Hyde Park Neighborhood Club

# Annual Report



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### 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.

# 2021-2024 Strategic priorities

- 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, wellresourced 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.



# A message from our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

2023 was a year of great progress for HPNC! Driven by our bold vision and enduring values, HPNC's dynamic community of staff, board, partners, volunteers, and families have been cultivating relationships and planting seeds to advance our strategic priorities. A vibrant future is emerging!

Our future is sprouting from HPNC's unique role in the neighborhood. Through high-quality programs, partnerships, grassroots mutual aid initiatives, volunteerism, and major community events, we bring people of all backgrounds together under one roof to grow a community of support around the next generation. Because HPNC is not attached to a particular school, religion, political affiliation, or profit-seeking agenda, our space is widely accessible and welcoming.

HPNC's program participation and volunteerism demonstrate that HPNC is inclusive. Our 2023 enrollment directly mirrored our community's racial and demographic makeup. Our deep roots in the neighborhood and broad branches attract hundreds of volunteers annually. At HPNC, university student associations, high school groups, businesses, and individuals have all found a place to shine in support of the next generation.

Program access is a key aspect of inclusion. HPNC makes concerted efforts to ensure that nobody is turned away for lack of funds. HPNC offers sliding-scale, pay-what-you-can, fee waivers, and state childcare subsidies for low income families. We offer additional programs, like open gym basketball, free of charge for everyone.

As an employer and an institution, HPNC strives to be a model of equitable and inclusive leadership, governance, community engagement, and operational practices. Our staff and board come from our community and reflect the diversity of the community we serve. HPNC invests in staff by offering competitive wages and benefits and development opportunities. We invest in our community by intentionally prioritizing local business partnerships and by striving to reduce our environmental impact.

As stewards of the next generation, HPNC has maintained a commitment to being responsive to changing needs.

Equity and inclusion



Environmental stewardship In the spring of 2023, HPNC adopted a new organizing principle across programs and operations: our interdependence with nature and each other. Our team began the work of orienting attitudes and skills within the staff and with our young people to care for themselves, one another, and the environment. We began to emphasize opportunities for young people to spend time outdoors and to be curious about the natural environment around them. These steps represent the beginning of HPNC's focus on growing our next generation's care for one another and for our planet.

Partners and collaborators are important members of the HPNC ecosystem. They provide specialized content and learning opportunities to HPNC youth and enable us to reach more families. In 2023, new collaborations with the Cook County Forest Preserve and UI Extension Master Gardeners have bolstered HPNC's development of an outdoor education curriculum.

Partners and collaborators have been important members of the HPNC ecosystem. They have provided specialized content, opened learning opportunities to HPNC youth, and reached additional families. In 2023, new collaborations with the Cook County Forest Preserve and UI Extension Master Gardeners have bolstered HPNC's development of outdoor education.

Throughout 2023, HPNC grew our volunteer program. Not only does this investment foster community, but it also means that HPNC can respond quickly to emerging community needs. This fall, along with our volunteer partners, HPNC has been able to offer a warm welcome to the influx of asylum-seeking and refugee families in our neighborhood, while maintaining our quality programs for everyone. We have been proud to invite our newest neighbors into current programs and to offer specialized support, like ESL. Meanwhile, we maintain our commitment to all families who rely on HPNC to provide safe, accessible, and excellent programs.

2023 has been a year of visioning, planning, seeking and receiving initial funds to lay our foundation for the future. Looking ahead, we are excited to move forward with our Building Revitalization Project! In the spring of 2024, we will break ground on the project and launch a Capital Campaign to fund this historic endeavor.

We are deeply grateful to the hundreds of generous donors, advisors, volunteers, and supporters who invest in HPNC. Thank you for your contributions! Whatever your role, you are helping to shape a bright future for the next generation!

Sincerely,

Angela Habr Executive Director Social & racial justice

Commitment to excellence

# Bringing our values to life







### Social and racial justice

- Incorporate social justice learning into key programs.
- Support and strenthen community mutual aid initiatives.
- Prioritize fair hiring practices, staff pay equity, and diverse board representation.
- Patronize local and MWBE businesses.

### Environmental stewardship

- Grow opportunities for children to explore nature and learn outdoors.
- Teach children how and why to care for our environment.
- Improve procurement practices with a "green" eye.

### Equity, inclusion and access

- Help eligible families apply for the Illinois Action for Children state child care subsidy.
- Offer sliding-scale pricing, fee waivers, pay-whatyou-can, and sibling discounts, ensuring accessibility to families regardless of whether state subsidies are available to them.
- Provide certain programs free to everyone.

### Quality and excellence

- Employ rigorous evaluation of programs to ensure quality and to make improvements.
- Innovate to offer new programs that meet the evolving needs of our community.

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.

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+31%

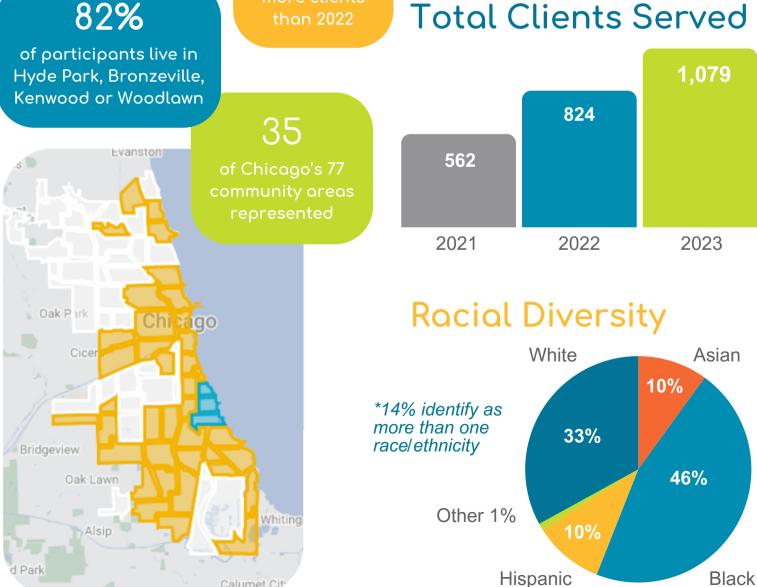
more clients

than 2022



Our total number of clients served continues to grow year over year. We serve a racially diverse population from across many areas in Chicago.

# **Total Clients Served**



# Program spotlights

### Summer Camp

At Summer Camp we emphasized time in nature and outdoor activities, leaning into our value of environmental stewardship:

- 123 summer campers went on weekly hiking trips, made possible in partnership with the Cook County Forest Preserves.
- 10 campers attended an overnight tent camping trip, where they went on hikes, told stories, made s'mores, and stargazed.



### Chess

Our new Chess class, part of the After School program, created a fun way for kids to learn and practice strategic thinking.

- An internationally acclaimed Grandmaster of Chess leads the class.
- Our very low price point and fee waivers make this chess program more accessible than most.
- The quality of this instructor is unparalleled.

### FOREST PRESERVES of Cook County

Environmental stewardship



Commitment to excellence

### New neighbor welcome

In order to assist the many migrant families arriving in the areas we serve, HPNC established our new neighbor support program, which is:

- · Welcoming new neighbors into our existing programs.
- Inviting new neighbors to help design specialized offerings that meet their needs.
- · Offering ESL and bi-lingual enrichment programs.
- Providing meals and transportation to and from HPNC.
- Extending facility hours so families have a welcoming space to gather, an alternative to crowded shelters where many live.

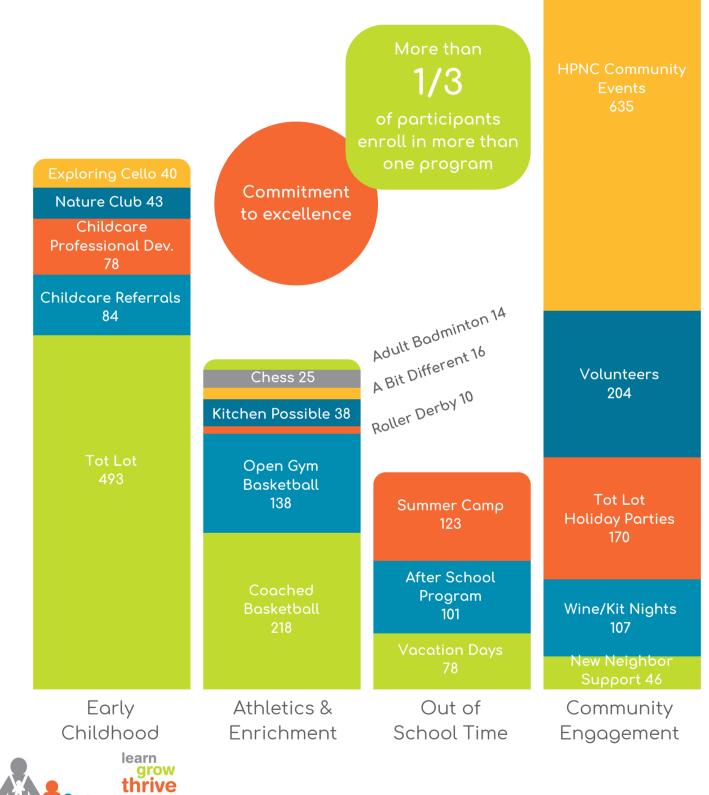
Equity and inclusion

Social & racial justice

### Strategic priority 1: high-quality programs

# Program numbers

Our programs serve a wide range of ages, from early childhood through adulthood. Each year we evaluate our program offerings to ensure they meet the needs and interests of our clients.



# **Community engagement**

Community engagement includes major community events, our volunteer program, ideas, participation, stewardship and mutual aid.

# Community events

### Tot Lot holiday parties:

- Valen-Tiny
- Spring Fling
- Halloweenie
- · Winter Holidays Around the World

### HPNC community events:

- Annual Pancake Breakfast
- Annual Gala
- Back to School Bash
- Scavenger Hunt
- Trunk-or-Treat

### Collaborative neighborhood events:

- 4th on 53rd
- Pumpkins in the Park
- South Side Pie Challenge
- New Year's Eve Luminaria
- Wine & Kit Nights in partnership with EveryMom (multiple events each year)

# 350

guests <mark>attended our</mark> 59th annual pancake breakfast

### 5,580

people took part in collaborative neigborhood events





### Strategic priority 1: high-quality programs

# Expanding our volunteer program

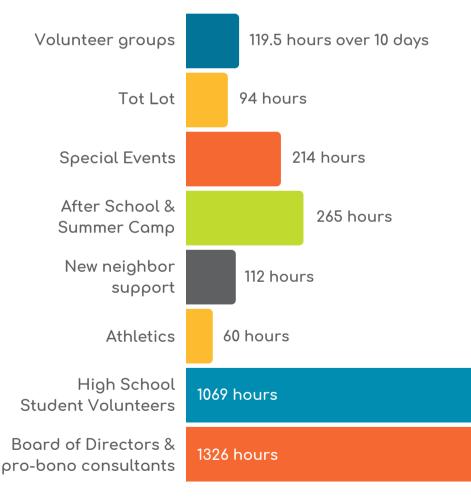
We are expanding our Volunteer Program to deepen engagement with our community while improving program quality.

204 individuals volunteered with HPNC in 2023

Volunteers devoted **3,260** hours to HPNC

# 

# Volunteer Hours by Program







### Parent feedback

- 100% feel HPNC programs are beneficial
- 97% feel connected to the larger community
- 96% report feeling safe
- 92% learn something new

"I love the patience the coaches have with the children. They are also very encouraging and supportive of the kiddos. The environment is very nurturing and positive, overall an awesome program!" -Athletics Program Parent



"My child was bullied at school, so we transferred schools mid-year, and she was slow to acclimate. Then we sent her to HPNC's Summer Explorers Camp and watched her blossom socially. She loved it! When she started back at her new school this Fall, she was like a new person." -Out of School Time Parent



"It's a good chance for my son to play with other kids his age and to observe kids slightly older. I've also seen him grow over the last few months by seeing how he responds to other kids and how he interacts with the toys and obstacle course." -Early Childhood Parent

### Strategic priority 1: high-quality programs

# Student impact and creativity

One student recently lost his mom. He started our program in October, at the time HPNC actually didn't have any spots, but since his family was in need of childcare, we made room.

This student comes in all the time talking about how grateful he is to be here and how much he enjoys it. HPNC is especially helpful for students who need additional support and love, and supportive adults and friendships in their lives.

At HPNC children are empowered to make their creative ideas reality. There is a group of 3rd graders who like to plan events for the after school program, such as parades, fashion shows and more. They wanted to do a Halloween costume contest. We built on this idea, pairing our first annual Trunk or Treat Extravaganza with their Halloween costume contest.







Develop **strategic partnerships** that invite inclusive community participation and promote innovative contributions to community vitality.



### 412 additional clients reached through partners

"Moving into HPNC has opened so many doors for EveryMom. In 2022, we were able to double the number of kits we distributed to mothers from the previous year, due in large part to having space for more kits and supplies. At HPNC, we are now able to receive larger donations from big name brand companies and co-host community events that have boosted awareness efforts. I love packing kits alongside parents and caregivers in Tot Lot each month! Caregivers volunteering to help other Chicago moms while their children have fun with other kids is a great snapshot of the community that is so rich here." -Jamie Taratoot, Executive Director, EveryMom Chicago





# Additional partners





















<enwood School of Ballet







# Nichols Park Advisory Council

Invest in our workforce to respect the talents and commitments of our teams, and in our infrastructure to provide a sound, healthy, wellresourced environment.



Our team demonstrates our core value of inclusion, even among one another.

"This role allows me to work with and get to know families while also improving the quality of their experience. It is both my honor and most rewarding challenge to make HPNC programming the supportive environment it is." -Samantha Leon, Out of School Time Program Manager





"One positive experience working for HPNC was coming in new and feeling right away like I was a part of the team. We have amazing people who are welcoming. They take core values as seriously as possible and demonstrate them in everything they do." -Chanquel Johnson, Program Director

Our staff retreat was a highlight of 2023.

Social & racial justice

Commitment to excellence

Equity and inclusion



Secure a **reliably sustainable financial future** for our organization that can survive unpredictable stresses.



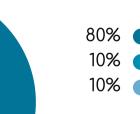
### **Financial Statement**

Independently audited.

Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

### Sources of funds

43% 🔴	Grants & subsidies	\$864,904
23% 🔴	Contributions & events	\$456,824
23% 🔴	Program fees	\$459,040
7%	Rentals	\$134,085
2%	Miscellaneous	\$31,998
3%	Non-cash contributions	\$50,000
070	Total	\$1,996,851



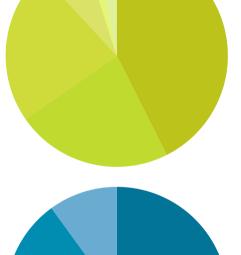
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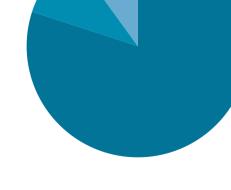
**Financial Position** 

Assets*	\$2,283,122
Liabilities	\$573,681
Net Assets*	\$1,709,441

\*Restricted Assets \$123,019 \*Property & Equipment \$453,787

Full financial information available at hpnclub.org.





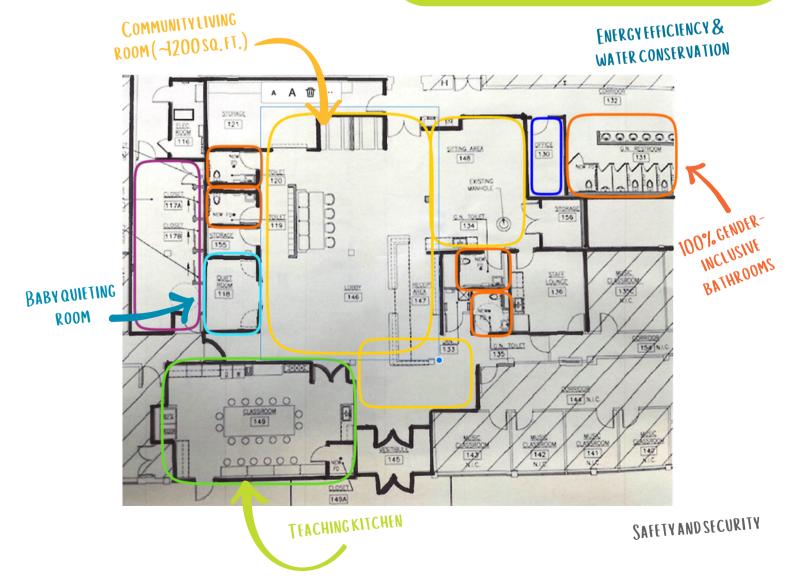


Develop a plan for financing and constructing a **new facility**, replacing our currently aging structure, to accommodate our bold vision and values, and provide a welcoming space for our community-building agenda.



# Project priorities are responsive to recent community feedback:

- Wave 1 of 2 breaks ground Spring 2024
- Some initial funding secured through City and State grants
- Capital Campaign to launch in 2024 to make up the difference



### Wave 1 Features:

# Our responsibility to the future

HPNC is increasing our focus on sustainability across all of our programs and operations,

### New collaborations

- Forest Preserves of Cook County
- University of Illinois Master Gardeners Extension
- Field Museum

### Environmental education programs and content

- Mighty Acorns school-based program
- Nature Club
- Summer camp, Explorers camp, After school program
  activities
- Community initiatives (i.e. milkweed planting, worm-bin workshops, wildflower walks)

### Outdoor program opportunities

HPNC gardens, parks, forest preserves

### Facility and operational improvements

- Expanded community space
- Teaching kitchen
- Energy efficiency & solar power
- Graywater system
- Procurement practices









Social & racial justice

Environmental stewardship

Equity and inclusion

Commitment to excellence Thank you to the generous supporters who make all of our impact possible!



# \$496,181 donated to HPNC in 2023\*

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\*Donations made from January 1-December 31, 2023.



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