

2020 IMPACT REPORT

COVID-19 HAS CHANGED THE WAY WE DO OUR WORK,
BUT NOT THE WORK WE DO.



DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC YEAR, ETSS
TOUCHED THE LIVES OF MORE THAN 20,000 PEOPLE

Workforce

The ETSS Workforce Program includes a variety of programs aimed to help new arrivals develop the skills they need to become self-sufficient. Workforce rapidly adapted to virtual platforms to maintain essential programming. Programs remained culturally sensitive, relevant and easy to access.



Adult Programs

Youth Programs

Out of School Time Programs

The youth program quickly, successfully and effectively adapted to virtual programming. They expanded and formed new partner relationships including CCS and I Know I Can. They increased focus on and added more SEL and STEAM programs.



Family Care

The ETSS Family Care Program serves survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking through advocacy, case management and educational presentations. The goal of the Family Care Program is for the community to be informed and clients and their families to be safe, secure and independent.



A.M.P Program

This program connects youth with ETSS AMP Coaches who work with youth to build a customized plan for their future while helping to address the youth's current challenges. A.M.P. connects them with services to develop skills, employment opportunities and knowledge that will move them to the next level of achievement.



Community Wellness

The Community Mental Wellness Program are represented by the members of our target communities, truly understanding community needs and addressing them. Staff reached out via virtual and social media platforms to provide services to clients and practiced social distancing and other protocol to deliver PPE, food, and other essentials.



OhioKAN

The OhioKAN program is a flexible and responsive kinship and adoption navigator program designed to support children, youth and their families. The program assists families in 5 surrounding counties by connecting them with empathetic navigators who provide resources and share knowledge.



Crisis Counseling Program

The Crisis Counseling Program aims to meet needs of New American individuals, families and communities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Counseling, outreach, public education, training, and referral are key components. Committed to cultural competency, staff are from the Bhutanses/Nepali, Congolese, Somali, and Hispanic communities.



Life Went Virtual

Evening of Promise



The Evening of Promise is our agency's Signature Fundraising Event. Each fall, ETSS holds this event to celebrate the achievements of key champions in our community and those who supported us as advocates for immigrants and refugees. This year's event went virtual! It included a new virtual auction and powerful speeches from our Community Champions that were broadcast simultaneously on ZOOM, Facebook Live, and Youtube Live.

Youth Summit



Annually, ETSS holds an end of summer celebration as the culmination of the Summer Youth Enrichment Camp. This year's event was virtual like so much else in 2020. All sites got to participate in a summit themed "Around the World in 8 Weeks." Students learned all about new cultures and ideas. This culminated in a giant Virtual Youth Summit with many invited community partners participating and kids winning awards and celebrating their success.

ETSS Advancement Department

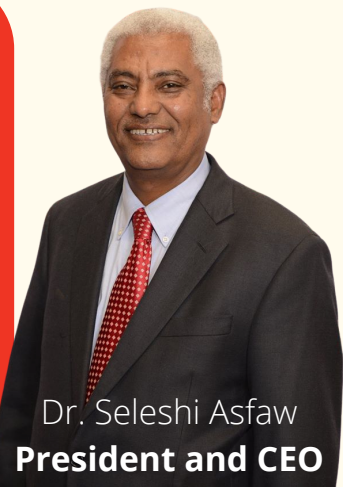
Like most things in 2020, directly engaging with the public, raising money and forming partnerships became exponentially more difficult. With in-person exchanges and events cancelled, Advancement adapted in innovative ways to keep programs on track and our communities safe. Whether through social media posts or presentations via Zoom designed to educate and support clients and our partners, we have successfully engaged those in Central Ohio and beyond. We developed campaigns for Giving Tuesday, the Big Give, and grants from across the country for programmatic support. We continue to be amazed by the overwhelming generosity of the community at a time when we are all being challenged. Through the Columbus Foundation's Big Give, we launched our own virtual campaign, along with others across Columbus, to join in a rally to uplift Columbus nonprofits. We are proud that, through this event, our own Mental Health Navigator, Durga, won a "Big Hero" award for her inspiring work in New American communities. Through forging new partnerships, like the outstanding team at the CLC, our efforts this year were a Virtual Success!



New Americans Integration

- ETSS created a Strategic Response team to coordinate and facilitate COVID-19 relief across ETSS departments.
- Developed position, policy, operational plans and developed internal committee to work with these directives.
- Capacity building for 5 community grassroots organizations.
- Over 69 community-based partners

"Although 2020 started like any other year, quickly Covid-19 changed all our lives in ways we could not imagine. No one was prepared, it was a shock, yet all of us quickly realized the pandemic was and is real. The Tewahedo family rose to the challenge through flexibility and creativity, continuing to provide hope and care to thousands in our community. As demands for our services increased, resources were diminished. But the overwhelming caring, philanthropic response in Central Ohio continues to be amazing. To our funders, sponsors, community collaborators and so many others, thank you. ETSS is blessed to have a very responsible and accountable board, and staff who have done extraordinary work above and beyond all expectations. In this time of social justice movements, during this global pandemic, global warming, and population migration, let us continue, in the spirit of Tewahedo, of togetherness and oneness, so that we are inspired to care for one another. We are all one and our future is together."




Dr. Seleshi Asfaw
President and CEO


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Full list on Funders & Partners Impact Handout