
2020 ANNUAL REPORT



POLICY DEVELOPMENT, COALITION BUILDING, AND ADVOCACY

By joining forces in 2020 with community advocates, housing coalitions, partner organizations, and volunteers, AHS achieved significant wins in our efforts to increase the supply of affordable housing in Arlington.



Invested in Arlington's Affordability

AHS advocated for \$25 million in allocations to the County's Affordable Housing Investment Fund. Working with community advocates, we sent postcards to the County Board and collected 1,000 signatures.



Recommended Deferral of Columbia Pike Form-Based Code Update

As a result of our advocacy, the County agreed to indefinitely defer the code update and to revisit tools to enable homeownership opportunities along Columbia Pike.



Advocated for COVID-19 Relief Funds and Eviction Prevention

In a letter signed by 13 organizations and individuals, AHS urged the County to reinforce the housing safety net in its FY 2021 budget.



Advanced the Missing Middle Housing Conversation

In partnership with the Lee Highway Alliance, AHS received a Community Impact Grant from Virginia Housing to create new educational resources on Missing Middle Housing.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

During the COVID-19 pandemic, AHS continued to share the most up-to-date information and resources on affordable housing and related issues in new and innovative ways.



AHS EVENTS

January • MLK Day of Service

AHS joined AHC and APAH at Washington Liberty High School to train future advocates and volunteers for our Arlington for Everyone campaign.

February • Housing Happy Hour

At our last in-person event before the pandemic, AHS advocated for the "Invest in Arlington's Affordability" campaign to reach \$25 million in allocations to the county's Affordable Housing Investment Fund.

March • Livability 22202

AHS executive director, Michelle Winters, served as a speaker and housing policy advisor for Livability 22202—a joint effort by three local civic organizations to develop better and more livable neighborhoods.

April • Policy Roundtable

AHS joined Arlington's state delegates and senators at a web-based roundtable to discuss major Virginia housing wins.

May • Accessory Dwellings Webinar

Together with local contractors and builders, AHS hosted an educational webinar to discuss new approaches to detached Accessory Dwellings in Arlington.

June • Arlington for Everyone Listening Sessions

AHS held three virtual listening sessions to gather feedback on the future plans and goals of the Arlington for Everyone campaign.

September • Ask the Authors: Missing Middle Research Compendium

AHS convened County staff to present an overview of findings from their five-volume research compendium, providing background on issues important for the upcoming Missing Middle Housing Study.

September • The History of Race and Housing in Arlington

Following the release of our new video on housing injustice in the County, AHS held a historian-led discussion with local Arlingtonians about their personal experiences.

November • Ellen M. Bozman Award

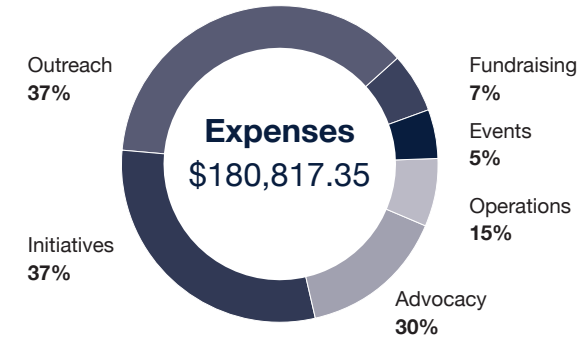
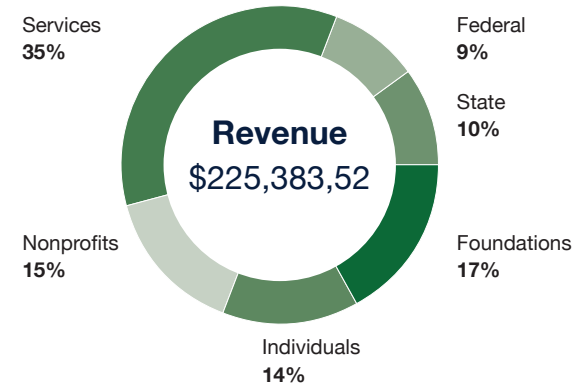
AHS presented the 2020 honor to Arlington Thrive and the Church at Work for their commitment to the preservation of affordable housing in Arlington.





FINANCIALS

2020 REVENUE AND EXPENSES



VIDEO



Race & Housing in Arlington

In early 2020, AHS researched, wrote, and compiled a seven-minute video detailing the history of race and housing in the County. This video has received wide circulation and impact: Arlington’s Dialogues on Race and Equity program used the video as part of discussions throughout the County, and Arlington Public Schools intends to use the video in 2021.

MEDIA/NEWS



Washington Business Journal

In May, AHS was featured in the front cover story of the *Washington Business Journal* about the impact of the pandemic on local housing advocacy. Executive director Michelle Winters was quoted frequently on how housing organizations are adapting to reduced budgets and delayed plans



African Americans have lived in Arlington for generations. Their stories are unique, but the forces that shape their lives and communities are mirrored in the practices of segregation all across the nation. —FROM RACE & HOUSING IN ARLINGTON

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AHS is grateful to our dedicated partners and supporters for creating a more equitable, sustainable, inclusive, and affordable Arlington.

Special Recognition

AHS is thankful for our special partnership with the Arlington Community Foundation as a part of its Shared Prosperity Initiative.

Champions \$10,000+

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