



One Omaha 2024 Annual Report

January-December 2024 Impact





Our Mission

One Omaha
empowers
people where
they live

Our Vision

A city where people are
connected to systems, build
real relationships and lead with
confidence.

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Message from the Executive Director

As I reflect on 2024, I am inspired by the remarkable passion and resilience of Omaha’s neighborhoods. This year, our community came together like never before. We saw neighbors organize to improve their blocks, grassroots leaders step up to advocate for local needs and everyday residents discover their own power to create change. One Omaha’s mission is to empower people where they live with education, training and engagement to develop thriving neighborhoods. In 2024, we made significant strides toward that mission. Together, we helped dozens of community groups turn ideas into action and supported hundreds of residents in gaining the knowledge and resources they need to strengthen their communities.

These achievements belong to all of us. I’ve been continually impressed by the dedication of our neighborhood leaders and the spirit of collaboration across our city. Whether it was a new community garden blooming, a resident-led workshop on emergency preparedness or a successful grant that brought fresh resources to a local project, the common thread was people working together. At One Omaha, we believe in the power of “we”: the idea that lasting change happens when we unite our talents and passions. This past year proved the power of community yet again.

2024 was also a year of growth and learning for One Omaha as an organization. We forged new partnerships, expanded our programs and listened closely to the needs of the neighborhoods we serve. We also laid the groundwork for a Youth Advisory Board to engage

the next generation. In addition, we strengthened ties with city leaders and agencies, opening up better communication channels between local government and neighborhood groups. By focusing on capacity-building and fostering leadership, we are helping to ensure that every neighborhood has a seat at the table when decisions are made.

Looking ahead, I am filled with hope and determination. Our vision for 2025 is bold: we aim to support even more community projects, provide more training opportunities and continue advocating for policies that put neighborhoods first. Most importantly, we remain committed to meeting people where they are. We know that every community has unique strengths and challenges. Our role is to uplift those strengths and address challenges hand in hand with residents. I invite you to join us in this work. Whether you volunteer, are a monthly supporter, participate in our programs or simply reach out with your ideas, your involvement makes a difference. Every voice matters in building a stronger Omaha.

Thank you for being part of One Omaha’s journey. None of our success would be possible without the support of our partners, funders, volunteers and the residents who trust us to walk alongside them. Together, we are proving that positive change starts right in our own neighborhoods. I am excited for all that lies ahead as we continue this journey together.

Sincerely,

Kimara Snipes

Kimara Snipes
Executive Director, One Omaha



Kimara Snipes- Executive Director



Looking Ahead

A Commitment to Opportunity

At its core, One Omaha's work is about opportunity, the opportunity for neighbors to lead, collaborate and dream together. By investing in youth, amplifying neighborhood needs and strengthening leadership pathways, we're laying the groundwork for a more connected, informed and empowered Omaha.

This next chapter is one we cannot write alone. As always, our success depends on the people who believe in the power of neighborhoods and we're grateful to build that future with you.

Goals for the Year Ahead

As One Omaha reflects on a year of deepened community connections and collective action, we're setting our sights on a future that continues to prioritize neighborhood voice, leadership and equity. The work ahead is ambitious, and necessary, as we continue building a stronger Omaha, one neighborhood at a time.



Launch a Youth Advisory

Young people are not just the future, they're vital to shaping the present. In 2026, we will launch a Youth Advisory Board to bring fresh perspectives into our work. This board will help guide One Omaha's programming and outreach strategies to ensure youth voices are not only heard but centered.



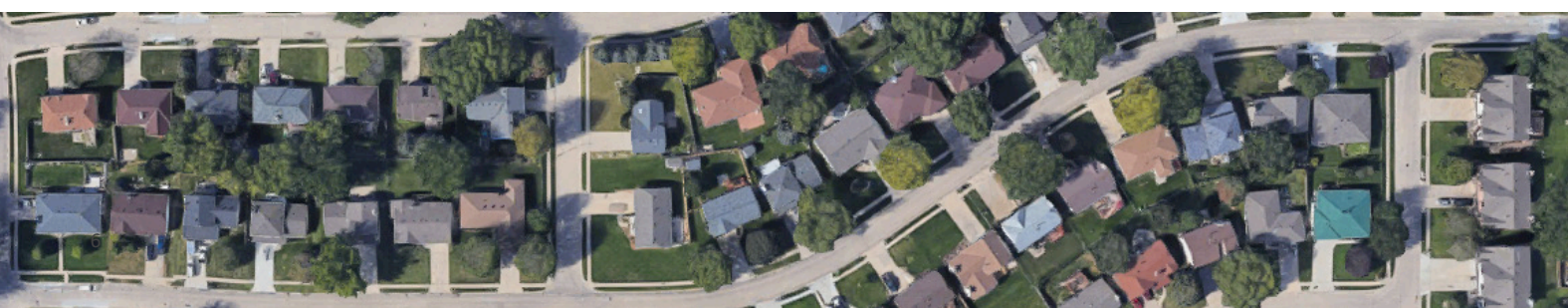
Conduct a Citywide Neighborhood Needs

Every neighborhood is different, and our work must reflect that. We'll initiate a comprehensive needs assessment across Omaha to better understand the unique challenges and opportunities facing each area. This effort will include listening sessions, surveys and data collection to inform our programming, partnerships and advocacy work.



Revise the Neighborhood Leadership Academy

Building on feedback from alumni and community partners, we plan to revamp the Neighborhood Leadership Academy curriculum. Updates will emphasize hands-on organizing skills, intergenerational leadership and equitable development practices. Our goal is to equip participants with the tools to lead lasting, positive change in their communities.



Program Highlights

One Omaha’s work in 2024 centered on three key areas: engaging neighbors, educating community leaders and providing direct support to grassroots initiatives. Below are highlights of our programs and their impact over the past year.



Neighborhood Engagement

We believe strong neighborhoods start with engaged residents. In 2024, One Omaha partnered with 71 neighborhood groups citywide, directly engaging 683 residents through meetings, visioning sessions and community events. These connections helped neighbors identify priorities, share ideas and take action. Together, we supported the development of 7 new neighborhood-led projects addressing issues from beautification to public safety.



Education & Training

We equip residents with the knowledge and skills to lead.

Grant Training Workshops: In 2024, we hosted **4 workshops** guiding residents through the process of turning project ideas into compelling grant proposals. Participants reported increased confidence in applying for funding and organizing community projects.

From the Ground Up Speaker Series: Our educational series featured **3 events** on environmental justice, drawing **90+ attendees** and resulting in a **22% average increase in subject knowledge**.



Support Services

Mini-Grant Program: We fund grassroots ideas that strengthen neighborhoods. In 2024, we awarded \$10,000 in Mini-Grants to 10 community-led projects, sparking improvements that ranged from public art installations to safety initiatives.

Fiscal Sponsorship: We help emerging neighborhood groups and grassroots efforts access funding. In 2024, we served as the fiscal sponsor for 9 organizations, helping them secure \$119,145 in external grants and bringing resources directly into neighborhoods.

COLLAB Consulting: Through COLLAB, we offer one-on-one consulting to help groups move from ideas to action. In 2024, we worked with 7 organizations to develop 13 project plans, resulting in \$10,151 in awarded grants and concrete strategies to advance community priorities.

Neighborhood Grants Technical Support: We provide hands-on guidance for residents applying to local funding opportunities. In 2024, we supported dozens of applicants through the Omaha Neighborhood Grants Program, with 11 groups awarded \$31,459 for projects that made lasting neighborhood improvements.



71

Neighborhood Groups Engaged Across Omaha

683 residents directly participated

\$10,000 in mini-grants

Impact at a Glance

In 2024, One Omaha worked alongside hundreds of residents to strengthen communities through direct engagement, education and support. We connected with 683 neighbors through workshops, meetings and public events, and reached thousands more through digital outreach and partnerships. Our grant trainings and speaker series equipped residents with tools to lead change, while our Mini-Grants, COLLAB services and fiscal sponsorship helped turn ideas into action. We supported over 100 resident leaders and helped secure more than \$160,000 in funding for grassroots projects. Across every effort, we built trust, encouraged collaboration and empowered neighborhoods to thrive.

\$10,000

**10 community projects
funded through One
Omaha mini-grants
(\$10,000 disbursed)**

7,337

7,337 additional residents
reached through online outreach
and partner networks

\$119,145

9 groups supported
via fiscal sponsorship,
securing \$119,145 in
external grants

\$31,459

11 organizations received
city grants with our
coaching, totaling \$31,459
in funding

22%

7 training events held (4
workshops and 3 speaker
sessions) with participants
reporting an average 22%
increase in knowledge

71

71 neighborhood groups
engaged across Omaha

683

683 residents directly
participated in our programs and
projects

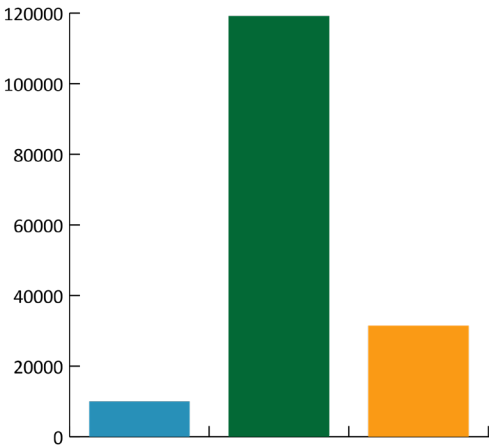
Financial Summary

In 2024, One Omaha maintained a sound financial position while maximizing support for our programs. According to our 2024 financial statements (IRS Form 990), One Omaha’s total revenue was in the mid six figures, reflecting continued growth from the prior year. Our funding comes primarily from charitable contributions, grants and program service revenue. We are grateful for the generous support of foundations, individual donors and partners that invest in our mission.

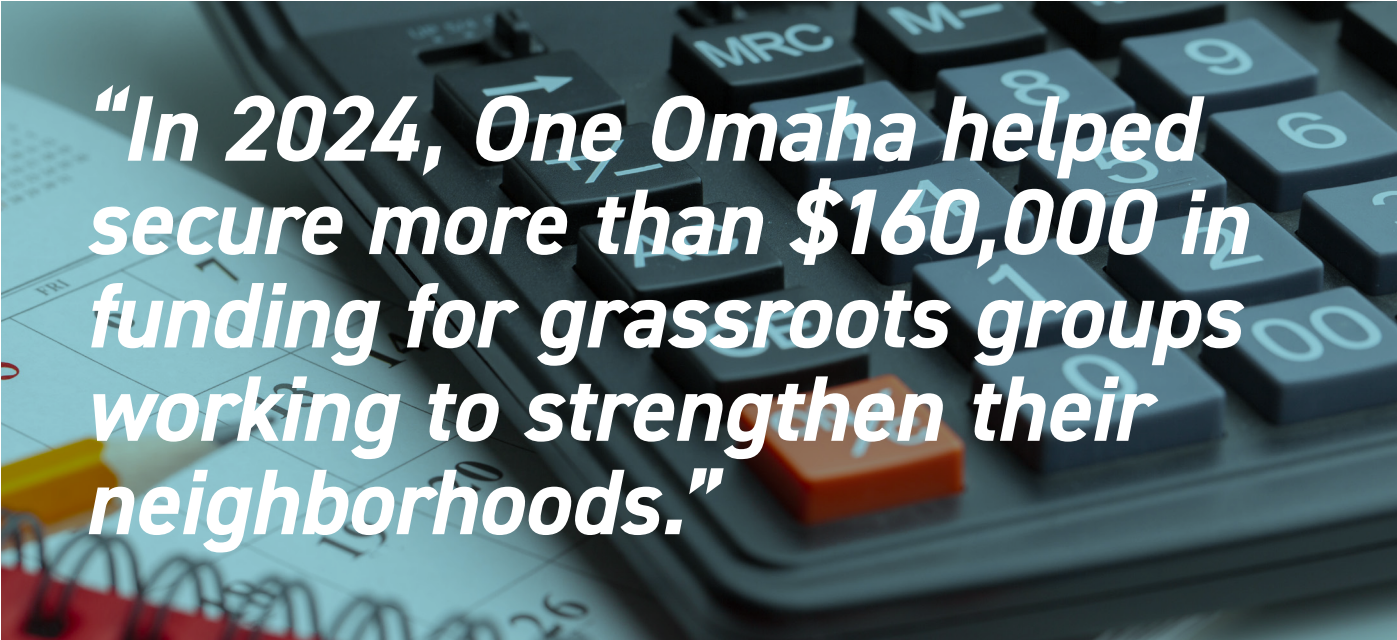
Total expenses in 2024 were closely aligned with revenue, resulting in an essentially balanced budget for the year. The vast majority of our spending went directly into programs and services that benefit Omaha’s neighborhoods. This includes the \$10,000 we disbursed in mini-grants and the funds managed through our fiscal sponsorship program for community projects. Administrative and fundraising costs were kept lean, ensuring that donor dollars had maximum impact on the ground. One Omaha ended 2024 with a positive net asset balance and no debt, positioning us to confidently move into 2025.

(Note: Full financial details for 2024, including our IRS Form 990 report, are available upon request for those interested in a deeper breakdown.)

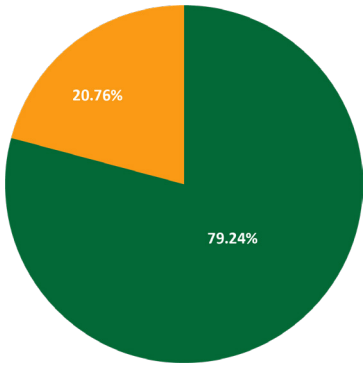
Program Funding Secured



Mini-Grants	\$10,000.00
Fiscal Sponsorship	\$119,145.00
Neighborhood Grants	\$31,459.00
Total Impact	\$160,604.00

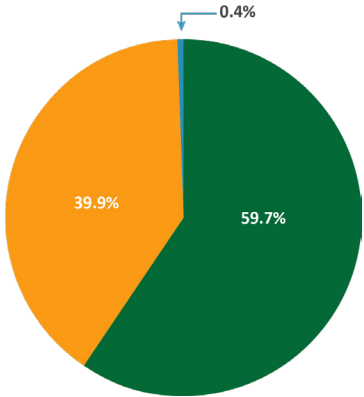


Revenue Sources



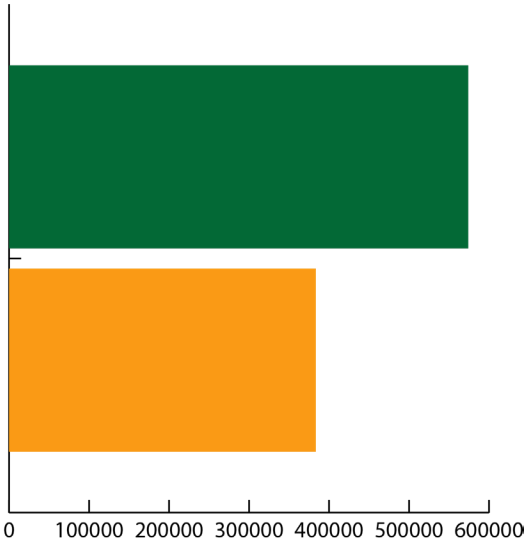
Contributions, Grants, Gifts	79.24%
Program Service Revenue (Fiscal Sponsor)	20.76%
Total Revenue	\$573,999

Operating Expenses



Program Expenses	59.7%
Administration Expenses	39.9%
Fundraising Expenses	0.4%

Revenue vs. Expenses



Revenue	\$573,999
Expenses	\$383,490

Collaborations & Partnerships

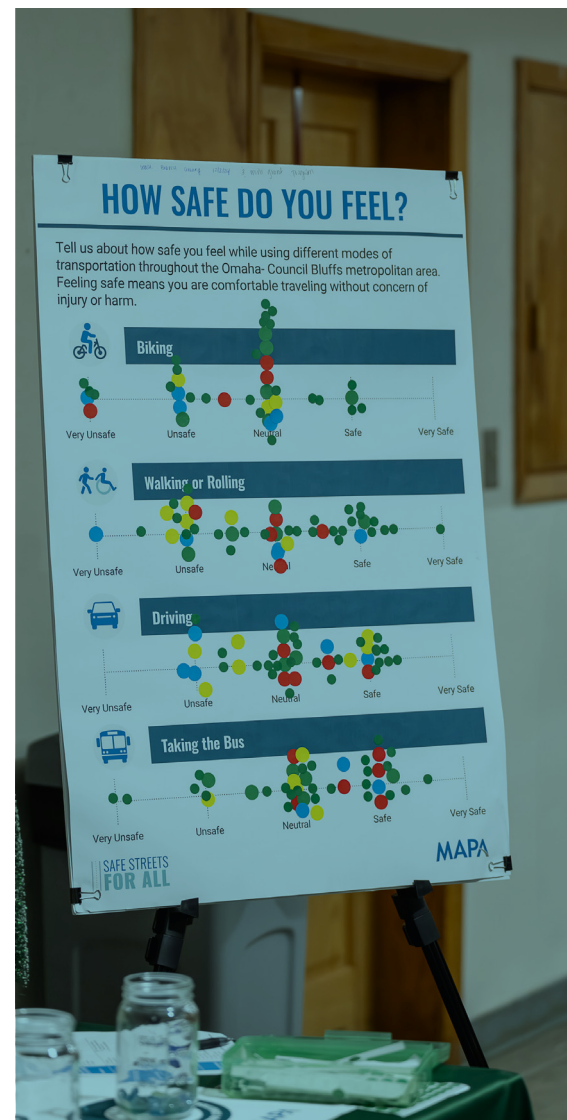
Our impact in 2024 was amplified through strong collaborations with civic institutions, nonprofits and community groups. One Omaha knows that lasting change requires teamwork, and we are proud to work alongside partners who share our vision for thriving neighborhoods.

Public Sector: We worked closely with the City of Omaha's Planning, Public Works and Parks Departments to support neighborhood-led projects. City staff participated in our grant workshops and provided technical guidance. We were excited to collaborate with MAPA on public outreach efforts, aiming to enhance awareness and promote safety measures across Omaha. We also collaborated with Douglas County Emergency Management to include emergency preparedness in our community events.

Nonprofit and Community Partners: Conservation Nebraska served as an outreach ally for our From the Ground Up speaker series and Benson Theatre welcomed us into their space for community workshops. We proudly partnered with Accelerator for America on the inaugural USDOT Thriving Communities Program (TCP) to assess North Omaha's needs to help the community access federal funds for better infrastructure pertaining to the North Freeway. Through UNO's Service Learning program, we engaged students in real-world neighborhood work as they supported data visualization for the Highway 75 survey we conducted. We worked with Spark CDI on the North Omaha Trail project. We are also working with the regional cohort of IAP2 (International Association of Public Participation), along with Douglas County, MUD, OPPD and other organizations.

Funding and Philanthropic Partners: We collaborated with the Omaha Community Foundation to support applicants to the Omaha Neighborhood Grants Program and celebrate 11 funded groups. Our fiscal sponsorship program also helped secure grants from the Sherwood and Weitz Family Foundations for grassroots-led projects. We also provided technical support to neighborhood organizations applying for the Mayor's Neighborhood Grant.

These collaborations allowed us to reach more residents, expand program offerings and ensure our work reflects the collective power of Omaha's neighborhoods. We're grateful to every partner who stood with us this year.



Strategic Goals & Future Plans

In 2024, One Omaha began developing a new strategic plan grounded in community input and organizational assessment. Finalized in early 2025, this plan lays out a bold roadmap for 2025–2028 that reflects our mission to empower people where they live and our vision for thriving neighborhoods with engaged and knowledgeable residents. Guided by three pillars: Elevate Programming Excellence & Measure Impact, Enhance Partnerships & Neighborhood Engagement and Strengthen Organizational Capacity & Sustainability, the plan directly addresses past challenges and positions us for long-term growth. It includes measurable goals such as expanding outreach to underserved neighborhoods, reviving leadership programs, upgrading technology and diversifying funding. This plan represents our shared commitment to building stronger neighborhoods and a stronger One Omaha for the future.



“Looking ahead, we are committed to embedding these lessons into our operations. With a new strategic plan as our guide, One Omaha is building the foundation to grow responsibly, lead with clarity and continue empowering neighbors to shape the future of their communities.”

Challenges & Lessons Learned



In 2024, One Omaha’s community reach and impact expanded significantly, but this growth surfaced key internal and external challenges. Through a strategic planning process with The KR Solution, we examined our operations, leadership model and equity practices to better understand how to sustain our mission long term.

Challenges:

In 2024, One Omaha faced several organizational challenges that shaped our path forward. Limited staff capacity and high workloads created constraints on program expansion and neighborhood engagement. While our reputation was strong in some areas, visibility and consistent messaging citywide needed improvement. Funding sustainability remained a priority, as did intentional outreach to historically underserved neighborhoods in South and West Omaha. The fact that neighborhood associations also struggled with leadership burnout, succession gap, the absence of standardized systems, data tracking and technology limited our efficiency. Additionally, past tensions with city stakeholders underscored the need for stronger partnerships and alignment.

Lessons Learned:

These challenges provided valuable lessons that are now guiding our work. We learned the importance of investing in staff, technology and systems to build capacity, and the power of equity-driven outreach to engage neighborhoods often left out of citywide conversations. We saw firsthand that community-led input strengthens program impact and that clear, unified messaging builds trust and funding support. Partnerships with civic leaders and nonprofits amplify our reach, while leadership development for neighborhood associations is essential for long-term sustainability. Finally, our new strategic plan affirmed the importance of intentional planning to provide stability, direction and a roadmap for lasting impact.

Our Roadmap for 2025–2028



2026 Elevate Programming Excellence & Measure Impact

- Revive historic leadership programs
- Launch new programs informed by a citywide Neighborhood Needs Assessment
- Establish metrics and feedback systems to measure success



2027 Enhance Partnerships & Neighborhood Engagement

- Strengthen relationships with neighborhood associations and civic leaders
- Expand outreach to historically underserved neighborhoods
- Build inclusive, equity-driven engagement strategies



2028 Strengthen Organizational Capacity & Sustainability

- Hire key staff positions to reduce capacity constraints
- Upgrade technology and streamline operations
- Diversify revenue through fundraising, sponsorships and earned income

Our Board of Directors



Jay Kline
Board President



Yesenia Valenzuela
Board Member



Alajia McKizia
Board Member



Julie Smith
Board Member



Aboubakar Tcholombo
Board Member

2024 Sponsors & Donors

THANK YOU

Your support makes neighborhood change possible. Scan the QR code to donate today and help Omaha communities grow stronger together.



Sherwood Foundation
Peter Kiewit Foundation
Lozier Foundation
William and Ruth Scott Foundation
Weitz Family Foundation
Jay Kline
Jacqueline Smith
Stephen Osberg
Kimara Snipes
Margaret Thompson



ONE OMAHA

1001

Date Dec 3, 2024

Pay to

the Order Of GRACEMERCY PARK Neighborhood Collective

\$ 1000 00

Thank You



To our neighbors, partners and supporters, thank you for believing in the power of community. Your time, energy and generosity fuel One Omaha's mission to empower people where they live.

Together, we're showing that when people come together, real change happens. We look forward to building on this work with you in the year ahead.

Want to stay involved? Scan the QR code to support One Omaha and [subscribe to our newsletter](#) for updates, stories and opportunities to engage.



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