

2021 - 2022

ANNUAL REPORT





A LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR

GREATER NEED. GREATER DISPARITY. GREATER DEMANDS.

In March 2020, we hopped on a roller coaster. While my grandson likes to drag me onto roller coasters, this has been unlike any I've ever experienced.

The last 12 months have shaped this organization. Changes accelerated by the pandemic and the impact on our agency and the community we serve has been part of shaping a new reality at our agency. This moment in time has required us to assess where we are as we build a foundation for our work moving forward.

For me - and our leadership team - it starts with our mission. We serve Milwaukee's northwest side. We do this important work by building trust and helping people in our Westlawn Gardens community reach their

personal goals and fullest potential. At Silver Spring Neighborhood Center, our neighbors realize their goals through participation in holistic programs for every age and stage of life.

At Silver Spring Neighborhood Center, this starts with a focus on programming. Specifically, it's an assessment of the current programmatic model and its alignment with the needs of our neighbors today. Our programmatic team laid the following foundation and that will allow us to do this important work in the years ahead:

Focus on stronger outcomes

Understanding the impact of our work and how it must continue to grow and evolve to meet the needs of our neighbors.

A strong school/home connection

The continued growth and development of our children is critical to the long-term success of our neighborhood. We've lost too much in the last two years; it's time to build back stronger.

Engaging our neighbors

Westlawn has undergone a dramatic transformation. Many of our long-time neighbors have been replaced by many new faces. Our team is working to re-engage our neighborhood and work to ensure that our programs remain consistent with the needs of our community.

An investment in our programs requires an investment in our facility. In the next year, we will

complete the renovation and remodeling of the indoor basketball court at the Center. This will be the first of several capital improvements our team pursues in the coming years.

We can't do this work alone. I am incredibly grateful for the commitment of our board of directors, the talented staff I am blessed to call my colleagues and you. Through your time, talent and treasure, you help make this all possible.

Thank you for your support and your ongoing commitment to this work.

Warm regards,
Devin Hudson



A LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

COMING TOGETHER

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Silver Spring Neighborhood Center (SSNC), I want to thank each and every one of you for being a part of our family. We all have a place in this Center, where we can come together and do good.

For nearly 65 years, SSNC has been a cornerstone in the life of this vibrant Westlawn Gardens community, building trust with our neighbors step by step and person by person.

Our mission is a broad one, as we offer holistic programming for every age and stage of life. COVID created a big challenge to this mission. Our work is, by its nature face-to-face, but during the pandemic many people naturally withdrew for their own safety. Still, our program managers and staff carried on during those days and they are now building back programs that restore a personal touch.

At the end of the day, SSNC's goal is to help the people in our community

reach their personal goals and their fullest potential. That is what leads to a full and successful life and a vibrant community.

The single role of our Board is to support SSNC's capable and caring Executive Director, Devin Hudson. She organizes the programming, the funding and the people.

The program managers and staff perform the vitally important daily job to fulfill our mission. As Board Chair, I stand in awe of what our SSNC team accomplishes each day.

But, most importantly, what I enjoy is seeing real life examples of people in the neighborhood, both our youth and seniors, who are lifted up by their connection to Silver Spring Neighborhood Center.

Warm regards,

David Nestingen
Board Chair

OUR PROGRAMS

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

From six weeks to 12 years old, Silver Spring Neighborhood Center (SSNC) provides early childhood education designed to meet the needs of the kids and families that count on us.

In 2021/22, SSNC **provided early childhood education to 146 kids**

at the Elaine Schreiber Child Development Center. By using the nationally recognized Creative Curriculum for preschool instruction, the Elaine Schreiber Child Development Center helps prepare our youth for success in school and in life.

YOUTH SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Youth engagement is a building block for a neighborhood and has academic and social emotional benefits for the young people participating in programs.

In 2021/22, Silver Spring Neighborhood Center's Youth Social Development **program engaged 438 youth** providing access to activities they love and new experiences to open their horizons.

From career development and leadership opportunities to recreation and first-time experiences, SSNC youth engage in a wide array of activities including horseback riding, podcast

development, peer mentoring, STEM programs and leadership development. Our work is aimed at youth participants realizing their full potential and becoming leaders in their community.

TRANSFORM MILWAUKEE JOBS

In partnership with UMOS, the Transform Milwaukee Jobs program is creating a robust network of employment opportunities for our neighbors.

More than 141 residents secured subsidized work experiences throughout an expansive network of providers through Milwaukee.

But the work experiences are just the start, our team works to secure additional training and certification opportunities creating a path for participants to secure long-term employment opportunities with a family-sustaining wage.

As the workforce continues to evolve and new opportunities emerge, the team at Silver Spring Neighborhood Center works directly with employers to train and place motivated employees to meet the needs of today's workforce and support the career development of our participants.

A SUCCESS STORY

IT'S LIKE A SECOND HOME

Lemarus has been coming to the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center since he was 11 years old. An active participant in SSNC's youth social development program, he describes the relationships he has developed with his peers, his leadership experiences as president of the

youth council and work experience at the center. The guidance and mentoring he receives from the staff has been especially meaningful following the loss of his father.

"The staff has never given up on me and I'll never give up on them,"

said Lemarus. **"Silver Spring has cared for me and allowed me to give back to my community. Everything the Center has done for me has prepared me for my future."**



A SUCCESS STORY

BEING A ROLE MODEL

As a single mother, Jonetta strives to be a positive woman role model for her two daughters.

And one of the ways she is doing that is through the Transform Milwaukee Jobs (TMJ) program with Silver Spring Neighborhood Center.

Jonetta felt she would do well in a childcare setting, and the Transform Milwaukee Jobs (TMJ) case managers agreed. She completed her childcare training course while working with Big Steps Little Troopers. As her time concluded with the TMJ program, Jonetta was offered a full time position.

“I am most proud of being able to inspire people every day by teaching individuals how to face their fears and learn how to dream bigger for a better reality,” said Carla Lathan, SSNC adult services director for the Transform Milwaukee Jobs program.



FOOD PANTRY

Too many of our neighbors are unsure where their next meal will come from. The emergency food pantry at Silver Spring Neighborhood Center is here to help.

In 2021/22, Silver Spring Neighborhood center **served 3,709 individuals through its food pantry, including 438 seniors.** The food pantry provides healthy, nutritious, and good-tasting food for our residents in Westlawn Gardens and the surrounding area.

In partnership with the Hunger Task Force, we are able to meet this burgeoning need and support our residents as they work to meet their full potential.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Imagine a school where students, families, staff and the surrounding community work together to ensure every student is successful. This vision is the foundation of the partnership between Browning Elementary and Silver Spring Neighborhood Center for our community school.

Community Schools place the focus on the whole child providing academic support, social and emotional learning, health and wellness and family engagement and a safe and supportive climate

at the center of everything that it does. Through the partnership between Browning and SSNC, youth and their families are provided wrap around support to ensure they reach their full potential.

From three-year old Headstart to fifth grade, **Browning serves 147 students** at its Westlawn Gardens location. The SSNC ensures wraparound care providing child care support before and after school while supporting the adults in our kids lives with workforce development and job training opportunities.

CLC

Since 1968, Silver Spring Neighborhood Center has been supporting youth throughout our community. Our partnership with Thurston Woods and Browning Elementary throughout Community Learning Centers (CLC) is an extension of this work.

Providing a safe place for education, recreation and social emotional support, the SSNC CLC team provides a positive after-school alternative for our youth. **The SSNC team serves 159 youth at its Thurston Woods CLC and an additional 147 youth at its Browning CLC.**

LITERACY SERVICES OF WISCONSIN

Access to education breaks down barriers to family-sustaining jobs and the opportunities to reach our full potential. At Silver Spring Neighborhood Center (SSNC), we believe in the value of both early education for our children and continuing education for our adults.

Through a partnership with Literacy Services of Wisconsin (LSW), Silver Spring Neighborhood Center creates a path for the adults in our community to further their education and receive their GED or HSED.

Through this partnership, SSNC and LSW served 184 adults in 2021/22.



STUDENT FIRST AWARD

Silver Spring Neighborhood Center (SSNC) received the Student First Award at the Literacy Services of Wisconsin (LSW) Community Awards event. Celebrating a partnership that extends more than a decade, this award speaks to SSNC's alignment with LSW's Student First guiding principle and our shared interest in student success and bridging

gaps for our adult learners. This partnership speaks to the impact nonprofits can make when they align missions and focus on their unique strengths for the benefit of our neighbors.

LAYUPS & LITERACY

A combination of academics and athletics, Layups and Literacy is not only a competitive youth basketball program, but it also teaches reading comprehension, socialization and even life lessons like conflict resolution and building relationships.

Silver Spring Neighborhood Center's Layups and Literacy program engages youth ages 10 - 12 on the court and in the classroom providing academic, athletic and mentoring opportunities to young people in our neighborhood.

Led by Dr. Charles Waisbren and the youth development team at SSNC, **the program served 30 young people in 2021/22.**



A SUCCESS STORY

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

"I really believe you have to get outside the box. I want to come in and try to expose our youth to new experiences."

James Wilbern, Assistant Executive Director at Silver Spring Neighborhood Center, is always dreaming up creative activities to get kids active and involved with after-school activities.

In 2018, Wilbern planted a seed that has continued to grow.

In collaboration with SSNC's community school partner, Browning Elementary, Wilbern has developed a budding greenhouse and aquaponics program. A program that started out as a simple gardening glass in 2018 has exploded into a full ecosystem

that goes from seed to plate. The process includes students creating starter indoor plants in winter, growing high-yield fruits and vegetables and raising fish, and even incorporates financial literacy through selling vegetables and fish at a local farmers market.

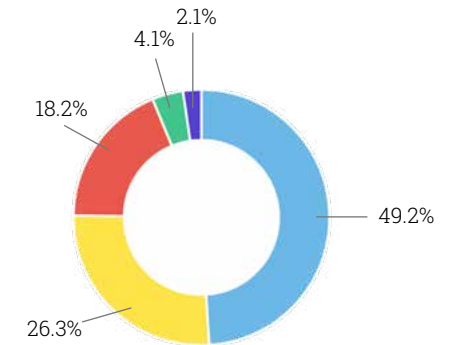
"We're trying to be intentional from the planting to the growing to the harvesting and now to selling," said Wilbern. "The kids experience the full scientific process; hopefully, it lights a fire."



FINANCIALS

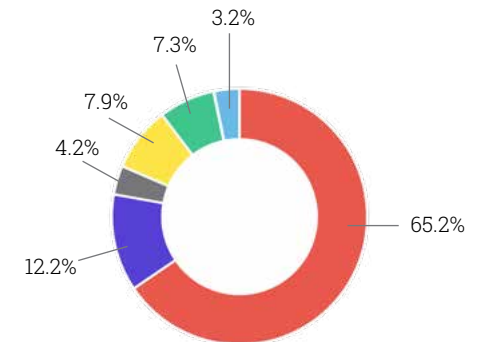
REVENUES

| | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------|
| Government Grants | \$1,355,144 | 49.2% |
| Private Contributions and Grants | 724,019 | 26.3% |
| United Way of Greater Milwaukee | 501,669 | 18.2% |
| In-Kind Gifts | 114,294 | 4.1% |
| Other Revenue | 56,633 | 2.1% |
| Program Service Fees | 1,580 | 0.1% |
| Total | \$2,753,339 | 100% |



EXPENSES

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Salaries & Benefits | \$1,773,716 | 65.2% |
| Program & Operating Expenses | 332,314 | 12.2% |
| In-Kind Expenses | 114,294 | 4.2% |
| Contractual/Professional Fees | 214,393 | 7.9% |
| Occupancy/Equipment | 198,179 | 7.3% |
| Non-Cash (depreciation) | 88,250 | 3.2% |
| Total Expenses | \$ 2,721,145 | 100% |

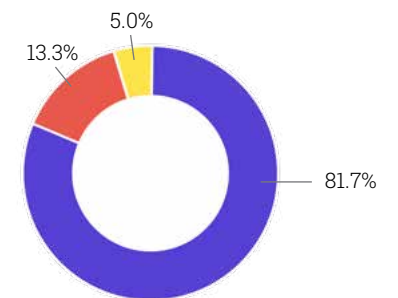


Profit/(Deficit) **\$32,194**

Profit/(Deficit) excl. non-cash items **\$120,444**

PROGRAM, MANAGEMENT AND FUNDRAISING

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Program Services | \$2,221,365 | 81.7% |
| Management & General | 362,386 | 13.3% |
| Fundraising | 137,394 | 5.0% |
| Total | \$2,721,145 | 100.0% |



OUR PARTNERS



Greater Milwaukee
& Waukesha County



LITERACY
SERVICES

CONTACT US

THURSTON WOODS CAMPUS

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BROWNING SCHOOL

5440 N. 64th Street

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A COMMUNITY OF SUCCESS

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