# DEAR FRIENDS



FY19 was an exciting and transformative year for DOROT. A major focus of our strategic plan adopted in 2017 was on expanding the number of older adults served and the number of volunteers engaged this past fiscal year. We launched several new initiatives and expanded existing services as we continued to implement our five-year strategic plan. We are

thrilled and incredibly proud to have engaged 1,094 new seniors to DOROT in FY19, tripling our projected goal of 372. We also served a total of 3,533 unduplicated seniors compared to 2,726 in FY18, which reflects a 30% expansion in just one year. In all, staff, interns, and volunteers assisted our clients and interacted with them 41,300 times through programs and events such as volunteer home visits and onsite workshops, as well as through direct client and caregiver support including social work assistance and information and referral services.

**Volunteers** of all ages are at the heart of our organization; they visit seniors in their homes, engage with them onsite, and connect them to their community. These volunteers enhance the lives of seniors while simultaneously benefitting from their wisdom and experiences, forming relationships that bring the generations together. DOROT's Volunteer Services staff are experts at recruiting, training, and managing volunteers of every age. We are proud to have engaged 6,289 volunteers during FY19. This included 3,978 adult volunteers who dedicated 46,694 hours of service and 2,311 youth who provided 13,869 hours of service.

The following program highlights exemplify key areas of this exciting progress:

Our **Door to Door** program underwent incredible growth, including the hiring of a Door to Door Manager and expanding the team of full-time Travel Companions from four to six. The number of seniors accompanied to medical and other essential appointments increased by 48% compared to FY18, with 146 seniors new to the program, including 38 seniors who engaged with DOROT for the first time. This represents a 62% increase in new clients compared to the 90 new clients we welcomed to the program in FY18. We also provided 1,942 appointments, a 58% increase.

**Lasting Impressions: DOROT's Legacy Project** supports two main initiatives: helping those interested compose advance care plans, and

inviting older adults to record their legacy stories through group programs or working one-on-one with a volunteer. Lasting Impressions offers an array of new and ongoing programs which serve as an important point of entry for new clients. In FY19, 12% of the agency's new clients were welcomed through Lasting Impressions programs, which include arts workshops, legacy lectures, and programs helping interested clients compose advance care plans. We were pleased to integrate The Pearls of Wisdom, a multicultural touring ensemble of elder storytellers, into this program portfolio, as described under the heading "Two Unique Program Opportunities" below.

DOROT's **Onsite Aging Well Programs** offered new special creative aging programming on Fridays at 12:30 pm, which proved to be a popular time and format. These one-time programs include lectures, concerts, and other special activities such as Shakespeare readings and Jin Shin Jyutsu acupressure instruction. The following comment from a dedicated Friday afternoon participant is typical: "I've marked every Friday at 12:30 in my calendar – the programs are so amazing that I know that I have to make them a priority. There's so much variety and texture." We are delighted to report that we nearly doubled the number of individuals who participated in Onsite Aging Well Programs in FY19 (622 compared to 315 in FY18).

We also launched an **In-Home Technology Coaching Initiative** for home-based seniors. We created a technology curriculum focused on helping older adults use smartphone apps for social connections (e.g., email, texting, and other apps to communicate with family and friends), and accessing resources (e.g. maps, calendars, etc.). The Technology Coaching program launched in May and by June 30 we had already created 24 matches between volunteers and seniors who agreed to work together weekly over a minimum of four weeks. One older adult participant shared, "I'm no longer afraid of my phone!"

**Two Unique Program Opportunities** – DOROT was selected by the Jewish Teen Education & Engagement Funder Collaborative as one of only two organizations primed to receive special training about program replication and scaling. DOROT staff leadership participated in webinars and consultations with the global consulting firm Spring Impact, discussing potential scaling models for our highly successful Jewish Summer Teen Internship Program. DOROT was also one of two organizations chosen by the nonprofit Elders Share the Arts to carry on its most significant programs after its dissolution. The NYS Attorney General approved the transfer of the Pearls of Wisdom program to DOROT in summer 2019 and it has found perfect synergy within the Lasting Impressions Department.

Increased Profile — Organizations look to DOROT as an expert in aging services and intergenerational programs. DOROT's staff is encouraged to share best practices, program strategies and challenges, and results by presenting at conferences, participating in and assuming leadership roles on interagency councils on aging, and taking active roles in other organizations serving older adults. In FY19, staff members made 13 presentations at eight local and national conferences including the American Society on Aging's Aging in America Conference and Generations United. We also responded to requests for our expertise and program models, providing information and guidance to 19 local, national, and international organizations. This staff involvement combined with media coverage increased DOROT's visibility. We were especially pleased that one of our Friendly Visiting matches was featured on National Public Radio (NPR) during a Saturday Edition with Scott Simon story in July 2019.

#### LONGSTANDING DOROT PROGRAMS

For 43 years, DOROT has connected frail, isolated, and homeless older adults to a network of dedicated professionals, caring volunteers of all ages, and valued peers. Our array of diverse services and programs supports their ability to live independently as valued members of the community and alleviates social isolation among this vulnerable population. Below are some of our recent program achievements:

#### At Home

Through **Friendly Visiting**, we carefully match volunteers with seniors according to their interests, personality, and availability for weekly or monthly visits in seniors' homes. Many participating clients suffer from chronic conditions that keep them from being socially connected to the community. Our highly skilled social workers home assess each senior, interview and train volunteers, create compatible matches that develop into rewarding friendships, and support the volunteers and seniors throughout the life of their match. In FY19 staff supported 555 matches which provided 21,230 hours of visiting.

**Kosher Meals at Home** (KMH: previously called Kosher Meals for the Homebound) makes weekly deliveries of nutritious frozen kosher meals to homebound seniors who are unable to shop or cook for themselves. Many face mobility impairment and vision loss and depend on KMH for physical and emotional sustenance. In FY19, 228 homebound seniors benefitted from 31,975 meals.

**University Without Walls** (UWW), DOROT's teleconference engagement community, was established 30 years ago to bring homebound older adults together via teleconference calls to learn,

share, and enjoy each other's company. UWW alleviates the isolation of homebound seniors by fostering an interactive community via telephone. Program offerings included the arts, literature, music, health and wellness, politics, Jewish Interests, and more. UWW also offers support groups led by trained professionals to address personal challenges and aging issues such as bereavement, caregiving for a loved one with memory loss, coping with vision loss, and a new one this year for LGBT elders to connect with one another around aging issues. Russian University Without Walls – unique to DOROT – helps older immigrants practice and improve their English, prepare for citizenship exams, and enjoy conversations and discussions with their peers in their native language. After one class offered through our partnership with the Guggenheim Museum, a participant wrote, "I am confined to the house. This brings the museum to me."

Package Deliveries bring seniors and volunteers together to share conversation and friendship, particularly around the holidays, which is often a lonely time for many older adults. Each program includes 600-700 volunteers who deliver packages which contain food, handmade cards, and treats, and spend an hour socializing with their matched senior. In FY19, a total of 2,559 packages and meals were shared with older adults as a result of this program.

#### In the Community

Since 1981, our **Cemetery Visits** program provides compassionate, trained volunteers to escort frail older adults to the gravesites of their loved ones. Overall, 93 seniors and 40 volunteers made 99 visits to the cemetery in FY19. Volunteers arrive at DOROT for breakfast and a one-hour orientation on the day of the visit. DOROT staff reviews the program structure and expectations and offers suggestions for how to provide meaningful emotional and physical support. Volunteers are then provided with information about the seniors they accompany, the deceased loved ones whom clients are visiting, and logistical and travel arrangements. We are excited to have launched a small pilot in May and June of 2019, bringing this program to Westchester for the first time.

DOROT's **Homelessness Prevention Program** (HPP) and Aftercare Program meet the specific needs of older adults facing homelessness. Seniors who come to the HPP are New Yorkers who have become homeless, often due to a short-term crisis including unemployment, illness, or a change in family support systems, such as the death of a spouse or partner. DOROT's HPP offers transitional housing complemented by a range of support services to enable older adults to stabilize – emotionally, physically, and financially – regroup, and prepare to move into permanent housing. Our unique Aftercare

Program continues to offer tangible supports to past residents in the form of meals, food, clothing, social services, and connections to peers. In FY19, the HPP provided 4,945 nights of shelter and 12,088 meals and food assistance to 33 residents and 88 Aftercare clients.

**DOROT Westchester** has served at-risk and marginalized older adults living in Westchester County for 15 years, helping to alleviate their social isolation by engaging dedicated volunteers to visit with them on a regular basis. Our Friendly Visiting, Package Delivery, Shabbat Shalom Westchester, University Without Walls, and Intergenerational Chess programs all provide diverse opportunities for seniors to engage with others, foster a sense of community, and help older adults age with independence and dignity in their own homes. In FY19, we served a total of 324 unduplicated seniors in Westchester, more than doubling the number of seniors served in FY18 (157).

#### LOOKING AHEAD

In FY19 our programs provided critical resources for seniors by offering services specific to the challenges of aging. We plan to serve even greater numbers of seniors in FY20 and to launch new initiatives that deepen our clients' participation with DOROT, meeting their needs and bringing the generations together to help reduce social isolation. The dedicated partnership of DOROT's Board, our donors, staff, and volunteers makes the important work we do possible.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Meridy

**Executive Directorff** 

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**DOROT'S MISSION** DOROT alleviates social isolation among the elderly and provides services to help them live independently as valued members of the community. We serve the Jewish and wider community, bringing the generations together in a mutually beneficial partnership of elders, volunteers and professionals. Our work provides an effective model for others.

#### **EXTRACT FROM AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE FY2019 July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 Private gifts and grants \$5,039,691 Beguests and legacies ......\$ 1,061,343 Government grants ......\$ 100,466 UJA-Federation ......\$ 492,066 Special events, net of direct expenses.....\$ 278,720 Donated goods and services.....\$ 348,229 3,595 Investment revenue, net.....\$ 950,798 Total Public Support and Revenue \$ 8,274,908 **EXPENSES** Socialization services \$2,517,811 Educational services......\$ 1,078,949 Management and general services ......\$ 967,260 Fundraising ......\$ 646,450 Total Expenses \$ 9.267.337

The above information was extracted from DOROT's June 30, 2019 financial statements, which are audited by Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP.

Readers of this statement may obtain a copy of DOROT's audited financial statements from DOROT.



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### STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS AS OF JUNE 30, 2019	2019		2018
Current Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents\$	891,644	\$	928,949
Investments, at fair value\$	18,808,473	\$ 1	9,896,762
Pledges and grants receivable\$	1,274,646	\$	1,443,709
Accounts receivable\$	33,826	\$	34,276
Prepaid expenses and deposits\$	182,468	\$	49,598
Total Current Assets\$	21,191,057	\$2	2,353,294
Pledges and Grants Receivable, net of current portion\$	1,168,690	\$	900,000
Investments Restricted for Permanent Endowment\$	1,198,794	\$	1,198,794
Property and Equipment, net\$	2,378,147	\$	2,413,358
Total Assets\$	25,936,688	\$26	6,865,446
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS  Current Liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses\$	238,678	\$	166,923
Accrued vacation pay\$		\$	239,656
Current portion of charitable gift annuities and trusts\$	26,556	\$	26,971
Total Current Liabilities	505,241	\$	433,550
Charitable Gift Annuities and Trusts, Long Term\$	86,773	\$	94,793
Total Liabilities\$	592,014	\$	528,343
Net Assets:			
Net Assets without Donor Restrictions\$	19,172,370	\$	19,761,258
Net Assets with Donor Restrictions\$	6,172,304	\$	6,575,845
otal Net Assets \$25,344,674		\$ 26,337,103	
Total Liabilities and Net Assets\$	25,936,688	\$2	6,865,446

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