

Annual Report 2018



Dharma Rain
Zen Center

Mission and Vision

Dharma Rain's mission is to transmit the teachings and practice of Soto Zen Buddhism, by cultivating compassion, love and wisdom.

We are a Soto Zen sangha sharing the practices of zazen meditation, mindfulness, reflection and ethical living. We seek to relieve suffering by the skillful use of Buddhist teachings and the generous acceptance of all beings. We honor the ancestors and traditions of the past while we adapt to the needs of current practitioners and future generations. Our shared intention is to cultivate authenticity and integrity in our own lives and the larger community in which we live. Our hope is to engage in wise and compassionate activity for the benefit of all beings.

Dharmic Accomplishments

- 14 people took the Precepts at Dharma Rain in February, and another 19 took the Precepts in our various prison sanghas.
- Jyoshin, received Denbo transmission from Kakumyo. Denbo confers the ability to ordain monks and perform ceremonies that require a hossu (whisk).
- Jiko gave Denkai transmission which gives teaching authority to her senior student Kyri Kengan Treiman



Organizational Accomplishments



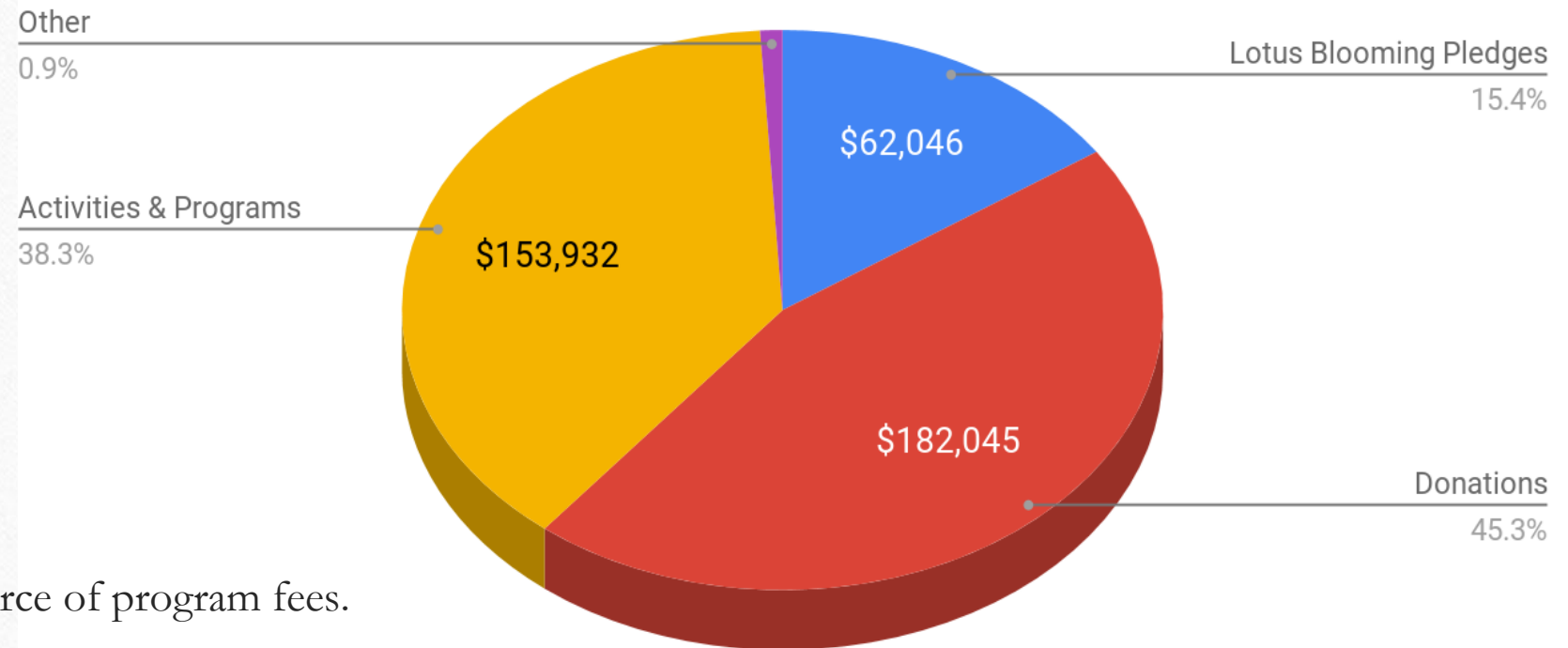
- The Board is in the process of reviewing and updating the Strategic Plan. We accomplished the vast majority of goals in the 2010 version early. The updated plan will have several new sections. Sangha feedback has been sought and a new version will be released soon.
- Dharma Rain has been conducting a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) assessment. We have received input from 200 members, Dharma Garden families, and prison sangha participants. Over 125 Zen teachers and sanghas were surveyed and 250 pages of temple documents reviewed. The DEI report has been delivered to the Board and Dharma Council and shared with the Sangha

Capital Accomplishments



After 6 years of development, all buildings are operational and all our programs have an adequate place to function. Both dormitories are now fully functional and certified for occupancy. The final inspection took place on August 1. There are five toilets, five showers, one large classroom space, three flex spaces, and six bedrooms. The library, office and preschool were also all expanded.

Sources of Operating Income



Frog Song is the largest source of program fees.

Monthly membership pledges is the largest source of donations.

Our goal is to keep activity and program fees low and to continue to provide some programs at no cost.

Lotus Blooming, our capital campaign, is now in its fifth and final year. Similarly, grant income has shrunk to zero this year.

Dharma School Update

A new practice this year is inviting Dharma School children into the Zendo at the end of the Dharma Talk on Sunday morning. They take off their shoes, putting them straight on engawa before entering, then bow and find a place in the zendo. We chant the Three Refuges in Pali, then all are invited to stay for lunch. We've heard from Dharma School Parents that they appreciate the additional layer of inclusion in the larger sangha.





Frog Song Montessori Preschool



Frog Song is based on our core values of mindfulness, respect, loving kindness and the interconnection of all life.

Frog Song continues to grow and improve, enriching the community and supporting the temple:

- Certified by the State of Oregon, allowing us to offer a full day of care instead of 4 hours and include more children.
- Full enrollment for Fall of 2018, with a lengthy waiting list.
- A new teacher was hired for the afternoon program during the 2018-2019 school year.

Community Collaborations



We continued collaborations with a number of community partners, including the Blueprint Foundation, who used temple projects to teach job and leadership skills to at-risk youth; several schools and ECO cultivating ecological awareness; and in the photos above left, Peace in Schools and Madison High School's Mindful Studies class during their 4 hour meditation retreat at the temple.



A new collaboration this year saw a happy group of immigrants from Ethiopia and Eritrea come to work in the community gardens next to the barn every Saturday morning. This is a partnership with the Oregon Food Bank's Seed to Supper program and the Ethiopian and Eritrean Cultural Resource Center. A new group of immigrants will continue this work in the spring.