

2020-2021

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Letter from BOARD PRESIDENT Steve Cole

The last couple of years have been very challenging for Jasper Mountain, with issues like COVID, fires, key staff leaving and leadership change to mention just a few. I want to say that the mission of the organization has not and will not change. We have support and advice from our former Executive Director, Dave Ziegler, and a committed Board of Directors to plan for our future. Our Executive Director, Beau Garner, has brought on new staff in key positions to match our future challenges and be successful in our mission.

On behalf of the Jasper Mountain Board of Directors, a group I am proud to represent, we want to thank everyone for your hard work and efforts to continue the excellent work that this organization has been known for throughout its history. We will continue to be the light of hope for children.

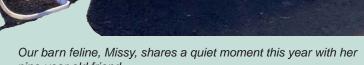
Be Safe and Be Well,



In September of 2020, the Holiday Farm Fire spread across the McKenzie River Valley, burning 173,000 acres, destroying about 400 homes and almost completely destroying the town of Blue River. As the fire moved west, the SAFE Center campus was under threat and the decision to evacuate the children and place them at the Jasper Mountain campus was made. This was the first time in the history of the agency that a campus was evacuated. The SAFE Center children remained at the Jasper Mountain campus for a week before being able to return safely back to the SAFE Center. This provided the unique opportunity to pull together, demonstrating for the children the importance of resilience and relying on adults to provide safety.

Unprecedented Year

Throughout this past year Jasper Mountain experienced many large changes, some of which were anticipated and many others that were not. The changing of Executive Directors was something that had been planned for many years, as well as the completion of Crystal Creek. However, the ongoing impact of CO-VID, wildfires throughout the Western United States, and a massive exit from the workforce by employees throughout the country were unanticipated issues that greatly impacted the agency. While it is meaningful to reflect on the hardships that were experienced at Jasper Mountain this past year, it is even more important to remember and celebrate the children and families



nine-vear-old friend.

that had their lives so positively changed. The hard work, dedication, and commitment the employees of Jasper Mountain have continued to show throughout this year was remarkable and reflects the unwavering mission of the agency.

CRYSTAL CREEK

After five years of planning and preparation, Crystal Creek welcomed its first residents in December 2020. Crystal Creek was designed as a final step in treatment for children as a bridge between residential treatment and living in a family setting. The pool of children to draw upon for placement at Crystal Creek was designed to be small and limited to the Christmas morning awaits the children at Crystal Creek. residents to our current residential programs at the Castle and SAFE Center. Over the initial four-month period the number of residents in the building grew to nine. Unfortunately, Jasper Mountain, along with the rest of the child caring agencies in Oregon, began to experience a staffing shortage which triggered the need to reduce census. Staffing concerns led the agency to suspend new placements into Crystal Creek.

For the period of time we were able to utilize the new building, it was exciting to see children and staff take advantage of the beautiful new space. The facility continues to be utilized for administration and the modern kitchen is used daily to prepare meals for program children and staff. As the world emerges from the impacts of COVID, Jasper Mountain is excited to have this new building to help us serve more children and families into the future.



After the wildfires made such an impact on the agency, the local Lowell Fire Department visited campus, spoke to the children about fire safety and showed them equipment up close. This opportunity to interact with the firefighters was an impactful learning experience for the children, assuaging some fears and inspiring some future firefighters.

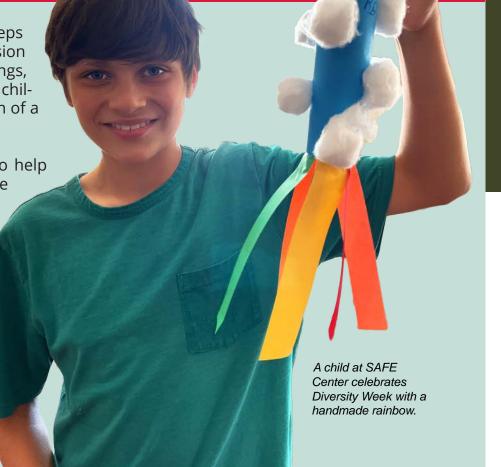


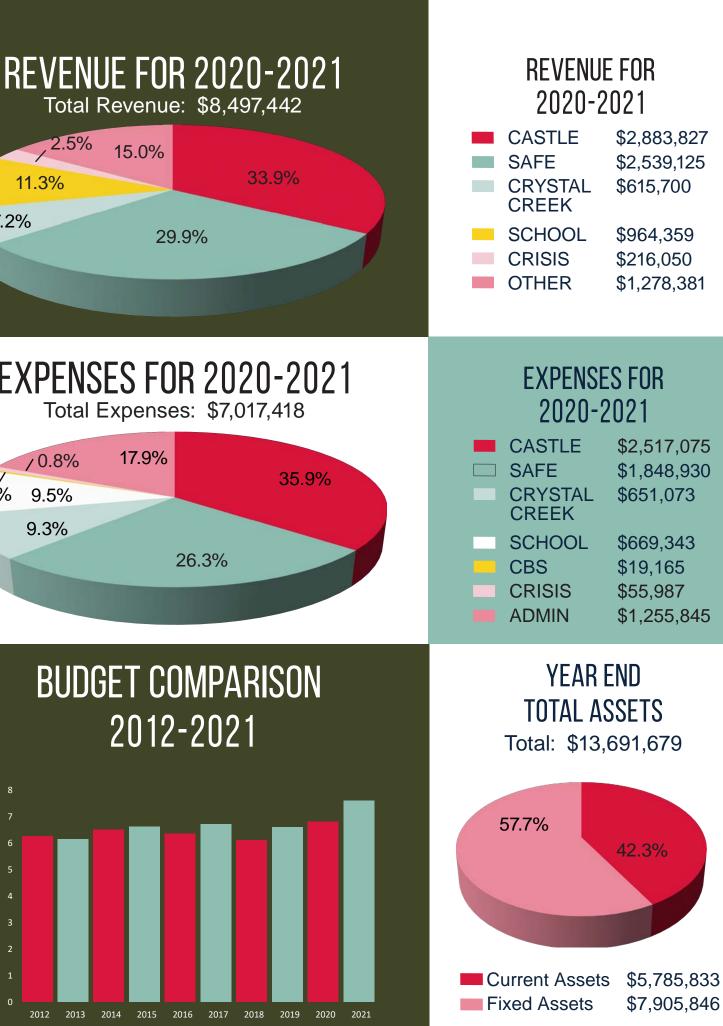
Diversity Committee

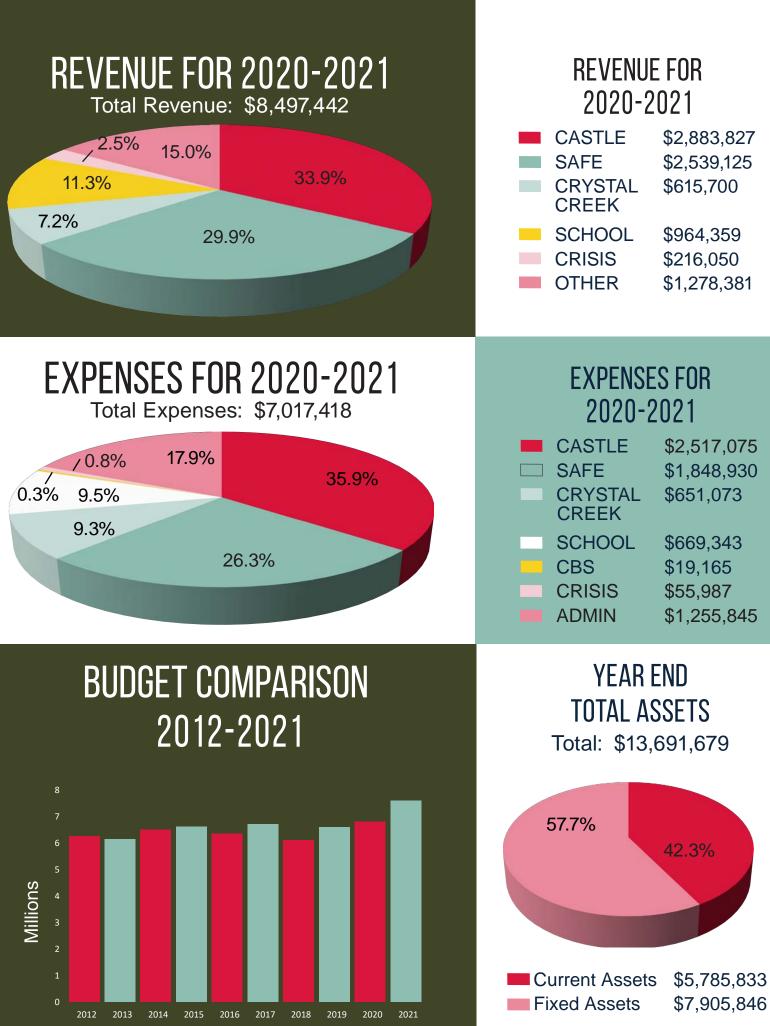
As an agency, we have taken direct steps to focus on diversity, equity and inclusion this past year. This has included trainings, discussions, activities and resources for children and families, as well as the creation of a Diversity Committee.

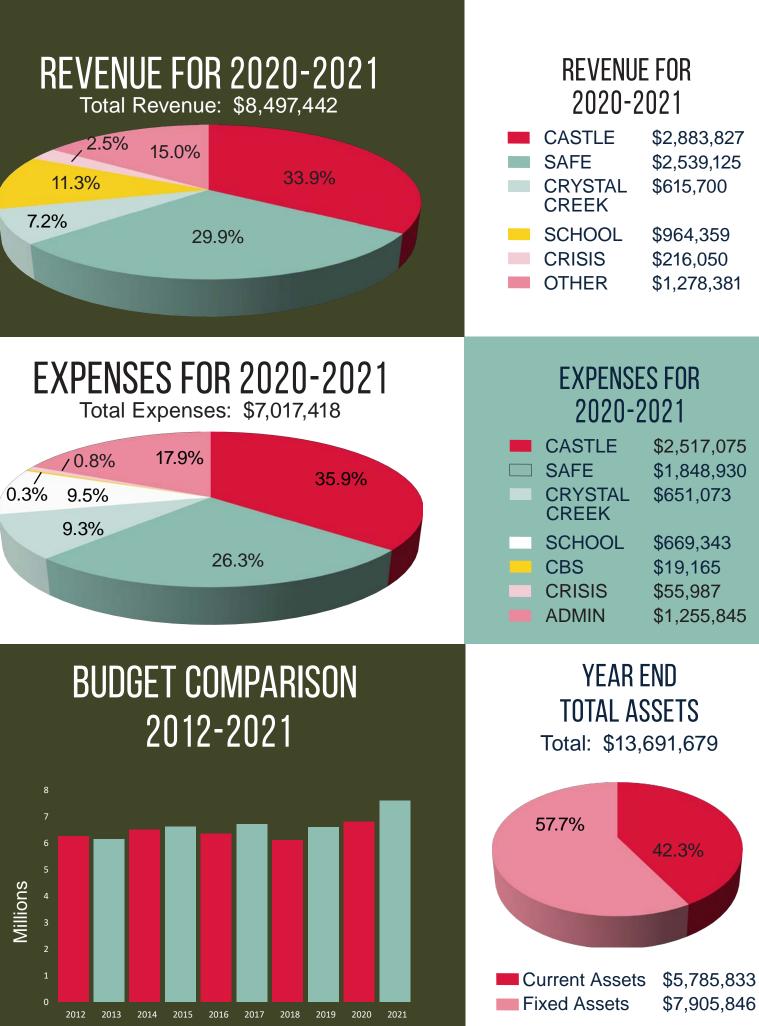
The Diversity Committee was formed to help both children and employees celebrate and recognize various cultures. Much of the committee's coordination has been spearheaded by Lauren Roth-Updike (Therapist and Intake Coordinator at SAFE Center). The committee has sponsored Diversity Weeks in which different cultures were examined and books and artwork pertinent to the culture of study were gathered.

Additionally, several agency wide trainings related to diversity were provided this year.









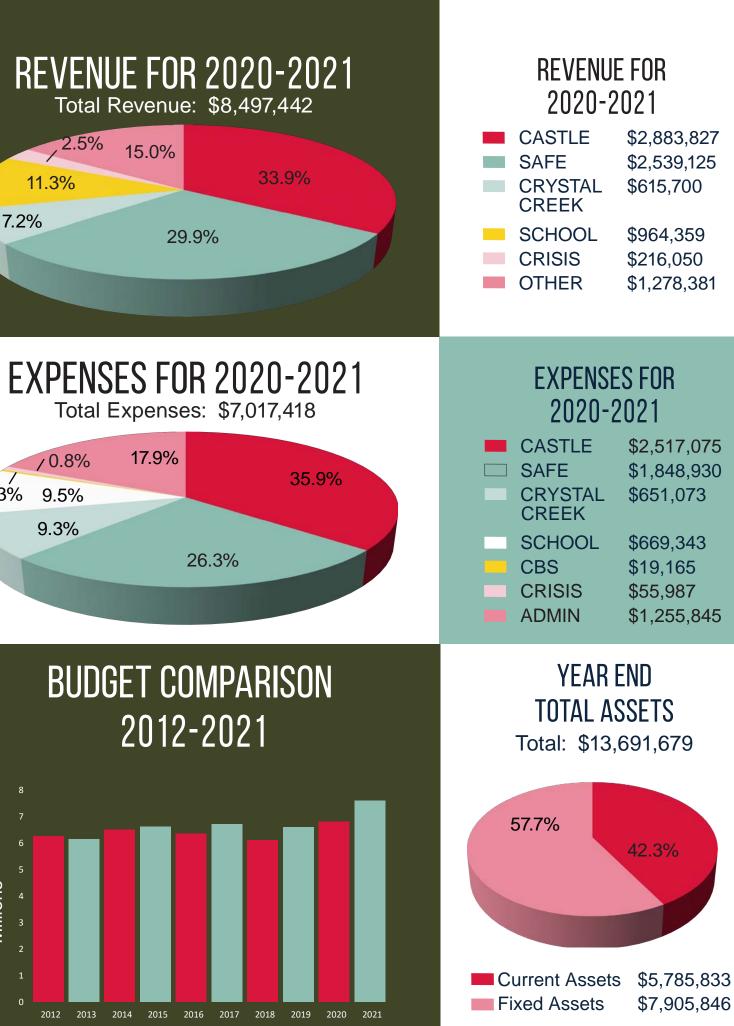
BOARD Profiles

Although the past year was full of many difficult situations, the Board of Directors at Jasper Mountain served as a stabile guiding force for the agency. Board members made the leap to the virtual world, with meetings throughout the past year held online to allow for social distancing. Even with the COVID protocols in place there were ample opportunities for members to be involved with various committees and program reviews.

This year the board elected a new president, Steve Cole. Although Steve was elected to be the

new president, he is not new to the role, as he previously served as the board president from 1999 - 2002. Steve brings 27 years of experience on the board and an unwavering commitment to serve children and families as he transitions back into the role of president.

Throughout this past year, the entire board has helped support and guide the agency. The board is made up of Parke Blundon, Gary Buss, Steve Cole, Chuck Davis, Dawn Green, Alex Hager, Diana Hawkins, Gene Heinle, Jeff Huston, Barb Lucas, Rob Morris, and Frank Papagni. The leadership and experience of the board of directors is one of the key components to Jasper Mountain's ongoing success.



Summer & Fun

At the end of the school year, the children at the Jasper Mountain campus participated in a carnival party to kickoff summer vacation. Students, teachers and staff enjoyed the festivities which included a dunk tank, carnival games, pie-inyour-teacher's-face, photo booth, cotton candy, snow cones, face painting and more!

On July 4th, the children enjoyed a day at Dexter Lake to

celebrate America's birthday. The festivities included paddleboarding, swimming, football, frisbee, floating and firecracker popsicles! The hot weather and beautiful scenery were enjoyed by the children and staff alike.

These are just a few of the ways staff demonstrated their outside-the-box creative thinking to find ways to engage the children in fun during a time of a global pandemic.









Both campuses received upgrades to the ponds and gardens this past year. For SAFE Center this included building cedar planting boxes, upgrading the irrigation system and finishing with a beautiful fence to ensure the deer and elk don't eat all of the produce. At the Jasper campus, Eagle Scouts updated the garden's outdoor planters, reinforced several retaining walls and built steps, making the area more usable for the children and staff.





Also at the Jasper campus, Beau Garner (Executive Director), Chuck Davis (Board Member), and Dave Ziegler (Psychologist Consultant) spent a day cleaning out the memorial pond. The work prepared the space for a new pump and waterfall upgrade the resident goldfish, snakes, bees, frogs, salamanders and other critters were happy to receive!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Cole, President Forrest Paint Company, Retired

Jeff Huston, Vice-President Thrive Behavioral Health

Dawn Green, Secretary Oregon Judicial Department

Gary Buss, Treasurer Weyerhaeuser Company, Retired

Parke Blundon Merrill Lynch

Charles S. Davis Springfield Utility Board, Retired Alex Hager Thrive Behavioral Health

Diana Hawkins Center for Family Develpment

Gene Heinle Springfield School Dist., Retired

Barbara Lucas McKenzie Broadcasting, Retired

Rob Morris Fred Meyer, Retired

Frank Papagni US District Attorney, Retired

LOCATIONS

Jasper Mountain 37875 Jasper-Lowell Road Jasper, OR 97438 Ph: 541.747.1235 Fax: 541.747.4722 beaug@jaspermountain.org

SAFE Center 89124 Marcola Road Springfield, OR 97478 Ph: 541.741.7402 Fax: 541.726.9869 taryner@jaspermountain.org

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Beau Garner, M.Ed., L.M.F.T. Executive Director

Kiva Michels, L.C.S.W. Clinical Director Ada Chester, M.B.A. Controller

Taryne Roberts, M.Ed. SAFE Director Sarah Huff, M.S. JMC Residential Director

Naomi Noel, B.S, HRM Human Resources Manager

Nicole Roberts, M.A. Compliance & Operations



Above: SAFE Center staff take a break from Hundred Acre Wood to pose for a Halloween photo. Right: Teachers, Kelsee Graves and Amanda Goldbrand celebrate Dr. Seuss day in style!







