Spark Ventures

Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements June 30, 2023 and 2022

AUDIT REPORT



SPARK VENTURES

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of Spark Ventures

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Spark Ventures (a nonprofit organization, "The Organization"), which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2023, and 2022, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Spark Ventures as of June 30, 2023, and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the organization and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the organization's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements, including omissions, are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether
 due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks.
 Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and
 disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The organization's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Lopez & Co. CPAs Ltd

Chicago, IL November 7, 2023

SPARK VENTURES STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS:		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 462,861	\$ 534,036
Pledges Receivable	965	-
Prepaid Expenses	43,851	3,090
Total Assets	507,677	537,126
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS: Liabilities Accounts Payable Accrued Expenses	4,685 20,211	3,144 13,358
Deferred Income	 77,426	16500
Total Liabilities Net Assets	102,322	16,502
Without Donor Restrictions	344,443	458,313
With Donor Restrictions	 60,912	 62,311
Total Net Assets	405,355	 520,624
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 507,677	\$ 537,126

SPARK VENTURES STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Without Donor <u>Restrictions</u>			With Donor Restrictions	<u>Total</u>
PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE:					
Public Support					
Contributions	\$	566,639	\$	160,789	\$ 727,428
In-kind Contributions		44,589		-	44,589
Released from Restrictions		162,188		(162,188)	-
Total Public Support		773,416 (1,399)			 772,017
<u>Revenue</u>					
Program Service Revenue		101,979		-	101,979
Interest Income		1,364		-	1,364
Total Revenue		103,343		-	103,343
Total Public Support & Revenue		876,759		(1,399)	 875,360
EXPENSES:					
Program Services		788,024		-	788,024
Management and General		44,965		_	44,965
Fundraising		157,640		-	 157,640
Total Expenses		990,629		<u>-</u>	990,629
Change in Net Assets		(113,870)		(1,399)	(115,269)
TOTAL NET ASSETS:					
Net Assets - Beginning of Fiscal Year		458,313		62,311	 520,624
Net Assets - End of Fiscal Year	\$	344,443	\$	60,912	\$ 405,355

SPARK VENTURES STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	Without Donor <u>Restrictions</u>		With Donor Restrictions	<u>Total</u>	
PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE:					
Public Support					
Contributions	\$	566,475	\$ 160,789	\$ 727,264	
In-kind Contributions		102,239	-	102,239	
Released from Restrictions		162,188	(162,188)	-	
Total Public Support		830,902	 (1,399)	 829,503	
Revenue					
Program Service Revenue		111,822	-	111,822	
Interest Income		67	-	67	
Total Revenue		111,889	-	111,889	
Total Public Support & Revenue		942,791	(1,399)	 941,392	
EXPENSES:					
Program Services		739,158	-	739,158	
Management and General		42,765	-	42,765	
Fundraising		171,368	 	 171,368	
Total Expenses		953,291	 <u>-</u>	 953,291	
Change in Net Assets		(10,500)	(1,399)	(11,899)	
TOTAL NET ASSETS:					
Net Assets - Beginning of Fiscal Year		468,813	63,710	 532,523	
Net Assets - End of Fiscal Year	\$	458,313	\$ 62,311	\$ 520,624	

SPARK VENTURES STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Change in Net Assets	\$ (115,269)	\$ (11,899)
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to		
Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:		
(Increase) Decrease in Pledges Receivable	(965)	1,000
(Increase) Decrease in Prepaid Expenses	(40,761)	(3,090)
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable	1,541	(1,999)
Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Expenses	6,853	2,888
Increase (Decrease) in Deferred Income	77,426	(8,040)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	(71,175)	(21,140)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Investing Activities	-	-
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from Paycheck Protection Program Loan	 	 -
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Financing Activities	-	
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(71,175)	(21,140)
NONCASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Forgiveness from Paycheck Protection Program Loan	-	(22,927)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - Beginning of Fiscal Year	534,036	578,103
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - End of Fiscal Year	\$ 462,861	\$ 534,036
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION Cash Paid for Interest	\$ 	\$

SPARK VENTURES STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Management						
	Pı	rograms	and General		Fundraising		Total
Program Operations	\$	414,428	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 414,428
Salaries and Benefits		173,073		29,343		51,042	253,458
Outreach and Events		55,881		-		55,881	111,762
Professional Services		33,703		5,714		9,939	49,356
Event Expense		22,295		-		22,295	44,590
Travel		30,212		-		1,251	31,463
Employee Benefits		13,195		2,237		3,891	19,323
Bank Service Charge		11,640		1,974		3,433	17,047
Payroll Taxes		10,620		1,801		3,132	15,553
Marketing		6,530		1,107		1,926	9,563
Occupancy		6,281		1,065		1,852	9,198
Insurance		3,568		605		1,052	5,225
Supplies		2,314		392		682	3,388
Meals and Entertainment		2,021		343		596	2,960
Payroll Processing Fees		1,916		325		565	2,806
Staff Development		264		45		78	387
Equipment		83		14		25	122
Total Expenses	\$	788,024	\$	44,965	\$	157,640	\$ 990,629

SPARK VENTURES STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	р	rograms		nagement d General	Fu	ndraising	Total
		i ogi ums	-	u denerui		nui uisiiig	Total
Program Operations	\$	437,015	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 437,015
Salaries and Benefits		134,572		28,575		47,818	210,965
Outreach and Events		51,119		-		51,119	102,238
Event Expense		48,184		-		48,184	96,368
Professional Services		19,269		4,059		6,879	30,207
Bank Service Charge		9,280		1,955		3,313	14,548
Employee Benefits		8,308		1,756		2,961	13,025
Payroll Taxes		7,838		1,651		2,798	12,287
Marketing		6,197		1,305		2,212	9,714
Occupancy		5,526		1,164		1,973	8,663
Insurance		2,763		582		987	4,332
Supplies		2,323		489		829	3,641
Payroll Processing Fees		2,249		474		803	3,526
Travel		1,687		355		602	2,644
Meals and Entertainment		1,545		325		552	2,422
Equipment		926		-		211	1,137
Total Expenses	\$	739,158	\$	42,765	\$	171,368	\$ 953,291

SPARK VENTURES NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

(1) History and Nature of Organization

Spark Ventures ("the Organization") is a Chicago-based nonprofit that works with one domestic and three international partners who provide children in poverty with education, nutrition, and healthcare as well as jobs, capacity building and entrepreneurial opportunities for teens & adults. The Organization partners with grassroots organizations serving vulnerable communities in the United States and developing countries. The Organization strengthens and sustains these partners by providing human resources, strategic guidance and financial capital. The Organization and its partners collaborate to launch revenue-generating initiatives whose profits contribute to meaningful impact for individuals and their communities for generations to come.

Partner Programs

The Organization assists about 800 vulnerable children, teens and adults in Zambia, Nicaragua, Mexico and Chicago through programs that provide the children with education, food, shelter, health care and emotional support as well as vocational workshops, entrepreneurial opportunities and jobs for vulnerable teens and adults. The Organization also uses funds to enhance and expand the effectiveness of partner programs, develop and train personnel, and execute capital projects.

Education & Awareness

The Organization educates and raises awareness by communicating the needs and vision of partner organizations as well as sharing information regarding the conditions and realities within the partners' countries and communities.

Partnership Trips

The Organization provides domestic volunteer opportunities as well as international service learning and volunteer travel opportunities to visit and engage first-hand with its partner organizations. Additionally, a portion of the trip costs goes toward supporting the partner organization. Partnership trips were suspended for the year ended June 30, 2020, due to COVID restrictions & safety concerns. The trips resumed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Services to Supporters

The Organization utilizes funds to gather and disseminate information to Spark Ventures' supporters concerning the beneficiaries they support including personal profiles, photos and stories of transformation. This information helps to educate investors on the context of the beneficiaries and their communities.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation and Financial Statement Presentation

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles, generally accepted in the United States of America. The financial statements presentation follows the recommendation of the Financial Accounting Standards Board in its Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2016-14, *Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958)*. The Organization is required to report information regarding its financial position according to two classes of net assets:

SPARK VENTURES NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

<u>Net Assets with Donor Restrictions:</u> Net assets subject to donor imposed stipulation that may or will be met by performance obligations of the Organization. The Organization maintained \$60,912, and \$62,311 of net assets with donor restrictions as of June 30, 2023, and 2022, respectively.

Net Assets without Donor Restrictions: Net assets not subject to donor imposed restrictions.

Revenues are reported as increases in unrestricted net assets unless use of the related assets is limited by donor imposed restrictions. Expenses are reported as decreases in unrestricted net assets. Gains and losses on investments and other liabilities are reported as increases or decreases in unrestricted net assets unless their use is restricted by explicit donor stipulation or by law. Expirations of restrictions on net assets are reported as reclassifications between applicable classes of assets.

Revenue Recognition and Receivables

The Organization accounts for contributions in accordance with FASB ASC 958-606, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*. Contributions, including unconditional promises-to-give, are recognized as revenue in the period received. Conditional promises to give are not recognized as revenue until the conditions on which they depend are substantially met. Contributions of assets other than cash are recorded at their estimated fair value.

Receivables are stated at unpaid balances, less an allowance for doubtful accounts when applicable. The Organization provides for losses on receivables using the allowance method. The allowance is based on experience, third-party contracts, and other circumstances, which may affect the ability of agencies and others to meet their obligations. Receivables are considered impaired if full principal payments are not received in accordance with the contractual terms. It is the Organization's policy to charge off uncollectible receivables when management determines the receivable will not be collected. At June 30, 2023, and 2022, receivables are considered by management to be fully collectible within a year and accordingly, no allowance for doubtful accounts is determined to be necessary.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Organization considers all highly liquid investments with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Prepaid Expenses

Expenses incurred in the subsequent period, but paid for in the current period are properly classified as prepaid expenses.

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of providing the various programs and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of functional expenses. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated to specific program services based on direct benefit obtained. All remaining costs are considered general support to all programs and the Organization in general. Those supporting costs are allocated based on estimates of time and effort.

SPARK VENTURES NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

Liquidity and Availability of Financial Assets

The Organization's financial assets available within one year of the statement of financial position date for general expenditures are as follows:

Cash and Cash Equivalents

\$ 463,826

\$60,912 of the financial assets are subject to donor or other contractual restrictions, but the remaining financial assets are available for general expenditure. As a part of the Organization's liquidity management, it has a policy to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due. To help manage unanticipated liquidity needs, the Organization will seek external financing sources.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Property, Equipment and Depreciation

Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method over a period of 3 to 10 years based on the estimated useful lives of the assets. The Organization generally capitalizes items costing \$2,500 or more. As of June 30, 2022, all assets were fully depreciated. The Organization recorded no depreciation expense for the years ended June 30, 2023, and 2022.

Maintenance and repairs, which neither materially add to the value of the property nor appreciably prolong its life, are charged to expense as incurred. Gains or losses on dispositions of property and equipment are included in income.

Income Taxes

The Organization is recognized as exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is exempt from federal and state income taxes on related income. It qualifies for charitable contribution deductions under Section 170(b)(1)(A) and has been classified as an organization that is not a private foundation under Section 509(a)(2).

Uncertain Tax Position

The accounting standard on accounting for uncertainty in income taxes addresses the determination of whether tax benefits claimed or expected to be claimed on a tax return should be recorded in the financial statements. Under that guidance, the Organization may recognize the tax benefit from an uncertain tax position only if it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by taxing authorities based on the technical merits of the position. Examples of tax positions include the tax-exempt status of the Organization and various positions related to the potential sources of unrelated business taxable income (UBIT). The tax benefits recognized in the financial statements from such a position are measured based on the largest benefit that has a greater than 50 percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. There were no unrecognized tax benefits identified or recorded as liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2023, and 2022.

SPARK VENTURES NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

The Organization files form 990 in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and the State of Illinois. The Organization is generally no longer subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service for years before fiscal year 2020.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2020, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2020-07, Presentation and Disclosures by Not-for-Profit Entities for Contributed Nonfinancial Assets. The new guidance required nonprofit entities to present contributed nonfinancial assets as a separate line item in the statement of activities, apart from contributions of cash or other financial assets. The standard also increased the disclosure requirements around contributed nonfinancial assets, including disaggregating by category the types on contributed nonfinancial assets a nonprofit entity has received. The Organization adopted the ASU 2020-07 as of June 30, 2023 and applied it retroactively. The standard did not have a material impact on the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2023, or 2022.

(3) Certain Vulnerabilities and Concentrations

The Organization also maintained certain bank accounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") up to an aggregate amount of \$250,000 for each depositor in each depository institution. At June 30, 2023, and 2022, the Organization had \$275,056 and \$447,998, respectively, which exceeded the aggregate insured limit by \$25,056 and \$197,998, leaving that amount at risk. At June 30, 2023, and 2022, the Organization also maintained \$86,431, and \$86,037, respectively in cash in a brokerage account not insured by the FDIC.

(4) Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Code (ASC) 820-10 "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures" requires disclosure of an estimate of fair value of certain financial instruments. The Organization's significant financial instrument is cash. For this financial instrument, carrying value approximates fair value.

(5) In-Kind Donations

The Organization records various types of in-kind support, including services, materials and other tangible assets. GAAP requires recognition of professional services received if those services (a) create or enhance long-lived assets or (b) require specialized skills, is provided by individuals possessing those skills, and would typically need to be purchased if not provided by donation. Most of the services received by the Organization do not meet these criteria. In 2023, and 2022, the Organization recorded in-kind donations amounting to \$56,565 and \$102,239, respectively, representing primarily, goods donated to the Organization used for special events. Contributions of tangible assets are recognized at fair value when received. The amounts reflected in the accompanying financial statements as in-kind support are offset by like amounts included in expenses or assets.

Donated Goods

The in-kind contributions for the year ended June 30, 2023, and 2022 were as follows:

SPARK VENTURES NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

Contribution	2023	2022	Valuation
Professional Services - Special Events	\$ 25,714	\$ 32,766	Fair Value
Donated Goods - Special Events	30,851	69,473	Fair Value
	\$ 56.565	\$ 102,239	_

(6) Net Assets with Donor Restrictions

Net assets with donor restrictions consisted of the following at June 30, 2023:

Purpose Restricted \$ 60,912

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purposes, by occurrence of the passage of time, or other events specified by donors. Restrictions were released as follows:

Purpose Restricted \$ 162,188

(7) COVID

The COVID-19 pandemic, whose effects first became known in January 2020, is having a broad and negative impact on commerce and financial markets around the world. The United States and global markets experienced significant declines in value resulting from uncertainty caused by the pandemic. The Organization is closely monitoring its liquidity and is actively working to minimize the impact of these declines. The extent of the impact of COVID-19 on the Organization's operational and financial performance will depend on certain developments, including the duration and spread of the outbreak and its impacts on the Organization's donors, all of which at present, cannot be determined. Accordingly, the extent to which COVID-19 may impact the Organization's financial position and changes in net assets and cash flows is uncertain and the accompanying financial statements include no adjustments relating to the effects of this pandemic.

(8) Subsequent Events

The Organization has evaluated subsequent events through November 7, 2023, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. The Organization is not aware of any subsequent events that would require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.