
**LEAVE IT BETTER
FOUNDATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2019/2020

OPENING LETTER

The 2019-2020 school year was a defining moment for Leave It Better Foundation (LIBF). It goes without saying that in-person engagement has been the heart of LIBF since we began working with schools in 2009. For over a decade, we have relied on the ability of our dedicated team members to travel across different boroughs in New York City and facilitate the hands-on learning experiences that make Leave It Better so unique. The classroom has offered a space where students could practice the six basic shots of filmmaking while observing our educators; make DIY candles, bath bombs, and lip balms with their peers; and start their own compost bins and gardens.

As classrooms became inaccessible, we searched for new ways to continue working toward our vision of providing educational programs where children can co-create a more mindful, sustainable world. On April 20th, we launched LIB Online in an effort to respond to the unique situation that the pandemic presented. To develop the online curriculum we took the remaining activities in our Leave It Better Holistic Curriculum and adapted them to be suitable for students to complete at home. Guided by our weekly videos, students practiced the 6 basic shots, created natural dyes, tested out propagation, learned about NYC's recycling system, made memes about the pandemic, and participated in a series of challenges called quarantine olympics.

As we approached June, we wrestled with the decision to move forward with our ReGen Youth Film Festival and ultimately, chose to host it virtually for the first time ever. In many ways, this is not the year that we expected and yet, we are still filled with gratitude as we recognize how fortunate we are to have been able to continue interacting with our students during such a challenging period.

This inaugural annual report offers an overview of LIBF and highlights from the 2019-2020 school year.

ABOUT LIBF

Mission Statement

We provide educational programs where children co-create a more mindful sustainable world.

Vision

- We leave ourselves better
- We leave each other better
- We leave our schools better
- We leave our communities better
- We leave the world better



The Holistic Curriculum

In Fall 2019, we began the Leave It Better (LIB) Program at MS 331, P94 M, and Dos Puentes. LIB's Holistic Curriculum is designed to support students through a year-long journey of learning to care for themselves, each other, their schools, their communities, and the world.

Highlights from this program with our students from MS 331 and P94 are presented on the following pages.



LIB Online

When in-person classes were discontinued in March, we began to envision alternative ways to reach our students and continue to offer the remaining classes in our program.

Through LIB online we were able to maintain contact with our teachers and students, and deliver weekly content, including guided meditations, animated educational videos, and positive news highlights.



Virtual ReGen Film Festival

This year, we hosted our first ever virtual ReGeneration Film Festival. Before the screening, we held sessions for each of our schools to recap the year.

The documentary, which was filmed entirely by students in the Leave It Better Program at MS 331, P94, and Dos Puentes, can be viewed [here](#).

**DIRECTED BY THE
STUDENTS OF:**

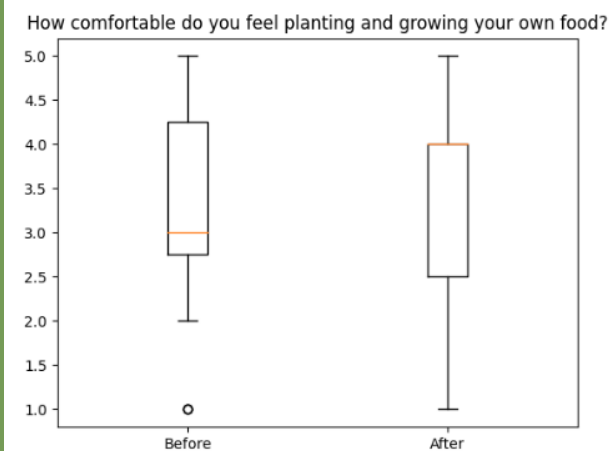
**MS.331
P.94 M
Dos Puentes Elementary**

**PRODUCED BY THEIR
AMAZING TEACHERS &
LEADERS:**

MS 331



LIB students at MS 331 gave themselves higher ratings for intuition after six months of our programming. Not only did the median rating—represented by the red line—increase, but the lower quartile also shifted. This means that in September, 75 percent of ratings were above 5, whereas in March, 75 percent of ratings were above 6.



With regard to planting and growing food, LIB students at MS 331 also reported positive changes after six months of programming. The median score from the March survey is notable higher than the median score from the September survey.

MS 331

What made your favorite Leave It Better unit your favorite?

"The aromatherapy was very great because it helped me relax and focus on one thing Instead of doing everything at once and start getting anxious."

"Making parfaits was my favorite because I got to eat it. I liked how we got to contribute in the process of making it. We also helped each other make parfaits."

"We get to help the world."

"My favorite leave it better unit is when we investigated about the water."

"You get to try new things that you haven't really tried before."

"I love FOOD and L I B uses fresh and organic foods which makes it even better."



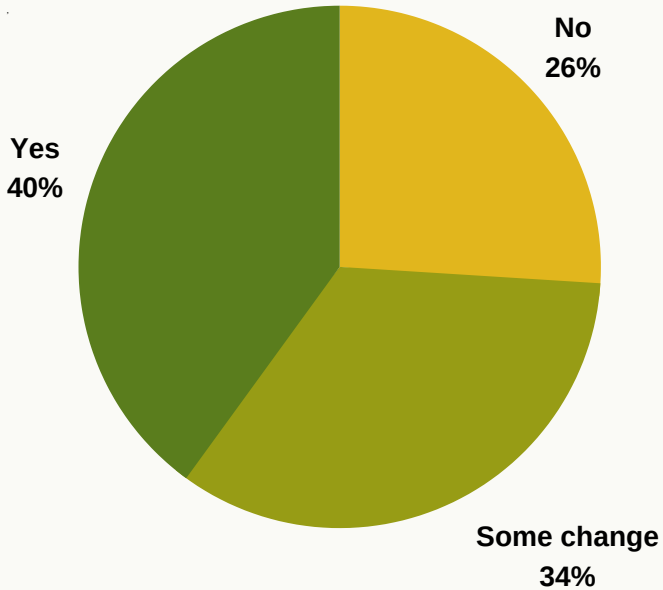
"My favorite was making candles because i really love craft making and its a really cool experiment i learned to also do at home."

"It was a very fun experience, and a lot of group work that I did with my classmates that I never talked to."

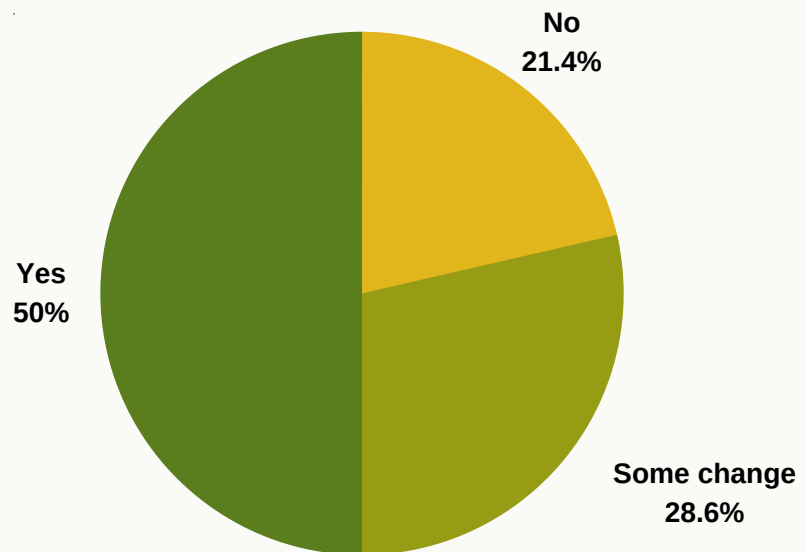
"I like doing stuff rather than writing all day because writing can be very boring when you do it every day for hours."



I feel like I individually can make a difference in protecting our environment or community...

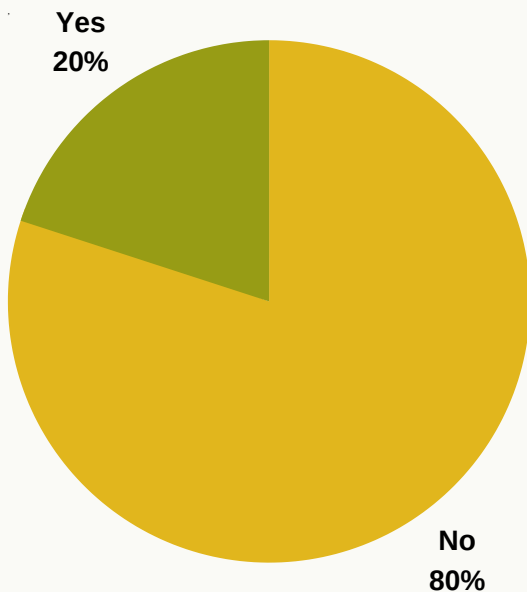


Pre-Program Survey

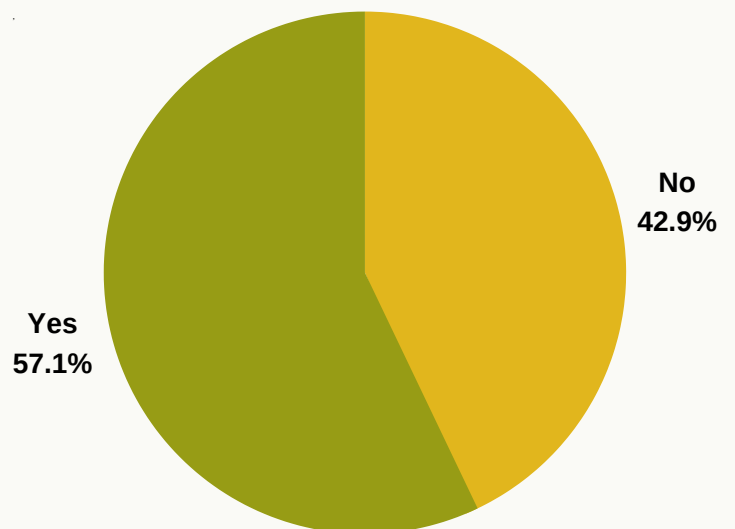


Midpoint Survey

Do you ever try mindfulness or meditation to calm down, relax, or fall asleep?



Pre-Program Survey



Midpoint Survey

INCOME STATEMENT

Q1

Private Donations	\$11,800.00
Schools	\$3,850.00
Government/Corporate Grants	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$919.93
<hr/> Total Income <hr/>	<hr/> \$16,569.33 <hr/>

Q2

Private Donations	\$5,000.00
Schools	\$0.00
Government/Corporate Grants	\$4,775.00
Miscellaneous	\$223.27
<hr/> Total Income <hr/>	<hr/> \$9,998.27 <hr/>

Q3

Private Donations	\$0.00
Schools	\$21,800.00
Government/Corporate Grants	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$100,405.60
<hr/> Total Income <hr/>	<hr/> \$122,205.69 <hr/>

Q1

Private Donations	\$0.00
Schools	\$0.00
Government/Corporate Grants	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$8.16
<hr/> Total Income <hr/>	<hr/> \$8.16 <hr/>

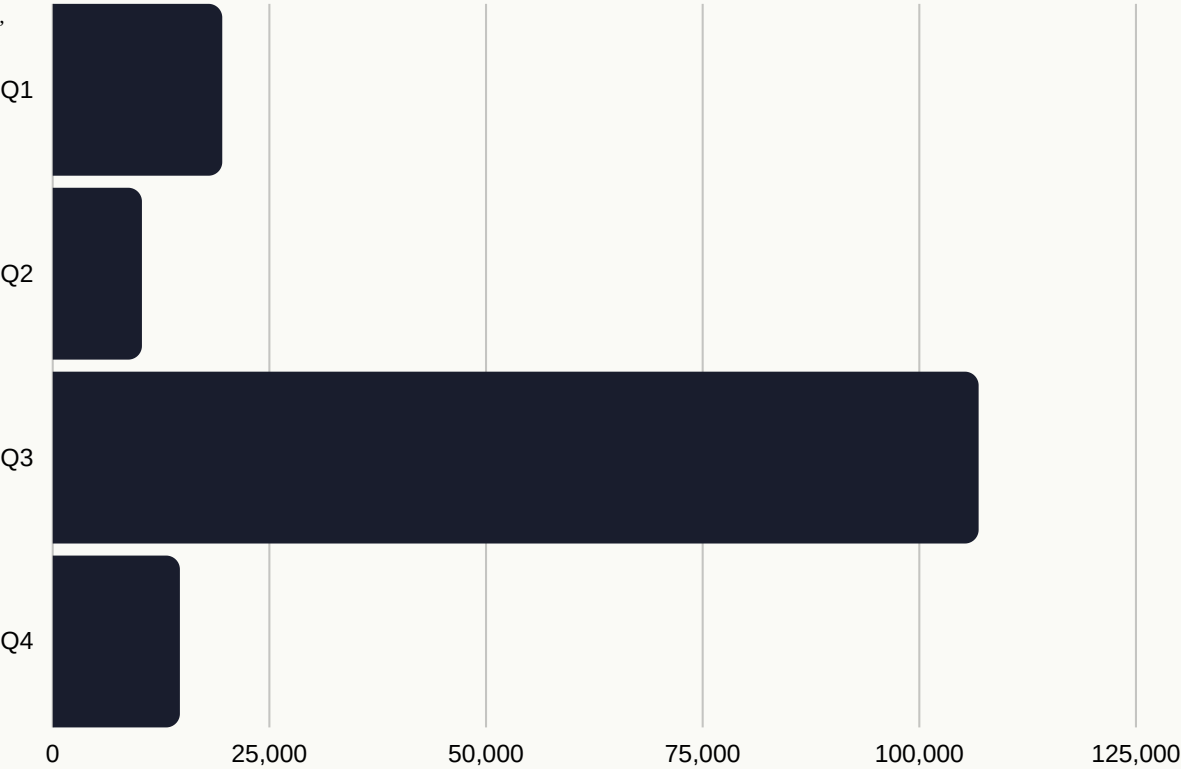
<hr/> Total Annual Income <hr/>	<hr/> \$148,781.45 <hr/>
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EXPENSES

Annual Expenses

Contractors	\$144,270.79
Research	\$55.92
Transportation	\$326.61
Working Meals	\$133.32
Office Expenses	\$6.29
Licenses & Fees	\$961.11
Rent	\$97.5
Web Hosting	\$794.57
Equipment	\$4,241.67
Total Expenses	\$150,887.78

Quarterly Expenses





LEAVE IT BETTER FOUNDATION

www.leaveitbetter.org

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CO-CREATE A MORE MINDFUL SUSTAINABLE WORLD.**