

Annual Report



the Umbrella Club

A Quiet Helping Hand Can Make a
Life Changing Difference for Those in Need

2020

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President's Letter

Dear Friends and Supporters:

As President of the Umbrella Club, I want to thank everyone for their continued support during 2020 which was an extremely difficult year for everyone. As Covid shut down the world, we were only able to have one of our three fundraisers. Our Raffle, held on February 12th, just weeks before shutdowns, was our most profitable raffle ever! The Umbrella club netted just over \$150,000. Thanks to separate donations and our "Legacy Club" sponsors, we still had revenues totaling \$225,376 in 2020!

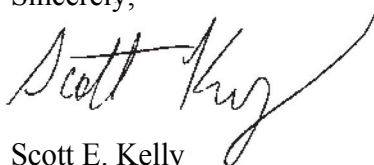
The sick and disabled children that we help with medical equipment, medicines, and therapies still needed our help despite closures. Some of these families had parents in the service industry hit the hardest in 2020. Our Club's focus shifted to helping them with food and clothing. Thanks to all of your support, we were able to help bridge the gap for these families until they could get government assistance and eventually get back to work. The Umbrella Club is truly blessed to have the generous supporters that we do so that we can keep our promises to the people that need us most!

We look forward to 2021 and hosting our three annual fundraisers: Our Winter Raffle, Summer Golf Outing and Endless Summer on the Sound held in the early fall. We are so proud of our 50 volunteer members who spend countless hours each year away from their families and work in order to put these amazing events together. Their hard work has really paid off. We are also very grateful to our many sponsors and supporters who help make all of our events so successful. We wouldn't be able to continuously aid and support the children and families we do without them.

We again have received a "Clean Audit Opinion" from our Auditors, the accounting firm: FML CPA's, Fiondella, Milone and LaSaracina, LLP. **Our Auditors confirmed that 89% of every revenue dollar we raised in 2020 went to programs.** This is great news because it shows that even during a difficult year when revenues were down, we still were able to generate such a high percentage to our programs!

On behalf of our Board of Directors and our members, as well as our families in need, I'd like to express our sincere gratitude for all that you have done to make us who we are now! Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly or anyone of our members. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Scott E. Kelly
President



Our Story

Fraternal Order of the Umbrella, Inc., d/b/a “The Umbrella Club,” is a non-profit, 501(c) 3 organization dedicated to providing compassion, support and financial assistance to families and children with severe illnesses or disabilities who reside in Fairfield County, Connecticut.



The Umbrella Club raises funds to help local children and families with medical and medical equipment needs. They are those who have unfortunately fallen through the cracks of various social nets for any number of reasons; those among us who lack the resources to help themselves.

Reaching out with a helping hand to touch the lives of families and individuals in need, the Umbrella Club is seen as “a shelter in the storm” – offering kindness and financial respite that provides those suffering with a renewed sense of hope and optimism. Sometimes all people need is a helping hand to move forward in improving their lives.



Families receive financial help at various Umbrella Club events



Who We Help & Our Partners

The Umbrella Club helps children and families who are experiencing financial hardship due to serious medical conditions and/or disabilities.

We work with the following partners who share our mission:

- Stamford Hospital Pediatric Emergency Department
- Yale Pediatric Eye Care Center
- NFL Alumni of CT
- St. Vincent's Special Needs Center
- Kids in Crisis
- ARI



Stella is doing well and having a great start to summer.

Thanks to the Umbrella Club, we were able to take Stella to Kennedy Krieger Institute in Maryland, a facility dedicated to children with disabilities. Stella met with multiple doctors and tried different mobility equipment.

Here are photos of a mobile stander we purchased for Stella so she can have more freedom and independence playing with friends.



Helping Families and Children in Need

The Umbrella Club strives to find families and children in need who have been passed over by every other organization. We know what a contribution can mean in changing the lives of others. To qualify as a candidate, the potential recipient must meet certain criteria and complete an application. Our Good and Welfare Committee reviews the eligibility and needs of each candidate and eligibility is then determined.

- We provide direct financial assistance to families
- We purchase medical equipment on their behalf
- We provide remodeling services to modify a child's home environment to meet their physical and medical needs



\$10,000 Gift to Golf Outing Recipient & Family

Where Do Our Donations Go?

Every year we give away in excess of \$200,000 to those in need

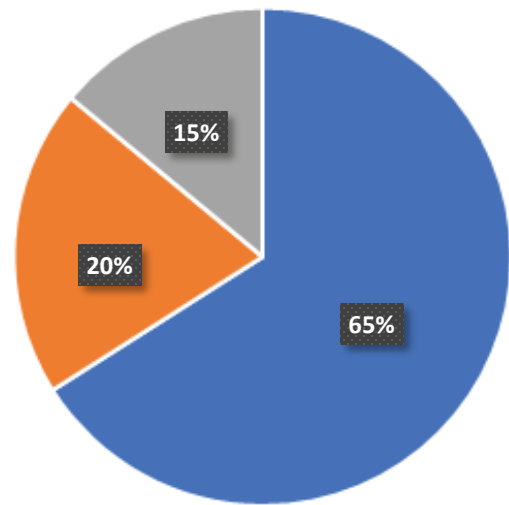
“We are not a one-and-done organization. We are here for you and will be here for you. If you need our help again, you're always welcome back.”

How Do We Do It?

We host three annual fundraising events:

- Winter Raffle
- Spring Golf Outing
- Late Summer Beach Party
“Endless Summer on the Sound”
- Donations & Grants
- Legacy Club

Donations



■ 65% FAMILIES ■ 20% PARTNERS ■ 15% FUTURE COMMITMENTS



Winter Raffle



Spring Golf Outing



Endless Summer on the Sound

Strong Financial Stewardship and Management



The Umbrella Club operates under the financial guidelines for charities as prescribed by the standards of the Better Business Bureau. As a 501 (c) 3 organization, annual tax return filings are available on-line to the public. The Books and Records of the Club are audited annually by an outside accounting firm: FML CPA's, Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina LLP of Glastonbury, Connecticut.

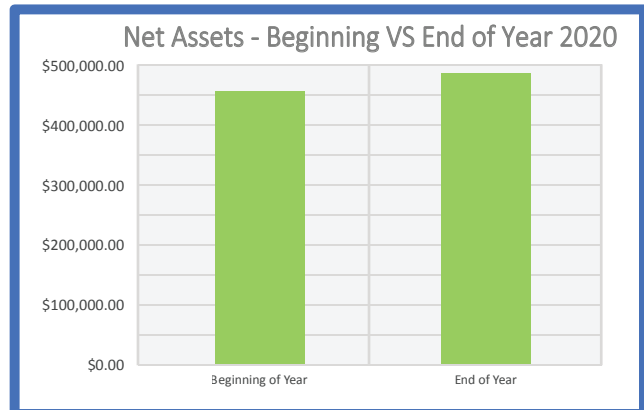
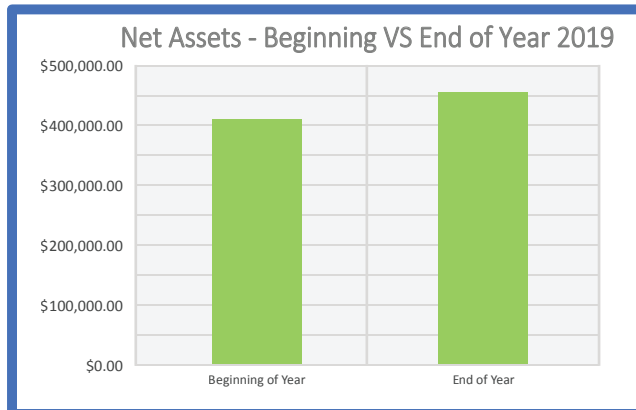
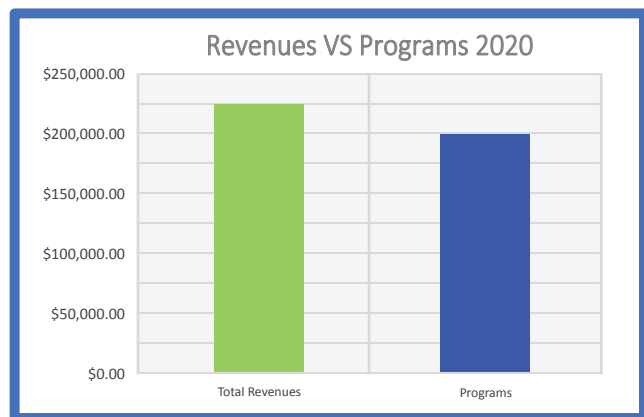
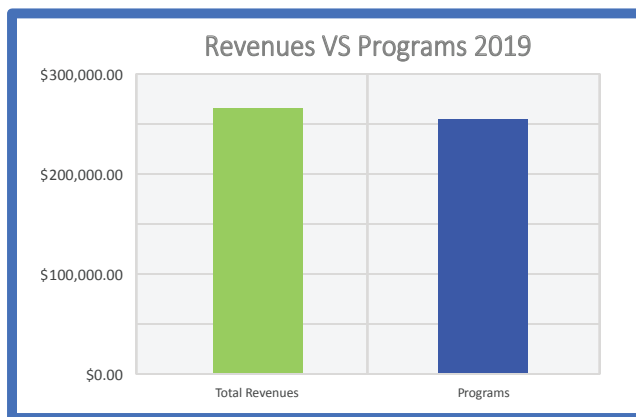
- Sufficient and stable assets to meet program costs well into the future
- 89% of revenues received go to programs
- Financial asset strength

Summary Highlights of 2020 Audited Financial Statements

(audit report available on request)

Fraternal Order of the Umbrella, Inc.

Statement of Revenue Collected, Expenses Paid and Changes in Net Assets Modified Cash Basis for the year ended December 31, 2019 & 2020



Total revenues	\$266,490
Programs	\$254,613
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$413,399
Net Assets End of Year	\$456,593

Total revenues	\$225,376
Programs	\$200,491
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$456,593
Net Assets End of Year	\$487,666



Umbrella Club

Board of Directors

Scott E. Kelly, President

Vice President-Investments, Ameriprise
Financial, Westport, CT

Michael G. Mezzapelle, CPA, CFP, Treasurer

President of Mezzapelle & Associates,
Stamford, CT

Gene Fignar, Secretary

Attorney at Law, EMF Law Associates,
Southport, CT

Christopher Fuller, Vice President

Owner & Operator, Giovana's Wine & Spirits,
Stamford, CT

William Mulhall, Vice President

Partner, Merritt Healthcare Services, Ridgefield, CT

Joseph A. Giancola, Past President

Retired. Former Vice President/Partner
Peraco Chartering (USA) LLC (Ret.)
Board of Directors, Association
of Ship Brokers and Agents (USA) Inc.
Stamford, CT

Robert L. Del Vecchio, Director

Retired. Former Vice President
Skaarup Ship Brokers, Inc. and
ICAP Shipping USA
Norwalk, CT

Thomas R. Heide, Director

CEO, Heide & Company, LLC
Norwalk, CT

Yari Usherov, Director

VP Offshore Distribution
Fidelity Investments, Norwalk CT

Contact Us

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