FY 2019-20
ANNUAL REPORT
A Year of Grit & Resilience
Dear Opportunity Junction Community,

Thank you for your support in all forms during this past year. Your partnership means even more during this period of crisis. Between the day when our fiscal year started on July 1, 2019 and the day when it closed on June 30, 2020, the world shifted radically under our feet.

The bottom line, if you'd like it up front, is that our entire organization has been nimble and determined to provide continuity for the motivated job seekers we serve. Employer partners are successfully recruiting our graduates. Volunteer trainers and mock interviewers have learned to use Zoom. Every program except onsite public computer access has pivoted to online delivery. Even the 2020 Imagine Gala pivoted to a virtual format that has become a model for many of our community partners, thanks to your support.

We feel for the suffering of the community we serve, though. We surveyed our current job seekers and recent alumni in both April and May about the impact of the pandemic on their lives. Too many have lost jobs or work hours (or have household members who have). We were fortunate to receive COVID-19 relief grants that allowed us to distribute direct financial assistance to those in greatest need. The COVID-19 relief grants also helped us purchase the laptops and Chromebooks needed for online learning.

Employers have continued to reach out to us during shelter-in-place, both for administrative professionals (from the Administrative Careers Training participants) and home health aides (from among the certified nursing assistant trainees enrolled in our Healthcare Career Pathways). Altogether for the year, we served 1,092 unique residents in all of our programs, include 429 new job seekers and alumni, and we made 144 placements (initial and alumni) for the year.

As we end this year, demand for job training is surging. Motivated job seekers from across the county are reaching out. Thank you for standing with us to meet the need.

Sincerely,

Alissa Friedman, President and CEO
ALUMNI EARNINGS VERIFIED SINCE 2010

$80,000,000

1,092
Individuals Served Across Programs

$75,500
Magnitude of COVID Support
(Books, Laptops, Hotspots, Participant Support)

131
Entered Employment or Earned Raises

OPERATING REVENUE
$2,281,220

Government Contracts 25%
Events & Donations 12%
Earned Income 3%
Grants 60%

OPERATING EXPENSES
$2,203,601

Administrative Careers Training 37%
Career Counseling 13%
Road Map 12%
Other Programs 11%
Fundraising 11%
Healthcare Careers 10%
Administration 6%

*Draft Audited financials not yet reviewed by Board.

Opportunity Junction fights poverty by helping low-income Contra Costa residents gain the skills and confidence to get and keep jobs that support themselves and their families.
The Administrative Careers Training (ACT) Program prepares motivated job seekers for administrative careers, combining computer training with life skills, case management, paid work experience, mental health, career skills, job placement assistance, and alumni services.

After five years with the same company, having advanced to the position of Assistant Manager, Gwen lost her job as a result of the pandemic. Determined to provide for her sons, she reached out to Opportunity Junction’s Alumni Manager for help finding a new role. With an introduction from OJ’s Business Services Manager, Gwen landed an excellent job with Semper Solaris as their Administrative Operations Coordinator. The new position offers her a significant raise and shortens her commute. Gwen exclaims, “I am really happy with my new responsibilities and with my new employer.” –Gwen Moore, ACT Alumna

ROAD MAP YOUTH

For young adults aged 18 to 24, we offer a Road Map to employment through short-term training at Los Medanos College, our own job training programs, and other local training opportunities. Our customized services span from training program exploration and enrollment assistance to financial aid guidance, introduction to various on-campus resources, job placement assistance, and more.

EVENING TECHNOLOGY CENTER

The evening Technology Center offers no-cost access to computers and the Internet, as well as classes in software applications, English as a Second Language, and a drop-in typing class.
HEALTHCARE CAREER PATHWAYS

Our Healthcare Career Pathways program is an opportunity for job seekers to enter the healthcare field earning a high wage and accessing a pathway to financial stability. This starts with a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Training Program. The program, in partnership with Mt. Diablo Adult Education and Ombudsman Services, offers 12 weeks of CNA training along with hands-on clinical experience.

In March, due to COVID-19, Andrea's clinical training was suspended and her husband lost overtime hours at work. Opportunity Junction reached out about an enticing position at All Seasons Home Care. Andrea was hired immediately into a full time position that would help her support her family during the pandemic. She says, "I am so happy with the company and feel so welcome." - Andrea Higgins, CNA Student

CAREER COUNSELING

Our Career Counselors provide individualized case management, career counseling, group activities, and job placement services in our Antioch office, at Los Medanos College, and at SparkPoint Contra Costa in Bay Point.

With a strong work history, Maria Acosta was stunned to find herself among the 2.4 million Californians out of work due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "Job-searching while in shelter-in-place is very stressful. Dionne's counseling filled me with hope, joy and optimism. In a few short weeks, I had two job offers! I chose the position with the most opportunity for growth." - Maria Acosta

DIY TAX ASSISTANCE

During tax season, we teach low-income taxpayers to prepare their own returns using a free website. Experienced, trained session leaders — alumni of the Administrative Careers Training Program — run the program, offering coaching in both English and Spanish.
DONORS & SPONSORS

Cornerstone Society ($10,000+)
- The Ahlsten Foundation
- Antioch Area Community Fund
- Antioch CDBG Program
- California Public Utilities Commission
- Chevron Corporation
- Contra Costa County CDBG Program
- Contra Costa County Workforce Development Board
- Delta Scrap & Salvage
- East Bay Community Foundation
- EBCF Anonymous Fund
- Educational Testing Service
- First Republic Bank
- John Muir Community Health Fund
- Justice, Justice Foundation
- The Laroch Family Charitable Fund
- Dean & Margaret Lesher Foundation
- Jerry and Belinda Lucie
- Brent Noorda and Amy Newman
- NRG Energy
- Pittsburg CDBG Program
- Richmond Community Foundation
- San Francisco Foundation
- Semo Homes
- Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- Anonymous Fund
- Y & H Sots Foundation
- Strike for Change Foundation
- Sutter Delta Medical Center
- The Swift River Fund
- Tipping Point Community
- Travis Credit Union
- U.S. Bank
- Walter S. Johnson Foundation
- Wells Fargo

Visionary Council ($5,000-$9,999)
- Adhesive Products, Inc.
- AT&T
- Diablo Magazine
- Fund for Shared Insight
- Future State
- Sue and Stephen George
- J. Stokes Agency
- Kaiser Family Winery
- Fernando and Ross Otero
- Pacific Service Credit Union
- Bernard E. & Alba Witkin Charitable Foundation

Leadership Circle ($2,500-$4,999)
- Alliance of Chief Executives, LLC
- Jane and Bill Collett
- Corteva Agriscience
- CSAA Insurance Group
- Lynn and Avner Friedman
- Mechanics Bank
- Hollings Fund Trustees
- Mark and Kathy Jones
- Kaiser Permanente

Partner ($500-$999)
- Anonymous (25)
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- Amazon.com
- Keith and Iris Archuleta
- Chevron Corporation
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- Alexa and Erik Bonn
- Dennis and Billy Burkman
- Robert and Jody Coakley
- Angie and Pete Coffee
- Sue Cordlin
- Kevin Coppa

Benefactor ($10,000-$24,999)
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- BAC Community Bank
- Bank of San Francisco
- Bruce Baumgarten and Amy Witscheck
- Linda and Ed Best
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- The Conico Companies
- Emerald HPC International
- Jacob Emmert-Aronson
- Alissa Friedman and Victoria Herzog
- Marc Gallo
- Gordon and Molly Gravelle
- Hurd Family Charitable Giving Fund
- John Muir Health
- Jim and Liz Jones
- Karen and Michael Kennedy
- Gary and Patricia Kircher
- Steven and Mary Laine
- Ernie and Carole Leopold
- Ken Leung
- MCE Clean Energy
- Mount Diablo Resource Recovery
- Nelson Staffing
- Mike O'Connor
- Peterson Properties
- PG&E
- Philips 66
- Tom Ramirez
- Rebecca and Tom Riley
- USS-POSCO
- Anna van Oosten and Ton van Eijns
- WestAmerica Bank

Advocates ($100-$249)
- Anonymous
- Rosemarie and Reanamarie Abillar
- Anish Achuthan
- Robin Apprian
- Amy Alanes
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- Donna Baskin
- Erin Bennett
- Christine and Ed Bonifacio
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- Duane and Christine Dea
- Pam and John Elliott
- John and Lisa Evans
- Norma Evans
- Natalie Georgia and Paul Kearney
- David Gold and Wendy Herzog
- Sharon Goldfarb
- Kevin and Dawne McIntosh
- Barbara Miller
- Katherine Miller
- landslide
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- Justin Santiago
- Isabelle Sartati and Lorraine Carlson
- Tonya Smith
- Alan Soule
- Anita and Stanley Soule
- Steven Stierwalt
- Bob and Sue Temen
- Matt and Holly Tillman
- William Trezza
- Union Bank
- United Health Group
- Lada Velichkov
- Vicki and Chris Verdugo
- Chiee Vee
- Catherine and Ricky Watters
- Patsy Wintrooth
- Chi-Hwa Wong
- Sean Wright
- Nolan Yee

Gifts in honor of memory of:
- Jay Anthony Barnese
- Michelle Brown
- Jane Collett
- Susan Gerson
- Sue Haas Lyon
- Lillian Nishi
- Terry Sanders

Pro Bono Professionals:
- Chris Verdugo of CCTV
- David Fraser Photography
- Morgan Lewis
- Raj Zeranol
- Shaun Samuels Photography