

2020
facing
challenges
and
meeting
needs!

REPORT

Dear Friends,

2020 may have looked different in "virtually" every way, but The Village Group met the challenges and remained true to our mission. In fact, we adopted a revised, more powerful mission statement, along with clearly defining our values and vision.

MISSION: To serve as a bridge in Georgetown County for Youth and their families toward education and career readiness to make positive changes in their lives and develop a sense of urgency, identity, and self-value, resulting in a more resilient and sustainable community.

VALUES: Harmony, Habitat, Health, History

VISION: Building a sustainable, strong, confident, and educated community on the shoulders of young leaders.

Our work in 2020 addressed some exceptional needs in the community due to the pandemic, focusing on the areas of education, food distribution and staying connected.

EDUCATION

- **Distance Learning Academy** was implemented in April and continued through the end of the year; Each student received 20-30 minutes of one-on-one instruction daily with a certified teacher in the area of Math and English Language Arts.
- Reading Specialist shared reading/vocabulary building through Zoom small groups;
 Reading Coach held weekly Read-A-Loud Program.
- We hosted **special programs** such as Artsy Wednesday, Boeing STEAM Program, Pittsburg Institute of Aeronautics Program, Music Workshops and Grab & Grow
- Walking Classroom where students took a brisk 20 minute walk listening to podcast on Idioms

FOOD & NURISHMENT

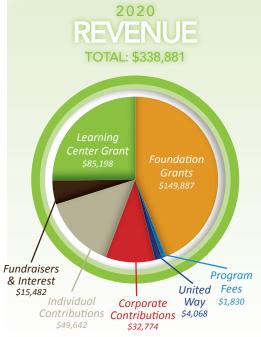
- We got a "shout out" from the Lowcountry Foodbank Details from article on back.
- We provided:
 - Backpacks full of nutritious child friendly snacks, quick meals and beverages.
 - Three community drive-thru food distributions, with the last one distributing over 7,000 pounds of produce
 - Turkeys to every one of our students' families at Thanksgiving
 - Over 650 Christmas dinners to community members

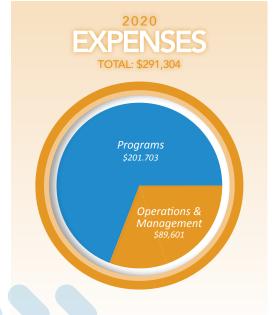
CONNECTION (THROUGH TECHNOLOGY)

- Partnered with HTC to **provide internet access** to students to do homework in the parking lots of Plantersville Cultural Center and Plantersville Community Center.
- Parent Technology Workshops educating parents on how to access logging on to Chromebooks, locating various assignments, submitting assignments, etc.

Thank you from all of us at The Village Group for your support!







the village group





BOEING STEAM PROJECTS

Even with students learning from home, they were challenged with STEAM-focused projects for hands on learning!







PLANTERSVILLE CULTURAL CENTER (PCC)

We opened PCC, which served as a community hotspot for internet through HTC, a distribution place for supplies for our students, as well as continued to offer cultural and local artist work. We were awarded a Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley grant and we also partnered with SC Works as a training site which enabled us to staff PCC.





resilient and assisted in identifying and nurturing the

brings with them.

EXCERPTS FROM

THE LOWCOUNTRY FOODBANK ARTICLE

By: Kara Moore

With many children participating in 100% virtual or hybrid learning, they have limited access to school meals and snacks.

Some of our partners have taken up the charge and gotten creative! Plantersville Elementary School in Georgetown County is one of those partners. Under normal circumstances, they and their non-profit



partners at The Village Group provide after-school tutoring and enrichment activities to over 70 kids within the school building. This fall, they went virtual with a Distance Learning Academy. Additionally, every Friday they distribute five days worth of frozen, pre-packaged supper meals to parents/guardians via a drive-thru line in their parking lot.

Thank you to the teams at both Plantersville Elementary School and The Village Group, and thank you to each and every one of our child hunger partners who are going above and beyond to help kids and families meet basic needs during this challenging time!

DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY

A virtual version of our education assistance and enrichment. students connected one-on-one with teachers online and were challenged to explore learning through projects.

ANNUAL BACK 2 SCHOOL RALLY

In a drive-thru event this year, we distributed 300+ backpacks of school supplies and dental hygiene items, along with bags of toys, nutritious frozen lunches and a warm meal for the family to share. Thanks to our sponsor: Coastal Carolina Association of Realtors Young Professional Network!



STAY CONNECTED! WWW.THEVILLAGEGROUP.ORG





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