

990

Form

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations). Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.
Go to [www.irs.gov/Form990](#) for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2021

Open to Public Inspection

Check if applicable:

Address change

Name change

Initial return

Final return/terminated

Amended return

Application pending

For the 2021 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2021, and ending 12-31-2021

C Name of organization
THE FAIRNESS PROJECT

Doing business as

Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
PO BOX 21337

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
WASHINGTON, DC 20009

F Name and address of principal officer:
STEVE TROSSMAN
PO BOX 21337
WASHINGTON, DC 20009

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates?

Yes

☒

No

H(b) Are all subordinates included?

YesNo

If "No," attach a list. See instructions.

H(c) Group exemption number

D Employer identification number
37-1779557

E Telephone number
(202) 602-6981

G Gross receipts \$ 5,327,320

I Tax-exempt status:

501(c)(3)

☒ 501(c) (4) (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: [www.thefairnessproject.org](#)

K Form of organization:

☒ Corporation Trust Association Other

L Year of formation: 2015

M State of legal domicile: CA

Part I

Summary

Activities & Governance

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities:
PROMOTING GENERAL SOCIAL WELFARE OF COMMUNITY THROUGH THE USE OF EDUCATION AROUND BALLOT MEASURES.

2 Check this box ☐ if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.

3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	4
4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	3
5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2021 (Part V, line 2a)	5	19
6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	3
7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0
b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, Part I, line 11	7b	0

Revenue

	Prior Year	Current Year
8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	6,331,447	5,246,851
9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)		0
10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	5,529	0
11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	2,547	69,510
12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	6,339,523	5,316,361

Expenses

13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	1,485,727	526,239
14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)		0
15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	1,021,711	1,390,353
16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)		0
b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25)	413,605	
17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	1,448,471	2,947,618
18 Total expenses. Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	3,955,909	4,864,210
19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	2,383,614	452,151

Net Assets or Fund Balances

	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	776,234	1,253,311
21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	89,477	114,403
22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	686,757	1,138,908

Part II

Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here

Signature of officer

STEVE TROSSMAN President

Type or print name and title

2022-10-18

Date

Paid Preparer Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name

Preparer's signature

Date

Check ☐ if self-employed

PTIN P01682202

Firm's name

Firm's EIN

Firm's address

Phone no.

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions)

☒ Yes

☐ No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat. No. 11282Y

Form 990 (2021)

Part III

Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

1

Briefly describe the organization’s mission:

PROMOTING GENERAL SOCIAL WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE USE OF AND EDUCATION AROUND BALLOT MEASURES.

2

Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ?

YesNo

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O.

3

Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services?

YesNo

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O.

4

Describe the organization’s program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a

(Code:) (Expenses \$ 3,968,800 including grants of \$ 526,239) (Revenue \$ 79,013)

PROMOTING GENERAL SOCIAL WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE USE OF AND EDUCATION AROUND BALLOT MEASURES TO HELP PEOPLE IN AMERICA TAKE ACTION TO IMPROVE THEIR ECONOMIC LIVES.

4b

(Code:) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4c

(Code:) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4d

Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)

(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e

Total program service expenses 3,968,800

Part IV

Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A	1	No
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors? See instructions. 	2 Yes	
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I 	3 Yes	
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	4	
5 Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Rev. Proc. 98-19? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	5	No
6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I	6	No
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II	7	No
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III	8	No
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability; serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV	9	No
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V	10	No
11 If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X, as applicable.		
a Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI.	11a	No
b Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII	11b	No
c Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII	11c	No
d Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX	11d	No
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X	11e	No
f Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)?	11f Yes	
12a If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X.  Did the organization prepare separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII 	12a Yes	
b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional	12b	No
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	13	No
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a	No
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV	14b	No
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV	15	No
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV	16	No
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I. See instructions.	17	No
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II 	18 Yes	
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III	19	No
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? If "Yes," complete Schedule H	20a	No
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	20b	
21 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II	21 Yes	

Part IV

Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

	Yes	No
22 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III	22	No
23 Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5, about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? If "Yes," complete Schedule J	23	Yes
24a Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a	24a	No
b Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	24b	
c Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?	24c	
d Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	24d	
25a Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	25a	No
b Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	25b	No
26 Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5 or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons?	26	No
27 If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I. Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity (including an employee thereof) or family member of any of these persons? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III	27	No
28 Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see the Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions):		
a A current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, or substantial contributor? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV	28a	No
b A family member of any individual described in line 28a? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV	28b	No
c A 35% controlled entity of one or more individuals and/or organizations described in line 28a or 28b? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV	28c	No
29 Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M	29	No
30 Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions?	30	No
31 If "Yes," complete Schedule M. Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I	31	No
32 Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II	32	No
33 Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3?	33	No
34 Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1	34	No
35a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a	No
b If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2	35b	
36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2	36	
37 Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI	37	No
38 Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations on Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? Note. All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O.	38	Yes

Part V

Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

	Yes	No
1a Enter the number reported in box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable	1a	39
b Enter the number of Forms W-2G included on line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable	1b	0
c Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?	1c	Yes

Part V		Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance (continued)				
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return	2a	19			
b	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file. See instructions.	2b	Yes			
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?	3a		No		
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? <i>If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O</i>	3b				
4a	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? Enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____ See instructions for filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).	4a		No		
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year? . . .	5a		No		
b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?	5b		No		
c	If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?	5c				
6a	Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?	6a	Yes			
b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?	6b	Yes			
7 Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).						
a	Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?	7a				
b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?	7b				
c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?	7c				
d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year	7d				
e	Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?	7e				
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?	7f				
g	If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?	7g				
h	If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?	7h				
8 Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds. Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year?				8		
9 Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.						
a	Did the sponsoring organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?	9a				
b	Did the sponsoring organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?	9b				
10 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:						
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12	10a				
b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities	10b				
11 Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter:						
a	Gross income from members or shareholders	11a				
b	Gross income from other sources. (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them.)	11b				
12a Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?				12a		
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year.	12b				
13 Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.						
a	Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.	13a				
b	Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans	13b				
c	Enter the amount of reserves on hand	13c				
14a	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?	14a		No		
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? <i>If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O</i>	14b				
15	Is the organization subject to the section 4960 tax on payment(s) of more than \$1,000,000 in remuneration or excess parachute payment(s) during the year?	15		No		
16	Is the organization subject to the section 4968 excise tax on net investment income? Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.	16		No		
17	Section 501(c)(21) organizations. Did the trust, any disqualified person, or mine operator engage in any activities that would result in the imposition of an excise tax under section 4951, 4952, or 4953? If "Yes," complete Form 6069.	17				

Part VI

Governance, Management, and Disclosure. For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI

☒

Section A. Governing Body and Management

			Yes	No
1a	Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year.	4		
	If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O.			
b	Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent.	3		
2	Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?	2		No
3	Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?	3		No
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?	4		No
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?	5		No
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?	6		No
7a	Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?	7a		No
b	Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?	7b		No
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following:			
a	The governing body?	8a	Yes	
b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	8b	Yes	
9	Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O.	9		No

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

		Yes	No
10a	Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?	10a	No
b	If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes?	10b	
11a	Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?	11a	Yes
b	Describe on Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990.		
12a	Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13.	12a	Yes
b	Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	12b	Yes
c	Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe on Schedule O how this was done.	12c	Yes
13	Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	13	Yes
14	Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	14	No
15	Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?		
a	The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official	15a	Yes
b	Other officers or key employees of the organization	15b	Yes
	If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process on Schedule O. See instructions.		
16a	Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?	16a	No
b	If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?	16b	

Section C. Disclosure

17	List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed.	CA
18	Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (1024 or 1024-A, if applicable), 990, and 990-T (section 501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply. ☐ Own website ☐ Another's website ☐ Upon request ☐ Other (explain in Schedule O)	
19	Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year.	
20	State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records: MIKE FINOCCHIO PO BOX 21337 WASHINGTON, DC 20009 (202) 602-6981	

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII ☐

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See the instructions for definition of "key employee."
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee or key employee) who received reportable compensation (box 5 of Form W-2, Form 1099-MISC, and/or box 1 of Form 1099-NEC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, or highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

See the instructions for the order in which to list the persons above.

☐ Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee.

[illegible]

1b Sub-Total			
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A			
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)	572,693	0	50,76

		Yes	No
3	Did the organization list any former officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	3	No
4	For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	4	Yes
5	Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>	5	No

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization ► [8](#)

Part VIII

Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512 - 514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants, and Other Similar Amounts			1a Federated campaigns	1a			
			b Membership dues	1b			
			c Fundraising events	1c			
			d Related organizations	1d			
			e Government grants (contributions)	1e			
			f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	5,246,851		
			g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a - 1f:\$	1g			
			h Total. Add lines 1a-1f				5,246,851
Program Service Revenue	2a	Business Code					
	b						
	c						
	d						
	e						
	f All other program service revenue.		0	0	0	0	
9 Total. Add lines 2a-2f.		0					
Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)						
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds						
	5 Royalties						
		(i) Real	(ii) Personal				
	6a Gross rents	6a					
	b Less: rental expenses	6b					
	c Rental income or (loss)	6c	0	0			
	d Net rental income or (loss)						
		(i) Securities	(ii) Other				
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	7a					
	b Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	7b					
	c Gain or (loss)	7c	0	0			
	d Net gain or (loss)						
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	8a	79,013				
	b Less: direct expenses	8b	10,959				
	c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events		68,054			68,054	
	9a Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19	9a					
	b Less: direct expenses	9b					
	c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities						
	10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	10a					
b Less: cost of goods sold	10b						
c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory							
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code					
11a MISCELLANEOUS INCOME		900099	1,456			1,456	
b							
c							
d All other revenue			0	0	0	0	
e Total. Add lines 11a-11d		1,456					
12 Total revenue. See instructions		5,316,361		0	0	69,510	

Part IX

Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX ☐

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21	526,239	526,239		
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22				
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16.				
4 Benefits paid to or for members				
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	194,842	130,870	23,942	40,030
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7 Other salaries and wages	987,180	663,061	121,303	202,816
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	11,178	7,508	1,373	2,297
9 Other employee benefits	92,175	61,911	11,326	18,938
10 Payroll taxes	104,978	70,511	12,899	21,568
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management	126,900	73,164	53,736	
b Legal	332,663	191,795	140,868	
c Accounting	29,058	16,753	12,305	
d Lobbying				
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
f Investment management fees				
g Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O)	372,534	282,476	54,172	35,886
12 Advertising and promotion				
13 Office expenses	17,504	10,915	4,650	1,939
14 Information technology	179,591	175,293		4,298
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy	2,956	1,843	785	328
17 Travel	27,617	8,260	11,543	7,814
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings				
20 Interest				
21 Payments to affiliates				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization				
23 Insurance				
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a RESEARCH AND DATA	1,578,520	1,578,520		
b STRATEGIC SERVICES	40,810	27,091	4,153	9,566
c DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	57,175			57,175
d BAD DEBT	100,000	95,000		5,000
e All other expenses	82,290	44,412	31,928	5,950
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	4,864,210	3,965,622	484,983	413,605
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here ☐ if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720).				

Part X

Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

☐

				(A)		(B)	
				Beginning of year		End of year	
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing		675,529	1	1,220,205	
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments			2		
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net			3		
	4	Accounts receivable, net		25,745	4	7,552	
	5	Loans and other receivables from any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons		0	5	0	
	6	Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)		0	6	0	
	7	Notes and loans receivable, net		28,814	7	0	
	8	Inventories for sale or use			8		
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges		46,146	9	25,554	
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a	0			
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation	10b	0	0	10c	0
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities			11		
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11		0	12		
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11		0	13		
	14	Intangible assets			14		
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11		0	15	0	
16	Total assets: Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 33)		776,234	16	1,253,311		
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses		89,477	17	114,403	
	18	Grants payable			18		
	19	Deferred revenue			19		
	20	Tax-exempt bond liabilities			20		
	21	Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D			21		
	22	Loans and other payables to any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons		0	22	0	
	23	Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties			23		
	24	Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties			24		
	25	Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17 - 24). Complete Part X of Schedule D		0	25	0	
	26	Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25		89,477	26	114,403	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow FASB ASC 958, check here ☒ and complete lines 27, 28, 32, and 33.						
	27	Net assets without donor restrictions		614,111	27	1,084,455	
	28	Net assets with donor restrictions		72,646	28	54,453	
	Organizations that do not follow FASB ASC 958, check here ☐ and complete lines 29 through 33.						
	29	Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds			29		
	30	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund			30		
	31	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds			31		
	32	Total net assets or fund balances		686,757	32	1,138,908	
	33	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances		776,234	33	1,253,311	

Part XI

Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	5,316,361
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	4,864,210
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	452,151
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 32, column (A))	4	686,757
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	0
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 32, column (A))	10	1,138,908

Part XII

Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

	Yes	No
1 Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: ☐ Cash ☒ Accrual ☐ Other _____ If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain on Schedule O.		
2a Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: ☐ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis		No
b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: ☒ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis	Yes	
c If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O.	Yes	
3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?		No
b If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits.		

Additional Data

Return to Form

Software ID: 21014044

Software Version: 2021v4.2

Form 990, Special Condition Description:

Special Condition Description

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 3, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 46 (Political Campaign Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations: Complete Parts I-A and B. Do not complete Part I-C.
- Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations: Complete Parts I-A and C below. Do not complete Part I-B.
- Section 527 organizations: Complete Part I-A only.

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 4, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 47 (Lobbying Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)): Complete Part II-A. Do not complete Part II-B.
- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)): Complete Part II-B. Do not complete Part II-A.

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 5 (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions) or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 35c (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions), then

- Section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) organizations: Complete Part III.

Name of the organization THE FAIRNESS PROJECT	Employer identification number 37-1779557
--	--

Part I-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c) or is a section 527 organization.

1	Provide a description of the organization's direct and indirect political campaign activities in Part IV. See instructions for definition of "political campaign activities."	
2	Political campaign activity expenditures. See instructions	\$ 421,239
3	Volunteer hours for political campaign activities. See instructions	

Part I-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3).

1	Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by the organization under section 4955	\$	
2	Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by organization managers under section 4955	\$	
3	If the organization incurred a section 4955 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?		☐ Yes ☐ No
4a	Was a correction made?		☐ Yes ☐ No
b	If "Yes," describe in Part IV.		

Part I-C Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c), except section 501(c)(3).

1	Enter the amount directly expended by the filing organization for section 527 exempt function activities	\$	
2	Enter the amount of the filing organization's funds contributed to other organizations for section 527 exempt function activities	\$	421,239
3	Total exempt function expenditures. Add lines 1 and 2. Enter here and on Form 1120-POL, line 17b	\$	421,239
4	Did the filing organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		☐ Yes ☒ No
5	Enter the names, addresses and employer identification number (EIN) of all section 527 political organizations to which the filing organization made payments. For each organization listed, enter the amount paid from the filing organization's funds. Also enter the amount of political contributions received that were promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization, such as a separate segregated fund or a political action committee (PAC). If additional space is needed, provide information in Part IV.		

(a) Name	(b) Address	(c) EIN	(d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds. If none, enter -0-	(e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization. If none, enter -0-
(1) EQUITY PAC	PO BOX 53 MANCHACA, TX 78652	39-4992343	200,000	0
(2) Demand Justice	1010 Vermont Avenue NW Suite 300 Washington, DC 20005	86-3689961	221,239	0
3				
4				
5				
6				

Part II-A

Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

- A
- Check
- ☐
- if the filing organization belongs to an affiliated group (and list in Part IV each affiliated group member's name, address, EIN, expenses, and share of excess lobbying expenditures).
- B
- Check
- ☐
- if the filing organization checked box A and "limited control" provisions apply.

Limits on Lobbying Expenditures (The term "expenditures" means amounts paid or incurred.)		(a) Filing organization's totals	(b) Affiliated group totals												
1a Total lobbying expenditures to influence public opinion (grass roots lobbying)															
b Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)															
c Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)															
d Other exempt purpose expenditures															
e Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)															
f Lobbying nontaxable amount. Enter the amount from the following table in both columns.															
<table><tr><th>If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:</th><th>The lobbying nontaxable amount is:</th></tr><tr><td>Not over \$500,000</td><td>20% of the amount on line 1e.</td></tr><tr><td>Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000</td><td>\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.</td></tr><tr><td>Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000</td><td>\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.</td></tr><tr><td>Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000</td><td>\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.</td></tr><tr><td>Over \$17,000,000</td><td>\$1,000,000.</td></tr></table>		If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:	Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e.	Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.	Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.	Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.	Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000.		
If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:														
Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e.														
Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.														
Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.														
Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.														
Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000.														
g Grassroots nontaxable amount (enter 25% of line 1f)															
h Subtract line 1g from line 1a. If zero or less, enter -0-															
i Subtract line 1f from line 1c. If zero or less, enter -0-															
j If there is an amount other than zero on either line 1h or line 1i, did the organization file Form 4720 reporting section 4911 tax for this year?		☐ Yes ☐ No													

4-Year Averaging Period Under Section 501(h)
(Some organizations that made a section 501(h) election do not have to complete all of the five columns below. See the separate instructions for lines 2a through 2f.)

Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period					
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2018	(b) 2019	(c) 2020	(d) 2021	(e) Total
2a Lobbying nontaxable amount					
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column(e))					
c Total lobbying expenditures					
d Grassroots nontaxable amount					
e Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					
f Grassroots lobbying expenditures					

Part II-B

Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and has NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

For each "Yes" response on lines 1a through 1i below, provide in Part IV a detailed description of the lobbying activity.

		(a)		(b)
		Yes	No	Amount
1	During the year, did the filing organization attempt to influence foreign, national, state or local legislation, including any attempt to influence public opinion on a legislative matter or referendum, through the use of:			
a	Volunteers?			
b	Paid staff or management (include compensation in expenses reported on lines 1c through 1i)?			
c	Media advertisements?			
d	Mailings to members, legislators, or the public?			
e	Publications, or published or broadcast statements?			
f	Grants to other organizations for lobbying purposes?			
g	Direct contact with legislators, their staffs, government officials, or a legislative body?			
h	Rallies, demonstrations, seminars, conventions, speeches, lectures, or any similar means?			
i	Other activities?			
j	Total. Add lines 1c through 1i			
2a	Did the activities in line 1 cause the organization to be not described in section 501(c)(3)?			
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred under section 4912			
c	If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred by organization managers under section 4912			
d	If the filing organization incurred a section 4912 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?			

Part III-A

Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6).

		Yes	No
1	Were substantially all (90% or more) dues received nondeductible by members?	1	
2	Did the organization make only in-house lobbying expenditures of \$2,000 or less?	2	
3	Did the organization agree to carry over lobbying and political expenditures from the prior year?	3	

Part III-B

Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6) and if either (a) BOTH Part III-A, lines 1 and 2, are answered "No" OR (b) Part III-A, line 3, is answered "Yes."

1	Dues, assessments and similar amounts from members	1	
2	Section 162(e) nondeductible lobbying and political expenditures (do not include amounts of political expenses for which the section 527(f) tax was paid).		
a	Current year	2a	
b	Carryover from last year	2b	
c	Total	2c	
3	Aggregate amount reported in section 6033(e)(1)(A) notices of nondeductible section 162(e) dues .	3	
4	If notices were sent and the amount on line 2c exceeds the amount on line 3, what portion of the excess does the organization agree to carryover to the reasonable estimate of nondeductible lobbying and political expenditure next year?	4	
5	Taxable amount of lobbying and political expenditures. See Instructions	5	

Part IV

Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part I-A, line 1; Part I-B, line 4; Part I-C, line 5; Part II-A (affiliated group list); Part II-A, lines 1 and 2 (see instructions), and Part II-B, line 1. Also, complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
Schedule C, Part I-A, Line 1 Description of Political Activities	THE FAIRNESS PROJECT MADE CONTRIBUTIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT ENGAGE VOTERS IN SUPPORT OF CANDIDATES WHO ALSO BACK PROGRESSIVE POLICIES

Additional Data

[Return to Form](#)

Software ID: 21014044

Software Version: 2021v4.2

Name of the organization
THE FAIRNESS PROJECT

Employer identification number
37-1779557

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1 Total number at end of year		
2 Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)		
3 Aggregate value of grants from (during year)		
4 Aggregate value at end of year		

5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Part II Conservation Easements.
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply).
☐ Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or education) ☐ Preservation of an historically important land area
☐ Protection of natural habitat ☐ Preservation of a certified historic structure
☐ Preservation of open space

2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year.

a Total number of conservation easements

b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements

c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)

d Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 7/25/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register

	Held at the End of the Year
2a	
2b	
2c	
2d	

3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ▶ _____

4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ▶ _____

5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
▶ _____

7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
▶ \$ _____

8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

9 In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a If the organization elected, as permitted under FASB ASC 958, not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items.

b If the organization elected, as permitted under FASB ASC 958, to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items:
(i) Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ _____
(ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ _____

2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under FASB ASC 958 relating to these items:
a Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ _____
b Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ _____

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Cat. No.
52283D

Schedule D (Form 990) 2021

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

3

Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):

a

☐ Public exhibition

d

☐ Loan or exchange programs

b

☐ Scholarly research

e

☐ Other

c

☐ Preservation for future generations

4

Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII.

5

During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? . . .

☐ Yes

☐ No

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a

Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?

☐ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table:

c

Beginning balance

d

Additions during the year

e

Distributions during the year

f

Ending balance

	Amount
1c	
1d	
1e	
1f	

2a

Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability? . . .

☐ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

☐

Part V Endowment Funds.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance					
b Contributions					
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses					
d Grants or scholarships					
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs					
f Administrative expenses					
g End of year balance					

2

Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as:

a

Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶

b

Permanent endowment ▶

c

Term endowment ▶

The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%.

3a

Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:

(i) Unrelated organizations

(ii) Related organizations

b

If "Yes" on 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?

	Yes	No
3a(i)		
3a(ii)		
3b		

4

Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds.

Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land				
b Buildings				
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment				
e Other				

Total.

Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).) . . . ▶

Schedule D (Form 990) 2021

Part VII

Investments - Other Securities.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives		
(2) Closely-held equity interests		
(3) Other _____		
(A)		
(B)		
(C)		
(D)		
(E)		
(F)		
(G)		
(H)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 12.)		

Part VIII

Investments - Program Related.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 13.)		

Part IX

Other Assets.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15.

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1)	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 15.)	

Part X

Other Liabilities.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f.
See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

1. (a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
(1) Federal income taxes	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 25.)	0

2. Liability for uncertain tax positions. In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740). Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII ☒

Part XI

Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements	1	5,327,320
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12:		
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a	
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b	
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c	
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d	0
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	0
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	5,327,320
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1:		
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a	
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b	0
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	0
5	Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.)	5	5,327,320

Part XII

Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements	1	4,875,169
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25:		
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a	
b	Prior year adjustments	2b	
c	Other losses	2c	
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d	0
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	0
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	4,875,169
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:		
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a	
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b	0
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	0
5	Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.)	5	4,875,169

Part XIII

Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9; Part III, lines 1a and 4; Part IV, lines 1b and 2b; Part V, line 4; Part X, line 2; Part XI, lines 2d and 4b; and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
Schedule D, Part X, Line 2 FIN 48 (ASC 740) footnote	The Organization evaluates uncertainty in income tax positions based on a more-likely-than-not recognition standard. If that threshold is met, the tax position is then measured at the largest amount that is greater than 50% likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement. As of December 31, 2021 and 2020, there are no accruals for uncertain tax positions. If applicable, the Organization records interest and penalties as a component of income tax expense. Tax years from 2018 through the current year remain open for examination by tax authorities.

Additional Data

[Return to Form](#)

Software ID: 21014044

Software Version: 2021v4.2

SCHEDULE G
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information Regarding
Fundraising or Gaming Activities

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 17, 18, or 19, or if the organization entered more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.
▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.
▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2021

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
THE FAIRNESS PROJECT

Employer identification number
37-1779557

Part I Fundraising Activities. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 17.
Form 990-EZ filers are not required to complete this part.

- 1 Indicate whether the organization raised funds through any of the following activities. Check all that apply.
- a ☐ Mail solicitations

e ☐ Solicitation of non-government grants

b ☐ Internet and email solicitations

f ☐ Solicitation of government grants

c ☐ Phone solicitations

g ☐ Special fundraising events

d ☐ In-person solicitations
- 2a Did the organization have a written or oral agreement with any individual (including officers, directors, trustees or key employees listed in Form 990, Part VII) or entity in connection with professional fundraising services? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- b If "Yes," list the 10 highest paid individuals or entities (fundraisers) pursuant to agreements under which the fundraiser is to be compensated at least \$5,000 by the organization.

(i) Name and address of individual or entity (fundraiser)	(ii) Activity	(iii) Did fundraiser have custody or control of contributions?		(iv) Gross receipts from activity	(v) Amount paid to (or retained by) fundraiser listed in col. (i)	(vi) Amount paid to (or retained by) organization
		Yes	No			
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
Total ▶						

3 List all states in which the organization is registered or licensed to solicit contributions or has been notified it is exempt from registration or licensing.

Part II Fundraising Events. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 18, or reported more than \$15,000 of fundraising event contributions and gross income on Form 990-EZ, lines 1 and 6b. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

		(a)Event #1	(b) Event #2	(c)Other events	(d) Total events
		<u>OCTOBER EVENT</u> (event type)	<u>SEPTEMBER EVENT</u> (event type)	<u>(total number)</u>	(add col. (a) through col. (c))
Revenue					
	1 Gross receipts	17,728	61,285		79,013
	2 Less: Contributions				
	3 Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	17,728	61,285	0	79,013
Direct Expenses	4 Cash prizes				
	5 Noncash prizes				
	6 Rent/facility costs				
	7 Food and beverages		6,273		6,273
	8 Entertainment				
	9 Other direct expenses	1,022	3,664		4,686
	10 Direct expense summary. Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d) ▶				10,959
	11 Net income summary. Subtract line 10 from line 3, column (d) ▶				68,054

Part III Gaming. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 19, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

		(a) Bingo	(b) Pull tabs/Instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c) Other gaming	(d) Total gaming (add col.(a) through col.(c))
Revenue	1 Gross revenue				
Direct Expenses	2 Cash prizes				
	3 Noncash prizes				
	4 Rent/facility costs				
	5 Other direct expenses				
	6 Volunteer labor	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	
	7 Direct expense summary. Add lines 2 through 5 in column (d) ▶				
	8 Net gaming income summary. Subtract line 7 from line 1, column (d) ▶				

9 Enter the state(s) in which the organization conducts gaming activities: _____

a Is the organization licensed to conduct gaming activities in each of these states? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "No," explain: _____

10a Were any of the organization's gaming licenses revoked, suspended or terminated during the tax year? . . . ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "Yes," explain: _____

11

Does the organization conduct gaming activities with nonmembers?

☐ Yes ☐ No

12

Is the organization a grantor, beneficiary or trustee of a trust or a member of a partnership or other entity formed to administer charitable gaming?

☐ Yes ☐ No

13

Indicate the percentage of gaming activity conducted in:

a	The organization's facility	13a	%
b	An outside facility	13b	%

14

Enter the name and address of the person who prepares the organization's gaming/special events books and records:

Name ▶ -----

Address ▶ -----

15a

Does the organization have a contract with a third party from whom the organization receives gaming revenue?

☐ Yes ☐ No

b

If "Yes," enter the amount of gaming revenue received by the organization ▶ \$ _____ and the amount of gaming revenue retained by the third party ▶ \$ _____.

c

If "Yes," enter name and address of the third party:

Name ▶ -----

Address ▶ -----

16 Gaming manager information:

Name ▶ -----

Gaming manager compensation ▶ \$ -----

Description of services provided ▶ -----

☐ Director/officer

☐ Employee

☐ Independent contractor

17 Mandatory distributions:

a

Is the organization required under state law to make charitable distributions from the gaming proceeds to retain the state gaming license?

☐ Yes ☐ No

b

Enter the amount of distributions required under state law distributed to other exempt organizations or spent in the organization's own exempt activities during the tax year ▶ \$ _____

Part IV Supplemental Information. Provide the explanations required by Part I, line 2b, columns (iii) and (v); and Part III, lines 9, 9b, 10b, 15b, 15c, 16, and 17b, as applicable. Also provide any additional information. See Instructions.

Return Reference	Explanation
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Note: To capture the full content of this document, please select landscape mode (11" x 8.5") when printing.

Schedule I
(Form 990)

Department of the
Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations,
Governments and Individuals in the United States

Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 21 or 22.
▶ Attach to Form 990.
▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2021

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization
THE FAIRNESS PROJECT

Employer identification number
37-1779557

Part I General Information on Grants and Assistance

- 1

Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance?

☒ Yes ☐ No
- 2

Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States.

Part II Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

(a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section (if applicable)	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of noncash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
(1) Healthcare For Mississippi 7716 Old Canton Rd Madison, MS 39110	86-3084639	501(c)(4)	50,000				PROGRAM SERVICES
(2) Tucson Fight for 15 244 E Columbia St Tucson, AZ 85714	86-2222684	501(C)(4)	50,000				PROGRAM SERVICES
(3) Equity PAC PO Box 53 Manchaca, TX 78652	39-4992343	527	200,000				PROGRAM SERVICES
(4) Demand Justice 1010 Vermont Ave NW Washington, DC 20005	86-3689961	501(c)(4)	221,239				PROGRAM SERVICES

- 2

Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations listed in the line 1 table

3
- 3

Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table

1

Part III **Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Individuals.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 22.
Part III can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

(a) Type of grant or assistance		(b) Number of recipients		(c) Amount of cash grant		(d) Amount of noncash assistance		(e) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)		(f) Description of noncash assistance	
(1)											
(2)											
(3)											
(4)											
(5)											
(6)											
(7)											

Part IV **Supplemental Information.** Provide the information required in Part I, line 2; Part III, column (b); and any other additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
Schedule I, Part I, Line 2 Procedures for monitoring use of grant funds.	GRANTS ARE MADE TO U.S. ORGANIZATIONS FOR PROJECTS IN THE U.S. AND THE FAIRNESS PROJECT MONITORS USAGE OF FUNDS THROUGH FOLLOW UP CORRESPONDENCE AND REQUIRED PROJECT REPORTS FROM THE GRANTEES.

Additional Data

Return to Form

Software ID: 21014044
Software Version: 2021v4.2

Name of the organization
THE FAIRNESS PROJECT

Employer identification number
37-1779557

Part I Questions Regarding Compensation

	Yes	No
1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items. ☐ First-class or charter travel ☐ Travel for companions ☐ Tax idemnification and gross-up payments ☐ Discretionary spending account ☐ Housing allowance or residence for personal use ☐ Payments for business use of personal residence ☐ Health or social club dues or initiation fees ☐ Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)		
b If any of the boxes on Line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain	1b	
2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked on Line 1a?	2	
3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III. ☐ Compensation committee ☐ Independent compensation consultant ☐ Form 990 of other organizations ☐ Written employment contract ☒ Compensation survey or study ☒ Approval by the board or compensation committee		
4 During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization: a Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment? b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan? c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement? If "Yes".to any.of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.	4a 4b 4c	No No No
Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.		
5 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of: a The organization? b Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.	5a 5b	No No
6 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of: a The organization? b Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.	6a 6b	No No
7 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any nonfixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III	7	No
8 Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III	8	No
9 If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?	9	

Part II	Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.
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For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii). Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII.

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual.

[illegible]

Part III **Supplemental Information**

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
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Additional Data

Return to Form

Software ID: 21014044

Software Version: 2021v4.2

Name of the organization
 THE FAIRNESS PROJECT

Employer identification number

 37-1779557

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Line 15 DETERMINING COMPENSATION	THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DETERMINES THE COMPENSATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND OTHER EMPLOYEES BASED ON COMPARABLE SALARY STUDIES.
Form 990, Part VI, Line 11b Review of form 990 by governing body	FORM 990 IS APPROVED BY THE ENTIRE VOTING BOARD OF DIRECTORS BEFORE FILING WITH THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.
Form 990, Part VI, Line 12c Conflict of interest policy	EACH DIRECTOR, PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND MEMBER OF A COMMITTEE WITH BOARD DELEGATED POWERS ANNUALLY SIGNS A STATEMENT WHICH AFFIRMS THEY HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF THE POLICY, HAS READ AND UNDERSTANDS AND WILL COMPLY WITH THE POLICY. IN CONNECTION WITH ANY ACTUAL OR POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST, AN INTERESTED PERSON DISCLOSES THE EXISTENCE OF THE FINANCIAL INTEREST AND ALL MATERIAL FACTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD COMMITTEES WITH DELEGATED POWER OF CONSIDERING A PROPOSED TRANSACTION OR ARRANGEMENT. AN INTERESTED PERSON MAY MAKE PRESENTATIONS AT A BOARD OR COMMITTEE MEETING, BUT WILL THEN BE RECUSED FROM DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON THE TRANSACTION OR ARRANGEMENT INVOLVING A POSSIBLE CONFLICT.
Form 990, Part VI, Line 15a Process to establish compensation of top management official	THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DETERMINES THE COMPENSATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND OTHER EMPLOYEES BASED ON COMPARABLE SALARY STUDIES.
Form 990, Part VI, Line 15b Process to establish compensation of other employees	THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DETERMINES THE COMPENSATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND OTHER EMPLOYEES BASED ON COMPARABLE SALARY STUDIES.
Form 990, Part VI, Line 19 Required documents available to the public	THE ORGANIZATION DOES NOT MAKE ITS GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

Additional Data

[Return to Form](#)

Software ID: 21014044

Software Version: 2021v4.2