





## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Dear Friends and supporters,**

2020 was a difficult and challenging year. While there were lots of discussion about COVID challenges for the US economy, there is little talk about how the current crisis is impacting the non-profits section. COVID has had a damaging impact on the charity sector. Over the last year, charitable giving has declined across the industry forcing many non-profits to close their doors. The situation is paradoxical as the need is growing while support is declining. In 2020, JAAS foundation focused on Washington, US needs as well as maintaining its global focus on helping people around the world.

Especially at this time, the world needs – now more than ever – unity, humanity, and compassion for those around us. The events of last year also highlighted that no one should have to feel unsafe doing the most basic day-to-day activities – taking a walk, driving home from work, or even shopping – just because of the colour of their skin, their religion, physical appearance or beliefs.

We will continue to do our best to provide free educational activities teaching kids live long skills. As we introduce English and digital literacy to developing countries, we are careful to recognize and preserve the cultural identity of everyone we serve.

We believe that our success is predicated on our ability to establish a rapport with people in a way that takes into consideration what is the most important in their lives, appreciates their cultural identities, and works within those parameters.

**Aleksey Sinyagin**  
**Founder and CEO, JAAS Foundation**







## STATE OF NON-PROFIT INDUSTRY

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a catastrophic effect on the state of the Non-Profit Industry. Support from donors is crucial to sustain non-profits at any time. From the response to our survey, a small portion of donors did plan to increase their donations in response to the pandemic, while 54 percent planned to maintain their donation levels. Younger generations planned to increase their donations, while millennials explained that they were going to give more in response to the pandemic. Bloomsburg reported that a fifth of donors decided to stop donations after two months. However, the rest decided to continue giving donations. The concerns over a recession and the economy were a huge trigger in people deciding to decrease their donations to charity.

While individuals might not have been able to donate as much as before, corporate giving soared in the last few months and accounts for more than \$5 billion dollars of donations as stated by Candid, a group that records global philanthropy.

Yet like much of the non-profit sector, the YMCA charity found itself to be in financial jeopardy, just as it was needed the most. Their revenues are now down by 30 – 50 percent. The majority of their staff have been furloughed and without help, hundred of branches may be facing closure.

A complication of this is that as donations reduced, the demand for non-profit organizations has rose because more people need assistance. Smaller non-profits are especially vulnerable, and some may have fallen through the cracks. In fact, the New York times has suggested that former donors are now among those in need. Tim Delaney, president and chief of the National Council of Non-Profits has said that 'people who used to donate to non-profits are now standing in line to receive services, which tells you while demand is souring, the resources are plummeting'.



As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, even though billions of dollars have been donated to pandemic relief efforts, many non-profit organizations that depend on smaller donations now face financial difficulty. Rick Cohen, chief operating officer of the U.S based National Council of Nonprofits has stated 'some non-profits are facing high demand, others have seen their funds dry up and some are seeing both at the same time' – they are facing devastation right now due to the pandemic'.

According to one estimate concluded by the research group Candid from an analysis of tax filings, tens of thousands of non-profit organizations are likely to close without some sort of rescue package.

This shows the seriousness of the crisis when considering how important the role of non-profits is within the economy. It would not only be a blow to those who rely on the services but would also do further damage to the economy. The sector is the third largest private employer, with approximately 1.3 million non-profits with around 12.5 million people employed which is about 10 percent of the total of people working in the private sector. According to a study by the John Hopkins university, it was estimated that 1.6 million non-profit jobs were lost between February and May because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, this loss could have a damaging impact in the terms of sheer numbers and the damage to the social safety net.

However, many non-profits were eligible for federal pandemic aid under the Paycheck Protection Program, which extended potentially forgivable loans to smaller organizations to keep their staff on payroll. Give Kids the World received \$1.75 million but larger organizations like YMCA were excluded because they have more than 500 employees.

Another report in a survey conducted by the charities aid foundation of America has found that as many as 7.5 percent of non-profits have already stopped operating and predicts that a further third will be forced to close their doors within the next twelve months because of the COVID-19 pandemic.



## OUR 2020 PROJECTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



### ESL AND COMPUTER LITERACY CLASSES IN VENEZUELA

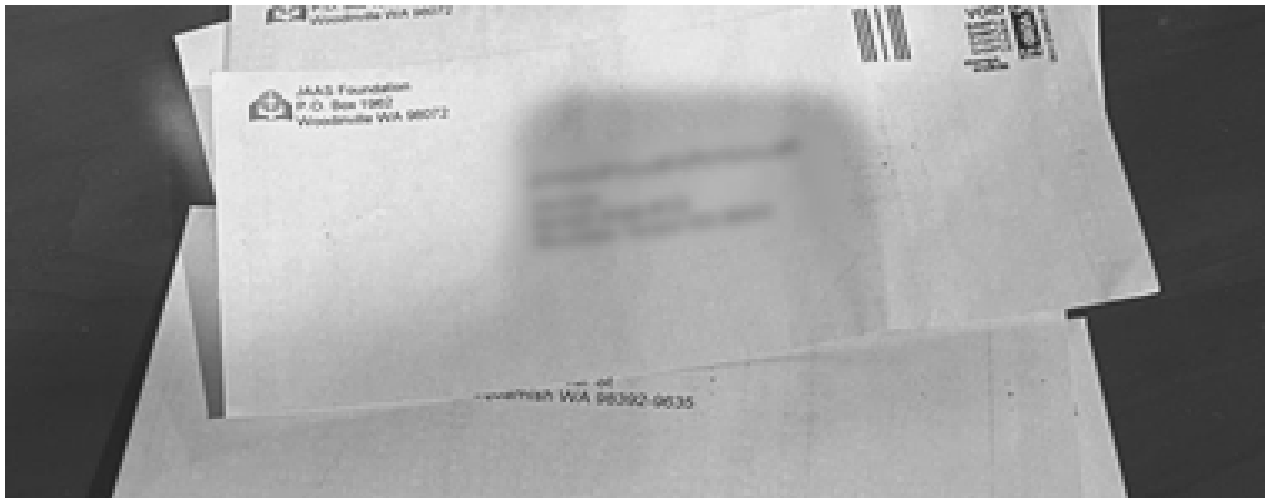
JAAS foundation ran in person ESL and Computer literacy classes in Venezuela until the pandemic started. The children were amazed to hear that 330 million people speak English, to see where it is spoken and that it is the language most people want to learn. The children demonstrated that they learnt the alphabet through revising and scrambling words.

The students participated in a pronunciation contest. This dynamic was subject to great receptiveness. The students who took the contest seriously even sent corrections after the first corrective round of uttering.

Our first reading was super helpful for the 10-year-old students. It was a clearly understood exercise which they really enjoyed. They had a lot of fun learning new verbs in the first paragraph.

An arts teacher started a body parts project. The children took part in a successful colours class which was great because it encouraged them to practice speaking English and talking about different subjects during their break.





## COVID-19 GRANTS FOR WASHINGTON USA RESIDENTS

The COVID-19 outbreak has closed many businesses and impacted many people in our state. To help with the current situation, JAAS Foundation has redirected its funds to help Washington residents impacted by the current situation. From March 2020 to May 2020, \$2,400 was distributed as \$100 and \$200 payments to people who needed it the most.

***"Today we received your most welcome grant. There are tears in my eyes and a grateful heart. Bless you all"***

***"I'm writing to express my gratitude for being selected to receive a mini grant. This will help us so much in these uncertain times. I genuinely appreciate your help."***

***"I would like to send a BIG THANK YOU for choosing me to receive the mini-grant to help with bills and food during this time of struggle. I genuinely appreciate it as I just received it in the mail today!!"***





## SUPPORT SHAMMAH HIGH SCHOOL IN KAMPALA, UGANDA

The JAAS Foundation has awarded a grant to Shammah High School in Kampala, Uganda, to fund COVID-19-necessitated student and community food assistance and sanitization programs directly needed as that country begins its restart. Nearly 450 children attend the school, which is located in a rural area where many of the families live in severe poverty.

“Schools like Shammah are typically central to the communities in developing countries not only for the educational opportunities they provide but for other support services, like nutrition,” explained Aleksey Sinyagin, co-founder, JAAS Foundation. “Meal programs and education truly go hand in hand in a poor area as a hungry child cannot concentrate enough to learn.”

The grant from JAAS, allows Shammah to sanitize the facility daily to contain virus spread; establish hand-sanitizing stations throughout the building; feed its 450 students and 39 educators; and provide daily meals to 20 families in the community in acute need of assistance.





## REMOTE LEARNING CLASSES IN KENYA

Students in Kenya are taking advantage of remote learning with the dtml.org platform. Thanks to the JAAS foundation we have been able to continue the lessons which have been extremely helpful to the learners amid this out of school period due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The learners have been well equipped with the platform and can confidently log in and choose their preferred content with guidance from the teacher. The children are enthusiastic about the lessons because they are also learning how to use a computer which is a rare thing as they cannot afford to use one at home.

We are motivating them to keep learning every day. The children are keeping up with the platform activities to improve their English as it requires as much time as possible. All the children have learnt their 100 words target. They have received a certificate and collected badges and tags to acknowledge their achievements.

We have a variety of activities for each study session. We start by playing games followed by a video which is essential for listening comprehension. Recently we have also done a lot of reading activities which have been easy to assess and provide feedback. The reading takes part in two forms: silent reading and reading aloud especially for those who have difficulties in this area. All of these activities keep the students occupied during the lesson time.

The learners are grateful for their time and exposure to digital learning on the platform. In case the government directive is affected, then we will move the platform to the school and see if our initial plan comes into play.





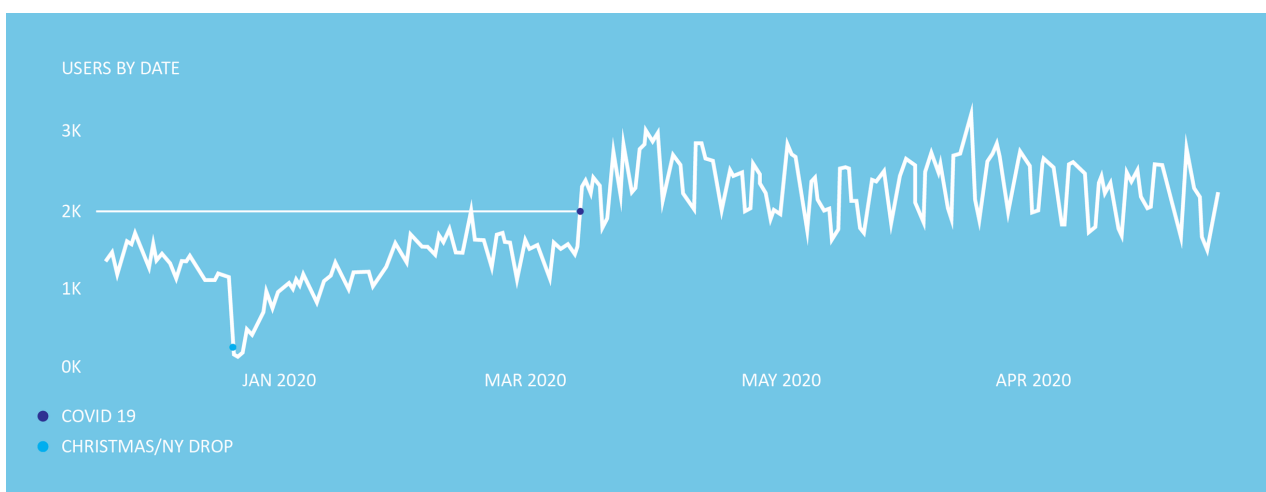


## SUPPORTING WORLD RELIEF ORGANIZATION

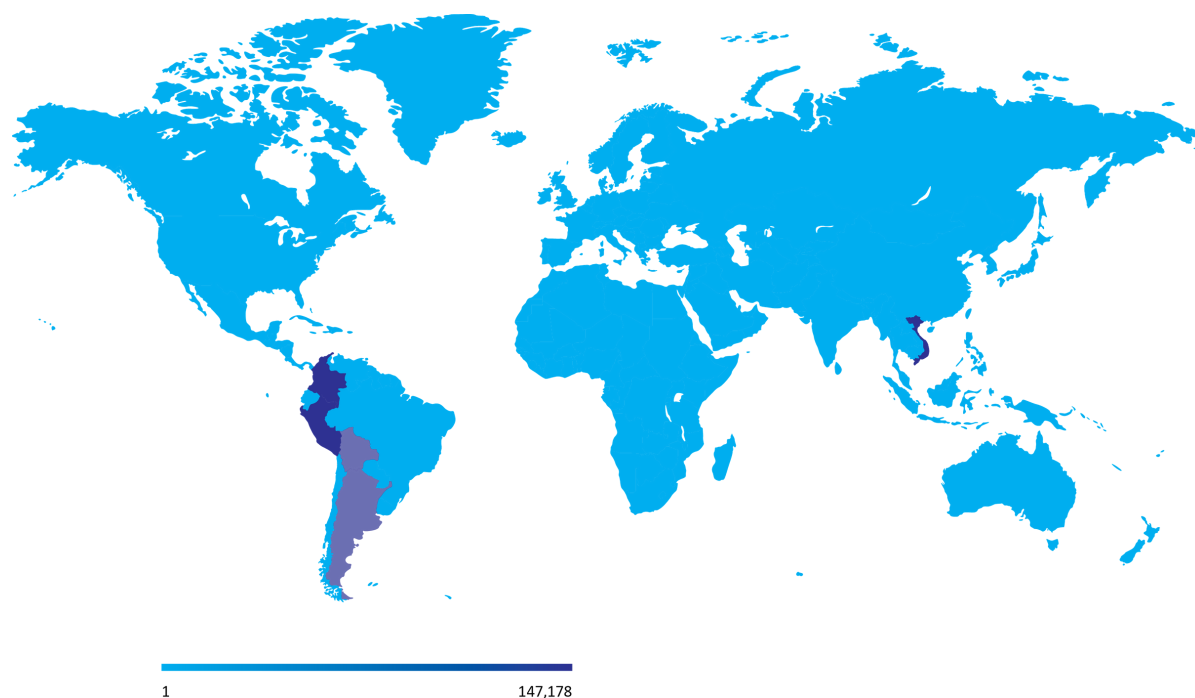
Refugees and immigrants bravely leave behind everything familiar to seek safety, a life free from fear, and the chance for a new start and the World Relief organization is helping them on that journey. JAAS Foundation donated computers and remote learning equipment to help the World Relief organization host ESL learning sessions for refugees here in the Seattle area.

### DISTANCE TEACHING AND MOBILE LEARNING PLATFORM USAGE

We see a significant change in the usage of our online distance learning platform due to COVID. We are delighted we can be of help to the people who need it the most.



In 2020 we welcomed 450,556 visitors to our platform with about 1,500 learners coming to the website every day from 140+ different countries

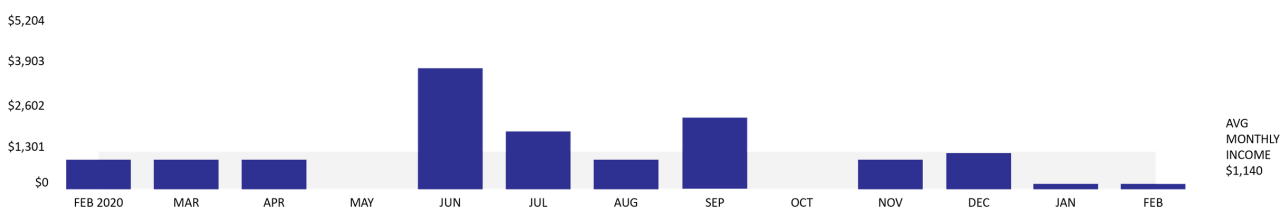


## FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2020 **\$24,413.83**

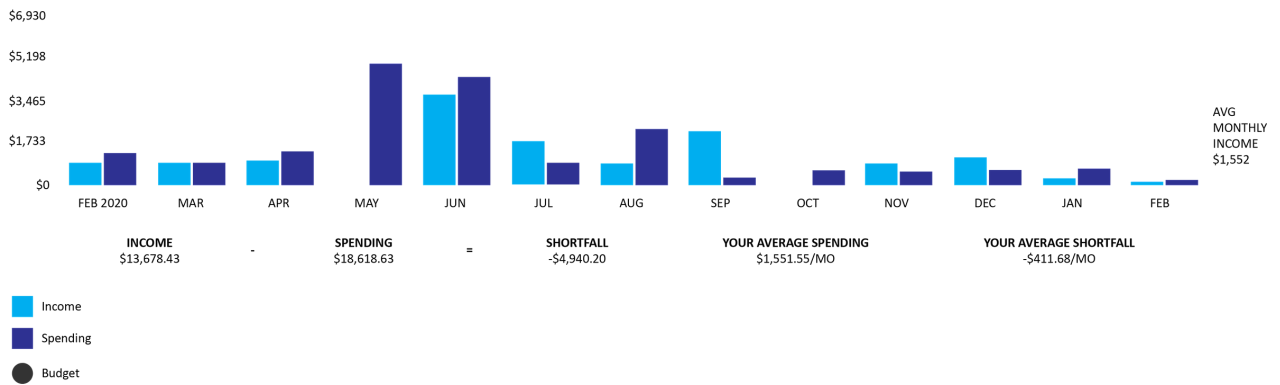
Ending Balance on December 31, 2020 **\$18,812.19**

Average organizational income was \$1,140 which consisted of re-occurring donations and volunteer hours credits.



Our monthly spending was in average of \$1,502 which included operational expenses, the cost of running the e-learning website, financing of the programs and grants distributions.





We would like to thank you all for your volunteering, donations, and support. This organization cannot exist without you. Special thank you to Microsoft for the \$3,500 (USD) credits to use Azure Services and to Google for the support via Ad Grants program.



**JAAS FOUNDATION**