



ANNUAL REPORT

SHAW COMMUNITY CENTER • 2022



Partnering with DC's beloved **Black Alley Band**, extraordinary purveyors of funk, jazz, rock and DC Go-go epitomized the Soul of the City that we represent in Shaw. 'Beating our Feet' on the steps of Lincoln Temple, WE CAUGHT THE SPIRIT indeed!

www.shawcommunity.org

Mission: To enhance the lives and expand the opportunities of Shaw residents

The Great Year

by Sudi West, Executive Director

The 'Great Year' is a term from astronomy that describes our planet's perception of time as it passes through the cosmos. In our world, the period from 2020 to 2022 has been an epic experience of distorted time.

Yet, for the Shaw Community Center, this period has been marked by deeper engagement among a constellation of stakeholders which include the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Urban Development, the DC Office of the Attorney General, and Shaw Main Streets BID, to name a few.

The Center also hosted a record number of enthusiastic young people and an entire ecosystem of support services which underscores our need to secure a permanent home for us amid planned redevelopment of the Lincoln Temple building, where we trace our history to the Emancipation era.

We have been laser-focused on continuing our high-quality in-person afterschool and summer programming, and delivering Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) to support the whole child in order to combat the estimated academic deficit of twenty (20) IQ-points on average among DC 3rd graders -- a result of the pandemic school closures. I commend the resiliency of our youth and families as they fight back against the effects of the disruptions of the past two years.



Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto and **OAG Special Counsel Seema Gajwani** emphasize the need to anchor programs like the Shaw Community Center in every DC neighborhood.



"The Power of Shaw"

The **Power of Shaw** shines through in the smiling faces of summer campers and in the passion of the Real News Interns. Click the play arrow or go to <https://youtu.be/lidluR8pZHg> for a sample of their work. Also visit www.shawcommunity.org.

I am also proud of our youth who – in the face of losing a number of their peers before their time, and confronting the concurrent pandemics of gun violence, unemployment and mental health crises – responded in their own right by securing opportunities in higher education and careers in public service, medicine and as entrepreneurs. Many of our youth joined our first foray into the Metaverse with a 3D simulcasted representation of our Lee-On-11th development concept, live-streamed during iconic performances at ArtAllNight.



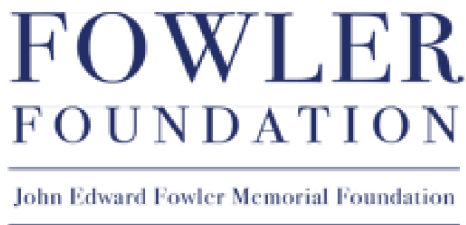
Shaw youth 12 to 26 years old positively engage in college readiness, media internships, nutrition education and metaverse values systems to disrupt violence and support mental health.



Shaw Community Center was able to offer responsive supports and implement needed systemic reforms this year despite elevated expenses from inflation and economic disruptions. This is due in large part to the generosity our donors, the trust of our service community, and the tenacity and effectiveness of our Development Director, Anne Troy, and her grant administration team. In addition, our board and staff are engaging in a formal strategic visioning process to define our assumptions and values, and identify our organizational North Star.

Needless to say, the past 3 years have been extraordinarily challenging, at times disorienting and not always fun. However, with 2022 marked by so many developmental, material and social milestones, I can truly say that it is in fact a Great Year!

A Thank You to Our Funders and Donors



**Hattie M. Strong
Foundation**



...and all of our institutional and individual donors who are too numerous to name here

Shaw Community Staff Members Are 100% Black and POC Led



Sudi West
Executive Director



Melissa Laws
Program Director



Greg Windley
Program
Coordinator



Gwen Howard
Program
Coordinator



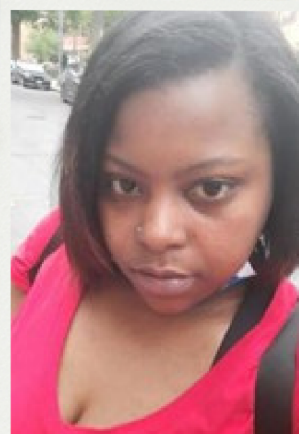
**Marquetta
Washington**
Program
Coordinator



Gabriel Parker
Media Program
Coordinator



Sharita Howard
Program
Assistant



Michelle Young
Program
Assistant



Selena Laws
Program
Assistant



Delonta Howard
Program
Assistant



Ronte Hinton
Program
Assistant



D'Andre Lukes
Program
Assistant



Davon Dabney
Artist
ProgramAssistant



Sara McDonough
Research &
Curriculum
Developer



Anne Troy
Development
Director

We Support Our Staff

This year SCC took action to support generational wealth creation by setting up a first ever 401(k) retirement plan for employees. Featuring automatic pre-tax deductions and a 4% employer match, the plan has proved popular among staff, with a 100% participation rate. SCC worked with ForUsAll and legislators to provide an optional, self-directed cryptocurrency portal. Recognizing that investments in cryptocurrency can be volatile, the provider has instituted a 5% guardrail to balance the risks and benefits of crypto investing, empowering our team members to access the ground floor of a new industry while saving towards retirement and closing the racial wealth gap.

Support We Could Not Do Without



Julie Hamre
Bookkeeper & Payroll



Khadijah Huggins
Hospitality Manager



Jerry Tracy
Evaluator

Our Board: Carolyn Erskine, Addie Lewis, Marjorie Hoffman, Dale Ostrander, Raqiyyah Pippins, Deidre Smith, Serena Wiltshire

