



Levy Senior Center
Foundation

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends,

Thank you to all the seniors who continue to enrich our growing community. Your ongoing support and participation make all the difference. We are privileged to have such a vibrant and engaged group of dedicated individuals who believe in our mission.

We strive to enrich the quality of life for older adults by funding a wide range of programs at the Levy Senior Center. Our goal is to ensure that our community continues to be a diverse, comfortable, welcoming, and fulfilling place for all. We remain committed to improving and expanding the Center's programs and services. We also remain committed to listening to feedback from our members so that we might continue to meet our community's evolving needs. Without the generous help of our partners and collaborators, none of this vital work would be possible.

I also want to extend my appreciation to the dedicated Levy Senior Center staff, volunteers, and board members who've worked tirelessly this past year to make our organization a success. Their passion, commitment, and expertise consistently leave me feeling awed and grateful.

In closing, I want to once again thank our donors for their continued trust. It is an honor to serve as Board Chair of the Levy Senior Center Foundation. I'm looking forward to all the exciting possibilities that lie ahead.

With love, light and longevity,



Judy Newton
Chair, Levy Senior Center Foundation

LSCF Board

Judy Newton
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Vice-chair

Hugo Rodriguez
Vice-chair

Dorrance Halverson
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Learn More

Visit our website:
lscfevanston.org

Support from Nonprofits

We are committed to building connections with fellow Evanston nonprofits. Through collaboration and support for each other's shared goals, we are able to provide additional opportunities for our older population.



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A big thanks to
the LSCF for sup-
porting senior
hoopsters!

—
Cathy Wilson

Hoops for the Ages Player



Hoops teams clockwise from top:
Women's teams competing at the Levy Senior Center; playing 3-on-3 at the Robert Crown Center; board member, Dorrance Halverson, with the Big D team; Chicago North Stars won gold in the 75+ age group.



Fitness and Fun

“**T**he demand was there,” says organizer and LSCF board member Robert Bady of the 25 mostly-local teams that gathered at the Levy Senior Center last May for the inaugural Hoops For The Ages 3-on-3 basketball tournament.

Featuring nearly 100 male and female players between the ages of

40 and 90, the tournament offered yet another inclusive opportunity for our seniors to gather, forge community, stay active, and spread the word about the Levy Senior Center's many programs and resources.

Players from six teams went on to compete in the National Senior Games in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.



Room gymnasium for three performances by accomplished, young classical musicians pulled from local universities and music institutes.

Similarly, our equally long running Jamming Jean concert series drew overflow crowds to three high energy musical performances held both inside and outside on the Levy Senior Center's grounds. Featuring a diverse array of musical stylings from Gerald McClendon (R&B), Suite Mollie (funk), and Chicken Bone (rock), revelers of all ages gathered to dance, sing along, and feast on classic offerings from Evanston's own Cocina Azteca food truck and Hecky's Barbecue.

We thank our loyal patrons for their enthusiasm and continuous support helping to make these popular local talent showcases possible in 2022.

Rhythm and Renewal

Once again, the Foundation was able to keep our growing community entertained and engaged by funding a variety of lively in-person indoor and outdoor musical events throughout the year. These concerts captivated us all.

Our long-running Fran Randall concert series drew standing room only crowds to our 300 seat Maple

Prose and Plays

The Foundation’s rich partnership with Skokie’s Northlight Theatre continued on last year, with help from our Dennis Newton Scholarship Fund, with two popular creative and cultural programs.

For our seniors looking to find their voices and tell their stories on the page, Northlight offered another year of High Lights Writing Workshops. These six-week writing workshops proved so popular with our members, that Northlight not only offered them multiple times, but also offered additional sections for more advanced senior participants to continue developing their craft.

For our Levy Senior Center members looking to get out and take in

“
Thank you for your
invaluable service
to keep us oldsters
healthy, alert,
engaged, informed!”

—
Jean Anderson

Levy Lecture Participant

the Northlight’s dynamic theatrical events, 2022 featured another year’s worth of free ticket offerings through Northlight’s Arts for Everyone community program.



Clockwise above: a Northlight production offered as part of Arts for Everyone; actor Mike Nussbaum reading at a Levy Lecture; Levy Lecturer Jennifer Armstrong. **Clockwise opposite:** Chicken Bone performing at a Jamming Jean Concert; Cheryl Judice serves Hecky’s; LSCF board members award a raffle prize; cellist Manou Magdalena Chakravorty performs at Fran Randall; Suite Mollie audience cheers at a Jamming Jean Concert

Bounty and Beauty

The well documented power of open-air gardens and green spaces to promote human wellness and encourage human connections lies at the heart of the Foundation's ongoing commitment to funding improvements to the Levy Senior Center's grounds.

Last year, these improvements included the addition of six new decorative birdhouses (all customized by local artists) to the Hulda B. and Maurice L. Rothschild Enabling Garden in the Center's courtyard.

Additionally, to further delight our seniors and passing community members with pops of changing color, the LCSF (with help from Nature's Perspective and Clesen's Greenhouse) funded the restoration

“
Working in the Levy gardens is a little slice of happiness in my day.”

—
Donna Frett
Garden Mentor

and maintenance of the two flower beds that sit on either side of the Center's front entrance. Both beds are now bursting with seasonal flowers and native plantings, all kept perfectly watered with a Levy Senior Center Foundation funded new irrigation system.





2022 Contributions

Your generous contributions helped to fund programs and events enjoyed by our senior community. Thank you!

Total Gifts: \$90,000

- Arts For Everyone
- Dennis Newton
- Scholarship Fund
- Fran Randall Concerts
- High Lights Writer's Workshops
- Hoops for the Ages
- Irrigation System
- Jamming Jean Concerts
- Levy Lectures Series
- Levy Longevity Series
- Levy Senior Center Gardens
- Partner Programs for Seniors
- 2022 Photo Challenge

To see a list of our donors, please visit: lscfevanston.org.

Food and Friendships

With rising food costs straining the budgets of many seniors, the Foundation funded another year of the Center's free Farm Stand Fridays to help combat food insecurity with fresh produce. This produce, grown and harvested with help from The Garden Club of Evanston, Evanston Grows, and Evanston Lumber, now comes from no less than eight on-site gardens, four of which the Foundation paid to add just last year.

The Center's farm stand has become a destination for our seniors to gather and share wisdom. Intergenerational connections, family recipes, and hands-on tips about planting, growing, and harvesting are all now a welcome part of the lively outdoor scene that's sprung up on the Center's grounds.

Opposite bottom left: *Donna Frett and company volunteering at the veggie gardens. **Pages 6-7:** Photos of the Center's flourishing gardens.*



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**Levy Senior Center
 is where I exercise
 my body and mind.**

—
Virginia Ayers
 Levy Community Member



Clockwise: Best in Show Photo Challenge winner; LSC members at a White Sox game; a Center visitor appreciates the new donor wall.

Highlights and Hits

Among the many initiatives the Foundation supported last year, we are proud to report on these updates for 2022:

Our Dennis Newton Scholarship Fund continued to subsidize costs for Levy members to attend a variety of local cultural and sporting events as well as our Heaven Can Wait program which covered the cost of Levy membership fees for residents ages 90 and up.

Our photo challenge received many entries. Five winners received gift cards and were featured on the

LSCF’s website along with four honorable mentions.

To honor our donors, we’re thrilled with the installation of our new donor wall, located in the Levy Senior Center near the fitness room.

LSCF Mission

The Levy Senior Center Foundation, a 501(c)(3), operates to improve the quality of life for Evanston seniors by soliciting monies to supplement the Levy Senior Center’s operating budget. In partnership with the City of Evanston, we seek to improve the Center, its programs and resources.