



Annual Report

2021 - 2022



A letter from the Executive Director

July 2021 - June 2022

My first year at Front Porch Alliance was a full-on learning experience. I started my role at the height of the pandemic when all I knew was that we needed to continue Front Porch Alliance's legacy by checking in and supporting our neighbors. The challenge was that we could not support the Eastside neighborhood in the manner in which we had before. We were unable to enter homes for our home-visiting program. The in-school and after-school programs had to be revamped. We were no longer able to assist elders with Minor Home Repairs.

I am inspired by our donors, partners, and staff, who have risen to the unprecedented challenges of this past year. They have demonstrated resilience and dedication to the community we serve. Despite uncertainty in the face of a global pandemic that magnified and exposed social and economic inequalities, there was an unwavering commitment to our mission. Our most vulnerable community faced barriers and disparities in access to everything from vaccinations and Wi-Fi to housing, food, and health care. Yet, we all came through.



Our focus on expanding youth programs enabled young people to share stories of community successes, allowed them to explore local history, and provided opportunities to deepen their understanding of the city, helping to set a path to a more hopeful future. It's been exciting to see the energy and agency of Front Porch Alliance. We look forward to sharing more videos, stories, and voices in the months ahead. We know where we have been, and I am excited to see where we are going.

JE T'AIME TAYLOR
Executive Director

Front Porch Alliance serves residents of Cass, Clay, Jackson, and Platte counties. Our main service areas include the zip codes:

64109 **64110**
64128 **64130**

Mission

Front Porch Alliance works together with residents of Kansas City's Eastside and urban core to meet their changing needs at home and in school.

History

In 1999, volunteers from Village Presbyterian Church knocked on doors asking, "How can we help?" For over 20 years, our Minor Home Repairs Crew and PALs (Partners Active in Learning) have impacted the lives of families living in the historic Ivanhoe Neighborhood. In 2021 we expanded our programming and our service area, reaching outward to the interconnected communities of Eastside Kansas City.

Board of Directors

Officers

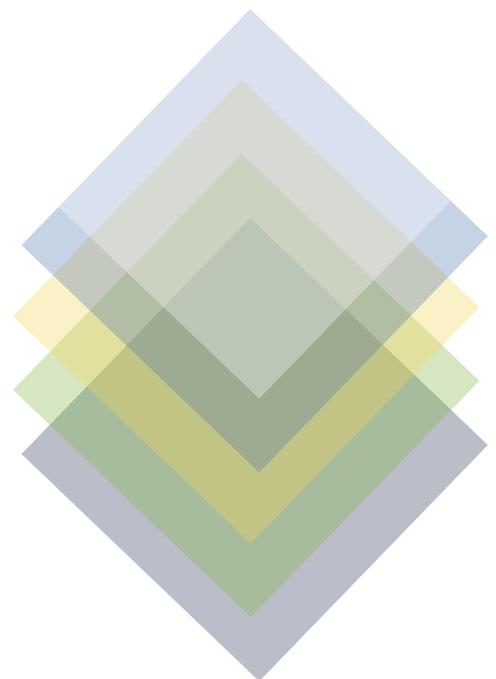
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Pauline Moley, *Vice President*
Rock Locakrd, *Secretary*
Tommy Aliber, *Treasurer*

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Annie Burcham
Barb Haviland
Michael Hunt
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Julie Sykes
Megan Walker
Jen Wilson

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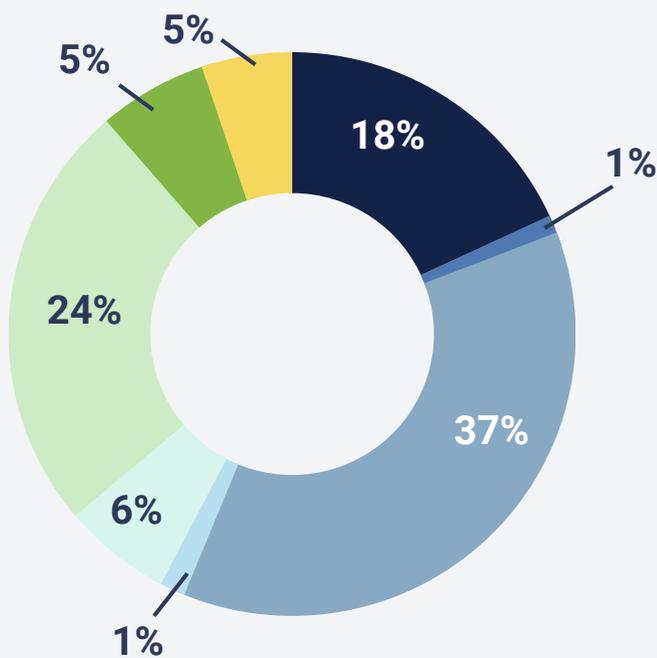
Carol Cowden
Betty Crooker
Charlotte Davison



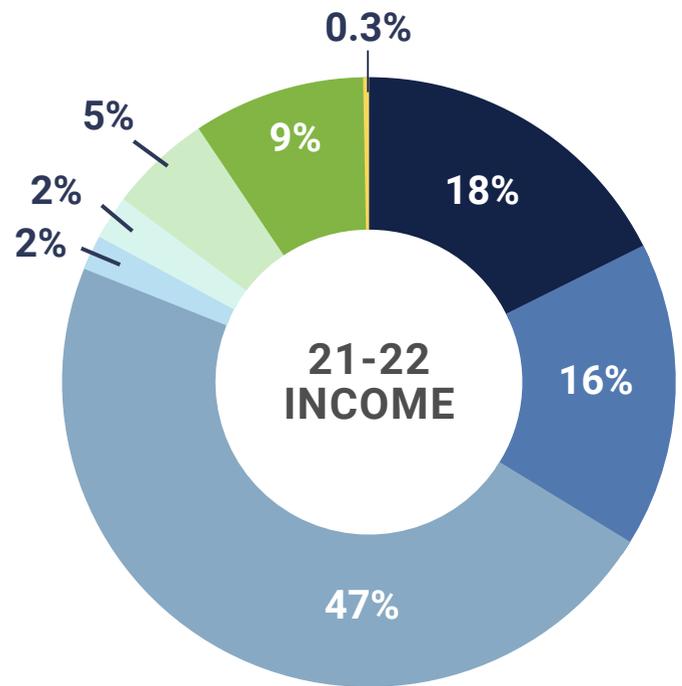
Finances

The 2021-2022 Fiscal Year saw Front Porch Alliance receive more grant support and donations than ever!

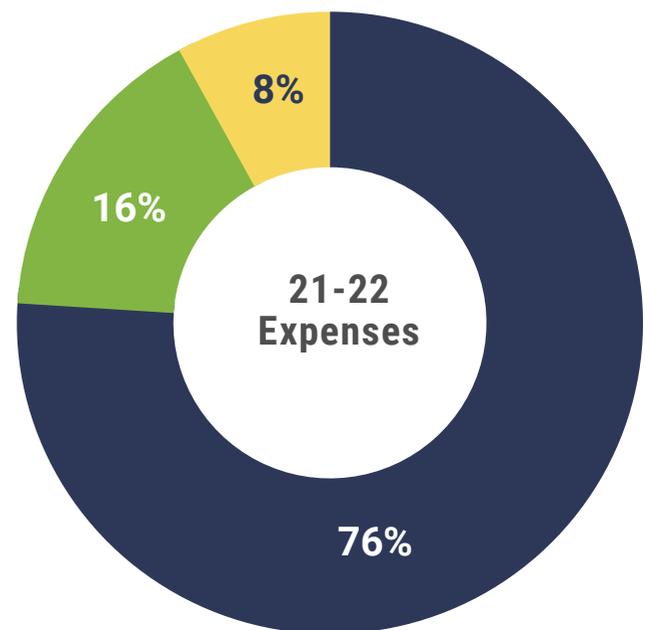
Our record-setting fundraising year allowed us to further support Eastside Kansas City through program expansion and financial assistance. Families participating in our Neighborhood Families programs qualify to receive up to \$300 of Emergency Financial Assistance for rent, utilities, and life-related expenses. During the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year, our families utilized **\$4770.86** total. These funds covered: apartment application fees; rent; utilities including water, gas, electricity, and internet; moving costs; home furnishings; phone bills; and tuition.



- Gas Bills, \$876
- Phone Bills, \$50
- Electric Bills, \$1794
- Internet Bill, \$70
- Apartment Fees + Deposits, \$300
- Rent, \$1200
- Tuition, \$300
- Water Bills, \$250



- Unrestricted Donations - \$178,906
- Restricted Donations - \$164,366
- Government Grants - \$480,576
- Program Services - \$54,797
- Special Events - \$92,096
- Investment Return - \$23,741
- Contributed Nonfinancial Assets - \$18,756
- Other Income - \$3,095



- Program Services - \$722,780
- Management/General Expenses - \$150,117
- Fundraising Expenses - \$75,328

Donors + Funders

Donors, Funders, and Grantors

American Century Investments
Annette McLaughlin Charitable Fund
Barbara Nichold Family Foundation
Brenda Beachey
Stacy and Tyler Benson
Dr. Nathan L. and Anne M. Burkhardt
The Campbell Family
The Carrie J. Loose Trust
Children Services Fund of Jackson County
Community Action Agency of Greater Kansas City
The Curry Family Foundation
Martha M. Dean
Elisa Sandlin Silverstein Fund
Gary E. and Stephannie Goscha Charitable Foundation
Jasmine Gillians
Edward J. Goldstein
The Hall Family Foundation
The Hanover Insurance Group
Barbara Haviland
Helen S. Boylan Foundation
Mr. William A. and Irma Lou Hirsch
Jackson County Department of Finance
Jacob L. and Ella C. Loose Foundation Fund
Jazzie Cares Foundation
June Johanson

Lawrence A. Jones & Sons Funeral Chapels
Douglas Linder
Mr. Greg Maday
The Matthys Family Foundation
Judo Mattix
Jay and Elizabeth McKell
Mid-America Regional Council
Network for Good
Promise 1000 Home Visiting Collective
The R.A. Long Foundation
The Ralph L. Smith Foundation
Sally E. Stanton
The Sally E. Stanton Charitable Fund
Henry Sewing II
The Sherman Family Foundation
The Stanley H. Durwood Foundation
Sven and Julie Sykes
The Bluford-Kaufman Revocable Trust
Carol Thrane
Doris Thrane
United Way of Greater Kansas City
The University of Missouri
The Village Presbyterian Church
The Wally Foundation
Watkins Heritage Chapel



In this still from our virtual 2021 Rise + Shine! Breakfast, Megan Black, Board Chair, chats with Chris Goode, Founder of Ruby Jean's Juicery. An Eastside native, Goode discussed how he carries on his grandmother's legacy of love by building up Eastside businesses and providing access to healthy foods.

Donors + Funders

Rise + Shine! Breakfast Fundraiser

Day Break Sponsors (\$5000)

Anonymous Donor
Wendy and Grant Burcham
Doris Thrane
Rebecca and James Tilden

First Light Sponsors (\$2500)

Peggie and Michael Borkon
Colliers
Country Club Bank
John and Charlotte Hall
The Hall Family Foundation
Medicare Medicaid Advisors Inc.
Leigh and Tyler Nottberg
Lisa and Charles Schellhorn
Sally Stanton
Sven and Julie Sykes
Carol Thrane and Robert Martin
Turner Construction
VanTrust Real Estate

Sunrise Sponsors (\$1000)

Alliance Equities Corporation
Matthew and Ann Anthony
Sarah and Jon Baum
Diane and Bill Clarkson
Children's Mercy, Kansas City
Copaken Brooks, LLC
Charlotte and Bruce Davison
Robert and Marlese Gourley
Dharshinie Jayamaha, MD
Dr. William and Alicia Jennings
Pam and Scott Logan
Lorraine B. Martin
Barbara and Chris Nichols
Bonnie Pearson
Henry and Jackie Sewing
Shook, Hardy & Bacon
Sally Stanton
van Swaay Charitable Foundation
David and Julie Warm
Whitsitt & Whitsitt, LLC

Ray of Hope Sponsors (\$500)

Phil and Gail Acuff
Mark and Kathy Adams
Carol and Tom Are
Brenda Beachey
Stacy and Tyler Benson
Roger and Marilyn Borel
Barbara and Lynn Brown
Dr. Robert and Pam Bruce
Stan and Peggy Chappell
Commerce Bank
Susan and Jan Creidenberg
Sue and Overton Durrett
Alan Edelman and Dr. Debbie Sosland-Edelman
Brad and Ginny Epsten
Karen Garrett and Kevin Hennessy
Fay and Carter Harrison
Barbara Haviland
Kim and Ted Higgins
June Johansen
Carol and John Kornitzer
Mary and John Lehoczky
Carol and Fred Logan
Amelia McIntyre
Judith L. Miller
Nick and Patty Gee Nicholson
David C. and Marilyn K. Pattison
Melissa and Rachel Plunkett
Al and Carole Pugsley
Social Justice Ministry of Village Church
Linda Stevens
Greg and Barbara Storm
Samantha and John Sturgeon
Geoff and Krista Tolsdorf
Tower Properties Company
Bill and Penny Yates

\$806 Average
Donation
Amount



Donors + Funders

Rise + Shine! Breakfast Fundraiser

Friends of Front Porch Alliance (under \$500)

Tommy Aliber

Dan and Melanie Allmayer

Bob and Gail Arther

Melissa Baker

Emily and Richard Ballentine

Scott and Ginny Beall

Cathy Benson

Megan Black

Tom and Judy Bowser

Gus and Linda Breyspraak

Matthew Brown

Scott and Lexa Carr

Marilyn Clemente

Ann Colston

Jill and Bill Coughlin

John and Carol Cowden

Ira and Debbie Cox

Charlotte Davis

Donna Dehn

Jan and Ed Dexter

James Galliher, PhD

Karen Garrett

Milton G. Gimlin

Kathleen L. Giordano

Laura and Dave Hall

Leslie Hueschen

Ann Hunt

Dushanthie Jayamaha

Anne Johnston

Rock Lockard

Andrea Lombard

Cindy and Barry Mayhew

Pauline Moley

Susan Morganthaler

Laura Neidel

Anellen Neill

Rodger Nishioka

Marietta Parker

Barbara Polfer

Jill Reynolds

Cristy and Charles Roberts

Bob and Jennifer Sawyer

RoseAnn Scheller

Jeanie Schmidt

Katherine Schorgl

Jeanne Sosland

Jack and Barb Stuber

Kathy Sykes

Jim Wanser

Katherine and Gordon Wells

Elizabeth Hartley Winetraub

Amy Youngyeun

**Thank you donors +
community members!**

\$103,965

raised in monetary donations and sponsorships.

**Our most successful
Breakfast yet!**

Neighborhood Families



Connection in the COVID era

COVID created a number of challenges for home based visiting programs: how do we connect with our families when we can't be in the same location? We started with providing our Neighborhood Families with tablets, computers, and wifi, to make visit attendance possible. Additionally, our staff and collaborators at Mid-America Regional Council wrote a weekly newsletter. Filled with recipes, mindfulness exercises, "I Love You" rituals, educational and mental health resources, and plenty of family activities for the social distancing era, these newsletters helped keep families informed and connected.

When safe, we ventured back into Eastside homes, neighborhoods, and parks, happy to connect in person. Playgroups especially provided much needed sunlight and serotonin for all participants; there is little better than the laughter of toddlers running, sliding, and spinning on the playground. Our March 2022 playgroup was particularly popular: families joined us to plant herbs, picnic, and dig in the dirt. As the world continues to emerge from the pandemic, we look forward to a full return to home visiting, playgroups, and our community.

13

Promise 1000 Families

22

Early Head Start Families

47

Newsletters Sent

338

Completed Visits, Both Programs



Youth Journeys

A Year of Reinvention

In 2021, Front Porch Alliance welcomed a new Youth Programs Coordinator and reinvented or expanded nearly all of our Youth Journeys programs. From our former Teens in Tech program, we expanded to offer Reel Collectors (film + entrepreneurship), PORCH Storytellers (art + storytelling), and Our Stories (podcasting + oral histories). Additionally, we supported the return of our Partners Active in Learning (PALs) program and Robotics Teams to Faxon Elementary. In collaboration with Central Middle School and Junior Achievement of Greater Kansas City, we also started a Financial Literacy class, which teaches students the basics of financial health and wellness while allowing them to save for their future.

During a time when we were all leaning on each other for support and resources, Front Porch Alliance reached across the state line to partner with Rosedale Development Association. The partnership brought Reading Inspirational Stories to Empower (RISE), an intergenerational program to Kansas City, Kansas and Missouri, public schools. RISE allowed over 200 students to read books focused on social change, advocacy, and civil rights. Each student wrote letters to elected officials advocating for change in their community. In response, Mayor Quinton Lucas surprised students at Banneker Elementary with a visit to discuss their suggestions. He encouraged students to continue advocating for themselves and their community.



16

Robotics Team Members

4

New programs

40

Active PALs volunteers

"As we wrap up a full year of programming, I have been doing a lot of reflecting on the purpose and impact of our work in the community. The impact of our programs aren't always clear in the day to day, but when I have taken moments to check in with youth and talk with some of our community partners, I am delighted in their responses."

Hanna Hochstetler, she/her
Youth Journeys/Volunteer Coordinator

97

Students with PALs

Community Connections

Doorknocks and Porches: Back to Our Roots



2021 returned Front Porch Alliance staff to the office and re-engaged staff with Eastside residents. In late Spring, we also returned to our roots: knocking on doors and talking on front porches. Conversations ranged from oral histories of the Ivanhoe Neighborhood to residents expressing their desire to support those in need. During doorknocking, we shared information about our programs including Minor Home Repairs, run since our founding. In mid-Summer, the Minor Home Repairs Crew began their first job: landscaping for Ms. Pricelee on Wayne. Soon, porch patching, painting and repairs started at the Sutherland family home on Highland. Three generations currently call the green and white house their home. During water breaks, Mrs. Sutherland, born in the home, shared stories of growing up in a neighborhood filled with fruit trees, community gardens, and connection. She shared that, at the time, no one knew they lacked anything because neighbors shared resources and cared for each other. Mrs. Sutherland's stories echoed the sentiments of other Eastside residents: Eastside neighborhoods are strong because of collaboration and care.

30

Community Events attended

15

Completed weatherization applications

7

Minor Home Repair Jobs

91

Winter Coats distributed



Volunteer Appreciation, Community Collaboration

This year would not have been as successful without our volunteers and community partners; they are the heart and soul of all we do. We are incredibly grateful to the more than 70 individuals and organizations who donated their time, expertise, and care during the past year. In 2021 and 2022, we welcomed and trained new PALs, completed Minor Home Repairs on 7 homes and built two new Robotics tables. During the annual Volunteer Appreciation Reception, we enjoyed each other's company to the smooth sounds of live jazz music courtesy of the KC Jazz Orchestra. In addition, we strengthened our connections to Eastside communities and our ability to provide wrap around services through new partnerships. In the next year, we look forward to deepening our community roots, expanding our volunteer base, and continuing to meet the changing needs of Eastside Kansas City.

2021-2022 Community Partners

Adelante KC
As You Wish Comedy
Banneker Elementary
Bike Walk KC
BLueford Branch, Kansas City
Public Library
Central Middle School
Charlie's House
Children's Mercy Hospital -
Kansas City
Community Action Agency of
Greater Kansas City

Community LINC
Councilwoman Ryana Parks-Shaw
Faxon Elementary
First Lego League Robotics
Flourish Furnishings
Ivanhoe Farmer's Market
Jazzie Cares Foundation
Juniors Achievement of Greater
Kansas City
Kanbe's Markets
KC Care Clinic
LINC Caring Communities

Linwood YMCA
Mayor Quinton Lucas
Mid-America Regional Council
PC's For People
Promise 1000 Home Visiting Collective
ProX
Scraps KC
Sunrise Movement KC
Troost Elementary
United Way of Greater Kansas City
Wendell Phillips Elementary
Wendy Hawkins





Front Porch Alliance thrives through connection. Many thanks to our past and current volunteers for their dedication and time. Your support sustains our work across Eastside Kansas City, and your passion expands our reach. We look forward to many more years of collaboration and growth.

Get Involved. Stay Involved. Support Front Porch Alliance.

Follow us on social media:



@frontporchalliancekc



@frontporchalliance_kc



@front-porch-alliance



@front-porch-alliance

Contact Us:



816-921-8812



www.FrontPorchAlliance.Org



Info@FrontPorchAlliance.Org

Volunteer:

Volunteer opportunities vary depending on the time of year. We usually need assistance with: childcare during events and community classes; crew members for Minor Home Repairs; coaches, guest artists, and facilitators for youth programming; and special skills

Interested in volunteering?
Contact Erin Bradley, Program Director, at:
Programs@FrontPorchAlliance.Org
816-912-8812

Make a donation:



*Meeting the changing needs of
Eastside Kansas City at home and in school.*