



Sangha News 7/28/22

Sangha Leadership Gathering

On September 10 the Board is planning an outdoor in-person gathering of the leadership of our community, focused on sangha building and planning. So far this gathering includes past and present Board members, teachers, members of various IWM committees, Community Dharma Stewards who lead group practice sessions, facilitators, and others. If you support the Sangha by volunteering in one of those categories and didn't receive the doodle poll, or if you would like to step up to volunteer in a leadership role and are interested in attending, please contact the Board at leadership@insightwma.org and we will send you information.

The Board is holding a heartfelt intention to raise up and support the cultivation of a Beloved Community at IWM. This will lift up practices that center our values of inclusivity and radical welcoming, highlighting the ways we already connect in spiritual friendship and exploring new opportunities to find refuge in community. After all the difficulties of the past two years and amid ongoing crises of various kinds in the world we live in, we look forward to bringing IWM's stewards together in this intentional way. We will share more with the whole community following the event.

Mid-Year Financial Update

As of June 30, 2022, Insight Western Mass has received \$24,480 in contributions; we are grateful for this support. IWM has spent \$30,890 which leaves us with a year-to-date operating deficit of \$6,410.

Last year at this time, we had a June 30, 2021, operating deficit of \$8,330 (income of \$27,057 and expenses of \$35,387).

Two reasons our year-to-date deficit isn't higher include:

- we have volunteers who are providing some of the services which we have paid for in the past - so our personnel costs are significantly less through June 30th. As volunteers reduce their service to more sustainable levels, IWM personnel costs will rise.
- we have an increase in the amount of dana the center receives from "Friends and recurring contributors" who are set up to (mostly) automatically give on a monthly basis.

Opportunity for generosity

We are grateful for all the ways that members of our sangha give of their time, talents, and financial resources. We welcome any and all contributions that will help us out of our mid-year operating deficit. If you're inspired to give - we'd be delighted to grow our numbers of Friends/recurring contributors and always welcome one-time donations anytime - please [click here](#) to choose the amount you'd like to contribute as well as the frequency. Thank you for practicing generosity in this way.

YTD Overview of Income and Expenses: A Comparison	This Year	Last Year
	2022	2021
	June 30th	June 30th
Registration/Donations connected to Offerings/Programs	\$10,978	\$13,841
Friends/Recurring Donations	\$12,415	\$10,705
One-Time Donations	<u>\$1,087</u>	<u>\$2,511</u>
INCOME	\$24,480	\$27,057
Staff, Taxes, Consultants, Mentoring, Teacher Supplements	(\$19,342)	(\$26,394)
Rent, phones, internet, systems, insurance, all other	<u>(\$11,548)</u>	<u>(\$8,993)</u>
EXPENSES	(\$30,890)	(\$35,387)
Second Quarter YTD Operating Balance (Deficit)	(\$6,410)	(\$8,330)

Circle of Care

For sometime now, members of our sangha have been working with others locally in support of a recently resettled family from Afghanistan. If you used to be more active and are ready to start up again, or if you would like to be a part of providing ongoing support to the family, please email general@insightwma.org and someone will be in touch about our Circle of Care and the variety of ways you can help.

Seeking Summer/Fall Zoom Hosts and In-Person Greeters

We have a couple of openings for hosting and greeting in August. Each month a list of volunteer hosting opportunities is sent out, and if you're on the list of recipients, you simply sign up to host (in-person or via Zoom) as your schedule permits. Sangha member Cathy Repetti is taking a turn at coordinating Zoom and in-person hosts/greeters. To learn more or to volunteer, please email volunteer@insightwma.org.

In-Person/Hybrid Update

IWM has found a way to keep our virtual doors open throughout the pandemic. And, now we're finding creative ways to offer hybrids when we can, as well as Zoom-only and in-person only offerings. Our COVID protocols require proof of vaccination and N95/KN95 masks. At this time, our in-person Dharma talks are our only hybrid offerings; courses/retreats are either in-person only or Zoom only. Check out our [website offering page](#) to learn more.

Downloadable Flyers

Below are downloadable flyers in case you want to print one out and put it on your fridge or share them with a friend or post them on a public bulletin board:

- August Offerings: [click here](#)
- Fall Courses:
- [WiseKind Speech in a World of Conflict](#) with Manny Mansbach
- [Discovering Dharma Ease](#) with Michael Grady

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Feedback and Reflections

If any member of the sangha would like to share Dharma reflections in a future newsletter, or has comments, questions, or ideas you'd like to share with the Board, please contact us:

leadership@insightwma.org.

With much care and metta,
trellis, Lucy, Hal, Lauren, Holly, and Bernadine