Friends of Southwest DC 2021 Annual Report

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Board of Directors 2021

Peter Eicher, President Cheryl Parham, Vice President Jean Sammon, Treasurer Gabriele Strauch, Secretary Joyce Bouvier Peri Hamlin C. W. Hargrave Russell McIntyre Ellen Spencer

We're deeply grateful to grateful to YOU. Our donors made all this possible!

YOUR DONATIONS, HELPING THE COMMUNITY

For many in our Southwest community, 2021 was a continuing time of hardship. Friends of Southwest DC worked throughout the year to assist neighbors in need, create opportunities for our young people, and improve life in our quadrant of the city. We awarded eleven grants totaling over \$32,000 to Southwest organizations, providing funds for college scholarships, summer camp, food and clothing distribution, youth theater and radio projects, support for families, Thanksgiving meals, a Christmas toy drive, and more. Meanwhile, our grants from previous years continued to fund programs in 2021 for Southwest seniors and children.

The mission of Friends of Southwest DC is to support community groups working to advance educational, charitable, and community development activities, exclusively in Southwest. In 2021, as in previous years, most of our grantees were small organizations that otherwise would not have been able to undertake the programs that we supported. We're proud of our partner organizations and all they've accomplished.

Since 1998, Friends of Southwest DC has made grants totaling over \$350,000 to more than 40 organizations working to make Southwest a better place. Almost a third of this total has been awarded over just the past three years. Because all our work is done by a volunteer Board of Directors,

we've been able to keep administrative costs extremely low—under 4%—making Friends of Southwest DC one of the most costeffective champions of our community. In fact, we were the recipient of the 2021 Champion's Award from Waterfront Village.









2021 Grants

We're proud of all our grantees

Providing grants to make Southwest a better place is the core mission of Friends of Southwest DC. Some of the grants we provided enabled grantees to continue to enrich their virtual programing. Happily, we were also able to support more in-person activities. Our 2021 grants were as follows:

ARENA STAGE, to enable young Southwest residents to attend Camp Arena Stage, which allows young people from diverse economic and racial backgrounds to come together to explore, discover and create art. A grant from Friends of Southwest DC also supported participation by students at Jefferson Middle School Academy in Voices of Now, a yearlong, after-school program that uses creative writing, group discussion, collaboration, and movement to devise autobiographical theater pieces.

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, in support of its food pantry serving Southwest residents. CUMC's 5,000 Food Ministry provided food at no cost to approximately 70 individuals and families (25% of whom are seniors) each month. The grant helped buy necessities such as toiletries, diapers, and other items, as well as groceries.

DC STORM (Students Taught Organization and Respect Through Mentoring), for students to develop a series of radio programs broadcast on the show of James "Butch" McAdams of WOL 1450 AM. A second grant to STORM supported a trip for students to the Hampton Roads area to teach the importance of culture and Black history, with added exposure to historically Black colleges and universities.

GOODProjects, for its Family Success Planning program, which is designed to aid economically challenged families in Southwest with the tools they need to transition into self-sufficiency. The program focuses on healthy living, employment, community living, and safety and security.

LIVING CLASSROOMS FOUNDATION, in support of its Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive serving families in Southwest. Living Classrooms, working out of the Dent House Community Center in Buzzard Point, provided complete Thanksgiving meals for over 50 Southwest families.

SERVE YOUR CITY/WARD 6 MUTUAL AID, for its Southwest Ducklings clothing collection drive, which provided 150 children living in Southwest with quality, seasonal clothing.

SOUTHWEST COMM-UNITY FORUM, to support its "Summer in Lansburgh Park" day, an opportunity for the community to come together to enjoy music, games, exhibits, free food, and carnival rides for the kids. A second grant to the organization supported its Christmas Toys for Tots project, enabling it to buy toys and other items for Southwest children during the holidays.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, to support its weekend lunch program for children and families who live at the Aya, a transitional shelter in Southwest for families experiencing homelessness. The shelter provides families with two meals a day (breakfast and dinner); the weekend lunch program adds needed food.

SOUTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSEMBLY (SWNA), for its college scholarship program, which Friends of Southwest has supported with grants for more than 20 years. The 2021 grant provided college scholarships for five outstanding Southwest college scholars.

WATERFRONT VILLAGE. A previous Friends of Southwest grant continued in 2021 to support the Village's work for Southwest seniors, in particular subsidizing Village memberships for low-income residents and for in-home independent living assessments of frail seniors.

Supporting Local Youth & Families

In 2021, generous Friends of Southwest DC donors like you contributed over \$36,000 to support these valuable programs.

These are just some of the many people and groups who benefitted from your donations.



★Norfolk, VA – College Trip



★Southwest DC – Summer in Lansburgh Park



Meeting Needs, Providing









Opportunity

Scholarship recipients from left: Sydney King, Steven Guo (top), Ellen Guo (bottom), Eleanor Holt, Aiden Smith

Thanks to Our 2021 Donors You are true friends of Southwest

PATRONS – Donors of \$500 and more

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In 2021, 108 members of our community made contributions, making Friends of Southwest DC a model of "neighbors helping neighbors."

Denise Rennis

Board Members and Volunteers

We were pleased to welcome one new board member in 2021, Peri Hamlin, pictured below. Peri has lived in SW since 2004 and has long been active in Southwest community affairs. She brings to Friends of Southwest a strong dedication to improving the lives of Southwest residents. Our former vice president, Noreen Lyne, resigned from the board at the end of her term in March. We are grateful for her service. We are delighted that Cheryl Parham was elected as our new vice

president.





Again, we are thankful to our volunteers, especially Stacy Baker, who set up our first database, produced our much-improved annual report, and offered guidance on our operations. We also thank Perry Klein, who supplied valuable help distributing brochures through *The Southwester*.

Board members Peri Hamlin (left) and Cheryl Parham (right).

FUNDRAISING

As the global pandemic continued, our generous supporters responded to help their friends and neighbors in Southwest. With an anonymous matching gift of \$5,000, we were able to again offer our match challenge. Our fundraising efforts yielded donations of \$36,020. Most of our donor base is made up of individuals resident in Southwest, but we also received gifts from two large corporations working in Southwest. We continue to grow this base with monthly Southwester ads,

frequent news articles, and photos of your funds at work in the community.

The fundraising committee explored various new options of reaching out and meeting neighbors this year. We sponsored several "Metro Meet-Ups," in which we greeted morning commuters with information about our organization. We also joined forces with SWNA several times at the **Saturday Farmers Market** in the fall. As an organization, we have decided to continue and to amplify these outreach efforts. We are optimistic that we will be able to show a more consistent community presence in the spring and summer months.



Farmers' market volunteers collect for the CUMC food bank, a Friends of Southwest DC grant recipient.

Financial Report: 2021 Calendar Year

ASSETS

Account Balance (December 31, 2020)	\$22,239.25
Income (January-December 2021)	\$36,018.99

GRANTS

Arena Stage for summer camp and Voices of Now	\$5,000.00
Christ United Methodist, Church food ministry	2,000.00
DC STORM, Youth radio program; Hampton Roads college trip	4,400.00
GOODProjects, Family Success Planning program	5,000.00
Living Classrooms Foundation, Thanksgiving food drive	2,500.00
St. Augustine's Episcopal Church	2,500.00
Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid, clothing drive	1,500.00
Southwest Comm-Unity Forum, Lansburgh Park event; toy drive	1,925.00
SWNA Education and Scholarship Task Force, scholarships	7,500.00
SWNA The Southwester ¹	700.00
	\$33,025.00

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

Supplies, printing, DC licenses, web services, P.O. Box, mailings, etc. \$1,328.71

TOTAL OUTLAY \$34,353.71

ACCOUNT BALANCE (December 31, 2021) \$23,904.53

Washington, DC 20026

Spread the word. Know a worthy neighborhood cause? Let them know about Friends of Southwest DC. We accept applications year-round for educational, charitable, and community development grants FriendsofSWDC.org/apply-for-a-grant

Donate. Your tax-deductible gift is welcome throughout the year. Donate online at **FriendsofSWDC.org/donate** or mail your check to: Friends of Southwest DC P.O. Box 44434



¹Friends of Southwest DC supports *The Southwester* through regular advertisements.