CHILD CARE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

U.S. Bank Foundation Provided Generous Support

The U.S. Bank Foundation granted Neighborhood House $20,000 for our Child Care Improvement Program (CCIP). It has generously supported various Neighborhood House programs since 2011. The U.S Bank Foundation promotes *"economic development by supporting efforts to create stable jobs, better homes, and vibrant communities. This work drives toward our U.S. Bank goal to reduce economic and racial barriers to success for our communities."*

Neighborhood House's CCIP helps childcare providers—primarily immigrant women—improve their childcare businesses through training, peer support, and access to resources. Working families in the region benefit from the increased availability of affordable, high-quality childcare in their neighborhoods, and children benefit by being in the loving care of dedicated, trained professionals who enrich their lives in a safe, healthy, and educational childcare environment. Funds from U.S. Bank provided essential support to CCIP throughout the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Neighborhood House offers its heartfelt thanks to the U.S. Bank Foundation Community Possible Grant program.

L to R: CCIP program coordinators Sheyma Omar and Rosie Gomez give a tour to U.S. Bank Foundation's Karen Kervin with Neighborhood House Chief Development Officer Mari Yerger.

OUR VISION **Every neighbor has the community and support they need to thrive.**

TO LEARN MORE, SIGN UP TO RECEIVE ONLINE NEWS, OR TO VOLUNTEER please visit us online at NHPDX.org

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neighborhood house

2022-2023 Impact Report

This year demanded that we do more.

As wealth disparity grows, it is no surprise that our neighbors are under duress. Rising rent and housing costs outpace earners' wages. As pandemic-era tax credits end, more people struggle to access basic needs like housing, food, childcare, educational support, and support for seniors.

In FY22/23, more people relied on the life-sustaining services that you support. One of the myths about poverty in Portland is that it does not exist in SW Portland neighborhoods. **The opposite is true.** A recent study shows a density of households experience poverty along the SW I-5 corridor — our most active service area.

While Neighborhood House is a leader in poverty relief services in SW Portland, our programs reach far beyond that. We serve the Metro area, all of Multnomah County and the state.

Housing and Community Health Program integrates services.

Poverty negatively affects people's health, making it a community health crisis. With your generous support, our Housing program is expanding to include a community health focus. See page 3 to learn more about Director of Housing and Community Health Christine Sanders's plans to expand services.

Co-located childcare and housing work better for families.

We are proud to call Representative Suzanne Bonamici and Senator Ron Wyden partners to support childcare. They held an event at Stephens Creek Crossing last May to promote their supportive legislation. It highlighted Stephens Creek as a successful example of affordable housing with a co-located childcare center.

The number of people seeking food assistance continues to grow.

Our community needs assessment in August revealed that more than 24,000 children in Multnomah County don't have enough to eat. In FY22/23, more than 11,000 individuals received healthy food from the Food Pantry.

Head Start supports the entire family.

In FY22/23, half of the families enrolled in Head Start also received emergency assistance and crisis intervention. Bolstered by leadership from our new Director of Head Start Jessica Nguyen, family advocates connect families and children to a network of critical integrated services.

Chris Chiacchierini
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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we connect neighbors, build community and improve lives

CONNECT PROGRAM

Getting Back on Track

During one of the most difficult periods of their life, Neighborhood House was able to give Staci and Jordan the help they needed to get back on track.

Staci was going through a divorce and bitter custody battle, which consumed her resources, energy, and time. After four years on a waiting list, Staci and Jordan were able to move into the Stephens Creek Crossing housing complex. Soon after, Jordan was recommended for the Neighborhood House Connect Program.

The Connect program is for kids who need extra academic or emotional support. Jordan has always been a good student, but she needed help to deal with social and general anxieties. At Connect, Jordan would learn coping mechanisms like Rosebud, where she could identify the negative (thorns) and also look for the positive (flower). She was in third grade at the time.

Besides meeting their housing needs, Connect Program Manager Linda McNamara helped Staci with meal deliveries from the school and the Neighborhood House Food Pantry, as well as Connect. All these integrated services helped Staci finish her studies to become a medical billing specialist. That education allowed her to double her income and move out on her own.

"One of the reasons I am able to provide for my daughter today is because people like Linda helped me, and I was able to get through school," Staci said.

Staci grew up in the foster care system and feels the stigma of using public resources. *"I didn't want that for myself,"* she explained. *"I want to be sustainable for myself and my family. But, seeing, needing, and getting those resources when I needed them, I can see what a blessing that was."*

Jordan is now in seventh grade and involved in school, band, and sports. *"She is thriving, and I know in my heart our family's future changed because of Connect and the other programs that helped us during the lowest time of our lives,"* Staci concluded.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

Housing Success is Tied to Wraparound Support

Neighborhood House wants to be a beacon of hope for families and individuals seeking stability, support, and a place to call home. At the core of our mission is a robust housing and community health program that transforms lives and neighborhoods alike.

We're making exciting changes to our Housing Program, starting with hiring Christine Sanders as director of the newly named and expanded Housing and Community Health Department. Adding multilingual and multicultural staff has bridged communication gaps and provided stronger support for multicultural clients. With this team in place, we will expand our reach and impact across Multnomah County.

Expanding Access and Inclusivity

One hallmark of our housing program is the comprehensive range of support services we offer, far beyond just providing affordable housing. Our staff employs a holistic approach to well-being, helping families and individuals achieve self-sufficiency and stability. Wraparound support services can include help with enrollment in state health insurance, education, ESL classes, and applying for state benefits where applicable. We also help families find suitable child care and make connections with job training and employment opportunities tailored to their interests and skills.

Funding and Growth

The housing program has seen significant growth assisting refugee clients thanks to strategic partnerships and funding support.

Recent grants have injected vital resources into providing housing placement assistance, work-ready training, career coaching, and more.

Neighborhood House's housing program is not just about providing shelter; it's about building strong, resilient communities where everyone can thrive.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

By the Numbers

SCHOOL AGE

- 147 students in the program across 4 locations & a waitlist at all 4 locations.

OCCA

- Serving 79 child care providers with valuable bilingual business coaching and curriculum tools to strengthen and expand their businesses. We plan to double the number served in the next year, expanding our reach into three new areas of Oregon.

FOOD SECURITY

- 11,000 individuals
- 4,000 households
- 3,729 volunteer hours
- 62% POC
- 38% White
- 47% Immigrants/Refugees
- 21% served are under age 17

HOUSING

- Thanks to a concentrated grants push (Metro & PRSG), we expanded the number of households served by 62% — 21 at 19th Avenue Apts. & 50 across Multnomah County.
- The majority are refugees & older adults.

SENIORS

- 862 people attended an active motion class.
- 1,842 had food delivered.
- 1,362 joined a group activity like games, crafts, or writing.

PARENTING

- The program served 128 families/186 children/ 19 ethnicities.

CCIP

- 62 in-home childcare providers, 100% people of color, all received their licenses.
- Served 524 children & 128 households

HEAD START

- 24 of 40 early learning staff spoke 2 or more languages. Of those, 17 spoke a primary language other than English.
- 45% of families enrolled in Head Start received emergency/crisis intervention such as needs for food, clothing, or shelter.
- 653 direct support visits with families by our Family Services team.
- 29,269 healthy meals provided.