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Gabrielle's Wings

Annual Report



gabrielleswings.org

A Message From our Founder

As we look back at 2023, my heart is so full. It has been a year of growth, and I am grateful every day that we have an opportunity to do this work. As you read, you'll see the faces and places that are important to us, but what we can't fully convey on "paper" is the energy and joy – of our team, partners, and wonderful children we are lucky to support. These children, and the people who work so hard to help them, are truly awe-inspiring. I know in my heart that my daughter is looking down with wonder at this legacy we built in her honor.

When I think about what inspired me to create Gabrielle's Wings, it was because of who she was, to everyone she met. Focusing on the whole child is critical to helping them soar. At Gabrielle's Wings, that means creating foundational confidence and psychological safety. When a child is able to express themselves in a variety of ways, they reinforce that confidence and believe they are valuable – that they can make an impact. Without that, the ability to be curious, express emotion, and take risks is very limited.

This was Gabrielle's special gift, naturally helping other children on this journey. She had an expansive view of and access to the world, but knew that wasn't true for many. She understood the importance of giving back even at a young age. She truly saw others and created spaces for kindness and friendship. At 7 years old, she just "got it". That's what I wanted for Gabrielle, and that's what Gabrielle's Wings wants for every child. Thank you to all who have supported us in this important work. As you read through some of this year's stories, we hope we can pass on some of our joy to you!



Michelle Hord
Founder & Chair



Michelle and Gabrielle

Our Partners

Camp Morty

We continued our partnership with Camp Morty in 2023, officially dedicating a new Gabrielle's Peace Corner and providing trauma-informed training to 52 counselors and staff. All of the campers are wards of the State of NY through various socioeconomic supported or foster programs.



During their 2 weeks at camp, 70% of the children used the Peace Corner. It was not only a safe haven when they needed it, it was also used to have conversations regarding coping skills, safety/self-care plans, and goals for the future. Giving them the tools to express their identities, emotions, and needs, not just during camp but as they take those tools back home and into their lives, truly makes an impact.



Our Partners

Ujamaa CDC

Gabrielle's Wings began a partnership with Ujamaa Community Development Corporation in Mount Vernon, NY in 2018, providing need-based scholarships to the nationally recognized "Freedom Summer" camp program for area students. These students are often in the public schools free lunch programs and have limited access to summer camp experiences. The camp provides an integrated reading curriculum, conflict resolution, social action activities, and STEM enrichment activities.



This year, we partnered with Ujamaa and the Grace Baptist Church in Mount Vernon on "GASP" (Grace After School Program). This program offers after-school services to children in several situations — foster care, incarcerated parents and/or limited financial access to aftercare. Gabrielle's Wings donated the technology for a newly opened high-tech learning space called "Gabrielle's Youth Resource Center." Rev. W. Franklin Richardson, Senior Pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Enid Hay, Executive Director of Ujamaa, and Michelle Hord, Founder and President of Gabrielle's Wings were present to celebrate the ribbon cutting in November!



Our Partners

Dream Day South Africa

In September, Gabrielle's Wings worked with our South Africa partner, Cape Gateway International Church, to host their inaugural Dream Day. In that area, over 40% of children do not graduate from high school. To inspire children to pursue educational and vocational dreams, seven adults spoke about their career choices, the necessary educational commitments, the obstacles they overcame, and the positive impact of education on their lives and the lives of their family and community members.



Thirty-nine children and their families participated, representing 19 different schools. This successful first-ever event exposed children to working adults in various fields who all come from their own community, demonstrating that they too have choices and opportunities available to them.



New Partner

Independence Mission Schools

We are happy to introduce our newest partner. In 2023 we began work with Independence Mission Schools in Philadelphia, PA, to pilot Gabrielle's Peace Rooms in their schools - safe spaces for the children to step away from the classroom if needed to restore their emotional wellbeing and sense of peace.

Our first school is St. Martin de Porres in North Philly. The space will be equipped with everything they need - comfortable surroundings, kinetic tools, and an on-site counselor. IMS is a 14-school system serving K-8 grades. 98% of the students are children of color living in historically excluded communities. We are excited to enter the Philadelphia region, and to work with IMS!



Gabrielle's Wings



Party With a Purpose

Gabrielle's Wings hosted our first fundraising event as an independent 501c3 at the Salamander Hotel in DC, surpassing our fundraising goal and having a lot of fun doing so! We welcomed supporters from across the country as they joined us during Howard's Homecoming Weekend for a night of music, dancing, and celebrating our work and our partners. We are so thankful for those that attended, and to those that offered their resources and talents to support our cause. Special thanks to Comcast NBCUniversal for their sponsorship, The Legendary Chris Washington for entertaining us with his music, and Cheriss May for her photography, and all of our incredible volunteers for their time, effort, and energy!



Financials

Income

Corporate Foundations

\$8,246.15

Non-Profits

\$11,500.00

Individuals

\$69,963.97

Gross Income

\$89,710.12



Corporate Foundations
9.2%

Non-Profits
12.8%

Individuals
78%

In 2023, we also received generous in-kind donations of over \$82.5K.

Programming
32%

Fundraising
7.4%

Operations
60.6%

Expenses

Programming

\$42,443.00

Fundraising

\$9,848.00

G&A*

\$80,519.00

Total Expenses

\$132,810.00

** In our first year operating as a 501c3, we invested in resources to develop the organizational structure, financial operations, systems, and policies and procedures to build the right foundation for intentional growth.*

More Good News

In April, Gabrielle's Wings was honored with the Humanitarian Award at the Ujamaa Community Development Corporation's 2023 Village of Grace Scholarship Fundraiser Gala Benefiting Homeless and at-risk Children & Youth. We are grateful for the recognition of our work.



Beth Bunting, who has been a member of our Board since 2022, agreed to take on the role of Executive Director for 2024, supporting our efforts in building infrastructure, developing our strategy for the future, and continuing our growth in a thoughtful way.

Laurie Beasley joined us part time as Operations Coordinator, and is helping us ensure that your experience, and that of our partners, is positive, seamless, and impactful.



Couldn't Do it Without You!

Adrienne Bell
Aisha Jefferson
Amanda Knapper
Angela Williams-Trapp
Angelique Speight
Anitra McFarland
Annaelle Djomo
Arnee Gomez
Ashlee Brown
Audrey Sato
Axel Johnson
Barbara White
Barbara Cowan
Barion Grant
Becca Kabisch
Benjamin Freedman
Bernardette Storey
Bernie Lawrence-
Watkins
Beth Kanofsky
Beth Bunting
Blackbaud Giving Fund
Bret Perkins
Brianna Hahn
Camille Franklin
Camille Cash
Carla Jackson
Carlos Cubia
Carmen Hughes
Carmen Hardy
Carol Dudley

Carol Kauffman
Cassidy Arkin
CeCe Pleasants
Charlene Kelly
Charles Graham
Cheli English
Cheriss May
Cheryl Smith
Chimene Liburd
Chisara Ehiemere
Chris Bardwell
Christa Parrish
Christa Cantrell
Christina Catalano
Christopher Hammond
Cluey Hargrove
Comelia Sanford
Comcast/NBCUniversal
Crystal DeLaney
Cynthia Saxton-Russ
Dan Glass
Dana Taylor
Danae Hampton
Darnese Daniels
Darrius Gouridine
David Block
Deanna Parker
Debby Jeroslow
Deborah Smith
Deidra Jackson
Demi Wheeler

Deon Woods Bell
Desiree Nelson-Gayle
Devry Ross
Dina Ingram
Dionne Vernon
Donna Williams
Donna Ward
Donna Ziegler
Donna Fine
Dustin Scott
Edward Robbs
Elena Camp
Elizabeth Morrison
Elizabeth Gordon
Emily Walton
Eric Campbell
Erica Kennedy
Ethan Ziegler
Gates Foundation
George Greenfield
Gloria Ford
Gwendolyn Fields
Gwendolyn Wesley
Gwendolyn Price-
White
Hattie Best
Henraya McGruder
Hilari Younger

Couldn't Do it Without You!

Hope Summerhill
Jack & Jill of America -
Westchester, NY
Chapter
Jaclyn Levin
Jacquelynn Jordan
Jacqueynn Jordan
Janay Matthews
Jason Leecost
Jaye West
Jazzmene Lynch
Jeanette Reese
Jeanne Cipollini
Jennifer O'Neill
Jennifer Nyiri
Jennifer Abbondanza
Jerry Walton
Jessica Hord
JoAnn Oliver
Joanne Williams
Jodie Harris
Joerg Ziegler
Jon Wright
Jonna Solimine
Joseph Cecere
Joyce Street
Juanita Bing Newton
Ju-Don Marshall
Judy England
Juli Dorsey
Julie Roth

Kabir Daniels-Verden
Karen Horne
Karen Butz
Karen Greenfield
Kathryn Boxill
Katrina Johnson
Kelli Ross
Kelly Bunting
Kelly Green
Kenya Goldsberry -
Rambeau
Kimberly Wilson
Kimberly Driggins
Kimberly Walker
Kristen Stierwalt-Huff
Kuae Noel Kelch
La Vida Boone
Laticia Kokuma
Laura Austin
Laurel Hill
Laurie Beasley
LaWanda Hughes
Lekita Hargrave
Leslie Yoskin
Lindsay Cox
Lisa Joyner-Greene
Lisa Sims
Lisa Goodnight
Lisa Hall
Lori Hall Armstrong
Lucia Panzarella

Luis Troccoli
Lydia Greene
Lynn Todman and
Family
Marcelline Cendroski
Margaret Lazo
Margaret Nesbitt
Brennan
Maria Jones
Marianella Medelius
Marie Johnson
Marilyn Carlson
Marisa Lee Bolssen
Mark Hord
Mark A.L. Mason
Marlaina Sims-Powell
Marlissa Hudson
Martha Pepper
Mary Campbell
Mary Pennington
Mary Banson
Mary Kertz
Mary Bradford
Maryanne Alkhoraigi
Masumi Pitt
Matthew Silverstein
Maya Ranselaar
Megan Forti

Couldn't Do it Without You!

Melanie Massie
Melinda Chevalier
Melody Morales
Michael Scott
Michael Verma
Michelle Hord
Michelle Miller
Monica Chan
Natalie Morales
Rhodes
Natayah Adams
Necole Washington
Nichole Mooyoung
Nicole Schoolsky
Nicole Ford
Nicole Antoinette
Smith
Olive Osborne
Pamela Bond
Paralee Day
Pauline Washington
Phyllis Epps
Phyllis McGrady
Raffaele &
Jennifer Rose
Ramona Amaro
Ramonica Harton
Rebecca Pastner
Rebecca Jackson
Renee Lunceford
Rhonda Buford
Rob Crabbe
Robert Shinn

Robert Glessner
Robert Fodge
Robin Bell
Robin McIntyre
Roseann Nyiri
Rudy Daniels
Ruth Foston
Sabrina Williams
Sadarie Holston
Salvador Mendoza
Sandra Holsten
Sarah Glover
and Family
Sarah Brooks
Second Baptist Church
of Santa Ana
Shandra McDonald
Shannon Hyatt
Sharon Epperson
Sharon Duvall
Shay Thorne
Sheila Carmon
Shelby Day
Shelly Casey
Sheri Campbell
Sheryl Underwood
Shirell Gross
Sissy Abraham
Stacy Cole
Stephanie Kinder
Stephanie Malone
Sunni Middleton
Susan Torrence

Susan Jin Davis
Susan Evans
Sylvia Spivey
Tamarra Billings
Tammy Wisner
Tara Winder
Tara Jones
Tara Karver
Terri Bowles
Terri Cubia
Culp Charitable Fund
Thomas McCartney
Tina Barrett
Tina Grant
Tom Holsten
Tommie L. Robinson Jr
Tory Johnson
Towanda Brunson
Tylitha Stewart
Valerie Aguilar
Valerie Cardwell
Valyncia Saunders
Vanessa Smith
Wanda Witherspoon
William Stevers
William Lenich
Zakkiyyah White

Our Board



Michelle Hord
Founder & Chair



Tara Jones
Vice Chair



Kristen Stierwalt
Huff, Treasurer



Chisara
Ehiemere



Darnese
Daniels



Jennifer
Nyiri



Tylitha
Stewart



Susan
Jin Davis



Beth Bunting
Executive Director

Connect

Donate to support our mission of giving children of color in historically excluded communities opportunities through educational support and cultural exposure. We hope that Gabrielle's legacy will enable children to aspire to dream beyond their immediate horizons and that her "wings" will enable them to soar. Click the button below to donate.

DONATE



Follow and Share

You can follow us on all our social channels to see and share the latest updates on our work. Check out and share our Gabrielle's Wings website with your network to further spread our mission.



gabrielleswings.org