

C247FAM.ORG



ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2023

C24/7

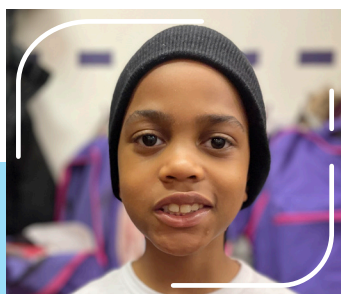
FATHERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

SERVICES



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The C24/7 After-school Program provides opportunities for elementary, middle, and high school students to receive educational, physical, spiritual and emotional support. Our mission is to help them learn, grow, and thrive in and out of the classroom. We build relationships with students and their families, serve their immediate needs, then walk with them on their way to becoming empowered individuals.



“ I feel good when I am at c24 because I am happy when I am here. We do a lot of fun games and IXL has helped me. I like my friends that come here too. ”
Brandon



JOB DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

C24/7's Job Development Program, called Dreams, Visions, Work, provides spiritual support and job training in order to connect men and women to work that taps into their unique skills and purpose. We do this through building relationships with local businesses, teaching a proven curriculum, and walking each step of the way with our students.



“ Through the program, my perspective on life has changed dramatically. Now, I have a better understanding of how my actions have consequences. From here on out, I want every action I take to have a positive impact on my community. ”

Neil

”



FOOD PANTRY

Since COVID started, we have exponentially expanded our reach in the community. Though currently on pause, we've provided a free, monthly store for our community members. Neighbors receive household goods and food for their families, and through the store we have built stronger relationships with those in our community. Once per month we served up to 300 people. We've also partnered with the United Way and Cook County Legal Aid for Housing and Debt to offer free vaccines and housing support.

“ I can truly say, if it weren't for c24 I wouldn't be where I am today. ”

from Ulonda



SUMMER YOUTH WORK PROGRAM

Our students lack opportunity in the Summer and their education suffers. Often young people turn to dangerous and illegal ways to make money, while our program steps in to redirect them out of gang recruitment and into effective employment and job training. We offer students a chance to work throughout the summer, earning a generous stipend while gaining valuable work experience. While working, students attend and complete our job training program which teaches the value of honest work and personal finance.



“ C24 is a program that protects its people within the program. And believes you can accomplish what you want. If I feel like I'm not happy, I can come and find joy, especially seeing young kids happy here. That makes me happy.
Ja'Niya Coats ”

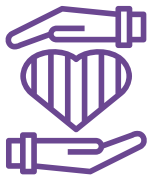


COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Because we live and spend so much time in the community, we are always aware of the needs of our neighbors. Strong relationships lead to strong change. We provide weekly men's and women's Bible studies, one-on-one counseling sessions, *Fresh Start Funding* for those navigating major life transitions and street ministry to help our neighbors in the midst of gang activity, violence, drug use, and more. We've also held a monthly food pantry serving thousands of people per year.



“ C24 has been an outlet and support system. They are like family. They have been a hero in many ways for me and my children. They are always there when I need something and are continually praying for us. I would go on, but I am already tearing up!
Rosalind ”



THE GREAT GIVEAWAY *from Darrel*

The Great Giveaway was started a few years ago. It was in honor of my brother, Nate (The Great) that passed away, and also a way to give back to the neighborhood with a day full of fun, laughter, and love. We always talk about doing something great for the neighborhood helping the kids and the families. This year was our 3rd year. The past three years have been great as so many people have come out from the neighborhood, even people that used to live in the neighborhood. Folks have traveled hours just to be a part of it. Almost 500 people came out with their kids last summer. It was a great feeling to know I was able to bring the community together. You can see all the smiles, the love, and joy. The excitement on the kids' faces, not only for the toys, but all the fun activities. Every year The Great Giveaway has been growing bigger. I will continue to bless the people and bring happiness with the event.

PEOPLE SERVED

Our After-School program hosts **60 students** coming predominantly from below the poverty level, who join our program starting an average of two grade levels below proficiency in reading and 1.5 grade levels below proficiency in math.

However, **100% of our kids** move to the next grade level at the end of each year, and **the majority** have increased their reading and math scores on standardized tests. We are at full capacity, and have to hold a waitlist. Our Summer Program hosts about **30 students each year.**

Roughly half of our community outreach connects with men and women with little or no education background, predominantly from our high-risk, low-income neighborhood. The amount of relationships we've built in the community keeps growing, reaching into the thousands. Our Job Development Program continues to grow through hiring members of the community for project-based jobs and internships while they go through our curriculum. Our Summer Youth Work Program hires several high school students for internships while they complete our job training program.

Through expanding our programming to meet our neighbors' need, we aim to realize our long-term goals:

- Lowered rates of crime and violent activity
- Improved health of our constituents
- Higher rates of economic empowerment for all of our constituents
- Increased household spending power and civic engagement
- Restored community through lowered rates of prison and gang re-entry
- Improved academic success for our children
- A more empowered community

#REALLIFESTORIES #WITNESSES #TESTIMONALS



Name Malachi

Been Involved 3 years

Involvement After-school Program, Youth Job Program

How Has C24/7 Impacted you? Growing up, life for Malachi didn't seem to have much settling. Moving from state to state due to financial reasons took a toll on him and his mother. When they finally settled into Chicago in 2018, he still felt an unrest. "There is a lot of peer pressure and violence here. The environment is not the best and it impacted me and my mom. Me and my mom's relationship feels empty, but there isn't too much I can do about it now since I am just a kid." Though there are moments of hopelessness for many in our community, this has not stopped Malachi from being a top achiever at school, landing on the honor roll, playing on the basketball team, and working for C24/7 two days a week. He says, "the bad environment in this community has motivated me to do better. It's making me want to do good for my future and get a scholarship for a good college. I want to major in math or something with numbers because I want to be an accountant." Malachi has been a part of C24/7 for almost 3 years. He is currently enrolled in our high school After-school Program and also completed our Summer Youth Work Program as well. "Our discussions help me release my thoughts and emotions. C24 is caring for their students and their futures. It feels good to be at Program and like I am at home. If you were to go there today you would feel twice as good walking out."

history

Founded in 2016, C24/7: Father's Arms Ministries was created by Natalie and James Crockett. James grew up on the South Side of Chicago, and from an early age missed having a central father figure in his life. He spent his formative years in and out of gang activity and prison, only to end up accepting the overwhelming power of God's father-like love at the age of 19. Ever since, he has been passionate about living out the love of God and acting as a father figure to a neighborhood desperately in need of one. Our organization was born out of this passion. Through the hard work of our staff and volunteers, we were awarded 501(c)(3) status as of April 14, 2017.

Since our inception, we have reached, served, and empowered our shared community through an After-school Program, Job Development Training, and Community Outreach. We have started new programs, grown our programs, and extended our reach to thousands of people in the past decade. We have sought to meet our community in their need, walking with them through the terrible, but real trials of violence, poverty, and lack of opportunity.

mission

C24/7 is a non-profit organization dedicated, through the power of Jesus Christ, to improving the lives of children and young adults in the North of Howard neighborhood by providing the necessary tools, security, and environment they need to thrive academically, economically, socially, and spiritually.

LETTER *from* JAMES

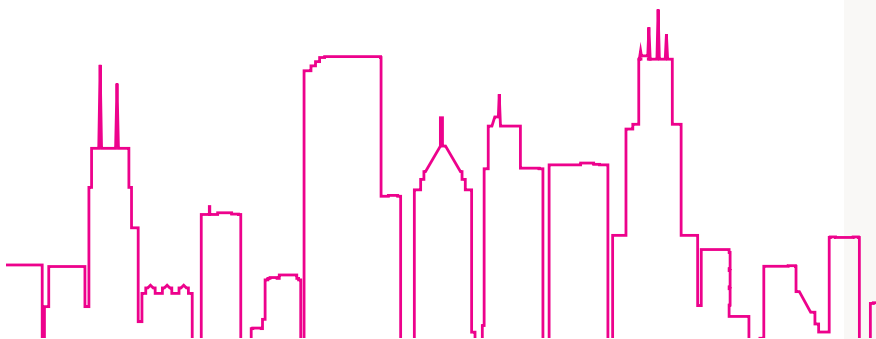
Dear C24/7 Family,

Writing this annual letter is always a good time for me to pause and reflect. This past year really was a pivotal year in so many ways for C24/7. We have labeled it the year of "growing pains." We grew our programs, grew our space, added new programs, reached more community members, and hired more staff. But the pain came in the mental and emotional weight...the emotional weight of losing so many loved ones, from the neighborhood and my own family. The weight of leading a ministry that God has entrusted me with. It is a great honor and privilege, one I take very seriously, which is why I take responsibility for those in my care.

Despite the heaviness this past year handed to us, the growth has been very exciting. In fact, our stories of hope and transformation get me through the hard times. For example, we were able to support a single mother of 4 who just obtained a job for the first time in many years, all while her husband is in prison. We saw one of our high school students, who was recently moved from his home due to abuse, hired into our summer job program and enrolled into our high school program, AND is maintaining a 4.0 GPA! We saw one of our young men that graduated from our job program last year finally land a full-time job. These stories continue to give us hope. Hope that is desperately needed during some of the more trying days and weeks and months.

There is another side to the stories of hope and excitement. The pain part is a real part of our Urban Ministry. We lost several of our community members, men and children that I dearly loved and cared for, due to mental health and gun violence. It's in these times I question God and why He has me here. What's the point? It feels hopeless that some of these same men are turning their lives around and ready for something new, only to be killed. But then God reminded me of the thief on the cross. It was in his last moments on earth that he committed his life to Jesus. And that's when I felt a sense that all of this is worth it. Our neighbors' salvation is worth every minute of my time with them. It is not for naught.

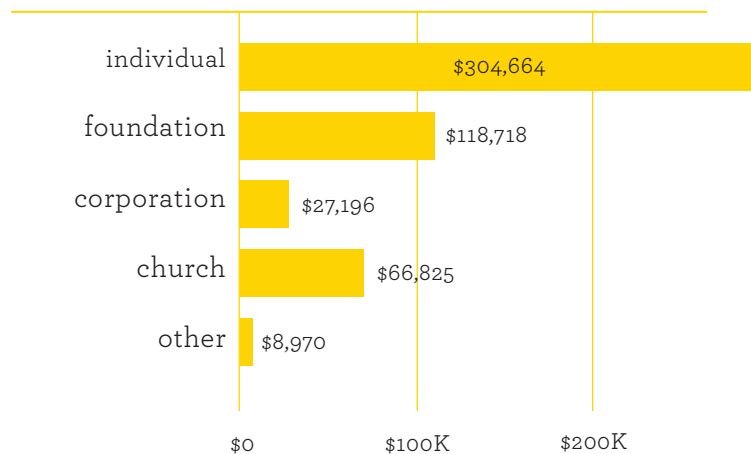
As I continue to grieve these losses I am encouraged because I also see the fruit of our labor. I see lives changed, hope given, and mothers, fathers, and children seeking options for a better life.



FINANCIALS

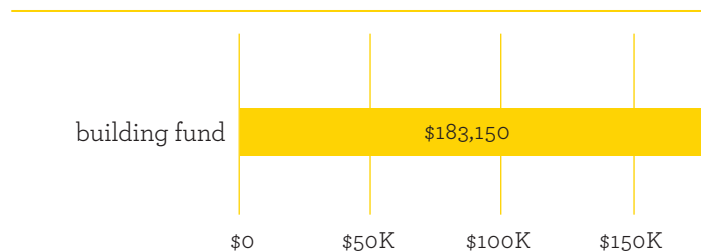
FY23 REVENUE

operating revenue



total : \$ 526,373

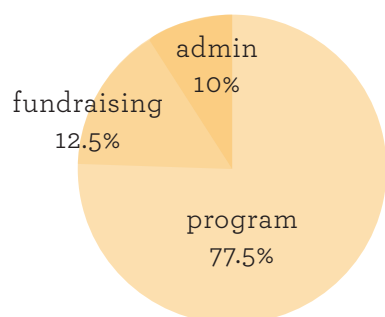
building revenue



total : \$183,150

Total Revenue : \$709,523

FY23 EXPENSES



Total Expenses : \$585,789

METRICS



after school program

63

students enrolled

10

students served with the initiation of our a new high school program

7000

Hot meals served

>50%

of students improved their test scores in each reading, math, and ELA



job development program

21

high school students employed

7

people received employment after completing our program



community outreach

25K

spent through our Fresh Start Fund on families in need

200

students and parents attended field trips

>300

people attended our Great Giveaway event

+300

hours spent in bible study with our community

Platinum
Transparency
2022

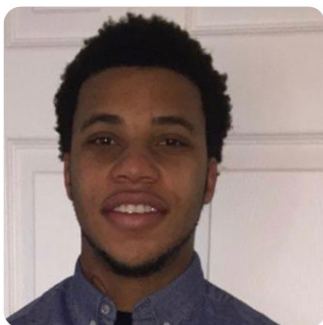
Candid.

C24/7 has earned the platinum seal of transparency from Guidestar. In the spirit of full transparency, please contact our Director of Development, Jordan Harper, for any questions regarding financial information. You can visit www.c247fam.org/donate to view our audited financials, donate, and learn more about our organization.

honoring those who have passed ✨

in *loving* memory of some of those we have lost within our C24 family

Thelma Crockett, Regina Washington, Cheng Francis, Nate Burton, Tyler Moore, Iris Hawk, Boom,
Munchie, Thomas, JayJay, Corieontae, Vony O'Brien, Remus, Keon Lewis



OUR PARTNERS

Partner Churches

Chapelstreet Church
Chinese Christian Fellowship Church of Wilmette
Christ Church
Church of the Holy Comforter
Divine Mercy North Shore
Ebenezer Lutheran Church
First Presbyterian Church of Wilmette
First United Methodist Church of Chicago
First United Methodist Church of Evanston
Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago
Glencoe Union Church
Hope Community Church
Living Water Community Church
Lord of Life Lutheran Church
North Shore Baptist Church
Park Community Church
Southminster Presbyterian Church
St. Augustine Church of Wilmette
St. Francis Xavier Church
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
The Village Presbyterian Church of Northbrook
Willow Creek North Shore
Winnetka Congregational Church
Winnetka Presbyterian Church

Partner Organizations

Ali and Sam Barnett Foundation
American Tower Charitable Fund
Aspire Home Health Care
Carl R Hendrickson Family Foundation
CHlditarod Foundation
Chicago Sunday Evening Club
Cox Automotive
Epaphroditus Foundation
Guy A. and N.Kay Arboit Charitable Trust
Kanebridge Corporation
Kirkland and Ellis Foundation
Loeber Motors
MIGMIR Foundation
NIR Roof Care
Paul Bechtner Foundation
Royal Automotive LLC
The Albertsons Companies Foundation
The Boeing Company
The Chicago Bar Foundation
The Wilford Family Foundation
The Women's Club of Evanston
Thrivent Financial
United Way of Metro Chicago
Union Pacific Foundation
Verizon Foundation
Vivo Foundation
Walmart
William and Janita Smith Foundation

OUR BOARD

BRIAN CLUTTER
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BRETT GARDINER
BEN MATUSKA
KIM NEALT
CAROLYN NYREN
DAVE NYREN
ADAM PENNINGTON
JACKIE PENNINGTON
MIKE WILLIAMS

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



Pray

Please keep our kids, families, community, staff, and volunteers in your prayers as we seek hope and renewal on Howard Street.



Volunteer

Please visit c247fam.org to view volunteer job descriptions and sign up to volunteer! You can learn more about our program and students there as well.



Donate

Our programs survive solely on the generosity of people like you. Please consider supporting our programs atc247fam.org/donate or by mailing checks to C247: 1348 W. Howard St. Unit 1, Chicago, IL 60626. You can also donate via stock transfers, donor advised funds, and qualified IRA distributions.