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ANNUAL REPORT





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LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

The past year has been challenging for our communities as we continue to recover from the lasting effects of the pandemic. But we have seen resilience that inspires us to work better, harder and smarter.

Throughout 2022, The Southwest Collective maintained its focus and made significant progress in achieving its strategic initiatives, detailed within this report. We formed several new partnerships and strengthened existing relationships. Partners like the Chicago Park District, Southwest Organizing Project and Chicagoland Food Sovereignty Coalition made our monthly Farmers Markets possible. This helped provide nutritious foods for our neighborhoods on a monthly basis.

In September, we responded quickly as hundreds of asylum-seeking migrants, including children and infants, arrived in Chicago. SWC's Freebies for Families distributed and donated baby essentials such as diapers, wipes, formula, strollers and clothes. None of this would have been possible without the help of everyone that donated supplies and our incredible team of volunteers who made sure the events ran smoothly.



In 2023, we will continue to push for policies to address food and environmental health disparities. Through collaboration with The Southwest Chicago Chamber of Commerce, which is ready to now branch out into its own separate organization, we will unite small business owners to make their voices heard and advocate for their collective interest. Together, with the help of our established partners, we will chart a new course for a more equitable and brighter future for our communities.

Our strength lies in unity. We encourage you to take action and get involved with The Southwest Collective by volunteering with us. When you choose to act, your self-confidence grows. And when your self-confidence grows, your actions grow bolder and you become stronger. Engaging in your community is key to changing systems and addressing the root cause of our challenges.

Thank you to our SWC Board of Directors, volunteers, partners, and to those who have supported The Southwest Collective on our mission to break down barriers, borders and boundaries in order to build a stronger community for all on the Southwest side of Chicago.

With Love,

**MAYRA &
ADRIANA**





FREEBIES FOR FAMILIES

316

FAMILIES SERVED

3

DIFFERENT COMMUNITY LOCATIONS

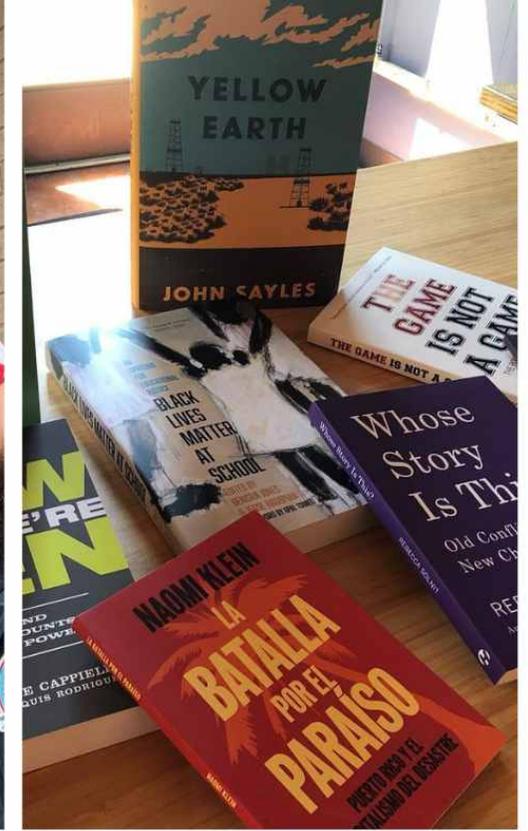
~110

POUNDS OF CLOTHING SAVED FROM LANDFILLS & GOODWILLS

Freebies for Families is in its 4th year, and it has helped many families in many ways - thanks to partners like Share Our Spare, as well as many amazing volunteers and hosts.

Our vision when beginning was to provide a safe, welcoming space for parents to swap clothing and gear as their children grew up and out of things. We were moved to action by the tragic murder of Marlen Ochoa-Lopez, who died while trying to obtain free clothes for her expected baby.

Since coming back after the quarantine, we have begun asking for donations for diapers, wipes and formula to share with parents who do not qualify for WIC, SNAP or LINK, because a fed baby means a happy & healthy baby (and mom too).



LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

3

LIBRARIES RE-
INSTALLED

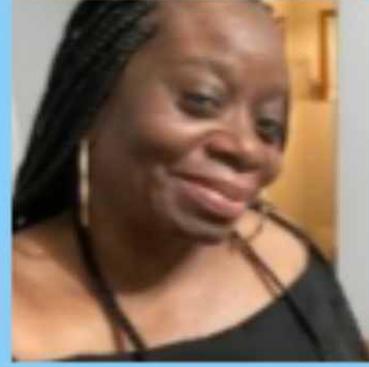
1,500

BOOKS SAVED
FROM LANDFILL

This year, we re-installed three library boxes at West Lawn, Pasteur and Scottsdale parks, and worked on maintaining our network of 15+ libraries across the southwest side!

We happily accepted bulk book donations from St. Gall School, Durkin Park Elementary and the Chicago Teachers Union, sharing the reads far and wide, especially during the summer. We also gave a few boxes a chalkboard top or side to inspire creativity.

During holidays like Halloween, we like to "boo" the boxes and place treats inside for kids to discover. We'll continue to make this network of libraries a point of engagement for youth. We encourage everyone to drop a handful of loved books in your nearby box!



REGIONAL CHAMBER DEVELOPMENT

The SW Chi Chamber has been started and paused frequently, due to the pandemic and its ripple effect on small businesses.

In 2022, we offered Tax and Website Workshops, a Trademarking & Licensure event, and hosted Viva la Cultura with PODER. We also celebrated our partners at United Credit Union, who received a Juntos Avanzamos designation.

Now, supported by our partners at IHCC and GSDC, our chamber membership will finally open again in 2023, under the capable leadership of its own nine-person board of directors, representing businesses across the southwest side.

250

BUSINESSES ASSISTED

2K+

HOURS OF OUTREACH & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED





BIKE ADVOCACY

For the third consecutive year, our bike advocacy group took concrete steps to build a culture of cycling on the southwest side. We organized monthly community bike rides from March through November; planned family-friendly routes along our neighborhood side streets; and advocated for safety improvements for cyclists and pedestrians.

10

FAMILY-FRIENDLY
BIKE RIDES
ORGANIZED

This year's rides started from Senka Park, Marquette Park, Gage Park, Brighton Park, and Kelly Park, and we were happy to see repeat riders joining us as we moved from neighborhood to neighborhood. (Save the date for our first ride of 2023: Saturday, March 4)

30

MILES OF ROUTES
ALONG AREA SIDE
STREETS

We also joined forces with activists and organizers from Bike Grid Now to plan an October 15 Southwest Side Bike Jam. Our sizable group rode slow—5 mph—from Senka Park to Gage Park, in order to demonstrate what calmer streets might mean for our community. We heard plenty of positive feedback (and friendly honks!) from our neighbors along the route. The southwest side needs—and deserves—safer streets!

1

HOUR BIKE JAM
FROM SENKA TO
GAGE PARK

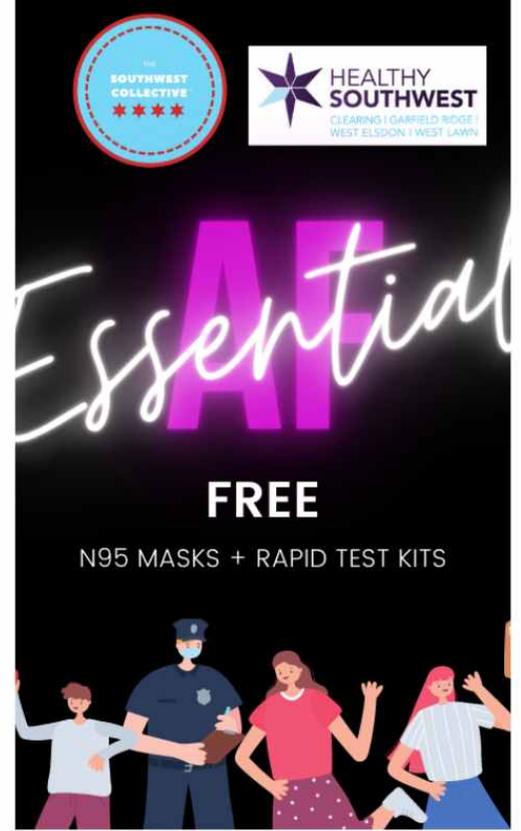


FOOD. ART. COMMUNITY.

At the beginning of the year, we decided that we wanted to provide more arts programming, as a way for folks to start socializing again. (Quarantine and virtual-everything have really taken their toll the past two years!) We started slowly, by decorating three more Community Boxes with local youth, then expanded to bring in a Love Fridge. By spring we were securing two locations and two units to decorate: one at Back of the Yards Coffee and another destined for the new campus of Academy for Global Citizenship in the LeClaire Courts area.

This entire food-and-art community collaboration is part of our ongoing work with **buildOn**, which arranges service hours for Chicago Public School students, as well as the **Mid-America Regional Carpenters Union**. We're very thankful for this partnership!

All this creativity and community collaboration led to SWC receiving a Together We Heal grant from the City of Chicago, so in 2023, you'll see much more of this innovative programming in the new year!



HEALTHY CHICAGO EQUITY ZONES

Our work within Healthy Southwest / Healthy Chicago Equity Zone has allowed us to do many important things in Garfield Ridge!

15K TEST KITS DISTRIBUTED

We distributed care packages, tests, masks and vaccine info to residents and local businesses. Now, we will push for stronger and more inclusive food access policies at the state and local levels, because while we love the Love Fridge and the markets, we should be doing them out of fun, not utter necessity.

263 VACCINE APPOINTMENTS MADE

We have also supported essential workers, particularly the folks at Midway who have had to deal with staff shortages and the ripple effect that has on health and quality of life. Our revamped Essential AF campaign delivered care packages directly to attendants and grounds crew this summer.

11 FREE FARMERS MARKETS HELD



NEW PARTNERS & COLLABS

This year, we branched out in a big way!

Our collabs with **Back of the Yards Coffeehouse** and the **Mid-America Regional Carpenters Union** have provided not just a great way to build, repair and expand our network of community boxes, but also a pathway for young people into careers in the trades.

We have also partnered with **Paz Interior Counseling**, in order to provide bilingual group therapy free of charge to our communities, particularly young folks who are still processing the effects of the pandemic. They'll join in on our programming at **De Colores** next year as we begin our work with our Together We Heal grant award, providing art-as-therapy to youth.

Finally, our longtime partner, **United Credit Union**, earned a Juntos Avanzamos designation, in order to provide access to capital (think mortgages and car loans) to folks with ITINs, and we helped them celebrate in a big way.

FINANCIALS AT-A-GLANCE

GRANT FUNDING
\$208,405.96

DIRECT PUBLIC SUPPORT
\$7,453.00

TOTAL REVENUE
\$215,859.23

TOTAL EXPENDITURES
\$207,933.22

AVG MONTHLY EXPENSE
\$18,903.02

NET REVENUE
\$7,926.01

The Southwest Collective (TechSoup)

Statement of Activity

January - November, 2022

	CRFS/FIBOTY	Freebies for Families	GSDC	IHCC Grant	IHCC Grant '22	Little Libraries	SWC General/Unrestricted	SWOP '22-23	SWOP - Vaccine Equity	TOTAL	
Revenue											
43300 Direct Public Grants							5,000.00			5,000.00	
43330 Foundation and Trust Grants							5,000.00			5,000.00	
43340 Nonprofit Organization Grants	25,000.00	5,000.00		7,488.35	26,252.26	1,200.00	24,800.00	47,930.32	60,735.03	198,405.96	
43400 Direct Public Support							2,280.00			2,280.00	
43401 Donation Payment							4,130.00			4,130.00	
Total 43400 Direct Public Support	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$6,410.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$6,410.00	
43410 Corporate Contributions							500.00			500.00	
44800 Indirect Public Support							543.27			543.27	
Total Revenue	\$25,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$7,488.35	\$26,252.26	\$1,200.00	\$42,253.27	\$47,930.32	\$60,735.03	\$215,859.23	
Gross Profit	\$25,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$7,488.35	\$26,252.26	\$1,200.00	\$42,253.27	\$47,930.32	\$60,735.03	\$215,859.23	
Expenditures											
60300 Awards and Grants							42.87			42.87	
60900 Business Expenses							257.78	231.17		488.95	
60901 Bank Charges & Fees							\$ 287.78	\$ 231.17	\$ 0.00	\$ 488.95	
Total 60900 Business Expenses	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 287.78	\$ 231.17	\$ 0.00	\$ 488.95	
60920 Business Registration Fees							38.00		232.00	270.00	
62100 Contract Services			422.50	5,530.23	12,144.00	9,806.77	3,715.00	20,381.30	3,376.00	34,994.50	
62101 Professional and Technical Services	299.70		8,006.70	510.07	10,939.78	5,551.97	20,381.30	7,398.81		51,088.43	
62102 PMA (COVID)							19,860.00		27,428.25	47,288.25	
62103 PMA (Remodel)									601.00	601.00	
62105 Outreach Work			478.27		264.00			135.00		817.27	
Total 62100 Contract Services	\$ 299.70	\$ 0.00	\$8,907.47	\$6,040.30	\$23,287.78	\$ 0.00	\$15,368.74	\$44,091.30	\$38,804.16	\$134,786.45	
62150 Outside Contract Services	20,000.00					50.00	10.00			20,060.00	
62800 Office/General Administrative Expenses								7,400.00	6,600.00	14,000.00	
62801 Office Rent							-59.92	918.16	720.80	1,578.04	
62805 Office Supplies/Expenses							\$ 59.92	\$8,318.16	\$7,320.80	\$15,578.04	
Total 62800 Office/General Administrative Expenses	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$-59.92	\$8,318.16	\$7,320.80	\$15,578.04	
65000 Operations			198.00				789.92	5,000.00	6,000.00	11,000.00	
65010 Books, Subscriptions, Reference							72.69	47.77	431.39	120.46	
65020 Postage, Mailing Service			44.92	18.78	37.44			29.00		130.12	
65030 Printing and Copying			540.40	89.21	1,247.52	986.33	1,727.09	1,727.98	2,611.36	10,379.14	
65040 Supplies	520.73	883.52						50.00		50.00	
65050 Telephone, Telecommunications							899.42		1,222.00	2,121.42	
65120 Insurance - Liability, D and O										340.08	
65170 Staff Development										340.08	
65180 Taxes & Licenses		12.63					465.78	200.04	312.89	312.89	
68300 Travel and Meetings		12,633		50.00	879.52		22.04	232.74	2,074.81	4,037.42	
68301 Meetings Expenses							158.79		1,500.00	2,302.93	
68302 Caravan rentals	644.14									644.14	
Total 68300 Travel and Meetings	\$1,988.32	\$ 12.63	\$ 50.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 879.52	\$ 0.00	\$ 477.80	\$ 591.57	\$3,800.43	\$7,706.27	
68305 Volunteer/Event meals and refreshments							1,965.89			1,965.89	
68310 Conference, Convention, Meeting										1,900.00	
Charitable Contributions							1,000.00			1,000.00	
PayPal Fees							65.79			65.79	
Total Expenditures	\$22,708.75	\$ 896.15	\$7,740.79	\$7,488.35	\$26,252.26	\$1,036.33	\$20,921.07	\$60,154.49	\$60,735.03	\$207,933.22	monthly expense
Net Operating Revenue	\$2,291.25	\$4,103.85	-\$1,740.79	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 163.67	\$21,332.20	-\$12,224.17	\$ 0.00	\$7,926.01	18,903.02
Net Revenue	\$2,291.25	\$4,103.85	-\$1,740.79	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 163.67	\$21,332.20	-\$12,224.17	\$ 0.00	\$7,926.01	11 months

THANK YOU



swcollective.org