

IMPACT REPORT

WESTWOOD WORKS

20
24



OVERVIEW

WESTWOOD WORKS

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

This year, Westwood Works continued to live out our mission to connect people, place, and purpose in Cincinnati's largest neighborhood of 33,000 residents.

Guided by our asset-based approach, we focused on building upon the strengths and talents already present within our neighborhood to foster a thriving, inclusive, and engaged community.

Through targeted mini-grants, public art projects, large-scale free community events, advocacy, and strategic real estate initiatives, we have not only sparked catalytic projects that stimulated the local economy but also empowered residents themselves to create lasting change in Westwood.

As we look back on our accomplishments this year, we also look forward with optimism and purpose, energized by the ongoing partnerships and community support that continue to propel Westwood forward.

Together, we are building a future rooted in connection, purpose, and opportunity for all.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WESTWOOD WORKS



Autumn Riedmaier
Board Chair, Sr Creative Manager



John Eby
Treasurer, Engineer



Kamil Abdul-Rahim
Owner, MilMil Remodeling



Terry Bailey
Retired Teacher



Erica Bock
Film & Media Producer



LaToya Evans
Tech Assistance & Doula



Marie Jones
Retired Teacher



Andi Ploehs
Manicurist & Graphic Designer



John Ploehs
Reading Specialist



Zachary Rieth
Urban Planner



Tricia Scherer
Teacher



LaTonya Springs
Asst. Director, HOME

STAFF & COMMITTEES

WESTWOOD WORKS

STAFF



Stephanie Collins
Executive Director



Mike Charbel
Real Estate Project Manager

COMMITTEES



Marketing

Autumn Riedmaier, Chair



Events

Stephanie Collins, Chair



Development

Mike Charbel, Chair



Fundraising

John Eby, Chair



Outreach

Brandie Potzick, Chair

AT A GLANCE

WESTWOOD WORKS

20
24

COMMUNITY EVENTS
MINI GRANTS
OUTREACH
DEVELOPMENT
ADVOCACY



EVENTS

WESTWOOD WORKS

Events aren't just for fun – These gatherings serve as a vital platform for bringing neighbors together, fostering shared experiences, and building the connections that make our community resilient and vibrant. In a world where individualism often prevails, community events help cultivate a collective spirit, celebrate diversity, and strengthen the bonds that tie us together.

Our 2024 community events drew thousands of people together to celebrate, learn, and collaborate.



Volunteer Appreciation & Mini-grant Announcement

Board Retreats (January and November)

Quarterly Community Meetings

Second Saturday – PRIDE

Second Saturday – REVIVE

Second Saturday – FEAST

16th annual Westwood Art Show & Wine Festival

Westwood Tour for Leadership Cincy

Howl at the Hall

“We Can All Grow Together” Mural Unveiling

Westwood Works [Together] Day

(4) Neighborhood Plan Community Meetings (co-hosted)

Westwood Tiny Concert Series (Dec)

EVENTS

WESTWOOD WORKS

4000
Neighbors



MINI-GRANTS

WESTWOOD WORKS



THE POWER OF COMMUNITY-LED INITIATIVES

Our mini-grant program enabled community members to turn their ideas into impactful projects, addressing local needs and celebrating shared aspirations. From beautification efforts to a community farmers market, these grassroots projects have created ripples of positivity and growth throughout the neighborhood.

AT A GLANCE: TWELVE PROJECTS - \$10,000 IMPACT

Dance for Everyone

A new mobile floor for Cincy Tap to bring their tap lessons to the wider community

Food From the Heart

Healthy cooking classes for neighbors on limited incomes

Gary's Garden

A peaceful outdoor space for educational purposes and to beautify school grounds

Free Book Fair

Free books to low-income families to promote a love of reading

Gamble Library

Adding books to rebuild the Gamble Elementary library that was eliminated

Goltra Hiking Trail

Continued work on an urban nature preserve and hiking trail respite area

Laundry Love

A program to provide free laundry, games and food to neighbors in need of these services, to promote physical and mental wellbeing

Penrose Pathway

Beautification and safety of a neglected pathway from a residential area to the Town Hall business district

Protect the Roll Hill Garden

Fencing to protect an urban garden from animal friends

Spring Into Mt. Airy

A spring festival promoting Mt. Airy

Westwood Farmers Market

A weekly farmers market bringing fresh meat and produce to Westwood

Montessori Market

Young entrepreneurs at Gamble High School showcase their talents

OUTREACH

WESTWOOD WORKS

School supply and uniform support for Westwood Elementary



Westwood Works Together Day
Neighbors helping neighbors, a day of service in Westwood



Support for My Neighbor's Place clothing and food pantry

Winter care package assembly and distribution for those experiencing homelessness in Westwood

**WE BELIEVE IN
THE POWER OF
COMMUNITY**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

WESTWOOD WORKS

Public Art and Beautification

“We Can All Grow Together” Mural adjacent to the site of the new WestCURC pocket park

Business District Support

Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program for greenspace beautification, Quickstrike, NCCIP, NBDSF, NSP

Targeted Real Estate Acquisitions

Efforts to reduce neglected properties through acquisition. Collaboration with City of Cincinnati and WestCURC to spur development in Westwood.

Community Engagement

A community partner for the Westwood Neighborhood Plan, development projects, and United Way Social Capital Survey for Westwood

Collaboration with Neighborhood Organizations

Coordination with the Westwood Business Association, Westwood Civic Association and WestCURC, including co-sponsoring projects with WestCURC

ADVOCACY

WESTWOOD WORKS

At Westwood Works, we understand that a huge part of community development is advocating for the tools, resources, and services that create an environment where neighbors can thrive.

25

City Council
Advocacy Hours

65+

Partnerships

39

Events Attended
on Behalf of Westwood

- State of the Region
- Commissions Report Community Round Table
- Homebase Lunch & Learns
- Invest in Neighborhoods Community Summit
- Fair Housing Luncheon by HOME
- CNBDU Meetings
- City Budget Hearings
- Local Small Business Discussions
- AI for Non-Profits
- Westwood First Presbyterian Partners Meeting
- United Way Social Capital Survey

- CPS Partner Meetings
- Connected Communities Homebase Round Table
- Planning Commission Meeting Vote, Connected Communities
- City Council General Meetings
- The Avenue with CHCURC
- FC Cincinnati Sponsor Event
- ArtsWave Catalyzing Impact Grantee Breakfast & Roundtable
- Build Black Cincy Conference
- Meetings with other CDCs

\$1,065,000

Grant Dollars Applied for on Behalf of Westwood

PARTNERS

WESTWOOD WORKS

Carol Ann and
Ralph V. Haile, Jr.
FOUNDATION

arts
wave
Handing Arts, Fueling Community

Oak St.
Health

Cincinnatus
savings and loan

COLDWELL
BANKER

LEAH SLICER

W
BAR+BISTRO

IVORY
HOUSE

WEST SIDE
BREWING

HOMEBASE

FC
CINCINNATI

KRONER
Dry Cleaners

State Farm

usbank

altafiber

fc
first community mortgage

LOWE'S

Westwood
United Methodist Church

TOUR DE CINCINNATI

St. James Episcopal Church
WESTWOOD
A Welcoming, Caring, and Inclusive Community

Fable

CINCINNATI
PARKS

the
Y

valspar

city of
CINCINNATI
COMMUNITY &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

perfect
little
peach

True Value
Small's Hardware

Logo of a stylized leaf or flower

FROND

CONTOURS
&
CLAY

hfo
Haverkos
FAMILY ORTHODONTICS



Together we can.

More people, more impact.