The events that unfolded during 2020 were nothing short of historic. Like so many other organizations, our voice and purpose have been challenged through unprecedented times, which thankfully have guided us toward new opportunities and ways to come together.

And while it feels like we have traveled so far, we remain rooted in the same values that have carried us the whole way. Knowing this, we are humbled by those who have gone ahead of us, particularly those who we have lost because of the pandemic. Their stories, along with those who will lead us into the future, give context for why we are all here to serve one another, and why 2020 will be a year that we will never forget.

This ACB spirit was formed over six decades of work, empowering individuals who are blind and visually impaired to ask for more, to demand equality, with ACB as our united voice. Our core values have continued to serve as a compass to guide us through the difficult days ahead. And they have forged a path forward for us even when it feels like we are entering uncharted territories.

Chief among our values this past year was flexibility. When the world came to a grinding halt, ACB stepped into the void and redefined the way our community interacts and shares our experiences. We ventured into the first virtual convention of its kind, which allowed us to expand our audience and our reach. Embracing honesty and integrity, we did everything we could to ensure that every voice within ACB could not only be heard but also be respected. And when our members responded so positively to this newly formed virtual community, ACB’s leadership demonstrated great initiative by adapting in a manner that would sustain this new voice within the organization for years to come.
Of course, we could not achieve the success of 2020 alone. Our collaboration with long-time friends, partners, and advisory board helped to both push and pull us in the right direction to strengthen our resolve and rise above the fear of the unknown. We listened not only to our members and the larger blindness community for their advice, recommendations and support, but we also strengthened this organization in a manner that will help us to be prepared for what may come.

Where ACB stands today is quite different from where we stood at the end of 2019. And yet despite all these life-changing moments, the American Council of the Blind experienced a renaissance that redefined our purpose in the 21st century and allowed us to build our community together. This is the year that will forever be remembered as the one where the world was forced to keep a distance from one another, but we as an organization instead found new ways to remain connected.
HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020

- Over $1,000,000 worth of volunteer hours
- Peloton collaboration for accessible equipment
- 1,500 virtual convention registrants with overwhelming corporate sponsorship contributions
- Over 100 conference breakout sessions with podcasted content
- Adopted the Entrepreneurial Operating System (EOS)
- Established the newly formed Advisory Board
- Over 2,500 Community Events March – December
- ACB partnered with Procter & Gamble to distribute 2,000 emergency care packages in six metropolitan regions for individuals who were blind and negatively impacted by the pandemic
## Financials

### Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Grants</td>
<td>$543,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fees</td>
<td>$421,507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>$58,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Investment Return</td>
<td>$430,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>$554,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrift Stores</td>
<td>$59,008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,066,865</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$1,324,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; General</td>
<td>$284,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$197,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,805,916</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net</strong></td>
<td><strong>$260,949</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>$357,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$5,045,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assets</td>
<td>$28,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>$81,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,512,690</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Liabilities & Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liability Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>$560,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets (Unrestricted)</td>
<td>$3,420,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets (Restricted)</td>
<td>$1,531,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,512,690</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Program Expense by Percentage

- Fundraising: 16%
- Convention: 11%
- Scholarships: 13%
- Audio Description Project: 6%
- Information & Peer Support: 7%
- Advocacy: 15%
- Membership Services: 10%
- Public Awareness: 4%
- Management & General: 18%
ADMINISTRATION & RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

An organizational process commenced enabling ACB to have a forward-focused vision, to base decisions utilizing the strategic plan, and track progress towards completion of each goal. Tony Stephens was hired as Development Director to oversee ACB’s fundraising.

ADVOCACY

ACB’s advocacy throughout the COVID-19 pandemic strived to increase access to accessible voting; accessible COVID testing and vaccine information; and reasonable accommodations to ensure students and employees with disabilities maintained access to education and employment in distance learning and remote work environments, respectively.
AUDIO DESCRIPTION PROJECT
ADP celebrated its 11th year with a record of 40 entries to the BADIE contest (Benefits of Audio Description in Education), an Audio Description Project Conference with multiple sessions held virtually, and thousands of described streaming programs, television listings, and DVDs posted to the ADP website.

CONVENTION
Held first-ever virtual ACB conference and convention, enabling greater participation in the annual event, whether actively contributing at the meetings or listening on ACB’s radio streams.

INFORMATION, REFERRAL & PEER SUPPORT
ACB’s IRPS efforts include responding to resource outreach; establishing Be My Eyes Specialized Support as a communication channel; and hosting community calls, conference and convention events, and publishing blogs and Braille Forum articles on topics of interest for ACB members and the broader community.

MEMBERSHIP
We have been reminded that membership is all about relationship building. This is something we’ve been doing through connections made in our daily community events via Zoom, peer-to-peer support with our affiliate leaders every week, and by providing other opportunities for people to learn and connect with us as a Friend of ACB (a program introduced this year), finding us as a resource on the Be My Eyes app, or hearing us on ACB Media.

PUBLIC AWARENESS
The public awareness steering committee guides content featured on ACB’s communication channels as well as strategies for event promotion. In 2020, the committee developed the ACB Voices Blog and ACB-Conversation list.
STATE AFFILIATES

Alabama Council of the Blind
Arizona Council of the Blind
Arkansas Council of the Blind
California Council of the Blind
Colorado Council of the Blind
and Visually Impaired
ACB of Connecticut
Delaware Council of the Blind
and Visually Impaired
D.C. Council of the Blind
Florida Council of the Blind
Georgia Council of the Blind
Hawaii Association of the Blind
Illinois Council of the Blind
ACB of Indiana
Iowa Council of the United Blind
Kansas Assn. for the Blind
and Visually Impaired
Bluegrass Council of the Blind
Kentucky Council of the Blind
Louisiana Council of the Blind
ACB of Maine
ACB of Maryland
Bay State Council of the Blind
Michigan Council of the Blind
and Visually Impaired
ACB of Minnesota
Mississippi Council of the Blind
Missouri Council of the Blind
Montana Blind & Low Vision Council
ACB of Nebraska
Nevada Council of the Blind
New Jersey Council of the Blind
ACB of New Mexico
ACB of New York
North Carolina Council of the Blind
North Dakota Association of the Blind
ACB of Ohio
Oklahoma Council of the Blind
ACB of Oregon
Pennsylvania Council of the Blind
ACB of South Carolina
South Dakota Association of the Blind
Tennessee Council of the Blind
ACB of Texas
Utah Council of the Blind
Vermont Council of the Blind
ACB of Virginia
Washington Council of the Blind
Mountain State Council of the Blind
ACB of Wisconsin
Wyoming Council of the Blind
SPECIAL-INTEREST AFFILIATES

Alliance on Aging & Vision Loss
American Association of Blind Teachers
American Association of Visually Impaired Attorneys
ACB Diabetics in Action
ACB Families
ACB Government Employees
ACB Lions
ACB Next Generation
ACB Radio Amateurs
ACB Students
Blind Information Technology Specialists

Blind LGBT Pride International
Braille Revival League
Council of Citizens with Low Vision International
Friends-in-Art of ACB, Inc.
Guide Dog Users, Inc.
Independent Visually Impaired Entrepreneurs
Library Users of America
Randolph-Sheppard Vendors of America
Visually Impaired Veterans of America

ACB wishes to extend special thanks to all our generous contributors, with particular thanks to the following foundations:

Aid Association for the Blind of the District of Columbia
Delta Gamma Foundation
Dr. Scholl Foundation
The Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation
Macular Degeneration Foundation
ACB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Dan Spoone

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
Mark Richert

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Ray Campbell

SECRETARY
Denise Colley

TREASURER
David Trott

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Kim Charlson

ACB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Bishop
Donna Brown
Sara Conrad
Dan Dillon
Katie Frederick
James Kracht
Doug Powell
Patrick Sheehan
Michael Talley
Jeff Thom

ACB STAFF

Eric Bridges
Executive Director

Nancy Feela
Administrative Assistant

Kelly Gasque
Executive Assistant & Multimedia Design Specialist

Cindy Hollis
Membership Services Coordinator

Erika Keller
Human Resources

Sharon Lovering
Editor

Nancy Marks-Becker
Chief Financial Officer

Clark Rachfal
Director of Advocacy & Governmental Affairs

Claire Stanley
Advocacy & Outreach Specialist

Tony Stephens
Director of Development

BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS

Deb Cook Lewis
Paul Edwards
Zelda Gebhard
Susan Glass
Penny Reeder