



MASSACHUSETTS BAPTIST MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES, INC.
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MBMM

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

| Advocate, Celebrate, Empower

Zoom Meeting

Recording



OUR VISION

**Advocate, Celebrate
and Empower New
Americans in Achieving
Their Path to Self-
Sufficiency, Inclusion,
and to Becoming Active
Citizens in Their New
Communities.**

CONTENT

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA	3
.....	
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE	4
.....	
BOARD REPORTS	7
.....	
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	8
.....	
SECRETARY'S REPORT & 2019 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES	10
.....	
TREASURER'S REPORT	13
.....	
AUDITOR'S REPORT	18
.....	
FUNDRAISING RESULTS	25
.....	
DONOR APPRECIATION	27
.....	
ACE CENTER FOR NEW AMERICANS REPORT	31
.....	
CULTURAL ADVOCATES' REPORTS	33
.....	
REFUGEE ADVOCATES' REPORTS	43
.....	
ENGLISH AS SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGE (ESOL) REPORTS	49
.....	
NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: 2020 SLATE OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS	51
.....	

CBMM & MBMM

ANNUAL GATHERING AGENDA

9:55 Pre-Meeting Cultural Performance — *Featuring Bhutanese Cultural Dance Performance*

10:00 Welcome & Devotions — Michael Harvey & Cheryl Harris

10:15 MBMM Annual Meeting — Barbara Drauschke

- Motion and Approval of Virtual Meeting
- Receive the Annual Report including Financial Review
- MBMM Update — Mar Imsong
- Vote on Slate of the Board of Directors
- Installation Prayer — Matt Rasure
- Update from CBMM — Atula Jamir

10:45 Break—*Featuring African Cultural Dance Performance*

10:55 Introduction of the Moderator and Featured Speaker Dean Vincent Rougeau
— Brita Gil-Austern

11:00 Presentation from Dean Vincent Rougeau

11:35 Small Group Discussions — led by facilitators

11:55 Large Group Guided Conversation with Dean Rougeau — Cheryl Harris

12:25 Closing Prayer — Jacqueline Dyer

12:30 Post Gathering Fellowship

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REV. DR. MAR IMSONG

MBMM is neither a liberal or conservative organization. It is a movement that promotes the language of love, embracing hospitality, transcending boundaries, ethnicity, nationality, religion or class.

It started with toilet paper disappearing off shelves, and now, several months after the COVID-19 pandemic first hit North American shores, it seems as though we are living in an apocalyptic movie. As I write this report, October 28, 2020, we have 8.85 million cases and 227,000 people have died in the U.S. alone. New words and phrases have entered

our normal conversations: lock down, social distancing, testing, contact tracing, vaccine, work from home, Zoom, stay-cation, PPE, ventilator, lay offs, depression, grief, uproar on racism, 2020 election in the midst of a

pandemic, mail-in ballots, and more. There are some big storms that we are facing: not only the Corona Virus but also a Racism Virus and a Political Virus which are affecting not only the people and society but Christian Churches and vulnerable immigrant and refugee communities. People are experiencing death in the absence of loved ones, anxiety, depression, isolation, insomnia, insecurity, distrust, hopelessness, anger, loneliness, and despair.

In times such as these, when the world is whirling around with all kinds of noise and news and is filled with fear, death, and insecurity, and when loud

and confusing voices are coming from our leaders, MBMM turns and listens to the gentle whisper that is the voice of God. Your MBMM leadership has made it a priority to allow God to guide us in what we do. Let us welcome God's voice of assurance, presence, direction, and wisdom. Let us always remember that God is a personal God. God is not far away but God is with us right here where you are. God does not need to shout but will gently whisper to you with clear directions and assurance that you are God's child loved by God. God is love; love yourself, love your neighbor and love God.

MBMM is also very thankful to the generous donors who opened their wallets to help our people who are affected by COVID-19.

We believe Jesus is going to heal our divisions and make us stronger whether those divisions

are in our families, in our churches, in our country, in our schools, or in our neighborhoods. Jesus can do it. He has done it before, and we believe He can do it again. Jesus gave us the church, the job; he didn't give it to the government, nor to politicians, nor to the schools, nor to businesses. He gave it to the church, to the people of God, to be a community that brings justice and healing of the communities.

MBMM quickly adopted new ways of delivering its ministry. We cancelled all in-person meetings in 2020 including ESOL and After School Programs. Thankfully, the pandemic provided opportunities for us to meet virtually to pray for each other and prioritize the work of Advocacy, Empowerment and Celebration.

One of the things that COVID-19 has shown a lot of us is how much we miss being together. So **MBMM is committed to creating a NEW COMMUNITY** when this pandemic is all over. Join us because together with you, we will create community not just any pre-COVID-19 old community but a meaningful community where we care for each other, heal divisions around us and in our world, and promote Love, Peace and Grace.

MBMM quickly adopted new ways of delivering its ministry. We cancelled all

in-person meetings in 2020 including ESOL and After School Programs.

Thankfully, the pandemic provided opportunities for us to meet virtually to pray for each other and prioritize the work of

Advocacy, Empowerment and Celebration. MBMM is also very thankful to generous donors who opened their wallets to help our people who are affected by COVID-19. We have helped 85 families with grocery store gift cards, assisted 20 families with their rental payments, and provided 15 individuals with Urgent Care expenses including COVID-19 testing. Our Advocates and Pastors continue to assist students and families with remote learning, completing State and Federal Agency unemployment forms, filing for transitional assistance, creating awareness of the safety and hygiene necessary to remain healthy, and with therapeutic counselling during the crisis.

Your support has made a difference to the lives of those affected by this historic pandemic.

We were thrilled to receive a Planning Grant from the Lilly Endowment Fund for our Thriving in Ministry project. Work continues towards full implementation of programs to help pastors thrive in ministry.

I would like to personally thank the leadership of MBMM, including the highly committed Board of Directors, staff, Advocates, and volunteers, for your continued good work. I would like to invite all of you to pledge your time, money, and talent to continue the work of empowerment and bridge-making for the New Americans that we serve. We need your voice and we need your active participation to make MBMM's platform of "Weaving God's Love Across Cultures" of the greatest impact possible.

God's blessing to you all.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mar Imsong
Executive Director



BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

**PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
TREASURER**

2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Ms. Barbara Drauschke (President)
Rev. Dr. Robert Paiva (Vice President)
Ms. Marilyn Glover (Secretary)
Ms. Debra Wallace (Treasurer)

DIRECTORS

Rev. Michael Harvey (*CBMM Rep*)
Ms. Ardeth Thawngmung
Rev. Dr. Pierre Gnanzou
Rev. Dr. Ko Ko Lay
Prof. Brita Gill-Austern
Rev. Veronique Lapaix
Rev. Mary Day Miller (*TABCOM Rep*)
Dr. Robert Eaton
Rev. Dr. Dalton Said
Mr. Efeanyi Okeke, Esq.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BARBARA DRAUSCHKE

"Ethnic and cultural diversity in the US is one of the greatest assets of this country. A recent Bhutanese refugee told me that USA means, 'U Start Again.'"

This annual meeting marks the end of my fifth year as President of Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries. I am currently in the middle of a third two-year term.

The work of this organization has changed much over the past year, in part because of

the global pandemic we are experiencing. The last in-person Board of Directors MBMM meeting we had was in February, 2020 at the First Baptist Church of Lexington, where the

MBMM office is located. No one knew then what would come in the next nine months, and continues into the future.

We were able to accept donations and to pack gift bags in December 2019 for the New American Christmas Party, held in Lowell. For the first time, we did not have an additional Party in Worcester, but made sure that the Refugee Advocates were able to take gift bags to families they work with in the Worcester area to make their holiday season a little brighter. Thanks to all the churches who participated in White Cross giving for which MBMM was the recipient. We received so many clothes, household goods, necessary toiletries, hats, scarves and mittens, quilts and comforters, toys and school supplies which helped fill the gift bags. Some White Cross donations came from Maine and New Hampshire, as well as from many churches in Massachusetts.

MBMM was very fortunate to have opened the ACE Center in Lowell in October 2019. This additional space gives us another ministry location, to work with students in after school programs for tutoring, to assist immigrants that need help with their documentation paperwork, and in getting settled in a new country and culture. We have an active ESL program in Allston, and another one in the Fitchburg area that are helping people to learn English.

Unfortunately, many of the programs had to be suspended because of the pandemic, but MBMM continued to work through its Refugee Advocates and a developing volunteer system, including TABCOM staff and Grotonwood staff to deliver grocery store gifts cards and other needed items to people. Thank you to those volunteers for their efforts. We received funds from ABCUSA Home Missions and

the Massachusetts Baptist Charitable Society to help with efforts to meet needs caused by COVID-19 unemployment and restrictions. Thank you!

Since mid-March, the Board of Directors have been meeting by Zoom to help keep the MBMM programs going. We have been able to submit new grant proposals, and were offered a \$7500 grant from the Parker Foundation, which required a matching gift from MBMM supporters of \$7500 in order to receive the funds, and we made it!

I look forward to continuing to work with MBMM in the coming year, and thank the board members for their support and help in carrying out the mission to Weave God's Love Across Cultures.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Drauschke
President



SECRETARY'S REPORT & 2019 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

MARILYN GLOVER

We invite you to join our mission to advocate, celebrate and empower new Americans.

MBMM's fiscal year begins April 1st and ends March 31st. It is a 501(c)(3).

Various Meetings Were Held:

- MBMM Executive Committee, Conference Call
January 31, 2020
- MBMM Board of Directors' Meeting
FBC Lexington

February 8, 2020

- MBMM Executive Committee Conference Call
March 2, 2020
- MBMM Executive Committee Conference Call
March 10, 2020

- MBMM Executive Committee
Conference Call
March 20, 2020
- MBMM Executive Committee Meeting
Zoom
April 17, 2020
- MBMM Executive Committee Meeting
Zoom
April 24, 2020
- MBMM Board of Directors' Meeting
Zoom
May 16, 2020
- Backpack Event to Commemorate
World Refugee Day
Zoom
June 20, 2020
- MBMM Executive Committee Meeting
Zoom
July 9, 2020
- MBMM Executive Committee Meeting
Zoom
August 3, 2020
- MBMM Board of Directors' Meeting
Zoom
September 19, 2020
- MBMM & CBMM Planning Meeting
Zoom
October 5, 2020
- MBMM & CBMM Planning Meeting
Zoom
October 23, 2020

Highlights of the Past Year:

- Christmas gift bag packing for the New Americans' Christmas Party
FBC Lexington
December 13, 2019
- New Americans' Christmas Party
Calvary Baptist, Lowell
December 15, 2019
**Delivery of gifts in Worcester by Cultural Advocates.*
- Planned 2020 Celebrations and Fundraisers were cancelled due to the COVID-19 virus.

Upcoming Events:

- MBMM Annual Meeting and a Gathering with CBMM
ZOOM
November 14, 2020
- MBMM Fundraiser
Lexington Town Hall
TBD
May 8, 2021

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn E. Glover
Secretary

2019 MINUTES—MBMM BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEETING

First United Baptist, Lowell
November 9, 2019

The Annual Meeting took place in conjunction with the Conference of Baptist Ministers in Massachusetts (CBMM) under the theme "Entertaining Angels". The assembly began at 9:55 a.m. with a Gathering and Singing of a call and response song—"Shine, Shine, Shine", led by Rev. Daryn Stylianopolis; a Call to Worship by Rev. Michael Harvey; and Devotions, led by the host pastor, Rev. James Sinclair.

Call to Order:

At 10:05 a.m., MBMM President Barbara Drauschke called to order the Annual MBMM Meeting of November 9, 2019.

On a motion by Rev. Florence King, seconded by Rev. Lorraine Anderson, that the minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting be received, the motion carried.

Receiving Reports:

- Barbara Drauschke called attention to the "Message from the Executive Director", the President's Report, and the Financial Report in the 2019 Annual Report.

- Directing attention to the Budget and the balance sheet, as there were no questions, on a motion by Rev. James Leavitt, seconded by Marilyn Glover, it was voted to place the report on file.
- The action regarding the Auditor's Statement: Rev. Brita Gill-Austern moved and Rev. Florence King seconded the motion to place the report on file. So voted.

The 2019 Slate for the Board of Directors Presented for Election:

Officers

Ms. Barbara Drauschke (President)
 Rev. Dr. Robert Paiva (Vice President)
 Ms. Marilyn Glover (Secretary)
 Ms. Debra Wallace (Treasurer)

Directors

Rev. Michael Harvey (*CBMM Rep*)
 Ms. Ardeth Thawngmung
 Rev. Dr. Pierre Gnanzou
 Rev. Dr. Ko Ko Lay
 Prof. Brita Gill-Austern
 Rev. Veronique Lapaix
 Rev. Mary Day Miller (*TABCOM Rep*)
 Dr. Robert Eaton
 Rev. Dr. Dalton Said
 Mr. Efeanyi Okeke, Esq.

As there were no nominations from the floor, on a motion by Rev. James Leavitt seconded by Rev. Lorraine Anderson, it was voted to elect the nominees as presented.

Other Business:

- Executive Director Mar Imsong offered an opportunity for Entertaining Angels with development of the New American Friendship Circles, getting to putting a face and getting to know the New Americans. Speak to Melinda Parry if interested.
- Mar also reported the need of a volunteer at the Merrimack Street, Lowell ACE

(Advocacy, Celebration, Empowerment) Center from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

- Mar pointed out that ours is a spiritual movement of love—inclusive and impressive—what God wants us to do as God's children.
- Barbara Drauschke recognized Ed Hobart, who is retiring from the Board of Directors, with great appreciation for his 10 years of service, that is, from the inception of MBMM.

Adjournment:

The MBMM Board of Directors' Annual Meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m., on a motion by Rev. James Leavitt (no second necessary).

There followed a presentation by Keynote Speaker ABC Missionary Ray Schillinger, Global Consultant on Immigration and Refugees, accompanied by his daughter Michelle, as the collaboration with CBMM continued.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Marilyn E. Glover
 Secretary



TREASURER'S REPORT

JERRY LOEW

Mother Teresa said, "Never worry about numbers, help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you."

The Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministry financial status is in a healthy stage. We could not have our Annual Fundraiser due to the Pandemic but at the same time one of our major expenses, the Annual Multicultural Festival, also could not be held. We are happy to report that the Board of Directors and

individual donors have been very generous in their donations. Most of the donations were designated for the MBMM emergency response to COVID-19. Please find following

the Budget versus Actual from April 1, 2020 to October 2020 and the Balance Sheet exported from the MBMM QuickBooks.

The MBMM fiscal year runs from April 1, to March 31. Therefore, our last fiscal year April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020 books were reviewed by the Brooks and Associates CPA, Inc., and their financial review is included in the Annual Report.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jerry Loew
Treasurer



Mass Baptist Multicultural Ministries Inc
Budget vs. Actuals: MBMM BUDGET 2020-2021 - FY21 P&L
 April 2020 - March 2021

	Total		
	Actual		Budget
Income			
41000 Grants			
ABHMS	3,000.00		5,000.00
BBSU	250,000.00		250,000.00
Cummings Foundation			33,333.00
Lilly Endowment Planning Grant	49,857.00		49,857.00
Mass Baptist Charitable			15,000.00
Mass Baptist Charitable Society COVID-19	20,000.00		20,000.00
Parker Foundation	7,500.00		15,000.00
Payment Protection Plan	14,655.00		14,655.00
Total 41000 Grants	\$ 345,012.00	\$	402,845.00
42000 Contributions			
Board Member Contributions	4,012.52		4,000.00
Individual Pledge / Memberships	4,001.88		5,000.00
Total 42000 Contributions	\$ 8,014.40	\$	9,000.00
43000 Congregation			
Donation for White Cross	200.00		2,000.00
Partner Congregations / Local C	1,868.25		3,000.00
Total 43000 Congregation	\$ 2,068.25	\$	5,000.00
44000 Programs			
ESL Fitchburg Registration			500.00
Friends of MBMM Banquet			
Banquet Sponsorships			10,000.00
Sales of Tickets for Banquet			10,000.00
Silent Auction Sales			3,000.00
Total Friends of MBMM Banquet	\$ 0.00	\$	23,000.00
In Kind Donation White Cross	1,872.41		
Interest Money Market	606.76		2,000.00
MBMM Product Sales			100.00
Total 44000 Programs	\$ 2,479.17	\$	25,600.00
Refunds and Cost Sharing	521.08		5,000.00
Total Income	\$ 358,094.90	\$	447,445.00
Gross Profit	\$ 358,094.90	\$	447,445.00
Expenses			
Total 51000 Operating & Admin Expense	\$ 11,547.36	\$	38,750.00
Total 52100 Staff Expenses	\$ 493.29	\$	11,500.00
Total 52200 Consulting Expenses	\$ 1,085.00	\$	41,000.00
Total 52300 Board Expenses	\$ 0.00	\$	3,400.00
Total 52400 ADVOCACY	\$ 9,155.18	\$	45,840.00
Total 52500 CELEBRATION	\$ 550.00	\$	16,400.00
Total 52600 EMPOWERMENT	\$ 40,741.00	\$	52,810.00
Total 55100 Staff Salaries	\$ 66,360.44	\$	170,286.80
Total Expenses	\$ 129,932.27	\$	379,986.80
Net Operating Income	\$ 228,162.63	\$	67,458.20

Wednesday, Nov 04, 2020 09:46:40 AM GMT-8 - Accrual Basis

Mass Baptist Multicultural Ministries Inc

BALANCE SHEET

As of November 6, 2020

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10000 CSB Checking	2,352.45
CSB Money Market	1,534.25
In-Kind Clearing	11,669.24
TD Bank Business Convenience	17,767.08
TD Bank Business Savings	8,176.95
TD Bank Money Market	406,856.81
Total Bank Accounts	\$448,356.78
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	-804.90
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ -804.90
Other Current Assets	
Inventory Asset	0.00
Undeposited Funds	17.76
Total Other Current Assets	\$17.76
Total Current Assets	\$447,569.64
Fixed Assets	
Accumulated Depreciation	-7,524.00
Computer Equipment	11,788.57
Total Fixed Assets	\$4,264.57
TOTAL ASSETS	\$451,834.21
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	-1,461.07
Total Accounts Payable	\$ -1,461.07
Other Current Liabilities	
Deferred revenue	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$ -1,461.07
Total Liabilities	\$ -1,461.07
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	-3,576.08
Opening Balance Equity {5}	0.00
Retained Earnings	228,747.58
Net Income	228,123.78
Total Equity	\$453,295.28
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$451,834.21



BREONNA
TAYLOR

AHMAUD
ARBERY

TOO MANY
OTHERS
#BLACKLIVESMATTER

Love
OUR
Brothers
Color

BREONNA
TAYLOR
AHMAUD
ARBERY
TOO MANY
OTHERS
#BLACKLIVESMATTER
MERCY FOR
OUR
HUMANITY
WITH YOUR
GOD

ENOUGH
IS
ENOUGH

AUDITOR'S REPORT

BROOKS & ASSOCIATES, CPAs

We are active in Somalian, Congolese, Burmese, Bhutanese, and Iraqi refugee communities in Boston, Lynn, Dorchester, Lowell, Worcester, and Springfield, Massachusetts.



Karen Brooks, CPA, MST
Cheryl M. LaVigne
Susan E. Silvia
Eileen Dunning, E.A.
Barry Gorevitz, E.A.

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries
Lexington, Massachusetts

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the financial position as of March 31, 2020 and 2019 and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets and cash flows for the fiscal years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of Organization's management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

Accountant's Conclusion

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

BROOKS & ASSOCIATES, INC., CPA'S

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brooks & Associates". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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MASSACHUSETTS BAPTIST MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2020 AND 2019

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 459,821	\$ 187,203
Office equipment - Less accumulated depreciation of \$10,604 and \$9,362, respectively	<u>2,531</u>	<u>2,426</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 462,352</u>	<u>\$ 189,629</u>
 LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Deferred revenue	\$ 250,000	\$ -
Unrestricted net assets	<u>212,352</u>	<u>189,629</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 462,352</u>	<u>\$ 189,629</u>

See accountants' review report and accompanying notes.

MASSACHUSETTS BAPTIST MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2020 AND 2019

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Operations

Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries (the "Organization") strives to bridge the different ethnic churches to the American Baptist Churches in the USA, and to foster greater ties within the denomination. Based on the former president Jimmy Carter's phrase, "we become not a melting pot but a beautiful mosaic, consisting of different people, beliefs, yearnings, hopes and dreams". Therefore, the Organization's objective is to recognize this diversity and to celebrate its great offerings within the whole mission of the church.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are presented on an accrual basis, which recognizes income when earned and expenses when incurred.

Financial Statement Presentation

The Organization has presented its financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit organizations in the United States of America. Under this guidance, the Organization is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets.

The Organization reports gifts of cash and other assets as an increase in temporarily or permanently restricted net assets if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets. When a donor restriction expires, this is, when a purpose restriction is accomplished or a time restriction expires, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, revenues and expenses, and disclosures during the reporting period. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statements of cash flows, the Organization considers all money market mutual funds and highly liquid investments available for current use with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

MASSACHUSETTS BAPTIST MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2020 AND 2019

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Office Equipment

Purchased equipment are stated at cost. All assets are depreciated over estimated useful lives on a straight-line basis. Repairs and maintenance and small equipment purchases are expenses as incurred. Expenditures that significantly increase asset values or extend useful lives are capitalized. Acquisition of property and equipment in excess of \$500 that meet the capitalization requirements are capitalized.

Estimated useful lives are as follows:

Furniture, fixtures and equipment	5 - 7 years
-----------------------------------	-------------

Deferred Revenue

The Organization is the recipient of grant money. Amounts collected in advance of incurring specified costs are reflected as deferred revenue.

Donated Assets

Donated materials and other noncash donations are recorded as contributions at their fair values at the date of donation.

Contributions

All contributions are available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. All pledges receivable and amounts received that are donor restricted for future periods or donor restricted for specific purposes are reported as temporarily or permanently restricted, depending upon the nature of the restriction. Temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and are reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restriction when the donor stipulated time restriction ends or the purpose restriction is accomplished by the Organization. All gifts granted to the Organization are recorded at fair value at the time of receipt.

Concentration of Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Organization to off-balance-sheet credit risk include cash on deposit with financial institutions which were insured up to \$250,000 by the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The Organization maintains its cash in bank deposit accounts that at times may exceed federally insured limits. The Organization has not experienced any losses in such accounts. Management believes the Organization is not exposed to any significant credit risk related to cash and cash equivalents.

**MASSACHUSETTS BAPTIST MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2020 AND 2019**

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Reclassification

Certain prior year amounts may have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

NOTE 2 - OFFICE EQUIPMENT

Office equipment and accumulated depreciation are as follows at March 31, 2020 and 2019

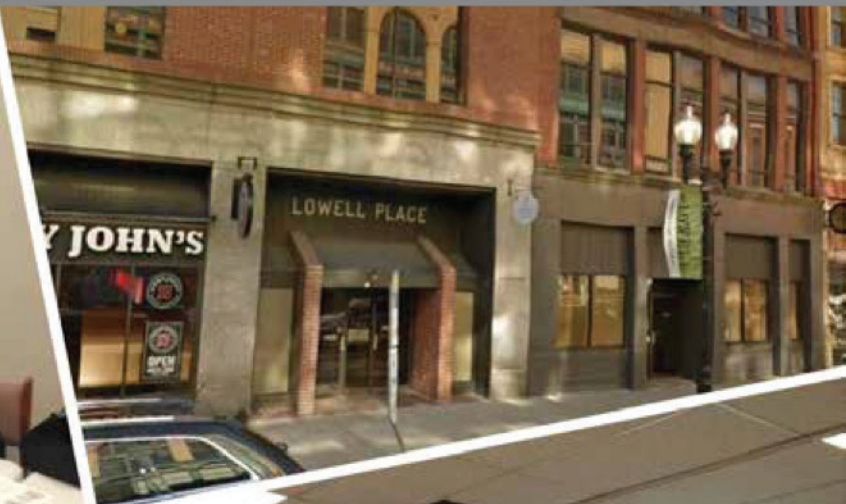
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Office Equipment	\$ 13,135	\$ 11,788
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(10,604)</u>	<u>(9,362)</u>
	<u>\$ 2,531</u>	<u>\$ 2,426</u>

NOTE 3 - OFFICE RENT

The Organization maintained an operating lease, which can be terminated with a 30-day notice.

NOTE 4 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through September 17, 2020, the date of which the financial statements were available to be issued.



FUNDRAISING RESULTS

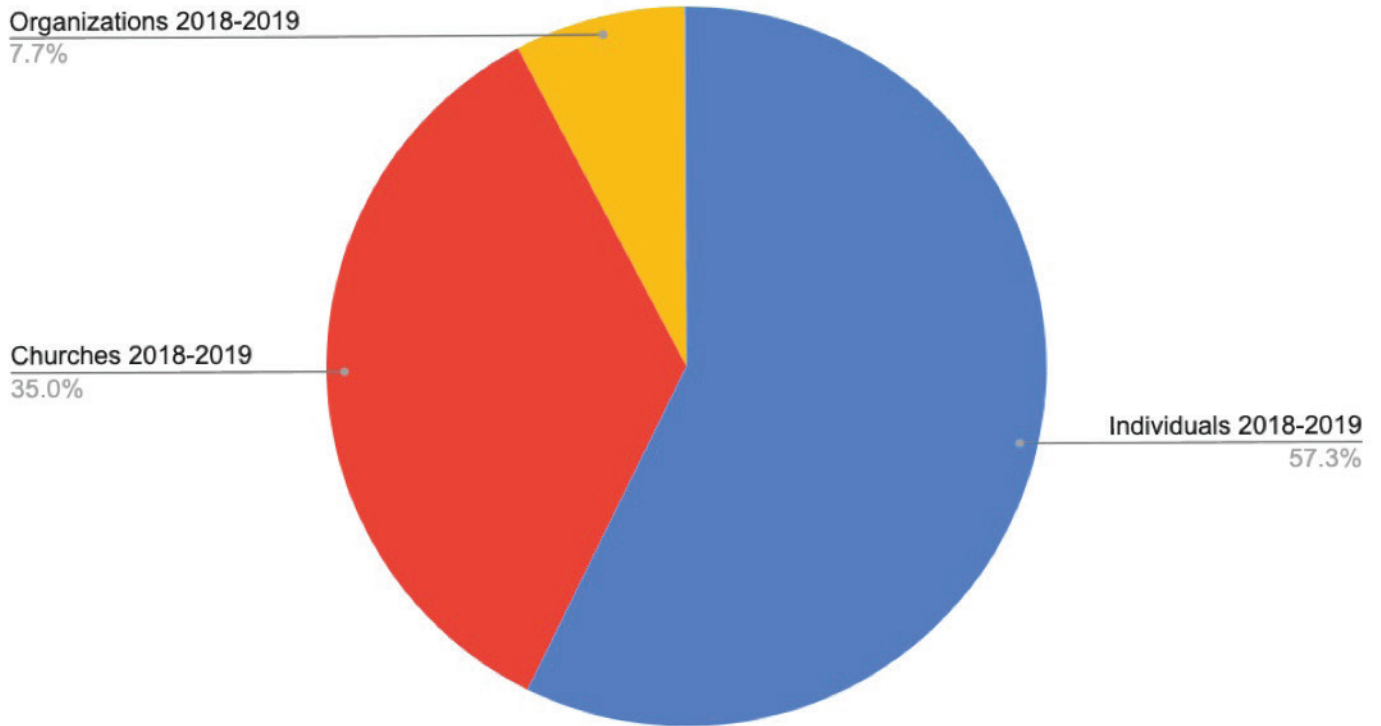
MBMM

MBMM works at the grassroots level with refugee communities. Our goal is that refugees seamlessly achieve a path to self-sufficiency, inclusion, and become active citizens in their new communities.

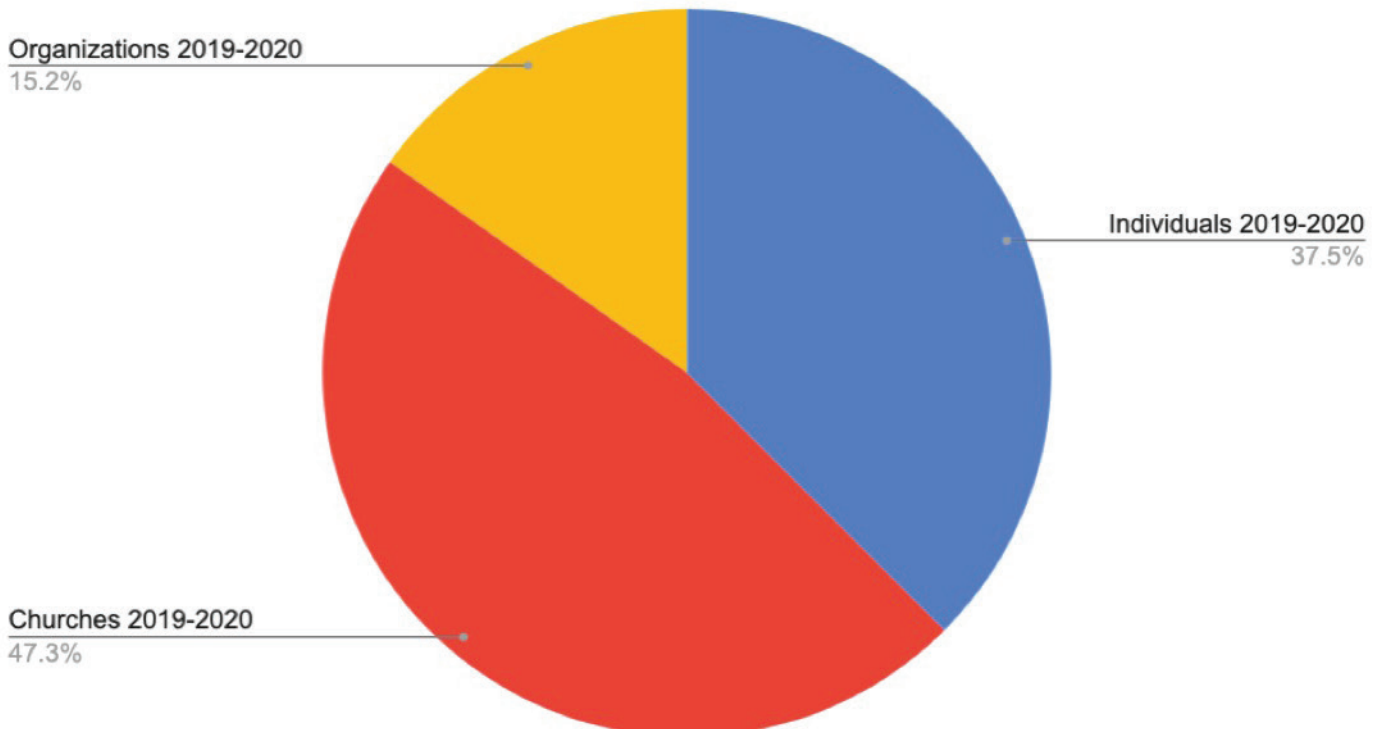
We saw an increase in the number of churches that supported MBMM and welcomed the increase in the number of organizations who showed financial support from the previous year; however the number of individuals who supported MBMM dropped.

We are diligently working on ensuring 2020-2021 shows increases from all supporters with a focus on renewing and sustaining our donors so we can continue our good work in God's name.

Individual, Church, and Organization Donors 2018-2019



Individual, Church, and Organization Donors 2019-2020



DONOR APPRECIATION

MBMM

MBMM works with and through its Refugee Advocates and Cultural Advocates from countries across the globe who are now settled in the greater Boston area.

Thank You...

...to our generous donors for your support of MBMM in the 2019-2020 fiscal year!

All gifts from all sources (individuals, organizations, and churches make up our donor contingent) are vitally important to MBMM and our ability to carry out our mission of **providing hope in the American dream.**

Your generosity allowed MBMM to provide:

- 86 grocery store gift cards, and volunteer food delivery to families
- Rental assistance to over 20 families
- Partial coverage of Urgent Care costs and medicine for families
- PPE and COVID-related cleaning supplies for the ACE Center
- 70 backpacks loaded with school supplies to students from new American communities in Lowell
- And much more!

**INDIVIDUAL DONORS
2019-2020**

Harolton L. Alexander
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**DONATIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS
2019-2020**

American Baptist Home Mission Societies
(ABHMS)
American Baptist Women's Ministries (ABWM)
of Massachusetts
Boston Baptist Social Union (BBSU)
Braintree Rotary
Conference of Baptist Ministers in
Massachusetts (CBMM)
Church Mutual Insurance Company
Digital Federal Credit Union (DCU)
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Massachusetts Baptist Society
Merrimack Valley Association of American
Baptist Women
Middlesex Community Bank
Office of Refugees & Immigrants
Saydanar
The American Baptist Churches of
Massachusetts (TABCOM)
United Baptist Women of Medford
Wegman's

**DONATIONS FROM CHURCHES
2019-2020**

Baptist Church of Grafton
Beth Eden Baptist Church
Brewster Baptist Church
Canton Baptist Church
Caribou United Baptist Church, ME
Community Baptist, Somerville
Concord Baptist Church
Corliss Street Baptist Church, Bath, ME
Court Street Baptist Church
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FBC Arlington
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FBC Brunswick, ME
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FBC West Springfield
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FBC Waltham
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Ladies Aid Second Baptist Church
Littleton American Baptist Women

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New Creation Baptist Church
Old Cambridge Baptist Church
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Rivers of Living Water International
Ministry
Second Baptist Sidney, ME
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Thomaston Baptist, ME
United Baptist Church, Oakland, ME
West Bowdoin Church Mission Circle
Warren Baptist Church
Wesfield United Baptist Church
West Acton Baptist Church Missions
Zion Haitian Baptist Church



ACE CENTER FOR NEW AMERICANS

PRANIM MAGAR & MELINDA PARRY

MBMM believes that cultural diversity requires recognition, acceptance and celebration. Gathering together in welcoming multicultural events that celebrate distinct traditions, ethnicities and identities from around the world.

The ACE Center for New Americans in Lowell began one year ago when space was leased at 144 Merrimack Street. By January 2020, an after school program for high school students, meeting two days per week was in place. This was attended by an average of five students per session.

In person programs were suspended in March due to the COVID -19 pandemic. At that time, MBMM worked with our Refugee Advocates in Lowell to ensure delivery of school lunches,

grocery gift cards, and groceries to families who needed them. With the help of volunteers we delivered aid to 19 families five days a week from mid-March until mid-September.

In June, when it became clear that lockdown restrictions were going to be longer term, homework help was offered to students via ZOOM. Several students took advantage of this.

In September 2020, homework help was again offered via ZOOM but students and families were not interested. In speaking to the families we found that they feel their children are already on the computer too many hours a day. We had enlisted several students from UMass Lowell to serve as tutors. They were only allowed to teach online, per the university's COVID policy. When we had no students, they moved on to new projects.

We are currently surveying the various new American communities in Lowell to determine what programs will be most helpful. We are confident that the ACE Center will become a vibrant, contributing part of the Lowell scene.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pranim Magar
Melinda Parry



CULTURAL ADVOCATES' REPORTS

REV. JOHN BIO ASANTE
AFRICAN CULTURE

REV. HYUNWOO KOO
ASIAN CULTURE

REV. LUCIEN MYRTHIL
HAITIAN CULTURE

REV. EDILBERTO NINO
HISPANIC CULTURE

REV. JACKSON OLIVEIRA
PORTUGUESE CULTURE

REV. DARYN STYLIANOPOULOUS
CAUCASIAN CULTURE

African Culture

Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries exists as an intentional ministry to celebrate diversity, provide hospitality to refugees and immigrant churches, guide ethnic pastors in the ordination process, facilitate cultural adjustments, provide appropriate support and assistance to refugees and immigrant

communities, and create a platform for intra - and inter-cultural dialogue.

The year 2020 has been a very eventful and difficult year throughout the entire world. This has been a very critical time in history,

and ministries like MBMM have been put to the test as we struggle to mobilize and respond to the numerous

consequences of this very dangerous pandemic (COVID-19). Millions of people have been so adversely impacted – especially immigrants and minorities – and there are so many movements that have been awakened.

Never before has the vision of MBMM been so tested. I am happy to be part of this ministry at such a time as this. The challenge before mankind in general and America in particular is so enormous that Christians in general are expected to be awakened and rise up to the occasion.

This brings to the fore the vision of MBMM and I am thrilled to be the Cultural Ministry Advocate for Africans at such a time as this. It has been very fascinating and enlightening for me personally, and my African constituents, to be part of this organization. My constituency has benefited immensely from the services of MBMM during the pandemic. Some have received stipends to supplement their budgets for food and accommodation.

Also we are seeking to bring onboard specific programs that are best for our group, to build relationships and support each other within the context of COVID-19.

The function of Cultural Advocates include promoting multicultural ministry, identifying the ministerial needs in each constituency, doing away with cultural and theological isolation to promote intercultural witness.

In this regard the year under review (2020), has been a very challenging year for most

The challenge before mankind in general and America in particular is so enormous that Christians in general are expected to be awakened and rise up to the occasion.

people, but interestingly it is the year where much has happened within the African caucus. For the first time, our number has reached nine (9) and all of them seem to be very enthusiastic about MBMM, especially the thriving in ministry program. They are looking forward to collegiality and the synergy on our platform so they can share their frustrations and successes in ministry. We are happy that MBMM is focusing on how pastors in our constituencies can thrive in ministry – something we have been trying to do – and to find the best way to build a platform to build relationships and support each other. Also we are seeking to bring onboard specific programs that are best for our group, to build relationships and support each other within the context of COVID-19.

We organized two virtual listening sessions to gather our stories of pastoral ministry – stories that will help leaders thrive and identify areas that require growth for pastors to be more successful and to thrive in ministry.

Right now enthusiasm among the group is very high, and they are eagerly looking forward to participating in the Thriving in Ministry program.

I am aware of many ethnic pastors who are struggling to do ministry here in the United States. Many are struggling to honor their calling because they find it so frustrating assimilating into the system. Many are also in dire need of resources such as places of worship. My hope and prayer is that while we try to weave God's love across cultures,

those who birthed MBMM and those are actively moving the wheel along will be blessed in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev John Bio Asante
African Caucus



Haitian Culture

MBMM has a loving, missional culture. As an institution its objective is serving anyone it can and helping leaders thrive in ministry. I am going to describe a problem that faced a leader in the community recently.

Frank Accime is the pastor of Philadelphia Baptist Church in Mattapan, Massachusetts. He wanted to have his ordination recognized by The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts. He had met the requirement that the institution set. He had taken the appropriate courses, like Ethics and Polity. In addition, the pastor had his ordination certificate as a proof of previous ordination. Unfortunately, some transcript papers in his

file had been missed, causing a delay of the process.

MBMM through its Executive Director handed a Recognition of Ordination certificate to Rev. Frank Accime from The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts. The recipient gave glory to the Lord and profusely thanked Rev. Dr. Mar Imsong, Executive Director of MBMM. Now the problem of Rev. Pastor Frank Accime has been solved and his dream realized.

I had a meeting with the Executive Director of MBMM in Lexington MA. He asked me for a list of Haitian pastors that had met the requirements and wanted to be recognized by ABC as soon as possible. He asked his secretary to get a file for each pastor. He gave me the pastor's file. Then, I was able to work with Rev. Accime to complete his papers.

The day after, I went to the pastor's home to hand him the paper because of the urgency of his case. All parts of the application had been completed, and all the pertinent questions about his candidacy had been answered. Quickly, after one month all papers had been completed. I took them back to the Executive Director's office for revising and approving the affair.

One month after the document was ready, the candidate received a phone call from the office to tell him to be prepared for an interview with the Ordination committee in Worcester, MA. He went to the meeting and, shortly after, he received a confirmation letter from the chairman.

During a worship service at Philadelphia Baptist Church, with Rev. Dr. Mar Imsong as the preacher, Rev. Daniel Auguste the Executive Director of HABMA as interpreter, Rev. Dr. Delinse, Dr. Zama, and your servant Rev. Lucien Myrthil, CMA there was an ordination ceremony. MBMM through its Executive Director handed a Recognition of Ordination certificate to Rev. Frank Accime from The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts. The recipient gave glory to the Lord and profusely thanked Rev. Dr. Mar Imsong, Executive Director of MBMM.

Now the problem of Rev. Pastor Frank Accime has been solved and his dream realized.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Lucien Myrthil
Hatian Cultural Ministry Advocate



Historically White Churches

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe

I have been holding you and your communities in my heart throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. For all those who have been affected directly, and especially to those who have lost those dear to their hearts, please know that you are in my prayers.

are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved to hide and reside in shadow rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”
—John 3:17-21

Beloved Community,

What a year it has been! I cannot believe we are already in October of 2020. I have been holding you and your communities in my heart throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. For all those who have been affected directly, and especially to those who have lost those dear to their hearts, please know that you are in my prayers. May God’s presence and steadfast love accompany you through each moment of every day, and may the peace of Christ which passes all understanding attend to you in this time, as the prayers and support of friends and family offer their blessing of comfort.

The seismic shifting of this global pandemic is not the only evidenced turbulence we are encountering. There are other deep divisions

fracturing our nation and our world. Some, like racism, have existed in our country from its birth. Others - ideological, theological, and socio-political, are being wielded and exacerbated alongside racism to stoke animosity, suspicion and violence between us - to put us at odds and against one another - to keep us from seeing the full humanity and dignity of one another. We are reduced to labels: left and right, Republican and Democrat, conservative and progressive. The fracturing of our nation is just one of the many reasons the work of MBMM is so important. Our mission, at its core, is to welcome and serve those of all cultures and backgrounds, to bring all around the table - the Zoom table or otherwise - to create spaces where we can fellowship together, where all are valued as beloved of God through a Christ-like lens of love.

As the MBMM representative for historically white churches in Massachusetts, I am aware that

we are especially challenged in this time to take notice of where we are as a culture and society, and to examine how our churches have

played a role in empowering and encouraging such ills as racism, heterosexism, misogyny, xenophobia, to name a few. Where have we found ourselves in positions of privilege and neglected to act, or rather neglected to counteract the systems and policies in our communities that favor and exalt, and grant immunity and power to some of us, while casting others into another class valuation altogether? These questions are important for historically white congregations to hold and address. Such work and introspection is difficult. It is hard. It can make us feel ashamed, defensive, resistant and stubborn, angry, and dismissive. But unless we want to hide in the shadows of naivete, false

narratives, and ignorance - paying no heed to the light emanating from the brilliance of our neighbors and their lived experiences - radiating from their belovedness - we have to open up and allow their light to move us, to humble us, to inform us, to warm our hearts to repentance and intentional change.

This kind of necessary survey of who and how we are is not intended as a condemnation of the church, but it is meant to be a salvific revelation through which light and life can be born for all - which is what God's love is about. So much of what Jesus's love demonstrates is a path toward salvation - not a path that is rooted in the fear of what we may have done, but in the hope of what we can accomplish through Him, through his reconciling and truth bearing love. In order to reckon with the truth that has been revealed, we must

"This kind of necessary survey of who and how we are is not intended as a condemnation of the church, but it is meant to be a salvific revelation through which light and life can be born for all - which is what God's love is about."

accept it as truth - as valid testimony, as light, and seek redemptive change that is grounded in hope. We must begin to live in a new way that honors the full spectrum of God's possibility in community.

May it give you strength to know that we are not alone, nor are we the first to enter into this discernment with intention. This past year, as I brainstormed with fellow MBMM clergy of historically white congregations around life-giving ministry possibilities, we expressed our energy to further explore the question of our role in confronting racism and bigotry in our

communities. Indeed, this work has already begun in many of our communities and churches. I have been encouraged by all of the church and community groups, and individuals exploring such topics as white privilege, and antiracism. The more informed we are, the better we are able to respond to the needs of our neighbors, to make room and create space for them - for their voices, their bodies, their witness, and their humanity.

As I said before, it is hard and heavy work, yet necessary (and not nearly as difficult as the task of living through oppression as a daily reality). It will take some persistence, humility, and creative collaboration to envision and enact a new reality in and for our historically white churches and ultimately for the realm of God. Humility is a key concept here - we will listen, we will follow, we will make room for the light of our neighbors.

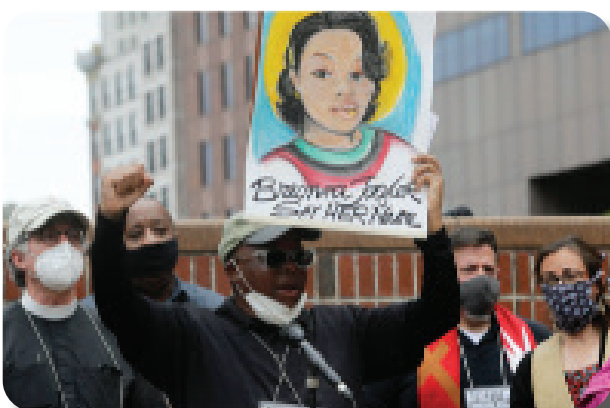
In Christ,
Rev. Daryn Stylianopoulos
Historically White Churches
Cultural Ministry Advocate



Needham clergy rally against racist and homophobic graffiti in their town.



Needham Bricks for Justice art installation at First Baptist Church in Needham, remembering the over 90 black people unjustly killed by police in 2020.



Rev. Daryn (right) joins Boston area clergy to call for police reform and the renaming of Faneuil Hall, following Breonna Taylor's death at the hands of law enforcement



Rev. Daryn Stylianopoulos (center) joins Boston area clergy, including fellow Baptist ministers, Rev. Dr. Cheryl Harris (far left), Rev. Darrell Hamilton (2nd from right), and Rev. Dr. Kathryn House (far right), to protest a white supremacist rally in Boston

Portuguese-Speaking Culture

The Reverend Jackson Oliveira is our Cultural Advocate for Portuguese-Speaking people. He is the pastor of Renewed Life Community Baptist Church in Hudson, a primarily Brazilian American Baptist Church. Along with other Cultural Advocates, Rev. Oliveira conducted listening sessions with pastors in his constituency this past summer, gaining important information for MBMM's work and ministry. He also put in a lot of time and energy to support people affected by COVID-19.



Welcome New Cultural Advocates!

Asian Culture

Yaliang was born and reared in Xi'an, China. She was taught to be an atheist and later turned agnostic in her teenager years. She graduated from Peking University in China with a B.S. degree in Biochemistry and from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. with a Ph.D. degree in Neuroscience.

She was compelled to become a believer of Jesus Christ in 2000, and first heard God's call to "drop your job and serve the church" in 2005 when she was working as a senior scientist in Wyeth Pharmaceuticals (now Pfizer). She struggled with "the Call" and finally went back to school in 2012, this time to the seminary. She graduated from Christian University Global Net with an M.A. degree in Religion under the mentorship of Dr. Alice Mathews (the former Academic Dean at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary).

Yaliang is now a Doctor of Ministry degree candidate at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, majoring in Pastoral Theology in Practice. The mission statement in her life is: "I must be about my Father's business." (Luke 2:49)

In 2017, she accepted the call to be the lead pastor at the First Baptist Church in Woburn. Under her leadership, the church has been thriving and growing numerically and spiritually. A Chinese Fellowship group of 10 families were added to the church to further increase the cultural diversity of this Christian body.

Pastor Yaliang is happily married to Dr. Yan Feng, her college classmate. Together, they have three kids: Kimberly, Samuel and Timothy. When she is not preaching, teaching or counseling, you will find her on the tennis court playing a match, or on the mountain hiking or skiing, or at the ocean swimming.



African-American Culture

Reverend Dr. Moreen P. Hughes is an ordained minister with the American Baptist Churches, USA and Progressive Baptist Churches, Inc., and serves as Associate Pastor and Minister to Women at the Concord Baptist Church of Boston, in Milton, where her husband, the Rev. Dr. Conley Hughes, Jr. is Senior Pastor. She serves on the staff of The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts (TABCOM) as Resource Coordinator, representing 39 multi-cultural churches that comprise the Boston Southwest Association. She also represents the association as a board member to the Conference of Baptist Ministers in Massachusetts.

A graduate of Boston University, Reverend Hughes earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education and a Master of Arts Degree in Psychology and Counseling from the University of Massachusetts in Boston. After 33 years in education, she retired from the Boston and Haverhill Public schools respectively.

Being called by God to the Christian Ministry and wanting to be theologically equipped, Reverend Moreen further earned a Master of Arts degree in Religion from the Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in South Hamilton, MA, where she was chosen as a Jonathan Edward Scholar and then went on to earn a Doctorate of Ministry degree in Effective Ministries to Women from the same institution.

She serves the body of Christ as a scripturally based preacher and teacher and a workshop facilitator at women's conferences and retreats. She was also blessed to be a short-term missionary with Greater Europe Missionary Society in Barcelona, Spain. As an author, she has published two books in a series titled "A Woman's Journey with God." She is the founder and CEO of Tabitha International Ministries, Inc. a 501 c3 non-profit organization ministering to women and families. As co-founder of Women of Integrity, she is blessed to partner with other faith-based organizations in supporting conferences, educational and social initiatives for women and children throughout the US, Barbados, Bermuda and other Caribbean Islands. Though being raised and educated in Boston, Rev. Moreen was born in Barbados.

She and her husband are the blessed parents of three adult children Minister David, an educator in Columbus, GA (wife Arnita); Dr. Nicole – professor at Spelman College in Atlanta, GA (husband Kennon) and Michael

– a field marketing specialist and graphic designer. Together they are grandparents of six precious jewels – 5 girls and 1 boy.

Rev. Moreen is a strong believer in prayer and the power of prayer and praises God for being the center of her joy.

To God Be the Glory!





REFUGEE ADVOCATES' REPORTS

ADNA AL-MALIKI
*ARABIC-SPEAKING
COMMUNITY*

APOLLOS BA
*BURMESE
COMMUNITY*

PRANIM MAGAR
*BHUTANESE/
NEPALESE
COMMUNITY*

Burmese Refugee Community

The story that I share will be about a boy who came to this country without knowing a lick of English and growing and maturing into a leader and dedicated member in our community. Farahan Mohamad Yakob was born in Burma

(Myanmar) on November 8, 2002. Six months after his birth, his parents left to Malaysia to escape race and religious persecution. They are Muslim and since the majority of the Burmese

are Buddhist, the soldiers forced their family to leave their homes and escaped to a refugee camp that is run by the UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), an international refugee relief agency. Although they escaped to Malaysia, life was still hard as they could not go outside of the camp. If they did, they would get harassed by the Malaysian soldiers. Farahan and his younger brother self-taught themselves how to read and write Burmese with the help of their parents and teachers. He would read and study anything that he could hold and dreamed of receiving an education, a warm home, and a safe environment for his family.

After 13 years of living at the refugee camp, they were finally approved to come to the US in 2016. He was very happy to come to the US but faced more challenges since he did not know how to speak or understand English. He met with me (Burmese Refugee Advocate) two weeks after they arrived in Lowell. With support from me and the community, Farahan and his brother were able to get an apartment, apply for health insurance, establish a food stamps account, start a cell phone plan, and learn how to pay for bills such as gas and electricity online. However, his family continued to struggle with language barriers with those outside of the Burmese community. Farahan's parents depended on him since Farahan was the only one who understood English in his household. Sometimes, I would have to assist Farahan's parents for important appointments

Farahan and his younger brother self-taught themselves how to read and write Burmese with the help of their parents and teachers. He would read and study anything that he could hold and dreamed of receiving an education, a warm home, and a safe environment for his family.

if Farahan could not make it.



Farahan in his ROTC uniform

A few weeks after he got to Lowell, Farahan and his brother were enrolled in school and Farahan was placed in 8th grade while his brother was placed in Kindergarten. Farahan struggled while in school. For example, on the first day of school, he did not know where to go after coming off the school bus because the school was so big. He just sat in the lobby until one of the police officers at school noticed him. After being questioned, the police officer took him into the school's office where he was then escorted into the correct class. Due to language barriers, Farahan had a difficult time understanding

class material so he sat and listened to the teacher talk. While this may discourage some students in his same situation from learning, Farahan attended every session Saydanar

Afterschool Program offered. Farahan and I did one on one sessions so I could better explain his lessons in Burmese. Although he was only able to attend 4 months of middle school after immigrating to the states since he arrived late in the school year, he was able to be placed in high school after.

Education allows us to gain a deeper understanding of what's right, wrong, fair, and unfair. It is not only important to one's career, but it is also important to one's life in general.

After 6 months of being in the US, he started to understand more and gain the confidence to make small conversation with the people around him. He told me that high school was when things got easier since he started to adjust to the system and was able to communicate well with his peers. He knew he was interested in serving in the military but did not know how to start. He started to be involved in sports but ended up leaving due to a large amount of bullying. He ended up joining the ROTC drill team at Lowell High School. The ROTC drill team started off with lessons, class activities such as donation events, cleaning as volunteer work, and attending veteran's funerals. Through ROTC, Farahan made many friends and discovered that he was good at it. He told me that ever since he joined ROTC, school became a fun and safe place where he looked forward to going every day.

ROTC has made a positive impact on Farahan. He was involved in the Lowell ROTC drill team when they won first prize and became national champions at the ROTC drill team competition in 2018. Farahan is now a senior in high school and got promoted to Commander of Honor Guard in ROTC as a Cadet Major who is leading up to 135 members of ROTC. For his further

studies, he applied to Umass Lowell to study Criminal Justice while also planning to continue his involvement with ROTC/army at Umass Lowell. Additionally, he applied to the National Guard for a part-time position as his second option after graduating high school. During this pandemic, he received a part-time position at Walmart as he studies for his SAT.

Apollos Ba
Burmese Refugee Advocate



Bhutanese/Nepalese Refugee Community

Education allows us to gain a deeper understanding of what's right, wrong, fair, and unfair. It is not only important to one's career, but it is also important to one's life in general. I am not saying that people who do not attend school are not knowledgeable. I am saying that education, however attained is important and valuable to us.

COVID-19 pandemic has been tough for everyone. It has impacted and changed our daily life. The minorities like our refugee communities were impacted greatly. Education which is one of the most important things in life was disrupted by this new

virus named corona virus. When the school had to close and shift to this new learning environment remotely, our refugee students who were already behind other students began struggling more than before. They are not used to this remote/virtual learning environment which causes numerous conflicts to arise.

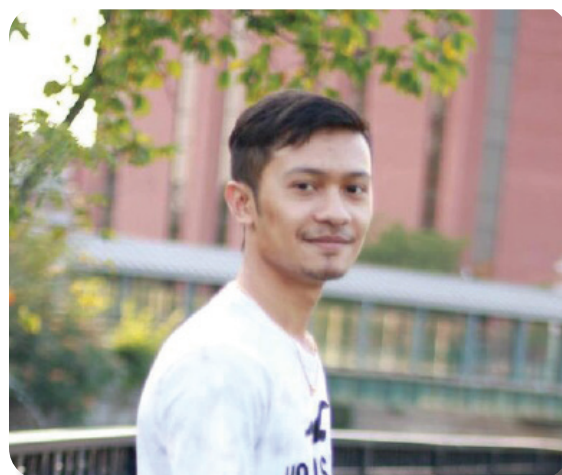
During the “lockdown,” I was a volunteer tutor for the ACE Center for New Americans which was founded by Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries also known as MBMM. As you know, teenagers are very unique and can be difficult for us to understand. We all have been a teenager once in life and we can relate to this. During the start of the online tutoring program, it was very difficult for me to motivate students and to convince them to join. As a student myself, I knew how much they were struggling to adapt to this new environment.

I will share with you a story about one specific student from my community that I was working with. After multiple attempts to convince this one student to join, I finally succeeded. He joined towards the end of the school year and he was months of assignments behind. He hadn’t been keeping up with his schoolwork during the “lockdown.” We had another volunteer tutor from UMass Lowell working with us during this time. I got the volunteer tutor to work with this student, but we soon came to the realization that this student had a language barrier in a sense. He speaks and understands English. The problem was that even with the tutor’s help, he was still struggling in understanding his assignments clearly and properly. Then we decided that it was better if I helped him one-on-one. I read the assignments to him and I also translated into his native language. This way he was able to do his assignments properly and correctly. We had this tutoring

session for a few hours a week, but I realized that this student needed more hours in order to catch up with his schoolwork. I managed to take more hours from my day and worked with him every single day and sometimes even on the weekends to get him caught up with his assignments. As I worked with him, I realized that he may have learning disabilities, so I was extra careful to make sure that he was able to understand me and his assignments accurately. We were able to work together and get all of his assignments completed by the end of the school year.

I personally admire students like him, who are willing and determined to get help if needed in order to get education. He is one of the few students who inspired me. I recently contacted him and asked him about his schoolwork, and he told me that so far, he is doing well, and he said he will come to me for help if needed. He appreciated MBMM and ACE Center offering online tutoring program during the time of crisis. I personally also appreciate every help that MBMM has offered to our community. MBMM is always willing to help in order to make our community better and to make our new Americans’ life easier.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pranim Magar
Bhutanese/Nepalese Refugee Advocate &
Coordinator of ACE Center



Arabic-Speaking Refugee Community

On a normal day, I was with my family shopping at Market Basket. I found my children sad and crying. When I asked them about the reason, they told me that they found an Iraqi child with his dog sitting outside the store. I went to the child and found he had dirty clothes and a hungry dog. When I asked him about his family he told me his mother was asleep in her car and that they are moving from Maryland to Lowell. I took them to my house and the mother told me they had been sleeping in her car for three days. They had no money, no home, no food. I called Mr Mar and he told me that MBMM would help and after three days MBMM helped them with first month's rent money. They found a new home in a safe place.

Respectfully Submitted,
Adnan Al-Maliki
Arabic Speaking Refugee Advocate



Thank You!

Dear MBMM and team members,

My name is Arun Magar. I am residing in Lowell MA. I am writing this email to let you guys know that I am so thankful to have you guys in our community. Thank you all for all the help you guys have given to my family and many other families during this crisis. We really appreciate all your help when we needed it the most. On behalf of my family, I would like to thank MBMM and team members for providing the foods, masks, and other stuffs. It was so kind of you guys for doing that in our community. It means a lot to me and my family.

Once again, your generous help and support is much appreciated, and I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,
Arun Magar

Dear MBMM,

We would like to thank you guys for helping us during the panic and in a difficult time of our life during Covid. We are very grateful for your donation.

During Covid it wouldn't have that easy for us managing things without your help and support. We would like to thank you all from the bottom of our heart for donating. We really appreciate all your help.

Once again, Thank you so much.

Sincerely,
The Karki family



ENGLISH AS SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL) REPORTS

ETTA ANDERSON
DEBORAH DAVEY-FUKUDA

Wherever the lost, least and left behind families are ignored by the larger society, systemic and deepening problems permeate that entire society. MBMM strives to empower New Americans. This loving action is to give them a priceless gift.

The new year opened with so much promise! We had started a third class, for the lower level beginners and we saw new countries represented among our students, such as Ethiopia, Turkey, Bulgaria, Haiti, Bangladesh and Azerbaijan. Then came Covid and stopped everything. The Center closed; I met the students outside who had showed up for class and gave them the news. Some of them had their lives disrupted as they were laid off from work – particularly in the food service.

We consoled ourselves in the false hope that the pandemic would be short-lived, and we would be back together again, maybe by early summer. We tried to contact as many of the students as we could, if only to find out how they were doing. Later, we toyed with the idea of virtual classes.

We now have a small group Zoom class going two evening per week. We learned that some of the other students did not have WiFi, email address, or functioning device, and some were just technophobic. Despite our limitations, every session is fun, and both teachers and students look forward to it. One of them is trying to get two of her friends to join in.

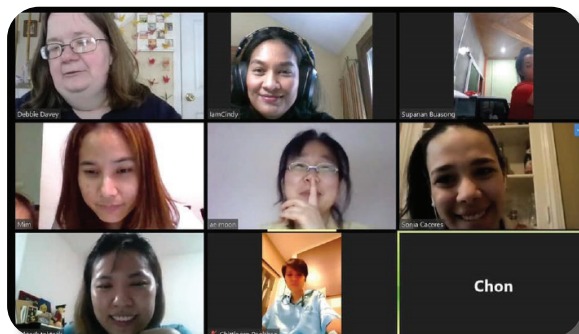
Respectfully Submitted,
Etta Anderson
Allston-Brighton



We started the program at First Baptist Fitchburg this winter with about twenty students. Due to COVID we had to continue classes on-line and currently there are ten students involved in the on-line class.

While some students left because of on-line classes, some students left for job opportunities. One student has been busy running a business making masks. She's been able to use her English skills to advertise and communicate with customers. Her customers have included organizations and companies who have made large purchases.

Respectfully Submitted,
Debbie Fukuda
Fitchburg ESOL Teacher



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MBMM

Our mission is simple really, together with our Advocates, Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries advocates for, celebrates and empowers new Americans.

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FAREWELL!

Thank you, Rev. Edilberto Nino. We are grateful for your years of service as our Cultural Advocate for Hispanic people. You have provided valuable insight into your constituency and helped MBMM to be effective in serving them. We will miss you as you move on to other things. God bless your future work.



MBMM is sad to say good-bye to Hyunwoo Koo. He is moving to South Korea to continue his work of building the church. We thank him for his time with us and wish him well. God bless, Hyunwoo!



MBMM 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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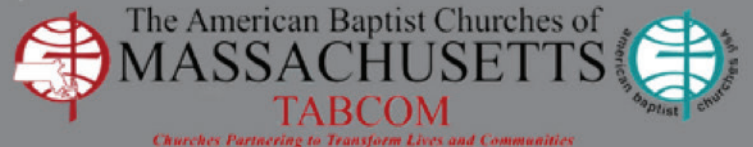


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