

# HEALTHIER TOGETHER INITIATIVE

ANNUAL REPORT  
JULY 2022 – JUNE 2023



Children's Hospital  
of Philadelphia®





# Healthier Together

Launched in 2019, Healthier Together is CHOP's initiative to improve the health of children in West and Southwest Philadelphia by **working with families to create healthy homes, increase access to healthy food, overcome trauma and grow resilience, and create financial stability and prosperity.** We believe that meaningful change comes from within the community. That is why we partner with community residents, civic organizations and government to take a holistic approach to make our communities a healthier place for children to grow, learn and flourish. By working together, we can support change at a pace and scale that we couldn't achieve on our own.

Thank you to our community residents, partners and funders. We are eager to continue partnering with all of you! If you would like to learn more about Healthier Together, email us at [HealthierTogether@chop.edu](mailto:HealthierTogether@chop.edu).

## The Healthier Together Team





# CREATING HEALTHY HOMES

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Safe and secure housing plays an important role in the long-term health and well-being of children.

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## 57 homes renovated

through the Community Asthma Prevention Program Plus (CAPP+) Home Repairs Program and the Block Build Program to reduce asthma triggers in the homes of children with severe asthma

## \$655,000 contributed

to home repairs in West and Southwest Philadelphia

## 379 legal cases

supported for families to avoid evictions or improve housing conditions

“This has been life changing. I am so thankful for this phenomenal program, not just for the care my children have received, but even me, as a mom, I’ve never felt more cared for.”

– *Mother enrolled in the CAPP+ program whose home was repaired*



*West Philadelphia CAPP+ family*



*Sharon Appiah, Orchard  
Director, Philadelphia Orchard  
Project in West Philadelphia*



# ACCESSING HEALTHY FOOD

Having healthy food and fostering food independence in our community promotes health and well-being among children and families.

"With the funds we were able to purchase a commercial-grade toaster oven, which has helped the children to enjoy their meals. It has made a huge difference in mealtimes, and children are requesting seconds."

*– Early child education center director*

## 64,000 healthy meals

given to **323 families** through the Food Pharmacy 2.0 program

## 100 garden beds

installed in families' homes in the Southwest and West Philadelphia Area Growers program

## 14 early child education centers

received support, through a partnership with The Reinvestment Fund, to complete enrollment in a federal funded program that provides fresh and healthy meals to their **477 students**



# OVERCOMING TRAUMA & GROWING RESILIENCE

Green spaces, youth engagement, and support for navigating social and behavioral health services help children and families grow resilience and overcome trauma.

## 215 vacant lots greened

and 226 trees planted through the Deeply Rooted program

## 9 local nonprofits

received support to deliver violence prevention services and events to 12,000 youth

## 399 people

participated in trauma support and grief services through the Growing Resilience in Teens (GRIT) program

"[Our social worker] was definitely helpful. She listened to my son. As a parent I try to listen, but I have so much on my plate caring for my own mother and possibly losing our home."

– Caregiver, on the family's experience with GRIT's Family Advocacy and Support Program





# CREATING FINANCIAL STABILITY & PROSPERITY

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Access to tools and services that help families achieve financial success allows households and communities to thrive.

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“Before, taxes were very confusing for me. Some places make you feel like you’re a burden to them, but everyone here was very patient. I felt like they had my best interests at heart.”

– *Community member who accessed free tax preparation through the Medical Financial Partnership*

**\$1,029,468 returned to community members**

through tax refunds, more savings and added benefits through the Medical Financial Partnership program

**98 businesses certifications**

earned for Minority/Woman Owned Businesses through partnership with The Enterprise Center

**133 people participated**

in workforce development programs through PowerCorpsPHL



# THE "TOGETHER" IN HEALTHIER TOGETHER

Healthier Together is making great strides toward helping children and families stay healthy and connected in West and Southwest Philadelphia. We are grateful to our hands-on partners, funders and advisers who help bring this great work to life.

## THANK YOU!

AFRICOM  
Beloved Care Project  
Benefits Data Trust  
Building Healthy Communities Within Families  
Campaign for Working Families  
CHOP Center for Health Equity  
CHOP Center for Violence Prevention  
CHOP PolicyLab  
City of Dreams Coalition  
Clarifi  
Common Market  
Community Legal Services  
ECO Foundation  
EleganceXtreme Inc.  
Findhelp.org  
Food Connect  
Food Trust  
Fruits of the Family Table  
Ghetto Rising Entertainment  
Greater Philadelphia YMCA  
Habitat for Humanity Philadelphia  
Hall Mercer Community Behavioral Health Center  
Karabots Community Garden  
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society  
Philadelphia Orchard Project  
PowerCorpsPHL  
Rebuilding Together Philadelphia

Rite Aid Healthy Futures  
Ronald McDonald House Philadelphia  
Scattergood Foundation  
The Enterprise Center  
Reinvestment Fund  
Sankofa Community Farm at Bartram's Garden  
University of Pennsylvania's Netter Center for Community Partnerships  
University of Pennsylvania's Urban Health Lab  
Uplift Center for Grieving Children  
Urban Affairs Coalition  
Urban Tree Connection

Healthier Together's advisers include experts from across CHOP, residents from West and Southwest Philadelphia, and representatives from the School District of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Mayor's Office, Keystone First and AmeriHealth Caritas PA, Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, Philadelphia Housing Authority, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, and Walnut Hill Community Association.



*On the cover: A family in the garden at Karabots Pediatric Care Center, 4865 Market St. in West Philadelphia.  
Back cover: Mural on 4600 Lancaster Ave. in West Philadelphia.*

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## LEARN MORE & GET INVOLVED:

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**Healthier Together**