# ANNUAL REPORT 2020





"Right after Cassie was diagnosed, I had breakfast with a good friend and mentor who told me, 'Dan, you have a new job now. You're a caregiver.' She was right. And the way I think about it is that my job is to not just be a caregiver but to be the best caregiver possible."





### WE AREN'T AMAZING, OUR DONORS ARE

When COVID-19 hit, our goal for 2020 became simply to survive and keep serving caregivers however we could.

But what happened instead was the best year we've ever had. Because of our donors, our four fundraising campaigns all exceeded their goals. Because of our donors, we exceeded our total fundraising target that was set prior to the pandemic! Ultimately raising 40% more funding than we had the year before. And, because of our donors, we delivered more hours of programming in 2020 than in any prior year.

Now with 2020 behind us, many of us see light at the end of the pandemic tunnel. Kids who once dreamed of snow days are stoked to return to school. Adults who barely tolerated their jobs are giddy to return to work. But for most caregivers that light is nowhere near as bright. For them the COVID-19 vaccine isn't a panacea. A vaccine can't heal their loved one's catastrophic illness. A vaccine isn't bringing their lost loved one back. And vaccinated or not, caregivers will remain largely isolated in their caregiving experience.

But because of our donors, guys like Ishmael and Aaron (who's stories you'll find in this report) will have a bright spot in their lives. Because of our donors there's a place where they are what all the fuss is all about. A place they get to sit still and get orbited around, rather than orbiting around everyone else. That's because guys like Ishmael and Aaron are the sun in our solar system. They are our purpose. But it isn't us who makes that possible, it's our donors. And we are filled with gratitude for every single one of you!

under & Executive Director

# Our Team

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

**Rich Anderson** Chair & Treasurer Imagine IT

*Dustin Cesarek* Founder, Director Emeritus North Star Legacy Law, PLLC

### **KEY VOLUNTEERS:**

*Kathy Bucher* Care Navigator Program

*Alan Christensen* Virtual Campaign Production

*Chris Cloutier* Virtual Campaign Production

*Dan Gramer* Caregiver Klatch Program *Susan Kerber* Director CaringBridge

Breanne Ostrom Secretary Kraus-Anderson

Rachel Engstrom

*Logan Greene* Private Facebook Group

Pat Kline

Randy Lee

Facilitation & Social Media

Cold Ones 4 Caregivers Campaign

Living with Loss Klatch Program

*Justin Micolay* Founder, Director Emeritus Master Builders Solutions

*Hyle Woody* Founder & Executive Director Jack's Caregiver Coalition

*Mike McGarry* Jack's Blog

*Rylie Moore* Cold Ones 4 Caregivers Campaign

**Eva Verdeja** Cold Ones 4 Caregivers Campaign

*Pattijo Verdeja Cold Ones 4 Caregivers Campaign* 

### **JACK-TO-JACK COACHES:**

Rich Anderson Alan Christensen Dan Cramer Paul Gartzke Michael Greene Mark Mattson Mike McGarry Justin Nicolay Andrés Parra Kyle Woody Brian Zahn

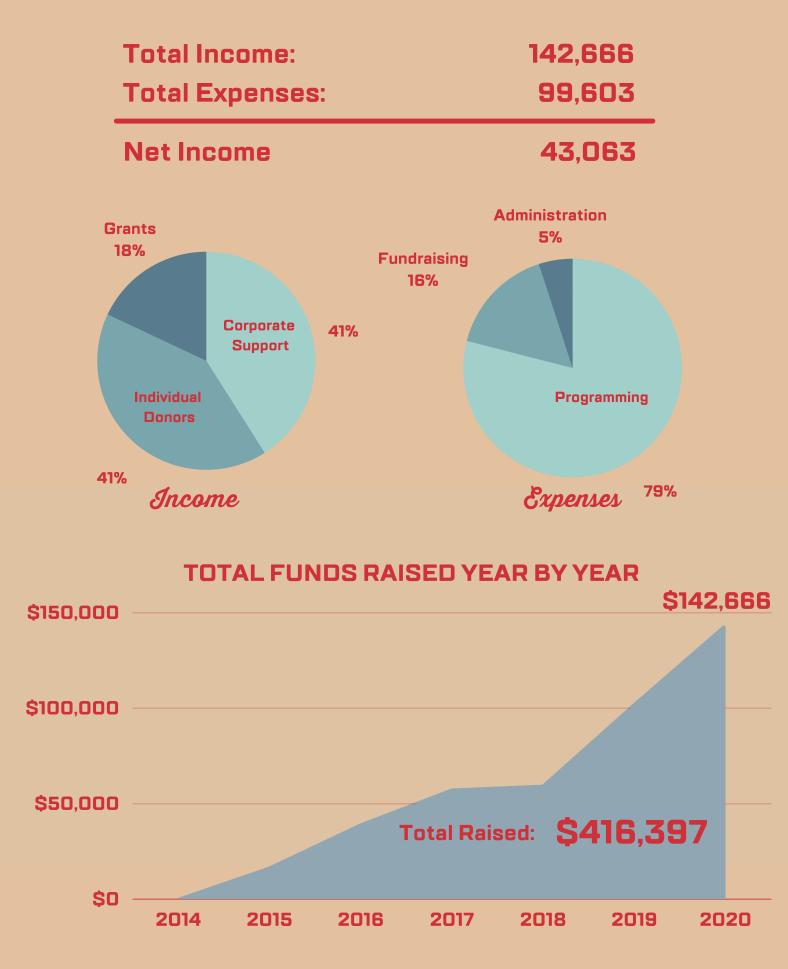
#### 2020 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN HONOREES:

Bob BreckMark MattsonAndrés ParraAllison BreiningerMike McGarryEric SchepersLogan GreeneRoger MillerTom ScottAaron HillChris MeulenersBrian Zahn

#### **STAFF:**

*Hyle Woody* Founder & Executive Director Jack's Caregiver Coalition

# **FINANCIALS**



# Spotlight on Ishmael Israel



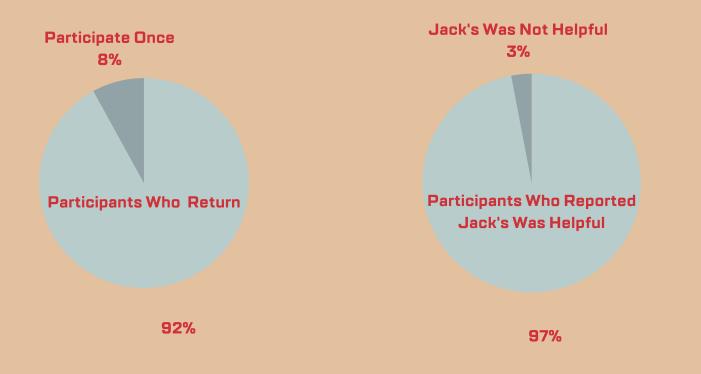
Last summer, Ishmael Israel was in the middle of a separation from his wife and had just finished the first day of the two-day bar exam when he found out his stepson had been diagnosed with sarcoma cancer. "It was hard to feel like I could smile," Israel remembered. He was connected with Jack's and joined a tour of a local brewery. "It was the first time I felt like I was able to actually talk to somebody," he said. Cancer wasn't the topic that night, but it was a commonality he knew he shared with the men around him.

Eric, Israel's stepson, died just before Thanksgiving last year. He was 20 years old. Israel is now deep into studying to retake the bar exam, but he's stayed in touch with Jack's members through phone calls, Zoom and e-mails. He wants to remain a part of Jack's because he can offer other men the perspective of someone who has lost their loved one. "I know there's going to be another me that comes in someone who feels guilty for smiling, who feels like they've let down their child," he said. "Cancer is something you actually have to have gone through ... to offer real help to someone in the same space."

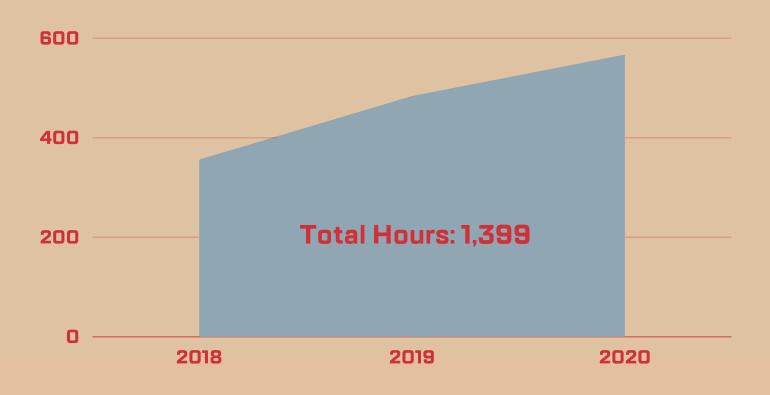
-Excerpted from Minneapolis Star Tribune article "Twin Cities Nonprofit Helps Men Be Better Caregivers" which ran on September 11th, 2020-

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# PROGRAMMING



### HOURS OF PROGRAMMING DELIVERED 2018-2020



## **Spotlight on Aaron Hill**



Aaron Hill's wife, Kathryn, was diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer in June 2016. She was 37 at the time and pregnant with the couple's fifth child. The baby died a few weeks later and Kathryn's cancer moved into her spine and she became a paraplegic. With help from his in-laws and some in-home nursing assistance, Hill cared for Kathryn's wound from surgery, managed her medications, helped her dress, transferred her into and out of bed and repositioned her throughout the night. He often turned to Jack's for support. Kathryn died in August of 2020 after battling cancer for four years.

"It's been helpful to know guys who have gone through the whole spectrum of this and can give the encouragement and advice at the right times," Hill said. He's only been able to get away for one social activity through Jack's. He joined others at an indoor golfing range and said it was a good time to recharge and be social. "There really wasn't a whole lot of cancer conversation," he said. "It was so nice to just do something fun. You have so many responsibilities as a caregiver and you can sometimes feel guilty to step away from them. But it was really important to do so and connect with the other guys."

-Excerpted from Minneapolis Star Tribune article "Twin Cities Nonprofit Helps Men Be Better Caregivers" which ran on September 11th, 2020-

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# **2020 Volunteer of the Year** *Mike McGarry*



Mike, Tracy, Joseph, & Jacob

A caregiver himself, Mike took the lead on Jack's blog in March of 2019. Since then he's published over 40 blog posts. As a testament to the power of his stories they have raised over \$20,000! If you have an idea for a story please email him at: mike@jackscaregiverco.org

Past Winners: 2019 - Dan Cramer 2018 - Heather Erickson

2017 - Rachael Oelke 2016 - Bre Ostrom

# 2020 Caregiver Cup Winner Doug Dallmann

"Doug supported our beloved daughter-in-law Sarah through both treatment for stage 4 colon cancer and her ultimate demise. Sarah reached a point that she no longer felt that she could care for her beloved sons and was planning to ask their dad to have the boys full time. Doug stepped in and said "No way!" He moved into Sarah's apartment and quickly learned to be a caregiver for them also. He learned to feed an exceptionally picky eater. He introduced them to new comedy. He did all of the things that Sarah could no longer do. He was new to children but stepped up and learned. Most importantly he nursed Sarah until the very end. I was not there but I know it was not always pretty. And then there was Covid-19! Doug is a cancer survivor himself and he blessed so many of us with his caregiving. I know there are many more things he did that I'm not aware of! I cannot imagine anyone more deserving of this award." - Nomination from Diane



Doug Dallmann & Sarah DeBord

#### **Past Winners:**

2019 - Rich Anderson 2018 - Travis Robertson 2017 - Dustin Cesarek 2016 - Dan Guider



### Active Members (Recurring Donors):

Anonymous (8) Elizabeth Amaya Richard Anderson Gullen Bahn Justin Bajema Glen Baumgart Bob Breck Alan Christensen Chris Cowan Dan Gramer Stephanie Culp Jonathon Diessner John Eiden Rachel Engstrom Jeffrey Fjeld Todd Fransen Becky Gartzke Robert Hinkle Patricia Kline Rich Koland Randy Lee Betsy Lemal Christopher MacLellan Chris Meuleners Roger Miller Justin Nicolay Joseph Peterson Daniel Reynolds Trevor Scott Adam Sitnick Rob Smith Alex Wallerstedt Jessica Wohler Kyle Woody Charles Wuest Brian Zahn Michele Zoromski

### Donors:

Anonymous (31) Thomas Albers Jen Alstad Jean Andersen Holly Anderson Richard Anderson Friends of Doug Dallmann Tanya Bjork Reba Bloom Jake Blumberg Tanya Borrego Kathleen Borseth Christopher Bovitz Patricia Briseno-DeJoy Jennifer Brooks Debra Callahan Anthony Cardinal Anne Carlson Natalie Carroll Andrew Charon Jack Christensen Kristen Ciarochi Cassie and Dan Cramer Jesse Cramer Uarren Crowther Michael Eseri Robert Culp Sean Dahlin Doug Dallmann Elizabeth Deacon Robert Diehl Jamie Dingmann John Donovan Libby and Tom Doran Jonathan Edwards Jaomi Edwards Justin Ellingson Jeremy Ellison Susie Emmert Charmin Erickson Chris Evans Christina Farhart

# 2020 Donors Continued

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# Donors Continued

Aaron Shipp Lee Silverstein Fred Sklenar Diana Sloan Todd Smalley Eva Snitkin Stephen & Carrie Stavinoha Michael Strauss Peggy Swanson Terri Thao Jennifer Thorpe Linda Thrasher Luis Torres Lizabeth Towers Rebecca Valdez Austine Vaughn PattiJo Verdeja Beth and Brian Volk Kim Voorhees Peter & Kay Walsh Ashley Walter Mom Wheeler Laura White Joan Wilson

Alison & Kyle Woody Anthony & Diane Woody Angela Wyatt Kabo Yang Lindy Yokanovich Jeanne Young Angie Young Cheryl Zahn Scott Zahn

### **2020 In-Kind Donations:**

612 Brewery AmericInn by Wyndham Duluth B52Burgers and Brews Bills Gun Shop & Range Breadsmith of the Twin Cities Burnin' Blue Capital City Glass, Inc. Cole's Salon and Spa Hy-Vee Oakdale Imagine IT JJ Taylor Distributing LaDonna Hoopman Lauren B Photography MN Valley Country Club MN Vikings Northern Taphouse Nothing Bundt Cakes Patricia Hair Salon PattiJo Verdeja Rachael Oelke Red's Savoy Pizza Rylie Moore St. James Hotel Stillwater Trolley Co. Target Corporation William A Irvin Museum Wells Fargo Xcel Energy Box Office

### 2020 Corporate Support:

AARP AllinaHealth Virginia Piper Cancer Institute EP&B Gephart Electric Greiner Construction Guthrie Theater Marketing Team Imagine IT Kraus-Anderson Linda L French LLC Lyfted Media Minnesota Oncology Minnesota Hospital Association New Concepts Management Northland Concrete & Masonry, LLC Pate Bonding Inc. Transparent Financial We Have Cancer Podcast Whole Care Network Inc WSB

### **2020 Grant Support:**

Colon Cancer Coalition CBRE Foundation Engelsma Family Foundation inFaith Community Foundation Protolabs Foundation

**2020 Honorary Donations** 

In honor of caregivers in general: Jill May Donna Mattson

#### In honor of Alison & Rich Anderson:

Alan Christensen Kevin MacArthur Alison & Kyle Woody

In honor of Dustin Cesarek: *Lindy Yokanovich* 

In honor of Cassie & Dan Cramer: Jake Blumberg Andrew Charon Jesse Cramer Libby and Tom Doran Tina Murua Seth Rierson Tom & Guynn Rosen Melissa Rudnick Todd Smalley Peter and Kay Walsh Alison & Kyle Woody

In honor of Doug Dallmann: Friends of Doug Dallmann, Austin Tx In honor of Amy Koland: *Rich Koland* 

In honor of Randy Lee: Kyle & Alison Woody

In honor of Teri & Mark Mattson: David Foster Lori Hinkel Charles Mattson Catherine Paquay

In honor of Shawn McCann: Jack Christensen

In honor of Pat & Roger Miller: Gracie Miller Lizabeth Towers

In honor of Team Robertson: Jennifer Thorpe

In honor of Brenda Weegman: *Michael Strauss* 

In honor of Kyle Woody: Susie Emmert Lindy Yokanovich

In honor of Brian Zahn: Joan Wilson

# 2020 Memorial Donations

#### In Memory of Sara Christensen:

Alan Christensen Jack Christensen Rebecca Onnen Megan Palasik Cassie Geersens

#### In Memory of Sarah DeBord:

Holly Anderson Reba Bloom Kathleen Borseth Jennifer Brooks Anne Carlson Stephanie & Robert Lulp Doug Dallmann Friends of Doug Dallmann, Austin Tx Chris Evans Melinda Fleming Annalise Fortin Betty Hardy Lynthia Hemp Stacy Hurt Georgia Kenney Kate Krebs Jessica Lindsay Shirley Mabis

Marcia MacKenzie Robert Moses Jimmy Olivero Melissa Olivero Paul Przybysz Brenda Read **Bonnie Rodgers** Carolyn and Bill Schendel Lee Silverstein Diana Sloan Stephen and Carrie Stavinoha Linda Thrasher Rebecca Valdez Kim Voorhees Ashley Walter Charles Alluest Angela Uyatt Kyle & Alison Woody

In Memory of Teri Mattson: Lori Hinkel Mark Mattson Catherine Paguay

In Memory of Patricia J. Miller: Roger Miller

In Memory of Michelle Nicolay: *Monique Hopper*  In Memory of Cathy Scott: Trevor Scott Colet Scott

In Memory of Lucy Swift: Tony Pulver

In Memory of Brenda Van Vugt: *Randy Lee* 

In Memory of Melissa Zahn: Brian Zahn



"Jack's gave me a new peace of mind: that I shouldn't doubt myself. It helped me a lot in the balancing act I was in the middle of - with work, caregiving, parenting, being a husband, and everything else. I can't worry about what I'm not doing. I need to focus on what I am doing."



# *Our Donors* Make Our Mission A Reality







Improving the way guys think, feel, and act through every phase of their caregiving journey.

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