

Annual Report

2022



hpnc

Hyde Park Neighborhood Club

Mission

Hyde Park Neighborhood Club brings people together to strengthen the health, vitality, and sustainability of our local community through programs and partnerships, with a particular focus on child and youth development.

Vision & Values

Hyde Park Neighborhood Club's purposes and programs support our diverse, vibrant community while also respecting the anticipated needs of future generations.

- Our creative and responsible actions promote social and racial justice and environmental stewardship.
- We prioritize equity and inclusion across all dimensions of our organization.
- We demonstrate care for children, families and the wider community through quality programming and a commitment to excellence.

Strategic Plan Framework

- Provide a suite of high-quality programs that support and strengthen our local community and involve children, families and other residents in community life.
- Develop the resources and capacities to achieve excellence in every program.
- Develop strategic partnerships that invite inclusive community participation and promote innovative contributions to community vitality.
- Invest in our workforce to respect the talents and commitments of our teams, and in our infrastructure to provide a sound, healthy, well-resourced environment.
- Secure a reliably sustainable financial future for our organization that can survive unpredictable stresses.
- Develop a plan for financing and constructing a new facility, replacing our currently aging structure, to accommodate our bold vision and values, and provide a welcoming space for our community-building agenda.

Letter from the Director

Dear HPNC Friends and Supporters,

HPNC is more than a pillar of community. HPNC is the people who put our minds and hands together to make our shared vision of diverse and inclusive community come to life. Our staff, board, donors, volunteers, collaborators, and program participants are motivated by the intrinsic meaning of joining forces to accomplish something positive for one another and for the greater good.

MISSION, VISION & VALUES

Our shared purpose is to bring people together to strengthen the health, vitality, and sustainability of our diverse local community through programs and partnerships, with a particular focus on child and youth development.

We envision a diverse and vibrant community that respects the anticipated needs of future generations. Together we value social and racial justice, equity and inclusion, respect for our environment, and quality experiences for young people and the community that cares about them.

We're willing to do what it takes to live our values.



Although 2022 had challenges, HPNC's momentum grew. We faced challenges associated with covid closures and vaccination requirements, and we did our part to help by hosting vaccination clinics. We learned that some pre-pandemic partners had changed directions or dissolved, so we initiated relationships with new partners. Despite feeling stretched, our staff and supporters rolled up our sleeves and—in the context of a tight labor market, inflation, and the changing funding priorities of long-term funders—we rebuilt program capacity with attention to inclusion and quality.

GROWING COMMUNITY POST-PANDEMIC

Over the past year, HPNC made strides toward growing our vibrant and diverse community post-pandemic. The report that follows will show how HPNC's enrollment increased to 824 individuals across programs—up by 47% from the prior year—and one-third of these youth participate in more than one program, demonstrating program quality. It will also show that HPNC serves a representative cross-section of our community, racially, ethnically, socio-economically, and geographically. With an additional 430 kids and their families coming to HPNC through our partners, HPNC is supporting a diverse ecosystem of vibrant youth programming for our local area.

To build a truly inclusive community, we have prioritized equitable access to programs. This means that we utilize creative pricing models, from sliding-scale to pay-what-you-can. Some individuals receive full fee waivers through neighbor-to-neighbor sponsorships, while some programs, like Open Gym Basketball, are completely free to everyone. HPNC also accepts state childcare subsidies for qualifying families. In combination, we are doing what we can to ensure that nobody is turned away for lack of funds, and we invested in this priority in 2022 by adding a Guest Services & Financial Aid Coordinator, who helps families access these resources.

Letter from the Director continued

HPNC's attention to access, inclusion, and justice is also demonstrated through staff professional development, spatial innovations, and program quality. For more than a year, HPNC has been enlisting experts and working closely with our program team to develop Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) competencies, so that they are better prepared to serve a neurodiverse student body. In 2022, we developed program goals that align with the CASEL SEL framework, set up a "cool down corner" where youth can go to take a break, and we updated behavioral policies from punitive to supportive. We also began integrating monthly social justice topics and projects into our programs, from "celebrating diversity through food" to "leaving your mark on the world."



HPNC's diverse and inclusive community is something that families truly value. Our early childhood parents consistently report that HPNC has brought them a sense of belonging through the Tot Lot open play, where they and their children make life-long friends. Our after-school program families tell us that having students from so many schools means their children get to widen their social groups and befriend others from both public and private schools and from all backgrounds. These friendships can be personally meaningful and profoundly expansive at the individual, interpersonal, and ultimately societal levels.

Of course, bringing community together to grow an intergenerational community of support around young people means that our neighbors and supporters help in tangible ways. Our extended community volunteers in programs, events, land stewardship, organizational capacity development and governance. Our neighbors and friends donate money and time to ensure that HPNC can continue to deliver innumerable benefits to our local community.

In response to heightened enthusiasm for community involvement, HPNC added a Community Engagement Coordinator staff position in the Fall of 2022. A primary goal has been to develop an organized approach to growing relationships with our extended community, especially through volunteerism. We have built on existing and established new formal collaborations with local volunteer groups, such as Kenwood Academic Center's middle-school and U-Lab School's high school service-learning programs, UChicago's Neighborhood Schools tutoring program, and individual volunteers who serve as Tot Lot Hosts and Garden Committee members. Newly developed structural supports will help to sustain and grow a positive and inclusive community around the next generation.

STAFF INVESTMENTS

HPNC's commitment to inclusion and justice also comes through our organizational practices, investment in staff, and investment in the organization. In the Spring of 2022 for the first time in our 114-year history, we began offering a health insurance reimbursement plan to full-time employees. For all full- and part-time employees, we initiated an automatic 401K match, expanded PTO benefits, and prioritized raises to our hourly employees, including front-line program, front desk, and maintenance staff, all of whom are paid



above Chicago's minimum wage. Staff appreciation and team-building activities include all members of our team and aim to be language-inclusive. And we have added staff capacity to operations, compliance, and grant-writing so that we can continue to expand our funding base, pay living wages, maintain a stable and invested team, and innovate to build on our successes.

Hats off to our hardworking staff and strong community support base, because HPNC is going into 2023 with a solid financial position. Our stable finances will allow us to continue to align programs and practices to our values.

OUR FUTURE

Based on small-scale successes in 2022, we have future plans to integrate environmental stewardship into our programs and operations. The Monarch Waystation, the public workshops facilitated by a key Garden Committee volunteer to grow at-home monarch habitats, and onsite gardening with youth have been our primary activities in this area. Last spring, we piloted Nature Club in early childhood, which was immensely popular. This affirms community interest, so there is a lot of room to grow.

We are in conversation with potential collaborators for future development in youth outdoor education and stewardship, including developing a master outdoor plan in consultation with expert gardeners, and ecology education and nature excursions within Summer Camp. The potential is high and the momentum is growing. Stay tuned, because gardening, taking care of the land, and mentoring young people in this work takes many hands. We invite you to lend yours!

Looking ahead, we will put attention into:

1. educating ourselves and seeking resources and volunteers in environmental stewardship so we can model care and teach the next generation to care for our local place,
2. developing relationships with new collaborators whose mission and values align with ours, and
3. facility and outdoor improvements that put our values of accessibility, inclusion, and respect for the environment front and center.

Your continued engagement counts. Thanks to you and the extended HPNC community for doing your part in these exciting times!

With thanks,



Angela Habr, MSW
Executive Director



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Chicago, IL 60615
hpnclub.org



Programs

Equity and Inclusion

HPNC is committed to equity and inclusion. To keep our programs accessible, we accept Illinois Action for Children state childcare subsidies. We also offer sliding-scale pricing and tuition waivers for those in need.

Quality and Excellence

We invest in professional development for our staff so that our team is equipped to deliver excellent care and instruction. HPNC prioritizes best practices in social-emotional learning, including understanding the perspectives of neurodiverse youth. We believe that when we make HPNC a safe and welcoming space for the children with the greatest needs, we make the space better for all the young people we serve.

824 
unique individuals
served in 2022

 +47% from
previous year

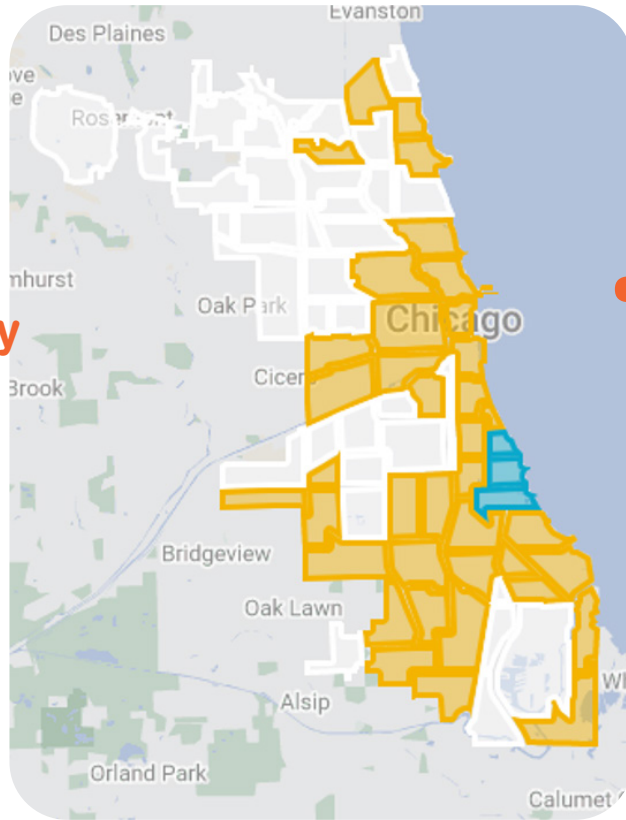
Supported partners to
serve an additional
430 individuals
and families



Geographic reach

39

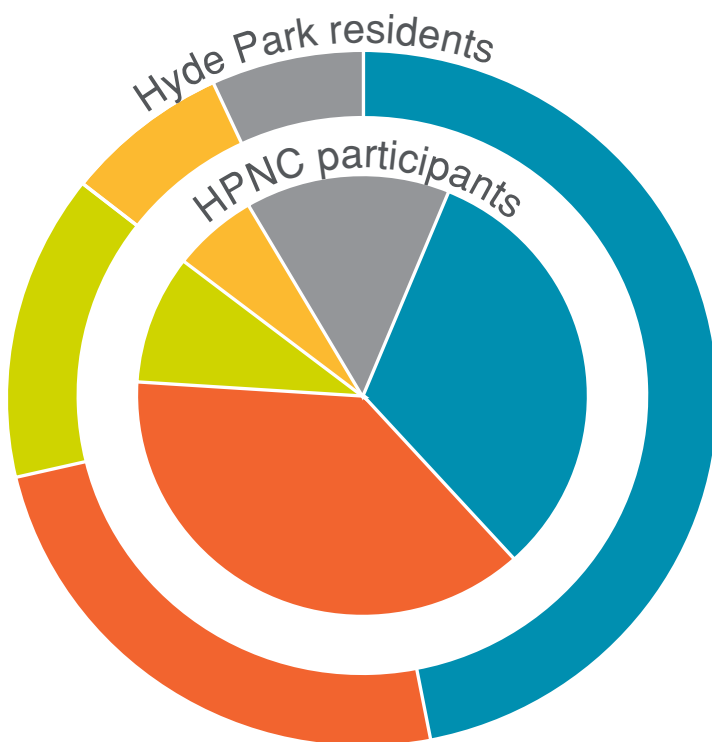
**of Chicago's
77 community
areas
represented
+ 7 suburbs**



75%

**from Hyde
Park, Kenwood,
Woodlawn or
Bronzeville**

Race & Ethnicity



- Asian: 9%
- Black: 38%
- Hispanic/Latinx: 6%
- White: 32%
- Other/multiple races: 15%

Early Childhood

Tot Lot

Since the 1950's, Tot Lot has been a time for open free play in our expansive gym. Children play independently and with other children according to their own interests and abilities, developing friendships and gross motor skills along the way.



393 unique individuals served

Tot Lot (254)

Childcare Referral Services (106 families)

Nature Club (49)

Exploring the Cello (26)

Caregiver Fitness (20 adults)

Kids & Family Yoga (13)

Infant Massage (11)

Nature Club

Did you know that kids who spend time in nature have stronger self-esteem, are more creative and cooperative, are better at following directions and problem solving, and are physically and mentally healthier? Nature Club is our nature-based, child-directed play group intended to ignite a love of the outdoors for our youngest explorers. Sessions include developmentally appropriate games and conversations about nature and environmental stewardship.



Childcare Referral Services

For expectant parents and families of young children, navigating the childcare landscape - daycare centers, in-home options, nannies, and more - can be a daunting. Dr. Sarah Diwan connects families with providers that match their specific needs. As someone who has been working in the field for the past two decades, no one on the South Side is more qualified to help families find the care that they need. In 2022, Dr. Diwan consulted with 106 families.

Out of School Time

Summer Camp

Young people who attend HPNC summer camp can count on us to provide youth with an extraordinary summer of exciting experiences and new friendships. Each week includes exploration-based learning, adventurous field trips (including water play and swim safety instruction), and tactile activities. Youth are empowered to become community pathfinders, environmental superheroes, and creative joy seekers.

2022 saw the second summer of our Explorers Camp for middle school students. Focusing on youth voice and choice, campers had the opportunity to plan their summer activities, working with staff as thought partners to enhance their daily engagement. Explorers Camp cultivates youth leaders by encouraging participants to push past the boundaries of current thinking to produce bigger and bolder ideas, while developing the courage and resilience needed to put those ideas into action.



After School Program

HPNC's After School Program (ASP) offers a safe and supportive environment for kids during the after school period. Our staff provide homework help, nutritious snacks, enrichment activities, and time to socialize.

Kids make friends from other schools and let out physical energy in our on-site gym, outdoor playground, and surrounding park. HPNC is known for its warm, pro-social approach to child and youth development.



Vacation Days & School Break Camps

School calendars don't always line up with parent and caregivers days off. In that gap, HPNC offers fun and thoughtful activities for select holidays, teacher in-service days, and parent-teacher conference days for most Chicago Public School, UChicago Lab School, and Catholic school days off. At Vacation Days, children get the break and the care that they need when school is not in session. Special short term camps are also planned for winter and spring breaks.

Athletics

Basketball

Basketball has been a part of the HPNC story from our very beginning in 1909. Youth develop fundamental skills while broadening their knowledge of positions and responsibilities for an increased basketball IQ. At HPNC, players learn age-appropriate skills and sportsmanship through drills and scrimmages.

This past year, HPNC began offering open gym for middle and high school students. With a weekly capacity of 40 youth, sessions quickly filled up. Offering a safe environment for youth to engage in fulfilling and constructive activities helps at-risk youth avoid situations that may lead to anti-social behavior or violence.



252 unique individuals served

Coached Basketball (165)

Open Gym Basketball (72)

Kenwood School of Ballet (24)

Roller Derby (14)



Roller Derby

Roller derby is a fast-paced contact team sport that requires speed, strategy and athleticism. Youth ages 9-17 learn basic and intermediate skating skills and roller derby rules. They build physical strength and agility in a sport that fosters confidence and team spirit.

Acrobatic Arts

This internationally acclaimed curriculum is offered at HPNC through our partner, Kenwood School of Ballet. Acrobatic Arts is based on safe and effective progressions with proven results in five divisions of AcroDance – flexibility, strength, balancing, limbering, and tumbling. Simple, thoughtful progressions take the beginner preschool level dancer from log rolls and somersaults to the advanced dancer tumbling effortlessly across the stage.

Community

Community events

HPNC is a hub of community activity during all seasons. In 2022, HPNC hosted or co-hosted

- Our annual Pancake Breakfast with 375 people in attendance
- A neighborhood scavenger hunt featuring local businesses and community organizations
- Hyde Park's 4th on 53rd Independence Day celebration in collaboration with several local groups
- Pumpkins in the Park with Nichols Park Advisory Council
- The South Side Pie Challenge to combat food insecurity
- A biannual children's clothing swap with the Hyde Park Parent Support Network
- New Years Eve luminary gathering
- Covid-19 vaccination clinics for children and the whole community
- Launched regular Wine & Kit Nights to assemble newborn, breastfeeding, and post-partum kits for new mothers with EveryMom Chicago



Investments in staff

In 2022, HPNC made the following investments in our greatest resource: the people who run our organization.

- New healthcare reimbursement plan for full-time staff
- 401k matching for staff at all levels
- Social-emotional professional development for staff working directly with our youth

Additionally, HPNC hired four new positions to enhance our operations and community experience



Blair Steward,
Operations Director



Chanel Easter,
Community Engagement Coordinator



Emma MacDuff,
Foundation Grants Coordinator



Devin Austin,
Guest Services & Financial Aid Coordinator

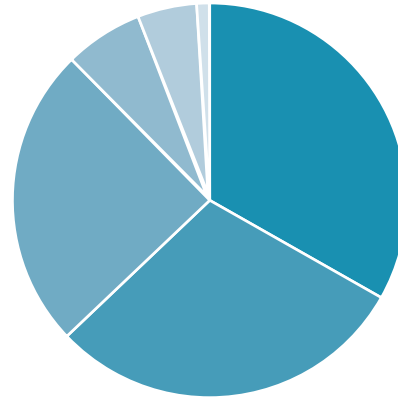
Audited financials

Statement of activities*

July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

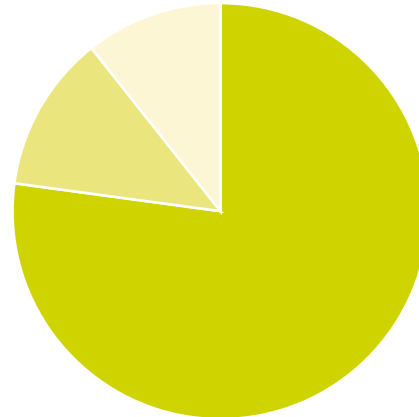
Source of funds

33%	Grants	\$423,997
30%	Program fees	379,017
25%	Contributions	316,007
6%	Rentals	82,071
5%	Non cash revenue	62,000
1%	Special events	13,075
0.04%	Miscellaneous	511
	Total	1,276,678



Use of funds

77%	Programs	\$841,822
12%	Management & General	133,202
11%	Fundraising	116,216
	Total	1,091,240



Platinum
Transparency
2022

Candid.

\$86,449 of currently held assets are restricted.

*Independently audited financial statements.

Full financial information available at hpnclub.org or upon request by contacting our office at info@hpnclub.org

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