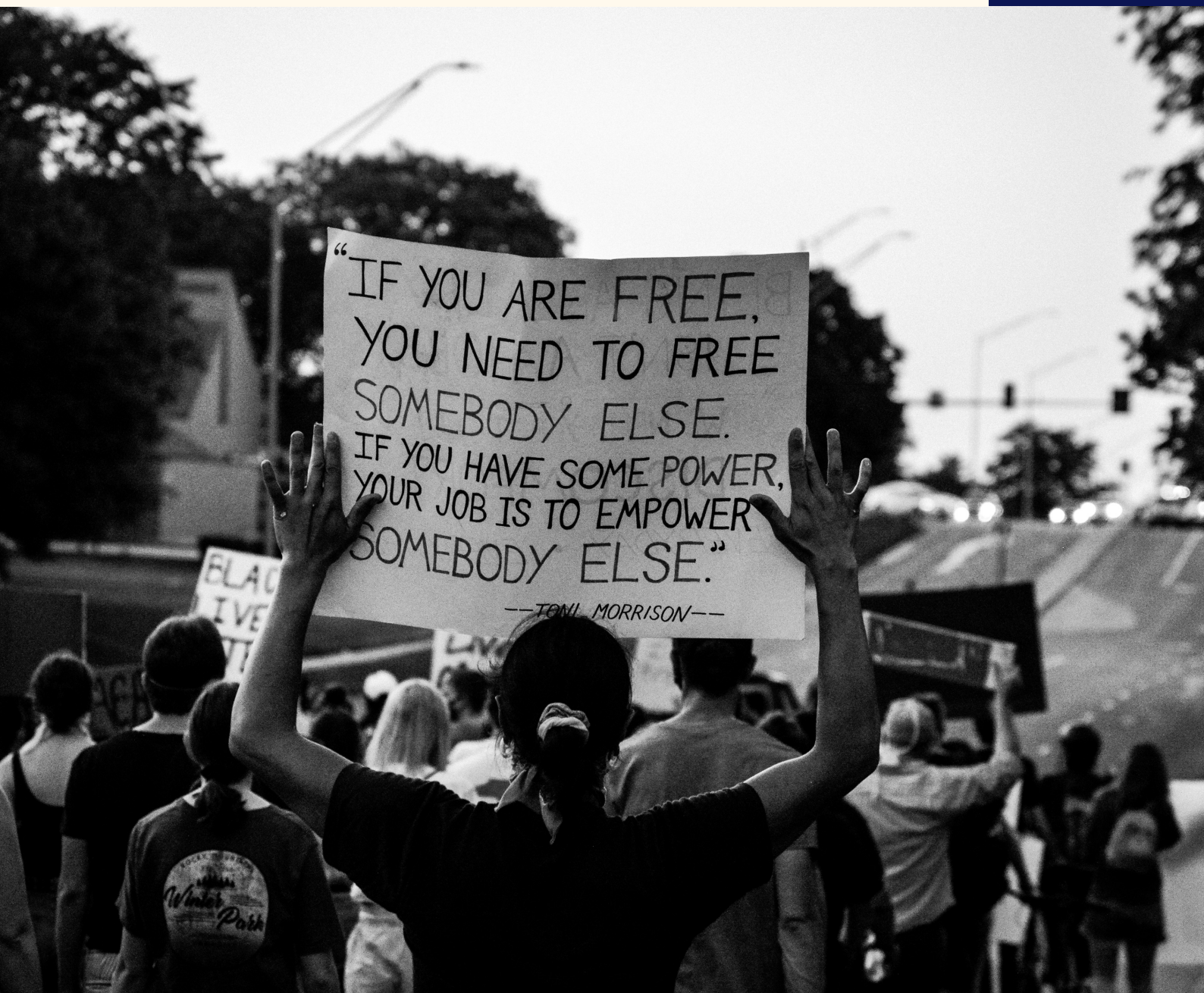


TENNESSEE INNOCENCE PROJECT



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Message from the Executive Director

Wow! It feels great to have two years under our belt. Two years of fighting for justice and giving hope to others!

In our first two years we have made tremendous strides in establishing a permanent, full-time innocence movement in Tennessee. 2019 was a year for planning and executing the basic form and function of the organization. In 2020, thanks to pro bono support from attorneys in Tennessee, we provided meaningful and significant legal representation. The following are some highlights from 2020:

- Received and processed nearly 100 requests for assistance
- Worked with 15 volunteer attorneys to implement an application review process and actively review applications
- Worked with 13 pro bono attorneys to provide direct counsel to clients
- Secured the right to DNA testing for 3 clients
- Conducted new investigations in cases for 6 clients
- Increased support from pro bono attorneys from 800 hours in 2019 to 3,000 hours in 2020
- Produced a statewide virtual event featuring Dr. Yusef Salaam of the Exonerated 5 and more
- Tripled our number of communications via social media and email
- Submitted our first applications for Federal Government and ABA grants
- Hired an Operations Coordinator and Intake Fellow
- Increased revenue raised in 2020 compared to 2019, despite the pandemic
- Expanded the Board of Directors and Advisory Council
- Accepted into the Innocence Network (the first organization from Tennessee!)

In 2021, we will deepen our substantive legal work as we continue to develop the organization's base of support with an eye toward longevity.

We are learning that the need is great. Several of the cases we are reviewing (or have accepted) began asking for help 15 or 20 years ago. As we appear in courtrooms across the State, it may be the first time that courts have been asked to consider DNA testing or claims of actual innocence. We are charting new territory with every case!

We are only able to chart new territory because of you. Your support allows us to fight for freedom. Your support allows us to respond to a letter and give hope for the future. Your support allows us to educate others about how innocent people can end up behind bars.

We are incredibly grateful for your support! Here's to bright days ahead in 2021.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Van Dyke'.

Jessica Van Dyke
Executive Director and Lead Counsel

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

PRO BONO SUPPORT

13 DIRECT COUNSEL ATTORNEYS

In 2020, TIP worked with 13 pro bono attorneys to provide direct counsel to clients.

15 INTAKE REVIEW ATTORNEYS

15 volunteer attorneys worked with TIP staff to implement an application review process and review requests for assistance.

3,000 PRO BONO HOURS

TIP's incredible attorney partners contributed 3,000 pro bono hours in 2020.

INTAKE

106 APPLICATIONS

In 2020, TIP received and investigated 106 new applications for representation.

36 APPLICATIONS PENDING

36 applicants completed each stage of application review and are awaiting a final decision.

46 TN COUNTIES

TIP received applications regarding cases in 46 of Tennessee's 95 counties. Nearly half were from just two counties- Davidson and Shelby.

IN 2020, TIP ALSO:

SECURED THE RIGHT TO DNA TESTING FOR 3 CLIENTS

CONDUCTED NEW INVESTIGATIONS IN CASES FOR 6 CLIENTS

FILED FRIEND OF THE COURT BRIEFS IN 2 CASES OF NON-CLIENTS ON IMPORTANT TOPICS OF LAW

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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WHY I SERVE

Knowing that another person is suffering unjustly, languishing alone in prison, is outrageous and unbearable. Serving on the board of the Tennessee Innocence Project is a privilege I don't take lightly. It's an honor to support the TIP team in their fight for justice so that their clients can restore their lives and reclaim their birthright of freedom.

Mary Broome,
Board of Directors



WHY I SERVE

I cannot imagine the hopelessness of an innocent person incarcerated for a crime he or she didn't commit. I give of my time to the Tennessee Innocence Project because we provide the last hope for the truly innocent.



Garry Ferraris, Board of Directors

WHY I SERVE

As someone who has spent a great deal of time studying criminal justice and race, I am keenly aware of miscarriages of justice. Serving as a board member of the Tennessee Innocence Project is a way for me to be a force of change on these issues.



Dr. Rosevelt Noble, Board of Directors

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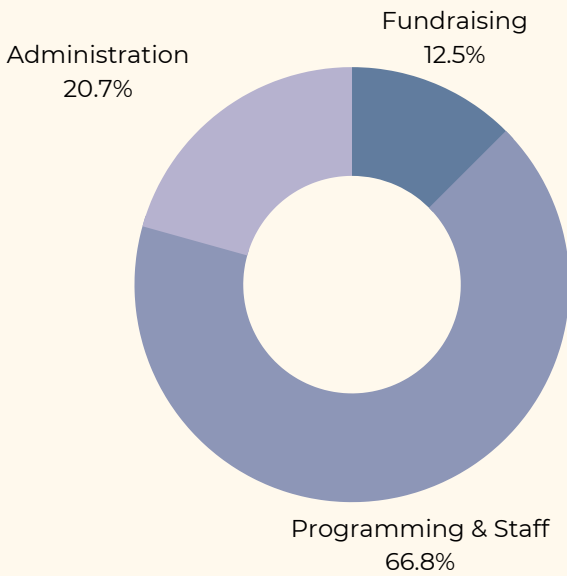
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FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

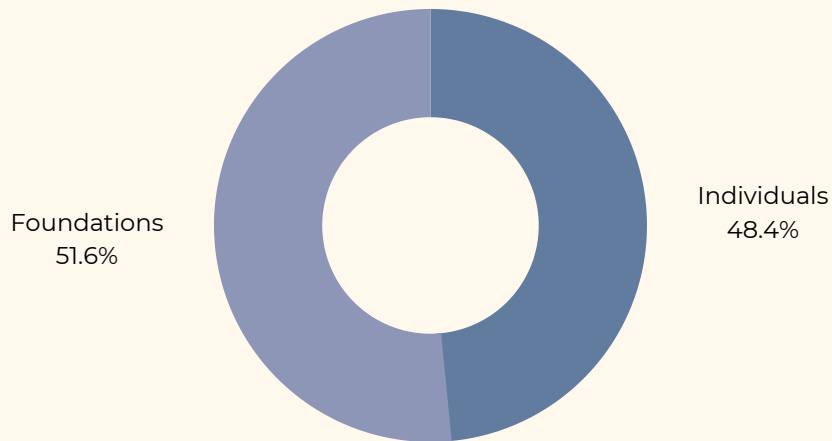


EXPENSES



Administration	\$57,485
Fundraising	\$34,766
Programming & Staff	\$185,782
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	\$278,033

REVENUE



Foundations	\$209,750
Individuals	\$197,028
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	\$406,778

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WHY I GIVE

*I believe in justice and the
Tennessee Innocence
Project's mission.
Justice can't be served if an
innocent person is wrongfully
convicted and incarcerated.*

Charlena Fuqua,
monthly sustainer

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