

**CHANGING  
2020 - 2021  
STRATEGIES.**

**ANNUAL  
CONSISTENT**

**REPORT**

**PRINCIPLES.**

**M.K. GANDHI INSTITUTE**

**CONSTANT**

**FOR NONVIOLENCE**

**EFFORT.**



# **DEAR FRIENDS!**

We are proud to share this report, and to have completed this difficult year fully staffed and able to put aside two months operating budget into a rainy day fund.

Gandhi Institute staff were called on hundreds of times during this period, to support struggling youth, adults and organizations experiencing challenge and crisis. They did so skillfully, creatively and with tremendous dedication. Please join us in appreciating this amazing team.

On behalf of the board and staff of the Gandhi Institute, we extend our enormous appreciation to the volunteers, program and workshop participants, community partners and donors who helped us navigate this time.

***Sincerely,***



**Jessica Guzman-Rea**  
President,  
Board of Directors



**Gwen Olton**  
Interim Director



W H A T  
CONTINUED  
> > > >

**SCHOOL SUPPORT / SHARING FOOD & BUILDING COMMUNITY  
YOUTH HEALING HATE / NONVIOLENCE NOW / NONVIOLENCE  
NEWS / SEASON FOR NONVIOLENCE**

# SCHOOL SUPPORT



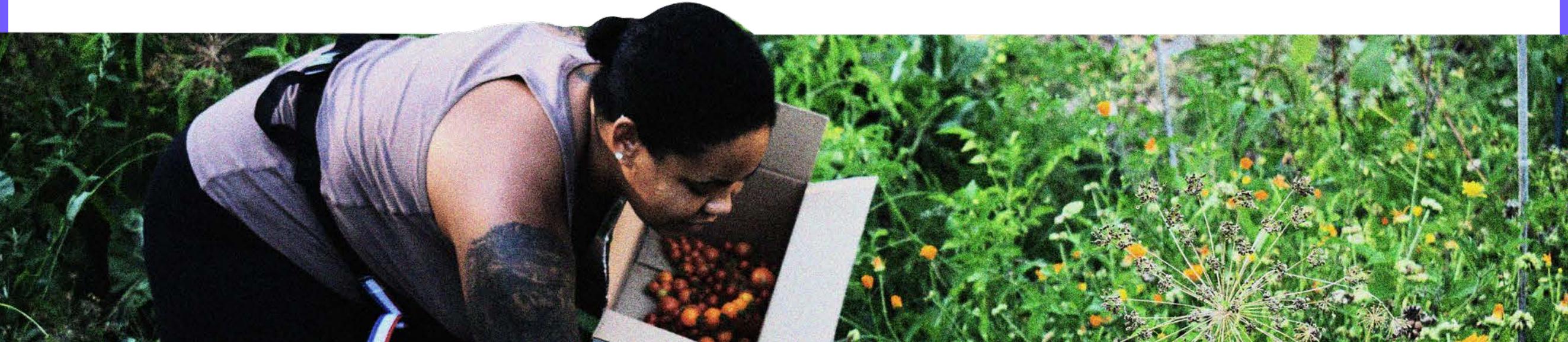
*Portraits of students from our staff member Alex.*

Daily support for staff and adults at the Charles T. Lundsford School (our near neighbor) and the Enrico Fermi School (in northwest Rochester) continued this year, both virtually and in person.

We increased our support during this extra challenging time in both buildings, leading two workshop series on

restorative practices at Lundsford, and through participation in a racial justice series for teachers at Enrico Fermi. We also offered training and support to schools and colleges throughout the region for students, parents, teachers and administrators on a variety of topics and practices.

# SHARING FOOD & BUILDING COMMUNITY



We continued to grow and distribute fresh organic produce and other foods through direct delivery to neighbors' homes. When available, we also shared other important items such as school supplies. Eighteen families in the

immediate neighborhood participated. We are grateful to Flower City Pickers and to the Fairport United Methodist Church for helping to get this support to our Plymouth-Exchange neighbors.

# YOUTH HEALING HATE

In June, we completed a 4th round of Youth Healing Hate grants, funding 36 projects in total since 2016. These grants are designed to support and unleash the creativity and compassion of local youth in addressing concerns arising from fear, hostility, and division in our communities.

Five new projects were created, including an innovative effort using art

and QR codes in a student bathroom to help connect youth in distress with supportive adults.

**Check out this year's projects:**

<https://gandhiinstitute.org/enacting-nonviolence-with-youth/>.

Special thanks to the Farash Foundation for their steadfast support of this project.



# NONVIOLENCE N O W



The local Nonviolence Now project creatively utilizes conflict resolution and social-emotional learning practices to share unique messages with our Rochester community. With expertise from Causewave Community Partners, generous support from Regional Tran-

sit Services and Lamar Advertising, we created a campaign for busses and billboards that ran for three months in the Summer of 2020 with over 1 million estimated views. Thanks to all of the partners on this project!

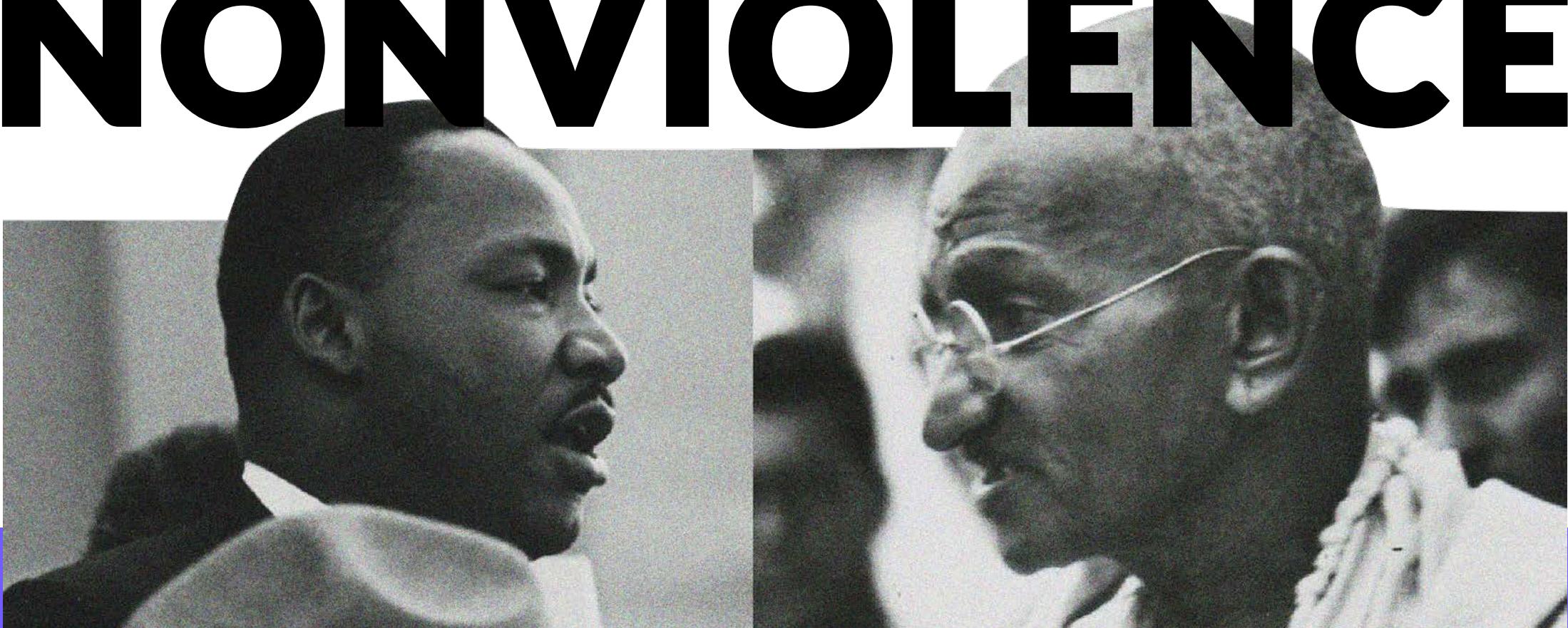
# NONVIOLENCE NEWS



Nonviolence News, ([www.nonviolentnews.org](http://www.nonviolentnews.org)) is a weekly news service distributing 30-50 stories of nonviolence in action to over 90,000 subscribers from all over the world, edited by author and trainer, Rivera Sun.

The Institute supports this inspiring news service through fiscal sponsorship and co-hosting regular Nonviolence News Happy Hours to help inspire and activate nonviolence projects both locally and globally.

# SEASON FOR NONVIOLENCE



In partnership with our founder, Arun Gandhi, and with staff from Attica and Groveland Correctional Facilities, we created a series of weekly videos for incarcerated men for the 2021 Season for Nonviolence (January 30-April 4) featuring reflections from staff member, Jonathon Jones and Arun Gandhi.

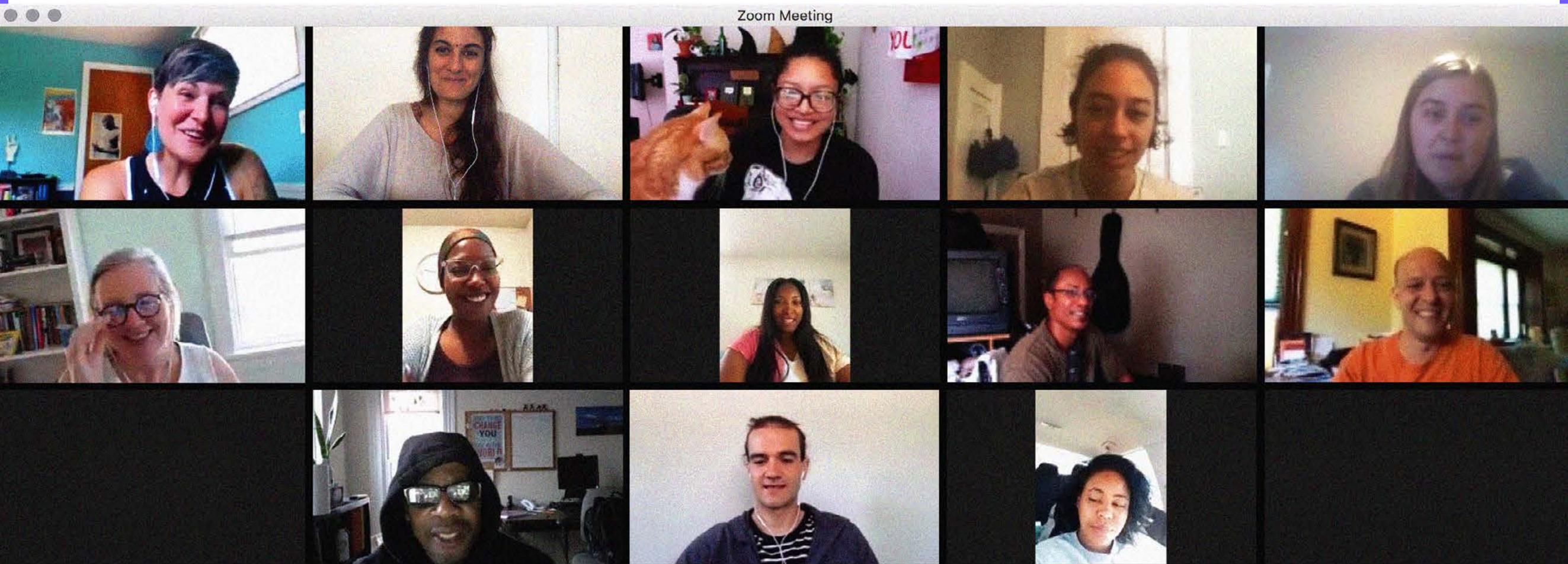
Over 300 men participated in this year's virtual series, our ninth year offering this 100% pro bono programming. Close to 200 people participated outside of prisons through signing a non-violence pledge and through the daily practices offered as part of the Season for Nonviolence curriculum.

# W H A T ' S C H A N G E D

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**TRAINING & EDUCATION / TRANSFORMING JUSTICE FELLOWSHIP/  
LEADERSHIP TRANSITION / FAST FACTS**

# TRAINING & EDUCATION



Except for work with hospital staff, most training, facilitations and restorative processes took place online which enabled us to engage participants from throughout the US and as

far away as India. We offered numerous book groups on nonviolence, culturally-informed restorative practices and anti-racism. We worked with 2,656 youth and adults.

# TRANSFORMING JUSTICE FELLOWSHIP

Recognizing the requests for more practitioners in conflict transformation and restorative work within communities of color, the Institute collaborated with a generous supporter, Partners in Restorative Initiatives, and the Center for Dispute Settlement to

offer two-year fellowships for three Rochester area individuals. Each recipient is assigned a mentor, receives a small stipend to cover educational costs outside Rochester, and has unlimited access to free training from the three sponsoring organizations.



# LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

After more than 2 years of conversation between the board and long time director Kit Miller, in January 2021 we initiated a national search for a new leader. We are delighted to find our best leadership from within, as COO Erin Thompson continues in

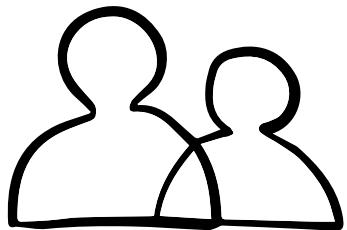
an expanded role and Gwen Olton stepping in as interim ED.

Kit will remain connected part time. We celebrate the effort, honesty and creativity of this important transition time for the Institute!

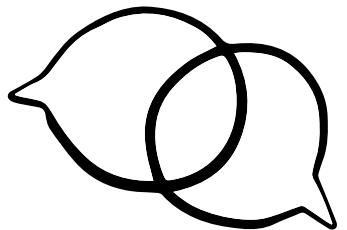


# FAST FACTS

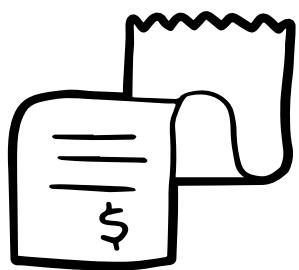
STATS / 2020 - 2021



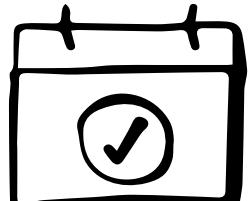
**YOUTH & ADULTS TRAINED:** 2,656



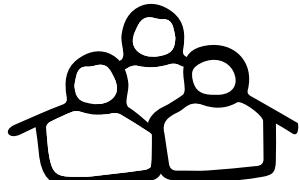
**STUDENT CONVERSATIONS:** 6,175



**ANNUAL BUDGET:** \$544,553



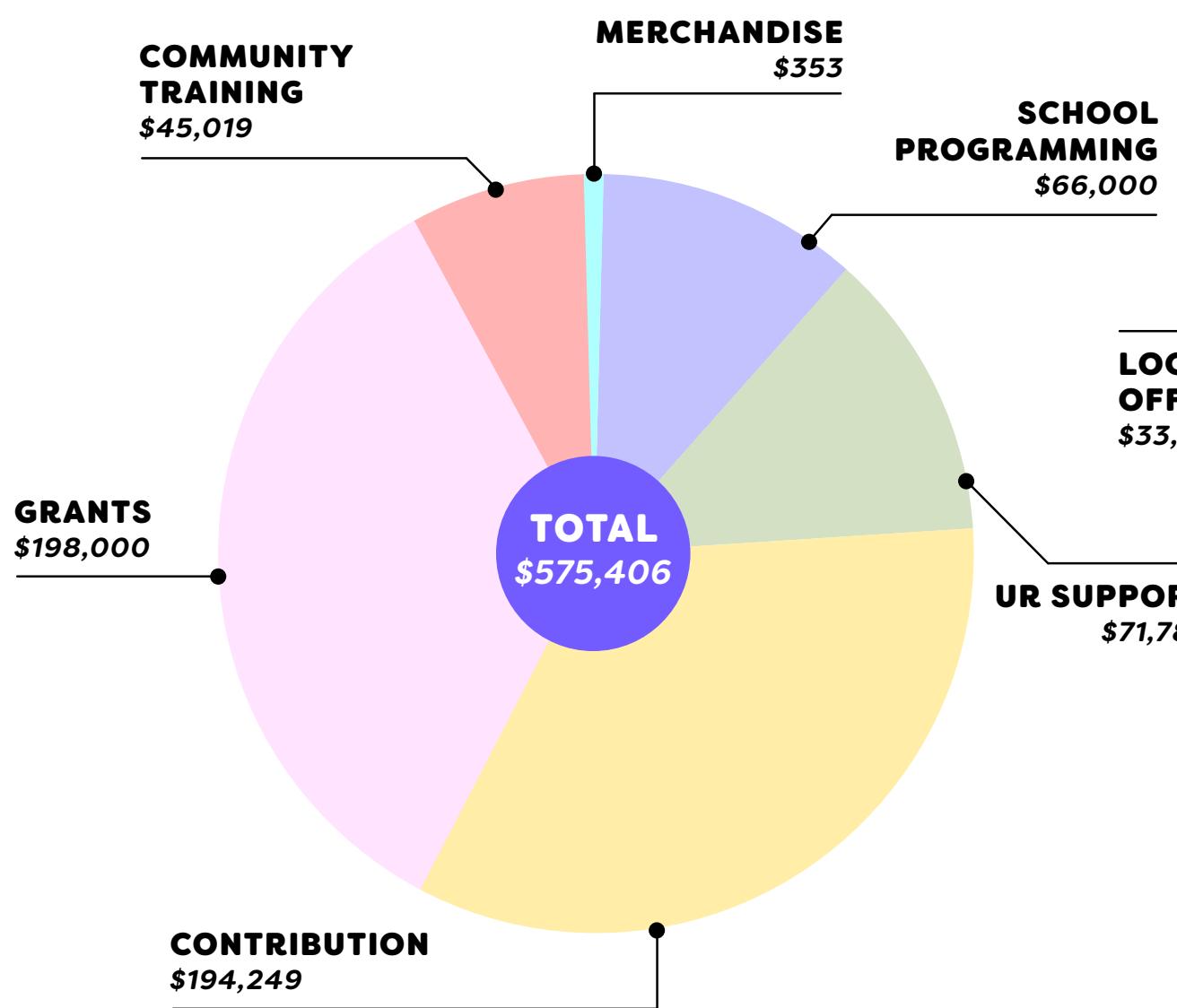
**EVENTS:** 125



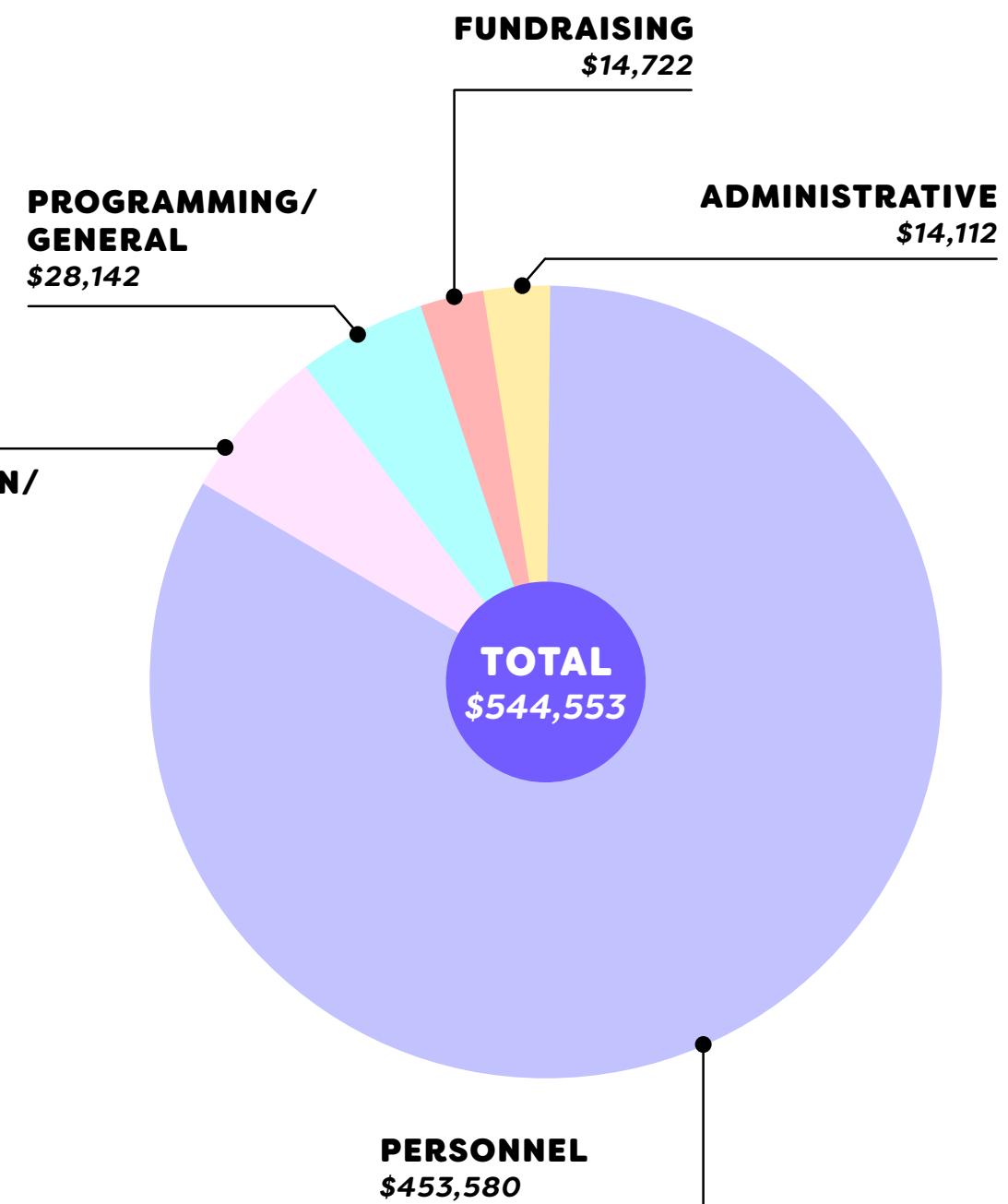
**STAFF:** 12

# FAST FACTS

## REVENUE

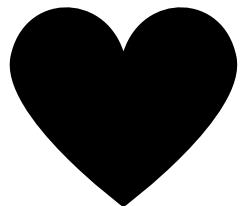


## EXPENSES



THE GANDHI INSTITUTE HAS EARNED GUIDESTAR'S 2021 GOLD SEAL OF TRANSPARENCY.

# THANK YOU



**Grateful for support from 282 individuals, families, organizations and from the following foundations:**

Bylo-Chacon Foundation, Education for Success Foundation, ESL Charitable Foundation, Farash Foundation, Fenwick Foundation, Foundation for the Future, Humanity United, Rochester Area Community Foundation, The Wilson Foundation.

*“As with many people whose lives have been touched by this work, I never thought I’d still be coming around 929 S. Plymouth nearly (13+!) years later...but the visionary approach to building a more pluralistic world and the creativity of nonviolence I have experienced here remains unmatched. This deep well of inspiration and optimism has / continues to sustain my work (here, and more recently, overseas). Every time I engage with the Institute, be it virtual or in-person, I am always filled with a sense of hope.”*

- Alykhan Alani, Community Member

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