













Harrison Port Chester Rye Rye Brook

# Annual Report 2020

#### **DEAR FRIENDS,**

While looking ahead with hope and the promise of a brighter year, we combined our messages to focus on SPRYE's resilience, creativity, quick thinking and community spirit.

As comics and writers joked about hindsight and the year of perfect vision, 2020 started out optimistically. At SPRYE, we looked forward to a busy year with new members and new programs. We soon realized that 2020 would instead force us to take a fresh look at who we are as individuals, as communities, and as an organization.

SPRYE's Valentine's Day Tea was to set the stage for a packed year of large community programs, trips to local and state attractions, and our traditional get-togethers for donors, volunteers, and members.

The news of a global health pandemic started to surface, and soon our neighboring communities were highlighted on national media. Health and government officials recommended, if not mandated, that individuals wear masks, social distance, stay home, and avoid groups or crowds.

With these recommendations, SPRYE sought new ways to engage our members and volunteers, filling the calendar with Zoom book clubs, virtual tours, video chair yoga, and a very active phone tree.

The photos you see throughout this report show some of these virtual events and the friends, volunteers, and community supporters who came together to give back to those in the community who needed SPRYE the most, showing we can stay connected despite being apart.

As we take this last look back on 2020, we cannot forget to mention the role technology has played in health care, lifelong learning and social interaction. We know there is so much more we can and will do to bring technology to our members and older adults in our communities. This will be our focus in 2021.

Together we thank you, our loyal donors and faithful volunteers. You not only allowed SPRYE to remain open, serving our members and communities, but allowed us to evolve to meet the challenges we face today and in the future.

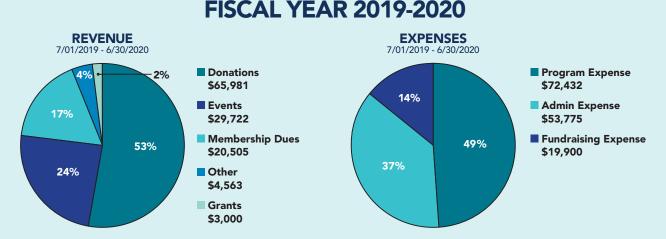


With Sincere Thanks, Michele Thomas President



Sincere Thanks and Gratitude, Marie Johnson Executive Director

SPRYE carefully monitors its revenues and expenses and focuses on delivering relevant services and programs to its members. We accomplish this by making use of volunteers to assist our Executive Director. As with many organizations, SPRYE has been impacted by the pandemic, and accordingly, many of our programs were repurposed and new initiatives undertaken. We received a Payroll Protection Program loan of \$17,798 in May 2020 to help cover our operating costs. SPRYE is eligible for loan forgiveness and has submitted the loan forgiveness application to the lender.



Note: SPRYE Financial Reporting is on a fiscal year basis covering July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

## SPRYE 2020 — A YEAR IN REVIEW

Serving Harrison, Port Chester, Rye and Rye Brook

hroughout the challenging year of 2020, **SPRYE never closed**, remaining open to assist our members with services during extraordinary times when they truly needed us.

The pandemic did not prevent SPRYE from offering necessary transportation to critical doctor's appointments and delivering food and medicine to members' homes. Nearly 500 roundtrip rides were provided by SPRYE volunteers.



Prior to the stay at home demands, a warm and lively **Valentine's Tea and Jazz** event was held at the renovated Crawford Mansion.

In March, volunteers established a phone chain calling members weekly to see what form of assistance they required.



Using Zoom and other technology, SPRYE kept members engaged with six virtual art tours,10 current events discussions, and 12 outdoor yoga sessions.

Six members received personal birthday visits with balloons and cake!



SPRYE created its first **Book Club** and met via Zoom 30 times to discuss short stories and bestsellers such as *American Dirt*. A Singing Ice Cream man made visits to three senior housing communities and delivered frozen treats to 75 older adults.

The **SPRYE ARMCHAIR Benefit** was held in October honoring our local EMS teams. Viewers enjoyed the virtual affair safely from home. Funds raised that

evening supported SPRYE and the EMS organizations.

Holidays were especially hard on our restricted members. On **Thanksgiving Day**, volunteers distributed specially-prepared meals to 50 members

Between Christmas and Hannukah, plants and treats were delivered to the entire membership. A **Holiday Drive-Thru** at Crawford Park ended the year complete with hot chocolate delivered by friends and volunteers directly to those who drove by in their cars.





SPRYE sought to assure that no member was left unconnected during these unprecedented times.

#### THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!

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Thank you to those who gave gifts in kind this year: A & S Fine Foods Aurora of Rye Bella Cucina Maria Whitby Castle R & M Woodrow Jewelers

\*Every effort has been made to assure the accuracy of donor names. If a name has been misspelled, omitted, or listed improperly, please accept our deepest apologies and contact us at 914-481-5706.

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### Serving: Harrison, Port Chester, Rye and Rye Brook

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