



Bridge Lacrosse  
2019-2020 Annual Report



Our mission is to use the sport of lacrosse to broaden the horizons of our community's youth.





*#bridgefamily*

*#bridgefamilia*



Where to start when recapping our 2019-2020 year? In a year of two very different halves, let's begin in September of 2019 and the beginning of what we thought was going to be our continued trend of fantastic growth and new horizons.

It seems hard to remember that far back, but as we moved into a new school year, we had our largest fall semester, began our Bridge Select program and built out a variety of new academic support tools. From there, we moved to spring and the creation of our K/2 program and the largest expansion of programming in our history.

Then, March 15, it all came to a halt. In the second half of our year we ceased all in-person programming and would wait out the remainder of our season via Zoom calls. It was a tough transition for us but with the support of many, we continued to engage with our kids.

And, while many of us have been able to safely return to the field, the reality of COVID-19 still surrounds most of us and our communities. We feel so fortunate to have our health and opportunity to continue our mission, but understand how hard it's been for many.

With a new year approaching, we want to thank everyone that has supported us through new challenges and new realities.

David Higbee | Executive Director



## Family

We know that not every community, neighborhood and school has the same access to resources. It is an inequity that for many requires immense support to overcome. For more than a decade, we have seen how a lacrosse stick can be used to help overcome and close this opportunity and resource gap.

Bridge exists as a sports-based youth development nonprofit to provide access to the unique benefits of the sport of lacrosse. From a simple stick and clinic, to college graduation, our goals go beyond just the sport of lacrosse. We are proud of the years of work and immeasurable outcomes for kids.

**389**

Student-Athletes

**54**

ZIP Codes

**78%**

Free & Reduced Lunch

**130**

Volunteers

**48% & 34%**

Black & Hispanic Student-Athletes

**10,805**

Hours of Programming

**93**

Schools Represented

**56% & 44%**

Male & Female Ratio

**2,155**

Volunteer Hours







## Programs

Operating high-quality programs relies on two key tools. The first one is a lacrosse stick and the second is our culture of family. We are proud of the culture we have built and the sense of belonging that our student-athletes and families feel.

By providing access to the sport of lacrosse, we can begin building a positive relationship with a student-athlete and families, and over the years we can provide a wide range of programming options.

In the summer, we seek to reach as many youth as

possible through camps and clinics, while also providing in-depth options like our overnight Summer Academy. In fall, we encourage our kids to love the game and seek to improve while also addressing academic needs and social/emotional reinforcement.

Lastly, our spring season is the backbone of our programs and with more than 200 kids in 2020, we compete as a full K-12 organization across the state. It's been a tougher than usual year, we we feel so fortunate to have been able to operate most of our usual programming.



## Highlights

Even in an overall difficult year, we still had some incredible highlights and firsts within our family. Between September 2019 and August 2020, we had three of our student-athletes commit to a NCAA lacrosse program.

- Demarieh Wesley | Hampton University
- Kimoni Greene | Hampton University
- Jocelyn Buford | University of Dallas

Without a doubt the most adorable growth for our Bridge Family came in the form of our two new K/2 teams. By adding these teams, we became a full K through 12 program and organization, allowing a program option for a full-range of kids in southern Dallas.

While in the midst of COVID-19, we furthered our relationship with the Premiere Lacrosse League as a member of the PLL Assists program. During their championship series, the PLL and the Chrome Lacrosse Club provided us amazing national visibility and huge engagement for our kids.

Lastly, with the year being especially tough for the Class of 2020, we awarded \$8,000 for the Detweiler Family Scholarship and our outgoing seniors. We are proud of the ten members of the Class of 2020 and are proud of their resilience and heart.



# Our Model & Impact

For our youngest student-athletes at Kindergarten through 2nd grade, we emphasize fun and teamwork. On a lacrosse field, it seems like a simple task but we understand how valuable this time is and the opportunity we have to begin building healthy habits and weaving joy and positivity into each day.

For our elementary student-athletes we reinforce important social and emotional (SEL) skills. We know that lacrosse and sports can be a natural tool and healthy environment for growth.

In middle school, our focus shifts to positive relationships and self-worth. We know that peer groups become increasingly more important and we work to ensure that our teams build lasting and healthy bonds.

During high school, we begin providing a number of academic support tools. From individual mentoring, high school internship support, and test prep, we work to provide individualized support for our high school kids.

80%\*

of Elementary surveys improved in at least 1 SEL capacity

85%\*

of HS surveys improved in at least 1 sports SEL capacity



\*SURVEY DATA COLLECTED AND EVALUATED THROUGH HELLOINSIGHT







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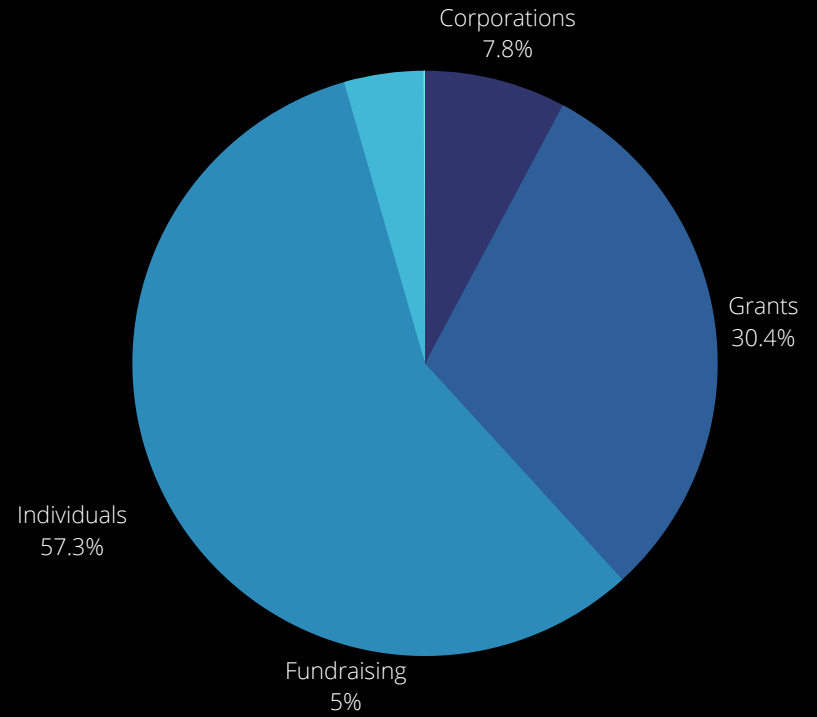
William Coben

Zeke Gibson

# 2019-2020 Fiscal Year

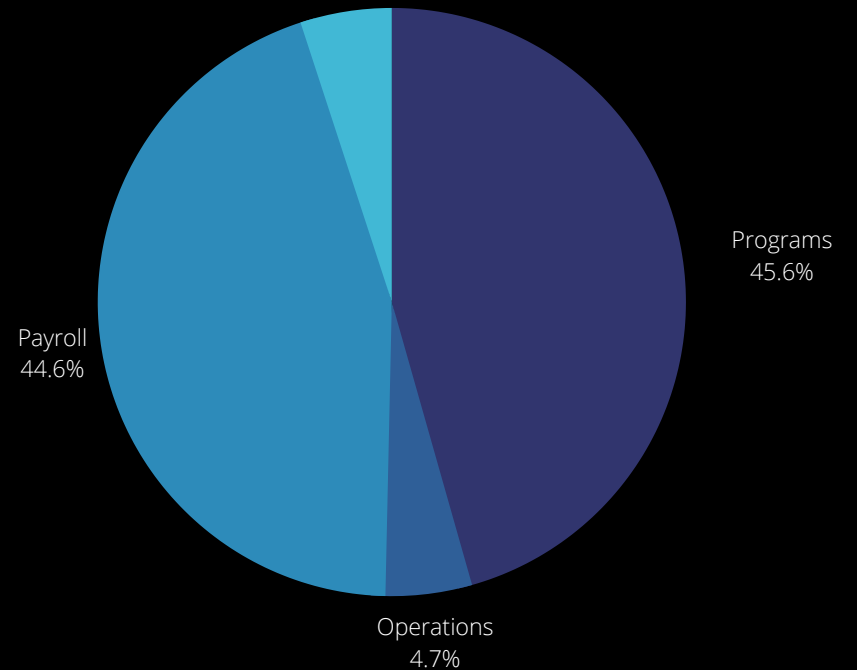
## Revenue

Corporations \$10,367.50  
Grant Submitted \$40,389  
Individuals \$66,327.84  
Program Fees \$5,819.17  
Sales of Apparel \$107.51  
Uncategorized Revenue \$614  
Total Income \$133,393.24



## Expenses

Fundraising \$8,950.05  
Operations \$8,453.02  
Payroll Expenses \$79,448.58  
Programming \$81,184.28  
Total Expenses \$178,035.93





# Donors & Supporters

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Women's Sports Foundation

Zainab Bala



# Black Lives Matter

On May 25th, the murder of George Floyd ignited more than 400 years of exhaustion, outcry and rightful anger in the Black community. The movement for true and lasting racial justice has spread to every corner of the globe and taken hold within people of every background, color, religion and belief. People are demanding real change and real healing. For far too long, none of that has happened and communities of color have suffered and died at the hands of systemic racism.

For weeks, we've reached out to and listened to many members of our family. Like so many in the Black community, they're tired, saddened and frustrated. But also, hopeful and motivated and inspired. We've seen so many in our family protesting, organizing and advocating, especially our student-athletes and alumni. For the first time in our 10+ year history, it finally feels like the ball is moving in the right direction, the direction of reconciliation and tearing down a culture of both apathy and hate.

To our Bridge Family, we remain ever committed to each of you. To provide resources, a partner to throw to, a platform and perhaps now more than ever, an ally. We have much to learn, unlearn and to ultimately, to do, and we hope everyone will be along for the process. We are committed to continuing to promote diversity, equality and inclusion, but to now also actively fight racism, injustice and white supremacy.





