

# Story Corps<sup>®</sup>

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2019





**Our mission is to preserve and share humanity's stories in order to build connections between people and create a more just and compassionate world.**



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### **A Note on Experiencing This Report**

At the heart of StoryCorps' mission is making our work as accessible as possible. Throughout this report, we invite you to further explore our content and programs by clicking on the links embedded within this document ([that look like this](#)), which will take you to our website and other online platforms.

# LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends,

We hope this letter finds you and yours safe and well.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic hit the United States, we at StoryCorps have been working around the clock to adapt our service to the realities of the new world we're living in.

Up until a few short months ago, more than 600,000 Americans had participated in recording StoryCorps interviews about their lives — passing stories from one generation to the next and creating an archive of the wisdom of humanity at the Library of Congress. Each one of these interviews had been recorded face to face.

When the pandemic hit, we realized we needed to make a quick pivot to ensure that people everywhere would have the opportunity to connect and honor each other's lives and stories during this singular moment in American history.

The StoryCorps team immediately set out to create, test, and launch a new service, StoryCorps Connect, that makes it possible for the first time to record StoryCorps interviews remotely. The service allows you to participate in a StoryCorps interview with a loved one through a special video chat technology. The audio and a photo from your conversation uploads to the Library of Congress for future generations.

We released this free service in mid-April and have been moved and humbled by the response from across the country. We have seen [StoryCorps Connect](#) help elders feel less isolated, give teachers a meaningful remote learning activity for their students, help people experiencing loss memorialize loved ones lost in the pandemic, and much more. We've shared a number of stories recorded using StoryCorps Connect. One of these hits particularly close to home: [Dave's son Tobey, who was infected with the virus, interviewing Dave's mom Jane](#) in an early StoryCorps Connect test interview.

Other stories we've shared in the weeks after StoryCorps Connect's release include a conversation between [two New York City bus operators](#) about working on the front lines; [a doctor and his family](#) on what it's been like for him to self-isolate within their home to avoid spreading potential infection; [a California funeral director and his daughter](#) on what called him to join the national mortuary response team in New York City; and [a mother and her daughter](#) about the loss of her father, a World War II veteran, who succumbed to the disease in his nursing home.

We hope StoryCorps Connect helps cut through the dark clouds of the moment we're living through. We hope you and yours find this public service of use in the months ahead.

While it may feel like a very long time ago, we also wanted to highlight some of our organizational accomplishments from 2019:

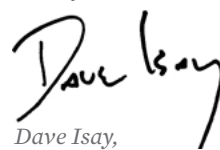
- To mark the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, we launched [Stonewall OutLoud](#), a project to preserve and share the stories of LGBTQ elders.
- We marked five years of [The Great Thanksgiving Listen](#), inspiring educators nationwide to work with their students on preserving their family histories.
- Through our [Military Voices Initiative](#), we preserved the stories of the military community through a national tour, and shared them through a special series on NPR's *Weekend Edition Saturday*.
- We continued to share poignant and powerful stories, podcasts, and animated shorts, reaching larger and more diverse audiences than ever before.

We are excited to continue [One Small Step](#) in 2020, with a major national expansion of our effort to bring strangers across the political divides together for StoryCorps interviews. The pandemic has only deepened the culture of contempt and dehumanization in the United States, and the upcoming election promises to further fray the fabric of our nation. One Small Step has proven to be a powerful intervention that helps turn "thems" into "us-es."

We are all living in an extraordinary period of uncertainty, but StoryCorps has embarked on this new decade with a renewed sense of purpose.

Thank you for believing in the power of listening, and thank you for supporting our work.

Warmly,



Dave Isay,  
Founder & President



Robin Sparkman, CEO



Dave Isay



Robin Sparkman



# LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

## Board of Directors\*

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Deborah Leff

Thomas A. Moore

*\*Board as of February 2020*

Dear Friends,

As I write, the nation — and the world — is in the grip of a pandemic that in one sense strikes at the heart of what StoryCorps is about and at the same time underscores why what we do is so urgently needed.

“Social distancing” is the exact opposite of the StoryCorps ethos, which strives to bring people together — across generations, miles, and even political divides — to acknowledge and celebrate our common humanity. But at a time of physical separation, the platform we have built over fifteen years is a more essential tool than ever before for bringing us together.

Listening again recently to some of the stories we featured in the past year — on our *Morning Edition* segment and on our podcast and website — I was struck by how many of them are already about separation under dire circumstances. It helped me remember that what the planet is now going through has too often been a fact of life for marginalized communities:

- For [Pedro Lopez](#), whose mother was taken away by ICE agents;
- For [Elizabeth Coffey-Williams](#), estranged from her family by her gender identity;
- For [Muhammad Faridi](#), whose embarrassment about his immigrant father, a taxi driver, caused them to grow apart.

We learn from these stories and so many more from the tens of thousands shared with StoryCorps. We are angered and saddened by the barriers imposed by hard-heartedness and bigotry and understand that they can be steeper in a time of great social strain. We are lifted and impelled to action by the lessons of human resilience and about the power of love, which our world desperately needs right now.

Your support for StoryCorps, an essential national institution, has helped us bridge many divides as those who share their stories and those who listen to the stories of their fellow humans come away changed for the better. I don't need to tell you that we are needed now more than ever, and that we need to grow so that these experiences are a universal part of our social fabric with world-changing impact.

Thanks for your support, and the huge difference it makes in the lives of so many, from all of us here at StoryCorps.



Gara LaMarche, *Board Chair*



Gara LaMarche

# STORIES TO REMEMBER



**A Mother's Promise**

***"I'm terrified of missing you growing up."***

Maria Rivas and her teenage daughter, Emily, prepare for the possibility of Maria returning to El Salvador if she is forced to leave the U.S.

[Watch the animation.](#)

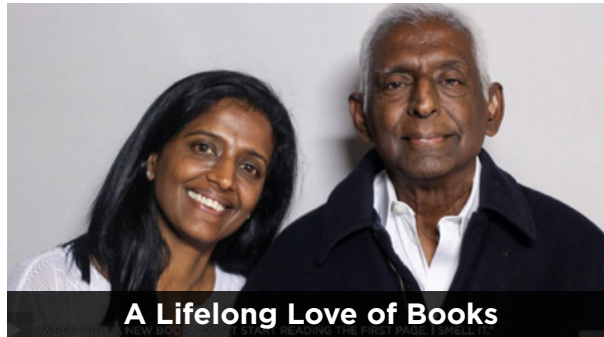


**The Door She Opened**

***"I knew I was a girl. And so that weekend, I got to be me."***

Dee Westenhauser remembers her Aunt Yaya, who gave her an opportunity that no one else would: a safe, loving space to be herself.

[Watch the animation.](#)



**A Lifelong Love of Books**

***"When I buy a new book, I don't start reading the first page. I smell it."***

At StoryCorps in Chicago, Alagappa Rammohan shares with his daughter, Paru Venkat, a love letter to the written word.

[Listen to the story.](#)



**Love Lost, and Found**

***"I had to be who I wasn't so that I could survive."***

Sue McConnell and Kristyn Weed, best friends and Vietnam-era veterans, share a story of courage — on and off the battlefield.

[Watch the animation.](#)

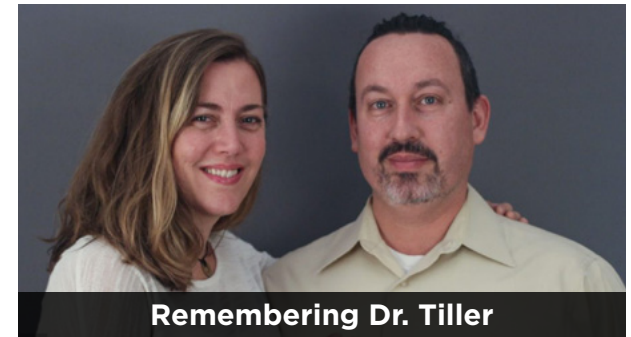


**The Leesburg Stockade Girls**

***"Being in a place like that, I didn't feel like we was human."***

Carol Barner-Seay, Shirley Reese, Diane Bowens, and Verna Hollis, who spent two months locked inside a stockade, shine a light on an overlooked moment in civil rights history.

[Listen to the podcast.](#)



**Remembering Dr. Tiller**

***"We felt a sense of gratitude that we could allow Elijah to rest in peace and not have to struggle."***

Natalie and David Young remember Dr. George Tiller, who was killed three years after they sought his help for an abortion in Wichita, Kansas.

[Listen to the story.](#)

# STORIES TO REMEMBER



**The Drill**

*“I’m a mother. And I don’t know what to say.”*

Dezmond Floyd, age 10, has an open discussion with his mother Tanai about what happens during his school’s active shooter drills.

[Watch the animation.](#)



**The Treasures of Mrs. Grady’s Library**

*“I spotted this book that looked rather risqué...”*

Judge Olly Neal remembers his high school days, when a book — and a little nudge from two helpful librarians — turned him around academically.

[Watch the animation.](#)



**By the Power Vested in Me**

*“That day wasn’t about us. This really was for thousands and thousands of people.”*

Some of the trailblazers who set the stage for marriage equality in the United States look back.

[Listen to the podcast.](#)



**The Man Who Disabled Two Hydrogen Bombs Dropped in North Carolina**

*“You don’t often have two hydrogen bombs falling out of aircraft onto U.S. property.”*

Munitions expert Jack ReVelle remembers the aftermath of January 24, 1961, when a U.S. military plane accidentally dropped two hydrogen bombs into a field in North Carolina.

[Listen to the story.](#)

Explore more stories, podcasts, and animations at [storycorps.org](https://storycorps.org), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), and Apple News.

Here’s how people watched and listened on these platforms in 2019:

TOTAL  
REACH

**37M**

VIEWES OF  
ANIMATIONS  
& OTHER VIDEOS

**14M**

LIKES,  
COMMENTS,  
& SHARES

**2M**

MOST-WATCHED  
VIDEO



[JUST LIKE YESTERDAY](#)

MOST  
LISTENED-TO STORY



[A WOMAN PROVIDING LIFESAVING  
AID AT THE MEXICO-ARIZONA  
BORDER SHARES HER STORY](#)



# MEASURING OUR IMPACT

StoryCorps helps people connect, whether it's with a loved one for a face-to-face conversation or with a stranger through hearing a story we've produced. In 2019, we surveyed our participants and listeners about the impact StoryCorps' work has had on them.

## PARTICIPANT SURVEY\*



After their StoryCorps interviews, **81% of participant survey respondents** felt more connected to their interview partners.

**78%** felt that they and their interview partners better understood each other's experiences, views, feelings or actions.

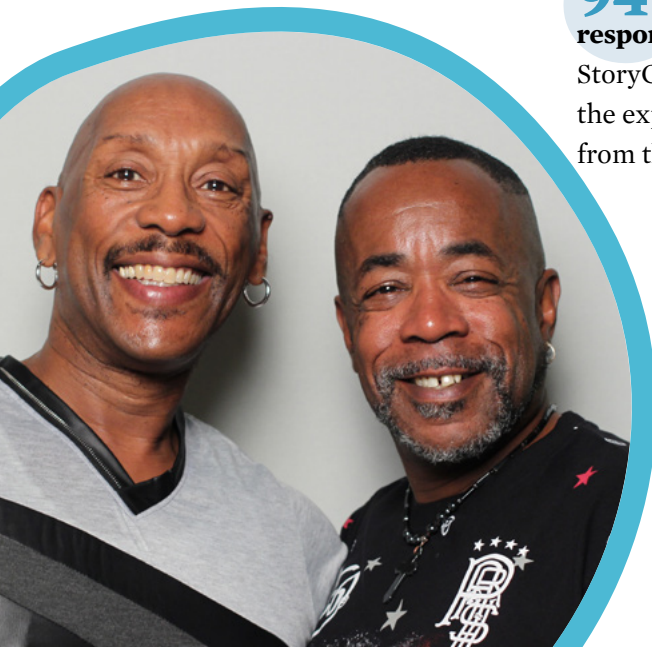
**79%** felt that, after their interviews, they would think of their own lives or experiences as meaningful or mattering to others.

## ONLINE LISTENER SURVEY\*\*

**94% of online listener survey respondents** said that listening to StoryCorps helped them understand the experiences of people different from themselves.

**89%** said that listening made them feel connected to others.

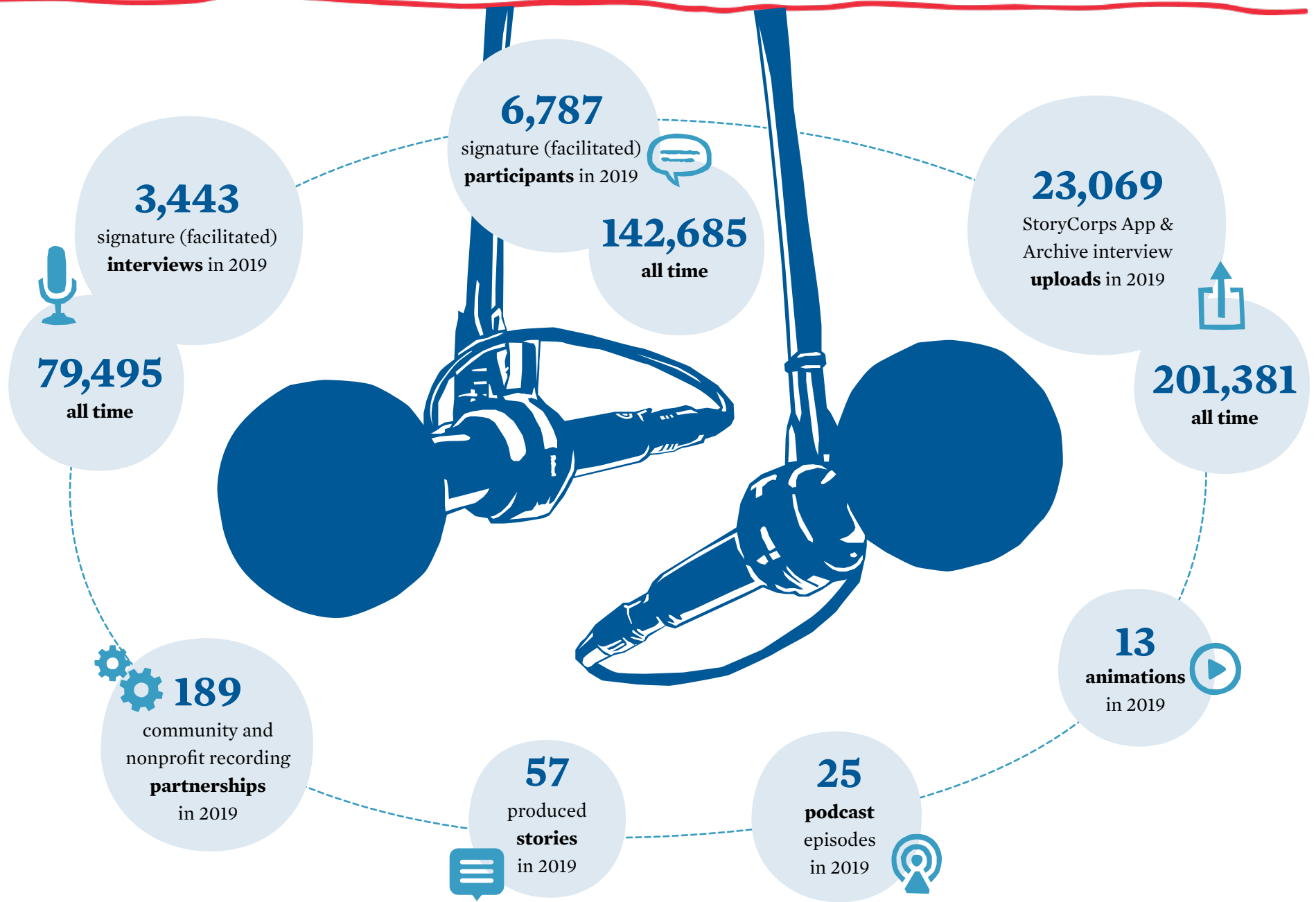
**85%** felt positively about society as a result of listening to StoryCorps.



\*Taken by 834 interview participants, throughout 2019.

\*\*Taken by 321 online listeners on storycorps.org, throughout 2019.

# STORYCORPS BY THE NUMBERS





# WHERE WE'VE BEEN

Here are the locations our program teams traveled to to record signature (facilitated) interviews in 2019.

## MOBILE TOUR

Orlando, FL  
Birmingham, AL  
Chattanooga, TN  
Washington, DC  
Philadelphia, PA  
Columbus, OH  
Flint, MI  
Memphis, TN  
Dallas, TX  
Yuma, AZ

Community  
& Nonprofit  
Recording  
Partnerships:

108

Interviews  
collected:

1,246

## CHICAGO STORYBOOTH

Interviews  
collected:

470

Community  
& Nonprofit  
Recording  
Partnerships:

29

## MILITARY VOICES INITIATIVE

Pensacola, FL  
Nashville, TN  
Monterey, CA  
Yellow Springs, OH

Interviews  
collected:

153

Community  
& Nonprofit  
Recording  
Partnerships:

4

## ATLANTA STORYBOOTH

Interviews  
collected:

321

Community  
& Non-Profit  
Recording  
Partnerships:

11

Interviews  
collected:

302

Community  
& Nonprofit  
Recording  
Partnerships:

15

## ONE SMALL STEP

Kansas City, KS/MO  
San Antonio, TX  
Logan, UT  
Tucson, AZ  
Tampa, FL

Birmingham, AL  
Tempe, AZ  
Mount Berry, GA  
Denver, CO  
Nashville, TN

Clinton, NY  
Houston, TX  
Baltimore, MD  
Abilene, TX

Hamilton, OH  
Missoula, MT  
Los Angeles, CA

Dallas, TX  
Highland Heights, KY  
Nashville, TN

Winchester, VA  
Hartford, CT  
Chattanooga, TN  
Salt Lake City, UT  
Washington, DC

# COLLECTING & PRESERVING DIVERSE VOICES

*Connecting people is at the heart of StoryCorps' work. We provide an experience unlike any other, bringing two people together for uninterrupted conversations to share their stories with and listen to one another, and most importantly, create human connections. Through these unique encounters when technology is put aside and people sit face to face to really listen to each other, StoryCorps has bridged connections between even the most unlikely of familiars and strangers.*



# COLLECTING & PRESERVING DIVERSE VOICES

## ONE SMALL STEP

In this turbulent time of political and ideological divide in our country, it is more important than ever for Americans to find shared humanity forged through the connections in the stories of our lives, regardless of how different our backgrounds and circumstances are.

We have concluded the pilot phase of [One Small Step](#), a project that brings together people who hold contrasting viewpoints to listen to one another's experiences with respect and to develop a deeper understanding of each other.

In its pilot, StoryCorps recorded more than 400 One Small Step conversations with 800 participants across 40 U.S. cities.

*The interview helped me put a human face to views that were opposite from mine. It made me question my own deeply held beliefs and see that there are other ways things can be seen and other ways problems can be solved.*

— One Small Step participant,  
Salt Lake City, UT



***"It was this common 'that's not okay' moment."***

Two people who sit on opposite ends of the political spectrum remember a moment that unexpectedly brought them together.

[Watch the animation.](#)

One Small Step facilitated productive and meaningful conversations between participants on opposite sides of the political spectrum and affirmed that there is a positive impact on people who have these conversations.

Eighty-two percent of surveyed participants told us that they had taken some action or made changes in their lives as a result of the One Small Step experience. Almost half of participants reported reexamining their assumptions about another person or group of people. These elements are essential "building blocks of empathy" that make a deeper connection possible.

Building upon our success creating strong partnerships with local public media stations to broaden StoryCorps' work, we launched a new component of the initiative, One Small Step Communities, to work with six local public radio



# COLLECTING & PRESERVING DIVERSE VOICES

stations across the country. Stations received training, support, and production assistance to facilitate and record conversations between residents of differing political persuasions and share select interviews across their media platforms.

One Small Step and StoryCorps was covered by national media including CNN, ABC News, NPR, *The Washington Post*, *Tucker Carlson Tonight*, and *The Glenn Beck Radio Program*, further underscoring receptivity to our mission and this project in particular from a range of platforms with different points of view.

In 2020 and beyond, we will build on what we learned in our pilot, expand to more cities through partnerships with public media and local organizations, and use technology to take One Small Step to more people during what promises to be a pivotal election year.

One Small Step will continue as a three-year initiative that aims to spark a movement, in communities and nationwide, to counter contempt and dehumanization with acts of listening and engagement. Through a national and local public awareness campaign and targeted interventions in polarized communities, we will remind the country that we are all human — bringing people together as a first, critical step toward addressing the challenges facing our country.



## QUESTIONS FROM A ONE SMALL STEP CONVERSATION

**Can you tell me about an event or person in your life that shaped your political views?**

**Can you tell me about one or two people who have been kindest to you in your life?**

**How do you want to be remembered?**

# COLLECTING & PRESERVING DIVERSE VOICES



## STONEWALL OUTLOUD

Timed to the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, StoryCorps launched [Stonewall OutLoud](#), a targeted effort to collect, preserve, and share the stories of LGBTQ elders who lived before their community's modern civil rights movement was born. We partnered with national and local grassroots organizations across the country to inspire people to record these stories using the StoryCorps App, and to preserve them before they are lost to history.

In May 2020, Stonewall OutLoud was nominated for a Peabody Award. [Stonewall Outloud](#), a documentary of the same name produced in collaboration with YouTube Originals as part of the project, is the recipient of a Telly Award and has been nominated for a Daytime Emmy.



## MILITARY VOICES INITIATIVE

StoryCorps teamed up with veteran service organizations across the country to honor the millions of men and women who served in the armed forces, their family members, and others from the military community as part of our [Military Voices Initiative](#) tour. Visiting Pensacola, FL; Nashville, TN; Monterey, CA; and Yellow Springs, OH, StoryCorps engaged veterans, service members, and military families in sharing challenges faced, injuries endured, and homecomings celebrated.



# COLLECTING & PRESERVING DIVERSE VOICES

## MOBILE TOUR

For the fourteenth year in a row, the MobileBooth, our Airstream trailer equipped with a recording studio, and our trained facilitators hit the road to make month-long stops in ten towns and cities for the 2019 [StoryCorps Mobile Tour](#), partnering with local community organizations to record conversations in communities across the country.

## STORYBOOTHS IN CHICAGO AND ATLANTA

At our year-round StoryBooths at the [Chicago Cultural Center](#) and the [Atlanta History Center](#), StoryCorps continued to preserve the voices of two of the country's most dynamic and changing cities. StoryCorps' on-site teams collaborated with station partners WBEZ and WABE, respectively, to share these stories with the public, and engaged individuals and community groups in meaningful conversations and dialogue.



*Thank you to StoryCorps and the storytellers for sharing these stories. Some of them make me laugh, many make me cry, but all of them make me feel a shared humanity.*

— Chris, listener and donor



# COLLECTING & PRESERVING DIVERSE VOICES

## COMMUNITY LISTENING EVENTS

At our StoryBooths in Atlanta and Chicago and nationwide through our Mobile Tour and other story collection initiatives, StoryCorps hosts listening events that invite partners and the public to come together to listen to stories recorded in their communities, learn about the StoryCorps interview experience, and connect around the power of preserving oral histories. Here are two events that StoryCorps hosted in 2019.

### “A Night of Listening: Stories of Strength, Resilience, and Love”

#### STORYCORPS ATLANTA

Presented in partnership with Global Dialogues and Hearts to Nourish Hope, this event showcased conversations from youth that have been suspended or expelled from school and from Hearts to Nourish Hope staff members who provide services for them. After listening to these stories, over a quarter of audience members were moved to make plans to record their own StoryCorps interviews.

### “Envisioning Justice”

#### STORYCORPS CHICAGO

This gathering invited community members to listen to the stories of residents affected by mass incarceration, gun violence, and the justice system. The audience listened to six stories from the Chicago community, and participated in a discussion moderated by WBEZ reporter Odette Yousef. The evening included performances by Storycatchers Theatre and rapper and StoryCorps interview participant HBCKG, and artwork from two Illinois women’s correctional facilities.



Photos from StoryCorps Atlanta



Photos from StoryCorps Chicago

# SHARING & AMPLIFYING POWERFUL STORIES

*In seeking to touch the lives of every person in this country, StoryCorps continues to leverage the power of our content to transform people's beliefs and enhance their understanding of the lives of people whom they have never met. Through surveys, listeners and viewers continue to report\* that StoryCorps stories made them feel positive about humanity and connected to others, and that they gained insight into the experiences of people different from themselves.*

\*Read more about our participant and listener surveys on page 7.



# SHARING & AMPLIFYING POWERFUL STORIES

## BROADCAST STORIES

In 2019, StoryCorps continued to produce [award-winning stories](#) that aired nationally on NPR's *Morning Edition* and *Weekend Edition*, and were shared on our website, via social media channels, and with a growing list of email subscribers. These stories provide a weekly touchpoint for millions — telling stories of fear, perseverance, love, and loss. Like all StoryCorps-produced content, these stories supported timeless themes and spotlighted voices from people of all backgrounds and beliefs, including those who are highlighted through our active initiatives, including One Small Step, StoryCorps OutLoud, and the Military Voices Initiative.

## ANIMATED SHORTS

[Animated shorts](#) released in 2019 brought produced stories from our collection to life on screens big and small, capturing a range of story themes and visual styles. Mini-seasons released throughout the year focused on the themes of love and romance, LGBTQ voices, defining moments, and difficult conversations.

*We love your poignant, heartfelt stories. [StoryCorps] shines a light of hope in these increasingly disconnected times. Thank you.*

— Lee and Pete,  
listeners and donors



***“Getting off the bus there was a puddle and you took your shirt off and laid it down. I was finished. Finished, you hear?”***

This love story started with a song on a summer evening, in Brooklyn during the late 1950s. Jay McKnight and Andrea McKnight remember the early days of their romance — and what happened after that.

[Watch the animation.](#)



# SHARING & AMPLIFYING POWERFUL STORIES



Artwork for the StoryCorps Podcast by Michael Caines

## THE STORYCORPS PODCAST

The [StoryCorps Podcast](#) continued a new seasonal model launched in 2018 — and the introduction of a new host, Jasmyyn Morris — with two new collections highlighting inspiring stories told by everyday people across the country. Two seasons were released in 2019: “Stonewall OutLoud,” highlighting LGBTQ voices, and “We Need to Talk,” focused on the theme of challenging conversations.

## REACHING NEW LISTENERS

In 2019, StoryCorps expanded our audiences and reach to larger and more diverse audiences than ever before by growing our owned distribution channels and developing new media partnerships. Weekly produced stories are now available on Apple News, as well as [via email to a growing subscriber base](#). In addition to collaborating with YouTube Originals to produce the documentary [Stonewall OutLoud](#) (more on page 13), StoryCorps partnered with the Alamo Drafthouse and IFC theaters to screen animated shorts before select films to the moviegoing public. Other organizations that presented StoryCorps stories and animations to their own audiences through new and continued special partnerships included Penguin Random House, PBS News Hour, POV, and Voice of America.

# EXTENDING THE STORYCORPS EXPERIENCE

*At StoryCorps, we believe in the power of listening. Through our programs and activities focused on trainings, education, and community events, StoryCorps supports individuals and groups in using our interview model to strengthen connections within communities, shine a light on histories that might otherwise go unpreserved, and nurture the capacity for empathy and understanding.*





# EXTENDING THE STORYCORPS EXPERIENCE

## STORYCORPS DIY & COMMUNITY TRAINING

[StoryCorps DIY](#) is a set of online multimedia resources developed to help groups create their own sustainable interview collection projects, with a particular focus on libraries, healthcare organizations, and other community organizations. It was accessed in 2019 by an ever-growing base of users — including 800 new registrants — looking to use the StoryCorps model to record, preserve, and share the stories of their communities.

The service was relaunched on a new platform for improved user experience, functionality, and integration into StoryCorps' suite of digital tools. Throughout the year, StoryCorps' Community Training team offered a regular series of webinars to engage and onboard new users, and to teach deeper competencies in best practices that include recording ethically and with content, selecting and using recording equipment, and editing and sharing interviews.

StoryCorps' Community Training team continued its work serving those affected by serious illness with our Legacy Initiative, and continued our second year of [Road to Resilience](#), a project in partnership with the New York Life Foundation that leverages the power of stories and storytelling to help children cope with the death of a parent, sibling, or loved one. A companion course on StoryCorps DIY features a suite of resources for organizations interested in starting their own storytelling program supporting kids in grief, including a special collection of stories and discussion guides.



Alice was 14 when her mother died unexpectedly, just two weeks after giving birth to Alice's brother, Ibukunoluwa. A decade later, the siblings discuss losing their mother for the first time.

[Watch the animation.](#)



## EXTENDING THE STORYCORPS EXPERIENCE

### THE STORYCORPS ARCHIVE AND MOBILE APP

StoryCorps's goal has always been to make the conversations preserved in our archive as accessible as possible, so that people everywhere can benefit from the wisdom, knowledge, and humanity of the hundreds of thousands of voices preserved within. In 2018, the initial launch of our new [StoryCorps Archive](#) platform brought us closer to this goal, allowing participants, community partners, and the general public to browse, listen to, and share diverse stories that reflect our country's social, political, and cultural history. In 2019, a phased rollout of our signature interviews has brought the majority of all recorded interviews to the public.

Through the free [StoryCorps App](#), the StoryCorps experience is accessible to anyone, anywhere, guiding participants through the interview process from start to finish and enabling them to record high-quality conversations that can be uploaded to our archive at the Library of Congress. In 2019, we continued to make improvements and updates to the StoryCorps App to increase speed and efficiency for optimal use, and improved transparency around privacy — including how we share stories, and privacy options available to users.



[Watch the animation.](#)

# EXTENDING THE STORYCORPS EXPERIENCE

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING LISTEN

In 2019, StoryCorps celebrated the fifth year of [The Great Thanksgiving Listen](#), our effort to empower young people to record an interview with an elder, mentor, friend, or someone they admire using the StoryCorps App over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Since its start as an experimental challenge issued by our founder, Dave Isay, the project has grown into a vital annual tradition – and to date, thousands of high schools from all 50 states have recorded and preserved more than 110,000 interviews, providing families with a priceless piece of personal history.

StoryCorps works with a national network of educators, providing them with multimedia resources and lesson plans to teach speaking and listening skills and promote social-emotional learning in their classrooms. Partnerships with the American Federation of Teachers, Chicago Public Schools, the National Association of Independent Schools, PBS

Learning Media, and YouTube Social Impact, as well as a new radio special created in partnership with NPR, helped The Great Thanksgiving Listen reach a growing base of educators as well as the general public.

Beyond The Great Thanksgiving Listen, StoryCorps supports educators year-round through our StoryCorps in the Classroom [email newsletter](#) and [Facebook group](#), providing educational resources and opportunities to connect with fellow educators and StoryCorps staff.



*Each year, something life-changing happens. For example, last year, a student spoke with his mother about things they had never been able to say to each other before. By the end, they were both in tears. This year, a student was able to interview her grandfather just a week before he passed.*

— Participating educator,  
San Diego, CA

**StoryCorps partnered with NPR to produce “The Great Listen,” a one-hour broadcast feature highlighting the value of documenting family history.**

[Listen to the radio special.](#)

# SUPPORTERS

StoryCorps is an independently funded organization. We acknowledge the following generous public funders, institutions, and businesses:

## **\$500,000 – \$1,000,000+**

Acton Family Giving  
Corporation for Public Broadcasting  
Einhorn Family Charitable Trust  
Emerson Collective  
Fetzer Institute  
Kaplen Brothers Fund  
John S. and James L. Knight  
Foundation  
New York Life Foundation  
Rockefeller Foundation

## **\$100,000 – \$499,999**

AARP  
Amgen Oncology  
Annenberg Foundation  
BayTree Fund  
Bloomberg Philanthropies  
Charina Endowment Fund  
Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art  
Duolingo  
Ford Foundation  
Jerome L. Greene Foundation  
Institute for Human Caring at  
Providence St. Joseph Health  
Institute of Museum and  
Library Services  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
The Joyce Foundation  
Charles Koch Foundation

The Marc Haas Foundation  
National Endowment for  
the Humanities  
Stavros Niarchos Foundation  
Righteous Persons Foundation  
YouTube Originals

## **\$25,000 – \$99,999**

Ancestry  
Anonymous Foundation  
Baskin Family Foundation  
David Bohnett Foundation  
CAA Foundation  
Thalia and Michael C. Carlos  
Foundation  
Citi  
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Participants recording inside the MobileBooth

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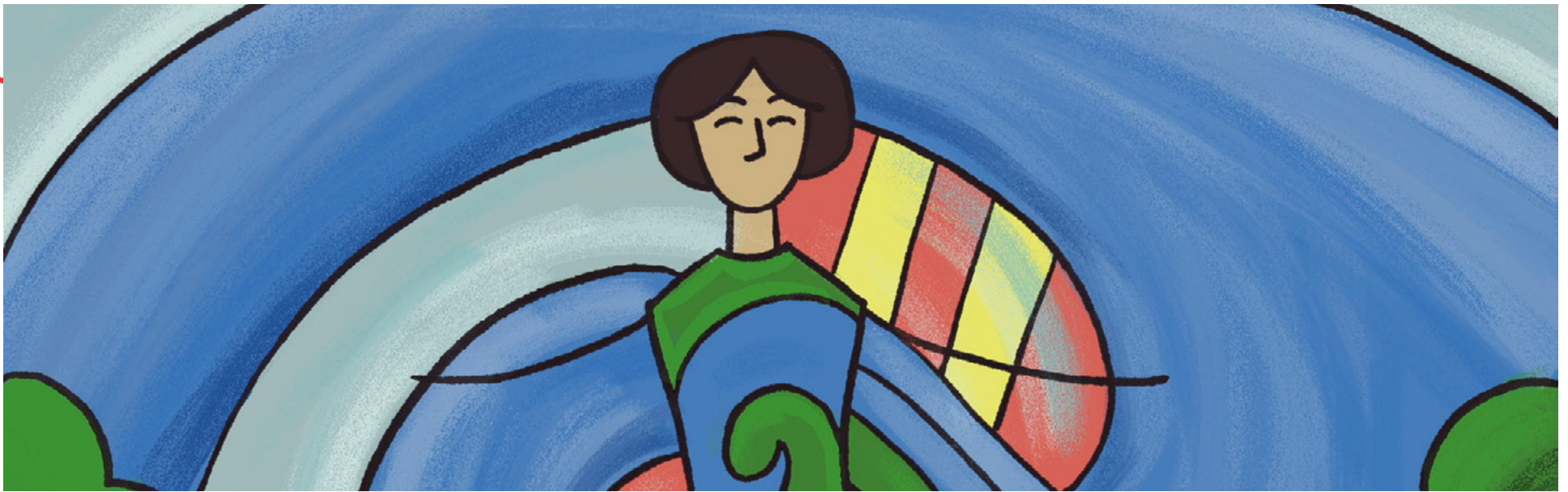


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Animation: A Mother's Promise

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19.4%

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\$2,300,331

4.0%

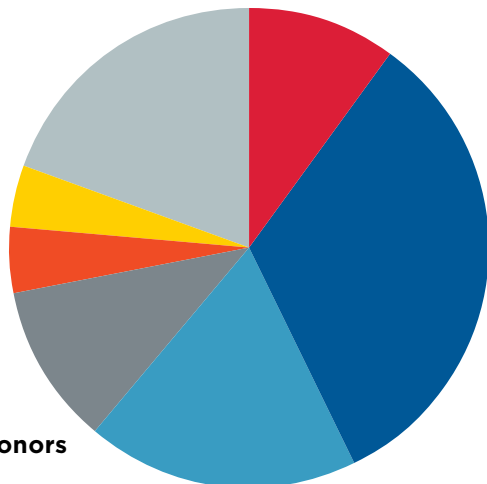
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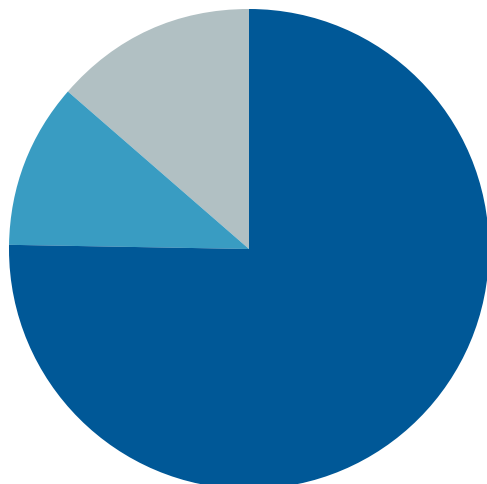
\$11,694,076

13.6%

**Fundraising**  
\$1,590,144

10.9%

**Management & General**  
\$1,274,560



75.5%

**Program Services**  
\$8,829,372

## ASSETS

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$1,141,261
Investments	\$2,446,138
Unconditional Promises to Give	\$2,256,552
Other Receivables	\$649,700
Prepaid Expenses & Other Assets	\$118,244
Property & Equipment, net	\$329,735
Security Deposits	\$77,644

**Total Assets** **\$7,019,274**

## LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

### Liabilities

Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$531,921
Deferred Revenue	\$263,325
Loans Payable	\$15,463
Promissory Note Payable	\$833,979

**Total Liabilities** **\$1,644,688**

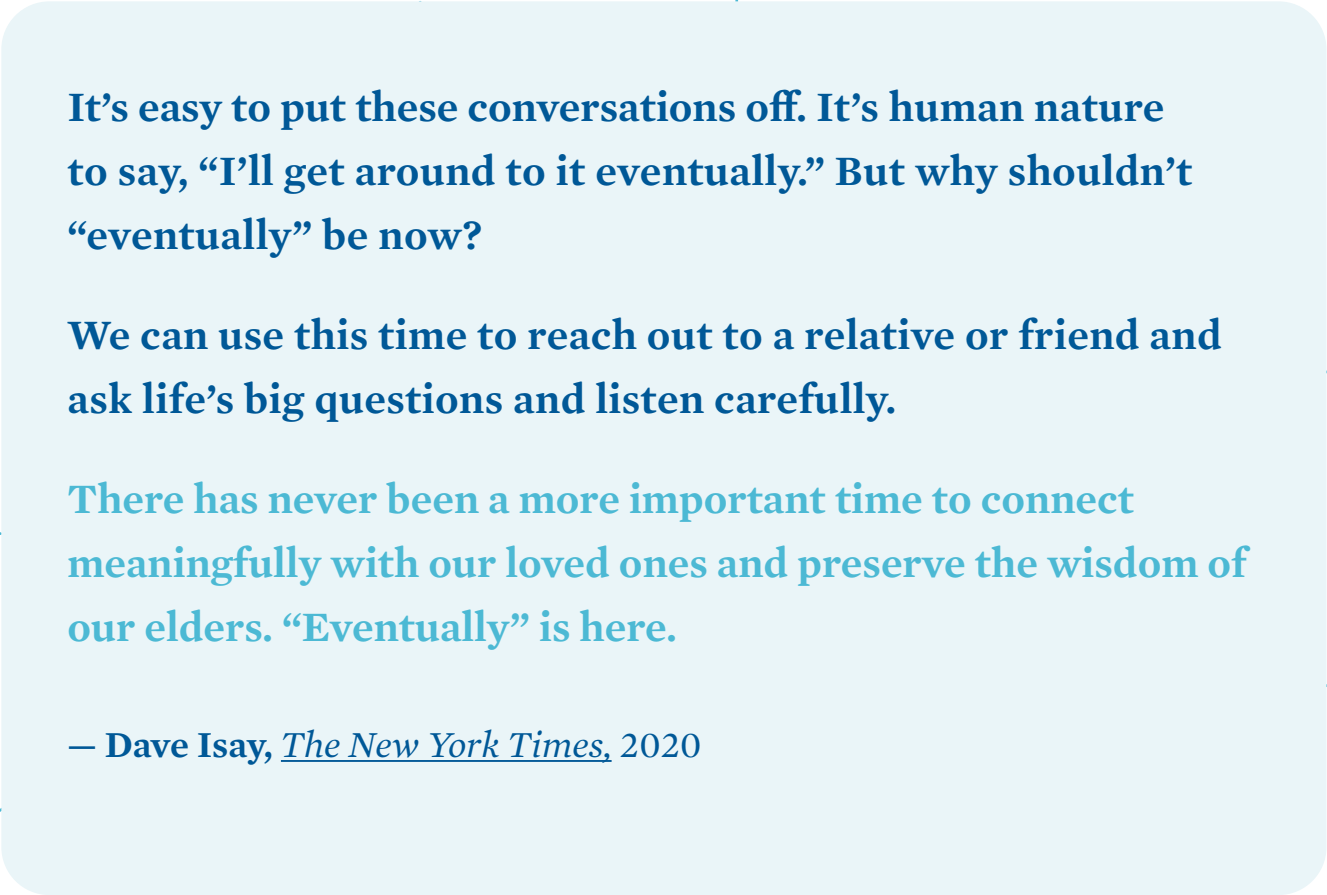
### Net Assets

Net Assets without donor restrictions	\$2,566,854
Net Assets with donor restrictions	\$2,807,732

**Total Net Assets** **\$5,374,586**

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets** **\$7,019,274**

\*StoryCorps' fiscal year ended December 31, 2019



**It's easy to put these conversations off. It's human nature to say, "I'll get around to it eventually." But why shouldn't "eventually" be now?**

**We can use this time to reach out to a relative or friend and ask life's big questions and listen carefully.**

**There has never been a more important time to connect meaningfully with our loved ones and preserve the wisdom of our elders. "Eventually" is here.**

**— Dave Isay, *The New York Times*, 2020**