2020 & 2021 were unusual years in both how we used our resources and how we built People Power. Our typical budget is funded by the Congregational Investment Drive, Congregational Membership Dues and valued Corporate Partners (Corporate Investment Drive). Our community partners appreciate the work we do because it impacts their customers, employees, and neighbors. Many of our meetings and organizational meetings were virtual for over two years. We had unanticipated expenses such as Zoom. We did not have expenses associated with in person gatherings such as the ACTION and most of the DART training opportunities. Our virtual ACTION in 2020 only cost $114 but averages $3,500 when we have them in person. CAJE’s budget for training averages $22,000 but was only $12,517 in 2020 as opportunities were limited during the lock down. We were able to hold our ground during COVID, but now that we are returning to more “normal” times our expenses will return to their former levels. The 2022 budget anticipates expenses of nearly $210,000.

CAJE’s 2021-2022 Successes.

* Mayor Lloyd Winnecke followed through on his 2021 commitment of a “seven figure” allocation into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, by introducing a finance ordinance in the amount of $5 million!
* Within that ordinance, which came before council in February, were additional allocations for ARPA funds for...
  + $4 million for a pediatric and family dual diagnosis clinic.
  + $300,000/year for the next two years towards the operational costs for the Evansville Diversion Center, a mental health & addiction disorder unit that diverts nonviolent, non-felonious offenders away from jail and into a therapeutic environment.
  + The mayor affirmed his commitments at the 2022 Action.
* Vanderburgh County Commissioner Jeff Hatfield attended the CAJE Action and committed to champion the allocation of ARPA funds for the diversion center. A recent email to CAJE asked for CAJE members to attend upcoming commission and County Council meetings to show our support for the funding. A council vote is expected in July.

CAJE is the only direct-action organization in Posey, Warrick, and Vanderburgh counties that works to create long-lasting systemic change at the community level. We are not done! To make 2022 successful, we must reach our goal $85,000 Congregational Investment Drive goal. Members are the #1 source of support for what CAJE does. The pandemic was a magnifying glass of sorts, which revealed the cracks in the community that many of our neighbors are in danger of falling through. The need for justice is even more important.

You can invest at the Justice Ministry by writing a check to CAJE. Your investment will have an impact right away. Other ways to invest are:

* Spreading out payments through the year (on a schedule that you choose) and
  + Mailing the investment to CAJE at P.O. Box 18172, Evansville, Indiana 47719,
  + Going to [www.greaterevansvillecaje.org](http://www.greaterevansvillecaje.org) and clicking on “Invest in CAJE” at the bottom

of CAJE’s home page and follow the directions from there!

* + Setting up automatic distributions from your bank account with Fifth Third Bank, German American Bank, Old National Bank, Evansville Teachers FCU or Regions Bank.
* If you are 70 ½ or older, you can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA and the QCD amount is excluded from your taxable income on your 2022 tax return.
* CAJE annually receives nearly $2,000 in matching funds from Bristol-Myers Squibb employees/retirees! CAJE also partners with Benevity (www.benevity.com), a global leader in online workplace giving which is used by Coca-Cola, Intel, Ameriprise Financial and hundreds of other companies across the United States, to process matching donations made by its employees.

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**CAJE Congregations**: All Saints Catholic Parish, Bethel UCC, Bethlehem UCC, Central United Methodist, Cleaves Memorial, Community of Christ, Corpus Christi, First Presbyterian, Hindu Temple, Holy Redeemer Catholic, Holy Rosary Catholic, Independence Baptist, Islamic Center of Evansville, Mt. Olive Galilee Baptist, Nazarene Baptist, Old North United Methodist, Patchwork Central, St. Benedict Cathedral, St. Francis Xavier Catholic, St. John the Baptist Catholic, St. Lucas UCC, St. Paul’s Episcopal, St. Peter’s UCC - Highland, St. Wendel Catholic, Saints Mary and John Catholic, Unitarian Universalist of EVV, Zion Missionary Baptist

**Corporate Partners:** ARC Construction, Corressell Landscape LLC, Deaconess Health System, Hamman Foundation, Koch Foundation, Lochmueller Group, Old National Bank Foundation, Toyota, Tri-State Bearing, Ziemer Funeral Homes, Ascension St. Vincent’s Health