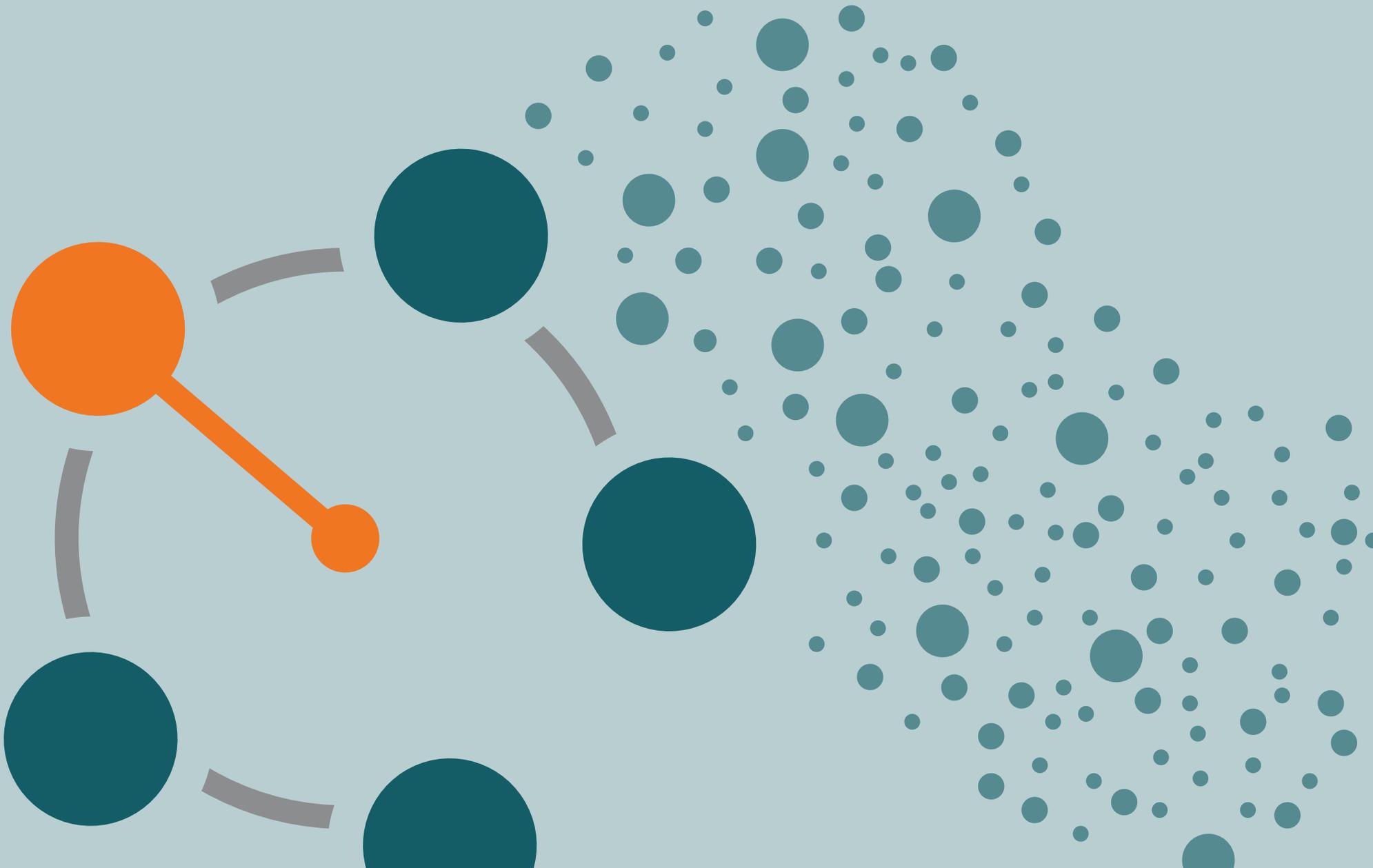
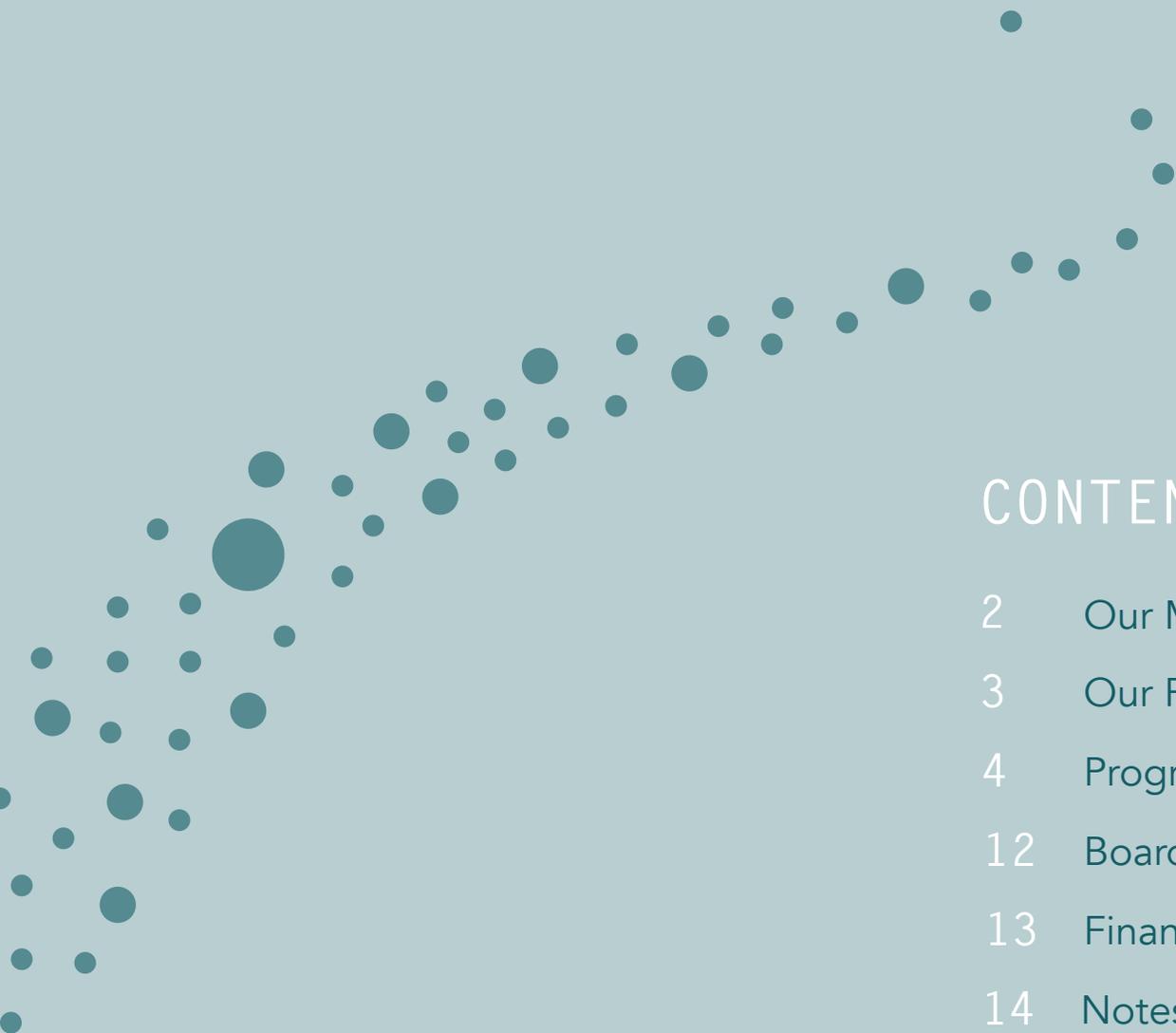




DEEP LISTENING  
BRIDGING COMMUNITIES  
FOSTERING TRUST

# Join the dialogue





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## OUR MISSION

To foster civil dialogue & invite trust in the midst of differences.

## WHO WE ARE

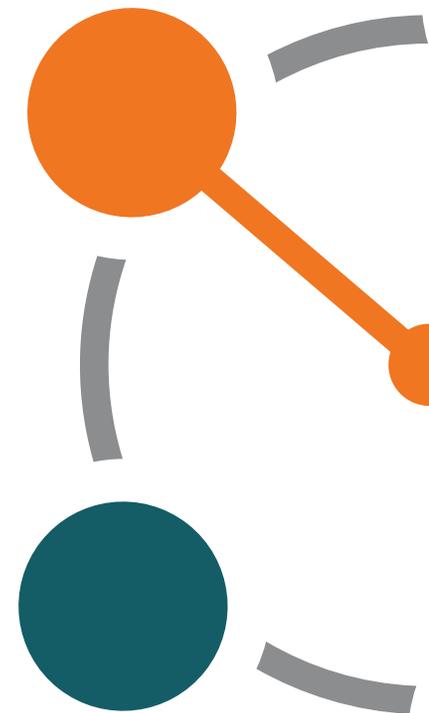
The **Zeidler Center** for Public Discussion is a Milwaukee based, non-profit organization dedicated to helping people have difficult conversations.

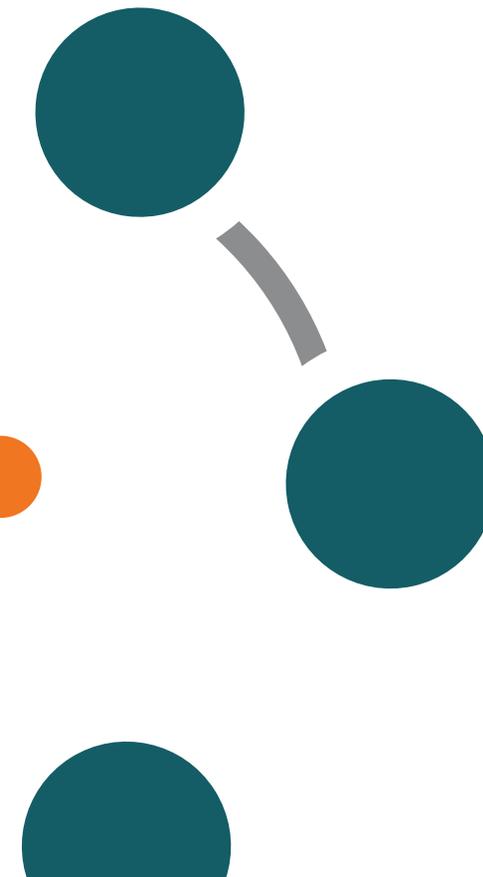
We offer professional facilitation, team building, strategic planning and community engagement services, working with organizations, neighborhoods, businesses and faith communities across a range of issues. We also offer basic and advanced facilitator trainings each month.

We believe that positive and sustainable community action aimed at repairing relationships must start with trust building and humanizing.

The **Zeidler Center's** team of 400+ professional facilitators work nationally and internationally, and has served over 10,000 participants in facilitated dialogue in the past 2 years.

Learn more at [www.zeidlercenter.org](http://www.zeidlercenter.org)!





## OUR FOUNDING

The Zeidler Center was founded in 2006 by former Milwaukee Mayor Frank P. Zeidler and a small volunteer team from Redeemer Lutheran including current board members Mary Campbell and Rick Deines. They desired to create a place where people of vastly different viewpoints and backgrounds could “disagree without being disagreeable” and build bridges in the midst of differences. Learn more about Mayor Zeidler’s legacy of civility on our website!

## OUR FUTURE

The **Zeidler Center** is driving the charge for much needed civil dialogue in the midst of polarized debates and divided communities. Our work has been featured locally and nationally in publications including the *New York Times* for our police & resident listening circles, and in *American Theatre Magazine* for our facilitation of post-play dialogues with the Milwaukee Repertory Theater.

In the years to come, we will continue to expand our strong partnerships in the arenas of the arts, community, education and faith. We are working to create a national model for police & community relations. In our international programs, we look to expand our current work in East Africa and Latin America.

Continuing the **Zeidler Center’s** current growth, we expect to triple our activity in the next three years (2018-2020). To meet this growing demand, the Zeidler Center is fiercely committed to building capacity. As the requests for our services increase, we have been working diligently to raise support for our operating expenses. At this critical stage in our development, we are working to secure the resources needed to meet the requests for facilitation and training both locally and internationally.

# dialogue +



## Honoring Community Voices

Rather than shy away from the tough issues, the Zeidler Center leads conversations on the topics that matter most. Our professional facilitators, unique dialogue structure & comprehensive reporting allow voices to be heard in powerful ways, building trust and relationships in the midst of differences.

1

## Police & Resident Listening Circles

Serving five pivotal Milwaukee communities: Amani, Clarke Square, Harambee, Metcalfe Park & Sherman Park, this program brings together hundreds of officers and residents each year in facilitated listening circles focused on building trust and relationships. Circles are facilitated by Zeidler facilitators, and co-designed by residents & police to fit the needs of each community.

2

## Beyond Political Polarization

In the midst of increasing tension across the American political spectrum, this conversation series seeks to lessen polarization by bringing together community members with diverse political views to dialogue on key issues such as immigration, health care, and gun rights.

3

## “Intersections of Sexuality & ...” LGBTQ Series

This LGBTQ-focused conversation series invites the community to explore the complex ways sexuality intersects with other key aspects of our identity such as race, class, mental health, & faith.



5

## Intergenerational Women’s Dialogues

An ongoing series focused on holding space for women to reach across generational boundaries for dialogue and collaboration. In 2017, “My Sister’s Keeper,” an intergenerational dialogue for African American women, honors Vel Phillips and the 50th anniversary of the fair housing marches in Milwaukee.

4

## Bee the Change

A 4-way partnership between the Zeidler Center, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Midnight Run and Beevangelists that invites community members to learn about environmental resilience through lessons from the hive and honey-themed community dinner dialogues throughout the year!

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# PARTNERING WITH THE ARTS

Harnessing the powerful relationship between dialogue and the arts, each year the Zeidler Center works with local arts organizations to offer the public unique opportunities for engagement before and after films, plays, exhibits & other productions.

## **Conversations Series with the Milwaukee Film Festival**

Since 2015, the Zeidler Center has partnered with the Milwaukee Film to host post-film conversations offering filmgoers the opportunity to continue dialogues started by 100+ films featured during their annual Film Festival.

## **Act II at the Milwaukee Rep**

In partnership with the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, each year the Zeidler Center facilitates post-play dialogues following performances of one play per year (2016: American Song; 2017: Disgraced; 2018: Until the Flood, Dael Orlandersmith's Ferguson-informed play). v

## **Fellows & Facilitators**

A powerful partnership with Ex Fabula pairing storytelling and facilitated dialogue. Each year, the Zeidler Center facilitates up to six events focused on the themes of privilege, race and oppression after storytelling performances by Ex Fabula Fellows.

## **Curiosity Conversations at the Milwaukee Public Museum**

The Zeidler Center works with the Milwaukee Public Museum to host dialogues for the public to discuss the meanings around their exhibits. 2017 exhibit & dialogue: "Weapons: Beyond the Blade"

## **Youth Circles with First Stage Children's Theater**

The Zeidler Center provides another level of youth engagement in this post-play conversation series in collaboration with First Stage Children's Theater.

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# Thriving as a Body



Since our founding by Mayor Frank Zeidler and other members of Redeemer Lutheran Church, the Zeidler Center has been dedicated to serving faith communities of diverse religions and denominations. We assist leaders & congregations grow through challenges with facilitated dialogue and restorative practices.

The Zeidler Center convenes different faith groups in public and private dialogues to discuss pressing social issues including discrimination.

## **Interfaith Dialogues**

## **Lutheran Congregations Facing Transformational Change**

In partnership with the Greater Milwaukee Synod and the Siebert Foundation, the Zeidler Center works with five ELCA congregations each year who are experiencing transitions. We collaborate with council members to design dialogue series that address each congregation's unique needs.

## **Congregational Dialogues on Challenging Issues**

When requested, the Zeidler Center works privately with numerous faith groups who desire assistance in having challenging conversations on race, sexuality, and politics with their congregations.

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# Learning Through Listening

The Zeidler Center works with elementary schools through universities to facilitate dialogues on challenging issues involving students, teachers and parent groups.

## **Restorative Justice Circles**

When requested, the Zeidler Center conducts restorative circles with student groups facing tension.

## **Fair Schools Community Dialogue**

On ongoing community dialogue series focused on equity and suburban education in Whitefish Bay.



## OUR BOARD

Adam Carr  
Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service  
President

Rev. Lisa Bates-Froiland, PhD  
Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Vice President

Carole Poth  
St. Catherine's  
Secretary

Anita Zeidler, PhD  
Treasurer

Katherine Wilson, PhD  
Executive Director

Mary Campbell, JD  
ELCA Global Mission

Rev. Rick Deines  
Zeidler Center founder

Reggie Jackson  
America's Black Holocaust Museum

Margaret Swedish  
Center for New Creation

Joyce Tang Boyland, PhD  
Alverno University

Susan Tyndall, JD  
Habush, Habush and Rottier



## OUR COMMITTEES

### Community Outreach

Engages community members & organizational partners in our work & develops new opportunities.

### Program Development

Evaluates current programming & develops new initiatives.

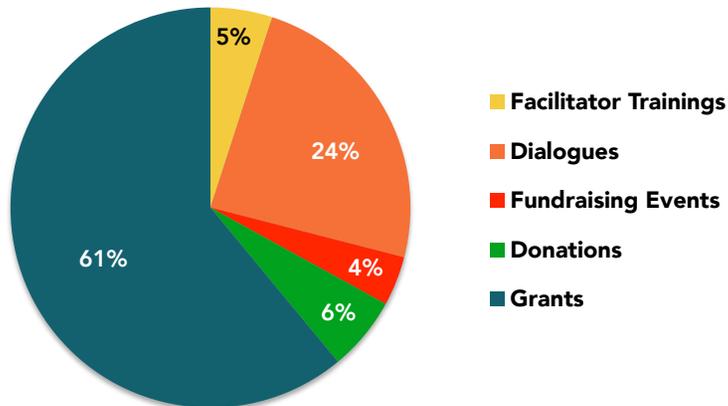
### Fundraising & Events

Organizes year-round initiatives & events in support of our programs.

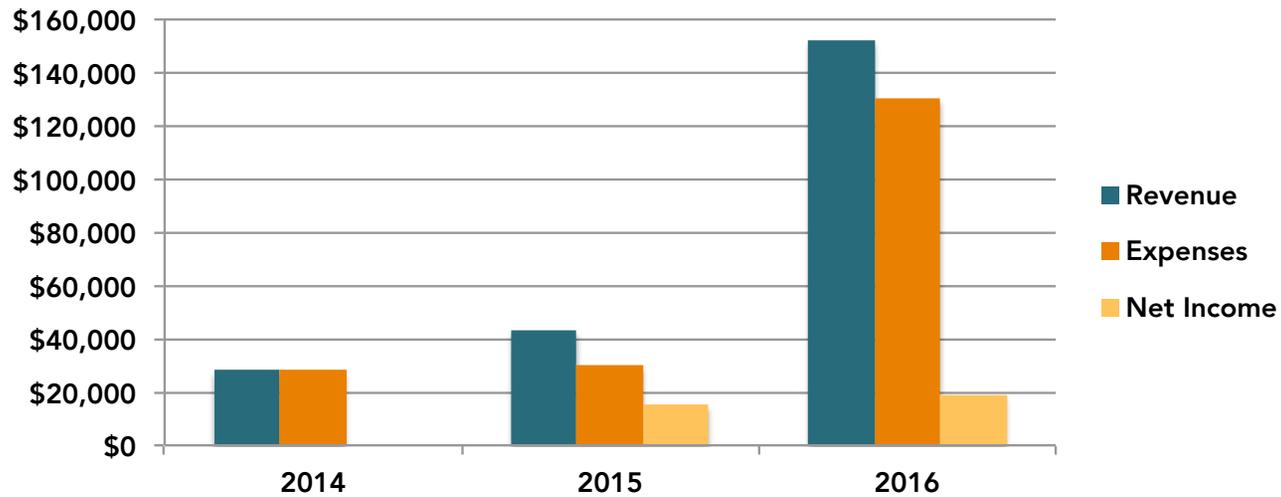
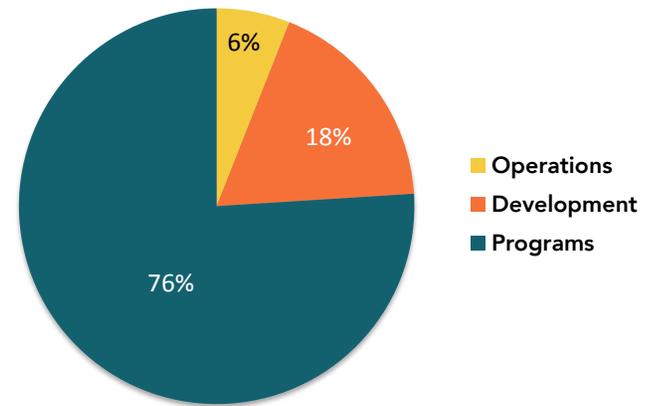
# OUR FINANCES

The Frank P. Zeidler Center for Public Discussion is a 501(c)3 organization. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

## INCOME



## EXPENSES



## 2014-2016 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

