Dear Horton's Kids Supporters,

2022 was a special year for Horton’s Kids. Thanks to your ongoing support, we’ve continued providing high-quality programs and services to children and families in Southeast DC while embarking on a new chapter in the organization’s history.

Our continued success as one of the city’s community-based high-intensity tutoring hubs has been a game changer for young learners despite the ongoing challenges posed by Covid-19. Our dedicated team of tutors and volunteers worked tirelessly in 2022 to help students make significant academic gains, with 100% of participants assessed maintaining or growing their reading level.

In Summer 2022, we again welcomed over 100 K-8th grade participants into our summer program, providing math and literacy instruction, social-emotional skill-building, enrichment activities, and field trips. We also piloted an internship program with support from prominent businesses like Venn Strategies, Willkie Farr & Gallagher, and Sanofi.

Access to adequate programming space has always been a challenge for Horton’s Kids. In December 2021, we were able to purchase a large community church and begin renovations to transform the building into the new Horton’s Kids Community Resource Hub (Horton’s Hub). With 19,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor space, Horton’s Hub is a central location that provides direct programming and enhances the offerings available at our neighborhood Resource Centers. This safe, supportive space for our participants helps combat the resounding impacts of Covid-19 and ensures their futures are full of opportunity and promise.

In February 2023, we announced the public phase of our Securing Futures for Southeast campaign. This critical $5M fundraising effort will allow us to meet the increased needs in our community, boost our programs and services, and serve hundreds more students and families.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Horton’s Kids and the families we serve.

In partnership,

ERICA AHDOOT | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ERICA AHDOOT | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Horton’s Hub
2233 Hunter PI SE
Washington, DC
20020

8 large rooms outfitted for youth programs
19,000 sq. ft. of indoor and outdoor space

Expanding Our Reach, Deepening Our Roots

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Academics

**HITTING THE BOOKS**

Fifth-grader Mezziah spends most afternoons at Horton's Kids, where she regularly participates in tutoring and homework help. “If I didn’t come to Horton’s Kids I would just be bored at home watching TV. At Horton’s Kids, we read every day and reading helps you get smarter.”

Taking advantage of these academic supports had a drastic impact on Mezziah’s report card. After the first quarter of the school year, Mezziah’s grade in reading was a “C”. By the end of the second quarter, Mezziah was able to increase that grade to an “A”.

As we’ve continued efforts to recover unfinished learning in recent years, Horton’s Kids has adapted its academic program model to prioritize high-intensity tutoring for participants in grades K-5. Each week, Mezziah can receive up to four hours of academic supports. Mezziah says she especially looks forward to programs because “At Horton’s Kids, I get help from my favorite teacher Ms. Astrid.”

By day, Ms. Astrid is a 7th grade teacher, but when her school day ends, she joins Horton’s Kids as one of our part-time teachers. “Participants have more autonomy within the structure of after-school programs to have fun and be social, while still receiving the knowledge and skills to become better readers,” she said.

With gaps in reading and math still being reported nation wide, Ms. Astrid says that students continue to face unique challenges. “The pandemic has delayed the age-appropriate behaviors that manifest in classrooms. I am seeing participants who are showing behaviors typical of students two grade levels below their current grade level.”

To help participants retain the skills they’re building, Horton’s Kids staff has increased the frequency of positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS), an evidence-based framework for supporting student behavioral health. Students earn “HK Bucks” for demonstrating good behavior, helping peers, and attending programs, and can spend their earnings at the “HK Store”. “The coolest toy I’ve bought was a slime making kit which was awesome because my favorite book is the *My Pet Slime* series,” said Mezziah.

This year, Mezziah is earning many more HK Bucks with her attendance at programs tripling. Her increased engagement and academic gains demonstrate why we must continue to adapt our programs to meet the evolving needs of our youngest learners.
This room has a lot of space. In here I get to live it up without any problems. I don’t get mad; I get to be happy and mind my business. I’m just having a great time.

-HK participant, grade 3

Horton’s Kids works directly with community members to create and tailor programs that address their evolving needs. With a recent rise in violence in DC and recurring gun-related tragedies at the national level, offering resources to support both mental and physical health has become more critical than ever.

In a recent survey of parents and caregivers enrolled in our programs, 46% expressed concerns about access to food and 41% identified mental health supports or referrals as the biggest issue facing their community.

In 2022, we created designated health and wellness spaces in each of our Community Resource Centers. These rooms serve as neutral, calming spaces where participants and families can gather to speak with service providers, practice mindfulness techniques, or take a break from the stir of regular programs. They feature comfortable seating, sensory toys, art materials, and round tables for group work.

Throughout our 2022 summer camp programs, participants utilized wellness rooms to calm down, self-regulate, or meet 1:1 with their teachers and staff. Beginning in the fall, our local service partner Preventive Measures began meeting with children and families to build personalized mental health support plans, manage medications, and offer healing and grief support after incidents of violence. These initiatives add to Horton’s Kids ongoing distribution of fresh produce and pantry staples, cleaning supply and personal hygiene kits, backpacks, and winter clothing items.

With the opening of Horton’s Community Resource Hub in 2023, we’ve continue to build out our health and wellness supports. Horton’s Hub will feature the organization’s first-ever Distribution Center and Storefront to facilitate “quick-service” supply distribution to even more families in Southeast DC.

Horton’s Kids provides food, clothing, personal hygiene products, and connects families to wellness resources for health screenings and mental health support.

PROMOTING WELLNESS

100% of families who requested therapy services have been linked with providers.

407 diapers distributed

28,650 meals distributed

8,819 lbs of fresh produce distributed

1,120 LBS of fresh produce distributed
After school, eighth grader Erin could be any number of places: on the basketball court with her school’s team, on the stage rehearsing for the school musical, or at home writing poetry. But many nights, you can also find Erin at Horton’s Kids, “I keep coming because Horton’s Kids gives us an extra opportunity to learn more and grow from the community around us.”

Horton’s Kids’ youth development programs aim to equip participants with the skills needed to meet the opportunities of adolescence and adulthood. Erin says her involvement in Horton’s Kids and other extracurriculars have helped her recognize her potential and pursue her goals and passions with confidence. “I am excited that I have the opportunity to go to better high schools because now I have stronger relationships with my teachers and a higher GPA. So next year, I hope to go to Duke Ellington School of the Arts for high school so that I can get better at writing poetry and rapping and one day become a famous R&B singer.”

Erin describes herself as an energetic person who likes to dance, show her goofy side, and have fun. Through Horton’s Kids youth development programs, Erin has been able to have unique experiences and discover new interests: “I found out I like playing football because I tried it with Horton’s Kids. Football is high energy and I like that we get to run around, boys and girls, together,” she said.

Another thrilling activity Erin enjoys is mountain biking, which she discovered during her two-week trip to Camp Horizons in Virginia. “I thought it was just riding a bike down hills, but it takes more skill. You have to learn when to shift gears to make it easier or harder, and when to brake.” Horton’s Kids partners with Camp Horizon and other camps across the country to send 15+ participants to sleepaway camp every summer.

After attending sleepaway camp for the last two summers, Erin is excited to return and see the friends she’s made. She reflected, “Making friends at camp is different than making friends at Horton’s Kids because everyone comes from such different places. I’ve made friends who are from Hawaii, Canada, and Russia.”

Erin has also built stronger relationships with other Horton’s Kids participants who attend Camp Horizon. These experiences have helped her become more outgoing when attending programs at Horton’s Kids.

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Angel Jones (pictured at right) was born in Wellington Park and her roots with Horton’s Kids span more than three decades. She and her siblings were some of the organization’s first participants – attending weekend field trips and enrichment activities and forming relationships with volunteers.

“Being out of the neighborhood had a big impact on our lives, how we carry ourselves, treating people the way you want to be treated, loving people the way you want to be loved,” she said. “It was having a village to show us different ways we can go in this life. Our parents taught us the same things so it was double or triple the teaching.”

Today, Angel’s two youngest children are taking advantage of many of the resources and experiences their mother enjoyed, from academic tutoring and mentoring to summer jobs and sleepaway camp.

“It’s an honor to have them involved in the same organization and growing the same way I did,” said Angel, who remembers the support and guidance Horton’s Kids provided as a teenager when her mom passed away. “They’re still there. They never left. They’re family to me, I get emotional talking about it.”

Horton’s Kids continuously works to create a supportive community environment for parents and kids alike. We are glad that Angel continues to see Horton’s Kids as a resource that she and her children can benefit from – especially as the organization’s programs evolve.

Growing up, Angel took note of the sense of community among parents – especially mothers. Now that she is a mother, she wants to contribute to the community as an advocate for parents and caregivers from Stanton Oaks and Wellington Park. In 2022 Angel affirmed her position as a community advocate by joining the Horton’s Kids Board of Directors.

“I thought about being there for my community – to research and bring support and resources back to parents. Being on the board meant giving back to an organization and people who gave so much.”

Having community members serve at the board leadership level is part of Horton’s Kids’ commitment to equity and involvement by, for, and from the community. Their perspective, lived experience, and passion for their communities is invaluable.

Angel is looking forward to using her leadership position to find new ways to keep parents and caregivers engaged and connected with Horton’s Kids and each other.

“You never know how someone else’s life is until you connect with them. They may be going through the same thing, or perhaps something worse. You learn a lot from sharing, then you can get through things together.”

Horton’s Kids partners closely with caregivers to bolster their children’s progress, while providing families with essential resources that reduce stress and promote stability.
Volunteers

As a recent DC transplant, Chandler reflected that “before starting to volunteer at Horton’s Kids, I had never crossed the river to come to Anacostia and knew relatively little about the area. Now, I am gaining a greater understanding of systemic racism, gentrification, and other barriers that have left communities like Wellington Park and Stanton Oaks marginalized and under-invested.”

Horton’s Kids acknowledges that having the time to volunteer is a privilege. We will continue to work to make volunteering more accessible and expand our volunteer base to provide participants access to consistent, adult role models who share similar lived experiences. We are grateful to volunteers like Chandler, who value the impact of making the trip to Anacostia. “Allyship is essential to building healthy and safe communities. Therefore, individuals who face less systemic barriers should use their privileges to volunteer because they will always be afforded more opportunities to do so.”

REACHING FOR THE STARS

When Jerrod Thompson first walked into Horton’s Kids Community Resource Center at age five, he recalls feeling shy and keeping to himself. At his mother’s request, he began joining his sisters on field trips with Horton’s Kids. He remembers visiting amusement parks, museums, and movie theaters and participating in daily homework help and tutoring sessions at the Rayburn building on Capitol Hill.

Throughout elementary and middle school, Jerrod was paired with tutors and mentors who helped him make improvements to his grades and encouraged him to explore his hobbies and interests. Jerrod says these relationships helped him come out of his shell and doubt himself less. “I started to feel more confident and excited to try new things. I joined the school band and eventually realized that I had a passion for playing and writing music.”

When the time came to make post-graduate plans, Jerrod says Horton’s Kids older youth programs were pivotal in helping him see what paths were possible. “I attended career fairs and visited colleges. I developed better social skills and became more outgoing. I even learned how to better manage my money so I was more prepared for life after high school,” he said.

After receiving a full-ride scholarship to Lycoming College in Pennsylvania, Jerrod graduated with a degree in business and entrepreneurship, becoming the first man in his family to earn a college degree. He’s since secured a job with a local residential leasing office in Gallery Place where he’s honed his business management skills and made connections he hopes will help him pursue his musical ambitions.

Jerrod says he was eager to find ways to give back to his community when he returned to DC. He began volunteering with Horton’s Kids and attending community events, becoming a role model for other participants.

“Having access to the Community Resource Centers is critical for high schoolers. Once you figure out what you like, HK will help you figure out the rest.”

103 active volunteers
14 volunteer social and networking events
22 volunteer mentors

College and Career

“It’s been a blessing to return to the community and help. I want to show kids that even if you’re not good at math – there are other ways you can shine. The sky is the limit. Hopefully they see what’s possible in me.”

When plans materialized for a state-of-the-art music and media lab at the new Horton’s Kids Community Resource Hub - through a partnership with In A Perfect World - Jerrod said he had to be involved. “I've always wanted to pursue rap and make my own tracks but never had the tools. I want to help kids be creative and share messages of positivity.” Jerrod had a blast helping build the lab – a space he hopes will provide kids like him with a healthy creative outlet, and the tools to explore their innate talent.

“Allyship is essential to building healthy and safe communities. Therefore, individuals who face less systemic barriers should use their privileges to volunteer because they will always be afforded more opportunities to do so.”

Chandler Kircher, Volunteer

ALLIES FOR CHANGE

A large motivator for people looking to volunteer with Horton’s Kids is creating an impact for our participants. “The most exciting moments are seeing the kids’ "aha" moments as they build their skills and grow on their own timelines,” shared Chandler Kircher, who began tutoring elementary school-aged kids at Horton’s Kids programs in the fall of 2022.

In 2022, our volunteer experience fundamentally changed when Horton’s Kids shifted all programs to Southeast DC and started earlier in the evenings to better accommodate kids in proximity to their homes. Volunteers say this shift has felt more impactful while simultaneously broadening their perspective as residents of the District.

10 High school students and alumni placed in summer internships at local DC businesses

Chandler Kircher, Volunteer

Jerrod Thompson, Age 24
Thank you to the Horton’s Kids 2022 Valedictorians Circle, a community of our most generous individual donors. Members sustain Horton’s Kids’ programming with cumulative giving of $1,000 or more in a calendar year.

$20,000+
Anonymous
Simmy and Brian Jain

$10,000-$19,999
Anonymous
Paul and Liz Dougherty
Etta Fielek
Fernanda and Brian Fisher
Chad Goldberg and Jamie Ekern
Allison Renssen
Ian Storm Taylor
Bill Tucker and Melissa Johns

$5,000-$9,999
Jennifer Alexander
Karen Arny and Stephen Collesano
Cathy Bernard
Howie Bierman and Jill Coleman
Meridie Bulle-Vu and Michael Vu
Greg and Julianna Caplin in honor of Billy Mitchell
Dr. Dolores Cole
Julie and Randall Crom
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Lainoff Family Foundation Inc.
Amanda Choutka
Senior Professor Lecturer, American University
Amanda Choutka has partnered with Horton’s Kids since 2005 in delivering capacities as an intern, development and summer camp staff, and as a volunteer. Amanda has worked with Horton’s Kids in her capacity as Professor since 2011. She teaches three community-based learning courses each year where her students volunteer one semester with Horton’s Kids. She challenges her students to move beyond good intentions and instead think and act based on community-defined needs that contribute to racial justice and equity.

$2,500-$4,999
The Adasi Family Foundation
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$1,000-$2,499
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Kyleen Hashim
$1,000-$2,499 - CONT’D
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Carrie Stokes
Morris Swerlick
Linda Talley
Elin and Matt Thompson
Elisa Tuku
Cydny and Dan Walsh
Jeff White
Michael Williams
Allene Zanger

$1,000-$2,499 - CONT’D

The 2022 Julie Lonardo Community Champion Award
Recipient: Monique Bradley
HK Community Member
Monique Bradley has consistently shared her voice and vision with Horton’s Kids throughout our strategic planning process and motivated other parents in the community to speak up and join the conversation. Her infectious energy and larger-than-life personality make her a favorite in the community. Monique is a leader both in and out of Horton’s Kids spaces, serving meals to her fellow community members, encouraging families to seek out assistance, and brightening people’s days with just a smile. Her love for her family and her community is apparent in everything she does.

The 2022 Karin Walser Commitment to Service Awardees
Recipient: Amanda Choutka
Senior Professor Lecturer, American University
Amanda Choutka has partnered with Horton’s Kids since 2005 in different capacities as an intern, development and summer camp staff, and as a volunteer. Amanda has worked with Horton’s Kids in her capacity as Professor since 2011. She teaches three community-based learning courses each year where her students volunteer one semester with Horton’s Kids. She challenges her students to move beyond good intentions and instead think and act based on community-defined needs that contribute to racial justice and equity.

Recipient: Fairmont Washington, D.C., Georgetown
Since selecting Horton’s Kids as their charity partner in 2018, The Fairmont Washington D.C. Georgetown has gone above and beyond in supporting the organization. Whether hosting hands-on culinary classes for older youth participants, providing fresh produce distributions for families, or curating tens of thousands of dollars worth of travel packages for our Give Thanks & Give Back auctions, The Fairmont team has remained steadfast partners in helping to improve the lives of the children and families we serve.

Recipient: Amanda Choutka
Senior Professor Lecturer, American University
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$2,500-$4,999
Abt\lve
Balch and Bingham LLP
Camp Dudley and Camp Kiniya
Constellation Brands
Creative Associates
D&\P Creative Strategies
Data Quality Campaign
Deloitte
Elevate Government Affairs
Henry E. Niles Foundation
Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)
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LLAMAWOOD
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NCTA-The Internet & Television Association
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Tiber Creek Group
United Bank
West Front Strategies LLC

$1,000-$2,499
Arent\Fox Schiff
Beau Thai
British-American Business Association of Washington, DC
BSA | The Software Alliance
Capital Area Food Bank
CCCN Group
CHANEL, Inc
CGCN Group
Capital Area Food Bank
BSA | The Software Alliance
Cory Crowley & Company, LLC

$1,000- $9,999
Alexander Brady Foundation
Alston & Bird LLP
American Gas Association
Artemis Real Estate Partners
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Brownstone Hyatt Farber Schreck
Carol and Gene Ludwig Family Foundation
Citi Community Capital
Comcast/NBCUniversal
CTIA
Greater DC Diaper Bank
Duke Energy
Events DC
Facebook
Farragut Partners
FedEx Corporation
Flux Corporation
FWD.us
International Monetary Fund
Johnson & Johnson
J.P. Morgan
Kountoupes Denham Carr & Reid
Lumina Foundation
Marshfield Associates, Inc.
Merck
National Beer Wholesalers Association
NBC4/Telemundo 44 Washington
The Nora Roberts Foundation
PepsiCo
Recording Industry Association of America
Vein Strategies
Washington Gas

$5,000- $9,999
Alberto M. R. Carreno Foundation
Arlington Community Foundation
Cathedral Social Justice Foundation
Catalyst Capital Group
CDW Corporation
Citizens Bank
Citi Foundation
Comcast
Curtis Media Group
D.C. United
DVM News
Frederick Community Foundation
Freedom House
GeoComply
Goldman Sachs
Good360
Greater DC Committee for Children
Greater DC Diaper Bank
Greater DC Diaper Bank
Hobart Hallaway & Quayle Ventures
\n
$25,000-39,999
World Bank Group
Southern Company
The Morningstar Foundation
Sanofi
Enterprising Holdings Foundation
The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation

$25,000-39,999
Akerson Family Foundation
Clark-Winchcock Foundation
Congressional Sports For Charity
Fairmont Washington, D.C., Georgetown
General Motors
Harman Family Foundation
Hattie M. Strong Foundation
Sanofi
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation

$15,000-39,999
Greater Washington Community Foundation
The George and Faye C. Schmidt Foundation
The Heller Foundation
Hilman Family Foundation
Hobart Hallaway & Quayle Ventures
Whole Foods Market
Woolworth Foundation

$10,000-$14,999
Accenture
Avery
Bracewell
Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area
Charleys Kids Foundation
Cobec Consulting
Geocomply
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Greater Washington Community Foundation
Herbert Marshall Foundation
Kristina and William Catto Foundation
Nuclear Energy Institute
Principal Financial Group
Team Koki
Veniable Foundation

$10,000-$49,999
Allianz
American Enterprise Institute
American Federation of Teachers
American Historical Association
American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
American University Washington College of Law
Annapolis Nor'easter Foundation
Arnold & Porter
Atlantic Federal Credit Union
Atwood Foundation

$5,000-$9,999
Lucas Kaempfer Foundation
H&R Block
Gunn Winslow Foundation
FOX
Edison Electric Institute
E*Trade
Business Roundtable
Berkshire Hathaway Energy
AT&T
Altria Group

$1,000-$2,499
Meta
Merck
Marshfield Associates, Inc.
McKesson
Mergers & Acquisitions
Mercury
Mayo Clinic
Medstar Georgetown University Hospital
Merrill Lynch
Morgan Stanley

On November 16th, we welcomed 250 guests to the Fairmont Hotel for the 15th Annual Give Thanks & Give Back. The evening featured remarks from HK leaders and a keynote address from Horton’s Kids alumna E’Nyjaih Fields. We also awarded the Karin Walker Commitment to Service Awards to Amanda Chouka and The Fairmont Washington DC, and presented the first-ever Julie Lonardo Community Champion Award to HK parent Monique Bradley. The event raised $219,147.
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ANTWAIN FRANKLIN
Community Center Facilities Coordinator

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MELANIE HOLLAND-ORR
Director of Program Operations & Quality

FINANCIALS

FISCAL YEAR 2022 REVENUE
Total $6,174,239 | Operations $3,975,302 | Campaign $2,198,937

Individual

$841,792 | $1,104,737

Foundation

$975,997 | $638,200

Corp & Org

$788,393 | $302,000

Federal Government

$723,115

Local Government

$456,841 | $50,000

In-Kind Giving

$294,990 | $104,000

Investment Income (Loss)

$(105,825)

FISCAL YEAR 2022 EXPENSES
Total $5,266,367 | Operating (Program Services + Supporting Services) $4,249,933 | Capital $1,016,434

Academics

$1,062,648

Youth Development

$779,113

Health and Wellness

$825,406

Community and Family Engagement

$651,110

Fundraising

$765,153

Management and General

$166,502

Building Purchase and Renovation

$1,016,434