



WEST CONTRA COSTA PUBLIC EDUCATION FUND



20-21 Annual Report
RESPOND RECOVER REINVENT

MISSION

When communities work together to eliminate inequities, our youth will thrive. The West Contra Costa Public Education Fund mobilizes resources for our students and aligns the efforts of our partners to ensure that all students succeed in college, career, and life.

VISION

All children and youth in West Contra Costa County achieve their highest aspirations and help build healthy, safe, and vibrant communities for generations to come.

EQUITY STATEMENT

In order to reverse the historic and ongoing societal failure in our schools, we will center Black students and families to support them in achieving their fullest potential. We believe by centering the most marginalized students, all students will thrive.

VALUES

Love

We see the brilliance and potential of all WCCUSD Students.

Public Education

We believe that quality, equitable public education is a human right.

Justice

We work to correct the historic and ongoing divestment in Black students.

Partnership

It takes strong and deep collaboration across the region to make sure all students have what they need to thrive.

Community

Everything we do is in service to this place we call home!

LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Throughout the crisis of the COVID pandemic, we have been inspired by how our community has come together to support our students and educators in ways that we could not have foreseen. The Ed Fund was there to support the District in responding to what was needed for a successful year of distance learning; supporting teachers, students and families through a year of uncertainty.

As the lead fund development partner for the West Contra Costa School District, we've cultivated many partnerships that supported the WCCUSD Covid-19 Fund, raising nearly \$700,000 for responding to the COVID-19 crisis. We've worked with local partners to launch a city-wide initiative, the Richmond Rapid Response Fund (R3F), and raised over \$1.4 million to provide rental assistance to 68 households and financial disbursements to 766 families.

At the Ed Fund, we've been reflecting on how we can most effectively help WCCUSD create educational pathways that are equitable and student-centered; that uplift and unlock all the brilliance of each and every student in a world of limited resources. What we've landed on is Black excellence. That is, when Black excellence in WCCUSD is commonplace, our schools will be excellent too. So far, this has taken the form of directing funding to the Kennedy Family of Schools, supporting literacy and STEM programming district-wide, and partnering with the Office of African American Student Achievement. We look forward to continuing to refine our programming and work with our partners to achieve Black excellence in every school.

This annual report provides a glimpse into the 2020-2021 fiscal year. We hope to have captured all of the support of foundations and individual donors who stood with teachers and students throughout this year. We invite you to join us in reflecting on last year and considering what the best way forward could be in 2021-22 and beyond.

Please visit our website at www.edfundwest.org for more opportunities to be involved. We hope this report inspires you to start or continue your support of the West Contra Costa Public Education Fund.

In Community,



Jasmine Jones
Jasmine Jones
Executive Director



Karl Debro
Karl Debro
Board President

WCCUSD AT A GLANCE

The West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) is an economically and ethnically diverse district and it is essential to know more about the population we serve:

56
SCHOOLS

- ▶ 33 Elementary schools
- ▶ 5 K-8 schools
- ▶ 6 Middle schools
- ▶ 7 High schools
- ▶ 5 Alternative schools



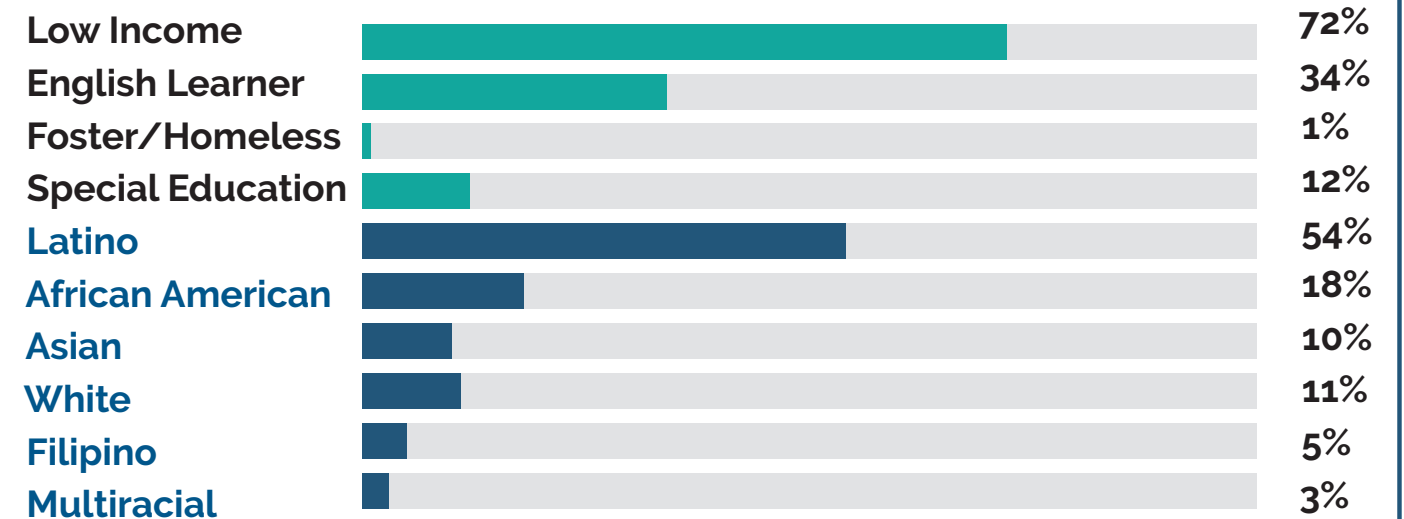
5
CITIES

- ▶ El Cerrito
- ▶ Hercules
- ▶ Pinole
- ▶ Richmond
- ▶ San Pablo

3,200
FULL & PART-TIME
EMPLOYEES

WCCUSD provides the highest quality education to enable all students to make positive life choices, strengthen our community, and successfully participate in a diverse and global society.

29,000
STUDENTS



UPLIFTING THE NEXT GENERATION

At the core of our work are the students and educators of WCCUSD. During this year of distance learning, we are proud to continue our tradition of honoring educators through our annual Teaching Excellence Awards and offering students scholarships to reach their higher educational goals.

2021 TEACHING EXCELLENCE WINNERS



Left to Right:

Molly Wahl, Madera Elementary School, 6th Grade

Christina Ferry, DeJean Lovonya Middle School, 7-8th Grade

Laura Garriguez, Richmond High School, 9-12th Grade

Carlo Jerome Juntilla, Richmond High School, 11-12th Grade

[View our first virtual Soaring to Excellence Event!](#)

2021 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



“

Something I'm extremely passionate about is making positive change in my community through opportunities that involve youth. As a first generation college student, I am eager to pursue higher education in the fall of 2021.

-Lizbeth Zaragoza, Richmond High School



”

183
TEACHERS RECOGNIZED
SINCE 1988

+\$1.6 M
AWARDED TO WCCUSD
GRADUATING SENIORS
SINCE 2007

Every year, we are able to offer scholarships with the support of individual donors. This year, the Freggiaro Family Fund bequest was set up and will be used to provide scholarships to graduating low income Richmond High seniors. We continue to offer El Cerrito High School students with scholarships through the Schroeder Family Foundation.

After a highlight by [NBC Nightly News](#), we received an outpouring of support across the nation for students of El Cerrito and were able to offer scholarships through individual donors who directed their support for graduating seniors.

To learn more about how you can support our scholarship funds, visit our website.

“

This award makes me reflect on the potential of collaboration and solidarity among the Richmond High School Community. I am who I am as an educator because of the many relationships cultivated throughout my years at Richmond High School. I am honored to be part of an incredible group of educators and staff workers who return year after year, tirelessly working to provide our students with love and academic support in the face of so many hardships.

-Laura Garriguez, 2021 Teaching Excellence Recipient

”

RESPONDING IN COMMUNITY

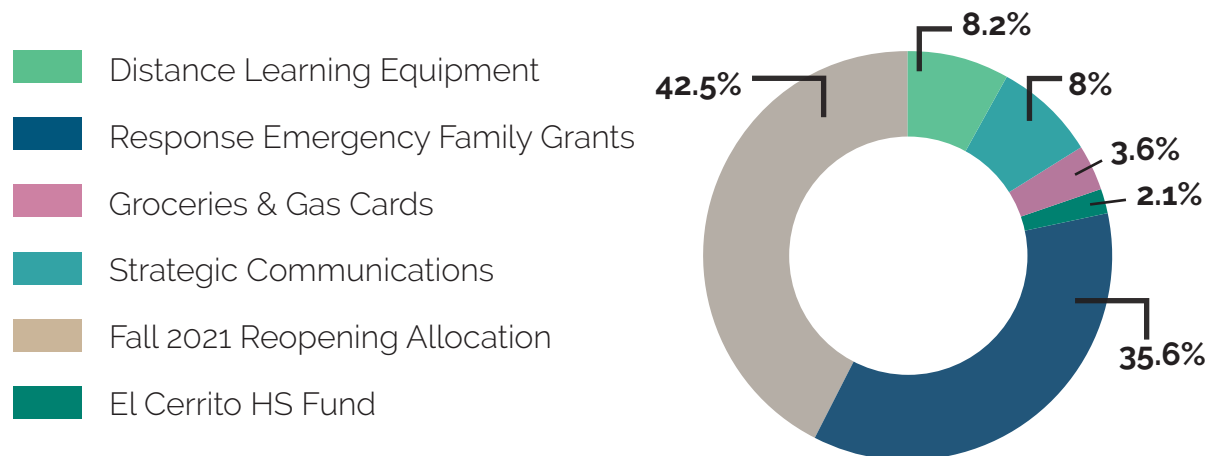
While not a traditional community foundation, the Ed Fund's fund development successes for the district made the Ed Fund a logical entity for WCCUSD to partner with in establishing their Rapid Relief Fund to address the impacts of COVID-19 on the community. The city has also partnered with the Ed Fund for establishing the Richmond Rapid Response Fund. As we look ahead, we believe this provides the Ed Fund with a unique opportunity to leverage our position in the community and with the district to bring additional support and drive critical change for our students and families.

WCCUSD COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND

Throughout the COVID-19 crisis we solidified our position as an integral intermediary organization for West Contra Costa. Our role as strategic fund development partner for WCCUSD strengthened over the year and the Ed Fund emerged as a holder of funds for strategic initiatives that addressed the distance learning needs of both teachers and students. Moving forward, we will shift efforts to focus on meeting the needs of students as they return to in-person instruction.



Nearly \$700,000* raised for the WCCUSD COVID-19 Fund



*Total amount since start of COVID-19 Fund, March 2020

RICHMOND RAPID RESPONSE FUND (R3F)

Led by community and government leaders from the Community Cares Coalition, including the RYSE Center and Richmond Promise, and the City of Richmond, the R3F was born from a community-centered process that began the first week of the region-wide shelter in place. The fund, now entering its second year, is becoming a regional and national model for community led initiatives responding to the pandemic and wider community needs. In Phase 1, the fund has provided 68 households with rent relief and 766 families with emergency \$500 grants.

“Everything went very, very smoothly, and I received a lot of guidance which made the whole process easy. The people I spoke to also shared a lot of other resources with me, so I've been doing well since then. My rent is very high so the generous amount I received was really helpful.”
-Rent Relief Recipient

+\$1.4 Million raised for the Richmond community



The Three Phases of the R3F:

- Phase 1:** Direct financial disbursement and providing immediate rent assistance to residents
- Phase 2:** Expand financial assistance and support for individuals, households, and community-based organizations
- Phase 3:** Facilitate community needs assessment and ongoing infrastructure support



Impact to date:

\$269,517

IN RENT RELIEF

\$383,000

IN FINANCIAL RELIEF

Visit www.richmondresponsefund.org for more information.

EMPOWERING EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

We could not do the work we do in the district without the partnerships we have built with foundations across the Bay Area. These relationships are essential to bringing in the best programming to West Contra Costa.

PARTNERS IN SCHOOL INNOVATION



The partnership with Partners in School Innovation has provided network facilitation support for regularly scheduled convenings in the seven schools of the Kennedy Family. School leaders and teachers have been focused on two strands of work: equity and instruction. As part of this, Professional Development opportunities have been developed that the schools are committed to implementing. An explicit component is now focused on supporting African American and English learners.

YOUTH ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY



A \$200,000 grant from San Francisco Foundation was secured for the Youth Access to Opportunity programming at Kennedy High School. This program supports youth to be on a path towards economic well-being by advancing educational equity in their school. During the shelter-in place and distance learning, partners shifted to online programming, such as classes in restorative justice support for newcomers and peer coaching for math and science teachers to navigate online teaching.

LEARNER CENTERED DESIGN GRANTS



As we further explore and seek opportunities to re-center classrooms from teacher to student-led spaces, the District and the Ed Fund have been fortunate to have been awarded a grant from the Hewlett Foundation for this work. The Learner Centered Design and Implementation Grant allows school sites to fund their "learner centered school design" programs with a focus on equity and deeper learning. Through an extensive process, we funded projects at school sites throughout the district.

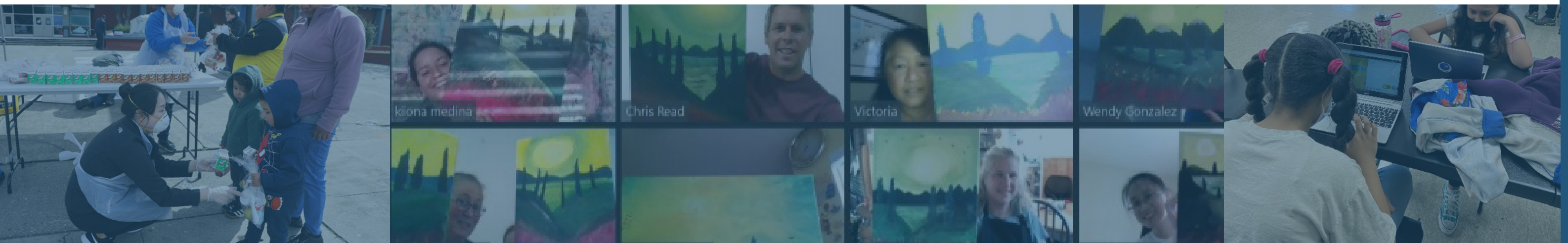
\$356,227 awarded to 18 schools

Programming that was funded includes:

- ▶ Embed a student centered blended learning pedagogy
- ▶ Deepen student centered curriculum design through after school enrichment activities.
- ▶ Embed student discourse as a school-wide pedagogy
- ▶ Develop site based Professional Learning Communities to develop and scale [Deeper Learning](#)
- ▶ Peacemakers to facilitate student and family engagement
- ▶ Develop workshop model by expanding leveled reading libraries.
- ▶ Expand and deepen the lesson study approach
- ▶ Support inquiry based learning

“*The partnership with Seneca allow us ample opportunities and resources to support not only students, but also our adults-teachers, paras, office staff, and parents. Having a full-time person who monitors all student data and behavior supports is a gift to the community.*”

-Nazy Heydari, Grant Elementary School Principal



EMPOWERING STUDENTS

As students transition to in-person instruction, we continue to be in conversation with the community and families to provide the resources for the best start in the Fall.

STEM

This past year, teachers shifted to online learning and this meant finding the best instructional materials for students to learn from home. In partnership with the district, we acquired licenses for the math learning program ZEARN for 7 School sites. This platform has proved to be such a success that more classrooms are adopting it to support their math curriculum this school year!



LITERACY

Thanks to a \$250,000 grant from the Hellman Foundation and a partnership with the district, Ford, Chavez, Grant, Highland, Verde, and Dover will be equipped with bilingual instructional assistants who will focus on early literacy and phonemic awareness. These assistants will provide literacy support in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade classes, to accelerate learning as we go back to in-person instruction.

SPONSORING COUNSELORS

An area we have focused on addressing during these times of distance learning and now as we return to in-person instruction is the Social Emotional Learning (SEL) needs of our students. By way of fiscal sponsorship, we've been able to sponsor 6 individuals who provide the necessary support for students at multiple school sites.



This past year, the Ed Fund sponsored the following individual counselors at the following school sites:

- ▶ Peter Best (Montalvin K-8)
- ▶ Kiona Medina (Downer Elementary School)
- ▶ Justin Johnson (Verde K-8)
- ▶ Brandon Long (Washington Elementary & Olinda Elementary School)
- ▶ Marisa Halperin (multiple school sites)
- ▶ Helen Hagos (Kennedy High School)



Through [fiscal sponsorship] I served families, students and staff through a systemic support model in a time of high stress and high social/emotional needs. I taught weekly wellness lessons to 19 classrooms, offered weekly support groups for parents, led professional development workshops for teachers and staff, led support groups for staff including paint nights and wellness groups, painted a community mural and contributed to the culture and climate of the school through a race and equity curriculum.



-Kiona Medina, Fiscally Sponsored Counselor



OUR PARTNERS:

HELLMAN
FOUNDATION

SFF San Francisco
Foundation

Irene J. Scully
FAMILY FOUNDATION

WILLIAM + FLORA
Hewlett Foundation



Building Capacity in our Schools

The Ed Fund is proud to provide 501(C)(3) fiscal sponsorship to a range of WCCUSD schools, departments, and education-focused projects-nearly 25 sponsorships to date. All projects are aligned with our values to eliminate inequities and mission to mobilize resources for our students and align efforts to ensure all students succeed in college, career, and life.

The Ed Fund sponsors projects that bring in resources to our district by focusing on key areas of growth:

- ▶ STEM programming enriching the experience of Black and Brown students
- ▶ College Access initiatives
- ▶ Literacy programming
- ▶ Equity in our schools focused on student emotional health



With the unknown becoming so common, it feels good to be able to provide caring and consistent support and love to our community, no matter the circumstances. Even when life is predictable we all need a strong foundation to stand on. Being able to help put that foundation together for our community sets them up for success when the unprecedented occurs. The past year proved that our efforts during the pandemic to ensure students felt loved and cared for didn't pass without impact.

-Peter Best, Montalvin Dean of Students

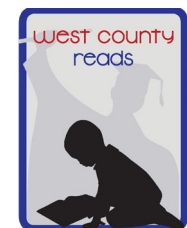
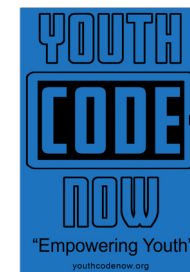


SPARC poetry helped me to have fun expressing myself and learn about spoken word.



-Bay Area Creative participant

A few of our Fiscal Projects:



BAY AREA
Creative



2020-2021 FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

REVENUE, GAINS & OTHER SUPPORT	ED FUND OPERATIONS	COVID-19 RESPONSE	R3F	FISCALLY SPONSORED PROJECTS	DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP
Family and grant-making foundations & organizations	\$300,504	\$230,500	\$848,667	\$897,305	\$724,000
Individuals & local businesses	\$102,190	\$106,365	\$85,455	\$60,768	\$32,500
Local government agencies	\$42,500	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$0
Special events (net)	\$4,047	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Investment income	\$468,750*	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Earned revenue	\$560,071	\$0	\$0	\$577,948	\$0
In-Kind Donations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,390	\$0
Total Revenue, gains, and other support	\$1,478,063	\$336,865	\$1,084,122	\$1,548,411	\$756,500
EXPENDITURES	ED FUND OPERATIONS	COVID-19 RESPONSE	R3F	FISCALLY SPONSORED PROJECTS	DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP
Programs	\$89,366	\$217,881	\$865,025	\$39,111	\$607,002
General Operations (includes all personnel expenses)	\$727,673	\$132,297	\$79,239	\$737,955	\$238,753
Fundraising	\$1,150	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$818,189	\$350,178	\$944,264	\$777,066	\$845,755
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR			CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	
\$4,460,228	\$6,249,733			\$1,789,504	

In 2002, the Ed Fund was gifted its first bequest and since then has received numerous bequests to support Ed Fund programming. These include:

- 2002**
Schroeder Family Foundation
Scholarships for El Cerrito High graduating seniors
- 2012**
Carrico Charitable Trust
Unrestricted, Ed Fund Operations
- 2013**
Brad Bradley Bequest
Art and music programs
- 2014**
Bernice Bell Bequest
Unrestricted, Scholarships
- 2020**
Jerold Strong Bequest
College access services at El Cerrito High
- 2021**
Freggiaro Estate Bequest
Scholarships for Richmond High graduating seniors

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

*Restricted Funds, not part of Ed Fund's operations

FY 2020-2021 SUPPORTERS

We are grateful to all of our supporters throughout this year. Thank you for continuing to invest in the students, teachers and families of WCCUSD!

Businesses, Foundations & Government Entities

•\$100,000

#Startsmall
City of Richmond
East Bay Community Foundation
Hellman Foundation
The San Francisco Foundation

\$99,999-\$50,000

Chevron Products Company
Irene S. Scully Fund
Marin Community Foundation
Tipping Point

\$49,999-\$25,000

Contra Costa Regional Health Foundation
Morris Stulsaft Foundation
Oakland Athletics Baseball Company
The California Endowment
Travis Credit Union

\$24,999-10,000

Alper Family Foundation
Lawrence Livermore National Security
Quest Foundation
Red Oak Opportunity Foundation
Reinvent Stockton Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation
Witkin Charitable Foundation
Yellow Chair Foundation
Zaitlin-Nienberg Family Fund

\$9,999-\$1,000

BNY Mellon Charitable Gift Fund
Chamberlin Family Foundation
East Brother Beer Company
Hispanic Foundation Of Silicon Valley
HKIT Architects
Schwab Charitable
Vestia, Inc.
WLC Architects, Inc.

\$999-\$1

Community Housing Development

Gilliland Family Charitable Fund
It's Essential LLC
Richmond Lodge #1251 BPO Elks
Ross Stores Foundation
Sentry Insurance Foundation Inc.
SF Bay Area Chapter NAPNAP
Skoll Foundation
Square Square One Consulting
The Blackbaud Giving Fund
The Shyness Institute

Individual Donations

•\$10,000

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Eddie and Amy Orton

\$9,999-5,000

Lisa Ellis
Andrew Gi
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\$4,999-2,500

Vernol Battiste
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\$2,499-1,000

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\$999-500

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