



2020

mrc

2020 Impact Report



Year at a glance

- 4 Our Mission
- 6 Social Enterprises
- 10 Yearly Financials
- 11 Navigating COVID-19



348

Refugees, asylees, and immigrants (RAI) impacted* through employment & community gardens

**based on average household of six people*

Pierre, refugee from Democratic Republic of Congo



\$11-\$18

wage range of RAI staff

22,306

hours of fair-wage employment
for refugees, asylees, and
immigrants (RAI)

Maria, refugee from Burma



37

RAI individuals employed in
dignified, fair-wage work at
Open Arms Studio and
New Leaf Agriculture

Plus, **31** community
gardeners and
workshop attendees
in 2020

OUR MISSION

Creating livelihood opportunities for refugees in Austin, Texas.

Multicultural Refugee Coalition is an innovative nonprofit organization employing refugees in fair-wage, dignified work through two social enterprises: a textile production studio and organic farm.

We believe creating a livelihood for one creates opportunity for many.

Through fair-wage salaries, community gardens, and on-the-clock, paid professional development trainings, we are creating livelihood opportunities for not only our refugee staff, but also for their families and community.



Open Arms Studio

The Open Arms Studio employs a diverse team of refugee, asylee and immigrant women who produce high-quality goods for private designers and retailers seeking to make ethical products.



New Leaf Agriculture

New Leaf Agriculture trains and employs refugee farmers from traditional farming cultures in dignified work that reconnects them to the earth in their new communities.

“

Coming here and having an **opportunity to work** with coworkers, just loving, laughing and sharing the peace—it really gives us strength.”

Krishna, New Leaf Crew Chief, refugee from Bhutan





“
Working at Open Arms is inspiring to me and I’m proud that I’m a part of it. I can see a wonderful ‘**woman powers**’ in this place.

- Maria Vung
Assistant Studio & Production Manager,
refugee from Burma

Pictured (Top to Bottom):
1. Fabric face mask cut-outs ready to be sewn
2. Narges, refugee from Afghanistan,
shows off a home-sewn face mask
3. Rosalina, immigrant from Mexico, Project Repat

2020 IMPACT SNAPSHOT: OPEN ARMS STUDIO



35

full time and part time team members:
refugee, asylee, immigrant (24) and
non-refugee staff (11)



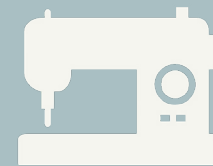
5

countries represented including
Burma, Afghanistan, DR Congo,
Mexico and Eritrea



4,436

face masks donated to
health professionals in our community



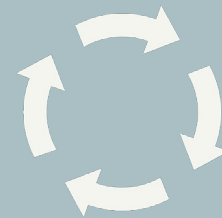
21,424

products made for
private-label partners



9,762

T-shirt quilts created for
partner Project Repat



208,000

pounds of fabric recycled

SOCIAL ENTERPRISES: NEW LEAF AGRICULTURE



“
Feeding my Austin community during this hard time fills my heart with joy...this makes me feel that I am doing something good in my community.”

- Wandaka Musongera
Assistant Farm Manager, refugee from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Pictured (Top to Bottom):
1. Pierre, refugee from DRC, celebrates USDA Organic Certification
2. Radishes in the fall
3. Wandaka with seedlings

2020 IMPACT SNAPSHOT: NEW LEAF AGRICULTURE



16

full time & part time team members:
refugee (7), non-refugee (1),
seasonal (8)



254

members served weekly
through New Leaf's Community
Supported Agriculture (CSA) program



20,000

pounds of organic
produce grown



573

hours logged by New Leaf
volunteers



89

different types of produce
grown at New Leaf farm

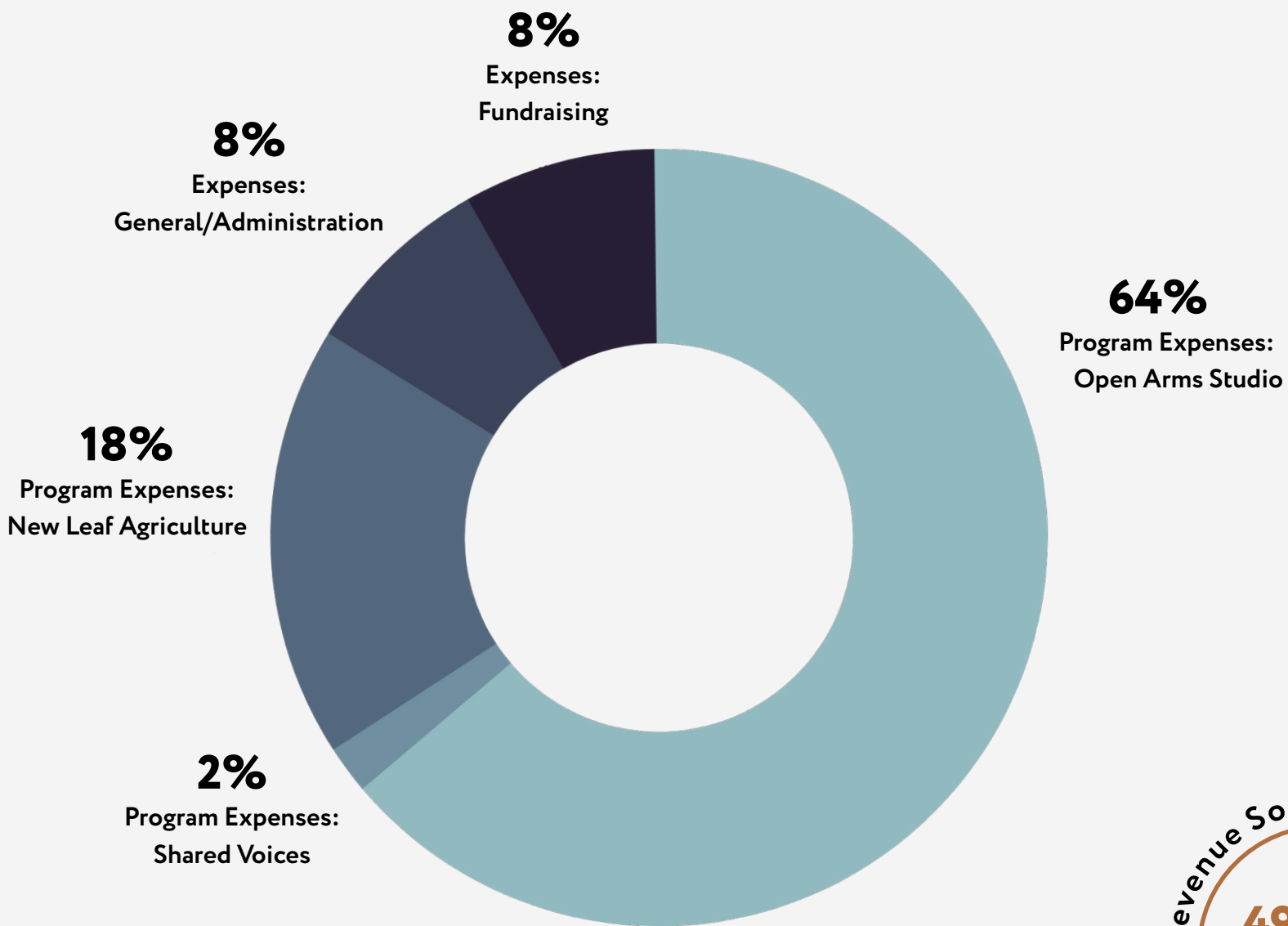


9

wholesale and
restaurant partners

Our 2020 Budget Breakdown

Total Revenue: \$1,214,401.32



Through our progressive financial model, social enterprise revenue makes up **nearly half** of our annual income.

Additional Income:

- 10.67% Government Grants
- 9.89% Restricted Donations & Grants
- 1.92% Events & Misc.

Revenue Sources

49.98%
Social Enterprise Revenue

15.17%
Businesses & Individuals

13.20%
Unrestricted Grants



25

hours of paid English
as Second Language (ESL)
taught in 2020

11

attendees of our
first Farm Education
workshop

4

ESL Volunteers
in 2020

Pictured: Farm Education Workshop, October 2020

Looking Back at an Unforgettable Year

It's no secret that 2020 brought tremendous change for the Multicultural Refugee Coalition. Due to the pandemic, we were forced to pause our English as Second Language (ESL) program early in the year and pivot to sew-from-home production at the Open Arms Studio, where the team began producing masks for the Austin community.

Growing demand for local produce brought a huge surge in CSA membership for New Leaf, selling out *three* consecutive seasons. While this year kept most of us at home, MRC worked to provide additional learning opportunities for our refugee community, including the introduction of a new Farm Education initiative that offers monthly courses to refugee farmers interested in learning the necessary skills to grow produce year round in Texas.



Program Update: Shared Voices

In March of 2020, MRC discontinued Shared Voices Interpreter Services. In early 2020, Shared Voices trained **14 individuals** as professional community interpreters (including **3 immigrants**) across **2 languages**—Spanish & Portuguese