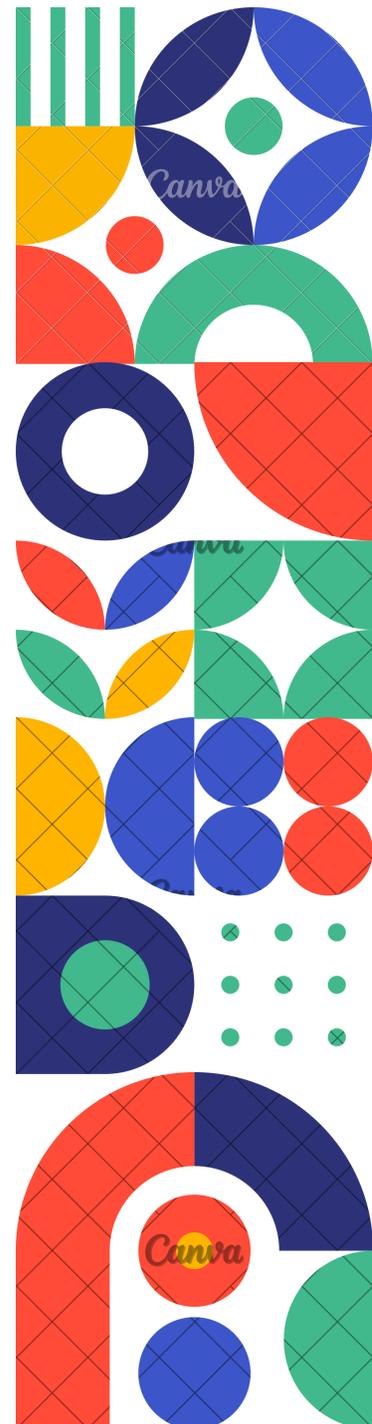




Northwest Detroit Youth Coalition

To Empower, Enrich, and Enhance Youth
in Northwest Detroit



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	7	9	11
President's Letter	Mission, Background and Goals	2023 Programs	Little Free Library
13	15	18	
Soccer Program	Summer Camp	Financial Report	
19	20		
Our Partners and Donors	NWDYC Leadership		

President's Reflection

Partnerships were the key to expanding the reach of the Northwest Detroit Youth Coalition's programming in 2023. From creative fundraising, early starts to program planning, to developing relationships new in the prior year – NWDYC shifted its approach to focus on one of its founding goals – to support and enhance existing programs in the community.

On the heels of a strong spring and fall soccer season in partnership with the City of Detroit, NWDYC's new Director of Soccer Programs Aaron Poyer Jr lead 2 teams of youth to victory in O'Hair Park. To keep the momentum going in the winter, NWDYC was able to support an indoor soccer league.

By bringing the excitement of reading into the classrooms of New Saint Paul Headstart Academy at Corpus Christi in the spring and out into hearts of youth trunk or treating in O'Hair Park, NWDYC Little Free Library programming significantly increased the number of youth engaged in 2023. With 2 Little Free Library boxes offline, these events provided opportunities to get books into the hands of youth in Northwest Detroit coupled with messaging to help grow their love of reading.

Months before NWDYC opened the doors of Koelzer Hall to welcome youth to breakfast at the start of the camp, leaders from Christ the King School, Little Scholars, and the Coalition brainstormed ways to streamline affordable, high quality summer programming for youth in Northwest Detroit. Academic instruction led by educational team members from Christ the King School helped to keep campers sharp. A nutritional lunch followed by a variety of STEAM and physical activities in the afternoons helped to recharge youth Monday-Thursday for 5 weeks. Friday field trips and special activities provided campers outings that allowed them to have fun while applying their learnings away from the classroom.

Without partnerships, the investment needed to support 2023 programming would not have been possible. The collaborative partners and donors featured within this year's report shows the longest list of contributors in recent history for the organization – whose support is evidenced by one of the highest revenue totals that the Coalition has seen. NWDYC could not operate programming at this scale without each penny contributed by its supporters, nor could it have made as great an impact without each hour invested by volunteers and team members.

NWDYC's board also saw transitions in 2023. Shirley Sands completed 7 years of service to the organization. Under Shirley's leadership as Treasurer and accountant, financial reporting and documentation were streamlined – with clarity brought to revenue and expenditures. Sister Ellen Schmitz completed 10 years of service – setting the foundation for Little Free Library programming and serving as Vice President for many of those years.

In looking ahead, I am hopeful that the work of NWDYC's committees as well as the investment of volunteers and families will help continue to grow the Coalition's impact.

Alexis Alexander
NWDYC
Board President





Mission and Background

The mission of the Northwest Detroit Youth Coalition is to bring together community and resources to support and initiate programs and activities which enhance the positive growth and development of youth in Northwest Detroit. NWDYC was established in 1996 and received its 501c3 non-profit, tax-exempt status in 1999. The Coalition came together to address the barriers that prevented youth from participating in organized sports and extracurricular programs. The lack of communication, transportation, trained leaders, financial support and collaboration were barriers that had to be addressed in order to provide needed youth programming.

The target area identified by the Coalition is the area bounded by Woodward Avenue on the east, Telegraph on the west, Eight Mile Rd. on the north and Fenkell on the south.



NWDYC Goals

- Identify existing programs for youth in the community.
- Increase communication about area programs and opportunities available to youth.
- Increase and facilitate the coordination of programs for youth when needed.
- Support and enhance existing programs in the community.
- Increase emphasis on a preventative approach to youth-related issues. Develop new programs and activities for youth.
- Promote planning and a shared community vision for youth development



2023 Programs

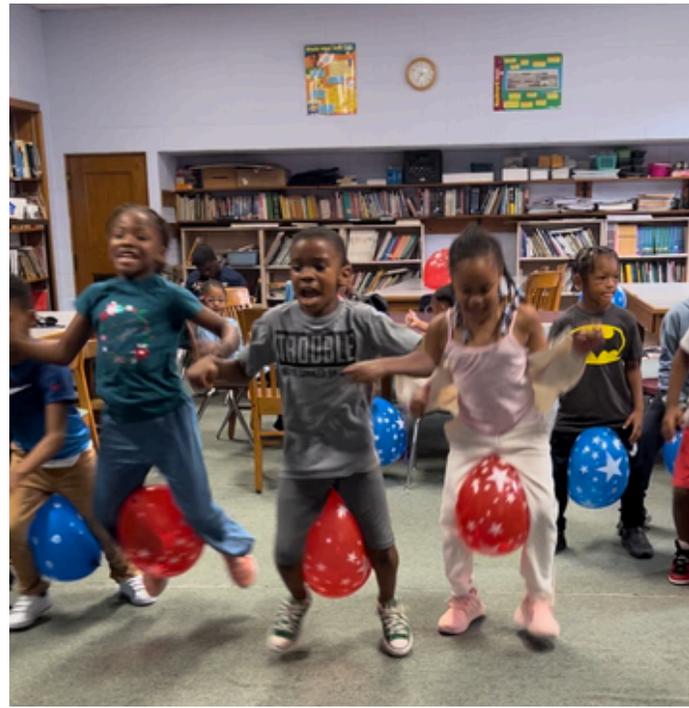
Since our inception, the Coalition has implemented many programs in partnership with others committed to supporting positive education and health outcomes for youth in Northwest Detroit. Programs have been modified, improved, and reevaluated to develop content based on community needs and available resources.

In 2023, we offered 3 programs:

Little Free Library

Soccer

Summer Camp



Little Free Library

Introduction

The Little Free Reading Library season officially opened on April 1, 2023. During the month of April, we prepared and organized an Easter event with New St. Paul Head Start Academy. Our special guest during this event was the Easter Bunny and the kids were elated! Easter Baskets and other prizes were given out. After we organized our Library stock, coded all books into their respective categories and shelved them in sequential order, we were able to begin stocking our Little Free Library Boxes on May 1, 2023. Additionally, we purchased 450 brand new books! The LFL Director would like to thank Mary Powers, a volunteer on our Library team, for assisting in purchasing brand new culturally diverse books! With the purchase of these new books and due to an increased number of book donations, we were able to generously stock our Library Boxes so that children in our community could engage in fun summer reading activities.

Maintenance and Repairs

Jeffrey Smale continues to provide maintenance for our Library Boxes. He also assists with installing new Library Boxes, coordination of materials, and completing repairs on the Library Boxes as needed.

2023 Little Free Library Events

April 5	Easter Event at New St. Paul Head Start Academy	62 kids
June 7	Super-Hero Event at New St. Paul Head Start Academy	60 kids
August 6	Arise Detroit Book Give-a-Way Event	25 kids
August 6	Partnered with Corpus Christi Parish's Hygiene Give-a-Way at O'Hair Park	45 books were given away
August 18	Little Free Library Event at Corpus Christi Parish Picnic	22 kids
September 16	Little Free Library Event at O'Hair Park	5 kids
October 25	Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon (celebrated the retirement of Sr. Ellen Schmitz from the NWDYC)	
October 31	Trunk or Treat Event at Corpus Christi Parish in conjunction with the O'Hair Park Community Association	approximately 400 attended!

2024 Library Goals

- To schedule more park events.
- To collaborate with the O'Hair Park Community Association as part of their 2024 Summer Program.
- To install and find a location for our new Little Free Library box.
- To extend our programming by scheduling events throughout the year.

Soccer Program

2023 was a busy year for our Soccer Program! With Coach Pierre having moved to Florida, Aaron Poyer, Jr. took over as head coach. He was joined by Assistant Coach Connor. The spring season ran from April 22 to June 10, with our U-11 team finishing in third place and the U-8 team #1 in the division! The players and their families were very happy with the experience, and many of them committed to return for the fall season.

Our fall season ran from August to October, with one of our two teams making it to the championship game! The kids were so excited that in mid-season they were already asking about returning next year.



We also joined a winter U-12 recreational league in Novi, which ran from November 2023 to February 2024. We are looking at bringing winter soccer back in 2024, but we will be trying to find a league a little closer to home. Parents voiced dissatisfaction with having to make the commute from Detroit to Novi with the challenging traffic and winter weather conditions.



Summer Camp

The Northwest Detroit Youth Coalition held our 2023 annual camp from Monday, June 19 through Friday, July 21 from 8AM to 4PM at Christ The King school.

Academics began right after breakfast at 8:00. Following a nutritious lunch at 12:00, campers engaged in a variety of activities including Arts, Soccer, Aikido Karate, Music, Dance, STEMpreneurship, Drumline, Sewing, running a Lemonade Stand and on Fridays, a fun and engaging field trip!!

We concluded each day with supper before sending the campers home for the day. Our partnership with the Little Scholars program allowed us to provide this third meal each day.

We averaged 55 students a day for the duration of camp. Our campers were broken up into 4 groups: Grades K-1, Grades 2-3, Grades 4-5 and Grades 6-8. Each camper received a Certificate of Completion at the end of camp.



Camp Activities

Stempreneurship: Students learned Entrepreneurship through STEM activities, artwork, sewing and even operating their own lemonade stand by the end of camp!

College of Creative Studies: The Northwest Detroit Youth Coalition partnered with the College for Creative Studies to provide an Arts and Crafts program for our campers. The students were able to paint their own masterpieces, create sculptures and more.

Soccer: Every week our campers got a chance to learn the ins and outs of soccer!

Aikido: Campers learned the self defense art of Aikido. Every week our campers would learn different techniques with Sensei Tommy!

Dance: Our campers learned new dance routines every week in dance class! At the end of every week, the campers would show their new routines to staff and other campers!

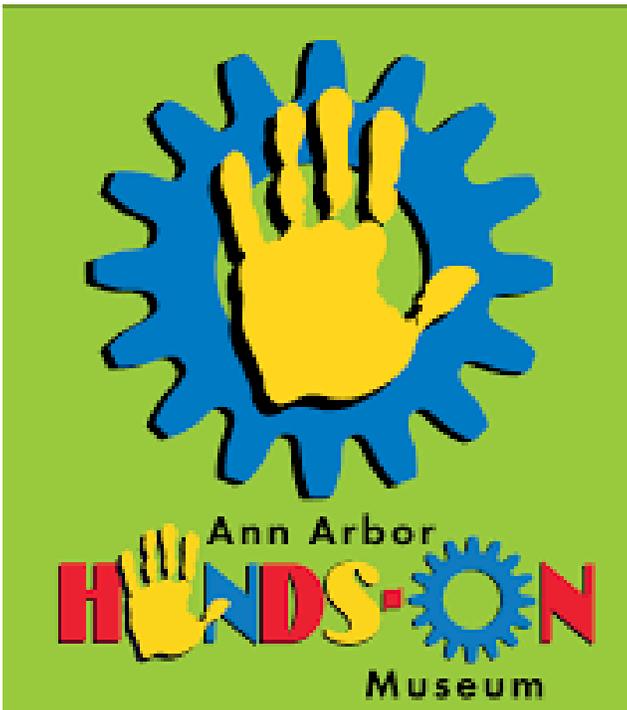
Fiber Arts: Our campers engaged in a sewing class! This was part of the Stemprenuership course, helping campers understand the importance of learning a trade!

Music: Our campers got the chance to create their own music in music class. Our instructor brought beat making machines and the campers worked with him to create their own melodies!

Field Trips

Every Friday, campers went on an enjoyable field trip. We visited the following:

- Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum
- Michigan Science Center
- Bounce it Up Indoor Fun Center
- B.I.G - Best in Games



Financial Report

Opening Balance (across all accounts) as of 1/1/23: \$25,454.21

Revenue Summary

Contributions/ Gifts/ Grants	\$98,540.73
Investment Income	\$8.84
Program Service Revenue	\$9,242.96
Grand Total	\$107,792.53

Expenditure Summary

Professional Fees and other payments to independent contractors	\$53,098.90
Other Expenses	\$13,889.68
Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	\$1,800.00
Printing, publications, postage and shipping	\$445.77
Grand Total	\$69,234.35

Closing Balance (across all accounts) as of 12/31/23: \$64,012.39

Our Collaborative Partners and Donors

Adrian Dominican Sisters

Alexis Alexander

Archdiocese of Detroit, Office of Black Catholic Ministries

Bernice Alexander

Christ Our Light! Catholic Church, Troy, MI

Christ the King Catholic School, Detroit, MI

Christ the King Parish, Detroit, MI

City of Detroit, Parks and Recreation Department, Athletics Division

College for Creative Studies, Detroit, MI

Corpus Christi Parish, Detroit, MI

Daughters of Charity – Mission and Ministry Impact

Detroit Yoshinkan Aikido

Father Patrick Gonyeau

Hitachi Astemo Detroit Regional Community Action Committee

Holly Nielsen

Inform Yourself Youth Development.Inc.

In Our Back Yards (IOBY) Detroit

Jeff Smale

Joyce Zhang

Little Scholars Child Development Center, Detroit, MI

Michael Sears

Michigan Non-Profit Association

National Council of Jewish Women, Michigan

New Saint Paul Head Start Academy

O’Hair Park Community Association

Patricia Tillery

PayPal Giving Fund

Pulte Family Charitable Foundation

Rita Pridgen

Ronald Alexander

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Ann Arbor, MI

Sister Ellen Schmitz

Sister Sharon Hagen

Sister Therese MacKinnon

Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Detroit, MI

NWDYC Leadership

Administration

Aaron Poyer Jr - Soccer Program Director

Arthur Cartwright - Summer Assistant Programs Administrator

Curtis Simpson Jr. - Programs Administrator

Nalani Miller - Grants Manager

Patricia Tillery - Little Free Library Director

Board of Directors

Alexis Alexander - President

Mike Sears - Vice President

Holly Nielsen - Treasurer

Patricia Tillery -Secretary

Mary Mathis

Jeffry Smale

Sister Sharon Hagen, D.C.

Sister Therese MacKinnon, D.C.



19800 Pembroke Detroit, MI 48219

nwdyc.org