



thrive.



2019-20
Annual Report



ALL OF US AT THRIVE consider ourselves blessed to live in the Delta and serve alongside our neighbors. For the rural communities in our region, it has been a year of adaptation and discovery. Thrive has been honored to continue our work of empowering communities to thrive through good design and youth engagement. As we reflect on these past twelve months and look forward to celebrating our twelfth year in 2021, it gives us joy to share these highlights with you and invite you to participate in the work ahead!

Warmly,
Will and the Thrive Team



IN 2020, WE...

EXPANDED OURSTAFF TO INCLUDE ASSOCIATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, KAMMI RISPER

In October, Thrive announced the hiring of Helena, Arkansas native Kammi Risper as Associate Program Director. In this role, Kammi coordinates Thrive’s youth engagement programming with local students, educators, and community partners. She fills this important role for Thrive, bringing an engaging personality, vital relationships, and a fresh spirit to the work. Kammi notes, “[Working with] Thrive has been a great opportunity for me to build positivity in my community. I enjoy the atmosphere and look forward to the change we’ll make in the future together, adding to what’s already done.”



HOSTED AN AMERICORPS NCCC TEAM FOR TWO WEEKS

In January, AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps members were stationed in the Delta, and participated in the preparation and creation of one of Thrive’s largest murals to date. The existing wall of Grace Food Pantry required much work prior to the application of paint, and the AmeriCorps team was up to the task! Working alongside Thrive staff and student program participants, this corner was transformed, bringing visibility and vibrancy to this local nonprofit’s facility. AmeriCorps volunteers also worked with Thrive staff to complete a mural at one of our favorite State Parks - the Delta Heritage Trail State Park, where their work was unveiled in time for the Governor’s visit in January.



ADAPTED OUR YOUTH PROGRAMS INTO WEEKLONG WORKSHOPS WITH COVID-19 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

When it became apparent that the pandemic would completely change instructional models for area students, Thrive chose to pivot our youth programming to alternative delivery methods, first to online platforms, then to concentrated weeklong workshops where students could work outdoors, be safely masked, and complete projects within a condensed amount of time. The result has been the completion of some of our most exciting projects to date, including 5 murals since June and further development of the Harbor View Trail! As our new programming model shifted to weeklong workshops, we found greater flexibility for student attendees and had 30+ student participants.



PAINTED 7 MURALS IN PHILLIPS COUNTY

The year 2020 was a transformational year for the walls and streets of our communities! Thrive Design Crew students participating in our workshops completed 7 mural projects in Phillips County which included: a bike mural at the Delta Heritage Trail State Park; a Delta Foods creation at the Grace Food Pantry; "I am the Future" at Kids for the Future in Helena; 2020 Census signs placed around Helena; "Catfish Corner" on Columbia Street; a cross-walk on our beloved Cherry Street in Downtown Helena; and multiple environmental installations of Delta wildlife on the Harbor View Trail!

WERE NOMINATED FOR TWO ARKANSAS TOURISM AWARDS

A project led by Thrive Design Crew students in partnership with the Mississippi River State Park superintendent Kristina Root to produce a promotional video for the park was nominated for an Arkansas Delta Byways Tourism Association award. Valisecia, the student heading up the project, attended the awards event with the Thrive Team in Wynne in February. Soon after, Thrive attended the State of Arkansas Henry Awards dinner in Fort Smith in early March as a nominee for this same project promoting tourism and the work of our local State Park.



BEGAN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE USDA, WINROCK INTERNATIONAL AND THE UAMS SPAN PROGRAM TO CREATE OUTDOOR ASSETS

Thrive was included as a service provider and local community partner in a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture administered by Winrock International with guidance from the The University of Medical Sciences, State Physical Activity Network. This grant will continue into 2021 to support the planning, design, and implementation of creative placemaking initiatives in the rural communities of Helena-West Helena, Lonoke, Stuttgart, and England, Arkansas. We are incredibly grateful to Linsley Kincade and her team at Winrock International and Leesa Frasier at UAMS SPAN as they work to uplift our communities with an emphasis on outdoor activity, health and creative experiences.



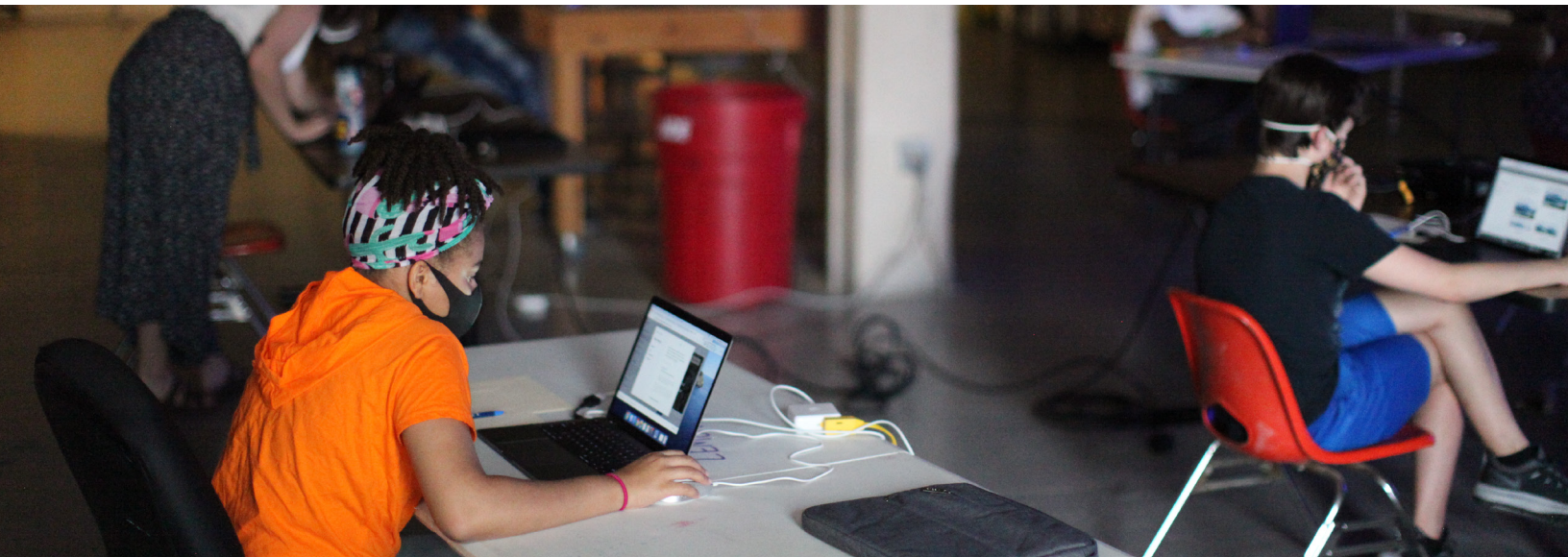
CREATED A 1 MILE HIKING & WALKING LOOP IN THE HELENA RIVER PARK

This summer, Thrive took a major step toward the creation of the Harbor View Trail in the Helena River Park. In development for several years, beginning with a student service project in 2017, the digital maps became reality as mowers, rakes, and saws were deployed to clear the path this year! The creation and maintenance of the pathway is an on-going project, soon to be augmented by way-finding signage and the appearance of woodland creatures painted by Thrive Design Crew students. Local residents and tourists can now experience this ever-evolving nature trail within walking distance of downtown Helena.



STARTED A TECH EQUIPMENT CHECK OUT LIBRARY FOR AREA STUDENTS

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, Thrive created an equipment checkout system for participating Design Crew students. These 10 new Apple laptop computers made possible by the Walton Family Foundation are creative industry standard and enable students to tinker with the Adobe Creative suite at home outside of workshop hours. Because of these laptops, Thrive was able to provide a Squarespace website building workshop in June that allowed for adequate space between students at our office in Downtown, Helena.



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

Martha Alman
 Christopher Ashby
 Susan Breaux
 Porter Briggs
 LeeAnn Broadway
 Karla & Marty Chenault
 Martha Child
 Amanda Cross
 Cathy & Ernest Cunningham
 Joe Tom Cunningham
 David A Danehower
 Jean Foust
 Jim French
 Doug Friedlander
 Virginia Froomjian
 Angie Greer
 Avi Hoen

John & Kelly King
 John & Anne King
 Kathy Markovich
 Deborah McAfee
 Tait Owens
 Lisa Polk
 Hannah Rosen
 Skip & Billie Rutherford
 Christopher Schaffhauser
 Charles Shenk
in honor of Mary Shenk
 Rayman Solomon
 Carolyn & Jerry Staley
 Misti Staley
 The Crowley Group
 Dana Worstell



FINANCIALS

	2019*	2019-2020**
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
CONTRIBUTIONS & GRANTS	92,746	\$205,210
PROGRAM SERVICES	112,934	\$97,028
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	205,680	\$302,238
OPERATING EXPENSES		
PERSONNEL	95,454	\$166,835
PROGRAM SERVICES & OPERATIONS	106,952	\$88,495
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	202,406	\$255,330
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	3,274	\$46,908
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	54,199	\$57,473
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	57,473	\$104,381

*EIGHT MONTHS ENDING
 AUGUST 31, 2019.
 DURING 2019 THRIVE
 ADOPTED A FISCAL
 YEAR THAT ENDS AUGUST 31

**TWELVE MONTHS ENDING
 AUGUST 31, 2020