

# 2021 Annual Membership Report



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## Our Mission

*Through the practice, teaching, and sharing of biodynamic principles, we empower personal, relational and global well-being by encouraging awareness of the Inherent Health and Wholeness embodied in all.*



# Letter From Our President

Dear Fellow Members,

What a year we have had! Due to the COVID 19 pandemic we have had to shift gears to help our members through troubling times. Our members had months where they were not able to work. Our teachers were not able to continue with their classes. We had to find a way to support each other. Our focus was on increasing benefits for our members.

We began weekly meditations and started the Professional Enrichment Series of webinars. These programs were very successful in bringing our members together to learn and be inspired.

Since we could not meet in person, our Breath of Life Conference was greatly affected. The Conference Committee got right to work and created a very successful global virtual conference which included many international speakers.

Acknowledging the need to expand diversity and inclusion within BCTA/NA, we established a Racial Equity and Inclusion Initiative (REII) and LGBTQ+ Initiative in 2020. We are grateful to members who have stepped forward with valuable feedback to help us identify and understand the work we have ahead of us to build better representation and support of our BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities. We are eager to continue these initiatives and to help create a safe container that allows the expansion of BCST for all.

We invite you to read this report to see what our association has been doing to support you. We hope you will be inspired to get involved in the planning of future programs and conferences. Thank you for being a part of BCTA/NA!

Be well,  
Jennifer Song, RCST®

## Special Recognition



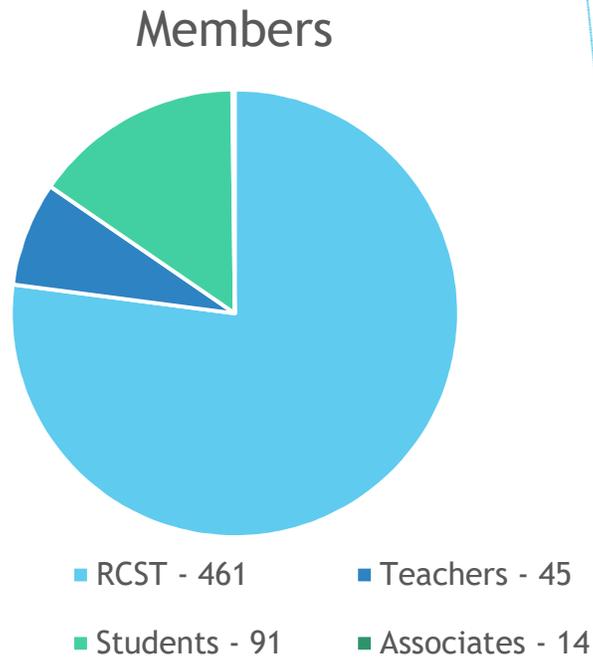
Mary Louise and  
Christopher Muller  
Lifetime Achievement Award



Robyn Michele Jones  
Gratitude for years of  
service on the  
Board of Directors

# Membership

Our membership has remained consistent through the pandemic as we brought on new programs to support our members.



## 4 New Teachers Approved in 2020!



Vileena Purpuri



Silvie Legare



Susan Hall



Margery Chessare

# Member Resources

Our Professional Enrichment webinar series was launched as a new member benefit when the COVID pandemic began. It was a way to keep our members active and inspired during a time when they were not able to work. We have hosted many senior BCTA/NA teachers, including Franklyn Sills, Cherionna Menzam-Sills, Margaret Rosenau, Scott Zamurut, Joyce Harader, Kate Klemer and Michael Shea, who spoke on many relevant topics to help advance the professional skills of our members. This successful series has continued into 2021.

We offered a number of other online programs covering a wide range of topics. These included HeartMath Resilience Advantage, Deepening Relationships with the Connection Practice, Doing Distance Sessions, Re-Imagine Promoting Your Practice and Serving Transgender Clients in Holistic Health. Many members gained new skills to bring to their practice of BCST.

Our Publications Committee continues to send your monthly newsletter, The Tide, featuring articles and information on Association activities. This year our resources column brought many articles and links to services that will strengthen our members, both personally and professionally, during the pandemic.

Professional  
Enrichment

Online  
Offerings

Publications

Visit [www.craniosacraltherapy.org](http://www.craniosacraltherapy.org) and log in as a member to check out the resources available to you!

# Raising Awareness

## Global Outreach

An important part of our work is outreach to organizations in other countries to exchange information on how we can help the world better understand biodynamic craniosacral therapy. Activities in the past year include:

- Engagement with the Craniosacral Therapy Association (CSTA) in the UK on working in the time of COVID including ideas on virtual settling sessions.
- Participating in International Awareness Week which began October 15, 2020.
- Engagement with the European Craniosacral Association Network (ECSAN) during zoom meetings throughout the year.

## Our Right to Practice

The Judicial and Government Review Committee (JGRC) communicated with BCTA/NA members from the states listed below, advising and providing information regarding proposed bills and their impact on right to practice. During 2020 most legislatures across the country were not in session due to COVID 19 shutdowns. Towards the middle of 2020 legislatures started opening legislative sessions.

- VT proposed and enacted Registration, no exemptions for non-massage touch professionals, including craniosacral therapy.
- MA “Bodywork bill” died in Committee and reintroduced as “Alternative Healing therapies Board”.
- NM legislature introduces an amendment to the Massage Therapy Practice Act to require registration and licensing of massage therapy establishments as a means to combat human trafficking. Does not impact exemption for BCST.
- OH legislature introduces an amendment to the Massage Therapy Practice Act to require registration and licensing of massage therapy establishments as a means to combat human trafficking. Bill also proposes to require all forms of massage (relaxation & therapeutic) to be licensed. The bill has a very broad definition of massage which could be interpreted to include practitioners of BCST as massage therapists.
- KS legislature introduced a bill to enact professional licensure of massage therapy in Kansas. This bill as written would require all types of professional touch therapies to obtain a massage therapy license.

The JGRC contributed articles to the BCTA/NA monthly newsletter as an information resource for members.

- Highlighting a state, providing licensure requirements, contact information & current legislative/regulatory activity. States highlighted to date: CA, CO, NY, VT. We encouraged members to be our “eyes and ears” in their state and share any legislative/regulatory activity.
- Providing information about regulation and the three approaches: licensing, certifying, registration.

Responded to Right To Practice email inquiries from teachers, students and the public about licensure in various states.

Attended the first virtual Annual Federation Meeting June 1 and July 6, 2020. Agenda items included:

- Organization updates.
- JGRC Co-Chair, Lucie Mitchell, presented BCTA/NA updates, including technical improvements in finances and member online communication, providing more webinars, state’s database of licensure requirements.

# Opportunities to Get Involved

## VOLUNTEER

Did you know BCTA/NA depends on volunteers to help plan and grow the many programs and activities we now offer? We are always looking for members interested in connecting with like-minded colleagues by joining one of our committees or special projects. It is a great way to meet new people while contributing to the growth of biodynamic craniosacral therapy. Let's talk about your interests and how you could help!

Please contact [admin@craniosacraltherapy.org](mailto:admin@craniosacraltherapy.org).

## WRITE

**The Publications Committee** is always looking for articles for the monthly newsletter and the Cranial Wave, our yearly professional publication. This year's theme is *Embracing Change*. Please submit your articles to be included in this yearly publication.

For more information, contact [admin@craniosacraltherapy.org](mailto:admin@craniosacraltherapy.org)

## DONATE

Make a donation to support BCTA/NA funding that is not covered by membership fees including:

- **The General Programs and Services Fund:** For webinars, videos, support for our right to practice, and new member resources.
- **The Nothnagel Scholarship Fund:** Helps members in need attend the BCTA/NA Conference or other educational programs.
- **The Stephanie Abramson Educational Fellowship Fund:** When this Fund reaches its fundraising goals, it will be used to assist Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) students in learning Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy and sharing the work in support of their communities.

To make a donation, please visit the BCTA/NA website at [www.craniosacraltherapy.org](http://www.craniosacraltherapy.org).

## Breath of Life Conference

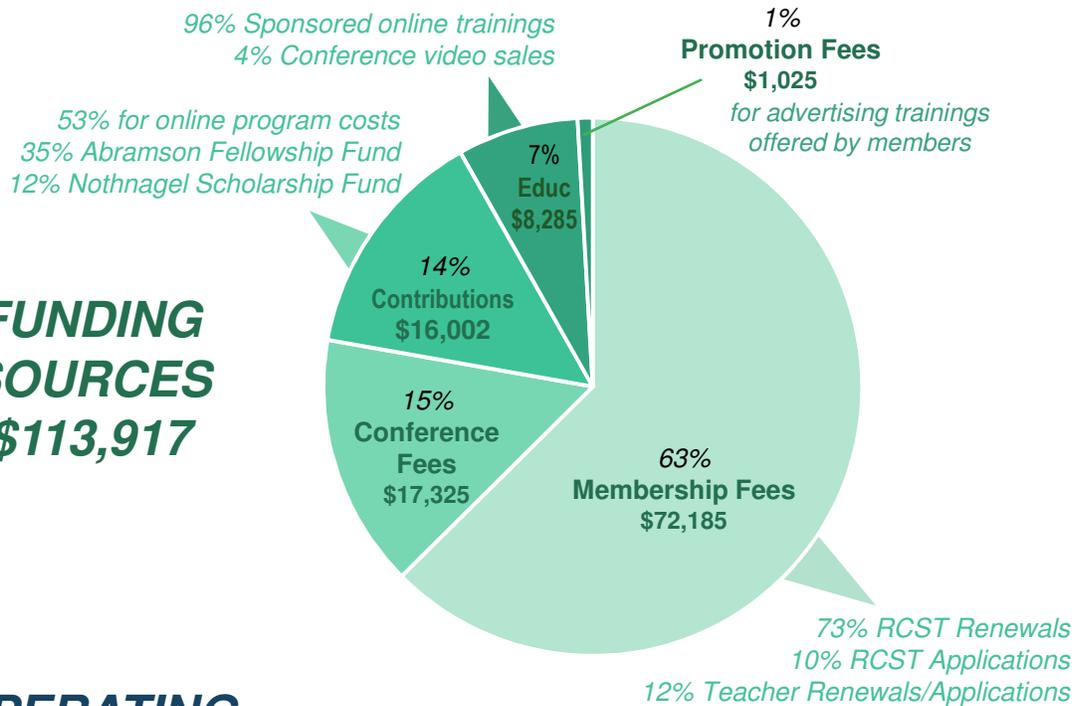
Join us at the **BCTA/NA Breath of Life Conference** to be held virtually, September 9 – 12, 2021. Our theme this year will be *Embracing Change*, and a program of diverse topics is planned to educate and inspire you. Each presentation qualifies for NCBTMB CE units.

Anyone is welcome to attend. Look for details to be posted at [www.craniosacraltherapy.org](http://www.craniosacraltherapy.org) by summer 2021.

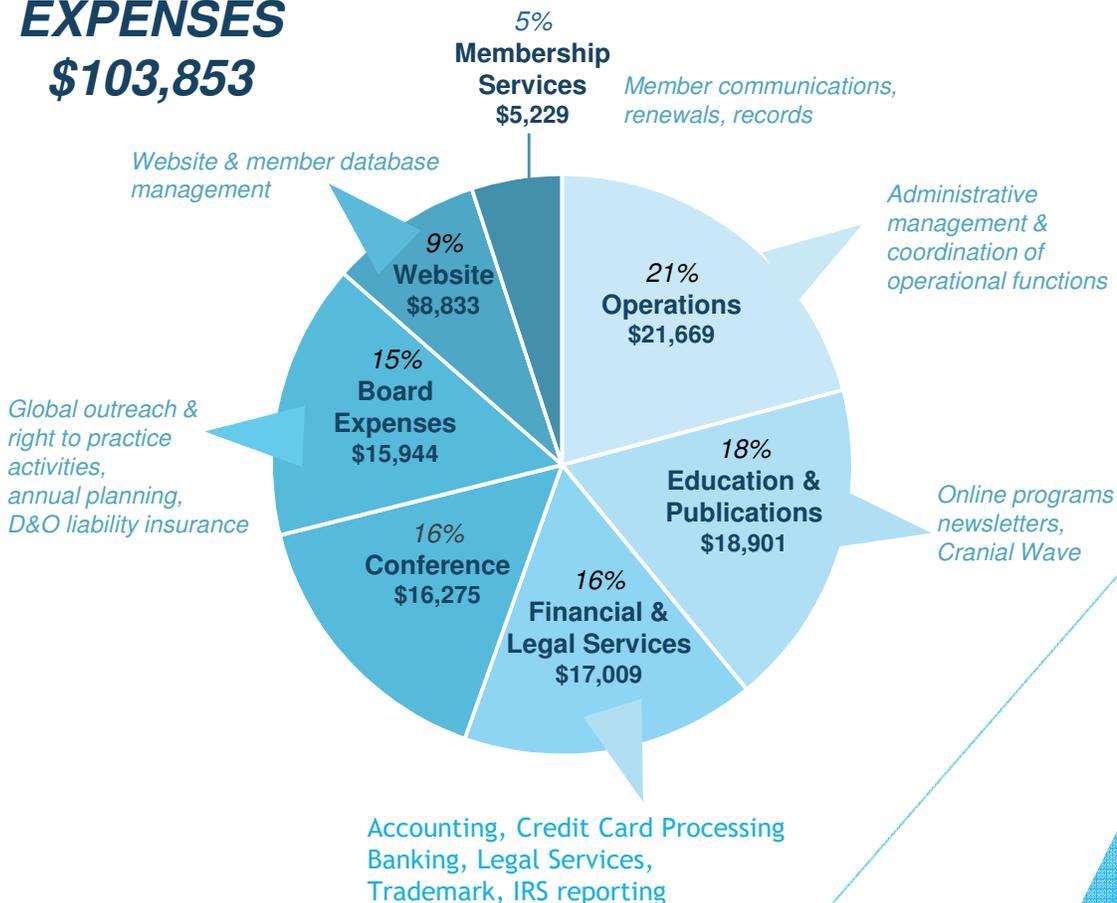
# Financial Report

for the year ending December 31, 2020

## FUNDING SOURCES \$113,917



## OPERATING EXPENSES \$103,853



# Our 2019 Board of Directors

Jennifer Song, RCST® – President  
Lucie Mitchell, RCST® – Board Chair  
Fred Snowden, RCST® – Treasurer  
Gayle Buchner, RCST® – Secretary

Felicity Bensch, RCST® – Director  
Elizabeth Hammond, RCST® – Director/Teacher  
Linda Robinson, RCST® – Director

## Our Business Operations Team

Pam Hower  
Sheryl Lee, RCST®  
Fred Snowden, RCST®

### Meet our newest Board Member:

Linda Robinson



## Committees

**Applications Committee -  
Sub-Committees RCST® Non  
Normative and Teacher Approval**  
Chair – Elizabeth Hammond, RCST®

**Conference Committee**  
Chair – Jennifer Song, RCST®

**Ethics Committee**  
Chair – Linda Robinson RCST®,  
Gayle Buchner, RCST®

**Judicial & Governmental Review  
Committee (JGRC)**  
Chair – Edwin Nothnagel, RCST®  
Board Liaison – Lucie Mitchell, RCST®

**Member Relations & Programs  
Sub Committee Canadian Membership**  
Chair – Jennifer Song, RCST®

**Publication Committee**  
Chair – Gayle Buchner, RCST®

**Global Outreach Committee**  
Chair – Felicity Bensch, RCST®



The Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy Association  
of North America

[admin@craniosacraltherapy.org](mailto:admin@craniosacraltherapy.org)