

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



NMDUNITED.ORG

Dear Supporters, Friends, and Community Members,

I imagine that Year 2020 presents as a difficult year to summarize for many non-profit organizations around the world. While in some ways I feel that NMD United was prepared and ready for this sudden launch into a fully virtual world for some time, the rapid pace to meet the moment and protect ourselves from pandemic challenges intertwined in ways we couldn't have predicted.



As a peer-led, driven, and run non-profit composed of volunteers and no paid staff, our board and volunteers reassessed and reorganized the ways in which we fit and promote the mission of NMD United into our lives. Ten and a half months into the fray, our community celebrated the end of 2020 more hopeful for the future and secure in our commitment to our mission of living quality lives as adults diagnosed with neuromuscular disabilities.

NMD United was one of the first organizations in the country to create a COVID-19 guide that was viewed by hundreds of disability rights and advocacy organizations.

In response to concerns expressed among our community members about access to medical treatment and equipment, NMD United along with Not Dead Yet and other individual plaintiffs filed a class action complaint against New York Governor Cuomo and the NY Department of Health to object to the state's Ventilator Allocation Guidelines that allow personal ventilators to be taken from a person living in the community if they go into a hospital setting for care.

NMD United also worked to address issues of care insecurity during the pandemic and connect people to resources and peers who could answer recruitment questions. Our advocacy work with STOP EVV helped people better understand how unjust administrative edicts undermine our ability to manage issues surrounding care insecurity during a pandemic.

We awarded 86 grants for community members to purchase consumable medical supplies and assistive technologies, advertise for personal care attendants, repair and maintain their accessible vehicles, and repair or purchase durable medical equipment. Of those awarded, 23 grants were for up to \$200 in consumable medical supplies, such life-saving and protecting personal protective equipment and supplies.

Finally, NMD United delivered more quality programming to our growing and strengthening peer-driven community of over 2300 diverse adults living with neuromuscular disabilities in a virtual environment by hosting Zoom discussions, parties, and chapter meetings, as well as sharing the stories of our peers through social media.

If 2020 taught NMD United anything, it taught us that what gets us through our hardest moments is the realization that we are all connected and love for others connects us. As NMD heads into 2021, we will strive for more opportunities to share love and make connections no matter the physical distance between us.

In solidarity,

Emily Wolinsky
Board President

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2020

Assets		
Cash		\$35,154.43
PayPal Funds		4,084.64
Accounts Receivable		(8.17)
Prepaid Assets		68.14
	Total Assets	<u>\$39,299.04</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
	Total Liabilities	<u>\$0.00</u>
Net Assets		
Net Assets without Donor Restrictions		
Undesignated		\$30,860.91
Net Assets with Donor Restrictions		
ALEF Purpose Restricted		8,438.13
	Total Net Assets	<u>\$39,299.04</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		<u>\$39,299.04</u>

Consolidated Statement of Activities

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenues:			
Contributions	\$10,127.57	\$15,507.39	\$25,634.96
Net assets released from restrictions	14,652.00	(14,652.00)	-
Total Revenues:	\$24,779.57	\$855.39	\$25,634.96
Expenses:			
Program Services:			
Donations	2,622.80		
Accessible Vehicle Maintenance	2,962.00		
Durable Medical Equipment	4,850.00		
Consumable Medical Supplies	3,347.00		
Personal Care Assistant Advertising	350.00		
Assistive Technology	3,143.00		
Education	494.47		
Community Building	100.00		
Total program services	\$17,869.27		
Supporting Services:			
Fundraising	342.53		
Management and general	3,299.52		
Total supporting services	\$3,642.05		
Total expenses	\$21,511.32		
Change in net assets	\$3,268.25	\$855.39	\$4,123.64
Net assets at beginning of the year	27,592.66	7,582.74	36,079.53
Net assets at end of year	\$30,860.91	\$8,438.13	\$40,203.17

* This only includes applicants who received payments during the 2020 calendar year

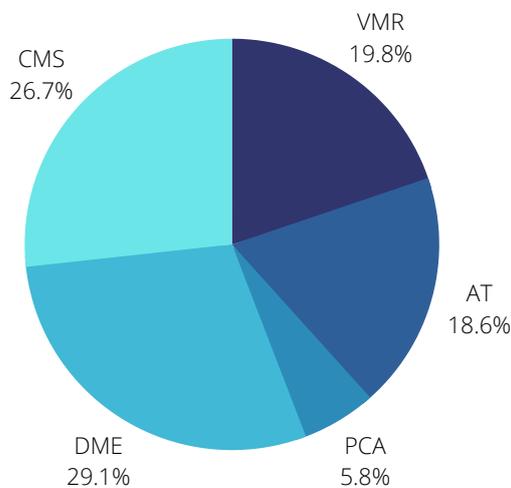
Alex Landis Empowerment Fund (ALEF)

We had another successful year of serving our community with independent living grants to help with disability-related expenses.

Totals for 2020...

\$14,332 spent

86 grants awarded



Accessible Vehicle Maintenance and Repair (VMR):

- \$3,162 spent
- 17 applicants served

Assistive Technology (AT):

- \$2,745 spent
- 16 applicants served

Personal Attendant Care Advertisements (PCA):

- \$450 spent
- 5 applicants served

Durable Medical Equipment (DME):

- \$4,294 spent
- 25 applicants served

Consumable Medical Supplies (CMS):

- \$3,681 spent
- 23 applicants served

#GivingTuesday

Donations made for Giving Tuesday 2020 went directly to ALEF to fund independent living grants for 2021. Thanks to our amazing community, we successfully raised over \$10,000.

We are so appreciative of the support that our fundraiser received, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Given these donations, we were also able to increase our Consumable Medical Supplies grant from \$200 to \$400 for the year 2021. We hope this will benefit applicants who have increased supply needs during the pandemic.



COVID-19 Resources

In 2020, we worked hard to support the needs of our community for resources and support regarding COVID-19. In addition to providing evidence-based information specific to adults with neuromuscular disabilities, we offered support that fosters meaningful connection during a time of uncertainty and fear.

Early on in the pandemic, we took action. During the weekend of March 7 and 8th 2020, our volunteers came together to design a [COVID-19 guide for adults living with neuromuscular disabilities](#). The goal of this guide was to provide our readers with fact-based, reliable resources that educate our community on how to reduce and prevent the spread of COVID-19, while also providing practical coping tools and life-management strategies that can be used not just for this specific situation, but for addressing any viral or bacterial infection risk. This guide was shared widely through social media, and was even included as a resource in an article by [USA Today](#).

We also released a [COVID-19 Advocacy Priority Survey](#) to better understand what challenges the disability community was facing amidst the pandemic. This allowed us to provide immediate support efforts that were educational, meaningful, and most pertinent to the needs of our community.

NMD United recognizes that as the pandemic changes, so do the needs of our community members. We hope to continue being a reliable, trusted pillar of support to our community.

Black Lives Matter

We released a statement of solidarity to our Black community members. In this statement, we acknowledged our silence to the nation's current events, recognized where our organization can do better, and pledged our commitment to actively fight against systemic injustices and racism.

Our full statement can be found [here](#).

Black lives matter.

Black disabled lives matter.

Black trans lives matter.

Black queer lives matter.

Black women's lives matter.

Black undocumented lives matter.

SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH



Facebook

- +7%
- 2333 Likes



Twitter

- +97%
- 559 Followers



Instagram

- +21%
- 561 Followers

New Board Members

In 2020, we welcomed two new incredible members to our Board of Directors.



Ali Ramos

Ali recently graduated from Columbia University with a Master of Social Work degree. Ali is a member of several nonprofit and local city commissions in Amarillo, TX which focus on disability and oppressed population issues. Ali takes pride in showing others how to successfully navigate a system that was not made for people with disabilities. When she is not focusing on advocacy, Ali loves spending time with her little herd of animals and is a big fan of unsolved mysteries and documentaries.



Michael Wasser

Michael Wasser has been an attorney with the New York City Law Department for over twenty years, and serves on his office's Committee on Diversity Recruitment and Retention. He is a founding member of NMD United's ALEF Committee. He also serves as Vice President of the Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled. Michael lives in Brooklyn, NY.

Smith's Showcase

Smith's Showcase promotes the talents of adults living with neuromuscular disabilities around the world! This webpage was created to honor the late Greg Smith, who was our friend, a former NMD United board member, and a master self-promoter.

In 2020, we spotlighted Aubrie Lee whose photo appears on the right. Aubrie shared a powerful piece of writing "A letter to my younger self," which explores self-identity, disability pride, and the power of community.

Visit [our blog](#) and our [webpage](#) to read previous interviews and features.



Board of Directors

Emily Wolinsky

President, Executive Director

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Vice-President, Treasurer

Kendra Scalia

Secretary

Jason Tweed

Member Emeritus

Maria Sotnikova

Member

Andraéa LaVant

Member

Dan Darkow

Member

Brooklyn Marx

Member

Ali Ramos

Member

Michael Wasser

Member



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3310 W. Braker Lane, Suite 300, #927
Austin, Texas 78758

nmdunited.org



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