



Dani (staff at MacRes Assisted Living) poses for a photo with Geri (resident and member)

SPARKING RELATIONSHIPS...

... AMID THE PANDEMIC

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... TO BRING US TOGETHER

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... THAT BRING JOY

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... TO MAKE REAL CHANGE

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... WITH YOUR INVESTMENT

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YEAR IN REVIEW

When gathering people together and sparking relationships is the core of what you do, the pandemic and social distancing is truly a curveball.

This March, we transitioned many of our services to a virtual format or connected via phone while temporarily halting in-person gatherings to comply with the Governor's mandate.

Despite our new technology-loaner program, barriers to technology still exist for many members. And compliance with public-health guidelines for an organization like ours remains challenging, with ambiguous and continually evolving standards.

But amid so much uncertainty, relationships are the one thing that truly brings us together (even if remotely), inspires joy, and allows us to create change.

Michelle Meyer
Executive Director
Maybelle Center

We all long to feel cared for, loved, and valued. And yet many of our members experience marginalization by society.

It's hard not to internalize these messages when you hear them frequently – and the feelings of exclusion or devaluation can become a barrier to relationships.

Because of you, there's someone at Maybelle Center every day, actively reflecting our members' strengths and reminding them that we all have the capacity to do great things.

Each of us has something remarkable to share with others in friendship – and strengths, skills, and talents to contribute to a vibrant Portland.



We can't wait to share "hellos" and high-fives in-person again – and hopefully, it won't be long!

Our office renovation should be complete by early December, and we're currently putting together a plan for the safe return of members and essential staff. Stay tuned for more info.

Your support reminds me – and all of our members – that every one of us has the ability to do great things. And your investment is growing the kind of relationships that can make real change happen. ■

Occasionally we hear comments like, "Why would someone want to be friends with me? I don't have anything to offer." It's heartbreaking and simply not true.

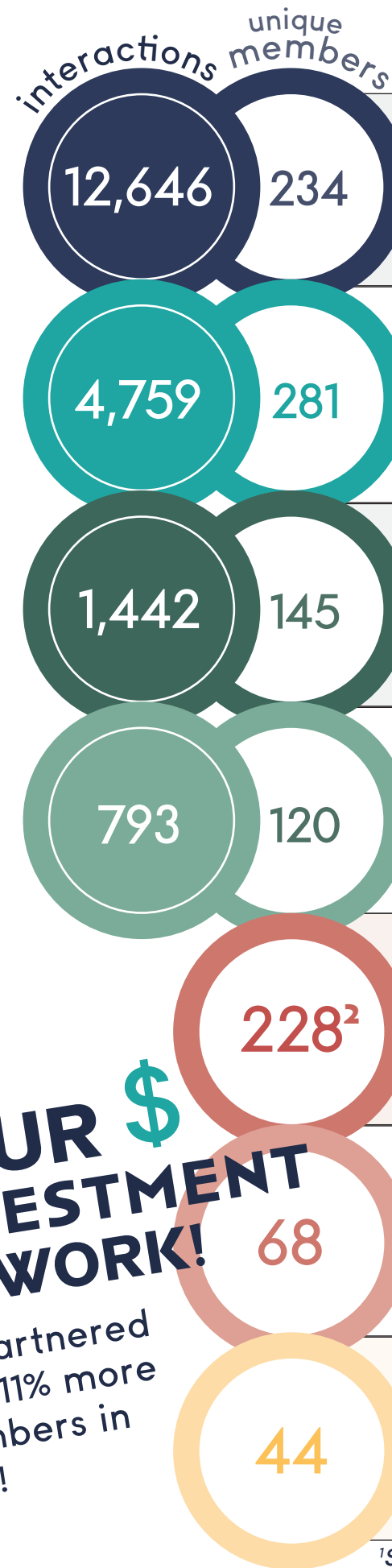


Maybelle Center member, Jacqueline, prepares to gather with fellow members in the park blocks. Thank you for supporting and celebrating their leadership! See page 4 for the complete story.

... TO BRING US TOGETHER

YOUR \$ INVESTMENT AT WORK!

We partnered with 11% more members in 2019!



SERVICES

COMMUNITY ROOM¹

A safe place to gather and grow friendships.

VISITS¹

Pairs of volunteers² meet with members weekly to provide a space to be deeply heard and understood - something we all need!

EMOTIONAL & SPIRITUAL HEALTH¹

Avenues to express joy, explore the big questions in life, and grow and build skills if needed. Our community choir is one of our favorites!

SUPPORT SERVICES¹

We meet one-on-one with members to break down barriers in accessing community resources.

STUDENT EDUCATION¹

Nursing students explore the complex link between poverty and health inequalities that can hinder care.

²All volunteers, including student volunteers

ASSISTED LIVING

Our 54 residents receive 24-7 care in a collaborative environment, ensuring every person can live as independently as possible.

AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS

42 affordable studio apartments.

¹Services currently being delivered virtually or via phone.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Construction & reopening

"The project started long before I became ED, but couldn't have been realized at a better time."

Michelle Meyer
Executive Director

Finding safe spaces to gather with friends during the pandemic has been challenging for many of our members. Our office renovations should be complete by early December, and we're prioritizing the reopening of our newly modified space to meet member needs safely.

CONSTRUCTION TOUR

with Michelle Meyer, Executive Director

COMMUNITY ROOM

A larger Community Room is essential for a safe reopening to ensure more space between members when they're sitting and talking. While we are limited to the building's physical footprint, the Community Room will increase by 1,000 square feet, and gain additional usable space by reconfiguring the room's flow.

CLASSROOM & VOLUNTEER AREA

While larger spaces are critical in COVID-times, even before the pandemic, our existing classroom often wasn't large enough to accommodate programming like choir.

And if you've ever been a volunteer or attended an event on that side, you'll be excited to hear that we're adding another entry door and a bathroom, so volunteers will not have to traipse all the way back through the other building!



Thanks to you, and a lifetime love of singing, Janie found "another family" with our choir in 2019, after moving cross-country with just two suitcases.

During COVID, Janie keeps connected by sharing her colorful personality and sense of humor during virtual choir and weekly calls with a cherished friend she met at her first choir practice.

Interview with
Maybelle Member
Janie



CHOIR

The simple gift
of sharing our
voices bonds
us together
and heals us
from within

Treasuring friendships

& bursting with song

**"It's like
you guys
were a
family -
a home
away from
home in a
lot of ways.**

**And I
missed
that."**

**How did you first
get connected with
Maybelle?**

I've been singing since I was five, in the school and church choir. I just sing my heart out. That's me - that's what I do. I even joined a ladies' barbershop quartet!

When I moved into my apartment, I didn't really talk to too many people. I met a Maybelle Center volunteer who said, "Did you know Maybelle Center had a choir?"

When I came to choir the first time, I was scared for a little bit. But everybody introduced themselves and made me feel really comfortable.

**How have you stayed
connected during the
pandemic?**

That first day in choir, I got connected to Jackie [a fellow choir member], and we started talking. Jackie and I now talk every Wednesday to keep in touch with each other. Jackie also helped me use Zoom, so I could go to remote choir practice.

I also generally talk to Cecily [Maybelle staff] once a week. Whenever I talk to Cecily, it's like I'm talking to my sister. I keep her entertained. I get her laughing and she can't stop. I'm always hoping she's not falling off of her chair!

What do you secretly love about yourself?

I'm the kind of person who you know you can count on in a pinch. I was raised to give the shirt off your back if you can - that's just me. I make it easy for people to sit there and talk; if you need someone to talk to, I'm the one.

**Residents at MacRes love your
pup. Can you tell us about her?**

Lola's not like any other dog - she's been a wonderful blessing for me. Last year, we started visiting the Residence (Assisted Living at Maybelle) on Fridays. I loved it.

I'd say, "Okay, Lola, we gotta go see your friends, and she would pull me all the way there. Because of COVID, Lola can't go see her friends at the Residence. And now I have a pouty dog on my hands!

"When I was growing up, I had an abusive family, and wasn't allowed to have any friends. Having friends now is really cool - I got people checking on me all the time and making sure I'm okay. That makes me feel good."

Unfortunately, sharing
our voices in an
enclosed space also
shares COVID-19

During the pandemic, the Maybelle Community Singers resumed practices virtually and worked towards a virtual "performance" by blending recording from each choir member into a unified sound.

Listen to our choir sing "Everybody" by Ingrid Michaelson at maybellecenter.org/everybody



Everybody, everybody wants to love

"My hope is that their project becomes a source of inspiration for you and motivates us all toward a future where everyone feels connected and like they matter, whether it's in the Maybelle Center community or your neighborhood."

Michelle Meyer
Executive Director



You are investing in the kind of relationships that are more than service transactions

And like most strong relationships, our relationships with members involve a give and take - sometimes you're the giver, sometimes you're the receiver.

And so, it shouldn't surprise us when members are the ones who are bringing joy into our lives.

Love, care, and investing in relationships MEMBERS TAKE THE LEAD

This fall, our members Jackie, Brayden, Jacqueline, Wendy, and Diann, planned and hosted a series of meetups in the park to safely connect with other members during the pandemic.

We invite you to watch the whole interview at maybellecter.org/leading2020 (Debuted at Hope in the Heart of Portland on 10/7/20.)



the members know that there are still people here who loves and cares for them. And we're here for them for whatever their needs are."

Jackie, Maybelle member & project leader

"The project is called 'Jive with Jackie.' I wanted to be an outreach to the people in the Maybelle community here, and where I used to live for almost seven years - the Helen Swindells [Building]. So, basically, what we're doing, is we're just hanging out at the park and reconnecting with each other. And letting



Brayden, Maybelle member & project leader

"This event is a gathering for members of the Maybelle Center to connect with staff and other Maybelle members. During this pandemic, Maybelle's mission is to break down the walls of social isolation; we have a chance to connect with members, so they don't feel so disconnected, so isolated. Because nobody wants to be cut off from the rest of the world."

... TO MAKE REAL CHANGE

4

... WITH YOUR INVESTMENT

- assisted living • affordable housing
- disrupting social isolation

“Inside My Walls”

by Jacqueline Veach

I want to connect for this my heart calls.
I've no strength. Day ends. Night falls.
I'm inside my walls where I tend to stay.
I'm wanting to do other, but I've no say.

My world I knew is separated by 6 feet.
I want to reach out, hug, not only meet.
Why be inside my walls? Can I depart?
I'm lonely! I don't know where to start.

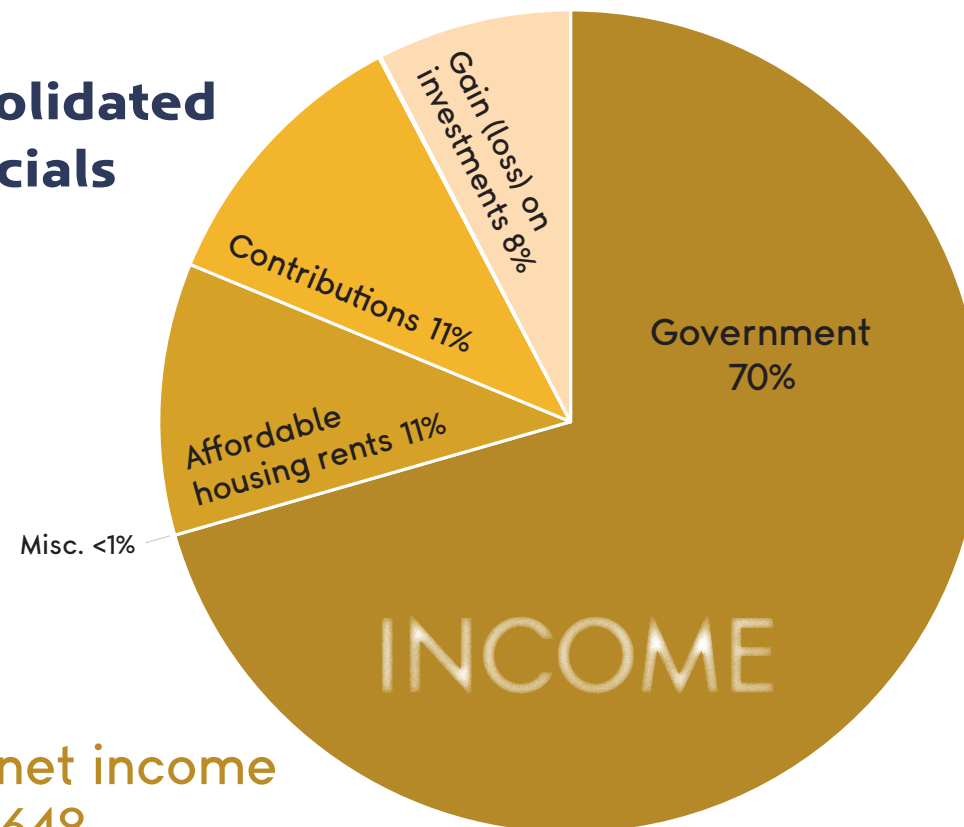
Surely there's others who feel as I do!
Inside my walls can I know this is true?
My walls cry out. Does someone hear?
Please find ways to know me this year.

I ask, am I truly alone inside my walls?
Is it just what I feel or is it full of flaws?
I don't know. So would you reach out,
And we can learn together? No doubt!



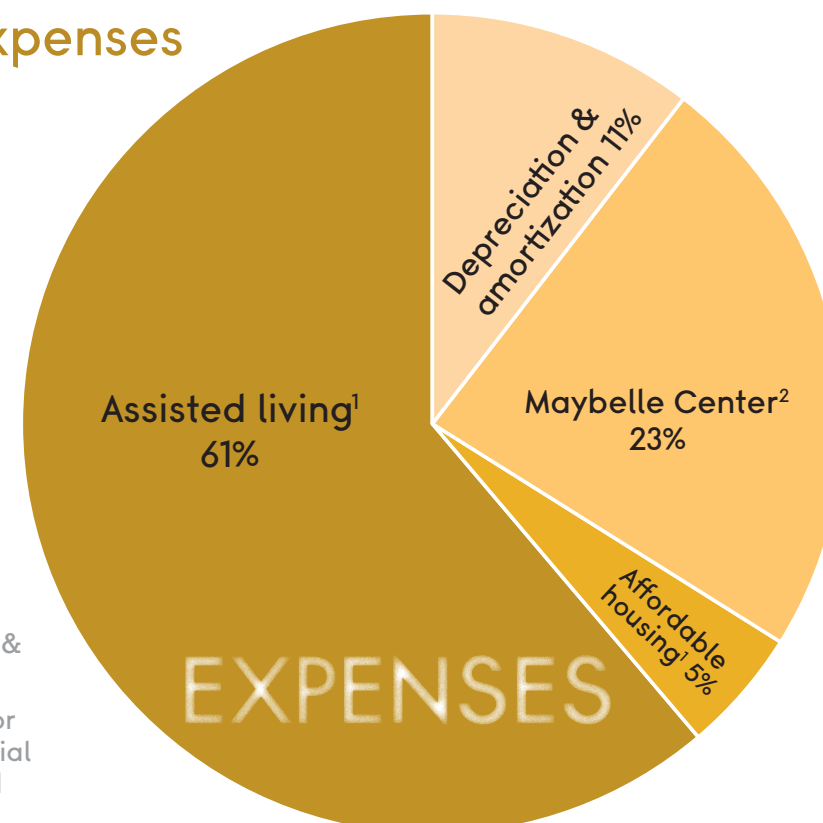
Jacqueline wrote this poem to share with fellow members. It's just one piece of their member-led connection project (see page 4) and a beautiful example of how we're building a more vibrant Portland together.

2019 Consolidated financials



Total net income
\$6,119,649

Total net expenses
\$5,657,673



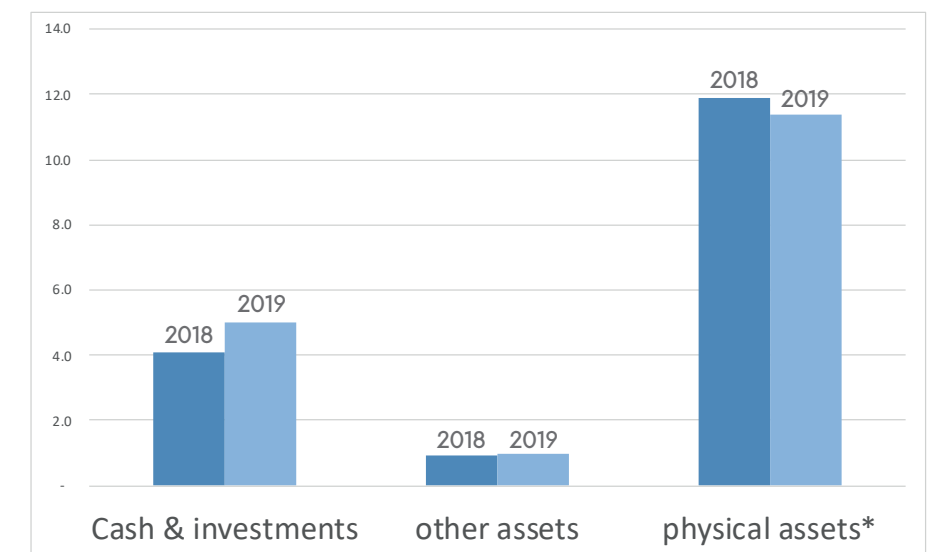
¹ Before depreciation & amortization

² Also includes cost for management/financial oversight of assisted living and housing

We run on lean budgets,
imagination, sweat & laughter
(sometimes tears)

So your dollar goes farther
& more of us feel the
warmth of connection

Assets (in millions)



Cash assets are used for working capital, plus long-term maintenance and financing needs of two buildings.

*net of depreciation

Programs & services
that remove barriers and
create opportunities to
grow connection²

More and more of you are
disrupting social isolation in
downtown Portland. **Thank you!**

Full donor list at maybellescenter.org/2019donors

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MAYBELLE

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY

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Portland, OR 97209

maybellecter.org

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Meet Maybelle
Member

Janie

<<ADDRESSEEF>>

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<<city>>, <<state>> <<zip>>

YEAR IN REVIEW

A REPORT ON YOUR 2019 INVESTMENT

SPARKING RELATIONSHIPS



MAYBELLE

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY

Board of Directors

Dave Demots, *Board President*

Carol Mitchell, *Vice President*

David Hougum, Ph.D., *Board Secretary*

Pete Craven, *Board Treasurer*

Jeff Perry

Jon Hofmeister

Kevin O'Brien

Nhi Nguyen

Nick Knapp

Sule Balkan

Michelle Meyer, *Executive Director*

We believe every person is irreplaceable and has something remarkable to share with others. Since 1991, we've built a more vibrant Portland by collaborating with residents in more than 30 buildings in the downtown area who face barriers to meaningful connection - so more of us can experience a healthy, connected life and contribute to a thriving Portland.

a 501(c)(3) non-profit

Tax ID: 93-1060938