

IMAGINE if everyone
had a seat at the table!

2018 Annual Report



From the Board Chairs....

As the co-chairs of the Marnita's Table Board of Directors, we are so enthused to be a part of an organization that is so transformational to individuals, systems and institutions as well as a major disruptor in the field of increasing equity and decreasing disparities across difference. We are more than satisfied with the return on investment from our contributions and support of the Table. We are overjoyed with what Marnita's Table has achieved in 2018. Speaking for the whole board we are so proud of all the effort, passion, thoughtfulness, and intentionality the entirety of the Marnita's Table team has shown in bridging gaps across difference, increasing their visibility, finding new clients and contributors and pursuing their mission of making Intentional Social Interaction (IZI) the new model for effective communication across difference worldwide. We hope this annual report exhibits the power of the IZI model and the need for Marnita's Table worldwide. If anything in this report inspires you please share it with your networks, colleagues, and family. And, of course, get excited for the bigger and better things coming from Marnita's Table in 2019 and beyond!

Enthusiastically,

Elizabeth Sarquis & Perran G. Wetzel V



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Josine Peters
Community Advocate & Déclarer

*not pictured



HUMANS GODS MONSTERS

Our 11th Annual
Start the Conversation Fundraiser!

Saturday, November 9

Westminster Presbyterian Church
1200 Marquette Ave, Minneapolis

More than **53,000+** people
have now experienced IZI

99% of all people who attend one
three-hour IZI say they **want to
be invited back**

98% say they **want to invite someone
to attend** who's never attended
before

100% of people say it's **VERY
IMPORTANT to feel as though
you belong** in your own
community

98% say they **felt as though they
belonged** at an IZI

We've now **trained over 2,800+** people
throughout the state to host IZI in their own
communities on topics that matter to them

18 rural Minnesota communities want to
host IZIs but lack the resources

Every week, on average, we receive
**over 30 requests from individuals
and organizations** who want to do
IZIs of their own!



SUCCESSFUL CONNECTIONS, COLLABORATIONS, AND CONVERSATIONS

In the Media

Find these and other stories at marnitastable.org/blog

Marnita and The Table substantially heightened its profile and made numerous appearances in the media this year. Marnita was interviewed on the popular *Paul and Jordanna Show* on WCCO. She and Lauren also appeared on KFAI radio's *Health Notes*. The Table was featured in at least three *Star Tribune* stories, one covering the success of our Building Bridges Breaking Bread event. Excitingly, Marnita gave her first TedTalk at *TedX Mahtomedi*. She was also featured as the cover story for the Food issue of *Minnesota Women's Press*. In 2018 we launched our playful podcast *From A-10*. Expect more episodes and blog posts in the coming year!



IZI Training

In 2018 Marnita's Table added a new level to our model: "Intentional Social Interaction for Individuals." Training for this new level included a "paint by numbers" course and online curriculum complete with 7 diverse topics recommended by community members.

We trained 129 dinner party hosts to facilitate conversations in their own communities across the Greater Twin Cities in partnership with the Itasca Project. Thanks to funding from the Bush Foundation, the GenConnect project bridged diverse community members across generations who may have never met before but share similar interests in order to inspire collaboration and authentic connection across difference.

Tanya Paley and Kim Schaufenbuel of the United Way of Steele County in Owatonna, MN became the newest Master Trainers in the IZI model. Congratulations to them on completing their first independent IZI and co-facilitating their first IZI community youth training.

Updates from our IZI Master Trainers and hosts:

- 1,840 guests attended IZIs in Suburban Ramsey County and 170 youth took part in hosting, planning or leading an IZI with the support of IZI Master Trainers, Mary Sue Hansen and Peggy Huot-Hansen.
- Trained IZI facilitators, including Niall Murton of the YMCA, in partnership with the Burnsville YMCA, Know Your Neighbor, and other community organizations brought hundreds of people together across difference through facilitated community conversations in Dakota County. Through their work, a United Methodist Church and the Burnsville Mosque came together to talk about each other's religions and traditions in order to learn more about one another's communities.
- Lori Anderson, through her community organization Transformative Circles brought together 200 people in her Coon Rapids community by hosting 9 IZIs.

38th Street Bridge

On August 16th, Marnita's Table partnered with Councilwoman Andrea Jenkins, the Minnesota Department of Transportation and a number of other community organizations to bring over 400 people together across difference for a feast on the recently renovated 38th Street Bridge over the I-35W. A rousing success, the Table is planning to use it as a model for more events across Minnesota as well as for pop-up tables nationwide.

Mitchell Hamline College of Law

Focused on moving diversity and inclusion from theory to practice and igniting a culture shift, we collaborated with the Diversity Working Group and held a series of engaging lunch conversations focused on building relationships and creating community.

Collaboration in the Greater Metro

We completed a three IZI series on Education, Housing, and Workforce Development with the Live, Learn, Earn Initiative of Scott County.

Carver County Public Health, under the direction of Dr. Richard Scott, brought us in to support community outreach for their Community Health Assessment process.

Best Buy Diversity and Inclusion Team

We were excited to partner with the Diversity & Inclusion Team at Best Buy on two fun team-building cooking exercises and two community building IZI meals.

Catalyst Initiative

We are honored to continue to be the Catalyst Initiative's convener of choice as they move to their new home at The Minneapolis Foundation.

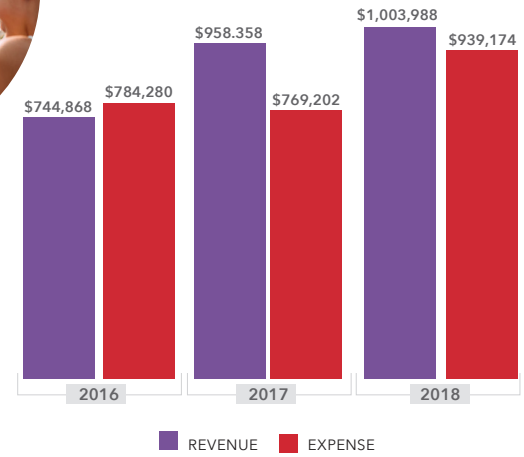
Annual Fundraiser: Greed Justice Generosity

Event Co-Chairs Sam Goldstein and Perran Wentzel successfully led a team to deliver the most financially successful Start the Conversation fundraiser in our history! We also began to build the resources and connections necessary to deliver Rapid Response pop-up IZIs from coast to coast.

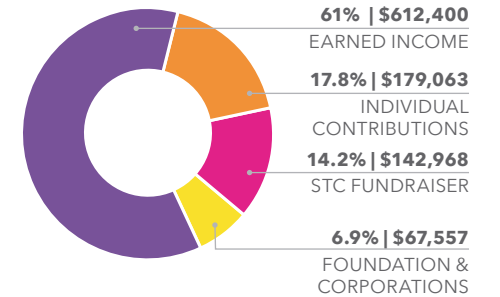
We've exceeded the goals of our clients **100%** of the time

SETTING THE TABLE FOR RESPONSIBLE GROWTH

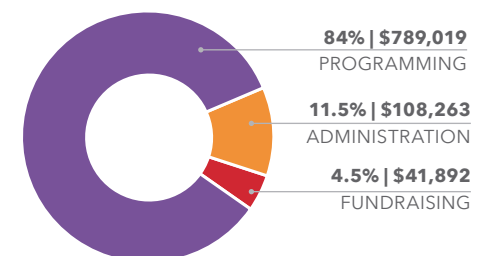
REVENUE & EXPENSE YEAR OVER YEAR 2016-2018



REVENUE | \$1,003,988



EXPENSES | \$939,174



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 Teresa & Karl Tourville
 Mathew & Jennifer Watson
 Steve Wells & Jane Scallen
 Mat & Jen Watson

Perran Wentzel & Emily Griffin
 Wentzel
 Joe & Des Whitney

 Thank you to Hubert Joly, CEO of Best Buy and George Family Foundation for supporting us in making our vision to become a reality.

MTI Team

Marnita Schroedl
Founder and CEO

Sammie Ardito Rivera
Operations & Projects Director

Elexis Trinity William Grey
Director of Research & Projects

Lauren Williams
*Training Manager
Executive Administrator*

Blanca Martinez Gaviña
Project Manager & Development Lead

Lars Goldstein
Project & Curriculum Manager

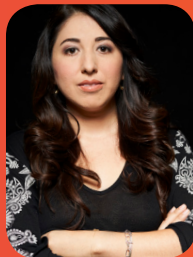
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Introducing Blanca!

We are honored to have Blanca Martinez Gaviña join the team on a full-time basis. Blanca first came to the Table in 2014 as an aide for Senator Patricia Torres Ray. Fast forward to the fall of 2017 when she was recommended to us as a community outreach consultant. We were able to bring her on full-time in December 2018 to continue providing her community engagement expertise while also expanding her role to support our development work as our Outreach Specialist and Development Lead.