

2019 YEAR END REPORT

# 2019 was a Remarkable Year for RIP Medical Debt

Our mission is simple: We empower donors to abolish the medical debt of those in need by buying qualified debt at pennies on the dollar and then forgive that debt.

In 2019 with the generous help of our donors, we fulfilled that mission on an extraordinary scale; we're excited to share the highlights.

### **DEBT FORGIVENESS**

To date, RIP has forgiven over

\$1,400,000,000

in medical debt



Since we were founded, we have forgiven medical debt for over **650,000 individuals** and families in need.

In 2019 alone we abolished debt for over 446,000 individuals and families.

# **Expanding Debt Buying Opportunities**

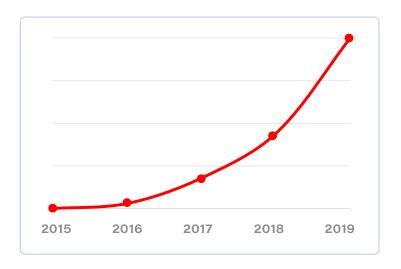
In 2019 an RIP team of debt buying experts, healthcare consultants and legal counsel worked hard to gain approval for RIP's plan to buy debt directly from hospitals. RIP submitted a request for an advisory opinion to the OIG of the Department of Human Health and Services, in order to greatly expand our pool of available debt.



#### **FUND RAISING**

Revenue for 2019 was over \$12 million, representing RIP's fifth consecutive year of greater than 100 percent annual compound growth.

The rise in donations came from all over the country, but the following areas showed especially vigorous growth:







# RIP MEDICAL DEBT HIRES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2019, we completed an extensive search for a new executive director with search firm Waldron and are pleased to announce that Allison Sesso will be joining RIP Medical Debt as Executive Director.

Allison Sesso has served as the Executive Director of the Human Services Council of New York (HSC) since March 2014 and previously served for many years as the Deputy Executive Director. HSC is an association of 170 nonprofits delivering 90% of human services in New York City.

Under her leadership HSC has pioneered the development of nationally recognized tools designed to illuminate risks associated with government contracts, including an RFP rater and government agency grading system known as GovGrader.

During her tenure at HSC she has led negotiations with government on behalf of the sector and partnered on the development of policy and procedural changes aimed at streamlining the relationship between nonprofits and government. In 2017, Allison led the Citywide "Sustain our Sanctuary Campaign," which successfully pushed for investments in human services contracts totaling over \$300 million to address the nonprofit fiscal crisis.

Allison is the Board Chair of the nonprofit Hollaback!, a global movement to end harassment powered by a network of grassroots activists. Additionally, Allison serves on Fund the People's Advisory Council, a national group that aims to encourage investments in the nonprofit workforce as the best way to increase performance and impact across the social sector.

Allison's work on behalf of the human services sector has led City & State to recognize her as one of the 25 most influential leaders in Manhattan in 2017 and one of New York City's 100 "Most Responsible" in 2016.

#### **Board Expansion**

The RIP Board continues to grow with the organization.

In 2019, we welcomed four new Board Members, Jose Penabad, Elizabeth Marincola, Ted Sann, and Jeff Smedsrud.

# IN THE NEWS

2019 was a banner year for press coverage. Below are a sampling of this year's big stories.

NPQ NONPROFIT QUARTERLY	Churches Shine a Light on America's Mounting Medical Debt  READ MORE
abcNEWS	Churches find a new calling: Paying off other people's medical debt  READ MORE
CNBC	Meet the 18-year-old who helped wipe out \$6.7 million in medical debt  READ MORE
Freethink	Angels of Debt  READ MORE
NBC NEWS	6,000 families' medical debt forgiven for Thanksgiving  READ MORE



## **Increased IT Capabilities**

We also welcomed David Reynolds to head up our new IT Group.

David will spearhead developments in proprietary software. The resulting new software will allow us to process debt data more accurately, more efficiently, and provide a sharper focus on those most in need.

# The Future

We look forward to 2020 with great expectations from the phenomenal RIP team led by new Executive Director, Allison Sesso.



We thank all of our donors for their past support and hope to reach new milestones in the year ahead.

To learn more about RIP, check out our website: www.ripmedicaldebt.org