



ALLEN
NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER



2023

ANNUAL REPORT



Contents

Mission & Vision.....	2
Introduction.....	3
Letter from the Executive Director.....	5
Health.....	7
Housing.....	9
Food.....	11
Community.....	13
Board of Directors.....	15
Staff.....	17
Supporters.....	19
Financials.....	24

Vision:

A diverse, equitable, and welcoming Eastside where a rich mix of neighbors enjoys access to everything they need to build an outstanding quality of life, a deep sense of belonging and community pride, and a strong voice in shaping a vibrant, sustainable, healthy future together.

Mission:

To serve as a dynamic hub where Lansing Eastside neighbors can access resources to improve their health and well-being; expand their capacity to seize job and entrepreneurial opportunities; create a strong sense of place, belonging, and community pride; and build a safe, sustainable, and thriving neighborhood.

Introduction



Founded in 1999, Allen Neighborhood Center (ANC) grew out of a four-year-old healthy communities initiative called the Eastside Summit. This summit mobilized community members to create a healthy community on Lansing's Eastside, organizing task forces dedicated to health care access, housing, social capital building, and neighborhood stability.

As a place-based organization, ANC's stakeholders are centered in a geographic location - the 48912 ZIP code - rather than similarities in identity or background. Primarily residential, the Eastside is home to 16,378 people in 7901 households; 57% are renter-occupied while 43% are owner-occupied. There are 3,058 families, and neighbors are of a mix of racial and ethnic backgrounds; 12% were born outside the US, mainly from the Congo, Syria, and Afghanistan. The median household income in this neighborhood is 24% less than the state's median household income. Furthermore, 20.5% of the population is below the poverty level, which is nearly double the national rate. This data illustrates that the Eastside is a richly diverse, low-moderate income neighborhood that faces higher-than-average rates of poverty. These factors reduce access to resources that are needed to support a healthy quality of life, such as stable housing, healthy foods, and health coverage, and can limit access to things like employment opportunities.

Rooted in stakeholder collaboration, placemaking, and community-based participation, ANC uses a comprehensive and integrative community development approach to neighborhood revitalization. Pioneering programs in health access and education, food security, youth development, housing, economic development, and social connectivity, ANC's community-crafted, neighborhood-driven programs are designed to give neighbors greater power to direct and shape their individual lives and the community's future.

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

2023 was both a year of growth and returning to our roots here at Allen Neighborhood Center. Growth in our relationships with our neighbors, both on the 1600 block and in our neighborhood, and returning to our roots with community celebrations and connection.

We hired a Health & Housing Coordinator who has been instrumental in nurturing relationships with all of our neighbors on the block - the Allen Place residents, Allen Community Health Center, the makers in our Accelerator Kitchen, our Business Hub partners, and ELFCO - our neighborhood grocery store. Our team knocked on 100s of doors, engaging our neighbors and hearing their stories. We hosted our first ever Neighborhood Block Party, hosting hundreds of Eastsiders to share food, music, and great conversation.

We are both proud of our accomplishments and humbled by the collective power of our neighbors and stakeholders. Thank you all so much.

Joe Enerson
Executive Director,
Allen Neighborhood Center



"We are both proud of our accomplishments and humbled by the collective power of our neighbors and stakeholders."

Housing

Housing is intrinsically tied to the vibrancy, safety, and stability of the Eastside.



\$48,754 was distributed to neighbors to fix-up their homes

ANC received **\$1.5 million** to build a housing co-op

ANC offered **21 mixed-income apartments**

129 neighbors were connected to housing resources like affordable housing, utility assistance, and emergency shelter

Not only does ANC offer housing information and referral services to the neighborhood, but it also offers mixed-income rental units on-site and home improvement funds for homeowners.

In 2023, ANC received funds from the Ingham County Housing Trust Fund and the Michigan State Legislature to expand access to affordable housing through a new Allen Place Co-op. ANC will partner with the Spartan Housing Cooperative and Refugee Development Center to provide a shared living space for both native and foreign born neighbors.



Food

Food brings people together, shapes memories, and empowers communities.

33 new food businesses

scaled production and solidified operations utilizing ANC's commercial, shared-use kitchens

These businesses generated **\$924k** in gross revenue



In 2023, ANC enrolled **55 neighbors**

in Michigan's Food Assistance Program

147 more

were connected to other food resources

91,225 pounds of emergency food was distributed to **623 families**



281 neighbors

attended gardening workshops designed to improve food sovereignty



In 2023, ANC bought

\$225k of local food

This food was purchased from **34 growers & food producers** to feed **581 Veggie Box Members**

From January to December 2023, **49** farmers markets brought in **14,000 neighbors**



Community

“Much more than a physical space, community is an experience”

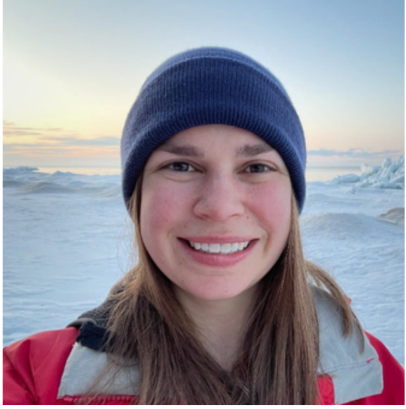
ANC helps foster an environment that supports shared responsibility for our children, elders, and families; one that supports coalition building, trust, and safety.

Through 2023, ANC offered age-specific programs for the Eastside’s youngest and oldest neighbors. Take Root Garden Club is a curriculum-based gardening and nutrition education program for youth ages 5-10, while Youth Service Corps – ANC’s first program back in 1999 – is a community-driven, youth-led job and life skill development program for 11-17 year-olds. Meanwhile, the Senior Discovery Group met every Wednesday morning for ‘pretty good coffee and great conversation.’ Offering weekly enrichment with both educational and social programming, activities range from: international guest speakers; elected officials presenting updates and receive feedback; estate planning; bocce ball; crafts; age-friendly yoga, and more.

Outside of regular programming, ANC celebrated several events with the neighborhood. In May, ANC was a partner and venue for Stoopfest, a neighborhood-wide music, comedy, and art festival. ANC also partnered with Prospect PLACE neighborhood group to install and oversee the unveiling of the Mother Tree sculpture in Hunter Park. In September, over 300 neighbors came out to the Center to celebrate the first annual end-of-summer-gala, “Celebrating the Eastside: A Neighborhood Block Party.” In the fall, ANC put-on a Halloween party that offered candy, games, crafts, and a costume contest. To bring the year to a close, in December the neighborhood came together once again for a holiday-themed market featuring art vendors, a Kwanzaa exhibition, a Christmas tree giveaway, caroling, Santa, and more.



Board of Directors



Kristina Sankar
President



Yvette Collins
Vice-President



Melina Brann
Secretary



Gloria Duda
Treasurer



Rick Kibbey
Member



Jonathan Lum
Member



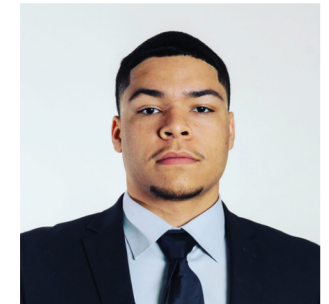
Sarah Schillio
Member



Mary Miner
Member



Lisa Coon
Member



Aurelius Christian
Member

Staff



Joe Enerson
Executive Director



Kelsi Briana-Smith
Youth Education Manager



Ethan Schmitt
*Volunteer &
Communications Manager*



Mia Echartea
*Health Resource Coordinator
AmeriCorps Member*



Hillary Coleman
*Community Garden Specialist
AmeriCorps Member*



Aurora Seelye
*Health & Housing
Coordinator*



Matt Jones
*Kitchens & Facilities
Manager*



Iris Paul
*Food Hub Assistant
Manager*



Dane Dario
Finance & Business Manager



Jessica Short
Food Hub Manager



Daryl Jones
AARP Facilities Manager



Jenny Wagemann
*Allen Farmers Market &
Breadbasket Food Pantry
Manager*



Kat Logan
Associate Director



Egypt Krohn
*Hunter Park GardenHouse
Director*



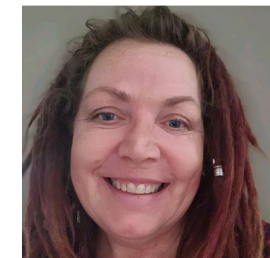
Sharyl Allen
AARP Facilities Manager



Tom Martin
*Hunter Park GardenHouse
Farm Manager*



Kayla Olson
*Farmers Market & Pantry
Coordinator
AmeriCorps Member*



Deanna Mitchell
*Garden Education Specialist
AmeriCorps Member*

Supporters

Volunteers

704

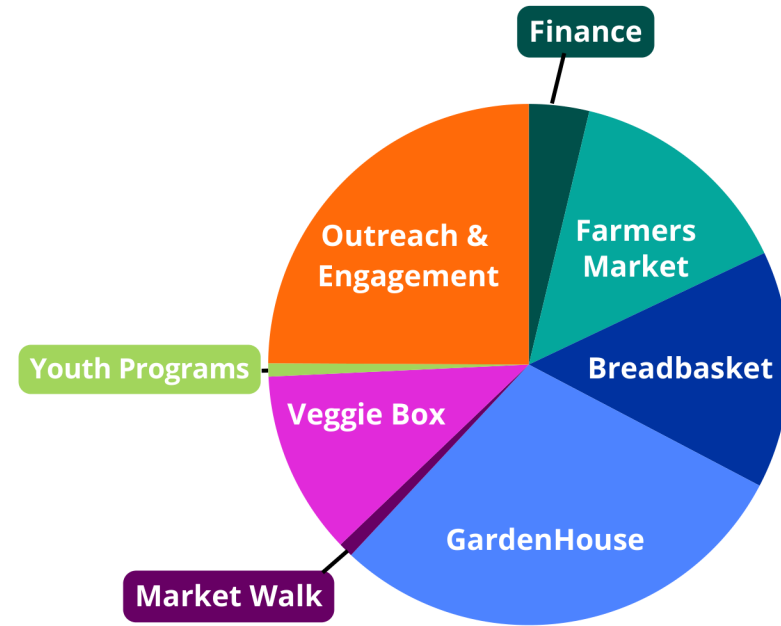
individual volunteers



8,211

hours of service

2023 Volunteer Breakdown



FINANCE
304 HOURS



FARMERS MARKET
1,158 HOURS



BREADBASKET
1,199 HOURS



GARDENHOUSE
2,446 HOURS



MARKET WALK
75 HOURS



VEGGIE BOX
926 HOURS



YOUTH PROGRAMS
67 HOURS



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT
2,036 HOURS



Supporters

Naming Sponsors



Funders

*Americana Foundation
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
Blue Cross Complete
Capital Area Community Services
Capital Area United Way
Capital Region Community Foundation
City of Lansing
Emergent BioSolutions
Garden Club of Greater Lansing
H.E.L.O Club
Harmony Cares Hospice
Ingham County
Ingham County Health Department
Ingham County Housing Trust Fund
Jackson National Life Insurance
Company
Kroger
LAFCU
Lansing Board of Water and Light*

*Lansing Commons FC
McLaren Greater Lansing
Medtronics Foundation
Michigan Association of United Ways
Michigan Department of Labor &
Economic Opportunity
Michigan Health Endowment Fund
Michigan State Housing Development
Authority
Michigan State University
MSUFCU
PNC Bank
Sparrow Health System
Sisters of Mercy
Target
US Department of Agriculture
Victors Home Solutions
Youth Service America*

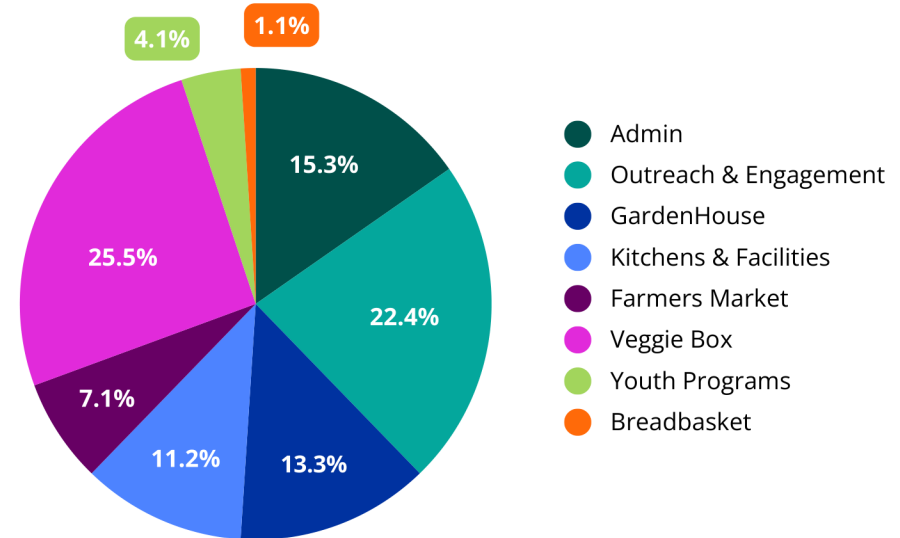


Donors

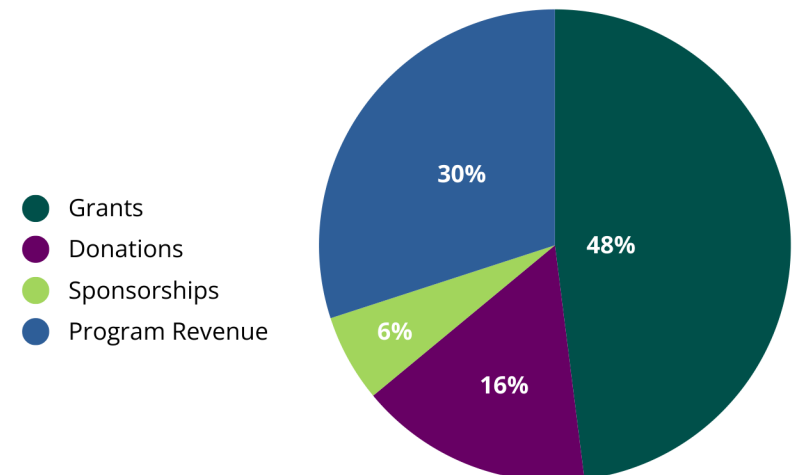
Aileen Gow	Rep. Emily Devendorf	MC Rothhorn
Alec Garza	Emily Elliott	Megan Dean
Alexa Erickson	Eric A. Schertzing	Mick Teti-Beaudin
Alyssa Turcsak	Erin Buitendorp	Morgan Kuhns
Amanda Koenig	Erin Schor	Nancy McCrohan
Ann Francis	Evan Martin	Nancy Nauman
Antoinette Tessmer	Jon Lum	Nick Lentz
Apryl Pooley	Frances Heldt	Norman Charles
Barbara Starling	Grant Gliniecki	Pamela Weil
Becky Matthews-Pease	Gregory Farhat	Paul & Rebecca Kennedy
Ben Ballinger	Holly Simon	Paul Pratt
Ben Rathbun	Ira Ginsburg	Peggy Judge
Benjamin Mosher	Iris Paul	Phillipe Laurens
Beth Whaley	Jack & Susan Davis	Pratap Sankar Nanthakumar
Brenda Hershberger	Jane Larson	Rebecca Morales
Brian DeLong	Jennie Gies	Renee Swanson
Carol Liberti	Joan Nelson	Richard Baker
Carol Ohlrogge	John Kerr	Rita Stanton
Catherine Grosso	John Paff	Robert Mosher
Charlene Vanacker	John Shaski	Robin Barfoot
Charlotte Marie Wilks	Joni Rognon	Ron Wilson
Cheyenne Liberti	Josef Welbes	Senator Sam Singh
Christine Worland	Joseph Marutiak	Samuel Nelson
Christopher Schicker	Judith A. Andre	Senator Sarah Anthony
Brian McGrain	Julie Jarvey	Sarah Schillio
Claire Lindeman	Julie Vandeenboom	Sherrie Medved
Coleen Moyerbrailean	Karrin M. Hanshew	Stephen Gasteyer
Colleen Matts	Kat Logan	Stephen Sinas
Cristin M. Larder	Katharine M. Johnson	Steven Collins
Dan & Hope Thelen	Keith Lambert	Stone Circle Bakehouse
Daniel Bartkowski	Kelsey Foote	Susan Slovinski
David Baur	Kimberly Glass	Suzanne Fischer
David C. Hollister	Kevin Jezuit	Tamie Nolan
David Jones	Laura Rogers	Thomas Mark Woiwode
David Muylle	Laura Sparks	Thomas Morgan
Deborah McMartin-Finkel	Lauren Anderson	Toni Glasscoe
Debra A. Nolan	Lisa Coon	Tristan Walters
Denise Paquette	Malinda Funk	Viki L. Lorraine
Diane Ashera	Margaret Ropp	Virginia A. Hambric
Diane Dreffs	Marilyn Frye	Wayne & Diana Mavis
Diane Newman	Mary Fletcher	Winalee Zeeb
Douglas M. Johnson	Mary Letvenow	Yvette Collins
Elin Thorlund	Mary Miner	Yvonne Grant
	Matthew Anderson	Zana Easton

Financials

2023 Expenses by Program



2023 Income by Source



Support Allen Neighborhood Center's work at
allenneighborhoodcenter.org



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