



Annual Report



2024

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This link will give you a video of our NWDYC programing and activities:

<https://youtu.be/1IFdBKGK7Sg?si=3k4NNU0gosmYco0f>



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.

Our 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 preventative approach is to youth-related issues
- ◆ Develop new programs and activities for youth
- ◆ Promote planning and a shared community vision for youth development

2024 Letter from the President

2024 brought new perspective to the work that the Northwest Detroit Youth Coalition took up. Organization leadership kicked off the year gathering to brainstorm new ways to deliver high quality programming focused on empowering, enriching, and enhancing youth in Northwest Detroit. The model used to fund and implement Soccer, Little Free Library and Summer programming was evaluated. Collaboration with local leaders championing positive outcomes for Detroit youth was the common thread that made 2024 possible. The City of Detroit's Parks and Recreation Department Athletics Division made it possible to kick off successful spring and fall soccer programs. Christ the King School and Parish welcomed the NWDYC to host summer programming that complemented 3 weeks of academic instruction in the month of June. For the first time since its inception, the Little Free Library reading programming was afforded the opportunity to run year-round thanks to a grant secured by the O'Hair Park Community Association.



When surveyed at the mid-point of the year, the average age of youth enrolled in NWDYC summer programs was 8 and nearly 60% were female; 100% identified as African American, with 2% also identifying as Hispanic or Latino. More than 43% of families resided in the 48219 zip code and more than 79% met the US Department of Education's Federal TRIO Programs low-income guidelines. 44% of campers needed support with the English Language Arts and 36% needed help with math. At the close of the year, follow up surveys were launched. More than 60% of those that responded had enrolled their child(ren) in NWDYC programs in a prior year – indicating that they chose to return in 2024. When asked why – love for the summer and soccer programs were frequently highlighted. Perhaps not surprisingly, a need for resources + interest in children being able to play and make friends in healthy environments was also cited.

Among families whose children participated in the 2024 summer camp, 80% reported that their child(ren) made new friends + developed new skills and interests over the course of the 3 week program. Several questions were posed to all families with children who participated in 2024 summer programming, soccer, and Little Free Library events to understand how their students were doing academically at the mid-point in the 24'25 academic school year. This revealed that 75% of children were performing at or above grade level academically, 50% were engaged in sports, gym, or outdoor play a few times a week, and 75% were reading outside of the classroom a few times a week or more.

NWDYC programming would not have been possible without the commitment of a solid team of volunteer board members and highly skilled and passionate team members. Programmatic operations were bolstered by a range of donations and grants from new and long-standing community stakeholders.

In charting a path forward to carry out the mission, 2025 programming has been directly shaped by the feedback provided by families, observations of NWDYC leadership, and supporters.

In partnership,

Alexis Alexander

NWDYC President



2024 Programs Report

This year was full of exciting experiences, opportunities, program expansion, curriculum development, and lots of fun for the youth we were Blessed to serve. The emphasis for programming this year was to focus on peer retainment, community awareness, family engagement, and increased partner collaboration. From furthering our partnership with Inform Yourself Youth Development, Inc., to enhancing our collaborative efforts with Detroit Parks and Recreation to expanding our partnership with the O’Hair Park Community Association, there is huge potential and much to build upon in the upcoming 2025 season!!! Additionally, this year, we maintained fiscal responsibility with a balanced budget while still being able to provide optimal programming.

In 2024, we offered 3 programs:

Little Free Library

Summer Camp

Soccer



Little Free Library (LFL) Program



Beginning in March of 2024, our (LFL) Program kicked off its year with an impressive Easter Reading Program where approximately 60 children were read books to, while each child received candy, Easter Baskets, and even got a visit from the Easter Bunny. This was the 1st of (6) powerful events that made a positive impact on our community. Patricia Tillery, our LFL Director, increased the NWDYC brand and our LFL

numbers by working with the leadership from the O'Hair Park Community Association in partnership to offer different programming models to engage youth. Ultimately, this increased awareness to our Little Libraries located within the O'Hair Park community. This year, we had an rise in the number of books donated, the number of kids served, and the number of events the LFL held this year!

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION: The little Free Library officially opened April 1, 2024. We had great summer with an awesome donations of books from the community, organizations and churches. During the course of our events we gave away 230 books. Our Library team volunteered 200 hours, which included stocking park boxes and helping out in the library center.

MAINTENANCE: Jeff SmaLe is our Maintenance person. Jeff will paint, repair and/or remove/install boxes.



Little Free Library

EVENTS: Please see below the 2024 Little Free Library Events

- ◆ Easter Reading Program at New St Paul Academy on 3-19-24
- ◆ Easter basket Give-A-Way at Corpus Christi Parish on Easter Sunday.
- ◆ A 6 week Reading Series sponsored by O'Hair Park from 7/8/24 to 8/21/24. For kids 4 to 12 years old.
- ◆ Reading program and a book Give-A-Way and prizes at the Corpus Christi picnic on 8/18/24.
- ◆ A Book-Give-A-Way and prizes at the Trunk or Treat Event held at Corpus Christi on 10/31/24.
- ◆ Our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on 11/13/24



GOALS:

1. Find a suitable Location for our new library box
2. Have library box installed on Corpus Christi Church campus
3. Partner more with the O'Hair Park Association.





Summer Camp

Arthur Cartwright, Jr., our summer Assistant to the Program’s Administrator (SAPA), directed an impressive summer Camp with an emphasis on program development through a “hands on” curriculum approach.

Our Camp had successful programing, curriculum development , activities of engagement, and overall organization. Our collaboration with Inform Yourself Youth Development, Inc., proved to yield extremely positive results where children were kept active and engaged with a STEM curriculum. Campers also engaged in entrepreneurship opportunities, Karate, and Chess club. Executive Director Patricia Wiley said, “The way to positively influence a child’s mind, is to teach them how to be thinkers”.





The Northwest Youth Coalition had its summer camp for three weeks starting on June 10th-June 28th. The camp was held in partnership with Christ The King School from 8am-4pm Monday through Friday.



Starting at 8am, students began in the classroom learning academics such as math and reading. After that, they would then have lunch at 12pm followed by fun Interactive activities such as Tennis, Dance, STEM activities, Entrepreneurship, Karate, Art and more.



Our campers participated in a Chess Club daily. They were learning how to play Chess! Our campers picked up on it, fast, and got pretty good at it!



Field Trips



Every Friday during camp, our campers went on fun filled field trips. They engaged in activities that included rides, play scapes, a 4D movie experience, go kart racing, thrill rides, arcades and physical activity!



Sports



Campers engaged in lots of physical activities, including basketball and tennis.



Soccer Program

Soccer Program (Spring and Fall) February and March, our marketing campaign began for our soccer Program in partnership with Detroit Parks and Recreation Department (DPRD). Headed by Coach Aaron Poyer, Jr., the Detroit stars spring season began in April, and we had a good mix of girls and boys, most of whom have been playing with us for (2) seasons. Our team lost only (1) game, and they went to the playoffs all the way to the Championship game. We battled hard, but we ended up losing the Championship game. Our Fall soccer season was equally impressive as our team went undefeated throughout the regular season, but we lost in the first round of the playoffs to the eventual league Champion.



2024 Collaborative Partners and Donors

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Adrian Dominicans at St. Gerard’s Convent</p> <p>Adrian Dominican Sisters</p> <p>Alexis Alexander</p> <p>Anonymous</p> <p>Archdiocese of Detroit,
Office of Black Catholic Ministries</p> <p>Carrie W</p> <p>Catherine B</p> <p>Catholic Foundation of Michigan</p> <p>Christ the King Catholic School</p> <p>Christ the King Parish</p> <p>City of Detroit</p> <p>Corpus Christi Parish</p> <p>Daughters of Charity –
Mission & Ministry Impact</p> | <p>Hitachi Astemo Detroit Regional
Community Action Committee</p> <p>Holly Nielsen</p> <p>In Our Back Yards (ioby.org)</p> <p>Jeff Smale</p> <p>Joanne F</p> <p>John W</p> <p>Nicole C</p> <p>O’Hair Park Community Association</p> <p>PayPal Giving Fund</p> <p>Pulte Family Charitable Foundation</p> <p>Rita Pridgen</p> <p>St. Francis of Assisi Parish Catholic
Church</p> <p>Robert N</p> |
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2024 Financial Report

Opening Balance (across all accounts) as of 1/1/24: \$64,012

Revenue Summary

Contributions/ Gifts/ Grants	\$58,152
Program Service Revenue	\$5,669
Membership dues and Assessments	\$9
Investment Income	\$9
	\$63,839

Expenditure Summary

Professional Fees and other payments to Independent Contractors	\$49,190
Other Expenses	\$13,669
Printing, publications, postage & shipping	\$35
	\$62,894

Closing Balance (across all accounts) as of 12/31/24: \$64,957.56

NWDYC Leadership

Administration

Programs Administrator : Curtis Simpson, Jr.

Summer Assistant Programs Administrator: Arthur Cartwright

Soccer Program Director : Aaron Poyer, Jr

Little Free Library Director : Patricia Tillery

Grants Manager: Nalani Miller

Board of Directors

Alexis Alexander - President

Mike Sears - Vice President

Holly Nielsen - Treasurer

Patricia Tillery - Secretary

Sister Sharon Hagen, D.C.

Sister Therese MacKinnon, D.C.

Mary Mathis

Jeffry Smale



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