Karen Cartwright
Susan Casey
Cathe Clapp
Marissa Costales
Marilyn Dahl
Elizabeth Dawson
Karan and Jim
Elena Degel
Mari (Doudna) Lewis
Debra Drayton
Mae Esteban
Sara and Robert Fine
Mark Follmer
Dwaine Fombuh
Valerie Frye
Dylan and Alexis Fuge
Russell Gammon
Mark George

Jay and Ansley Hack
Richard and Rosanne Hack
Jennifer Haddon
Carrie Hall
Adam Halpern and Melissa Burgess
Ari Halpern
Beth and Elie Halpern
Mina Halpern
Uzma Hamid
Kathleen Hamilton
Melissa Hammerle
John Hebert
Kerry Heckman
Nichole Herschler
Katie Hester
Bernice Imei Hsu
Marianne Ivey
Laura Johnson
Jeremy Jake Johnston
Glenn Kasman
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Matt Leibsohn
Michael Lemon
Michael Leccisi
Michelle Massey
Patrick Meehan
Andrea Menin
Greg Miller
Andrea Neal
Christi and Joel Nichols
Arlys and George Osborne
Rebecca Palma

Heather Parry
Lois and Ron Ralph
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Ben and Aisha Reuler
Merrill and Francie Ringold
Peggy Rothman
Alison Ryan
Janice and Michael Ryan
Kenneth Ryan and Nabila
Rahman
David Schor
Kristan Seibel
Jane Sepede
Mark Sisley
Susan and Steve Sheppard
Mahmoud Sourakli
Danielle Starkey
Kelsey Stefanik-Guizlo
Barbara Stuart
Mark Terrano
Laura Troyani and Norris Kamo
Rachel Vala
Tashonta Vaughn
Latasha Vicks
Kaila Wiebe
Kristina Wiebe
Kathy Wilmering
Scott Wilson
Shira Wilson
Alan Wittenberg
Deepa Yerram
Gitte Zweig

Many thanks also to our anonymous donors, monthly donors,
corporate sponsors, grant funders, and community partners!



November 14, 2020 Center for Chronic Illness Virtual Wine and Chocolate Tasting Fundraiser

Top 5 of 2020

1. Successfully combined and transitioned six in-person support groups to virtual meetings
2. Received our largest grant in the history of the organization from the Paul Glaser Foundation \$6,320 and our largest number of grants in one year - three!
3. Increased income from donations, more than doubling funding from 2019
4. Hosted our first virtual fundraiser and largest fundraising event to date and shared some delicious, local wine and chocolate with our community
5. Stayed home and safe, wore our masks, met virtually, and helped to protect our vulnerable community from COVID-19



Center for
Chronic Illness