

American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Inc. Financial Statements For the Years Ended March 31, 2019 and 2018

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Independent Auditor's Report

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Inc. Boston, MA

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Inc. (a nonprofit "Union"), which comprise the statements of financial position as of March 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, I express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Inc. as of March 31, 2019 and 2018 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.

Melissa Gilroy, Certified Public Accountant

Westwood, Massachusetts

Melissa Hilroy

November 20, 2019

Statements of Financial Position As of March 31, 2019 and 2018

Assets

Current Assets	2019		2018
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,318,372	\$	712,334
Investments	5,596,733		3,734,572
Due from ACLU National	294,451		312,101
Due from ACLU Foundation	189,527		81,283
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	 26,604		26,604
Total current assets	 7,425,687		4,866,894
Leasehold improvements			
Leasehold improvements, net	 8,880		12,107
Total Assets	\$ 7,434,567	\$	4,879,001
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 23,211	\$	59,697
Total current liabilities	 23,211	_	59,697
Long-term Liabilities			
Deferred rent	 109,307		132,844
Total Liabilities	 132,518		192,541
Net Assets			
Without donor restrictions	7,302,049		4,622,354
With donor restrictions	7,302,049		64,106
Total net assets	 7,302,049		4,686,460
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Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 7,434,567	\$	4,879,001

Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets For the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018

		Without Donor With Donor Restrictions Restriction 2019			Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restriction	2018	
Operating	-	resurences	resurence	2019	-	resurevious	1105411011011	2010
Revenue and Support								
Membership fees	\$	3,042,148	-	3,042,148	\$	2,486,098	-	2,486,098
Contributions		63,521	-	63,521		67,250	-	67,250
Bequests		49,031	-	49,031		35,078		35,078
Grants		100,000	-	100,000		15,000	250,000	265,000
Donated services		25,118	-	25,118		6,487	-	6,487
Dividends and interest		106,267	-	106,267		55,666	-	55,666
Other income		356	-	356				
Net assets released from restriction		64,106	(64,106)			226,568	(226,568)	
Total revenue and support	_	3,450,547	(64,106)	3,386,441	-	2,892,147	23,432	2,915,579
Expenses								
Program services		629,461	-	629,461		636,578		636,578
Management, general and administrative		147,286	-	147,286		96,186		96,186
Total expenses	-	776,747	-	776,747		732,764	-	732,764
Changes in net assets from operations		2,673,800	(64,106)	2,609,694		2,159,383	23,432	2,182,815
Non-operating								
Net realized and unrealized gains / (losses)		5,895	-	5,895		195,031	-	195,031
Total	-	5,895	-	5,895	-	195,031	-	195,031
Changes in Net Assets		2,679,695	(64,106)	2,615,589		2,354,414	23,432	2,377,846
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	_	4,622,354	64,106	4,686,460	_	2,267,940	40,674	2,308,614
Net Assets at End of Year	\$_	7,302,049	-	7,302,049	\$	4,622,354	64,106	4,686,460

Statement of Functional Expenses

For the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018

	Program	Management and General		2019 Total		Program	Management and General		2018 Total
Salaries	\$ 307,137	55,077	\$	362,214	\$	225,942	45,428	\$	271,370
Employee benefits	63,134	17,156		80,290		49,882	14,437		64,319
Payroll taxes	23,451	4,059		27,510		16,357	3,318		19,675
Subtotal	393,722	76,292	_	470,014	-	292,181	63,183	-	355,364
Professional fees	147,216	47,714		194,930		151,508	13,739		165,247
Focus groups	-	-		-		59,125	-		59,125
Occupancy	32,518	7,692		40,210		20,993	6,471		27,464
Technology	8,894	1,850		10,744		4,227	1,057		5,284
Printing and publishing	8,485	134		8,619		17,478	5		17,483
Travel	7,660	2,988		10,648		3,237	4,992		8,229
Books, subscriptions	4,036	76		4,112		5,190	94		5,284
Due and fees	4,141	651		4,792		53,785	2,800		56,585
Telephone	3,937	411		4,348		2,548	472		3,020
Office expenses and supplies	2,396	4,984		7,380		1,360	409		1,769
Insurance	788	277		1,065		735	208		943
Event expenses	4,365	3,078		7,443		10,648	2,112		12,760
Equipment lease and maintenance	512	161		673		389	97		486
Postage	8,454	88		8,542		11,778	154		11,932
Depreciation	2,337	890		3,227		1,396	393		1,789
Total Functional Expenses	\$ 629,461	147,286	\$	776,747	\$	636,578	96,186	\$	732,764

Statements of Cash Flows

For the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018

Cash Flows from Operating Activities	2019			2018
Changes in Net Assets	\$	2,615,589	\$	2,377,846
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to cash provided by operations				
Depreciation		3,227		1,789
Net realized and unrealized (gain) / loss on investments		(5,895)		(195,031)
Interest and dividends reinvested		(106,267)		(55,666)
Increase (decrease) in cash resulting from a change in:				
Due from ACLU National		17,650		367,108
Due to ACLU Foundation		81,283		(44,017)
Due from ACLU Foundation		(189,527)		(81,283)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		-		(14,859)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		(36,486)		31,983
Deferred revenue		=		(100,000)
Deferred rent		(23,537)		68,662
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities		2,356,037	_	2,356,532
Cash Flows from Investing Activities				
Purchase of investments		(3,111,718)		(3,921,188)
Proceeds from the sale of investments		1,361,719		2,071,189
Purchases of property and equipment		-		(12,125)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Investing Activities	_	(1,749,999)		(1,862,124)
Net (Decrease) Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		606,038		494,408
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning		712,334		217,926
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Ending	\$	1,318,372	\$	712,334

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Nature of the Business

American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Inc. (the "Union") is a non-profit Union whose mission is to defend freedoms guaranteed in the Constitution and Bill of Rights and to educate the population about civil liberties through its legislative and education programs. The Union's main source of revenue is derived from membership dues paid by members throughout Massachusetts. The Union is affiliated with the American Civil Liberties Union, Inc. ("the National Union"), the American Civil Liberties Foundation, Inc. (the "National Foundation") and the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts ("The Foundation").

The Union is exempt from Federal income taxes under section 501(c) (4) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Union is also exempt from state income taxes under the general laws of Massachusetts.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis with net assets, revenues, expenses, gains, and losses classified in two categories based on the existence or absence of externally imposed restrictions. Operating revenues consist of those monies received and contributions attributable to the Union's ongoing efforts. Nonoperating activities are limited to resources that generate return from investments and other activities considered to be of a more unusual or nonrecurring nature. The net assets of the Union are classified and defined as follows:

Net Assets without Donor Restrictions

Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed stipulations are considered unrestricted.

Net Assets with Donor Restrictions

Net assets subject to stipulations imposed by donors, and grantors. Some donor restrictions are temporary in nature; those restrictions will be met by actions of the Union or by the passage of time. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, whereby the donor has stipulated the funds be maintained in perpetuity. Donor restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets are reclassified from net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions in the statements of activities.

Use of Estimates

The financial statements are prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America ("GAAP") which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Notes to the Financial Statements

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Union considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less, when acquired, to be cash equivalents.

Accounts Receivable

The Union carries its accounts receivable at an amount equal to uncollected but earned revenue less an allowance for doubtful accounts. On a periodic basis, the Union evaluates its accounts receivable and establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts, based on a history of past write-offs and collections and current credit conditions.

Property and Leasehold Improvements

Property and leasehold improvements are stated at cost at the time of acquisition or fair market value at the time of donation. Donated assets are considered unrestricted support unless the donor has restricted the donated asset for a specific purpose. Expenditures for maintenance and repairs are charged to expenses as incurred; major renewals, additions and betterments are capitalized. When assets are sold or retired, the related costs and accumulated depreciation are removed from the respective accounts and any resulting gain or loss is credited or charged to operations. Depreciation is recorded on a straight-line basis over the asset's estimated useful lives.

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The Union allocates its expenses on a functional basis amongst its various programs and other activities. All of the Union's allocated expenditures have been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of activities and in the statement of functional expenses. Directly identifiable expenses are charged to programs and supporting services. "Management, general and administrative expenses" include those expenses that are not directly identifiable with any other specific function but provide for the overall support and direction of the Union and include those costs related to the internal management and accounting for program services.

Contributions

Contributions received are recorded as net assets without donor restrictions or net assets with donor restrictions, depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor-imposed restrictions. Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as an increase in net assets without donor restrictions if the restriction expires in the reporting period in which the contribution is recognized. All other donor restricted contributions are reported as an increase in net assets with donor restrictions, depending on the nature of restriction. When a restriction expires (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished), net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statements of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Contributed property and equipment are recorded at fair value at the date of donation. Contributions with donor-imposed stipulations regarding how long the contributed assets must be used are recorded as net assets with donor restrictions; otherwise, the contributions are recorded as net assets without donor restrictions.

Notes to the Financial Statements

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Beneficial Interests

The Union is a beneficiary under the terms of various wills and trust agreements, the total realizable amounts of which are not determinable at present. The Union's share of such interests is recorded when the proceeds are measurable. Accordingly, the Union has not recorded the value of these interests in the accompanying financial statements.

Donated Services

Donated services are recorded at the estimated fair value of services provided to the Union. Contributed services are recognized for services that require specialized skills and are provided by persons possessing those skills in the period in which they are received in accordance with GAAP. Donated services amounted to \$25,118 and \$6,487 and consisted primarily of donated legal services for the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Revenue Recognition

Membership revenue, consulting fees and other income is recognized as earned. Revenue received in advance of service delivery is considered deferred revenue.

Income Taxes

The Union follows the provisions in GAAP, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, which prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken, or expected to be taken, in a tax return. This interpretation also provides guidance on de-recognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, and disclosure requirements for uncertain tax positions. The Union has determined that there are no material unrecognized tax effects as of March 31, 2019 and 2018.

Reclassifications

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to current year presentation.

New Accounting Pronouncement

On August 18, 2016, FASB issued ASU 2016-14, Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958) – *Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities*. The update addresses the complexity and understandability of net asset classification, deficiencies in information about liquidity and availability of resources, and the lack of consistency in the type of information provided about expenses and investment return. The Union has adjusted the presentation of these statements accordingly. The ASU has been applied retrospectively to all periods presented.

Investments

The Union values its investments at fair value in the statement of financial position. The statement of activities includes net investment income including, unrealized gains or losses, interest and dividend income. Realized gains and losses are calculated on the basis of specific identification of the securities sold. Purchases and sales of securities are recognized on a tradedate basis.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Fair Value Measurements

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. Fair value should be based on the assumptions market participants would use when pricing an asset. US GAAP establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes investments based on those assumptions. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets (observable inputs) and the lowest priority to an entity's assumptions (unobservable inputs). The Foundation groups assets at fair value in three levels, based on the markets in which the assets and liabilities are traded and the reliability of the assumptions used to determine fair value. These levels are:

Level 1: Inputs that reflect unadjusted quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Union has the ability to access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly, including inputs in markets that are considered active.

Level 3: Inputs that are unobservable for the asset or liability and that include situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability. The inputs into the determination of fair value are based upon the best information in the circumstances and may require significant management judgment or estimates.

3. Leasehold Improvements

Leasehold improvements as of March 31 consisted of the following:

2019	2018
\$15,866	\$15,866
(6,986)	(3,759)
\$8,880	\$12,107
	\$15,866 (6,986)

Depreciation expense for the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018 was \$3,227 and \$1,789, respectively.

4. Fair Value Measurements

The following fair value hierarchy table presents information about the Union's assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis based upon the lowest level of significant input to the valuations at March 31, 2019 and 2018. There were no other recurring or non-recurring assets or liabilities requiring disclosure in accordance with GAAP.

	As of March 31, 2019								
Туре	Leve	11	Leve	1 II	Level III		To	tal	
Money Market Fund	\$ 1	,810,227	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,810,227	
Mutual Funds:									
Real Estate Fund		244,081		-		-		244,081	
International Fund		933,864		-		-		933,864	
Emerging Market Fund		234,639		-		-		234,639	
Extended Market Fund		237,770		-		-		237,770	
Growth Fund		979,337		-		-		979,337	
Pacific Fund		460,426		-		-		460,426	
Value Index Fund		696,389		-		-		696,389	
	\$ 5	,596,733	\$	-	\$	-	\$	5,596,733	
			As	of Maı	rch 31,	2018			
Туре	Leve	11	Leve		Leve		Total		
Money Market Fund	\$	571,087	\$	-	\$	-	\$	571,087	
Mutual Funds:									
Real Estate Fund		185,455		_		_		185,455	
International Fund		788,573		_		_		788,573	
Emerging Market Fund		201,077		_		_		201,077	
Extended Market Fund		199,674		_		_		199,674	
Growth Fund		803,180		_		_		803,180	
Pacific Fund		399,361		-		-		399,361	
Value Index Fund		586,165		-		-		586,166	
	\$ 3								

5. Related Party Transactions

The Foundation

The Union is affiliated with the Foundation through shared management and administrative costs. The Foundation charged the Union \$439,753 and \$355,364, respectively, for salaries, benefits and related payroll taxes for the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018. Additionally, the Union shares its facilities with Foundation staff. As a result, a portion of the rent expense is charged to the Foundation for its proportional share of the rent based on the amount of space utilized by Foundation employees. The Union charged the Foundation \$327,116 and \$339,486 for its share of the rent expense for the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Related to the transactions described above, as of March 31, 2019 and 2018, the Union has a receivable due from the Foundation amounting to \$189,527 and \$81,283, respectively.

Notes to the Financial Statements

5. Related Party Transactions - continued

The National Union

The Union is a chapter of the National Union. The Union receives funds from the National Union for allocated membership contributions made directly to the National Union. The total funds allocated to the Union for members located in Massachusetts was \$3,042,148 and \$2,486,098 or the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

In addition, in accordance with the affiliation agreement, the Union receives certain contributions and bequests as defined in that agreement. Below is a summary of amounts due the Union from the National Union as of March 31:

	2019	2018
Shared revenue from the National Union	89,018	\$ 67,328
Membership income from the National Union	205,433	244,773
	\$294,451	\$ 312,101

6. Availability and Liquidity

The following represents the Union's financial assets at March 31, 2019 and 2018:

Financial assets at year end:	2019	2018
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,318,372	\$ 712,334
Investments	5,596,733	3,734,572
Due from ACLU National	294,451	312,101
Due from ACLU Foundation	189,527	81,283
Total financial assets	7,399,083	4,840,290
Less amounts not available to be used within one year:		
Net assets with donor restrictions	-	64,106
Financial assets available to meet general		
expenditures over the next twelve months:	\$7,399,083	\$4,776,184

The Union's goal is generally to maintain financial assets to meet six months of operating expenses. As part of its liquidity plan, excess cash is invested in short-term investments. Additionally, the Union has a \$100,000 line of credit available to meet cash flow needs.

Notes to the Financial Statements

7. Retirement Plans

Pension Plan

The Union participates in a non-contributory defined benefit plan, the American Civil Liberties Union Retirement Plan, through the National Union. The plan covers all employees hired before April 1, 2009 who satisfied minimum age and service requirements. Benefits are paid to eligible employees at retirement based on years of service and average career compensation.

The total pension expense is allocated to the Union based on the number of participating employees. Pension expense amounted to \$31,876 and \$15,510 for the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively and is included with employee benefits on the accompanying statement of functional expenses.

As of April 1, 2009, the National Union instituted a "soft freeze" on the plan. Employees hired on or after April 1, 2009 are enrolled in the National Union's 401k plan.

The National Union's defined benefit plan is currently underfunded according to actuarial projections. A portion of the National Union's unfunded liability is for the employees of the Union. Accumulated plan benefits information provided by consulting actuaries has not been distinguished from the benefits of this affiliated organization that is participating in the pension plan and accordingly, such information is not presented herein. As of March 31, 2019 and 2018, the financial statements of the pension plan reflected the fair value of plan assets of \$126,225,694 and \$113,410,415 available for benefit obligations of \$163,020,696 and \$153,503,433 in accumulated plan benefits, respectively. As the liability directly related to the Union is not known, no liability has been recorded.

401k Plan

The Union participates in the National Union's 401k plan which covers substantially all of its employees who meet certain eligibility requirements. Under the plan employees may voluntarily contribute pre-tax compensation subject to IRS regulations related to dollar limits. The Union will match 100% of the first 1% of employee contributions plus 50% of the next 5% of employee contributions. Additionally, the Foundation makes an automatic employer contribution of 2% each pay period. The Foundation's employer contributions vest after two years of employment. Total contributions for the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018 were \$5,648 and \$4,832, respectively, and are included in employee benefits in the accompanying statement of functional expenses.

Notes to the Financial Statements

8. Lease Commitments

The Union has a non-cancelable lease for facility space which expires in December 2022 with an option to extend the term through December 2026. The lease payments are \$32,081 per month with required escalation increases as defined in the agreement. The Union is also responsible for operating costs as defined in the lease agreement.

As required by GAAP, the Union records rent expense on a straight-line basis, accordingly, the Union has recorded deferred rent amounting to \$109,307 and \$132,844 as of March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The Union shares space with the Foundation and as such has allocated its proportional share of the rent expense. Total rent expense amounted to \$36,169 and \$19,370 for the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, which is net of amounts received from the Foundation.

Future minimum cash payments under the lease are as follows:

Fiscal year	Amount
2020	\$ 393,672
2021	\$ 407,036
2022	\$ 307,551
2023	\$ -
2024	\$ -

9. Line of Credit

The Union has a \$100,000 line of credit that bears interest at the prime rate as published in the Wall Street Journal, 5.50% at March 31, 2019 and 4.50% as of March 31, 2018, with a minimum rate of 4.50%. As of March 31, 2019 and 2018, there was no line of credit balance outstanding. The line is secured by certain assets of the Union. The Union is subject to certain covenants and was in compliance with those covenants as of March 31, 2019 and 2018.

10. Donor Restricted Net Assets

The Union's donor restricted net assets consist of the following as of March 31, 2019 and 2018:

	2	2019		2018		
Specific Purpose:						
Separation of church and state	\$	-	\$	40,674		
Transgender initiatives		-		21,117		
DA campaign		-		2,316		
	\$	-	\$	64,107		

11. Concentration of Credit Risk

The Union maintains its cash balances in a Massachusetts bank. At various times during the year, the Union's cash balances exceeded the FDIC insured limits. The Union monitors its exposure to credit risk and has determined that it has no significant exposure to credit risk.

Notes to the Financial Statements

12. Contingencies

The Union is from time to time involved in legal actions arising in the ordinary course of business. Management is of the opinion that the ultimate outcome of these matters would not have a material adverse impact on the financial position of the Union or the results of its activities.

13. Subsequent Events

Subsequent to year-end, the Union entered negotiations with certain shared employees of the Foundation with respect to a collective bargaining agreement. As of the date of this report, no agreement has been reached between these parties.

The Union has evaluated subsequent events through November 20, 2019, which is the date financial statements were available to be issued and determined that no other events met the criteria for recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.