

U.S. GRAIL REPORT TO GRAIL NATIONAL COUNCIL

Date: 2/18/2021

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UPDATES: The Grail

- PPP: The Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan—Chase Bank has not opened the portal yet for the forgiveness process. Have been checking not just Chase but the experiences of folks at other banks and they are all delayed. Paperwork is ready to go as soon as we can submit.
- Major Maintenance for 2021 needs to be approved. I have a report for 2020 but it has some incorrect items (misclassified) so I will work on fixing those and hope to have final 2020 to you Monday.
- Walker and dog incident update: no movement, insurance lawyer reports that could be next fall before trial date. Still pushing for dismissal/judgement. Note: have contacted again for an update. Hope to have one to share Monday.
- Staffing changes:
 - Volunteer Coordinator position has been filled. Caroline DiGiovenale, our Art Coordinator, has assumed this role too. We searched outside of our “circle” but since the position is incredibly part time, there was not much interest (one applicant who then did not respond to requests for interview). We even tried to partner with another small org hiring for same role to make the combined position more attractive, but ultimately, that would require more planning and a legal framework neither org had time to do. But a great idea for future planning. The combined roles keep Caroline at part time except during summer hours as she will coordinate the SYAWI.
 - New bookkeeper (Walter) is doing well on AR/AP but does not have the skills for end of month work (the CPA level). Per Kelly’s recommendation, we have contacted a woman (Kathy) from interviews who had the opposite skill sets. She has decided to work for a stipend (based on \$15/hr) and Kelly has agreed to train her. So we have divided the position as we discussed might be necessary. Goal is to do an actual hire by June.
- December Financials are done and in your packet. I added a couple notes to show “true” income/expenses by removing the one time bequests, int’l donations as appropriate. Even without these large income dollars, the Net Income Loss was considerably (\$162+k) UNDER budget. There are some line items that came in over budget, but nothing egregious and nothing that tipped the total over. We are very proud of this accomplishment, especially given the loss of rental income at Grailville. MUST be noted that the income received from RMM Cornwall rental and the commiserate reduction in expenses REALLY is noticeable.
- International giving: As per the conversation yesterday (2/17/2021), the recommendation is for Council to approve an International Support Cte of Council to create and implement a new process that enables Grail members and non-members to continue to financially support Grail entities overseas, donors to receive tax acknowledgement letter, and The Grail to solidly be following the law. This new plan will pertain to non-ISF donations and ISF with legal counsel clarification. Staff will work with the cte regarding the administrative aspects initially by:
 - Drafting note for NGN
 - Providing sample process from Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa-USA
 - Creating internal admin process with Cte

- Sending annual member giving form minus international options with note in early March and second form just for international giving once Cte is ready (goal date 4/15/21)

UPDATES: Cornwall

- There is a Grail group that has formed around care of the Memorial Garden. Dates have been set (approved by RMM) for 2021, contacts to group assigned (Mary Fordham and Cindy Cheyne) but for now communications between orgs will go through the EDs (RMM request as the RMM staff is settling in and fluid right now). I have asked the group to please take photos and updates to share in NGN.
- RMM is settling in, and rethinking/adjusting program plans based on covid. We will continue to make adjustments in year 1 as new items arise.

UPDATES: Loveland

- Tidings has been rented for 5 months to a local extended Grail family in need of immediate housing while they build a home. This brings in steady income (they paid in advance) and means staff does not need to use time seeking rentals for this year. The work done on/in Tidings was key to their interest.
- Conversations with another extended Grail family member about renting Tidings (after the initial rental) to pilot a community center program. Using the framework we put together when CMH was considering renting long term as starting place of discussions. They would be renting for either 1 year or 2.
- Have a meeting in March with Myaamia Center at Miami University of Oxford in re potential support/programming/Learning Lab. This was suggested by TRose Holdcraft and we are thankful for the idea! <https://www.miamioh.edu/myaamia-center/index.html> We are talking specifically about Learning Lab for their Cultural Ecology program.
- Am in conversations with local United Methodist Church regarding a partnership for them to provide transportation so that we can expand the pool for SYAWI away from Loveland. This would enable us to pilot an expansion to other work sites as well. A transportation agreement would lay the groundwork for a grant should The Grail maintain the SYAWI program in 2022 and beyond.
- Am in conversation with B the Keeper and Brandon Reynolds. This will be an ongoing conversation. Exciting because he was also introduced to Nadia Ruffin of Agracademy, Inc—which could mean some exciting cross-pollination (ha ha ha) with The Grail! [<https://www.linkedin.com/in/brandonareynolds/>] [<https://www.facebook.com/brandonanon>]

Decisions Needed

- Approve additional Major Maintenance budget for 2021
- Approve International Support recommendation