



Austin CREATIVE REUSE

ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2021



A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of Austin Creative Reuse,

One year ago, I don't think any of us could have foreseen the lasting impact that the Covid-19 global pandemic would have on our communities. The challenges have been significant, but they have also made way for reasons to celebrate.

We were blown away by the support of our ACR community this year. Volunteers pivoted to processing donations from home, and our donation appointments became the hottest ticket in town. We collaborated with new partners and received overwhelming support for the Covid protocols that kept our community safe. Our unique and nimble staff rose to every challenge with their creativity and unfailing dedication to our mission.

This support allowed ACR to continue to put affordable creative materials back into the hands of our community - and not in the landfill - during a year when creativity may have been needed most. And perhaps most importantly, it allowed us to keep our entire staff fully employed during this challenging year.

We invite you to flip through these pages and celebrate what we have accomplished together.

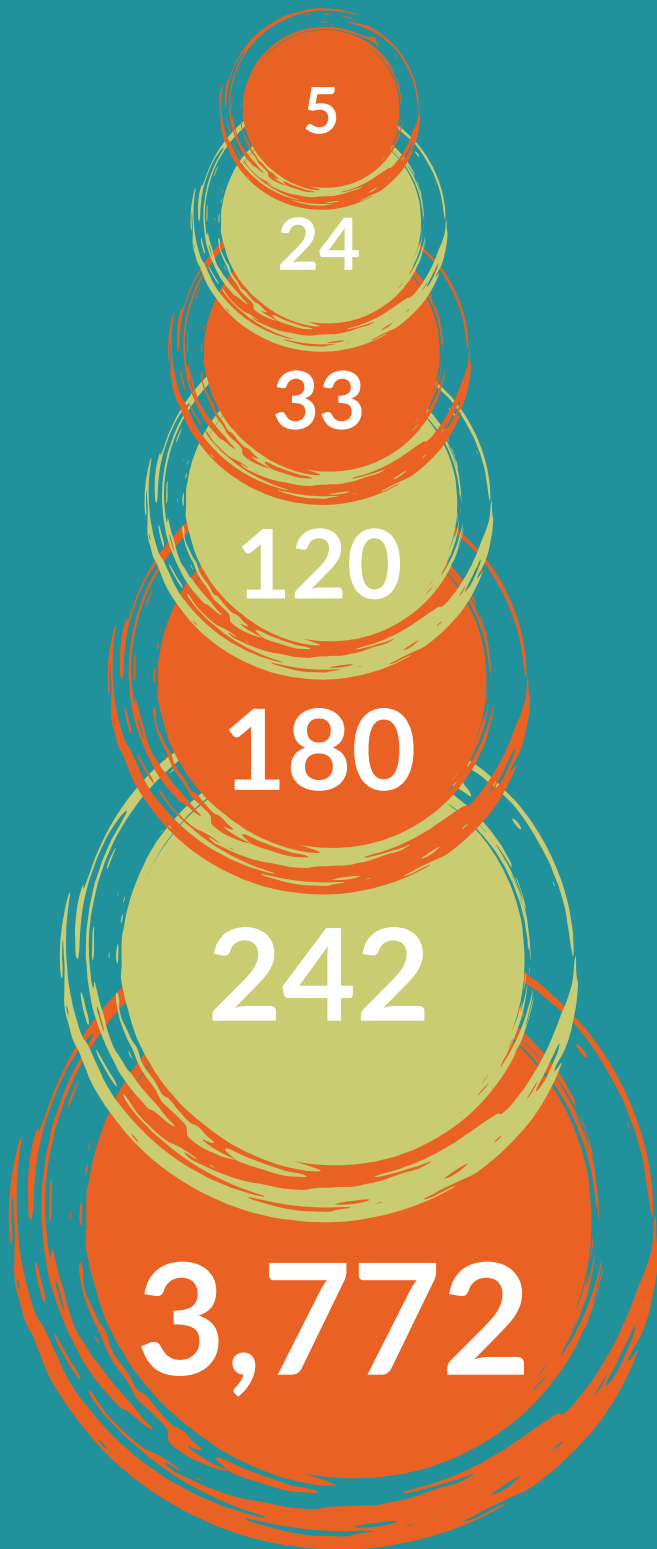
Thank you for making reuse dreams come true!

*Jennifer
Evans*

Jennifer Evans
Executive Director



THE YEAR IN NUMBERS



YEARS SINCE WE OPENED AUSTIN'S FIRST CREATIVE REUSE CENTER

OUTDOOR SIDEWALK SALES HELD

VENDORS FOR OUR FIRST OUTDOOR REUSE MARKET

PIECES SELECTED FOR OUR FIRST ONLINE REUSE GALLERY

STUDENTS SERVED THROUGH VIRTUAL FIELD TRIPS

DAYS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DUE TO THE PANDEMIC

ORDERS PLACED IN OUR ONLINE STORE

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Our volunteers are the engine that keeps ACR running! They process donations, create tutorials for our website, help customers at our outdoor sales, sit on our Board of Directors and so much more.

This year, volunteers contributed nearly **30%** of our total labor hours!

118

UNIQUE
VOLUNTEERS

7,797

VOLUNTEER HOURS
CONTRIBUTED

138,212

DOLLAR VALUE OF
VOLUNTEER HOURS



COMMUNITY IMPACT

Despite our center closure, ACR remained committed to serving our community throughout the pandemic. We continued to accept material donations by appointment and provided supplies at no cost to community partners working to fight the effects of the pandemic.

500

Dollars worth of educational kits donated to students learning from home in our neighborhood



658

Dollars worth of materials donated to mask making initiatives, enough to make 1,934 masks!



222,000
POUNDS
OF MATERIAL
DONATIONS
ACCEPTED

=



One year's waste from 81 Austinites, or the equivalent weight of 2.5 average planes!

99% was
diverted
from the
landfill!

Our staff and volunteers had to move around every single one of those pounds in order to get them back into the hands of our community!

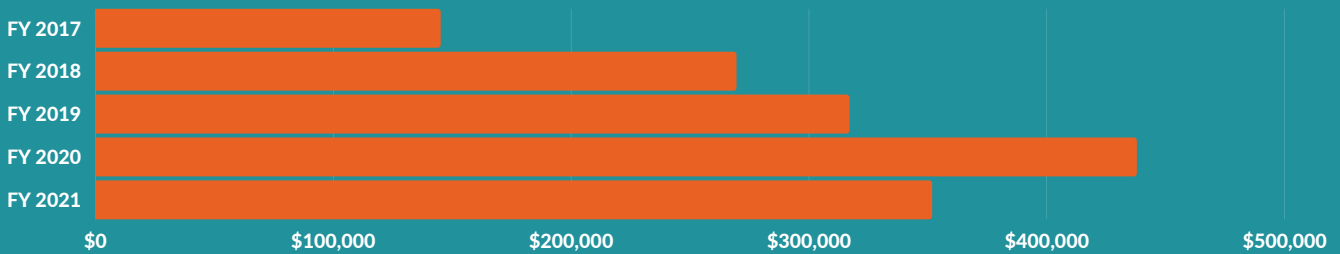
TOTAL DIVERTED TO DATE = 466 TONS!

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

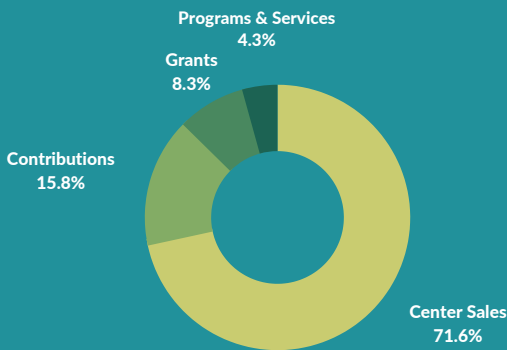
When the pandemic hit, ACR quickly pivoted to set up an online store and offer contactless curbside pickup. We also got creative and hosted outdoor sales, offered personal shopping via videoconferencing, and even had a pop up shop in the Brentwood neighborhood! In the end, our revenue was down **only 19.7%** compared to the previous year.

TOTAL REVENUE

April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021

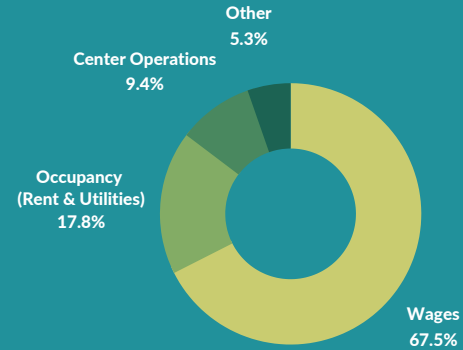


WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM



We believe that creative reuse is for everyone and intentionally price our materials to be affordable. The average cost per item we sold last year was \$1.26. What could that buy at a traditional craft store? Not much! At ACR, it's a gallon bag of crayons, five fabric remnants and much more!

WHERE THE MONEY WENT



Why were wages such a high percentage if ACR was closed? We kept our staff employed throughout the entire pandemic shut down without a single furlough, lay off or cut in hours. We even added paid time off for all staff, including those who work part time!



At Austin Creative Reuse, we pride ourselves on being open and honest with our community. This year, we acquired the Guidestar Platinum Seal of Transparency.

PARTNERSHIP



ACR spent an entire semester working with a team of students from UT McCombs. They helped us streamline our data collection processes, create a new volunteer portal and revamp our website, which will be launched in the summer of 2021!

RECOGNITION

ACR is the proud recipient of awards and recognition from the following organizations!



OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

CITY OF AUSTIN

AUSTIN GREEN



BUSINESS LEADERS



Windsor Park Neighborhood

SUPPORTERS

We are grateful to our major grantors and donors for helping us be successful in this difficult year.



WHAT FOLKS ARE SAYING

Vernon B
VOLUNTEER

"I really enjoy everyone at ACR. It's my crowd of warmth. It's like the conversation that I hear when I am volunteering, to hear what people are discovering or could create with something they just found. GREAT SOUNDS. Thanks for warmth."

Lauren H
CUSTOMER

"This is a fabulous organization run by fabulous people. I really dislike how our society has become a throwaway culture, but organizations like this give me hope for our future. We need to prioritize recycling and reusing materials that already exist, and the icing on top of the cake is that's this organization's goal."

Gloria N
NEIGHBOR

"ACR is such a great neighbor to have! I love to see all their items being reused. And they are really being part of our neighborhood despite a pandemic. Let's keep supporting ACR!"



GET INVOLVED

SHOP

VOLUNTEER

DONATE

MAKE

SUPPORT

FOLLOW



austincreativereuse.org