# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT



#Essential Workers
#Thank You
#StayStrong

# STRONGER TOGETHER





# **VNMS IN ACTION 2020**

43 SMALL 4 New **BUSINESSES IN VAN NESS** 

in 2020



1,856 Flower bulbs planted on the avenue



\$56,000 in Business Grants **Awarded** 

952 Hours **OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED** 





(Website, FB/Insta/TW/ **Constant Contact)** 

1,425 Constant Contact 3,350 Social Media 23,500 Website Visitors \$6,200 of PPE Distributed

**40** VOLUNTEERS totaling 377 hours • • Valued\* at \$10,254

\$41,190 in donations received

\*Source Independent Sector November 2020

# **DONORS & SPONSORS**

October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020

Our work is supported by our community of donors. This year we are especially grateful for your generosity and support of Van Ness Main Street (VNMS). Our sincerest thanks to all of you for supporting our small businesses, our main street program, and our community through this unprecedented year. We also want to express our deepest gratitude to the University of the District of Columbia for generously providing VNMS with its office space right on the avenue!



### Individual

Keith Anderson Emily Lind and D. James Baker

Mary C. Barber Marlene Berlin

Judy Buelow

Sallybeth Bumbrey

Theresa Cameron

Sarah Cumbie

Patricia Davies

**Matt Dreher** 

Michael Drezner

Reginald Felton

**Zach Friedlis** 

Gloria M. Garcia

Amalia Garcia

Robert Gilbert

Marcia Glauberman

Marsha Gold

Catherine Green

Deidre Hilliard

Sandra Hoexter

Pat Jakopchek

Tracy Johnke

**Judith Korey** 

Barbara Kraft

Deborah C. Lacroix

**Erin Langley** 

Barbara and Nicholas

Marty Longmire

David Luria

Gary and Ellen Malasky

Carol Marburger

Virginia and Elijah Marentette

Heidi Markovits and Steven D. Stern

Joff Masukawa

Ann McClellan

Jenean McKay

Kathleen Meskill

MaryAnn Miller

Julie Miller

Mary Nagelhout

Dipa Mehta and Mark

Nelson

Mary Peckiconis

Marjorie B. Rachlin

Mary Beth Ray

Michael Sands

Chuck Schilke

Lana Shaindlin

**Betsy Sherman** 

Adam E Sieminski

Laurine Sieminski Lorraine Sostowski

Charles Stellar

Sandi Stewart

Philippa Strum
Nisa Gosselink-Ulep

Steven Weiner

Damian Winters

Anna Marie Yombo

### Corporate

Aroma by Anette Bethany Slater

Bicycle Trash

Blue Ridge Cutting

Board Co

**Bread Furst** 

**Calvert Woodley** 

Carolyn J. Toye

Common Raven

Freres Brancheaux

Karen Jabo

Little Likes Kids

**Morning Portal** 

Nicole Crowder

Olde City Garden

Supon/Naked Decor

Sweet Evelyn The Card Bureau

The Nimble Barber

The Minible Barber

The University of the District of Columbia

Washington Photo Safari Yinibini Baby

### In-Kind

Acacia Food & Wine

**Bread Furst** 

Bucks Fishing and Camping

Comet Ping Pong

Connecticut Avenue

Cosmetic Dentistry

Flagship Car Wash Gabrielle Czaia, PT

I'm Eddie Cano

Kay Gilley

Little Red Fox

ittic rea i ox

MBR Coaching + Consulting for Growth

Naked Decor

**Patricia Davies** 

Politics & Prose

Poppin'

SLS Coaching & Consulting

Sheldon Ray

Tesoro Pizzeria Trattoria

Thai Pad

Washington Photo Safari





# **2020 FINANCIALS**

### Van Ness Group Inc.

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of September 30, 2020

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Bank Accounts 71,390.71
Other Current Assets 15,008.88
Account Receivables 3,260.11

Total Current Assets 89,659.70

Fixed Assets - 1,272.58

Equipment

Less: Accumulated Depreciation

**Total Fixed Assets** 

**Total Assets** 

### LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities 2,785.41

Equity, Fund Balances Net Revenue

Total Liabilities and Equity

\$ 90,015.28

(917.00)

355.58

87,229.87

\$ 90,015.28

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020

### **REVENUE**

 Contributions
 37,150.00

 Events
 4,040.00

 Grants
 170,080.00

 Interest Earned
 1,285.62

 Total Revenue
 212,555.62

**Gross Profit** 

### **EXPENSES**

Fundraising 7,965.88

Management & General 11,274.19

Program Services 181,444.82

Total Expenses 200,684.89

Net Revenue \$ 11,870.73



\$ 212,555.62





# **#STRONGER TOGETHER**

### **VNMS Growth Fund**

Back in 2012, the visionary founders of what in 2015 became VNMS could never have imagined what was to come in 2020. VNMS has made a critical difference over the past 12 months to the survival of our small businesses up and down our main street. And our expansion to Nebraska Avenue last year came at a very crucial moment for our businesses in the upper corridor. From the outset, our main street nonprofit has been propelled forward by its community-minded resident leaders and dedicated volunteers. 2020 showed what our community of residents, donors and volunteers can do when a crisis hits. Our more than 40 small businesses appreciate all of your spirit and support through the past year!

Our VNMS mission is more vital today than ever before: to make Van Ness a beautiful, sustainable, walkable, and vibrant economic and cultural hub by supporting the growth of existing businesses, attracting new, local enterprises, and activating local cultural institutions.

This past year, VNMS has been the lifeline to the businesses in the corridor providing technical assistance, promotion, and \$56,000 in direct cash grants in partnership with the DC government's Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD). Our work also helped our businesses secure more than \$150,000 in other grants and PPP loans. With VNMS' nonstop work, our main street lost only three businesses and opened four with another two on the way in this new year. We have shown the vital and irreplaceable role our organization plays on our main street.

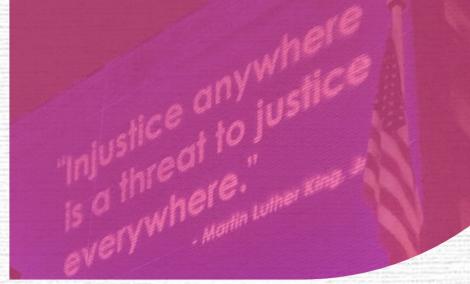
Last year, to meet the challenge of our mission, we launched the VNMS Growth Fund to raise \$350,000 over the next five years. The fund will stay true to our founder's vision, focusing on arts and culture, streetscape beautification and sustainability, and economic business development and retention. On top of supporting our businesses, you helped VNMS raise more than \$41,000 last year. We are extremely grateful for your support!

This year, we ask that you affirm your support once again for our mission and join us in continuing this work and help us attain our shared vision: one where the arts and sustainability are at the heart of our community and where businesses grow and thrive.

Sincerely, Barbara Lardy President, VNMS Board









# OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

Last year, in an effort to extend our reach and assist an even greater number of small businesses along the Connecticut Avenue corridor, VNMS took a giant leap and expanded our borders beyond Van Ness to encompass the communities of Wakefield and Forest Hills. VNMS now serves the corridor from Van Ness Street to Nebraska Avenue.

The expansion was an exciting and necessary step in 2020 and as VNMS looks to new challenges and opportunities for growth in 2021, VNMS and Forest Hills Connection (FHC) joined forces and we're happy to say that FHC is now a part of the VNMS family! With FHC's depth of local knowledge, vast and loyal readership and incredible staff led by Marlene Berlin, VNMS is poised to expand our offerings and better serve our community, moving forward with the knowledge that we are #StrongerTogether.





### **About Forest Hills Connection:**

Forest Hills Connection (FHC) is an e-magazine about news and life in our neighborhood – Wakefield, North Cleveland Park, Forest Hills and the more-famous-but-not-officially-named Van Ness. FHC brings the

activities, interests, and talents within our community to light creating a greater sense of community through a virtual town square!

With the backing of ANC 3F and formerly from the Forest Hills Neighborhood Alliance, FHC has built a network of contributors of all ages and backgrounds who write about their passions and pastimes. FHC covers everything from local architecture and history to the wildlife that is frequently spotted in Rock Creek Park and our own backyards. Our network of community reporters also lets you know what the kids and the public schools are up to, what's new with our local businesses, and what's on the ANC's plate.

Got a story to tell? FHC is a way for you to tell it. Send an email to <a href="mailto:info@foresthillsconnection.com">info@foresthillsconnection.com</a> and visit FHC at <a href="mailto:foresthillsconnection.com">foresthillsconnection.com</a>.



# 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **Barbara Lardy**

President | America's Health Insurance Plan (retired)

### **Reginald Felton**

Vice President and **Organization Committee** Chair | Felton Associates

### **Michael Sands**

Treasurer | Calvert Woodley

### Michael Triebwasser

Secretary and Events Committee Chairl Politics & Prose

### **Zach Friedlis**

Saul Centers

### **Jonguilyn Hill** WAMU

### **Doug Loescher Fairfax County**

**Joff Masukawa** 

Design Committee Chair | Diligentia Strategy

### **Chuck Schilke**

**Economic Development** Committee Chair I Counsel

### **Steve Shulman**

Cultural Tourism DC

### **Sandi Stewart**

SLS Coachina & Consulting

### **Fred Underwood**

The Pinkard Group

### Gloria M. Garcia

**Executive Director** 

## SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to our 2020 retiring board members. Board President Sarah Cumbie. Board Treasurer Pat Jakopchek, Design Committee Chair, Matt Dreher, and **Events Committee Chair Pat Davies. Your** leadership oversaw VNMS to the next level. initiating the expansion to Nebraska Avenue, spearheading the transition and hiring of our second Executive Director, developing design guidelines for the commercial corridors, and most importantly, guiding the organization's response to the COVID 19 crisis in 2020.

Welcome to our five new board members, Jonquilyn Hill, Doug Loescher, Joff Masukawa, Steve Shulman, and Michael Triebwasser! Since its founding, VNMS' success has been in great part due to the expertise and work of its volunteer board. We are thrilled and excited to see this tradition carry forward with this new group of accomplished professionals that are willing to serve. Thank you to you and all of our board members for their service!



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