Dear friends,

What a year it has been! In last year’s annual report we wrote “we are confident in our ability to face challenges.” And we certainly did face challenges. From COVID-19 to unrest in our city—the challenges were many.

We’re proud to say that our confidence was not misplaced. Everyone stepped up to face our new reality. Employees, and especially assistants, took on more hours and followed the often difficult and changing health regulations. Thanks to their hard work, and the commitment of core members, all of the core members have remained safe and healthy. And all of the core members have now received the vaccine!

We could not have faced these challenges without our donors and supporters. No matter what, you continued to connect with us. You called, you joined Zoom celebrations and prayer nights, and helped us find PPE. Thanks to your donations, we had and continue to have secure financial footing. In fact, individual gifts rose!

We continue to look to the future, crafting a strategic plan for internal growth and welcoming Carolyn Rumer as our new Board President. Carolyn’s connection with L’Arche GWDC goes back over a decade starting when she was an assistant at Highland House!

We’re grateful you were with us this past year. When days were tough, the connection to all of you kept us going. We’re so glad you answered the call to connection.

Constance U. Battle, MD, Outgoing Board President
Carolyn Rumer, Esq, Incoming Board President

Above: Ontario House celebrated National Hat Day together!
On the cover: 6th Street smiles from their porch. Credit: Brian Taylor
During a strange and difficult year, we were more appreciative than ever to have safe, caring homes. We are spending a lot more time in these homes as day programs and work places closed to keep us safe. With more hours to fill, core members and assistants got creative!

Highland House started planning “activity days”: going on outings to parks, berry picking, potting plants, and even kayaking. At Ontario House they were really missing their local restaurants - so they brought restaurants to them! They also hosted “TED Talks” where community members shared a presentation about something they loved. Euclid House expanded their baking repertoire, watched movies, made clay animation videos, and enjoyed playing games. And 6th Street House held talent shows, made up indoor sports games, enjoyed visiting trains, and danced in the kitchen!

In Virginia, we received very little government funding for these many additional hours of daytime support. Contributions from generous donors were critical to fill in the gap and allow for our continuity of care.

Of course, when you spend so much time together, some pranks will be played - including hiding plastic bugs in closets! We also celebrated birthdays, holidays, MAP planning sessions, and anniversaries.

And we didn’t only stay at home - in the fall, several of our houses were able to safely take House vacations to the beach and the mountains. Core members and assistants enjoyed being out in nature and seeing new places.
Like most of the country, L’Arche GWDC started taking COVID safety precautions in early March 2020, canceling in-person events. By mid-March we were staying safe at home, with our office working fully remote and our homes closed to visitors. The rapid changes of lockdown kept coming - mask wearing, distancing, screening questions to enter the house. Assistants and core members adapted to all of these changes, learning to navigate their homes in new ways. Assistants also adjusted to wearing PPE all day and creating daytime programming. Their work and lives felt upended, and the stress of keeping their homes safe was very real, yet assistants didn’t falter. Their strength in the dailiness of life during COVID was and is deeply appreciated.

We also dove into advocacy – writing representatives, joining virtual town hall meetings, and doing whatever we could to ensure people with disabilities - some of the most vulnerable to the virus – were not forgotten during this difficult time. Charles, who has been an active advocate for many years, helped lead us in advocating for one another.

Friends sent fun crafts and games for staying at home, donations, and wish list items. Neighbors reached out to us to see how they could help and organizations offered us PPE. We are so grateful to have such loving, supportive people in our corner.
We missed gathering together this year, but we made it work with a lot of virtual hang outs. A silver lining is that our events - including monthly prayer nights - became more accessible, including to friends around the globe.

We were also joined online by wonderful virtual volunteers and interns. They connected with core members on FaceTime, wrote blogs and articles, led zoom activities, helped with the website, and prayed with us.

Friends also called to check in - some core members like Hazel had a calling schedule for staying in touch!

Even when connection looks different than normal, we’re glad to be with each other.

We’re also re-writing our charter - looking to our future, informed by our past (including last year’s shocking revelations about Vanier). The Charter Process is happening throughout the L’Arche Federation. It is an invitation to reflect together on our experiences; and to listen and name the spirit and thread that inspires and unites us.
At L’Arche Greater Washington, D.C., community life centers on four homes where core members – adults with intellectual disabilities – live together with the people who assist them. In addition to these life-long homes, L’Arche provides professional-support services and seeks ways for core people to actively engage in the social, civic, and spiritual life of Greater Washington, D.C. Thank you to the many generous donors whose financial gifts supplement government contracts, making a holistic, high-quality life possible for L’Arche members.

Summary of L’Arche’s Fiscal Year 2020 Financial Statements

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

- **Total Assets:** $7,568,349
- **Total Liabilities:** $2,914,662
- **Total Net Assets:** $4,653,687

**Revenue**
- Government Contracts $2,350,170
- Contributions* $1,133,373
- Rental and Other Income $372,499
- **Total Revenue** $3,856,042

**Expenses**
- Program (Homes) $2,388,246
- Program (Other) $102,899
- Education & Outreach $103,755
- Administration $690,747
- Fundraising $185,354
- **Total Expenses** $3,471,001

* Includes gifts from foundations, corporations, faith-based organizations, individuals, and others.

Additional financial information is available upon request. Tax returns are publicly available online.
These gifts were received in our fiscal year calendar October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020. Donors who made gifts received after September 30, 2020 will be acknowledged in our next annual report.
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Mary Page Michel
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Mary Miller
Germana and Gerard Mitchell
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Stephanie Slae
Moagen Snodell
Joseph F. Spaniol, Jr.
Scott and Corrin Scott
Ralph D. Stearns
Ralph D. Stearns
Kiera and Jason Summers
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Faith Communities
and Schools
Archdiocese of Washington
Archdiocese of Washington
Department of Special
Needs Ministry
Assumption College
Catholic University of America
Catholic University of America
Center for Social Justice
Gonzaga College High School
Holy Cross Catholic Church
Incarnation Anglican Church
Jesuit Community,
Georgetown University
Georgetown University
Center for Social Justice
Gonzaga College High School
Holy Cross Catholic Church
Incarnation Anglican Church
Jesuit Community,
Georgetown University

Lewinsville Presbyterian Church
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church
Seekers Church
St. Mary’s Episcopal Church
St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School
The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament
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IDENTITY STATEMENT

We are people with and without intellectual disabilities, sharing life in communities belonging to an International Federation. Mutual relationships and trust in God are at the heart of our journey together. We celebrate the unique value of every person and recognize our need of one another.

OUR MISSION IS TO...

Make known the gifts of people with intellectual disabilities, revealed through mutually transforming relationships. Foster an environment in community that responds to the changing needs of our members, while being faithful to the core values of our founding story. Engage in our diverse cultures, working together toward a more human society.

STAY INVOLVED! Head to www.larche-gwdc.org to sign up for our monthly e-newletter, read recent blogs, and attend virtual events!