



# THE H ME

BETTER, BRIGHTER FUTURES FOR KIDS



“Because of you, we have done more good for more kids.”

LESLI SUGGS, LICSW

## DEAR FRIENDS,

*Thank you.* I hope you feel the weight of these two words and the depth of our gratitude. When I reflect on all that transpired in Fiscal Year 2020, foremost in my mind is the collective strength of our community, the generosity of donors like you and the conviction of the 1000+ staff members here at The Home for Little Wanderers.

It was a different world when we last issued an annual report. Since that outreach, the pandemic dealt its punishing blow, upsetting life as we know it and causing heartache and uncertainty. Because many of the children and families we serve are just one setback away from devastating hardship, the worldwide health crisis became a personal one. Our agency quickly mobilized, recognizing that our work to help vulnerable children and families is even more critical when days are bleakest.

In just one week, at the request of the Baker Administration, we opened a COVID unit to care for children in state care who tested positive or were exposed to COVID-19 and needed a place to quarantine. We sent out PPE to our 25+ programs, equipped and modified our facilities to the required safety standards, and kept our residential schools open and sanitized. Our clinicians pivoted to telehealth so as not to interrupt the therapeutic and support sessions needed by our kids and caregivers. We distributed groceries to those facing hunger and dropped off creative art kits and resources on the doorsteps of clients. We were able to do all of this and more because of your support.

While we tended to urgent day-to-day matters, we also looked ahead. Our resolve to preserve the precious

services that exist in the Northeast for children and families is unwavering, no matter the circumstances. In April 2020, The Home successfully merged with Wediko Children's Services, a like-minded child welfare organization with a rich and respected history that began in 1934. The partnership complemented The Home's existing programs and practices, brought the expertise of 300 more professionals into our organization and expanded our reach to include New Hampshire and New York. Working as one, our entities now have greater impact in the communities we serve, and include expanded community- and school-based programs, as well as an additional residential school and treatment center and therapeutic summer camp in New Hampshire for at-risk youth.

We look forward to our new shared legacy and to leveraging all we have learned throughout this fiscal year. Funding from state-issued contracts only goes so far, so thank you for your commitment to child welfare. Because of you, we successfully met the challenges of an extremely demanding period and are continuing to do more good for more kids.

With appreciation,

**Lesli Suggs, LICSW**  
President & CEO



Jonathan Slutzman and Amy Weiss with their sons

**“It feels good to give.”**

THE WEISS-SLUTZMAN BOYS

## A FAMILY AFFAIR: GIVING FROM A YOUNG AGE

For the Weiss-Slutzman family, giving is a mindset. Every year at the dinner table, the young family considers organizations they'd like to support. The family's two boys, who are 11 and 9 years old, can't remember a time when they didn't have this discussion.

The family talks about the missions of various nonprofits, explains Jonathan Slutzman, “and then everybody gets a say in what's important to them.” At the very first meeting, one son mentioned that they should help children. According to Amy Weiss, addressing homelessness was also considered. As a result, the family decided to support The Home, which has both goals at heart.

The Weiss-Slutzmans' annual conversations illustrate that philanthropy is not only an important part of their family's life, but also an expectation. “We are fortunate,” says Jonathan matter-of-factly. “It should be expected that we share our good fortune with others who are less so.” In other words, giving should be a given. Not to mention a skill that can be taught.

### **MAKING KINDNESS A WAY OF LIFE**

From a practical, parental standpoint, Jonathan and Amy are raising their sons to have everything they need to live their

lives fully. “We should make sure they learn all the skills they need, including how to give back,” shares Jonathan.

The tradition of a family discussion brings the idea of philanthropy from concept to reality. “When we talk to our boys about it,” says Amy, “it gives them some ownership as to whom we're helping.” It also brings perspective.

The youngest son recently had a birthday, and the family celebrated with cake and hot chocolate. The boys understand that not every 9-year-old has a birthday celebration or a family to make the day special. When talk turns to the way COVID has affected children supported by The Home, the brothers recognize that life might be lonely.

“COVID's annoying!” exclaims the oldest. “You don't talk to people much outside your home, so if you didn't have a home, who would you talk to?”

Knowing that The Home's mission is to build lasting connections for children in need—someone a child can talk to—provides some comfort. Knowing that their family is helping to make that happen? That feels even better.

## STRONGER TOGETHER

### WELCOMING WEDIKO TO THE HOME FAMILY

In April 2020, The Home merged with Wediko Children's Services, expanding both the scope of our services and our Northeast footprint. Wediko and The Home share a mutual commitment to child welfare and to strengthening vulnerable youth and families.

Established in 1934, Wediko works with children who have faced repeated obstacles in their lives due to a broad spectrum of social, emotional, behavioral and learning challenges. The kids are served through expansive mental health and educational programming in Boston, New Hampshire and New York.

With our two organizations operating as one, we have the benefit of shared expertise and expanded services to help more kids lead happier, healthier lives. Here are some of the Wediko programs we now offer....

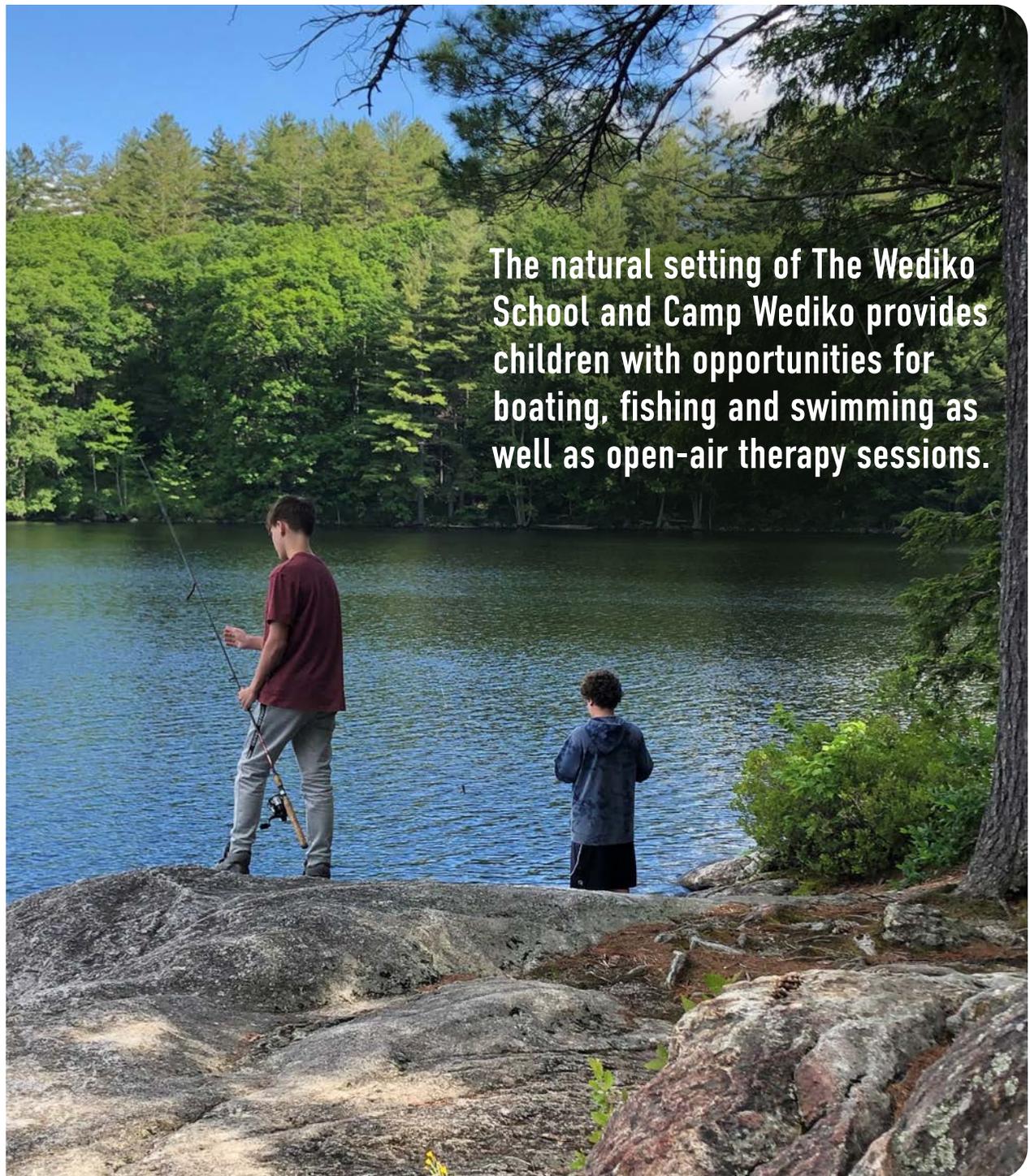


### THE WEDIKO SCHOOL:

#### Building on Each Student's Unique Strengths

Situated on 450 lakefront acres in New Hampshire, The Wediko School is a residential treatment program offering therapeutic and educational services for middle- and high-school-aged boys experiencing significant social, emotional, behavioral and academic challenges. The School's strength-based approach champions student accomplishments, instills a sense of belonging, and builds self-esteem and trusting relationships for successful therapeutic interventions. Students come to The Wediko School from all over the country and spend about a year and a half at the school before transitioning to less intensive environments.

CONTINUED



The natural setting of The Wediko School and Camp Wediko provides children with opportunities for boating, fishing and swimming as well as open-air therapy sessions.



**CAMP WEDIKO:**  
**Where Fresh Air is a Therapeutic Tool**

The Camp Wediko Summer Program is a 45-day residential treatment program that serves boys and girls aged 8–19 who are facing social, emotional and behavioral challenges. Located on the campus of The Wediko School, the Camp offers a therapeutic, fresh-air experience with an emphasis on fun! This positive, seasonal program provides social-emotional support and growth through activities that include swimming, fishing, mountain biking, art and theater. Campers make discoveries, develop strengths and tap hidden talents. The children who come to the Summer Program are referred by schools, educational consultants and clinicians nationwide who believe a beautiful outdoor environment and healthy, surmountable challenges can lead to positive change.



**SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS:**  
**Helping Students and Teachers Grow Together**

Wediko meets kids where they are, partnering with public schools and other agencies in Boston, New Hampshire and New York City to strengthen systems of care and promote the inclusion and success of students who face multiple barriers to learning. Wediko supports the growth of students and school staff alike, and offers program consultation, professional development and direct clinical services. This includes everything from classroom support programs, which are designed to strengthen student-teacher relationships and promote social-emotional growth, to individual counseling for students during the school day.



## Reaching Out Together

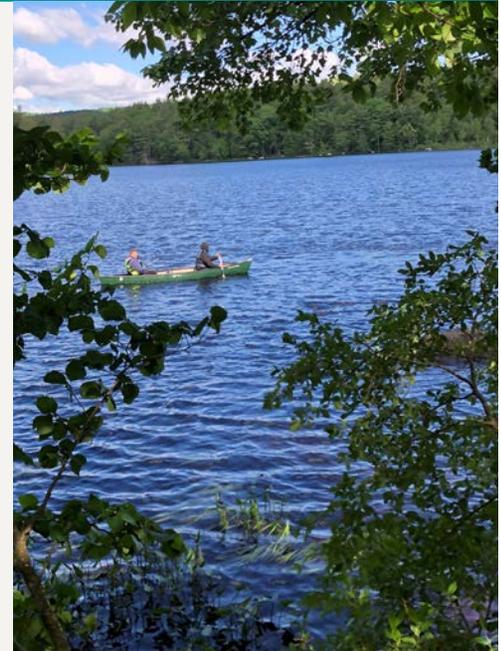
With Wediko as the newest member of The Home family, we are uniting strengths to help more children than ever before, extending our notable histories while having a more powerful impact on those we serve—today and tomorrow.



WEDIKO  
ESTABLISHED  
**1934**

SERVES BOYS  
AND GIRLS AGED **8-19**

WORKING IN  
**BOSTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE,  
& NEW YORK**



# FY20 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## THE HOME FOR LITTLE WANDERERS' SCHEDULE OF OPERATIONS YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2020 AND 2019 (REPORTED IN 000'S)

REVENUES	2020	2019
Program Revenue	\$39,750	\$34,277
Fundraising (portion for operations)	6,897	6,623
Endowment Draw	3,800	3,700
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>50,447</b>	<b>44,600</b>
EXPENSES		
Programs	46,550	42,668
Administrative and General	7,946	7,136
Fundraising	2,017	2,245
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>56,513</b>	<b>52,049</b>
<b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>(6,066)</b>	<b>(7,449)</b>
NON-OPERATING ITEMS		
Bequests	269	615
Investment activity	(171)	1,243
Other	(41)	(65)
<b>Total Non-operating Items</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1,793</b>
Change in Net Assets without Donor Restrictions	(6,009)	(5,656)
Inherent contribution in acquisition of Wediko	2,621	-
Change in Net Assets with Donor Restrictions <sup>2</sup>	(2,223)	(942)
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$(5,611)</b>	<b>\$(6,598)</b>

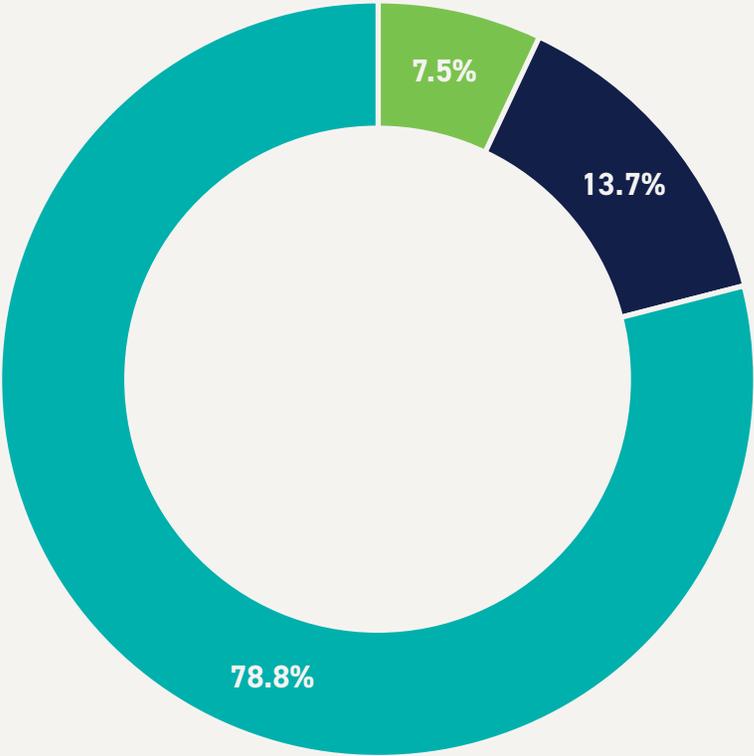
<sup>1</sup> For internal management and budgeting purposes, The Home uses the Operating Surplus/(Deficit) line.

<sup>2</sup> Included in the change in Net Assets with Donor Restrictions in FY2020 is \$573k of additional Investment activity, \$2k of additional Fundraising activity, (\$138k) of activity related to Net Assets released from restriction for program operations, \$70k of Inherent contribution in the acquisition of Wediko, and (\$2,729k) of activity related to Net Asset released for appropriation of Endowment appreciation.

Included in the change in Net Assets with Donor Restrictions in FY2019 is \$1,782k of additional Investment activity, \$614k of additional Fundraising activity, (\$811k) of activity related to Net Assets released from restriction for program operations, and (\$2,527k) of activity related to Net Asset released for appropriation of Endowment appreciation.

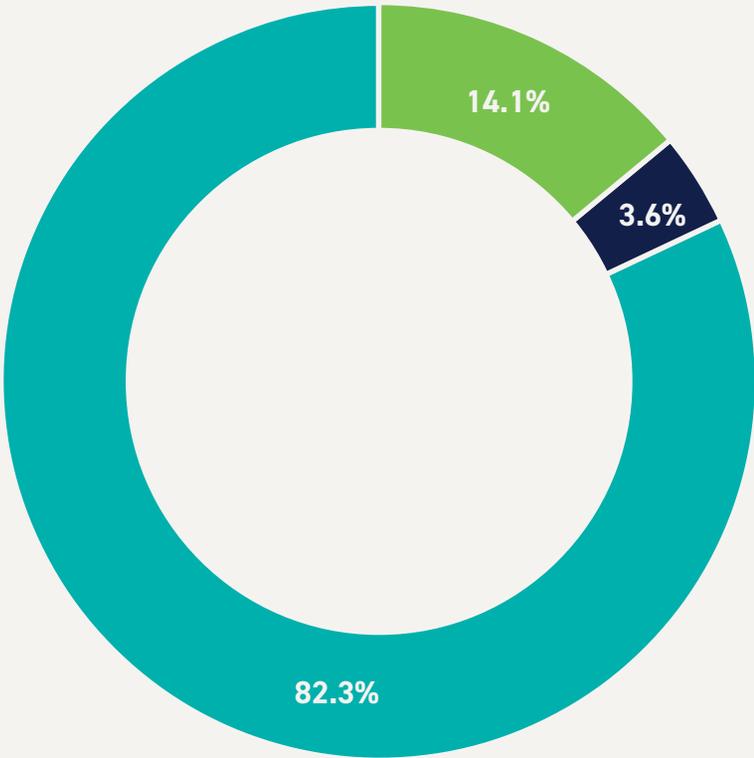
# FY20 FINANCIAL STATEMENT CONTINUED

## 2020 OPERATING REVENUE



■ Program revenue ■ Fundraising ■ Endowment draw

## 2020 OPERATING EXPENSES



■ Programs ■ Fundraising ■ Administrative and general

# LEADERSHIP

## Executive Leadership Team

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*President and CEO*

**Sonia Holman,**  
*Chief of Staff*

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*Chief Financial Officer*

**Robin M. Gilbert,**  
*Chief Human Resource Officer*

**Cathy O'Leary,**  
*Vice President of Congregate Care*

**Heidi Ferreira, J.D.,**  
*Vice President of Risk,  
Compliance, and Data Governance*

**Matthew McCall, LCSW,**  
*Vice President of Community Programs*

**Michael Semel, Ph.D.,**  
*Vice President of Clinical Quality  
and Outcomes*

**Ed Zdravec,**  
*Vice President of Wediko Programs*

**Jeanne Armocida,**  
*Chief Development Officer*

**Felicia Heywood,**  
*Vice President of Behavioral  
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*Axcella Health*

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**THE HOME** FOR LITTLE WANDERERS **ME**

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