

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION

Our Mission is to bring people back to the Lake and River that created Chicago, to teach marine ecology and the maritime arts, and to help kids find themselves and new pathways by learning to build boats.

Our vision focuses on Chicago youth development to provide new opportunities, experiential learning and open new pathways through the maritime arts, particularly for those in under-served and under-resourced neighborhoods of the city.

We seek to develop a sustainable, diverse organization enriching Chicago youth by providing practical hands-on, STEAM, and life skills by teaching with small boats and maritime arts to enrich the lives of Chicago families and communities.

We envision Chicago's great rivers and lake becoming approachable, accessible, and possible for all Chicagoans creating opportunities to encourage a connection to nature and the water through recreation, sharing knowledge, passion and community to open new vocational and avocational opportunities.

Long-term we envision creating a Maritime Park or Campus with water access for similarly-focused organizations to offer advocacy, education, programming, and events.

COVER PHOTO: Lead Instructor Steve Stubig organizes students on Lake Michigan in Bevin's Skiffs built, designed, named, and painted by teens in previous years' Boat Building programs.





HELLO



2020 was a year like no other and a test of fortitude for CMAC as for so many other organizations in Chicago and around the world. We were able to hold five “live” classes on land and water, and one “live” fundraiser in a year when live events were for the most part totally abandoned. Most importantly we observed all recommended health protocols and there were zero adverse consequences. This took courage, hard work and a creative approach to handling the details scrupulously and consistently. Adapting our programs to meet the current needs of families and the communities we serve will be the watchword in 2021.

We expanded our on-water venues in 2020, for the first time offering a boating skills and ecology program class at Montrose Harbor thanks to the Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club. Also for the first time, CMAC provided a boating orientation field trip for the Midwest Academy for Gifted Education.

As we look forward to 2021, our capacity to serve city kids will be much improved when we acquire a home of our own. This will permit CMAC to go from primarily summer-based to after-school and weekend programming at a venue under our control year-round. Growing our capacity to serve will also depend on building on our current cadre of part-time staff and volunteers. Fundraising efforts to support these goals are underway

Regards,

Captain T - Richard “Toby” Lindo



BOARD

OPERATING BOARD

The CMAC Operating Board handles the day to day operations, programming, fundraising, and volunteer management, and provides the tactical implementation of the strategy provided from the Board of Directors.

Toby Lindo, Executive Director

Joe Rickard, President of the Board

Patrick McBriarty, Program Director, Author, Children's Writer and Historian

George Lowe, President Sparkfactor

Brandon Cunningham

Eric Johnstone

Penny Newberry

Greg Rickard

Steve Stubig

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Rickard, President of the Board CMAC, CEO Offsite

Bob Hoeltherhoff, Vice President of the Board, President, J&B Sign Co.

Jack Kraft, Treasurer of the Board, Former COO, Leo Burnett

Ted Cartner, Board Member at Large, Blackhawk Chapter of the Classic Wooden Boat Club

Randy Conner, Board Member at Large, Commissioner City of Chicago Department of Water Management

John G. Crowley, Board Member at Large, Crowley's Yacht Yard

George Lowe, Board Member at Large, President Sparkfactor

Damone Richardson, Board Member at Large, Broker at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

PHOTO: Knot boards, tool boxes, and model boats created by kids in a Boating, Building & Ecology program at Southern Shore Yacht Club in July of 2020.

IMPACT

HEARD ON THE STREET

“Watch me tie that flying knot!” one of our students excitedly shouts for the camera and throws a flying figure-8 knot. One technique along with a variety of knots the kids had been working to perfect all week. Watch it on our YouTube page.

In 2020 with the pandemic in full-swing, two parents beamed chatting with one of our instructors about how excited their children were each day upon coming home after the program and said they’d like to have the kids attend again in 2021!

It is always interesting to watch as they learn to move boats 20 yards to the yacht club seawall. Tie ups are varied but, eventually they learn the correct knots. As the rest of the class start to emerge sleepy, groggy, and mumbling, magic happens. When they don their favorite life jacket, choose a partner and select a boat. In minutes they have transformed the morning into shouts of joy and laughter as unknowingly they are on a great learning journey. Oh what fun! I can not wait to see them in sailboat conversions and canoes. I know it will be educational for all as each acquires more self confidence, teamwork, maritime arts, and a sense of accomplishment. GO CMAC!

- Steve Stubig, Lead Instructor

53

KIDS participated in the Chicago Maritime Arts Center’s learning programs last year, including our boat building, marine ecology, ChicagoRiver Day and Chicago Boating day.

1,301

HOURS Hours of shared learning of our volunteers and team members working with Chicago youth at programs and events.

437

VOLUNTEER HOURS donated by instructors, mentors, and community members in support of our programs, events, and organization.



HISTORY

Organized in the winter of 2016 by group of Chicago boaters and businessmen the Chicago Maritime Arts Center was incorporated as a Not-For-Profit with the State of Illinois in May 2017 and received approval from the IRS for 501c3 status in March 2018. We have grown rapidly expanding our outreach and programming, in part supported by CMAC's involvement in the 25 year old movement nationally of the Teaching With Small Boats Alliance (TWSBA) to bring the first such program to Chicago.

2017

Inaugural Boat Building Camp - Canal Street Marina

2018

3 Boat Building Programs

- Eleanor St. Boat House
- Southern Shore Yacht Club
- Carpenters Union Apprentice Training Center

2019

7 total programs

- Canal Street Marina - Chicago River Day River Clean-up
- Columbia Yacht Club - Chicago Boating Day
- 4 - Boat Building Programs
- Eleanor St. Boat House
- Southern Shore Yacht Club (2)
- Carpenters Union
- Boating Skills & Ecology Program

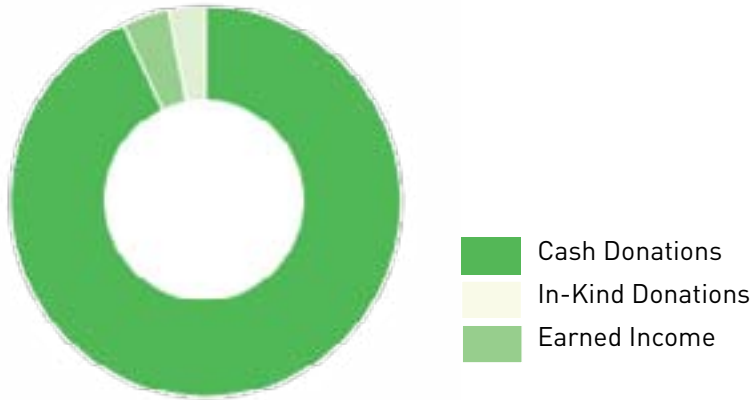
2020

5 total programs

- Chicago Sailing - Boating, Building and Ecology
- Southern Shore Yacht Club - Boating, Building and Ecology
- Southern Shore Yacht Club - Basic Boating Skills
- Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club - Basic Boating Skills
- Jackson Park Yacht Club - Introductory Boating and Ecology



REVENUE SUMMARY



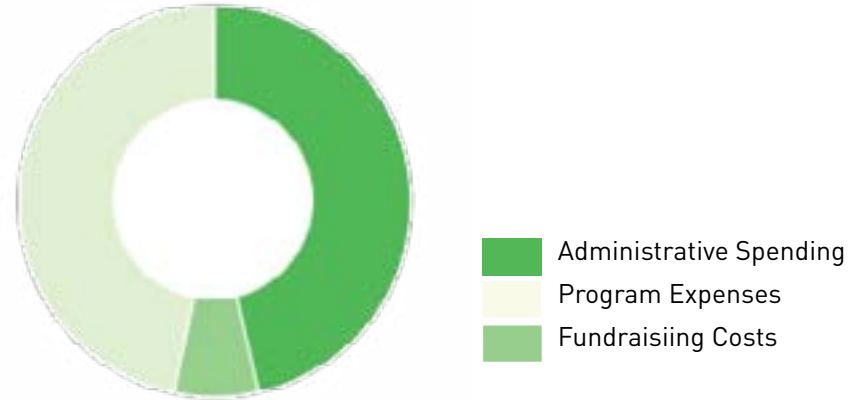
Income Ratios (2020)

	Total Dollars	Percentage
Cash Donations	\$68,633.65	90.4%
In-Kind Donations	\$5,515.72	6.8%
Earned Income	\$2,060.00	2.8%
Total Income:	\$75,835.87	

Income Ratios (2019):

	Total Dollars	Percentage
Cash Donations	\$50,665.94	70.09%
In-Kind Donations	\$7,790.00	10.78%
Earned Income	\$13,823.43	19.13%
Total Income:	\$72,279.37	

EXPENSE SUMMARY



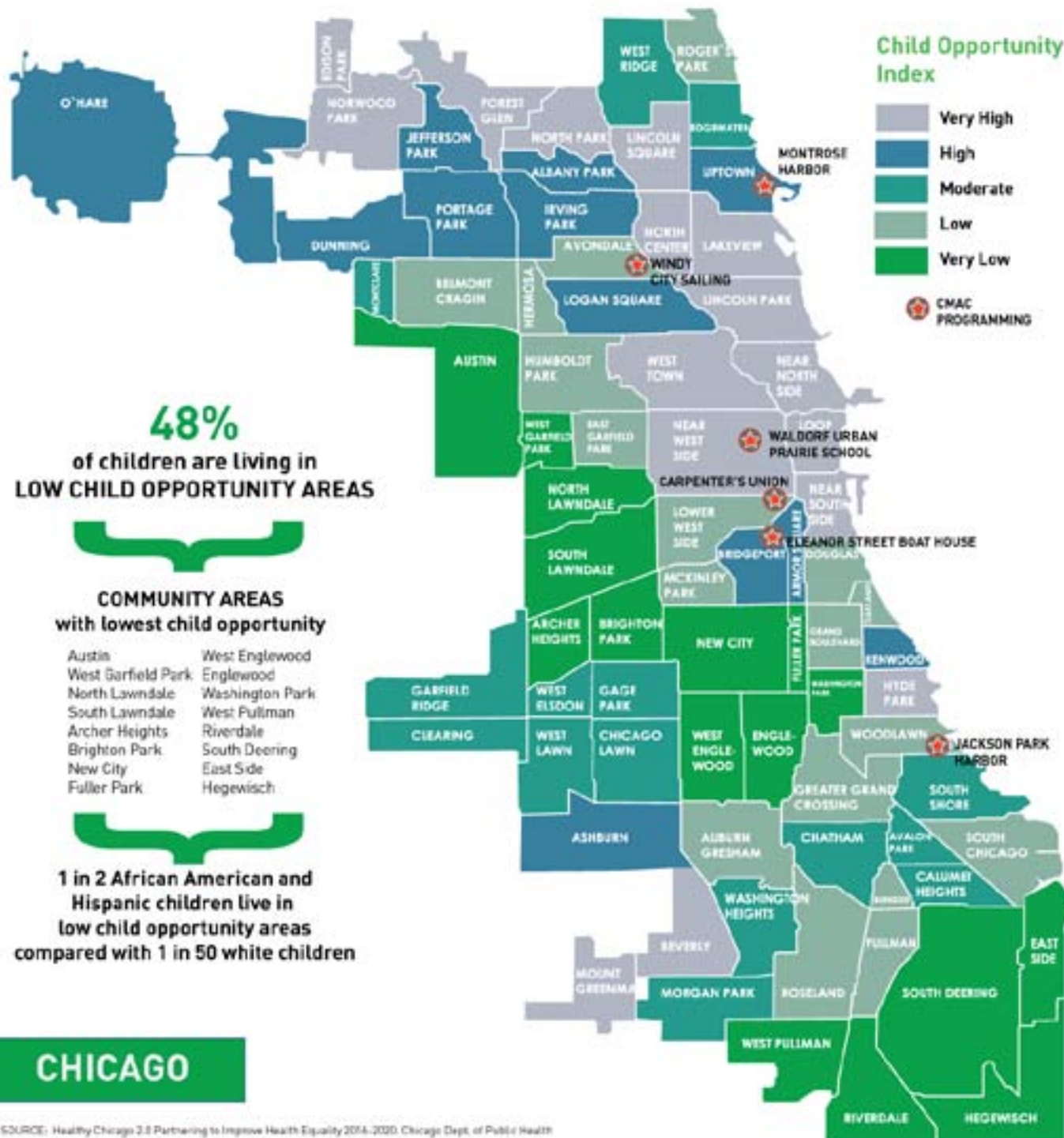
Expense Ratios (2020)

	Total Dollars	Percentage
Administrative Spending	\$19,433.29	30.33%
Program Spending	\$41,665.39	65.03%
Fundraising Costs	\$2,976.77	4.64%
Total Expenditures:	\$64,075.45	

Expense Ratios (2019)

	Total Dollars	Percentage
Administrative Spending	\$26,910.33	44.41%
Program Spending	\$29,501.15	48.69%
Fundraising Costs	\$4,063.08	6.9%
Total Expenditures:	\$60,594.05	

PROGRAMMING WHERE HELP IS NEEDED



This Chicago Opportunity map illustrates in broad terms the challenge of youth development across the city. Pinpoints show the current locations the Chicago Maritime Arts Center has developed program site partners and offered programming to create new opportunities. So far CMAC program sites have been based close to the Chicago River and Lakefront, mostly on the near south side. As CMAC continues to grow, we expect to expand our youth development programming and community partners to reach more low opportunity neighborhoods to enrich Chicago kids and families.

CMAC is finding it easier to build on past success, as our mission becomes more widely understood and opens up additional resources, instructors, and volunteers. There is still much to do and this hard work is made easier, by our sponsors and donors like you.

STORIES



**Dave Rearick - Instructor,
11th Hour Racing Ambassador**

"I can hardly remember back to when I first rowed a boat, or the first time I sailed a Sunfish alone. The first time I crossed Lake Michigan is a bit clearer, but still, long enough ago that the details and thrill of that accomplishment are muted. While my backyard and playground have expanded to the entirety of the earth's oceans, my time spent with these students returns me to the memories of the first time I rowed a boat, and the camp instructor yelled at me for 'windmilling', a term I would soon learn meant flailing my oars.

The boundaries of my backyard when I first rowed that boat are now, relatively, just inches from my porch steps and easily overlooked each time I step outward bound. But returning to that time in my life with these young people brings back a flood of joyful memories. When I began this story, I asked, 'have you got a minute.' So, have you? Remember your first accomplishment as a kid? Come back home and share it with the next generation. They need it now more than ever."



**Steve Stubig - Instructor,
Master Craftsman**

"I learned a one handed knot tying rope trick lesson from one of the instructors at the Teaching With Small Boats Alliance (TWSBA) conference and thought this would be a fun way to teach kids to tie knots. In one of our programs one of the boys came up to me and said 'teach me to tie that knot,' after, he saw my demonstration. He worked at it, learned it and he become so elated he mastered it, and started to teach it to the other kids in the class!

Like they say, you can teach a student to fish and he'll never go hungry. So when you teach a new skill to a kid and they take it upon themselves to pass this knowledge onto other students, it is a very rewarding exercise."



Parent

"I think its a good way, especially this year with the pandemic, to get kids out, just to get out of the house. For them to experience this, its a wonderful program. They're learning new skills, they're building social skills and life skills for later on in the future that they might need. Who knows, they may want to do this as a hobby. Under the current situation in the city, just to get them out and have them do something productive, my children just love coming here. I'm amazed that the things they've picked up, I'm pretty sure they will be coming back. It's a wonderful idea to empower these kids and give them positive reinforcement.

They built a tool box here and when they got home I said wow, that is good, I don't even know how to do that. It's wonderful, it is making a difference in them and it will probably be something that they take with them for the rest of their lives."

DONORS

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SPONSORS

CMAC would also like to thank our corporate sponsors.



THANK YOU

Chicago Maritime Arts Center could not exist without the generous donations from our Sponsors and individuals who have contributed to our cause in helping kids.

We thank you and look forward to your continued help and support for our important programming and mission.

~ Plus the many other donors who could not be identified or preferred to remain anonymous, and special thanks to those who bought raffle tickets and auction items at our fundraiser.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

Or visit: www.chicagomaritime.org/donate



Chicago Maritime Arts Center is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization.

WWW.CHICAGOMARITIME.ORG
312.607.1220



Hands-on activities and loads of visitors during Chicago Boat & RV Show at the Chicago Maritime Arts Center's booth at McCormick Place in January of 2020.

building**KIDS**
building**BOATS**