

REPOSITIONING FOR STRENGTH

The Northeast Florida Nonprofit Sector and COVID-19

Executive Summary

The challenges and changes for nonprofits have come at hyper-speed since the COVID-19 pandemic swept across the country and the world in the early months of 2020. Building upon the initial *Repositioning for Strength* report, the Nonprofit Center once more asked the local nonprofit sector to share impact and provide data to help us make sense of the last 12 months. These new data show the resource gaps that still exist for nonprofits, and demonstrate the uneven impact of COVID-19 on organizations of different budget sizes and missions. As the pandemic stretches from months to years, nonprofits are faced with a changing set of variables and complications. There has already been a permanent financial cost to some nonprofits, and some may never recover. Significantly, 42% of executives in our survey report that “staying solvent through 2021” keeps them up at night.

Key Findings

Nonprofits are still essential. As the pandemic ravaged families and strained infrastructure, nonprofits often held the fabric of our community together. More than 70% of local nonprofits are fully operational and continue to provide all of their services. However, volunteer-driven nonprofits and arts and culture organizations were particularly hard-hit. Across every mission area, nonprofits are striving to meet community need.

Nonprofits experienced revenue decline in all income categories. A full 60% of local nonprofits lost revenue last year across all streams of income, not just donations. Poor economic conditions meant that individual and business contributions declined; earned income dropped steeply for many nonprofits. Even government and private foundation giving decreased for the majority of nonprofits in our survey.

Nonprofits aren't immune from the uncertainty and anxiety affecting people and businesses everywhere. In fact, among nonprofit leaders, 57% identified “maintaining staff health and well-being” as the top issue keeping them up at night. Beyond the challenge of navigating health and wellness for their own families, nonprofit employees continually confront the inequities embedded in our economy and institutions. The daily strain of keeping up with changes in protocol and safety measures while experiencing exponentially increasing demand for services takes a toll on both the nonprofit businesses and those who are working in nonprofits.

Virtual work works, but there are still barriers. More than half of the organizations that remain fully operational are operating either remotely or in a hybrid environment. Nonprofits have successfully pioneered new services or expanded their services through technology, but inconsistent government approaches to reimbursing for virtual services hampers nonprofits' ability to provide critically-needed programs. Though a vital lifeline for many, some constituent are not able to benefit from virtual resources because of lack of access to quality internet and connected devices. Nonprofit leaders report increasing concern about potential learning gaps and other long term effects on individuals and families.




NonprofitCenter
of Northeast Florida

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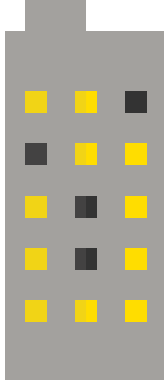
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46% 

experienced **increased demand** for services

32% 

lost revenue due to **reduced demand** for services

21% 

had to **cut hours** or **lay off staff**

9 IN 10 

have **received PPP loans or other COVID-19 relief funding**

2 IN 5 

nonprofit leaders say **“staying solvent through 2021”** keeps them up at night



ONE THIRD

still report difficulty operating in a **virtual environment**

2 IN 3

lost revenue due to **cancelled fundraisers**



Projected Revenue Change in 2020

All Organizations



Budget Size < \$1m



Budget Size > \$1M

