



*Campbell Village Kimberton Hills*  
**news**

**2020 Spring Newsletter and 2019 Annual Report**

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## *Festivals Through the Seasons*

*by Felicity Jeans, Executive Director*

***“...it is good to take time in the cycle of year to celebrate the service of those of us who put their focus and energies into providing sustenance of exceptional quality.”***

Camphill Village Kimberton Hills gives us the pleasure of having the most wonderful extended community with whom to enjoy many seasonal festivals and celebrations. As we physically isolate because of the COVID-19 health precautions we all must take, we can find ways to continue celebrating at more distance, but united in spirit. My friend Gaby was telling me today that fellow community member, Lauren, is preparing for a Passover Seder in which Gaby will find a way to participate, as will some others.

The dark winter months were brightened by the performance of the Shepherds Play on Christmas Eve with a mixed cast of players, some who have seen and played the characters many times in this well-loved traditional play. Some new players came into parts for the first time in their lives, jumping in with open hearts and minds to participate.

In the twelve days after Christmas, we shared afternoons beside the Rose Hall Christmas tree, and for each afternoon there was a different sharing of story or music. These moments give us inner light and nourishment to kindle our imaginations and share the warmth of being together.

Groundhog Day, or Candlemas, gave a space to celebrate the joys and challenges of working with the land. Rudolf Steiner suggested this as a special time to consider the needs of the land, to share the successes of the previous year and plan for how to make the upcoming season even better, whatever weather or challenges will come.

I have such admiration for the people who turn their dedication towards caring for the land and animals day after day, some rising early for milking even in the dark and the rain. So it is good to take time in the cycle of year to celebrate the service of those of us who put their focus and energies into providing sustenance of exceptional quality.

Mardi Gras was celebrated by a lively community party, and the Easter Season is now upon us. In the Fall, my friend Gaby will be sure to take part in the local celebration of Diwali, the Hindu

The festivals that accompany the cycles of the year are so timeless and appropriate for the seasons. They bring deeper meaning and reminders of our connection with the earth and the spirit. They remind us of our part as humans -- to bring moments of conscious connection and celebration. They remind us that we are part of the whole development of the Earth and all who are on it.

In these times of celebration, our individual differences can be set aside as we share our togetherness and uniqueness of spirit.

And this year, CVKH has been asked to host the Kimberton Arts Alliance summer chamber music series in Rose Hall. We hope to be able to do so in this, our award winning music venue. So do stay in touch to receive notification of world class musicians playing at Rose Hall



# The Bluebird Trail

*contributed by Marilyn Michalski*

Our bird team stayed busy during 2019. We put up a total of 55 nest boxes, a few of which were installed across Pughtown Road in the upper fields. One box is located at the home of Dr. Jean Flood and is our only off-campus location. Dr. Flood's nest box produced ten new Eastern bluebirds in each of the last two years, which is an excellent number.

The 2019 nesting season was difficult for our Eastern bluebirds. Many pairs were evicted from their nests by tree swallows and house wrens. Only 98 new bluebirds made it out of the Village's nest boxes. To "fledge" means that baby birds grew strong enough to fly out of nest boxes under their own wing power. Two years ago, our nest boxes fledged 122 new bluebirds, and last year (in 2018) they fledged 106 new bluebirds.

***"We have an abundance of house wrens in the Village."***



*The Kimberton Hills Bird Crew installing new nest boxes in the village*



We faced a few challenges during the year. The Eastern bluebirds built 43 nests and laid a total of 150 blue eggs. Because bluebirds need their nest boxes out in the open – in their search for insects – they are vulnerable to predators. A total of 52 bluebird eggs did not produce new birds. Egg failures were caused by takeovers of the nest box by other birds, ant infestations, and occasional human errors.

We lost five bluebird nests due to actions of house wrens – those cute little brown birds with a happy song. When wrens find eggs of other birds inside nest boxes, they pierce them with their needle-like beaks. This kills those eggs that are usually bluebird eggs. We have an abundance of house wrens in the Village. There were so many wrens in the Vineyard that we had to take down every nestbox there, because all bluebirds had been driven away. Tree swallows also evict bluebirds from their nests.

We put some bluebird boxes close to roadways in order to monitor them more closely. On a couple of occasions, a nestbox was destroyed by a vehicle – accidental contact. From April through July these roadside boxes may have baby birds in them, so we need to be vigilant while driving.

Bird team members include: Bill Lewis, Charlene Roth, Allen Alexion, Michael Weinstein, and others. Many Villagers have helped us over the 15 years we've run the "Bluebird Trail" under the guidance of John Tower and myself. In 2019, we undertook a new project - installing a Purple Martin House along Camphill Drive. We hope this "condo" of nesting chambers will attract Purple Martins in 2020. We struggled to keep out starlings during the year. As a tribute to CVKH, I purchased and donated this top-of-the-line Purple Martin House.

We thank everyone at the Camphill Community for their support and helpfulness! We enjoy our conversations and interactions. Talking about birds is educational and enjoyable. The Bird Team is eager to put up nest boxes for the 2020 season, which will begin in March!



# Thank You to Our Generous Donors in 2019

Dear Friends,

Every spring we enjoy this opportunity to share the highlights of the previous calendar year at Camphill Village Kimberton Hills. Thanks to you and the significant impact of your support in 2019, we are able to accomplish our mission of maintaining an integrated community where people with developmental differences are leading a life of dignity, equality and purpose. Over the past year, an increasing number of donors, family members and caregivers of our villagers and volunteers have shared more about their lives and reasons for giving and supporting our community.

THANKS TO YOU, in 2019 we were able to address critical infrastructure needs and emergencies to ensure safety, health and the well-being of our villagers. Emergency repairs to the electrical system in Rose Hall, structural improvements and remodeling at several of our residences, and the purchase and installation of backup generators were some of the improvements made possible.

As we come together as partners in caring and giving to ensure the safety of our community given the challenges of 2020 including the coronavirus, we must be ever vigilant in providing a safe, secure and healthy community for all who reside at Camphill Village Kimberton Hills. Your generosity via donations to our Villager Support Fund during this time of crisis is critical to our continued viability and sustainable community. Your financial support has an IMPACT and MAKES A DIFFERENCE. Thank you for all you continue to do to help us fulfill our community's mission.

*- Craig Williams, Director of Development*



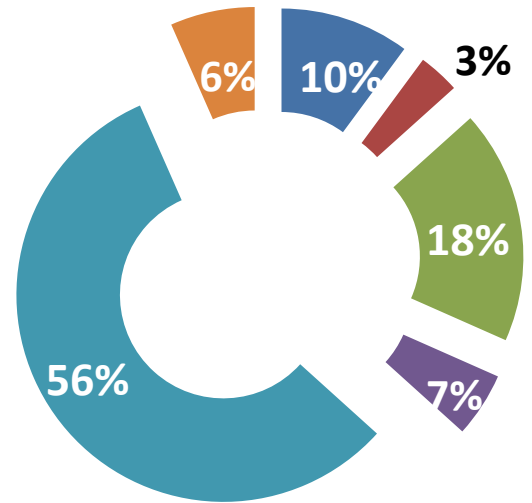
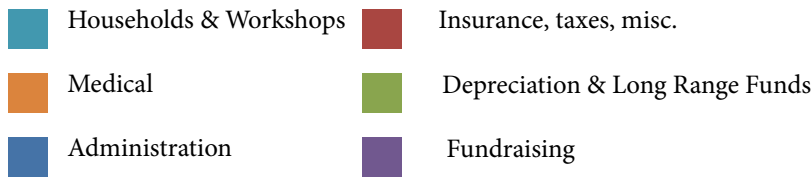
## COVID-19 Coronavirus

With keeping the more vulnerable members of our community as safe as possible, Kimberton Hills is continually monitoring and updating its safety precautions as needed.

Thanks to all our friends and wishing good health to all.

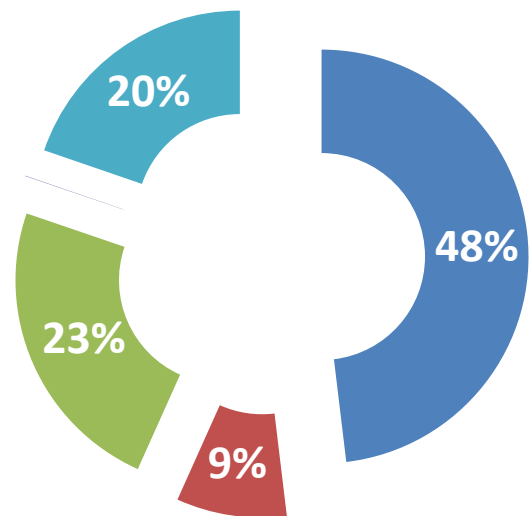
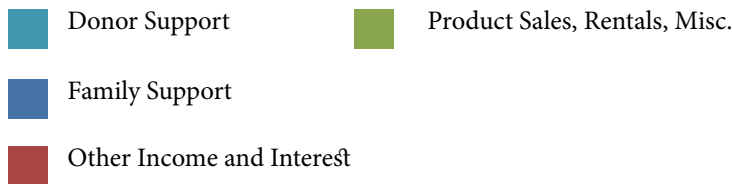
## 2019 Operating Expenses

\$2,407,785



## 2019 Revenue

\$2,405,699



## 2019 Donors - Thank You!

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John and Robin Hilton IHO Claudia Swenk  
Wes Barton IHO - All the friends!  
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Nancy Brown IHO Martin D. Hecht  
Steven & Rebecca Fram IHO Amy Klein  
Mark & Deborah Nulman IHO Michael Weinstock*

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*In Memory of Methuselah  
Karen Levandoski*



*In Memory of Rev. Michael Schmidt,  
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*In Memory of Michael Finger  
Deborah Hayes*

*In Memory of Sandy and Donald Klein  
Andrew Klein*

*In Memory of Ben Simenhoff  
Madeleine Ziegler*

*In memory of Harry and Sylvia Eisenson  
Phyllis Anderson*

*In Memory of Stanley Johnson*

*Ronald & Kathleen Haines  
In Memory of Arnold Adler  
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*In Memory of Cynthia Wallace  
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*In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. William Ursler  
Robert Rosenberry*

*In Memory of David Reeves  
Bonnie Ferguson*

*In Memory and Honor of M.C. Richards, a  
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Without the local and international community that supports our Village with gifts of time, personal commitment, and finances, we would be without our life-sustaining buttresses. Thank you to all.

We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted or misspelled anyone's name. If you have donated through Facebook, Your Cause, or Network For Good and would like individual recognition, please contact us.

Please call the Development Office at 610-935-0300 ext. 12 if you find any such mistakes and we will gladly correct them in our upcoming newsletter.

*Thank you.*



# *A Journey in Kimberton Hills*

*By Kylie Gilliams, Long Term Volunteer Coworker*

I come from a Quaker background, and study of the Quaker testimonies led me to seek out places where building community, volunteer service, and honoring the dignity and spirit of each individual are valued and striven for. In 2011, when I was about to graduate from Guilford College, I was searching for a next step that would include those three elements in some form. I stumbled upon Kimberton Hills through the Americorps website, and though it was wildly different from any experience I'd had previously, thought I would apply. Reading the website and materials, it seemed there was no way that the reality could live up to the idyllic description; but after a visit and tour, I fell in love with the beauty of the land and the warmth of the people that I encountered.

I decided to commit for a year and landed in Pfeiffer House, with the Clees (Sue, Steven, Maeve, Ella and Lily), Mary, Maria, Michele, Posie and another volunteer, Taeyoun. Taeyoun and I quickly decided that we had the best house in the village – of course we later realized that each house was unique and wonderful in its own way, but felt very happy in ours. Thus began my journey in Kimberton Hills.



*Kylie with her godson, Oscar*



*Kylie and Sebastian at Kerria House*

I felt an immediate connection to the community and was refreshed and inspired by the practicality of daily life in the village; cooking meals using vegetables from the garden that I had helped grow, and crafting bowls and mugs in the pottery with the thought of using them to serve these meals in, and all done alongside people who taught me much about patience, joy and creativity. These created in me a sense of purpose that I had not experienced before.

Years later, this sense of awe and meaning has not worn off but has become integrated into the fabric of my being. I feel it when doing tasks that may seem mundane on the surface but have become imbued with a higher purpose, particularly when done with others, whether that be wiping the table after meals, chopping carrots, or mulching under grapevines. There do come times, however, when life can feel less than idyllic - moments of frustration or overwhelm do happen here, but with the support of each other we find our footing again, and strive to use those moments to spark growth or learning from the experience.

***“...this sense of awe and meaning has not worn off but has become integrated into the fabric of my being...”***

Since that first year, I've deepened my relationship and commitment to the community, experienced living and homemaking in several houses, taken on new roles and spent many hours tending the orchards and vineyard. My fiancé, Eli Maltz, and I are happily settled in the newly renovated Kerria House, along with our friends Charlene, Noah, Sebastian, Lauren and Lynn. As ever, we are grateful to have such a beautiful place to live, with good friends to share meals and laughter with, and a warm and supportive community surrounding us. We look forward to the coming years.



*Above: Kylie prepares lunch in Kerria House's recently renovated kitchen*

*Top Right: Lauren, Noah and Charlene at Kerria House*

*Middle Right: Eli with Kylie*

*Bottom Right: Settling into the newly renovated Kerria House*



# Renovations Update on Kerria and Springfield Houses

As our mild winter approaches Spring time, the renovations of Kerria and Springfield Houses are wrapping up. It was a busy few months with construction crews in two sites. Now we have warm fires in the living rooms and heart-warming meals around the tables. We are fortunate to have been able to accomplish so much in such a short time. Of course, if you ask a few folks who have had to live through it, they may tell you it felt like forever!

Both houses have brand new kitchens and some new floors. Springfield got a basement French drain to combat water infiltration. Kerria has three renovated bathrooms. Wiring and plumbing were updated and Springfield has high efficiency gas fired heat/air conditioning. Kerria now has air conditioning on the second floor. Please stop by and see the results when you are in the village!

Thank you for your continued support to help us improve the quality of life for everyone in the community.

- Mark Ohi for Maintenance



Recent updates in the village include Springfield House's kitchen

HELP US SECURE  
THE FUTURE

Planned Giving and Kimberton Hills

The success of Kimberton Hills depends on the foresight and generosity of you, our supporters and friends. Knowledgeable and careful financial planning can provide for you and your families' future, and can ensure a meaningful future for our village.

There are many beneficial ways that planned gifts can be tailored to your unique philanthropic interests and financial capabilities. Each option offers different tax advantages.



Contact Craig Williams, Development Director at [cwilliams@camphillkimberton.org](mailto:cwilliams@camphillkimberton.org) to discuss how planned giving can help you and Kimberton Hills.



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**CRAFT SHOP**

Monday-Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

**CAMP HILL CAFÉ**

Wednesday-Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm

**SANKANAC CSA**

Harvesting May-November

*The mission of Camphill Village Kimberton Hills is to create and maintain a land-based community together with adults with special needs. Inspired by Anthroposophy, members of the community support one another to contribute to the wider society through biodynamic agriculture, handcrafts and other ecological, social, cultural and educational endeavors.*

*Residential and Volunteer opportunities are available at Kimberton Hills. Contact Craig Brown in Admissions at 610-935-0300 ext. 18*

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*The Sankanac CSA crew worked through the winter in preparation for the Spring season.*

**Upcoming Events**

**July 18, 2020 - Hootenanny**

*Local Food & Music Festival  
Featuring local musicians, games, raffles,  
locally produced organic food and drink  
and more!*

**Sept 12, 2020 - What's for Dinner?**

*Farm-to-Table series*

**Oct 3, 2020 - Friends and Family Day**

*Annual gathering of Family and Friends,  
featuring a Strategic Plan presentation.*

*Kimberton Hills benefits greatly from the committed individuals who make up our Board of Directors. Along with members of the various Board Committees, they support the village with fundraising, financial reporting, strategic planning and other initiatives.*