





2021 was an exciting year for Oasis! We were happy to welcome back many of our participants and we started two new programs to reduce social isolation among older adults—the Silver Connect Program and the In-Person Program.

I celebrated my 30th anniversary as the San Antonio Oasis Executive Director this year. It has been wonderful to have a job that I love with an organization that is so dedicated to our mission of promoting healthy aging through lifelong learning, active lifestyles and volunteer engagement.

We appreciate your support of our organization and look forward to many more years of offering high quality educational classes and programs.



**BRENDA  
SCHMACHTENBERGER**  
Executive Director  
San Antonio Oasis

2022 is a milestone year for Oasis as we are celebrating 40 years. As we reflect on Oasis' work last year through our 2021 annual report, we do so through the lens of the global pandemic and how it has affected all of us. While two years is a short time compared to 40, the last two years were possibly the most challenging. It makes us appreciate our roots, the journey to get here, and our impact over these first 40 years that much more. It's even more important to consider what the NEXT 40 years of Oasis will look like. The United States is on the cusp of an unprecedented population shift. By 2060, United States Census projections anticipate that half the population will be over 50, with a 92% increase in adults aged 65 and over. This shift in age distribution is attributed to decades of lower birthrates, medical advancement, and more attention to the impact of healthier lifestyles. Longer retirement periods spark a reconceptualization of what living out the "golden years" looks like. Oasis is evolving to accommodate these changes for a world in which adults are working and living longer. We hope that you, and new generations of older adults, will join us on this transformational journey over the next 40 years!



**PAUL WEISS, PHD**  
President | Oasis Institute

## LISTENING IS LOVE

The phone line has become a lifeline since the pandemic thanks to the Silver Connect program at San Antonio Oasis. Silver Connect, a telephone chat line, offers older adults the chance to connect and engage with friendly, trained volunteers for support, reassurance, resources, and an opportunity to share life experiences. The program began as a response to the isolation many older adults felt during the pandemic.

Nancy Thompson became a Silver Connect volunteer near the beginning of 2022. "I appreciate that Silver Connect has a clear purpose," she says. "We're there as someone to talk to, to listen, and to provide support and resources. Oasis offers excellent training, including how to be a good listener and how to handle problems, so we feel competent in our volunteer roles."

"Even a 10-minute conversation can be enough to keep someone feeling connected, socialized and productive," she says. "One of my favorite quotes is: 'Being heard is so close to being loved that for the average person, they are almost indistinguishable.' We all need someone to listen to us. As a volunteer, I'm devoted to listening. Everyone has such interesting stories to share."

While Silver Connect is designed to help older adults who call, the program benefits volunteers on the other end of the line, too, Nancy says. "Studies show volunteers live longer lives than those who don't volunteer. As a volunteer, I feel like I'm making a difference in someone's life."

Nancy often acts as a sounding board for callers. She says a common theme in calls are housing, independence, and lack of family connection. "Many

seniors who call have limited or no family. Silver Connect helps people evaluate what they want to accomplish and to live their lives to their satisfaction. We guide older adults to define their concerns, decide what they want to do, and give them options, information and resources."

Nancy's commitment to volunteering for Silver Connect is rooted in gratitude. "When my mother was sick, I lived 1,500 miles away," she says. "Thankfully, friends and family helped. Someone did that for me, so I want to do the same for someone else." She continues: "I'm honored to provide a very small service through Silver Connect. I get as much out of the calls and conversations as the callers. It's not a one-way conversation. My life is richer because of hearing their experiences and learning from them."

Nancy appreciates the variety of programs and classes at Oasis that make such an impact on older adults. "I love the lifelong learning Oasis offers," she says. "Losing social connections leads to depression. But Oasis offers something for everyone and opportunities for relationships that keep the brain synapses popping to keep us alert with a healthier mind."

The Silver Connect chat line is available Monday-Friday, 5-9 p.m., and weekends 9 a.m.-9 p.m. To chat with a volunteer, call Silver Connect at (210) 756-5551.



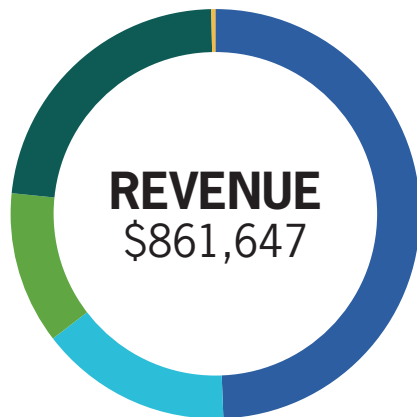
# SAN ANTONIO OASIS IMPACT

**168**  
Volunteers

**11,419**  
Class Enrollments

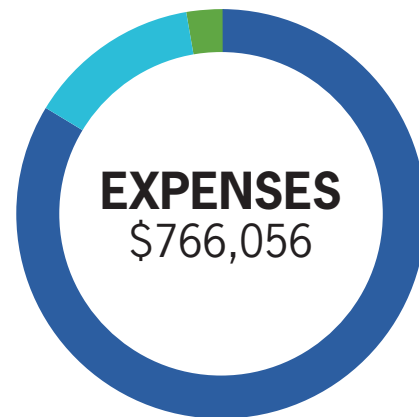
**8,947**  
Volunteer Hours

**1,316**  
Participants



- **\$426,173**  
Contributions & Grants
- **\$130,004**  
Program Revenue
- **\$103,370**  
Paycheck Protection Program

- **\$200,068**  
In-Kind Contributions
- **\$2,032**  
Other



- **\$640,579**  
Program Services
- **\$104,193**  
General & Administrative
- **\$21,284**  
Fundraising

# NATIONAL IMPACT

Partnered with **281 schools** across the country.

Placed **1,230 tutors** in the Tutoring Program.

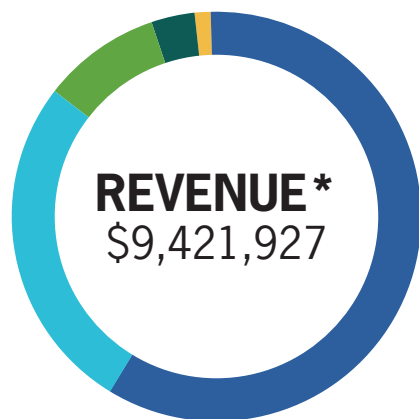
Provided **46,250 volunteer hours** to local communities.

Provided **2,250 volunteers** to local communities.

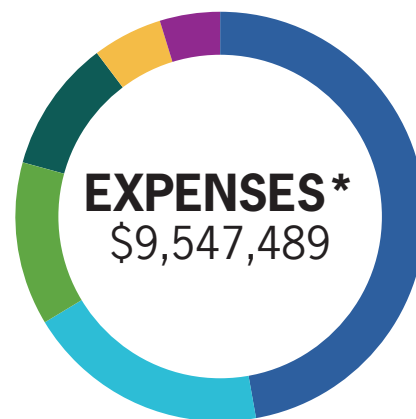
Enrolled **78,225 participants** in Oasis programs.

Served **1,044 communities** across the country.

Supported **15,750 participants** through Oasis programs.



- **\$5,585,044**  
Government Funding
- **\$2,535,594**  
Contributions & Grants
- **\$888,305**  
Program & Partner Revenue
- **\$310,146**  
In-Kind Contributions
- **\$102,838**  
Other



- **\$4,510,929**  
Health Programs
- **\$1,837,158**  
Administrative
- **\$1,215,897**  
Education Programs
- **\$998,187**  
Volunteer Programs
- **\$531,905**  
Fundraising
- **\$453,413**  
Technology Literacy Programs

\*Source: 2021 Consolidated Financial Statement Audit



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