



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

A LETTER FROM THE ED

Greetings, and welcome to the African American Roundtable's 2021 Annual Report. We are thrilled to share this publication with you.

AART has experienced transformational changes over the last year. Our staff has tripled in size, we've expanded our programming, and we've moved into our new office on the Northwest Side of Milwaukee and have already begun making an impact.

Take a look at a snapshot of our 2021 accomplishments, and be sure to follow along for the exciting work we have ahead of us in 2022.

Practice joy,

Markasa Tucker-Harris

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ABOUT AART

Vision

AART envisions a Milwaukee where Black people are walking in their power, organizing, leading, and transforming policies to change the trajectory of their community to thrive and live at their greatest potential.

Mission

AART collaborates to show power, amplify each other's voices, nurture leadership, promote racial equity and accessibility, and pass policies to radically improve the lives of Black people in Milwaukee.

Values

Transformation
Community & Civic Engagement
Authentic Relationships
Empowerment
Organization

THE BUDGET

REVENUE

Foundations	\$1,289,000
Donations	\$19,360

EXPENSES & DEDUCTIONS

Staff Salaries and Benefits	\$255,697
Leadership Development and Programs	\$132,771
Marketing, Branding and Outreach	\$59,000
General Administrative Expenses	\$15,000
Staff Professional Development and Trainings	\$14,000
Office and Program Supplies	\$9,400

Note: AART will be drastically expanding its programming in 2022 and beyond. In 2021, this process was hindered due to the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. We're scaling at a speed that's sustainable.

NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS



- Became a fiscal project of the Hmong American Women's Association in January
- Moved into a new office space on the Northwest Side of Milwaukee
- Launched Leadership Development Cohort and graduated 28 Black leaders in a six-week program, which received 75 applications
- Began strategic planning to focus on goal setting and impact in 2022
- Hired four new staff to expand our capacity and reach throughout the city: Community Base Building Organizer, Digital Organizer, Democracy Organizer and Office Manager
- Connected with five new major funders
- Unveiled a new logo, website and branding guidelines
- Supported dozens of Black-owned businesses, of which 95 percent were local
- Retweeted by professional football player turned activist Colin Kaepernick

"We are working to ensure Milwaukee residents have the power to decide how resources are allocated to address the root causes of violence and poverty..."

*-Markasa Tucker-Harris
Relaunch of LiberateMKE campaign*

BY THE NUMBERS

MILWAUKEE RESIDENTS ENGAGED

1,500

INDIVIDUAL DONORS GAINED

150

BLACK, LOCAL PARTNERS SUPPORTED

50

BLACK BUSINESSES SUPPORTED

30

A YEAR IN PHOTOS



PROGRAM SUCCESS

DIGITAL ORGANIZING

- Gained 700 subscribers through Accelerate Change (AC) Facebook bots
- 60% of AC subscribers gave their phone numbers
- 80% of AC subscribers signed AART petition, and over 30% shared it
- Facebook following grew by 23%
- LiberateMKE Twitter account grew by 20%
- AART Twitter page grew by 100%
- Launched a new Twitter page and Youtube channel

DEMOCRACY & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- Planned for 2022's electoral changes and began building relationships on the Northwest Side
- Prepared to launch AART's direct contact efforts, local government educational series, civic actions, and first Democracy-focused Leadership Development Cohort
- Began activating civically disengaged, Black residents in aldermanic districts 5 & 9

COMMUNITY BASE BUILDING

- Told six Northwest Side Stories through a social media project and an article published on Localyst, which engaged an online audience of over 4,000.
- Through youth listening sessions and relational organizing, AART's Leadership Development Cohort fellows engaged 20 people between the ages of 15 and 24 in discussions about their experiences, visions, and needs in Milwaukee, which will prepare them to support the installation of a youth-led mural/art project in March of 2022.

MEMBERSHIP AND COALITION

- Relaunched LiberateMKE campaign, which focused on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) along with the city budget
 - Wins included Milwaukee allocating \$43.5 million for housing, \$31 million for lead remediation using APRA funding, and the reduction of 25 Milwaukee Police Department officers.
- Engaged with key community coalition partners supporting bail support and Black Mama's Day Bailout with Milwaukee Freedom Fund; continued community engagement with St. Joe's Accountability Coalition (SJAC); and held joint political education sessions with Black and Pink, Hmong American Women's Association, Milwaukee Chapter of Democratic Socialists of America, and Working Families Party.

PARTNERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

LOCAL PARTNERS AND COALITIONS

All in Wisconsin
Milwaukee Freedom Fund
Hmong American Women's Association
Generations of Excellence Trendsetters
Black and Pink: Milwaukee
St Joe's Accountability Coalition
ROCS Software
Milwaukee DSA
AbolishMKE
Working Families Party Wisconsin
Heal the Hood MKE
Dream Team United MKE

FOUNDATIONS

Borealis Philanthropy
Center for Popular Democracy
Freedom Inc
Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Jrue and Lauren Social Impact Fund
and Full of Grace
Ms. Foundation
Open Society Foundation
Public Welfare Foundation
Charles and Lynn Schusterman
Family Philanthropies
State Democracy Project

NATIONAL PARTNERS

Civilytics Consulting
Community Resource Hub
Interrupting Criminalization
State Voices

STAFF/ BOARD DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Cherizar Crippen
Courage to Fight Lions, Inc
Jeanette Martin
Management Center
Maximized Communications
Nelson & Co
RBJ Consulting

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