

Friends of Southwest DC Annual Report 2023

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2023 Board of Directors

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A Message from the President

Our 25th anniversary year was filled with accomplishments. Friends of Southwest DC awarded a record high of \$62,406.38 in grants to 19 different recipients!

Your donations supported SW youth with college scholarships, school supplies, summer camp, arts programs, field trips, internships, and Christmas gifts. Your generosity sustained the SW food pantry and provided Thanksgiving meals to SW families. You made SW community gardens bloom. You supported SW seniors. You enabled events at the SW market and Lansburgh Park. In short, you—our donors—made SW a better place.

But 2023 wasn't all bright news. Donations fell short of requests for grants. We had to turn down worthy applicants and reduce grants to others. We'll be working in 2024 to bolster our finances—we hope you will help.

Our donors are true heroes of SW. I offer my deep appreciation to all of you. I hope we've earned your trust and can continue to count on you in the months and years ahead.

Peter Eicher, President

Southwest Proud!



Coralie Farlee Graduate Student
Scholarship Recipient, SaDeja Kieth

For a quarter of a century, Friends of Southwest DC has made grants to support educational, charitable, and community development activities in our Southwest neighborhood. 2023 marked our 25th anniversary! Since 1998, we have awarded grants totaling \$465,000 to more than 45 organizations working to make Southwest a better place. Because all our work is done by a volunteer Board of Directors, we've kept administrative costs extremely low—about 1% in 2023—making Friends of Southwest DC one of the most cost-effective champions of our community.

Thank You for Your Wonderful Work!!

2023 Friends of Southwest Grantees

Alpha Phi Alpha, Omicron Eta Lambda Educational Foundation hosted its Tenth Annual Southwest Community Day on August 12, 2023 at Lansburgh Park, using their grant to supply free backpacks filled with school supplies and hygiene products to SW kids.



Arena Stage's grant provided: (1) scholarships for SW students to attend Camp Arena Stage to pursue the theater, dance, music, visual arts, writing, and film, and (2) supported the Voices of Now performance ensemble at Jefferson Academy Middle School.

Bread for the Soul increased its support in SW by providing families, especially those affected by HIV/AIDS, with new toys, books, coats, food, and self-care products during the holidays.

Carron Baptist Church received grants to provide: (1) Thanksgiving dinners, and (2) Christmas meals and a coat drive to assist and bring together SW residents.

Children's Chorus of Washington used its grant to provide tuition, uniforms, materials, and transportation to and from performances for seven SW students aged five to twelve.

Christ United Methodist Church received grants to (1) support the church's 5000 Food Ministry SW food pantry, which provides food to SW residents in need, and (2) repair and renovate its community garden, which supplies fresh vegetables for its food pantry. Need in SW grew significantly after temporary SNAP benefits were discontinued.



Coralie Farlee Scholarship for Graduate Studies, an annual \$5,000 scholarship endowed by Friends of Southwest DC, was awarded to SaDeja Kieth, a high-achieving SW student pursuing a master's degree in STEM education.

DC STORM enriched the lives of 15 at-risk youth ages 12-14 from Jefferson Academy Middle School, taking them on an educational journey to Hampton Roads, VA, stressing the importance of pursuing higher education. They visited Historically Black Colleges & Universities as well as historical sites.



GOODProjects used its grant to support the **GOODLearning Hub**, which conducts an afterschool learning program for 60 SW kids at no cost, offering tutoring, mentorship, nutritious meals, and experiences. The grant also supported a seven-week summer camp for SW kids.

The James Creek Resident Council organized a Winter Wonderland event bringing together over 200 SW residents for a holiday celebration with Santa, toys and caroling. As part of the event, their grant was used to purchase hats, gloves, and gift cards for the children.

Nathaniel H. Pickett II Foundation held a Community Care Fair which included providers of mental health services, financial services, housing, assistance, and other services, attended by some 300 SW residents.



Serve Your City Southwest Pod was provided a grant to work with the SW food pantry to provide low-income SW residents with essential non-food items such as laundry detergent, garbage bags, disinfectant, paper towels, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, toiletries, and more.

Southwest Academy used its grant for an immersive summer intern program for SW youth, to equip them with life skills and IT skills, while unleashing their potential through audio-visual production. The program also aims at curbing substance abuse and violence.

Southwest Comm-Unity Forum received two small grants: (1) to support the annual Summer in Lansburgh Park Community Day festival, attended by hundreds of SW residents, and (2) to support its 14th annual holiday season toys-for-tots event. (See “Featured Grant Recipient” on page 6.)

SW Community Gardens was awarded a grant to purchase lumber and supplies to make much-needed repairs to the garden beds and to increase planting capacity. The garden offers SW residents spaces for gardening for food, friendships, flowers, and social justice.

Southwest DC Community Center’s grant supported the Mutt Strutt for SW residents. Included in this fun-filled day was a 2-mile fun walk, post-walk activities, and a Pups in the Park Party in Lansburgh Park.



Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA) received the largest grant awarded by Friends of Southwest DC this year, to fund four undergraduate college scholarships for worthy SW students. This continues a program Friends of Southwest has supported for 25 years.

SWNA Emergency Preparedness Task Force “SW Strong!” used a grant to organize a Climate & Disasters Community Engagement Fair at the SW Market. It included 30 climate, environmental, and disaster relief nonprofits that shared their resources with SW residents.

Waterfront Village was awarded a grant to host “Solo Aging” classes for SW seniors, which aids future planning and risk reduction. The grant will also fund care management services for older residents and provide subsidized memberships for SW seniors in need.

Financial Report: 2023 Calendar Year

ASSETS (as of December 31, 2022)

Operating Account Balance	\$ 31,200.61
Reserve Account Balance	\$ 15,000.00
Coralie Farlee Endowment Fund	\$ 60,500.00
Income Generated (January 1 – December 31, 2023)	\$ 46,694.09

GRANTS

Alpha Phi Alpha – SW Community Day School Supply Distribution	\$ 4,824.56
Arena Stage – Camp Arena Stage Scholarships / Voices of Now	\$ 5,000.00
Bread for the Soul – Holiday Gift Certificates	\$ 750.00
Carron Baptist Church – Thanksgiving Day Meals	\$ 600.00
Carron Baptist Church – Christmas Meals + Coat Drive	\$ 2,000.00
Children’s Chorus of Washington – support for SW participants	\$ 1,250.00
Christ United Methodist – Church Food Ministry food pantry	\$ 2,000.00
Christ United Methodist Church – Community Garden repairs	\$ 1,700.00
Coralie Farlee Graduate Scholarship*	\$ 5,000.00
DC Storm – Hampton Roads Educational and Cultural Trip	\$ 5,000.00
Friends of Titanic Memorial Park – In memory of Stacy Baker	\$ 100.00
GOOD Projects – Afterschool and Summer Program	\$ 2,500.00
James Creek Resident Council – Winter Wonderland event	\$ 2,000.00
Nathaniel Pickett II Foundation – Community Care Fair	\$ 2,000.00
Serve Your City SW Pod – Distribution of Essential Non-Food Items	\$ 3,000.00
SW Academy – Summer Program	\$ 2,880.00
SW Comm-Unity Forum – Summer in Lansburgh Park	\$ 1,200.00
SW Comm-Unity Forum – Toys for Tots	\$ 1,000.00
SW Community Gardens – Lumber and supplies	\$ 3,176.82
SW DC Community Center – Mutt Strut	\$ 1,000.00
SWNA – 2023 Undergraduate Scholarships	\$ 8,000.00
SWNA Emergency Preparedness Task Force – Community Fair	\$ 2,425.00
Waterfront Village – Aging Class, Care Management, Memberships	\$ 5,000.00
	\$ 62,406.38

OTHER EXPENDITURES

Admin costs: printing, licenses, web services, mailings, etc.	\$ 698.82
We support <i>The Southwester</i> through our advertising	\$ 1,850.00

TOTAL OUTLAY **\$ 64,955.20**

ACCOUNT BALANCES (as of December 31, 2023)**

Operating Account Balance	\$ 19,939.50
Reserve Account Balance	\$ 15,000.00
Coralie Farlee Endowment Fund	\$ 57,109.97

* Coralie Farlee Graduate Scholarship disbursed from Coralie Farlee Endowment Fund, not Operating Account.

** Account balances may not correspond exactly due to interest earned, as well as time delays between checks being written and being cashed.

You made all this possible!

Thanks to Our 2023 Donors

PLATINUM FRIENDS – Donors of \$1,000 or more

Anonymous	Regina Harrison	Wes & Savin Ven Johnson
Mary Caufield & John Hoag	Janet Hartnett	Carolyn Martin
Peter & Stephanie Eicher	Lydia Jean Herz	Riverside Baptist Church
Judith Farley	Lawrence Impett	

PATRONS – Donors of \$500 and more

Anonymous	Michael Cutler	John McGrath
Rick Bardach	Barbara & David Ehrlich	Helen Mulkeen
Diana Berchiolli	Barbara Friedman	Cheryl Parham & Irving Williamson
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Valerie Briggs	William & Corinne Irwin	Rodney A. Ross
Candice C. Bryant	Dr. Daniel P. Jones – Smile Beautiful	Jean Sammon
Bob Craycraft & Chris Beck	Dental	Anne Stom
Katherine Crump-Wiesner	Christina Macholan	Gabriele Strauch

SPONSORS – Donors of \$200 or more

Anonymous	Kelsey Hamory	Russell McIntyre
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Susan & Joseph Carpenter	Marlene M. Johnson	H. Patrick Swygert
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Mary Grider	Margaret McCown	

SUPPORTERS – Donors of up to \$199

Donald Abelson	Silva Gerety	Patricia Owens
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Heather Foley	Michael E. Marcarelli	Judy Winston
Fairon Fitzhugh	M. Moss	Kathleen Wojtowicz

Board Members & Volunteers

We were pleased to welcome a new board member in 2023, Regina (Reggie) Harrison. Reggie was born in D.C. and has lived in SW since 2021. She's had a long and impressive academic career. Currently, she is Professor Emerita in Latin American Literature/ Quechua and Comparative Literature at the University of Maryland, College Park. She is fluent in Spanish and the language of the Incas (Quechua) and has published numerous academic works. She brings to Friends of Southwest DC an enthusiasm about contributing to our work and our community.



The Friends of SW DC Board of Directors: Eric Smith, Reggie Harrison, Peter Eicher, Russell McIntyre, Ellen Spencer, Carolyn Harvin, Gabi Strauch, Cheryl Parham, Peri Hamlin

We offer our thanks to volunteers Joyce Bouvier and Jean Sammon, who continue to help us after leaving the board.

Featured Grant Recipient



Paul Taylor, head of the Southwest Comm-Unity Forum, is an outstanding SW community leader and a Friends of Southwest grant recipient since 2009. He grew up in the Greenleaf neighborhood. As a youngster, he enjoyed "Family Day" in Lansburgh Park. Missing this happy event, in 2006 he organized the now annual Summer in Lansburgh Park festival. His other successful events to support SW youth include an annual *Toys for Tots* drive, a *Teen Retreat*, and an *Annual Boxing Event*. FOS salutes Paul Taylor for his dedication and contributions to the SW neighborhood.

We Need Your Support!!

Please Donate or apply for a grant at FriendsOfSWDC.org

**For donations by mail:
Friends of Southwest DC
P.O. Box 44434,
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