





I'VE SEEN A STARK DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE KIDS YOU SERVE AND OTHERS WHO ENTER OUR PROGRAM. 5 STEPS TO FIVE CHILDREN ARE DEFINITELY BETTER PREPARED THAN THEIR PEERS. I TRULY BELIEVE YOUR PROGRAM FOSTERS PARENT EMPOWERMENT AND INVOLVEMENT IN THEIR CHILDREN'S LIVES. I WISH ALL OUR PARENTS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUR PROGRAM, WE NEED IT NOW MORE THAN EVER.

- **Elsy González**, Pre K Administrator
Port Chester - Rye Union Free School District



RISING TO THE CHALLENGES BROUGHT ON BY COVID-19



2020 was a year like no other. But pandemic or not, the first few years of life remain crucial to a child's brain development. So we adjusted, got creative, and stayed focused on our purpose: to be a trusted resource for parents seeking to give their child the best possible start to school and to life.

The Village of Port Chester was particularly hard-hit by the crisis and experienced infection rates often double the average rate of New York State. Because a number of our families work in the service industry and live in multi-generational housing, many were personally affected by the virus.



Several families lost loved ones to COVID. The ability to support our families throughout this crisis has been one of our program's strengths.

ATTENDANCE

The year was off to a great start. Attendance in January and February increased by 25% compared to the previous year, with an average 35 families joining our sessions. The pandemic forced us to suspend our programming in March, and in May we began offering virtual classes. During the second half of the year, average participation grew steadily from 18 families per session in June to 29 families per session in December. In the final months we began adding new families to the program and even prepared for the launch of a new class for expecting mothers.



I FEEL SUPPORTED AS A MOTHER, AND IT IS VERY HELPFUL FOR ME AND MY DAUGHTER BECAUSE OF THE TIPS THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN US.

- Program Mother



ZOOM - VIRTUAL CLASSES AND MEETINGS



Moving our classes online presented some initial obstacles, as many of our families lacked the experience to connect digitally. Our staff was able to help with most of these challenges, and online participation grew steadily as a result.



Early Zoom classes focused on helping children and parents cope with stresses related to the virus. As we settled into the 'new normal', they evolved into more typical weekly meetings, highlighting the 5 Steps: Nurture, Talk, Play, Read, Explore. Nevertheless, our teachers remained flexible and open to address any issues related to the crisis.

SPREADING CHEER - PANDEMIC BAG DROPS AND CAR PARADES



Since we could not meet in person, we decided to take the classroom to our families. Goody bags filled with books, art supplies, and healthy snacks routinely rounded out our online lesson plans. The bags often included flyers covering a wide range of topics: from COVID updates, food bank information, and U.S. census guidelines to simple games and parenting tips. KIDS' FANS at Stamford Hospital also generously donated bags filled with useful information about childhood wellness, obesity prevention, and physical activity during the pandemic



In April, cheerful car parades of waving and honking staffers and volunteers drove past the homes of many of our program families. It was wonderful and quite emotional to see the excited faces of our children during the lockdown!



“

THANK YOU FOR VISITING ME, TEACHERS. GOD WILL CONTINUE PROTECTING US. LET US CONTINUE WITH FAITH.

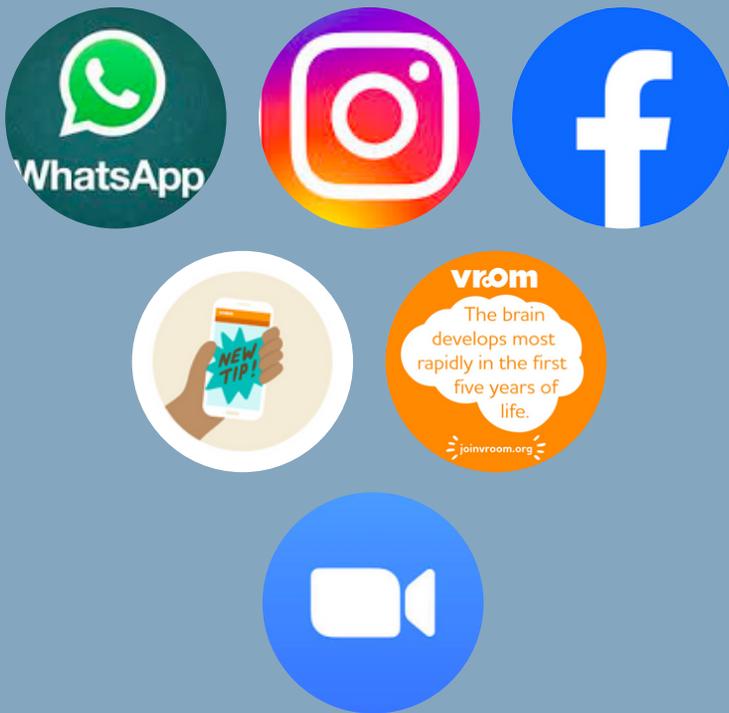
Program Participant



ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS

The pandemic has forced us to think outside the box and to discover new ways to connect with our families. In spite of the challenges, there have been some silver linings. Online communications have made it possible to reach our clients more easily and more frequently than ever before.

We now share a whole range of tools that complement our lessons via social media. These include videos, links to resources, community info, personal notes, and book readings. And a new section on our website allows our parents access to class-specific information. The families appreciate the communications, and we will continue offering these resources even after we return to the classroom.

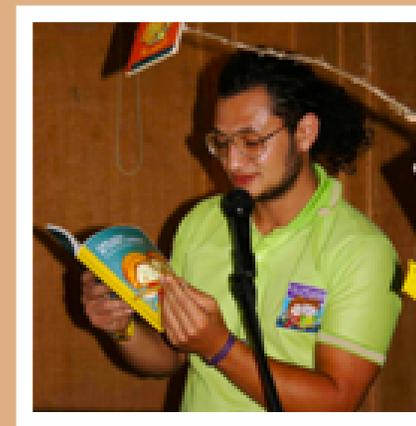


SPECIAL EVENTS

Port Chester's spacious Lyon Park allowed us to gather in person for several (socially distanced) events, including a picnic, a pumpkin decorating day, and a Halloween costume party. Spirits were high and attendance was strong!



The internet also made it possible to invite a special guest from Colombia. Educator Edward Bedoya hosted reading workshops for our staff and families. He shared his passion for books and discussed fun and creative ways to get children excited about reading.



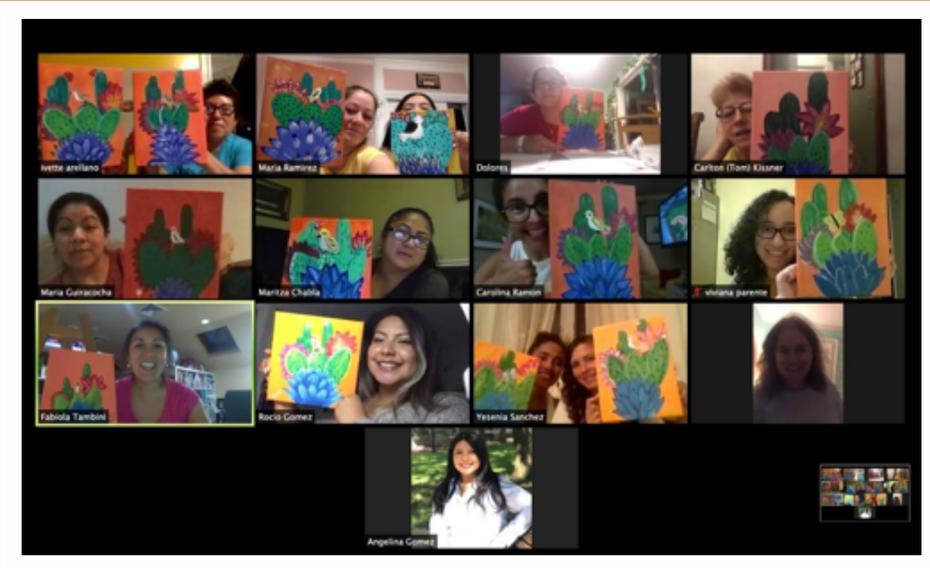
STAFF

Our fantastic staff really stepped up during the crisis! The teachers worked hard to help our families get up and running virtually, and to provide additional assistance to those affected by the Coronavirus. It was impressive to witness how quickly they adapted to the new format and made the most of a difficult situation.



IT HAS BEEN HEARTWARMING TO SEE OUR STAFF REACH OUT TO STRUGGLING FAMILIES, AND LEARN OF OUR FAMILIES HELPING ONE ANOTHER. IT SHOWS THAT COMMUNITY BUILDING IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT ASPECT OF OUR WORK.

- Kristin Jautz, Board President



Sadly, several staff members lost loved ones to the virus, and we shared their grief. But we were glad to celebrate the wedding of one teacher and the birth of a healthy baby boy to another. Also, thanks to strong donor support, we were able to keep our staff on our payroll throughout the year.

VOLUNTEERS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We are very grateful to the many volunteers who helped throughout the year with everything from the fundraising gala, bag distributions, and the picnic and holiday events, to database input and special programming events.

We continued to have professionals visit our virtual classrooms. Board members Ann Magalhaes and Ilaria St. Florian-Kruijtzter frequently shared their expertise on positive parenting and nutrition with the families.

We are grateful to Wendy Jacobs of Hamilton Strategies Inc, for her guidance and support in helping us transition from a founder-led to a board-led organization.

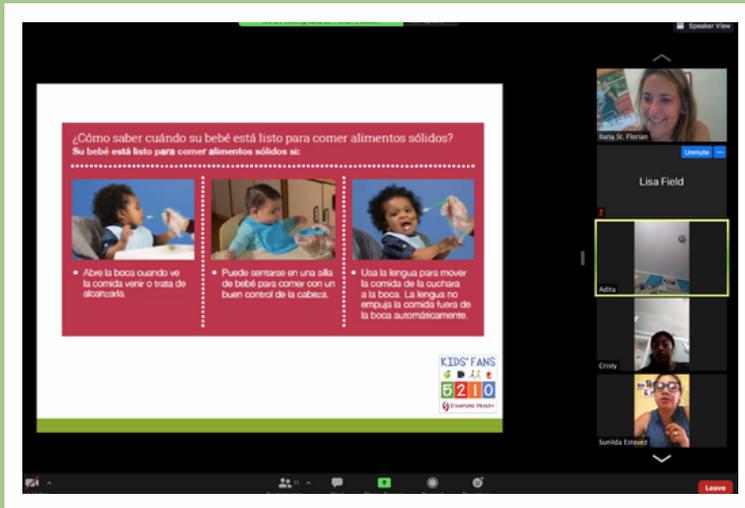


THE QUESTION IS NOT WHETHER WE CAN AFFORD TO INVEST IN EVERY CHILD; IT IS WHETHER WE CAN AFFORD NOT TO.

- Marian Wright Edelman

Technology wiz and Rye mom, Lori Hutson, guided us through the implementation of a donor database. RHS Seniors Kio Kataym and and Nicole Cabrera helped with research, distribution, translations and database work as a part of their virtual Rye High School internship.

A special thanks to the Carver Center, the Junior League of Westchester by the Sound, Open Door Medical Center, Milton School, and Rye Presbyterian Church Women's Association for their support throughout the year.



HONORING OUR FOUNDERS

Timing is everything. Right before the pandemic hit, we were lucky to be able to celebrate 5 Steps to Five's 5th Anniversary Gala with many of our friends.

Annabel Monaghan was a charming and effective Master of Ceremonies, and teacher Yesenia Sanchez and program graduate (now board member) Astrid Acosta were engaging speakers.

Most importantly, we honored our founders Mary Alice Warner, Kent Warner, and Allen Clark, who received a well-deserved standing ovation for their exceptional vision, commitment, and hard work to build this organization. It was a wonderful and inspiring evening, and we look forward to gathering in person again soon!



... is Five!

**Celebrating
our fantastic founders...**

Mary Alice Warner, Kent Warner and Allen Clark
Mamaroneck Beach and Yacht Club
Saturday, February 29, 2020

Honorees:



Mary Alice Warner, with four teenagers, took a course in Parent Effectiveness Training, beginning her special interest in parenting. A graduate of Smith College and later with a degree in counseling, she worked as a parent, family and youth counselor, in the White Plains Youth Bureau for 9 years, before moving to New Hampshire. There she volunteered for 16 years in the state prison, leading parent support groups and coaching inmates in parenting their children. She also co-led Parent Journey groups in the local Family Resource Center working with parents to build self-esteem, confidence and enjoyment as parents. She is happy to have been involved in the planning and setting up of 5 Steps to Five!



Kent Warner returned to Rye from New Hampshire in 2013. Feeling the need to give back to the under-served community in next-door Port Chester, he and his wife Mary Alice started 5 Steps to Five, which he says has been one of the most rewarding involvements in his life. He received a BSME from Princeton Engineering School before starting an engineering/consulting/construction company. Kent has long been involved with nonprofit organizations, including being board chair of Westchester Planned Parenthood and Board of Spaulding Youth Center for autistic children in New Hampshire. He was president of the nonprofit company that built the 99-unit Ferris Avenue affordable housing building in White Plains.



Allen Clark joined Kent and Mary Alice Warner as Co-founder in late 2013 to start 5 Steps to Five. An 80-year resident of Westchester County, he has lived in Rye since 1984. A cum laude graduate of Amherst College, he worked in advertising for 40 years, including being Partner of Della Femina & Partners for 16 years. He is Publisher Emeritus of The Rye Record newspaper. In the mid-1960s he helped the Mamaroneck Community Action Program build the first community-owned CAP building in the country and served on the Mamaroneck Village Human Rights Commission. For the past three years, he has organized and run a literature discussion program at the Rye Free Reading Room with guest lecturer from Yale Dr. Mark Schenker. Allen and his wife, Whitney, live near their daughter, Margot Clark-Junkins and her family.



FINANCIAL RESULTS

Thanks to the generous support from donors old and new we ended 2020 in a strong financial position, allowing us to continue our current services to the community and also to plan for future growth.

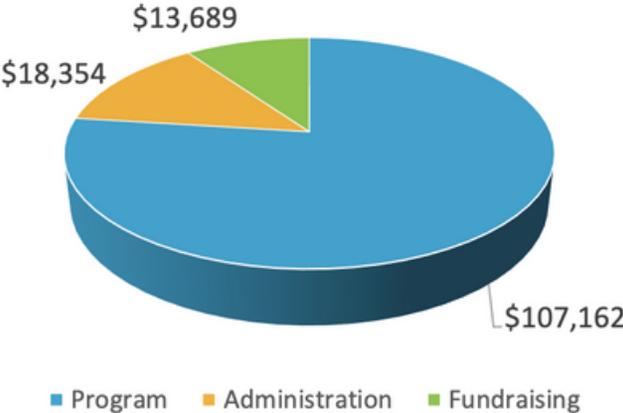
Expenditures

Spending in 2020 totaled \$139,205 of which 77% went to program expenses. We continued to pay our staff throughout, which enabled us to transition to an online platform when it became apparent we were not going to be able to return to in person classes as quickly as we had hoped. Our staff worked hard to adapt to our online platform and provide in person special events when conditions allowed.

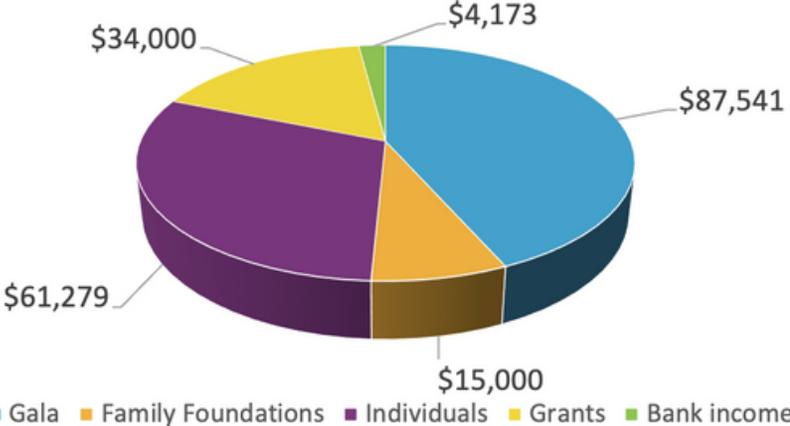
Revenue

Revenues in 2020 totaled \$210,993. We continued to receive significant funding from committed donors, and also added new supporters as a result of our February gala and our fundraising appeal.

2020 Expenditures (\$139,205)



2020 Revenue (\$210,993)



Note: Financial numbers were prepared prior to auditor review.



2020 IN PHOTOS



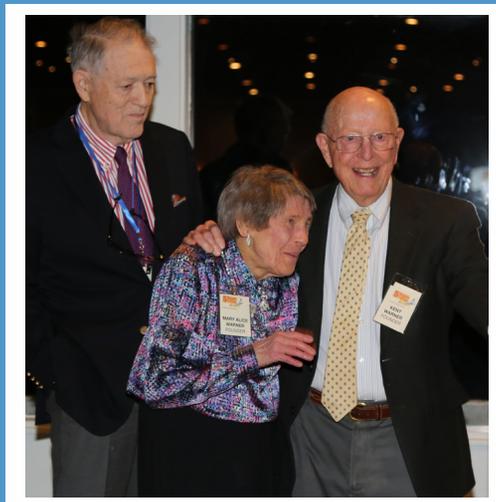
BOARD NEWS

After many years of service, Mary Alice and Kent Warner bid farewell to the board and are now Directors Emeriti. Allen Clark stepped down as President of the Board, but remains active in the organization. Arthur Stampleman and Leanne Tormey announced their retirement from the board. All were among 5 Steps to Five's earliest Directors, and we are grateful for their service.

Kristin Jautz stepped into the role of President in July, and as the year came to an end the Board of Directors welcomed Carolyn Mauritz, Emily Borell, and Lori Haffey as new members. Board meetings are held via Zoom for the time being and have been increased to six meetings per year.

Over the past years, 5 Steps to Five has become a respected and important community partner. The Board is looking forward to finding new ways to build on the organization's success, and to reach even more children and families in Port Chester.

Our Mission is to empower parents of infants and toddlers by coaching them how to prepare their children for success in Kindergarten and their lives beyond.



2020 Board of Directors

Kristin Jautz, President
Ann Magalhaes, Vice President
Betsy White, Treasurer
Carolee Brakewood, Secretary
Allen Clark, Founder

Astrid Acosta
Emily Borell
Rachel Fleming
Lori Haffey
Robin Jovanovich
Carolyn Mauritz
Molly Ness
Ilaria St. Florian-Kruijtzer

Kent Warner, Director Emeritus
Mary Alice Warner, Director Emeritus

Lisa Field, Executive Director
Helen Rice, Associate Director

A WARM THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS 2020 DONORS

Step 5 \$25,000+

Emily Grant
Nickless Family Foundation

Step 4 \$10,000 - \$24,999

Giovanella & Edward Dunn
Gabby & Don McCree
Lynn Straus

Step 3 \$5,000-\$9,999

Merilee & Roy Bostock
Robinson Clark
Kristin & Ken Jautz
Knistrom Family Foundation
E. Olivia & Oskar Lewnowski
Julia & Terry McCartney
Steere Family Fund

Step 2 \$1,000-\$4,999

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Elizabeth & Robert Alexander
Margaret Arquit & Bill Blake
Sasha Blackwell
Susan & Frank Brown
Meg Cameron & Jim Glickenhau
Whitney & Allen Clark
Rachel & Patrick Fleming
Teri & Jeff Greene
The Jankovsky Family
Robin & Peter Jovanovich
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Holly & Hal Kennedy
Drs. Sonny Konda & Kalpana Konda
Cindy & Jim Kuster
Ann & Gus Magalhaes
Katherine Moore
Junior League Westchester on the Sound
Lisa & Richard Pell
Alison & Rich Relyea
Joyce & Paul Rheingold
Helen & Mark Rice

Ilaria St. Florian-Kruijtzer & Maarten Kruijtzer
Cynthia J. Mackay & Arthur Stampleman
Priya & Jayant Tambe
Sally & John Tobin
Mary Alice & Kent Warner
Scott F. Warner
Betsy Buttrill White
Rye Presbyterian Church Women's Association

CONTINUED THANKS

Step 1 \$500 - \$999

Sally & Daniel Adler
Laura & Michael Aronstein
Evelyn & Nick Beilenson
Justin & Melissa Boisseau
Carolee & Daniel Brakewood
Linda & John Buttrill
Margot Clark-Junkins & Theo Junkins
Wonda & Bob Clyatt
Nicole & Marcus Colwell
Abbie & Michael Durkin
Nicholas Ellis
Tina Exarhos & Allie Eberhardt
Dolores Eyler & Van Siler
Lisa & Rob Field
Maria & Michael Guarnieri
Debbie & Svend Hansen
Jeannie & Barrie Hedge
Christina Hickey
Cynthia & Mark Howard
Trista Huang & Joshua Mattes
Laura & Ted Kelleher
Pamela Kindler
Maureen & Oran Kirkpatrick
Gordon LaBounty
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Leonard
Lisa & Mark Lonnegren
Cole & Linda Mackay

Step 1 \$500 - \$999

Carolyn R. Mauritz
Daniel O'Day
Kiren & Biraj Patel
Lisa & Matthew Pearson
Dana & Chris Perriello
Sandy & Joseph Samberg
Fiona Schaupp
Lynne & Robert Schwartz
Casey & Scott Segal
Carol Sellon
Jennifer & Scot Stevens
Jane & Carl Valentine
Hilary Ward Murphy & Joe Murphy
Lee Ann & Stuart Warner
Elizabeth & Robert Zahm

Friends \$250 - \$499

Kim Bacon
Anne Bradner
Kathrin S. Brown & Bill Gedale
Caroll Claps
Chris Cohan
Josh Cohn
Barbara & Fred Cummings
Barbara & Bertrand De Frondeville

Connie Dempster
Susan & Douglas DeStaebler
Theresa Dougherty
Kimberly & Bill Formon
Paula & Drew Fung
Pat & Jack Geoghegan
Kelly Grayer
Lori & Pat Haffey
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Barbara & Paul Hicks
Lori & Mark Hutson
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Thomas Kelsey
Nora & Ned Kirk
Lynn & Jules Kroll
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Pamela & Eugene McGuire
Victoria G. & Chris Meier
Deborah Metzger
Jane & Bob Mickatavage
Annabel & Tom Monaghan
Rebecca & Joe Mooney
Kendra & Patrick Moran

CONTINUED THANKS

Friends \$250 - \$499

Mollie Myers
Molly Ness
Katherine & Rob O'Connor
Martha & Steven Otis
David Parsons
Bane & Bill Pearson
Emilie & Jim Reddoch
Mimi Shea
Gretchen & Scott Snyder
Stephanie & Sander Spierings
Laurel Stevens
Catherine & Donald Svoboda
Fabiola Tambini
Jodi Weber
Frances Wiener
Elizabeth & Brian Woods
Debbie & Martin Zingg

Up to \$249

Ann Haynes & Jack Barry
Bill & Vanessa Bisceglia
Sharon & Jeff Cammisa
Robert GiaQuinto
Bernice & Eric Hall
Nancy Haneman
Andrea & David Hessekiel
Dinah & James Howland
Nina & Sol Hurwitz
Lisa & Todd Kantor
Lee Katz
Jan & Alan Kelsey
Linda & Robert Kurtz
Nieves Blanco & Alberto Laveron
Lisa Hogan & Paul Luthringer
Vivien Malloy
Mary Anne Massey
Vanessa Mayo
Susan Morison
Linwood & John Olson
Suzi & Martin Oppenheimer
Susan & Brad Parish
Beverly Penberthy

Madeleine & Andy Peron
Isobel Perry
Donna Providenti
Meg & Raoul Rodriguez
Shoshana & Seth Rosenfield
Jen & Jim Sandling
Jana & Andy Seitz
Ellen & Mitchell Silver
Birgit & Dan Townley
Linda & Sal van Beurden
Caroline & Andrew Walker
Barbara & Alfred Wallach
Angela Walsh
Duane Wheatcroft



Visit us at
www.5stepstofive.org

To donate, visit our website or
mail a check to
"5 Steps to Five, Inc."
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For more information or to get
involved, please email
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lpfield@5stepstofive.org