

West Side Community Fund

2023 Annual
Impact Report

WSCF

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY FUND

Questions? Reach out to WSCF@hudsonguild.org
westsidecommunityfund.org | [@wscfgrants](https://twitter.com/wscfgrants)

Introduction

West Side Community Fund (WSCF) is a consortium of leading businesses and firms that have come together to support neighborhood initiatives in the west side of Manhattan. Through a bi-annual microgrants program, WSCF supports initiatives that deliver services to under-resourced residents in Chelsea, Hudson Yards, and Hell's Kitchen. Since its founding in 2018, WSCF has distributed more than \$925,000 over seven grant cycles.

This report outlines the impact of WSCF's Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 grants and highlights a few of the grantees' initiatives.

**Thank you to all of our
gracious supporters.**

**Together, we are strengthening
the west side community.**

Impact: By the Numbers

Impact of Fall 2022 & Spring 2023 Grantees

WSCF

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY FUND

MICRO-GRANTS DISTRIBUTED

\$200,000

COMMUNITY MEMBERS SERVED

102,594

STAFF MEMBERS
& VOLUNTEERS
SUPPORTED THE
INITIATIVES

2,345

HOURS OF PROGRAMMING PROVIDED

6,911

INITIATIVES FUNDED

36

Impact: By the Numbers

Impact of Fall 2022 & Spring 2023 Grantees

WSCF

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY FUND

INITIATIVE IMPACT AREAS

24%

HEALTH & WELLNESS

31%

EDUCATION & ECONOMIC
EMPOWERMENT

21%

FOOD SECURITY

24%

COMMUNITY
IMPROVEMENT

PRIMARY NEIGHBOURHOODS SERVED

12%

CB4

*CB4 encompasses all
three neighborhoods

30%

HELL'S KITCHEN

58%

CHELSEA & HUDSON YARDS



Impact Grantee Highlights

Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries

Providing resources to asylum seekers

Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries' (RMM) Migrant and Homelessness Support Program has responded to the recent influx of asylum seekers by addressing the emergency and long term needs of the unhoused. Located across the street from the Port Authority Bus Terminal, the initiative is a first line of support for newly arrived migrant families.

Utilizing WSCF grant funds, RMM partnered with Artists-Athletes-Activists to open a twice-weekly all day resource center, ROCC (Resources, Opportunities, Connections & Community). On Wednesdays and Thursdays, participants and their families can find legal and human resource support, trauma-informed support groups, clothing, and food. Currently, the program provides emergency supplies and food to nearly 500 individuals per week.

In one instance, RMM secured a comfortable stroller for a family with a disabled daughter. Accustomed to carrying their seven year old everywhere, this family continues to meet with ROCC team members weekly for assistance in finding more support for their child. Currently, RMM is working to obtain a wheelchair for her.



Impact Grantee Highlights

NYC Salt

Broadening horizons through photography

High School Residency, a digital photography program by NYC Salt, uplifts students of historically marginalized backgrounds by investing in their creativity. Participants embrace their artistry while building relationships and gaining invaluable professional experience. The Chelsea program includes two exhibitions where students display and present their work, fostering much-needed skills in public speaking, socialization, and confidence in a post-pandemic world.

Due to a WSCF grant, each participant received individualized attention during the college application process. As a result, 100% of the senior class received acceptance letters. Every rising senior is a first generation college student.

Audrea, a Residency participant, reflected, “Growing up I did not think I would go to college. My excuse was financial, but deeper than that, it was the fear of allowing myself to want bigger things. No one I knew had successfully completed college... Salt changed that. They were the first to see my creativity as more than a doodle on a page but as the beginnings of a future. Salt helped me realize that doing something creative could be turned into a job. I met all kinds of people in creative jobs, and through getting to know these people, I came to realize that creativity and money were not mutually exclusive. If I hadn’t been in Salt, I would be surviving instead of living right now.”



Impact Grantee Highlights

S3V3N Inc.

Interrupting violence and raising awareness

S3V3N Inc. works to bring awareness and resources to the west side community to combat domestic violence. This fall, its Domestic Violence Awareness Symposium and Teen Mentorship events held at the Fulton Community Center provided participants with preventative measures and interventions to recognize and escape abusive situations.

With funding from a WSCF grant, S3V3N Inc. held workshops dedicated to topics such as anger management and parenting. The organization also established an emergency hotline for crisis support. Home visits were made to families and survivors of domestic violence to provide therapy referrals, share insight about obtaining legal protection from abusers, and discuss safety planning.

One of many attendees from the community, State Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal lauded the importance of S3V3N's symposium and mentorship programs, emphasizing the necessity of spreading awareness. Holyman-Sigal noted that breaking the silence and speaking up about abuse is a major step in affecting change.

Announcing our Fall 2023 Grantees

We are excited to announce WSCF's Fall 2023 grant recipients. This cycle, we distributed a total of \$100,000 in grants, supporting [21 initiatives](#):

1. Adaptive Design Association
2. Asian Community Care Organization
3. Autistic Adults NYC
4. Cambio Labs
5. CHEKPEDS
6. Chelsea Community News
7. Friends of Chelsea Green
8. Friends of Argentine Tango
9. Food Education Fund
10. Hell's Kitchen Community Cupboard
11. Hot Bread Kitchen
12. Keoni Movement Arts
13. Manhattan Plaza Theatre Project
14. Manhattan Community Boathouse
15. PS11 Aid Foundation
16. Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries
17. RUSA LGBTQ Corp.
18. Seeds of Fortune
19. S3V3N Inc.
20. The 52nd Street Project
21. W42ST



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Thank you to our Donors

These leading corporations are setting an outstanding example of corporate citizenship and we are looking forward to building on their example. Your continued support in 2024 will allow WSCF to support even more high-impact initiatives along the west side.



S9ARCHITECTURE



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