

# Friends of Southwest DC Annual Report 2024

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## A Message from the President

The past year was a difficult one for Friends of Southwest DC. Grant requests far exceeded donations. The Board of Directors was forced to make decisions which pulled at our heartstrings. We had to reduce grants for scholarships, summer camp, family programs, and activities for seniors. Fortunately, year-end donations put us in a more hopeful position for 2025, although we'll need your support to make the year a good one.

### 2024 Board of Directors

Peter Eicher, President  
Cheryl Parham, Vice-President  
Russell McIntyre, Treasurer  
Gabriele Strauch, Co-Secretary  
Peri Hamlin, Co-Secretary  
Regina Harrison  
Carolyn Harvin  
Eric Smith  
Ellen Spencer

At the same time, we can take satisfaction in what we were able to accomplish in 2024. More than a dozen small grants provided crucial assistance to neighbors in need and life-changing opportunities for our young people, as you'll read about in this report. And, in 2024 we reached a cumulative milestone: **over half a million dollars in small grants to Southwest organizations!**

I want to thank all our donors and our grant recipients, who are true heroes of Southwest. As you peruse this report, you can be proud of all you've done for our community.

Peter Eicher, President

*Southwest Proud*



Cheryl Parham, sharing information and smiles throughout the community

For over a quarter of a century, Friends of Southwest DC has made grants to support educational, charitable, and community development activities in our neighborhood. Since 1998, we have awarded hundreds of small grants to more than 50 organizations. From Girl Scouts to food banks, from parks to senior programs, from school supplies to scholarships, our efforts have improved Southwest in so many ways! All our work is done by a volunteer Board of Directors, so administrative costs are extremely low—less than 3% in 2023—making Friends of Southwest DC one of the most cost-effective champions of our community.

*Thank You for Your Wonderful Work!!*

## 2024 Friends of Southwest Grantees

**Alpha Phi Alpha, Omicron Eta Lambda Educational Foundation** hosted its Southwest Community Day in Lansburgh Park, using their grant to supply free backpacks filled with school supplies and hygiene products to SW kids.

**Arena Stage's** grant supported the Voices of Now performance ensemble at Jefferson Academy Middle School. The program provides guidance, training, and leadership for the students to write, perform and stage an autobiographical play at the theater.

**Christ United Methodist Church 5000 Food Ministry** received two grants to support its food bank, which distributes food and cleaning supplies to less affluent residents of Southwest who continue to suffer from food insecurity.



**The Coralie Farlee Scholarship for Graduate Studies**, a \$5,000 scholarship endowed by Friends of Southwest DC, is awarded annually. The 2024 recipient was Sydney King, a long-time Southwest student pursuing a doctorate in pharmacy at Xavier University in New Orleans. Congratulations, Sydney!

**DC STORM** provided an educational-cultural trip to Hampton, Virginia for at-risk Southwest youth ages 12-14. The trip teaches the importance of cultures and history through visits to the Casemate and Nauticus museums and the Emancipation Oak Tree, as well as encouraging higher education through tours of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.



**EmmaUS Learning Center** provided an enriching experience for SW children: a trip to Cambridge, Maryland to visit the Harriet Tubman home and other sites related to her life. The children, who rarely or ever venture so far from SW, provided written evaluations which raved about their unique experience!

The **GOODProjects** grant supported the GoodLearningHub, a program dedicated to empowering youth by offering childcare, engaging activities and academic support. The Hub provides a safe environment with mentorship, after-school activities, nutritious meals and family-focused events.



A grant to **Living Classrooms of the National Capital Region** supported community activities at the James C. Dent House Community Center in Southwest designed to provide opportunities for Southwest community members of all ages to participate in free fun activities in a safe and welcoming environment. Activities involve students in planning family events such as game, movie and music nights and arts and crafts events.



**Richard Wright Public Charter Schools**, Southwest's only high school, received a grant for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) lab equipment for their students. The grant provided funds for digital scales, magnetic stirrer hotplates and lab coats.



**Southwest DC Community Center's** grant helped fund the Fall Family Fest and 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mutt Strutt, including family-friendly vendors, a pet costume contest, food trucks and live music, all in support of the creation of a planned Southwest Community Center.

**SW Comm-Unity Forum** received two small grants. The first supported the annual "Summer in Lansburgh Park," an event designed to bring the entire Southwest Community together to enjoy music, bingo, exhibits, free food and carnival rides. The second supported a Toys for Tots event to provide holiday gifts for children in Southwest.



**SWNA Scholarships.** FOS is very pleased to have funded scholarships for three Southwest students as part of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly scholarship program. Pictured are Katie Jordan and Lauren Boyer; Ellie Anderson is not pictured.

**Waterfront Village**, serving neighbors throughout Southwest, works to empower older adults to age with dignity, actively engage with their neighbors and community, and enjoy life in their homes. The Waterfront Village grant was used to offer a limited number of subsidized memberships to enable neighbors of limited means to participate, and to help fund a social worker to assist with seniors facing health and other challenges.

# Financial Report: 2024 Calendar Year

## ASSETS (as of December 31, 2023)

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

**INCOME GENERATED VIA DONATIONS (01/01/24 – 12/31/24)** \$ 48,025.05

## GRANTS

Alpha Phi Alpha – SW Community Day	\$ 4,875.14
Arena Stage – Voices of Now	\$ 1,400.00
Christ United Methodist Church – Food Ministry (Spring)	\$ 2,500.00
Christ United Methodist Church – Food Ministry (Fall)	\$ 2,500.00
Coralie Farlee Graduate Scholarship*	\$ 5,000.00
DC STORM – Hampton Area Cultural Trip	\$ 5,000.00
Emma U.S. – Harriet Tubman Home Visit	\$ 2,085.00
GOOD Projects – Community Holiday Events	\$ 2,000.00
GOOD Projects – Learning Hub	\$ 1,000.00
Richard Wright Public Charter Schools – STEM Items	\$ 2,000.00
SW Comm-Unity Forum – Summer in Lansburgh Park	\$ 1,200.00
SW Comm-Unity Forum – Toys for Tots	\$ 1,325.00
SWDC Community Center – Fall Fest & Mutt Strutt	\$ 500.00
SWNA – Undergraduate Scholarships	\$ 6,000.00
Waterfront Village – Subsidies, Care Management, Outreach	\$ 3,950.00

**\$ 36,335.14**

## ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

Supplies, printing, licenses, web services, mailings, etc.	\$ 1,253.43
We support <i>The Southwester</i> through our advertising	\$ 1,825.00

**TOTAL OUTLAY** \$ **39,413.57**

## ACCOUNT BALANCES (as of December 31, 2024)\*\*

Operating Account Balance	\$ 28,550.98
Reserve Account Balance	\$ 15,000.00
Coralie Farlee Endowment Fund	\$ 59,796.38

\* Coralie Farlee Graduate Scholarship disbursed from Coralie Farlee Endowment Fund, not Operating Account, and is not included in the Total Amount under the *Grants* section.

\*\* 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 2024 Donors

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

Anonymous	Barbara Friedman	Carolyn Martin
Rick Bardach	Regina Harrison	Mary Ann Re
Peter & Stephanie Eicher	Janet Hartnett	Anne Stom
Judith Farley	Lawrence Impett	

### PATRONS – Donors of \$500 and more

Sarah Buckley	William & Corinne Irwin	Barbara Rehm
Joyce Bouvier	Dr. Daniel P. Jones – Smile Beautiful Dental	Rodney A. Ross
Mary Caufield & John Hoag	John McGrath	Jean Sammon
Bob Craycraft & Chris Beck	Cheryl Parham & Irving Williamson	Ellen Spencer
Michael Cutler	Carroll Quinn	Gabriele Strauch
Peri Hamlin		Judy Winston

### SPONSORS – Donors of \$200 or more

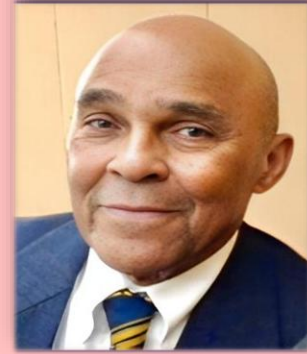
Judith Bauer	Terry Hart	Kristie K. McComb
Diana Berchiolli	Marlene M. Johnson	Russell McIntyre
Susan & Joseph Carpenter	Kim Katzenbarger	Helen Mulkeen
Robert Crane	Gale D. Kaufmann	Ray Olsen
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Gerald Elliot	Richard and Ellen Kwatnoski	Brenda Saxon
JoAnn and James Goedert	Leslie and Richard Lang	Cynthia Stevens
Deborah Greenstein	Christina Macholan	Jeanne Wolf

### SUPPORTERS – Donors of up to \$199

Irene Allen	Elizabeth Hall	Patricia Owens
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Silva Gerety	Steven D. Livengood	Melanie Solomon
Susan Goodman	Noreen Lyne	Kathy Trickey
Kevin Gowen	Michael E. Marcarelli	Frances Williams
Mary Grider	M. Moss	

# ...Remembering Charles W. Hargrave (CW)

We are deeply saddened that former Friends of Southwest board member, Charles W. Hargrave ("CW") passed away in 2024 at the age of 95. CW was the longest-serving member of our board, from 1999-2022. A resident of Southwest since the early 1960s, he was also active as an ANC Commissioner and church elder. We were honored to have CW as a board member and we will miss him greatly.



## Board Members & Volunteers

*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 volunteer Joyce Bouvier, who continues to help us after leaving the board.



## Featured Grant Recipient

Emma Ward is a long-time SW resident, community activist, and educator. She is a proud former Ms. Senior DC and was recently honored at the 2025 DC Black History Month event. Friends of Southwest has provided grants to Emma's youth organization, EmmaUs Learning Center, since 2002, to take SW youth on educational trips to the home of Harriett Tubman, to Philadelphia, and to a farm experience in Pennsylvania. Following the most recent trip, Emma sent us personal statements from every participant which showed the trip's positive impact! A 7-year-old wrote, "Thank you.... First time I was on a bus trip that long. Had fun. The lady [Harriet Tubman] was brave." A 9th grader reported "Thank you... I had heard about her [Harriet Tubman] but did not know about all the great things she did to help other people." Friends of Southwest is proud to have Emma as one of our grantees!



**Please Donate or apply for a grant at [FriendsofSWDC.org](https://www.FriendsofSWDC.org)**

**For donations by mail:  
Friends of Southwest DC  
P.O. Box 44434,  
Washington DC 20026**



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*We Need Your Support!!*