

RENAISSANCE WEST
COMMUNITY
INITIATIVE



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Ending intergenerational poverty through holistic revitalization efforts, creating opportunities for all.

Creating
Opportunity,
Together.



OUR MISSION is to promote a collaborative community centered on quality housing, education, health and wellness, and opportunity.

OUR VISION is to end intergenerational poverty through a holistic community revitalization effort.

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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A MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING CEO & BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends,

As we reflect on 2024, we are filled with both pride and gratitude. It was a year of steady progress, deeper community connections, and thoughtful planning that positioned Renaissance West Community Initiative (RWCI) for its next chapter.

In many ways, 2024 served as a bridge year. It connected a decade of impact to a renewed focus on sustainability and growth. While we began to experience financial pressures, our commitment to holistic, place-based work never wavered. Our team remained focused on meeting the needs of our residents, preserving essential services, and strengthening the programs that matter most.

Throughout the year, we celebrated meaningful milestones. Residents earned diplomas and credentials, workforce development participants accessed new career opportunities, and children at the Howard Levine Child Development Center and Renaissance West STEAM Academy continued to flourish. Our life navigators remained a trusted support system for families striving for stability and long-term success.

We also began preparing for a significant leadership transition. Our long-time Chief Executive Officer, William "Mack" McDonald, announced his upcoming retirement in early 2025. His steady leadership and heartfelt commitment to this work have shaped the organization in immeasurable ways, and 2024 provided us the opportunity to begin a thoughtful and intentional process to carry that legacy forward.

Through every season of change, the heart of RWCI remains the same. We are a community rooted in equity, opportunity, and belonging. We are deeply grateful for the residents who lead with strength, the staff who serve with passion, and the partners who stand beside us with generosity and purpose.

Thank you for being part of our journey. We invite you to explore the highlights of this past year in the pages ahead, and we are grateful for the work we were able to do together.



Wm. "Mack" McDonald, Jr.



Trent Legare

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Will McDonald, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Wm. "Mack" McDonald, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Trent Legare" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Trent Legare
Board Chairman



Resident Success Story

At RWCI, we are proud to support residents as they transform their lives. One resident's story stands out. A mother of four from Charlotte, she began working at 14 and faced major challenges, including not having a car. Struggling to make ends meet, she knew she needed a change for herself and her children.

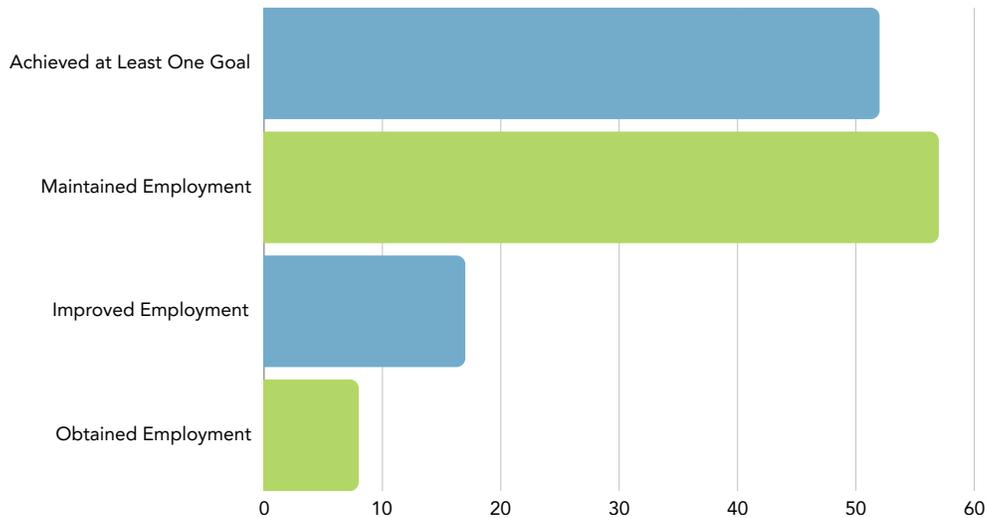
When the young mother reached out to RWCI, she saw the potential for a brighter future. Through the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, she received financial planning support from a Life Navigator, helping her set and achieve critical goals. RWCI's Workforce Development Program Officer also played a key role, assisting her in tailoring resumes and practicing for interviews. This guidance, paired with consistent encouragement, helped her stay focused during challenging times. She says that knowing someone believed in her made all the difference.

Today, she has secured her dream job with a top financial institution and is on track to become a financial advisor. With a clear path toward homeownership, her journey is a powerful reminder of the impact of persistence, self-belief, and community support. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, RWCI can continue helping residents break the cycle of poverty and build brighter futures.



2024 PROGRAMS OUTCOMES

Life Navigation is an optional program that offers residents one-on-one coaching. It supports neighbors from the Renaissance West community, Little Rock Apartments, and families at the Renaissance West STEAM Academy as they pursue educational, career, and financial goals. **In 2024, our Life Navigators partnered with 95 clients**, helping them achieve meaningful milestones that strengthen stability and open new opportunities.



25 residents were enrolled in a certification program.



45 residents acquired a laptop through E2D.



8 residents were enrolled in homeownership programs, 2 purchased homes, and 1 moved into market-rate housing.

Community Highlights

RWSA Continues to Climb

Renaissance West STEAM Academy (RWSA), which had been rated an "F" school since its opening in 2017, has continued its impressive turnaround. After moving to a "D" rating in 2023 and ranking 29th in North Carolina for growth, the school has now earned a "C" rating following the latest exams. This achievement reflects the hard work of students, staff, and leadership, and marks another step forward for a school where 75% of students are economically disadvantaged.



Purpose Built Advocates on Capitol Hill

On March 7, 2024, CEO Mack McDonald joined more than 25 Purpose Built Network Members and staff in Washington, D.C. for the second annual Hill Day. Participants met with congressional leaders and the Office of the Vice President to share their work, advocate for key policy priorities, and request project funding. Discussions focused on expanding economic mobility, protecting affordable housing and community development programs, and increasing the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit. The day highlighted the power of collective advocacy and strengthened relationships that will help advance Purpose Built's mission nationwide.



RWSA Students Explore Washington, D.C.

Our CEO was not the only one to visit the nation's capital this year. RWSA's graduating class also embarked on their inaugural trip to Washington, D.C. They explored iconic landmarks, including the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the Holocaust Museum, and the Smithsonian. For many students, some of whom have never had the chance to travel, this trip was a truly memorable experience.



\$1 Million Gift Fuels Educational Pipeline Initiative

In July 2024, the Howard R. Levine Foundation awarded Renaissance West Community Initiative \$1 million to launch the Educational Pipeline Initiative. The gift will expand reliable childcare, recruit and retain high-performing teachers, and provide out-of-school academic support for students in the Renaissance and Little Rock neighborhoods. We are deeply grateful for the Levines' continued support, which builds on their earlier \$1 million investment that established the Howard Levine Child Development Center, a hub for early learning and family support.



Thriving at Every Age



As a cradle-to-career community and beyond, we are committed to supporting residents beyond their working years. At The Retreat, our 65+ active living apartments, older adults have a dedicated Life Navigator who helps them stay healthy, engaged, and connected through regular health education and wellness programs. In 2024, they enjoyed a vibrant calendar of activities including African drum and dance lessons, crafting, bingo, holiday parties, and resident appreciation days. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our partners who visited, spent time with residents, and helped make these moments possible.

Celebrating Together, From Classroom to Community

For Christmas, CEO Mack McDonald and COO Dr. Laura Colson brought holiday magic to our students by dressing up as "Cookie" and the Grinch. They visited classrooms where children were gathered to watch holiday movies and enjoy festive snacks. Laughter filled the halls as students posed for pictures, shared hugs, and joined in the fun. Their faces lit up with excitement, creating a joyful memory that captured the spirit of the season and the caring connections that make our community so special.



RENAISSANCE WEST
COMMUNITY
INITIATIVE

United Way | UNITED OF GREATER CHARLOTTE | NEIGHBORHOODS

Renaissance West Community Initiative is proud to be a **2024 United Neighborhoods Partner** with United Way of Greater Charlotte. Since the program's inception in 2017, RenWest has served as a "community quarterback" organization. Thanks to the funding we receive from United Way, we partner with the following organizations to expand services within our community:



Alliance
Center for
Education



Community Partners

In addition to our United Neighborhoods Partners, we are grateful for the support of our dedicated **Community Partners**. These organizations play an essential role in expanding services and creating positive change throughout our community.

Through their expertise, resources, and commitment, they help us address key needs and uplift those we serve.

100 Black Women of Charlotte	Dixon Academy
Academic Institute of Central Carolina	Dream Center
Ally Bank	DreamKey Partners
American Airlines	Dress for Success
American Heart Association	E2D
ArchWell Health	Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont
Arts & Science Council	Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte Region
Arts+	Harmony Health
Atrium Health	Humana
Bank of America	Inlivian
Barre Belle	Joshua's Werk
Bayada Health	Junior League of Charlotte
Beds for Kids	Laurel Street Residential
Beyond Boundaries Behavioral Health	Lowe's
Carolina Caring	Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation
Carolina Youth Coalition	NC Works
Center for Digital Equity (Queens)	Oak Street Health
CenterWell Health	Planned Parenthood
Charlotte Douglas International Airport	Promising Pages
Charlotte Mecklenburg Library	Regions Bank
Charlotte Symphony Orchestra	Renaissance West STEAM Academy
Christ Missionary Outreach Church	Sanctuary Church Charlotte
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	Senior TLC
Common Wealth Charlotte	She Built This City
Communities in Schools	SteelFab
Community Matters	The Academy of Goal Achievers
Central Piedmont Community College	VIA Health
Crisis Assistance Ministry	WeBe
C.W. Williams Community Health Center	West Blvd Neighborhood Coalition
Cycle4Success	Stratford Richardson YMCA
Digi-Bridge	

Thank You to Our Donors

\$1,000,000+

Howard R. Levine Foundation

\$999,999-\$200,000

United Way of Greater Charlotte

\$199,999-\$50,000

Lowe's Foundation
Lowe's Home Improvement
Sisters of Mercy of North
Carolina Legacy
The Leon Levine Foundation

\$49,999-\$25,000

Crosland Foundation
Philip L. Van Every
Foundation
PricewaterhouseCoopers

\$24,999-\$10,000

Barnes Hauptfuhrer
Childress Klein
John M. Hawkins
Russell Ranson, III
South State Bank
Zenith National Insurance
Corporation

\$9,999-\$5,000

Bank of America Charitable
Foundation
Beacon Partners
Browder Group
Fidelity Charitable
Laura Clark
Pete Lash
Pinnacle Financial Partners
Renee Kosofsky
SteelFab
Stephen Shuford
The Steve & Kathy Horvath
Foundation
Tim Casey

\$4,999-\$2,500

American Heart Association
Bill and Robin Branstrom
Family Fund
Brighthouse Financial
Coca-Cola Consolidated
Deloitte & Touche
Homiar J. Hathiram
Jada Grandy-Mock
Jessie Wei
Robin Stuart
TEGNA Foundation Fund
The Perper Family Foundation
W. Curtis Elliott, Jr.

\$2,499-\$1,000

Adam Nicholson
Alphonso Brady
Anthony Fox
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Crawford Pounds
Crystal Byrd
Dante Anderson
Drakeford Communities LLC
Duke Energy Foundation
Eliot Weinstein
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Jane's Fund
Junior League of Charlotte
Kiran Mehta
Marc Gustafson
Michelle Elam
Nataly Larrabee
Rodney Gaddy
Stuart Sherrill
The Knight Foundation
Thomas Lott

\$999-\$500

Bentley Holmes
Clare Jansson
David Webb
Elli Dai
Grubb Family Fund
Jeremy Ardrey
Julianne McCollum
Nikki Barta
Sarah Love
Trent Legare

Turf Commander Landscape
Design Inc.
Venton Bell
Walter Fisher

\$499-\$100

Alisa Jones
Carlos Stennis
Curtis Carroll
David Howard
David Jones
Haley Gentry
Ian Blount
Jeffrey Bell Sr
Jim Bales
Kathleen Lynch
Kimberly Smith
Laura Colson
Matt Stubbing
Michael B. Coe
Michael Friedland
Michelle C. Gore
Olufunmilayo Omoliki
Randall Turner
Stanley Wade
Sterlyn Ardrey
Wells Fargo Community
Care Grants Program
William Mitchell
William "Mack" McDonald
William Hodges

Up to \$99

Carlton Crump
Harold Rice Jr
Katwren Anderson
Mike Rizer
Mona Lita Carr

Changing Lives

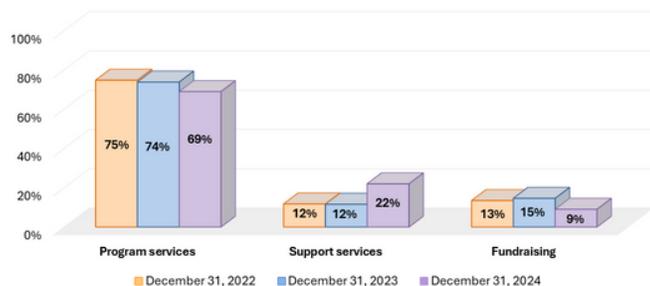
ORGANIZATIONAL FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

	Year Ended December 31, 2024			Prior Year Comparative Totals
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	TOTALS	
<u>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</u>				
Contributions and grants	\$ 407,574	\$ 1,866,096	\$ 2,273,670	\$ 1,363,976
Donated non-financial contributions	6,296	-	6,296	6,739
Special events	-	-	-	321,567
Interest income	95,116	-	95,116	98,380
Rent income	24,000	-	24,000	23,000
Miscellaneous revenue	12,961	-	12,961	45,504
Net assets released from restrictions	2,405,619	(2,405,619)	-	-
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	2,951,566	(539,523)	2,412,043	1,859,166
<u>EXPENSES</u>				
Program services	2,545,586	-	2,545,586	2,410,604
Management and general	812,850	-	812,850	379,314
Fundraising	334,281	-	334,281	477,471
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,692,717	-	3,692,717	3,267,389
<u>INCOME FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</u>				
	(741,151)	(539,523)	(1,280,674)	(1,408,223)
Non operating activity:				
Gain on extinguishment of debt	1,300,807	-	1,300,807	-
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	-	-	-	(3,772)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	559,656	(539,523)	20,133	(1,411,995)
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING	5,991,877	2,135,397	8,127,274	9,539,269
NET ASSETS, ENDING	\$ 6,551,533	\$ 1,595,874	\$ 8,147,407	\$ 8,127,274

Functional Expenses

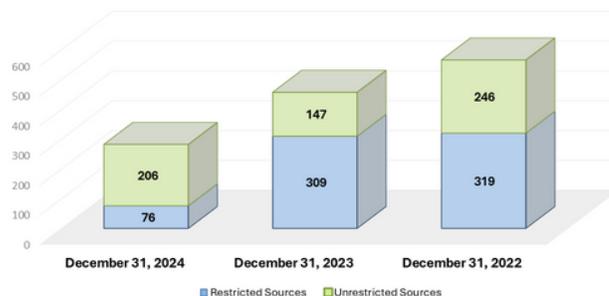
(as a % of Total Expenses)

for the years ended:



Days Cash on Hand

for the years ended:



RENAISSANCE WEST COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

To Make Your Gift Today:

1. Online Payment at www.rwci.org
2. Mail a Check to RWCI, 3610 Nobles Ave. #199 Charlotte, NC 28208
3. Gift of Stock at <https://www.rwci.org/our-causes/donate/>
4. Donor Advised Fund
5. Leave a Legacy and add RWCI to your will

Your Annual Fund Gift Supports:

Early Education at the Howard Levine Child Development Center

Programming for the Renaissance West STEAM Academy

RWCI as the Community Quarterback in the Renaissance neighborhood, including Life Navigation, health and wellness programs, and adult education and training

THANK YOU!



PURPOSE
BUILT
COMMUNITIES

RWCI is a proud member of the Purpose Built Communities Network across the United States.



3610 Nobles Avenue, #199 | Charlotte, NC 28208