



The
**Sheltering
Arms**
Foundation

2023-2024 Annual Report



OUR VISION

The Sheltering Arms Foundation envisions a Minnesota that is a vibrant, thriving state where the opportunity gap for children is closed and all children have high-quality lives, including broad and equitable access to the following:

- ☼ childcare and early childhood education
- ☼ high-quality out-of-school time (OST) programming
- ☼ mental, physical, social, emotional, and intellectual wellbeing
- ☼ supportive opportunities for families and communities.



OUR MISSION

The Sheltering Arms Foundation's mission is to invest in the lives of Minnesota's children so that they reach their full potential.

We fund non-profit organizations and support policies that benefit children and their families who have the least access to resources.

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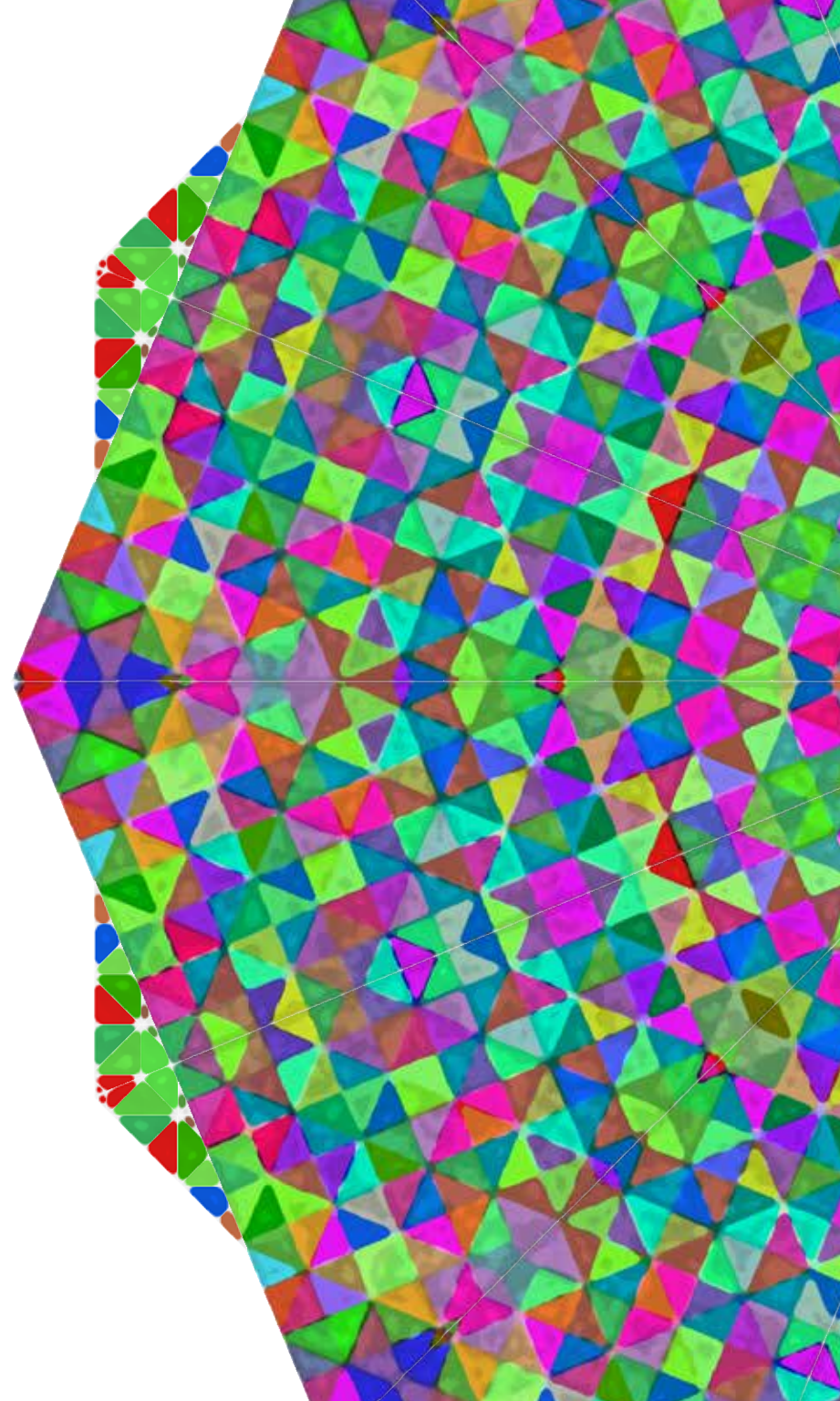
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The Sheltering Arms Foundation

PO Box 386027
Minneapolis, MN 55438

612.871.9210

www.sheltering-arms.org



DEAR FRIENDS

Here are some highlights from the past fiscal year, July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. These accomplishments reflect the dedication of our staff, board of trustees, and numerous grant partners, all working tirelessly to help the children and families they serve thrive.

OUR GRANTMAKING

We provided \$579,000 in grant dollars to 56 organizations throughout Minnesota.

- 🌀 **Advocacy:** 6 grants totaling \$60,000
- 🌀 **Early Childhood:** 21 grants totaling \$224,500
- 🌀 **Youth Development:** 23 grants totaling \$255,500
- 🌀 **Episcopal Community:** 4 grants totaling \$4,000
- 🌀 **Collective Impact Partners:** 2 grants totaling \$35,000

Through this grantmaking, our grant partners served just over 10,000 children and families.

OUR GRANT PARTNERS

Each year, during the months of September and October, we have the privilege of meeting 1:1 with our grantees to discuss their grant program. Some of what we heard our nonprofit partners are struggling with include:

- 🌀 Increasing costs to provide programming.
- 🌀 A lack of mental health therapies for children and youth.
- 🌀 Workforce shortages, especially in the early childhood care sector.

We also heard that our grant partners adapt, thrive, and remain resilient. Sheltering Arms commends their hard work and dedication to working with the most vulnerable children during these difficult days.

OUR STRATEGY

Internally, our Bylaws were updated, our grants process was streamlined, the office became paperless, and we moved into cost-saving co-working office space. A new strategic framework was created, identifying new possibilities within our grantmaking and advocacy efforts while remaining steadfast in our commitment to closing the opportunity gap for Black, Indigenous, and children of color.

OUR DONOR PARTNERS

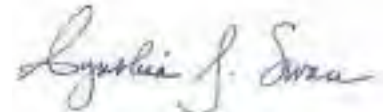
We are incredibly grateful to our donors who believe in and support our mission. You make this work possible!

Thank you for your continuing involvement with Sheltering Arms. We hope you read on for grantee highlights and more details on our grantmaking!

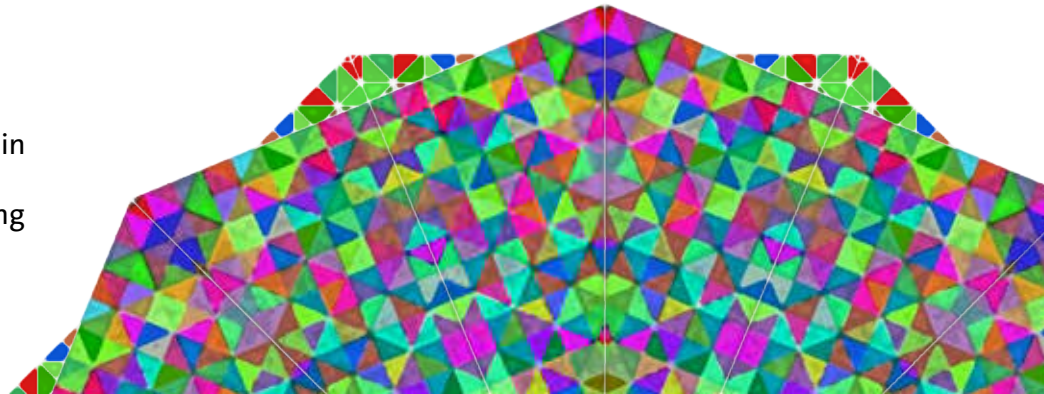
Sincerely,



Diane Grossman
Executive Director



Cynthia Swan
Board President, 2023-2024

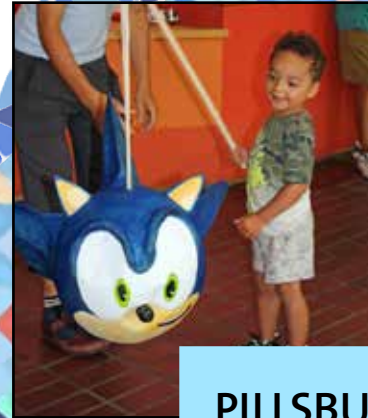


EARLY CHILDHOOD

There's magic in the air at Pillsbury House + Theater (PH+T) as budding young preschoolers are learning, exploring, and thriving with the support of talented teaching artists and a recent Sheltering Arms Foundation "Early Childhood Arts Integration" grant. One inspiring success story includes a young learner named David, who gained confidence and leadership skills due to his engagement in the arts-focused initiative. The most exciting news is that David has graduated and is now excelling in kindergarten!

PH+T, a cultural landmark in one of Minneapolis' most historic and diverse neighborhoods, houses the Pillsbury Early Education Center, an accredited learning center with a history of ensuring children like David are prepared for kindergarten. The arts-integrated learning programs offer a wide range of activities designed to spark curiosity, creativity, and learning confidence. Their approach is culturally diverse and attentive to each child's individual and distinct needs. The caring, licensed staff members share their expertise and experience in advanced training in early education.

This past year, PH+T brought resident teaching artists and its childcare program to deliver weekly classes in multiple arts disciplines, from origami to storytelling. These offerings enhance social/emotional, cognitive, and physical developmental milestones and develop creative expression in children ages 16 months to six years. Puppetry and music classes were added to the visual arts, movement, and theatre/storytelling classes. PH+T exceeded its goal of art classes and children served as it continued to nurture and grow an even more impactful program for neighborhood children.



PILLSBURY HOUSE + THEATRE
Early Childhood Arts Integration
\$10,000 Grant



GRANTS

BABY'S SPACE

Healing Our Children, Healing Ourselves

Minneapolis 🌀 \$15,000

THE CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY

Creative Play

Minneapolis 🌀 \$10,000

THE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

Four Directions Therapeutic Preschool

Minneapolis 🌀 \$10,000

JEREMIAH PROGRAM

Mental Health Program

Rochester 🌀 \$10,000

JEWISH FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

ParentChild+

Statewide 🌀 \$10,000

JOYCE PRESCHOOL

Home Visiting Program

Minneapolis 🌀 \$10,000

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF MINNESOTA

Families Together Therapeutic Preschool

St. Paul 🌀 \$15,000

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

Early Childhood Family Home Visits

St. Paul 🌀 \$10,000

NORTHFIELD HEALTHY COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

Growing Up Healthy Program

Northfield 🌀 \$10,000

NORTHLAND FOUNDATION

Thrive Initiative

Duluth+ 🌀 \$15,000

NORTHSIDE ACHIEVEMENT ZONE

Home Visiting Program

Minneapolis 🌀 \$10,000

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

Home Visiting Program

Greater Minnesota 🌀 \$10,000

PILLSBURY UNITED COMMUNITIES

Pillsbury House + Theatre

Early Education Arts Initiative

Minneapolis 🌀 \$12,000

PROJECT FINE

Early Learning Program

Winona 🌀 \$10,000

SERVE MINNESOTA

Reading Corp in Licensed Family Child Care

Minneapolis 🌀 \$15,000

ST. DAVID'S CENTER FOR CHILD & FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

Family Place Readiness & Engagement Pilot

Minneapolis 🌀 \$10,000

URBAN VENTURES LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

Cornwell Early Learning Center

Minneapolis 🌀 \$10,000

WALKER WEST MUSIC ACADEMY

Early Childhood Music Program

Twin Cities Metro Area 🌀 \$10,000

WASHBURN CENTER FOR CHILDREN

Mental Health Home Visiting Program

Twin Cities Metro 🌀 \$12,000

YOUABLE EMOTIONAL HEALTH

Family Spirit Home Visiting Program

Minneapolis 🌀 \$5,000

YWCA OF DULUTH

Circle of Security Program

Duluth 🌀 \$5,500



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Learning the game of lacrosse can be a powerful way for Indigenous youth to connect with a traditional sport, create their own identity, be a part of a team, and learn how the sport is rooted in their culture. The Indigenous Lacrosse Alliance (ILA) works alongside Indigenous organizations and communities to support children through cultural practices and teaching the love and historical significance of the sport. ILA's work centers on an inspiring mission to revitalize lacrosse in tribal and urban Indian communities with a vital goal of improving the well-being of Indigenous youth who traditionally face significant health challenges.

Sheltering Arms supports a partnership between the Fond du Lac band in Northeastern Minnesota and ILA through a "Community Development Program" grant, which operates at the Brookston Center on the Fond du Lac reservation. The groups meet three times a week for 1.5 to 2 hours, and each practice includes a meal with the belief that kids do better when their holistic needs are met. Each session starts with a circle up and setting of intentions for the day. This is followed by a sequential curriculum focused on skill development and small group games using traditional and modern versions of the sport.

Lacrosse originated in Indigenous communities and is part of the Indigenous cultural revival nationwide. The Fond du Lac program was developed to align with the Anishinaabe values of this community. It has a strong understanding of the challenges the youth of this community face and the assets they hold.



INDIGENOUS LACROSSE ALLIANCE
Community Development Program
\$10,000 Grant

GRANTS

826 MSP
Writing Lab

Minneapolis 🌱 \$15,000

BANYAN COMMUNITY
Thrive Youth Program

Minneapolis 🌱 \$10,000

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF
ROCHESTER
Triple Play

Rochester 🌱 \$8,000

COMMONBOND COMMUNITIES
Study Buddies

St. Paul 🌱 \$12,000

COMPAS, INC.
Youth & Family
Wellness through Art

Metro Area 🌱 \$10,000

DULUTH COMMUNITY SCHOOL
COLLABORATIVE

Myers-Wilkins Wolf Den
Duluth 🌱 \$15,000

FRED WELLS TENNIS &
EDUCATION, INC.

TennisWORKS

Twin Cities Metro 🌱 \$10,000

HISPANIC OUTREACH OF
GOODHUE COUNTY
Youth & Family
Summer Program

Red Wing 🌱 \$10,000

HOSPITALITY HOUSE YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT

Read to Succeed Book Club
Minneapolis 🌱 \$8,000

ILLUSION THEATER AND
SCHOOL, INC.

SEL & Academic Preparedness
via Theater
Metro & Greater MN 🌱 \$12,000

INDIGENOUS LACROSSE
ALLIANCE
Youth Development Program

Greater Minnesota 🌱 \$10,000

KEYSTONE COMMUNITY
SERVICES
Family Engagement Program

St. Paul 🌱 \$12,000

LIBERTY COMMUNITY CHURCH
21st Century Academy

Minneapolis 🌱 \$12,000

MENTOR NORTH
Community-based Mentoring

Duluth 🌱 \$15,000

PLYMOUTH CHRISTIAN YOUTH
CENTER

Bright Futures
Minneapolis 🌱 \$10,000

PROJECT FOR PRIDE IN LIVING
Child and Family Art Therapy

Minneapolis 🌱 \$15,000

PROJECT FRIENDSHIP
Mentoring Program

Northfield 🌱 \$10,000

SOLID GROUND
Healing-Centered Engagement
for Youth

White Bear Lake 🌱 \$10,000

SOMETHING COOL, INC.
Threads

McGregor 🌱 \$12,000

URBAN STRATEGIES, INC.
Green Garden Bakery (Sprouts)

Minneapolis 🌱 \$12,000

YMCA OF THE NORTH
Beacons Culinary Arts

St. Paul 🌱 \$10,000

YOUTH FARM
Youth Farmers

Metro Area 🌱 \$7,500

YWCA OF MINNEAPOLIS
Beacons Program at
Hmong Int'l Academy

Minneapolis 🌱 \$10,000



EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY GRANTS

MESSIAH EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ST. PAUL

Karen Youth Program

\$1,000 Grant

Messiah Episcopal Church continued their effort in ministry to Karen immigrant children, which includes mentoring, tutoring and teaching in a multi-cultural setting. Sheltering Arms supported the purchase of the Jesus Storybook Bible and the NLT Illustrated Study Bible to encourage children in their Christian growth.



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ELY

Ely Community Resources

\$1,000 Grant

St. Mary's collaborated with Ely Community Resources to support Ely's middle and high school special education students with hygiene and school supplies as part of a summer back-to-school giving project.

ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, RICHFIELD

Family Assistance Ministry

\$1,000 Grant

In collaboration with Vue Farm, VEAP, Rise & Shine, and St. John's and Epiphany Episcopal Churches, St. Nicholas expanded their Food Share program, a local, neighbor-centered, volunteer-led mutual aid effort. Included in this initiative was the crucial need for school supplies as children returned to the classroom. With this expansion, they were able to reach more community members, especially children.

Rev. Julie Luna "Well-fed children are healthier and better able to function in school."



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH, EXCELSIOR

Play Area

\$1,000 Grant

Trinity Episcopal Church Excelsior built a playground to benefit low-income children in south Excelsior. This area consists of high-density low-income apartments with an estimated 500 children living in the area, which had no other green space to provide a healthy and safe play area.

ADVOCACY

Empowering parents is at the heart of Family Wise Services' new advocacy initiative. It coaches parents to develop and share their voices at every level of community decision-making and family support. The organization's Parents As Leaders program helps parents and caregivers build their advocacy skills, share their stories in public settings, and positively influence policy in child welfare, children's mental health, and early childhood education.

Grant funding from Sheltering Arms enabled Parents As Leaders to bring on an additional staff member to lead the advocacy activities and training for 21 participants, helping them find their voice on issues that reflect their lived experiences. For example, one transformational participant's success story celebrates the progress made by an inspiring parent who faced struggles advocating for her son. Through her journey, she developed her personal story to help communicate what it is like to walk in her shoes as she engaged with and educated others, including elected officials.

Sheltering Arms Foundation grant support also includes building a curriculum and coordinating training that offers education around legislative processes, advocacy, storytelling, media relations, and program development. Partners include the Minnesota Coalition for Targeted Home Visiting, the United Way's policy team, the Department of Human Services, and numerous others.



FAMILY WISE

Empowering Parents as Community Leaders and Advocates

\$10,000 Grant



CHILD CARE AWARE OF MN

Transforming the Early
Childhood Workforce

Statewide 🌻 \$10,000

**CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND -
MINNESOTA**

Raising the Presence & Power
of BIPOC Family Voices in Early
Childhood Advocacy

Statewide 🌻 \$15,000

FAMILY WISE

Parent Leadership Program

Metro Area 🌻 \$10,000

FIRST CHILDREN'S FINANCE

Facilitating Advocacy for BIPOC
Childcare Providers

Statewide 🌻 \$10,000

IGNITE AFTERSCHOOL

Partnership, Education &
Advocacy

Statewide 🌻 \$10,000

**MINNESOTA COALITION FOR
FAMILY HOME VISITING**

Advocacy Program

Statewide 🌻 \$10,000

PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE

Early Childhood Advocacy
with Families Experiencing
Homelessness

Statewide 🌻 \$10,000

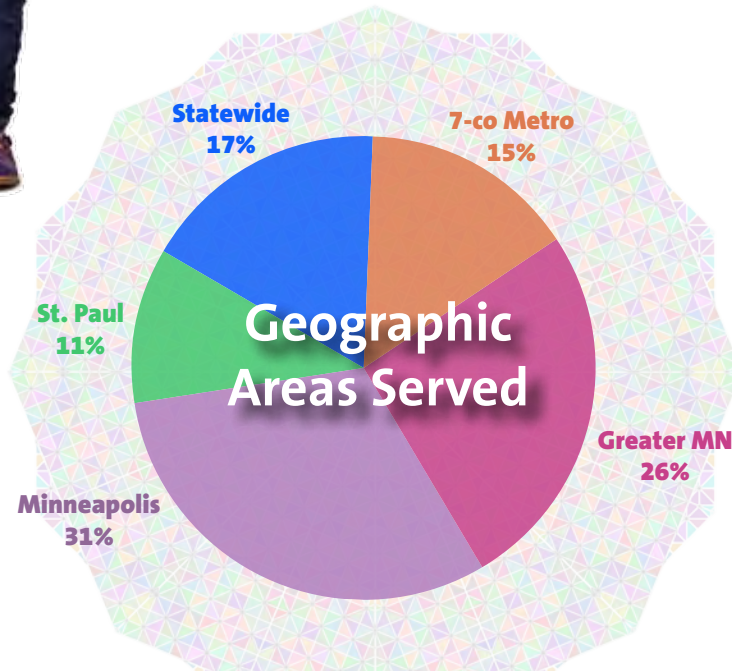
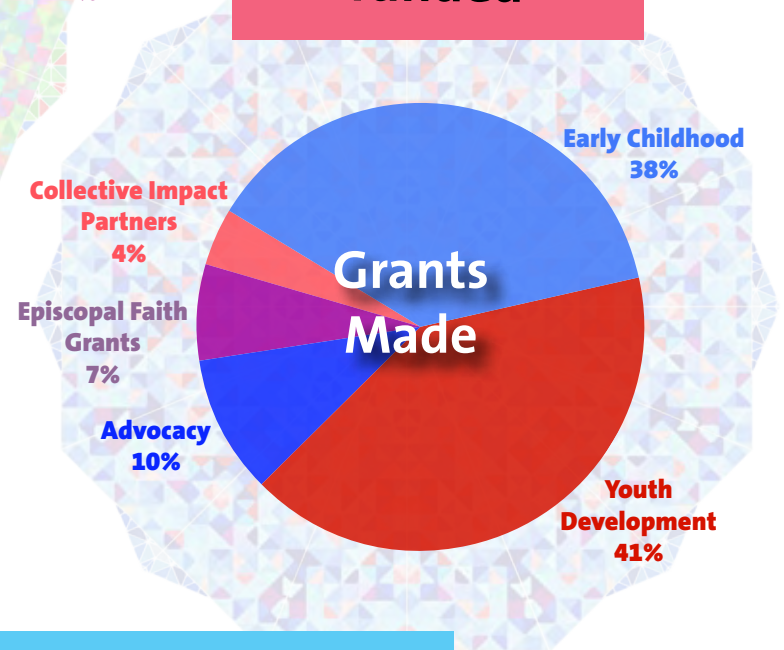
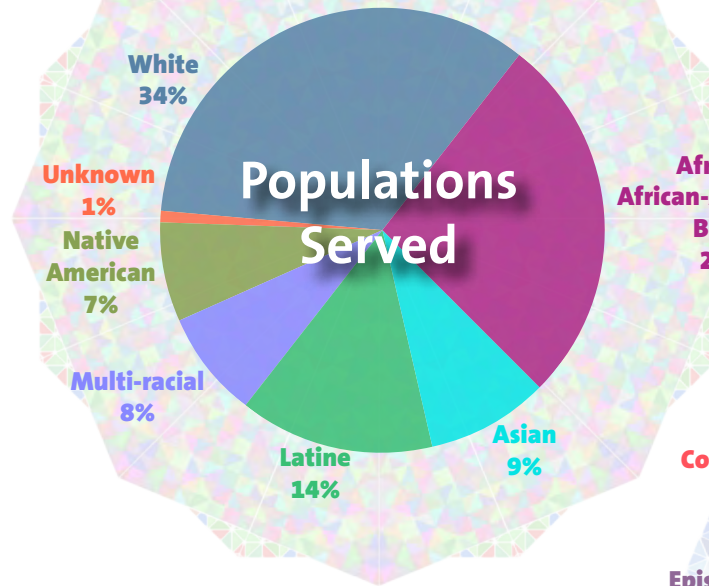
**START EARLY FUNDERS
COALITION**

Early Childhood Advocacy

Statewide 🌻 \$25,000



OUR IMPACT



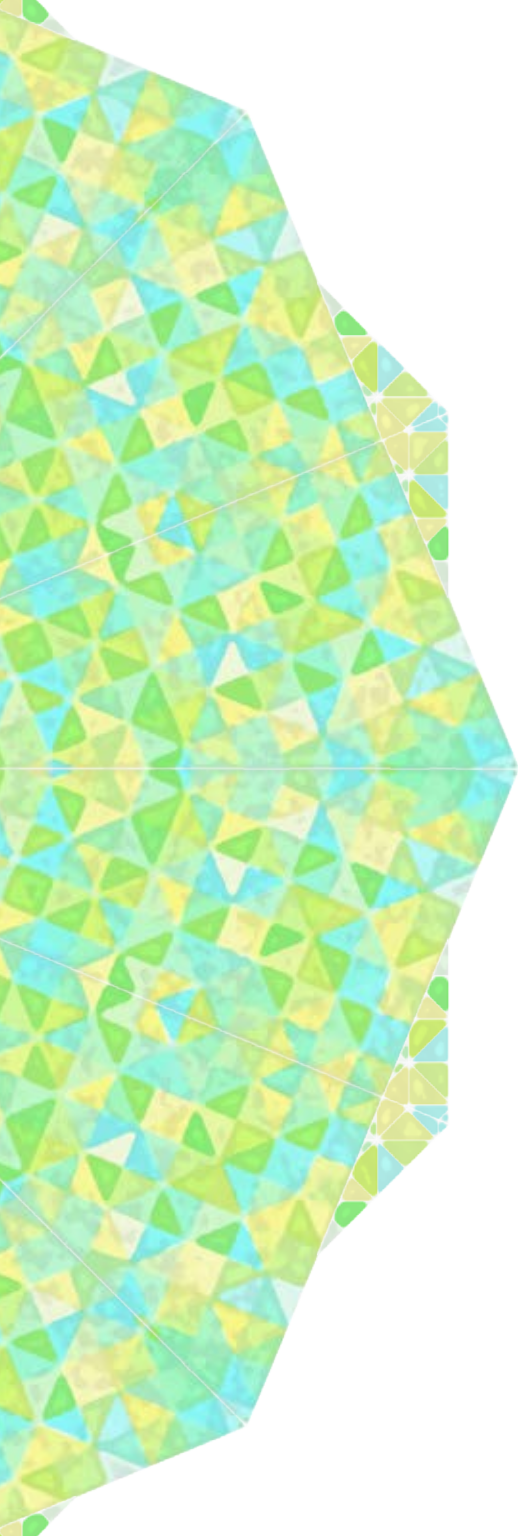
THANK YOU

Chigozie Achike
Olisa Achike
Ozoemena Achike
Sarah Babbitt
Jeannette Bach
John and Aimee Bateman
Brittany Beach
Deborah Belfry
Blake Berquist and
Andrea Larson
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Christabel and James Grant
Judy Gregor
Diane Grossman and
Dean Topliff
Joan Gudorf
Julia Gutz Moller

With the generous support of these individuals, The Sheltering Arms Foundation is able to make a difference in the lives of children and families in the state of Minnesota. All gifts, regardless of size, are important to The Sheltering Arms Foundation and its future. We make every effort to ensure that each donor is properly recognized. Please let us know of any omission or corrections.





Ruth Hayden
Bob and Darlene Hays
Carrie Hefte
Margo Herman
Brenda Hill
Lucy Hogan
Cara and Dave Holmberg
Tom and Maren Hustad
Ifeyinwa Ikegwuani
Dean Johnson and Ann Perry
Wendy Johnson
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Katie White and
Nicholas Minderman
John Williams
Margaret Wirth-Johnson and
James Johnson
Kim and Gregory Wiseman
Janet Zander
Nancy Zwickey



IN MEMORY

Donald Hayden
by Ruth Hayden

Diane Sundell
by Marta Bowman
by Gail Coon
by C. Andree Dodson
by Dean Johnson and Ann Perry
by Don Lifto
by Kelly Lundberg
by P. Louis and Rosalie Michelich
by Virginia Mulvaney
by Vickey Plante
by Jeffrey and Laura Ronbeck
by Wayne and Julia Rowell
by Edie Sebesta

Peggy Larson and Marnie Lind
by Lucy Hogan

Marguerite Lundeen
by Gail Lundeen Brand and Ron Brand

IN HONOR

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by Dean Topliff

Dave and Cara Holmberg
by Bill and Gail O'Keefe

Elise Lewis
by John and Aimee Bateman

Denise Mayotte
by Lindsay Strand

Ifeyinwa Ikegwuani
by Chigozie Achike
by Olisa Achike
by Ozoemena Achike

Cynthia Swan
by Carrie Hefte

Barbara Swan and Cynthia Swan
by Thomas and Katherine Swan

Lisa Westberg
by Judith Dumke-Emery
by Patty Fossen
by Judith Gregor

Katie White
by Jeannette Bach
by Mary Comford
by Dan and Jane White



SISTER ANNETTE RELF SAF SUSTAINERS' CIRCLE

Sister Annette Relf founded Sheltering Arms in the late 1800's, and the Foundation we have today is her legacy. We have named our sustaining membership in her honor.

You can join the Sustainers' Circle simply by making a monthly donation of any amount.

A special thank you to our Sustainers' Circle members for your continuous support!

Brittany Beach
Blake Berquist and
Andrea Larson
Sue Bizal
Leslie Brunfelt
MerLynne and Patrick Byrne
Renee Campion
Cecily Cutshall
Greg and Janice Dames
Barbara Dennis
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Christabel and James Grant
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Joan Gudorf
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Paul Stephenson
Cynthia Swan and
Robert Gage
Jill G Thompson
Lisa Westberg
Kim and Gregory Wiseman

SHELTERING ARMS LEGACY SOCIETY

The names represent those individuals that have designated The Sheltering Arms Foundation as a recipient of a charitable bequest in their estate planning. We thank you for your ongoing commitment to our mission.

Adelaide Cline
Susan Dingle
Christabel Grant
Margo Herman
Jacqueline Sullivan
Denise Mayotte
Edie Meissner
Cynthia Swan
Jill Thompson
Joyce Walker



FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE

Investments, net	\$1,478,251
Contributions	\$57,822
Miscellaneous	\$50
Total Revenue	\$1,536,123

EXPENSES

Program Expense (Grants awards)	\$586,500
Program Expense (Advocacy and Grants mgmt.)	\$155,056
Total Program Expenses	\$741,556

Management & General	\$156,397
Fundraising	\$8,042
Total Expenses	\$905,995

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

Net increase (decrease) in Assets w/o donor restrictions	\$630,128
Net increase (decrease) in Assets with donor restrictions	\$51,169
Total Change in Net Assets	\$681,297

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Cash	\$105,966
Investments	\$13,871,915
Beneficial Trusts	\$1,610,270
Other Assets	\$3,266
Total Assets	\$15,591,417

LIABILITIES

Grant Commitments	\$551,500
Other Liabilities	\$4,165
Total Liabilities	\$555,665

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$13,425,482
Other	\$1,610,270
Total Net Assets	\$15,035,752

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$15,591,417
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Complete audited financial statements are available upon request from the Foundation office. Audit performed by Boyum Barendseer.



LEADERSHIP

2023-2024 BOARD OF TRUSTEES & STAFF

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PRESIDENT-ELECT

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