



random acts
.org

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Statement

It's amazing to look at all the wonderful things you have done this year! Thanks to you, Random Acts had another great year and accomplished much beautiful kindness spreading! We began by opening the first building of the Free High School in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua. This building provides the Free High School a truly beautiful, sustainable space from which so many can receive the gift of education. We were able to pay for the care and schooling of the growing number of children helped by Jacmel Children's Center in Haiti (currently 27 permanently housed there), pay for the training of more volunteers than ever for the IMAlive crisis support hotline, and jump-start an exciting day of environmental care and clean-up as we joined together for Act Global. This was a year where you really changed the world with your kindness! With your support we spent over \$89,000 funding acts of kindness throughout the U.S. and around the world. You helped us raise money with the Stronger than Storms campaign, so we were able get much-needed help to storm victims in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. You also helped us raise money during E4K and in partnership with GISHWHES, which among other great things is supporting a life-changing dance school in South Africa. We partnered with the Juneau Police Department for their "Year of Kindness", we partnered with Lydia Place and were able to provide homeless families in Bellingham with a home and a fresh start. The veteran leader of Random Acts, Cinde Monsam, stepped up to be a force for good on the Board of Directors, and I stepped in as the new Executive Director. And as the year rounded out, we came together to fund acts of kindness all around the globe with 31 amazingly heartwarming acts being done for Holiday Kindness. I have so much love for everything you have done with us. You came and met with us at conventions, you connected with us through social media, and we are just overjoyed at everything you have helped us to accomplish! It is only with your fierce support that we can continue to do these wonderful things as we work together to change the world one random act of kindness at a time. Onward to 2018!

Rachel Miner

Executive Director

Development

PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships grew extensively in 2017. We continued with strong partnerships we had already developed, and were excited to bring in some great new partners. [GISHWHES](#) remained a strong partner in 2017 as we implemented another Change A Life program. [Dancescape](#) is a dance school in South Africa that uplifts disadvantaged rural children through dance. Founder Fiona Sergeant sadly passed away from cancer in 2017, but not before hearing how our supporters, through partnership with [GISHWHES](#), raised over \$260,000 to keep the school running. We spent an amazing 2017 partnering with the [Juneau Police Department](#) for their “Year of Kindness” program. Our Development Manager was even able to head up to Juneau to do “Cocoa and Kindness” — handing out cocoa and cookies to residents of Juneau who stopped by. In late summer, tragedy hit as hurricanes pounded the shores of Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. We partnered with the [Family Business Beer Company](#) to help with the relief efforts. We raised over \$500,000 to help families during the holidays, to assist those who lost items in the storm, to support families who weren’t able to get diapers for babies, and to take care of pets who were separated from their families during the storms. Finally, we partnered with [Lydia Place and Stands](#) to raise \$100,000 so that families could have a roof over their heads for the holidays. Suffice it to say, it’s been an amazing year.

CRISIS SUPPORT NETWORK



The Crisis Support Network has continued to grow. We are working to sustain new partnerships, and through IMALive we had 161 people complete their certification exams. Each volunteer works a minimum of four hours a week — imagine the lives that these 161 volunteers are changing.

TOP 10 INDIVIDUAL DONORS FOR 2017

Leeanne Gradus

Anonymous Donor

Amrosia Harwood

Heather Fath-Azam

Robert Dupire-Nelson

Ann Zalokoski-Monroe

Robert Macchione

The Frankel Family Foundation

Delaney Bruce

Blaine Groves

CORPORATE DONORS

Creation Entertainment

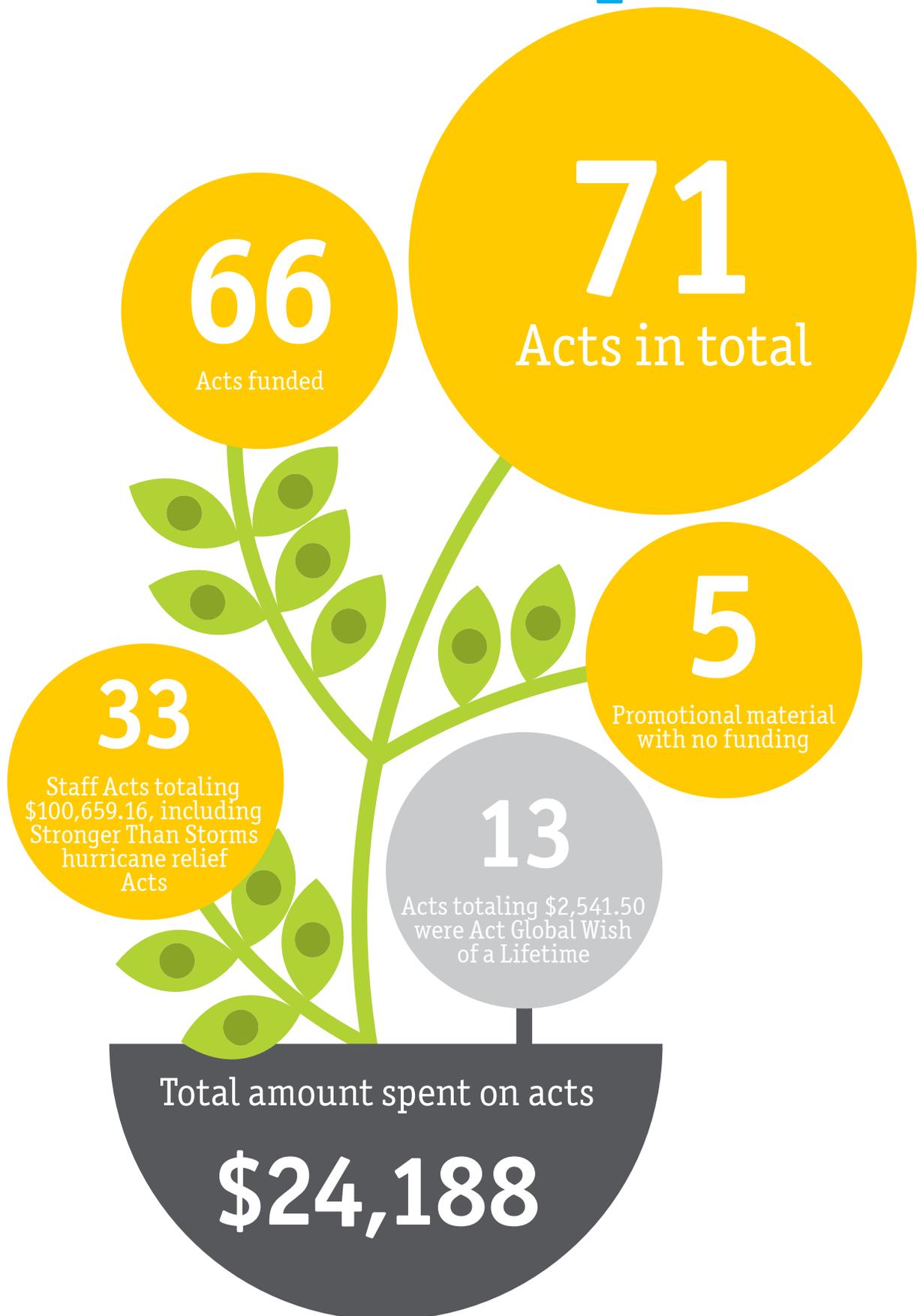
Wonderful Giving

FUNDRAISERS

We also would like to recognize one of our fundraisers from this past year. **Jordan Dingo** and **Linden Middle School** raised \$1786.50 in May 2017 after three months of fundraising. They concluded their efforts by drawing tickets to pie teachers in the face. Fundraisers like this help fund our Acts program, which allows us to help YOU perform amazing acts of kindness. With your help, we can conquer the world one act of kindness at a time.



Events: Act Proposals





actglobal

WISH OF A LIFETIME

In February 2017, we teamed up with Wish of a Lifetime, a nonprofit dedicated to celebrating seniors by making their dreams come true. We asked supporters to join us in celebrating Valentine's Day by handing out roses to senior citizens in their local communities.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN UP

There were 29 official clean-ups around the world, with almost all Random Acts staff members taking part in an Act. We also saw widespread participation reported by supporters on social media.



Total amount raised

\$57,251

E4K

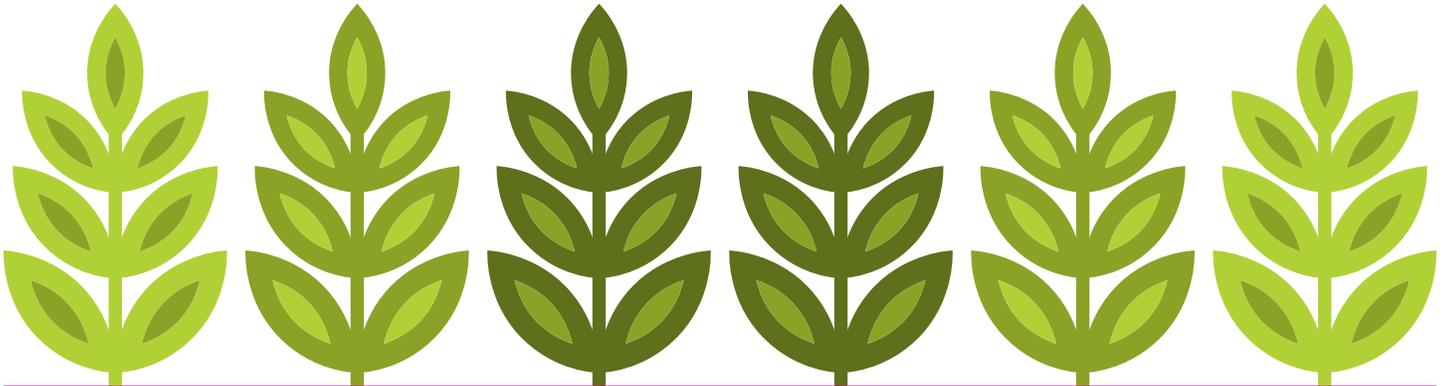
THE 3 BIGGEST FUNDRAISERS

Jezebel's Belle's

Jessica Ferrara

Kerri D'Ambrosio

E4K STORIES

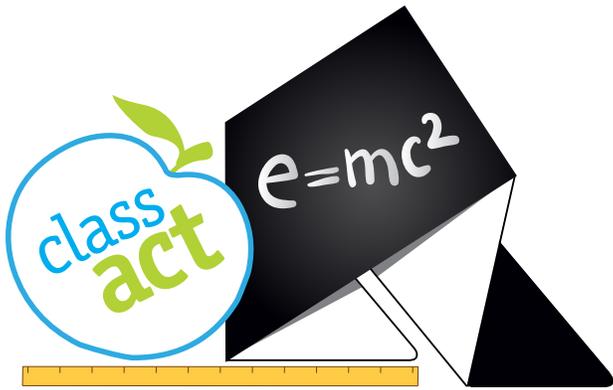


The Women of Letters Pittsburgh explained, "Penn Christian Academy was so amazing during last year's E4K - hosting us, giving us a place to walk, knit, and crash - that this year, we decided to give them a helping hand!" Over 24 hours, the Women of Letters completed as many tasks as possible on the Academy's maintenance list, working both inside and outside to clean windows, pull weeds, painting and scrubbing. Their efforts also raised a fantastic \$1,110 for Random Acts.

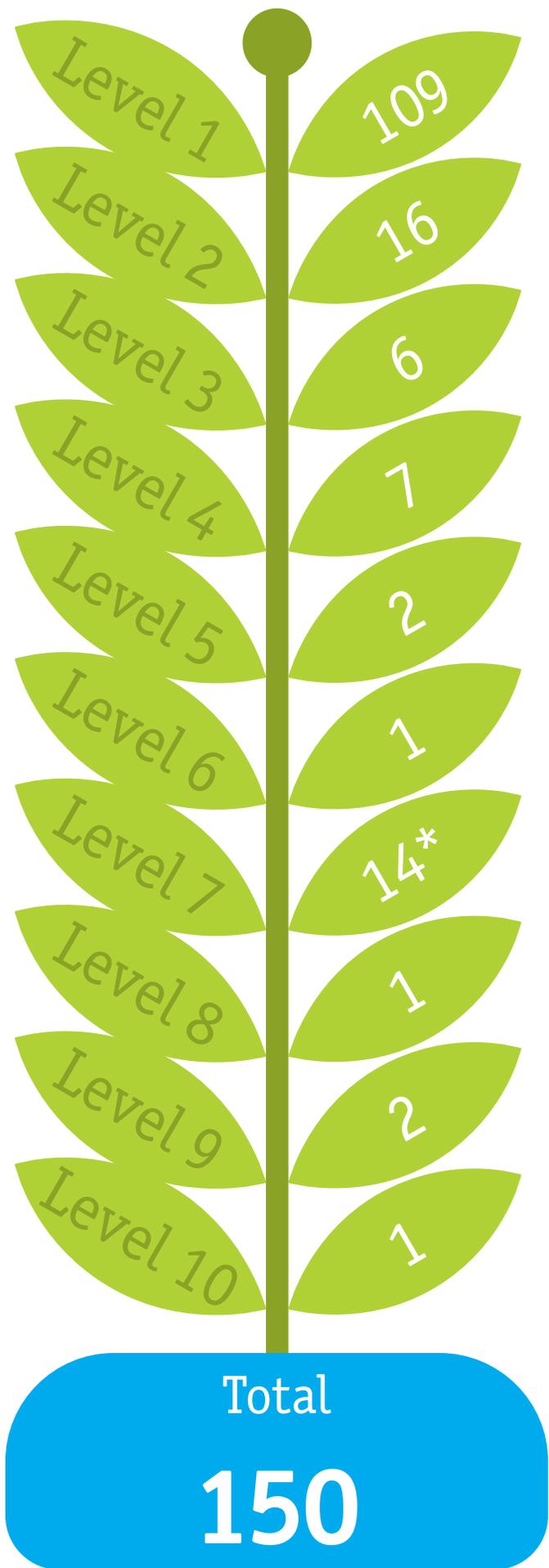
Jean Hayes decided to spend E4K making cards for hours on end, and raised \$705 for Random Acts in the process. Each card was sent to someone in need of a little kindness, and every donor also received a handmade card to thank them for their generosity.

The Kindness Llamas team spent their E4K "folding origami with positive quotations, kind sentiments, and poetry attached." After enduring hours of writing and folding, they planted their origami kindness creations around the team members' home towns for others to find. In total they raised \$635 for Random Acts.

Christian Young's epic fundraiser saw him read all 9,000+ lines of Virgil's Aeneid out loud in public, while wearing a toga. After almost eight hours of public poetry reading, his E4K, odyssey had raised \$552 for Random Acts.



Out of the fantastic 2017 submissions, the stand-out was the Undercover Kindness Club of Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute in Toronto, Canada. Our winners spent the 2016-2017 school year getting kind in a variety of ways, from writing thank you letters to staff, to decorating the school with handmade motivational posters. Their year of kindness culminated in a Kindness Cafe, with volunteers leading different kindness-themed activities, a fun-filled photo booth and even free brownies.



One participant has finished all ten levels.

*E4K participation

IT

Since **August 2012**, the Random Acts website has received an average of **660 visitors a day**, 86% of which are classified as new visitors. Each new visitor to our site is a potential new supporter or donor; therefore, it is critical that our website presents information in a clear and simple manner while also capturing the fun and quirky personality of the organization.

In 2017, our main site (www.randomacts.org), as well as our subsites (www.haiti.randomacts.org, www.nicaragua.randomacts.org, and www.juneau.randomacts.org), underwent a major redesign. The primary goal of the redesign was to make it so that, within the first few minutes of landing on the front page of the main site, visitors would be able to quickly and easily learn the following about Random Acts:

1. What Random Acts is and what we've done
2. How to get involved
3. What our current project is

By presenting the information in this manner and order, we are first **inspiring visitors with stories of acts of kindness**; second, **presenting visitors with opportunities to perform an act of kindness**; and third, **informing visitors about what project we are currently focused on**. It is our hope that visitors leave our site understanding that acts of kindness, regardless of size, cost, and complexity, can make a big difference in somebody's life and that this understanding inspires these visitors to perform an act of kindness.

Projects

Fundraising for the second building of the Free High School campus began in **January**, making this our third and final year of fundraising for the Dreams to Acts: Nicaragua project. We kicked it off with a very successful StageIt livestream concert at the Jacksonville Supernatural convention which raised over \$64,000.

In **February** of 2017, Cinde and other Random Acts staff members took a group of former years' fundraisers to San Juan del Sur to attend the grand opening of the Free High School's first building. It was a grand event, and since then students have been on campus regularly, using the building for their Saturday classes as well as extra English and computer classes during the week. We sponsored Barrio Planta Project's theater workshop for the second year in a row, and our group got to see their live performance during the visit.

The rest of the year was spent fundraising on Crowdrise, where we again asked supporters to raise \$5,000 and join us on a trip to San Juan del Sur in February of 2018. By the end of the year, 18 people had qualified for the trip (including 1 drawing winner as well as the top tipper from the StageIt concert) and we had raised almost \$160,000. Additionally, we received a grant of more than \$125,000 from our partner Child's Play, which was used to provide the campus with a variety of equipment from computers, interactive whiteboards, and audiovisual systems to a rainwater capture system and solar power.

Austin Drill and his crew completed the second building containing three classrooms (convertible into an auditorium) and a social area for the students to socialize and have lunch. They were also working on the plaza, walkways, and landscaping, to be completed in early 2018.

December 9th was graduation day in San Juan del Sur, and it brought the Free High School's total number of graduates to 1,081. A majority of those were women from rural areas. Many were at risk of wage slavery, drugs, or prostitution, but now have a degree and a much more promising future.

As the year wrapped up, we were preparing for our fourth and final volunteer trip the following **February**.

2017 Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Misha Collins

Danneel Ackles

Keith Bacon

Philip Schneider

Cinde Monsam

Genevieve Padalecki

Michelle Henning

Susan Markowitz

STAFF

Aimee Cummings

Dharanie Hewa Battage

Kelly Hoffman

Sam Garner

Allie Nicholas

Eloisa Armini

Laura Hewitt

Sara Carothers

Amanda Tucker

Hope Bixby

Lauren Mannion

Shahr Pathan

Andrea Vasilescu

Jennifer Willis-Rivera

Maria Christian

Stephanie Huffman

Anna Campbell

Jo-An Morin

Melanie Schmitz

Tracy Liu

Annie Houston

Juliana Su

Natalie Miller

Bec Cross

Julie Merar

Phillip Seitz

David Antonelli

Kae Winters

Rachel Miner

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Charlotte Dolphin

Emma Beattie

Kiri Lenagh-Glue

Andrea Nießen

Chay Chee Lim

Flo Techer

Nicole Sporer

Anita McAllister

Chris Gee

Jessica Parker

Sara Dmytryshak

Barbara Rubel

Christiana Tan

Kerry Peterson

Sarah Cavanagh

Bhumika Makwana

Emily Castle

Kimberley Patton

Suzie Setzler

Financials

\$359,792
 Dreams to Acts Haiti/Nicaragua

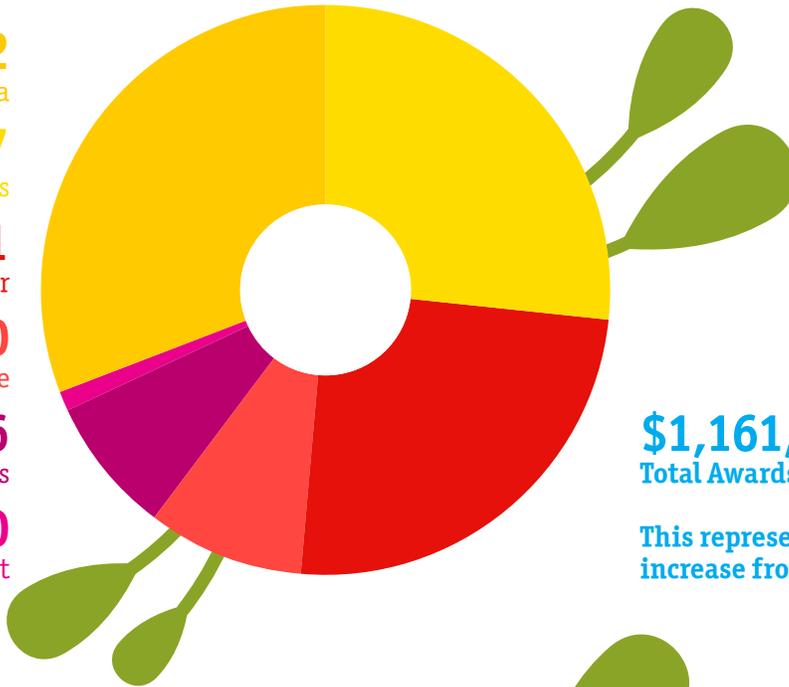
\$308,707
 Stronger than Storms

\$286,651
 Other

\$105,070
 Change a Life Syria/Dancescape

\$89,096
 Acts of Kindness

\$12,000
 Class Act



\$1,161,316
 Total Awards and Grants

This represents a 129% increase from 2016.

\$1,161,316
 Total Awards & Grants

\$43,750
 Operational & Office Expenses

\$14,360
 Travel & Convention

\$9,893
 Contract & Professional Fees

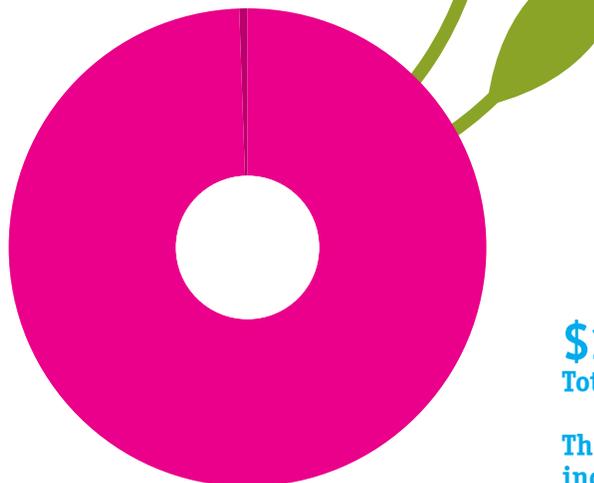


\$1,229,319
 Total Expenses

\$581,100
 Net increase in assets

\$1,802,352
 Contributions, gifts & grants

\$8,067
 Other revenue



\$1,810,419
 Total Revenue

This represents a 78% increase from 2016.



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