



FRIENDS OF DHA

ANNUAL REPORT **2023**

Message from our Executive Director



Charting Success, United in Purpose!

Since 2011, Friends of DHA has been dedicated to advancing critical programs through Resident and Community Connections (RCC), aiming to foster self-sufficiency and independent living for low-income individuals.

This annual report outlines RCC programmatic efforts in the areas of youth development, economic self-sufficiency, healthy living, digital inclusion and community building that Friends of DHA helps support.

The Friends of DHA Board of Directors focuses on fundraising, partnership development, public awareness and strategic planning, which include:

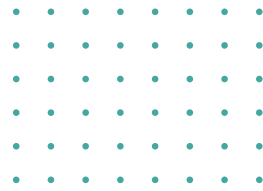
- Growing our network of volunteers and donors who support DHA residents through programmatic and financial contributions.
- Identifying and engaging new partners across various sectors, such as nonprofit, business, local leadership, corporations, and government, to further our mission.
- Expanding participation and increasing funds raised for annual events.
- Providing strategic guidance on the direction of Friends of DHA.

DHA and Friends of DHA significantly impact the lives of residents through subsidized housing and supportive programs. As we reflect on the achievements and challenges of the past year, we remain resolute in our commitment to driving positive change.

Friends of DHA aims to serve as a catalyst for transformation, service and advocacy. With your continued support, RCC will persist in creating opportunities, providing exceptional service and advocacy, and paving the way for a brighter, more inclusive future.

Annie Hancock

Executive Director, Friends of DHA



Executive Summary

Friends of DHA, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing vital funding for services directly benefiting residents within and beyond DHA's affordable housing communities. Our overarching aim is to empower residents in the areas of Youth Development, Economic Self-Sufficiency, Healthy Living, Digital Inclusion, and Community Building.



Vision

To provide self-sufficiency programming for residents with two main goals:

- Empower individuals to break free from the cycle of poverty and achieve lasting economic independence.
- Ensure our senior citizens and individuals with disabilities can thrive comfortably within their homes, maintaining their cherished independence without the need for assisted living.

Mission

At Friends of DHA, our mission is to empower low-income families and individuals towards self-sufficiency and independent living. We achieve this through dedicated board leadership and impactful fundraising efforts.

Friends of DHA is governed by a 15-member Board and a management agreement with the Denver Housing Authority.

Investing in Residents and Communities

With the assistance of Friends of DHA, Resident and Community Connections is dedicated to improving the lives of low- and moderate-income people living in public housing and HCV housing throughout Denver.



Our Core Focuses



Youth Development

We collaborate with key partners to offer supportive programs that enhance education, foster leadership skills, and lay the foundation for self-sufficiency, addressing the higher risks youth face.



Economic Self-Sufficiency

ESS empowers public housing, Section 8 and low-income Denver families with resources for economic self-sufficiency. Services include education, employment support, financial literacy training, and home ownership preparation.



Healthy Living

Our healthy living programs support seniors and individuals with disabilities, enabling them to live full lives on limited income without relying on nursing homes or assisted living facilities.



Digital Inclusion

DHA partners with nonprofits and internet companies to offer affordable internet, tech devices, and free digital classes to residents. The goal is to equip DHA residents with the digital access and tools for success in education, healthcare, and employment.

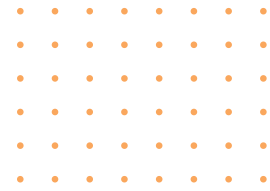


Community Building

Community engagement is vital to RCC programming. Establishing trust through resident case management and community events is essential, enabling residents to progress in finances, education, digital literacy, and health.



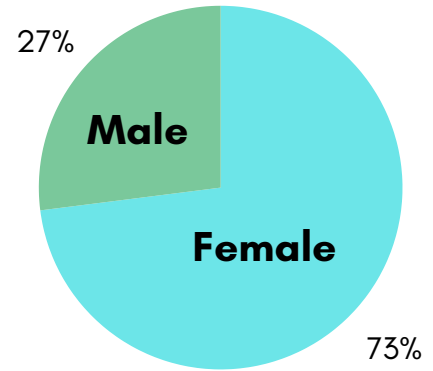
The Communities We Serve



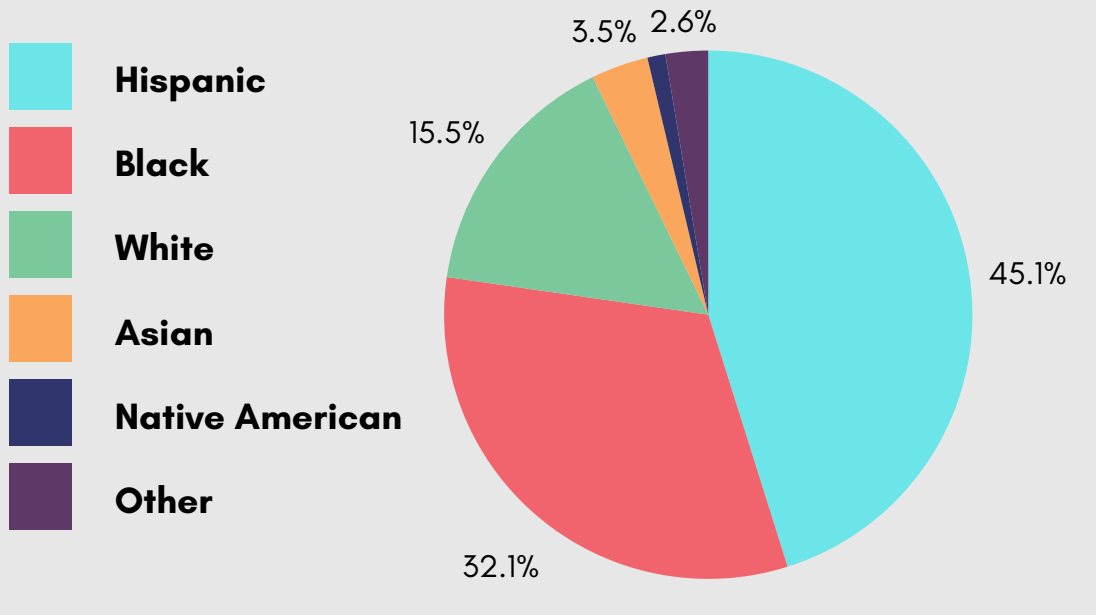
The Denver Housing Authority

The Denver Housing Authority is a quasi-municipal corporation with a portfolio of over 13,000 units and housing choice vouchers, providing affordable housing to more than 26,000 very low, low and middle-income individuals representing over 12,000 families. DHA has transformed public housing in Denver creating vibrant, revitalized, sustainable, transit oriented, and mixed-income community of choice.

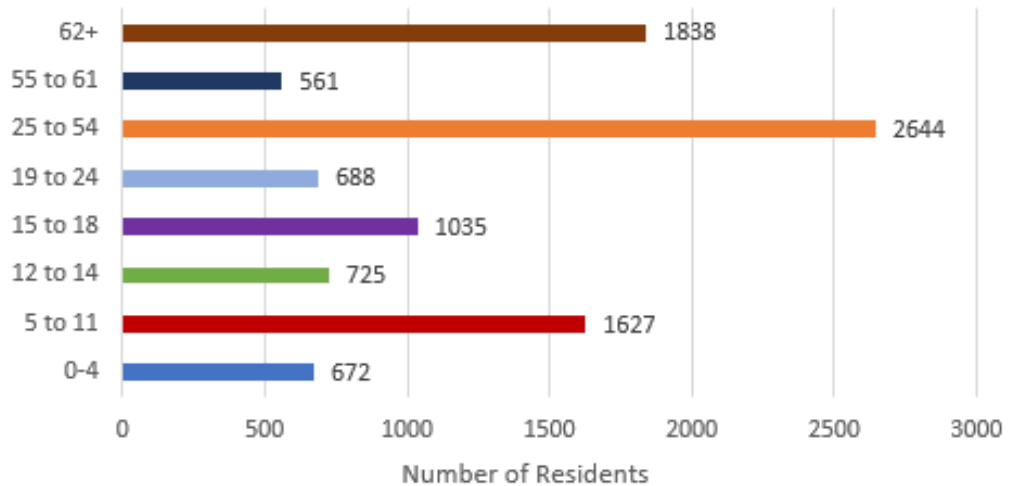
Gender Composition



Ethnic Composition



Age Composition



Programming - Youth, ESS



End of Year Support for Youth

For three years, we've partnered through "Word of Thanks" on Next with Kyle Clark to raise funds for \$25 gift cards benefiting families with children aged 0-18 in DHA's public housing during the December holidays. We've also collaborated with Steuben's for additional support, including a toy donation drive through our Stanley Marketplace Giving Tree Program, directly benefiting families.

\$75,000

Funds Earned

1,378

Families Impacted

Economic Self-Sufficiency

The **Financial Coach Collaborative** program offers one-on-one coaching and financial education to public housing and voucher residents, aiming to achieve goals like budgeting, banking, saving, reducing debt and improving credit scores.

- **70** clients completed one-on-one Financial Coach sessions
- **27** Financial workshops hosted
- **30** bank accounts opened

Friends of DHA's HUD-Approved **Housing Counselors** provide home buyer education, financial assessments, pre-purchase counseling and foreclosure prevention aid. Revenue is also generated for ESS programming through homeownership classes.

- **\$71,000** earned through homebuyer education classes (1,390 households served)
- **\$283,172** disbursed to cure outstanding debts through the Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program
- **22** homes purchased

Programming - Healthy Living, Digital Inclusion, Community Building



Healthy Living Analytics

- **40** Ping Identity volunteers prepped gardens for planting
- **14** Building ONE volunteers assisted with garden clean-up
- **\$4,200** in-kind donations from Denver Urban Gardens
- **\$3,252** of soil, compost and supplies for gardeners purchased
- **218** plots, **185** gardeners, **19,075** pounds of produce harvested

Digital Inclusion

In our drive for digital inclusion, we've upgraded two Technology Hubs with new equipment, including 15 desktops at Connections @ Mariposa, thanks to a \$10,000 donation from the Denver Broncos.

At Westwood Opportunity Center, with funding from Friends reserves and a \$10,000 CHFA Direct grant, we've replaced outdated desktops with 3 new desktops and 15 laptops.

Digital Fairs

In 2023, our Digital Fairs at public housing drew 176 attendees, with 87 signing up for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and 21 creating their first email accounts. Supported by a **\$125,000** FCC grant, our initiative ensures ongoing impact through promotional materials, staffing and educational resources.

Community Building

This year, the Senior Ball Raised **\$16,680** through sponsorships and donations to host this cherished annual event and to support programmatic efforts for older adult and individuals living with disabilities. The Senior Ball serves as a beacon of connection, combating social isolation and fostering a sense of community among older adults residing in DHA's housing.

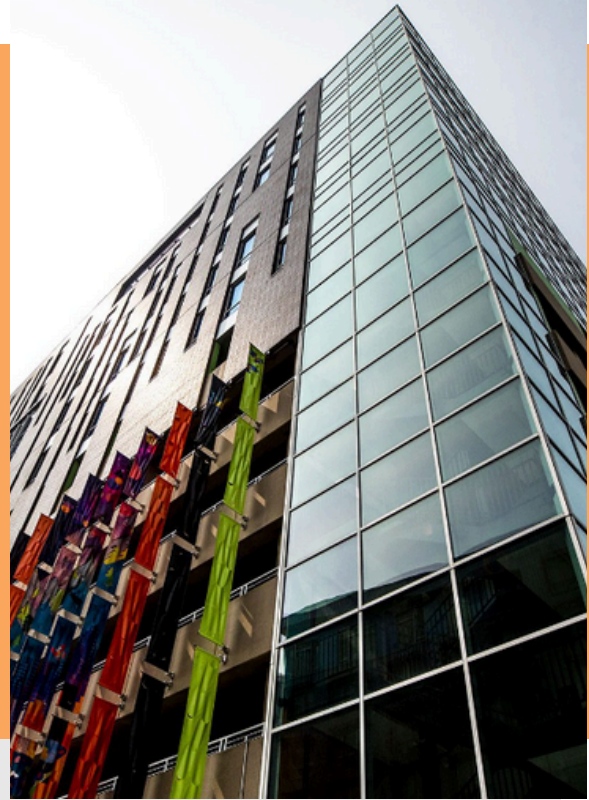


Strategic Goals, Impact and Future Projects

Friends of DHA's Strategic Plan

Friends of DHA supports initiatives that help bridge funding gaps for RCC programmatic efforts.

The strategic plan of Friends of DHA was formulated using insights gathered from RCC resident engagement endeavors, with the explicit aim of supporting each of the core focuses.



Impact

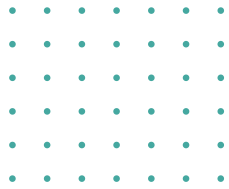
In 2023, our approach yielded tangible results as Friends of DHA secured fundraising for RCC Programming totaling \$298,000, supplemented by \$92,000 raised through our Wall of Fame fundraiser, illustrating our dedication to achieving our goals.



Future Projects

As we pursue our goals, our commitment to inclusive communities remains unwavering. Through collaboration, resource allocation and dedication, we're confident in meeting evolving needs and ensuring equitable access to essential services for all DHA residents.

2023 Unaudited Statement of Financial Position



Assets

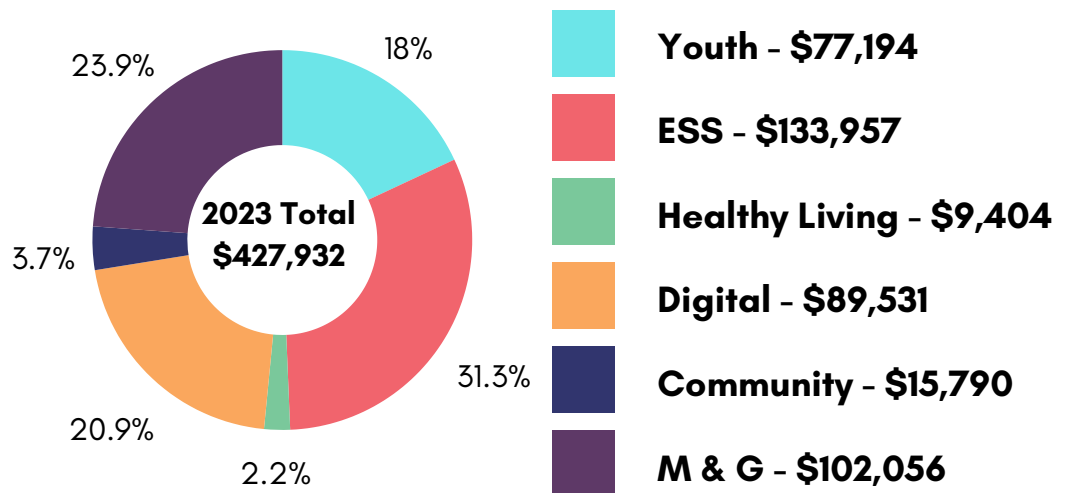
Cash & Equivalents	\$760,520
Other Current Assets	\$34,695
TOTAL	\$795,215

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	\$17,690
Net Assets	\$777,525
TOTAL	\$795,215



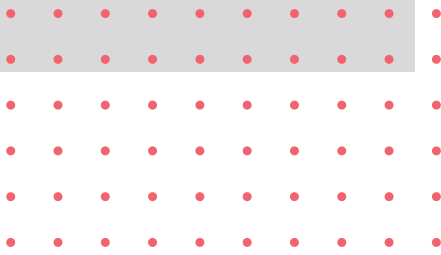
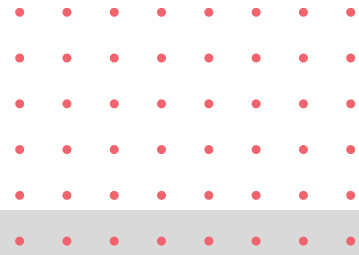
How We Spend Each Dollar



2023 Unaudited Statement of Activities

Revenues

Fee for Service	\$71,949
Grant	\$25,000
Donation	\$299,104
Other	\$2,580
TOTAL	\$398,633



Expenses

Staffing	\$196,112
Administrative	\$86,803
Programs	\$104,592
Fundraising	\$40,251
TOTAL	\$427,758

Community Partnerships

Community partnerships form the cornerstone of our resident programs and services, playing a vital role in their success.

Thanks to the invaluable support of Friends of DHA and RCC, we've cultivated over 100 strong and enduring partnerships with community agencies and local businesses.

Below, we're thrilled to recognize the contributions of our partner organizations, whose collaboration has been instrumental in driving the success of RCC programming through Friends of DHA.

Our Exceptional Partners

Abbotts Cleanup & Restoration, Aetna, American Mechanical Services, Anton Bengtson, Antony Frank, Breana Doing, Bridlewood Insurance, BuildingONE, Candace Allen, Caring for Denver Foundation, Carolyn Benik, Caryl Weber, Chandler Asset Management, Christopher Satrom, Colorado Employee Charitable Campaign, Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, Colorado Premier Builders, Inc, Colorado Premier Restoration, Colorado Shares, Comcast, Connect Home, Curt Hull, Dallas Gray, Denver Botanical Gardens, Denver Employee Charitable Campaign, Denver Housing Authority Denver Office on Aging, Denver Public Library, Denver Urban Gardens, Department of Local Affairs, Elisabeth Owens, Emily Dixon, Enterprise Community Partners, Federal Communication Commission-ACP, First Bank, Grace Buckley, Grainger, H.O.P.E. Board, HD Supply, Hubbard Family Foundation, Humana, Huntington, I-Kota, InnovAge, Kaiser Permanente, Kutak, Livable Cities Studio, LiveWire Network, Luke Philips, MEI Total Elevator Solutions, Mercy Housing, Michael Wakefield, Money Matters, Next with Kyle Clark, OATS/AARP/Senior Planet, Pacific Western, PC's for People, Ping Identity, Pinkard Construction, Public Health Institute of Denver Health, Reno + Cavanaugh, Resident Council Board (RCB), Richard Klingenmeier, Richman Capital, SB Clark, Senior Benefit Services, Shames Makovsky, Shaw Construction, Sheryl Walker, Shopworks Architecture, Starry, United Way Tax Help Colorado, Urban Ventures, Vectra Bank Colorado, Verizon, WORKSHOP8, Wyatts Towing.

More Information About RCC



Empowering Residents One Program at a Time

The Resident and Community Connections (RCC) Department provides services and programming that enhance the quality of life for DHA residents. RCC cultivates innovative partnerships with state and local government and nonprofit organizations. A dedicated team of 58 highly qualified professional staff work closely with residents in DHA's public housing and HCV (Housing Choice Voucher) communities.

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