



ACHIEVEability

2021

Progress Report

2021 Annual Progress Report

ACHIEVEability's Mission:

ACHIEVEability, located in West Philadelphia, strives to permanently break the generational cycle of poverty for low income, single parent, and homeless families through higher education, affordable housing, supportive services, community and economic development, and accountability.

A Letter from the Executive Director

Out of my 15 years with ACHIEVEability, this year has been by far one of the most challenging for our neighbors and team. Our community was ravaged by COVID-19. We experienced the death of a neighbor at the hands of police. And there's been exploding unemployment, social unrest, and surging violence. And yet we persisted.

ACHIEVEability had big plans for 2021 – new team members, a move to our new home at New Market West, our annual Summer Jam block party, a new playground, and so much more. Unfortunately, much of this work was delayed as we responded to emerging needs. And yet we persisted.

And as you may know all too well, 2020 unleashed a level of uncertainty into the world that most of us had never experienced in our lifetimes that continued into 2021.

As a Black woman who lives and works in West Philadelphia, this past year has been incredibly tough personally and professionally but I am encouraged by the work happening throughout this community and across the region to achieve racial and economic justice.

Over the past year, our team has worked hand-in-hand with our incredible neighbors. When a global pandemic shut down essential services, we stepped up to keep our community connected to critical resources and supports. And when last summer's social justice uprisings came to our doorstep, we stood in solidarity with our neighbors fighting for racial justice and worked together to clean up the damage to our community.

We are not just working to recover, but to move forward, better together.

Sincerely,

Jamila Harris-Morrison
Executive Director
ACHIEVEability



ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

HOUSING STABILITY SERVICES

Since the onset of COVID-19, we have seen an increased need for housing stability services from residents experiencing financial pressure brought on by the pandemic.

In response, we have secured \$230,000 in rental, utility, and mortgage assistance and a contract with the City of Philadelphia to hire an additional staff member focused on helping residents access COVID-19 emergency housing assistance to avoid eviction.



VAX UP, WEST PHILLY!

Vax Up, West Philly! is one of our COVID-19 response programs funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to increase vaccination education and access across the United States especially among communities experiencing inequity. Out of 498 organizations across the nation, we were one of 100 that were chosen to participate in this opportunity!

Our goal is to vaccinate 1,000 individuals. Over the next year, we will work with local and national peers to increase vaccination in our community, train residents to serve as Vaccine Ambassadors, build partnerships with health organizations, and help West Philadelphians stay safe and healthy!

EXPANDING WORKFORCE RESOURCES

Tech Up

In May 2021, we launched Tech Up, an innovative workforce development program that aims to disrupt the technology sector and cycle of dead-end jobs for marginalized communities.

Tech Up is a 13-week paid program that trains low-income jobseekers to be Salesforce Administrators and access sustainable, living-wage careers in the growing business technology sector. We partner with jobseekers to obtain credentials, on-the-job training, supportive services, and permanent employment.

We have retained 73% of our first cohort, built program infrastructure, developed key relationships, and learned valuable lessons to incorporate in the next cycle (targeted for Winter 2022).

Tech Up will have both micro and macro level impact and create a more equitable workforce. Tech Up aligns with our organization's mission of ending poverty for Philadelphian families by providing a "hand-up" to help low-income Philadelphians achieve economic stability and mobility allowing for future Philadelphians to access greater opportunities than the generations before them.



Programming Update

We were able to help West Philadelphians remain stably housed and healthy over the last year due to our dedicated team and our three core programs: **Family Self-Sufficiency Program, ACHIEVEability Connects, and WorkSmart West Philly.** Through our continuum of anti-poverty services, we helped over 2,800 individuals and families meet basic needs and move towards stability despite this pandemic.



Learning to Thrive, Not Just Survive: Family Self-Sufficiency Program

Our Family Self-Sufficiency Program provided affordable housing and coaching to families experiencing homelessness and domestic violence (61%). Parents were 100% female and 97% African-American. The average income of families at entry was \$19,514 with 36% unemployed and 41% employed part-time. The average age of a parent was 27 with 2 children.

Last year, FSSP served 124 families with 282 children with...



Pictured above is Shakira and her daughter Savannah. Since joining our program four years ago, Shakira has partnered with her coaches to achieve her education and employment goals and is in the process of becoming a Licensed Practicing Nurse. Our team helped her stay motivated over the last year despite COVID-19 and remain on track to achieving her dreams for both her and Savannah.

Building a Stronger Community: Resident by Resident, Block by Block ACHIEVEability Connects



Pictured above is Mayor Jim Kenney, Elected Officials, and ACHIEVEability at EZ Beauty. This 60th Street business owner was just one of the 23 businesses that we helped secure funding and support to weather COVID-19.

In FY 21, 2,577 residents received basic needs services with 72% being female; age ranging from 18-98 (average age 47); and 95% below 200% federal poverty level.

Driving Sustainable, Living-Wage Employment for West Philadelphians - WorkSmart West Philly

Through WorkSmart West Philly, we served 237 jobseekers who were majority female (74%); African-American (98%); age range 18-68 (average age 35); and 100% below 200% federal poverty level. We also served the following subpopulations: Opportunity Youth and Seniors.



Pictured above are some members of our first Tech Up cohort during one of their training sessions!

VOLUNTEERS

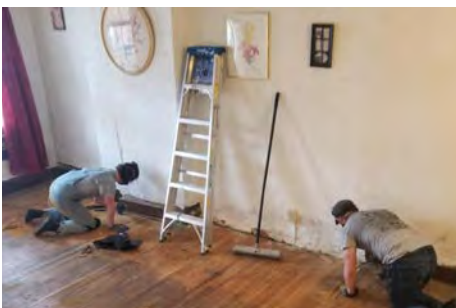
Volunteers are a vital component of our efforts to break the cycle of poverty. During the last five years, volunteers completed 14,669 hours of services for a value of \$364,032!

Volunteers help us in a variety of ways, such as:

- Preparing homes (painting, cleaning, & minor repairs) & "Welcome Home Baskets" for families
- Donating to our annual Holiday Gift, Backpack, & Thanksgiving Meal Drives
- Community cleanings & gardening
- Providing skills-based training (resume review, mock interviews, tutoring, mentoring, health & wellness, data analysis, website development, etc.)
- Emergency COVID-19 supplies - food & care packages, activity packs, & technology

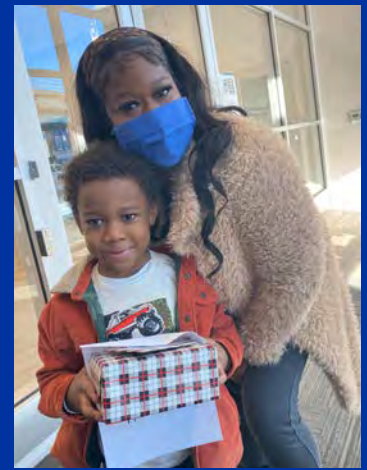
We appreciate all of the following partners who support **ACHIEVEability** annually:

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| BlackFlynn | Navigate |
| Boys Latin Middle School | PCCH |
| Cradles to Crayons | PECO |
| Dechert | PMF |
| Ernst & Young | Tau Gamma Delta Sorority |
| FS Investments | The Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary, Court 326 |
| Glenmede Trust | The Higgins Group |
| Grant Thornton | Urban Outfitters |
| Hamilton Lane | Wharton MBA For Executives - Classes 44 and 45 |
| HOW Properties | Wood, Smith, Henning, & Berman LLP |
| Intact Vascular | |
| Jornaya | |
| Keller Williams | |
| Kitchen & Associates | |
| Klehr Harrison Harvey Branzburg LLP | |
| Morgan, Lewis & Bockius | |



We appreciate our generous donors who over the last year contributed:

- 951 backpacks school filled with school supplies
- 125 Thanksgiving meals
- 579 holiday gifts for children



FY2021 ACHIEVEability Events

New Home at New Market West

Visit us at
NEW MARKET WEST

5901 Market Street
Suite 410, Philadelphia



In February 2021, we reopened our offices to residents providing services five days a week. In addition to safety and COVID-19 precautions, another new change for staff was their working space. For the first time, all ACHIEVEability team members are housed under one roof allowing us to increase our efficiency and effectively serve more residents.

New Market West serves as anchor institution for future community development activities. By driving investment to this area, we are working to create an economically vibrant area that is positively impacting its residents. Future development will help our community and its residents grow, increase community safety, and contribute to the overall growth of Philadelphia.

Advocating for 60th Street

We know that a thriving community is essential for the growth and development of its residents. Over the last year, we expanded the following activities to ensure that our local community and businesses continued on the road to success:

- **Technical Assistance and Funding Support:** We worked with 23 businesses to connect them to over \$200,000 in relief funding to remain stable during COVID-19 and social unrest events.
- **Community Safety Improvements:** We have helped 10 businesses improve their storefront and safety through lighting, cameras, and renovations.
- **Beautification Activities:** Over the last year, we maintained 17 blocks and 186 vacant lots in our community to keep it clean and safe for all.



Looking Ahead...

40th Anniversary

We will kickoff our 40th anniversary in October 2021. Although we have made great progress towards breaking the generational cycle of poverty for Philadelphians, there is still a lot to be done to ensure racial and economic justice for all. Here's to the next 40 years of hard work to create a thriving West Philadelphia for all!



COVID-19 Recovery

The COVID-19 pandemic continued on during 2021. We saw the light at the end of the tunnel with the creation of the COVID-19 vaccine but there are still many West Philadelphians struggling to adjust to this new normal. We continue to provide critical services and resources to keep West Philadelphians safe!

60th Street Commercial Corridor

As the economy remains uncertain, we will continue to support local minority businesses as they navigate new online platforms, ecommerce, and funding opportunities to remain afloat. In addition, we will continue to provide critical cleaning activities to our commercial area and the surrounding neighborhoods.

We are also working with partners at the state and City levels to access additional resources to help businesses install additional exterior lighting and security cameras to increase safety. We are also working on improving current community lighting to state-of-the-art fixtures that will increase lighting and improve the community.

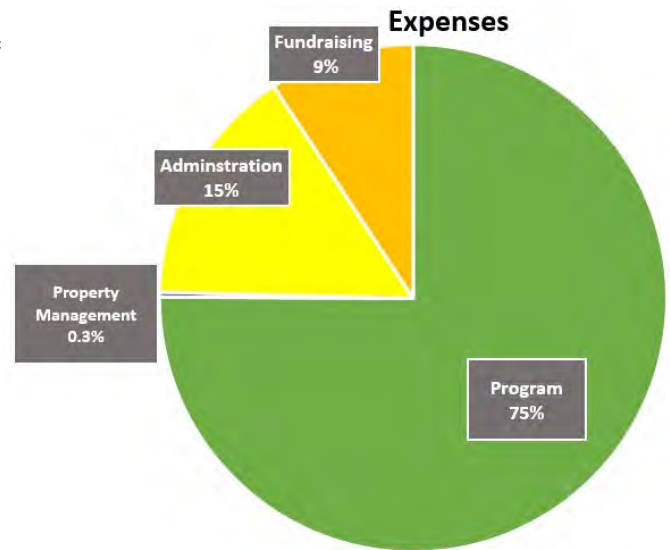
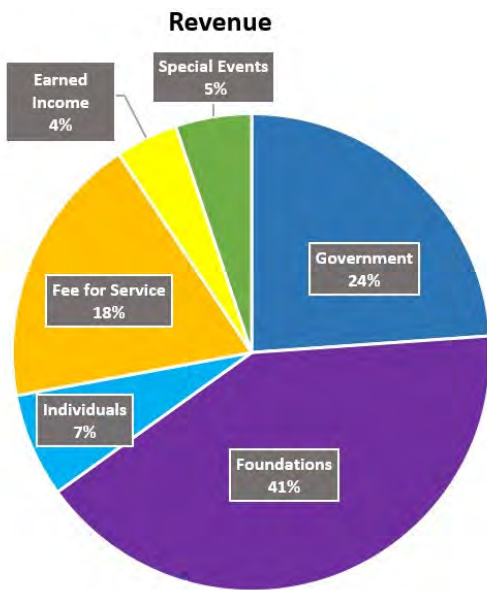


New Market West Play Space

We have the needed resources to begin the process of constructing a new community play space. This space will provide residents and youth with a safe, accessible outdoor area! We also look forward to expanding our health and wellbeing resources and workshops in this space!

FY 21 Financials*

*Our FY21 financials are in the process of being audited and this information will be updated by the end of 2021.



"Through ACHIEVEability, I have learned how to handle my hardships because they say after hardships comes ease.

How do we break a generational cycle? We do different. We take the harder route. We become what our generation needs. This is what inspires me to wake up everyday."

Kenisha, Family Self-Sufficiency Program Parent

Leadership Team

Jamila Harris-Morrison,
Executive Director

Carly Maurer,
Director of Evaluation and Innovation

Tempest Carter,
Director of Community and Economic Development

Keethia Griffiths,
Director of Self-Sufficiency

Mary B. Walker
Executive Chair
Vice President Human Resources
PECO

Sue McMonigle
Vice Chair
Senior Director, External Innovation, Strategy, & Operations
Johnson & Johnson

Joel S. Lawson
Treasurer
Private Investor

Daniel Berger
Secretary
Director
RBC Capital Markets

Christiana Barile
Realtor
Keller Williams Philly

Board of Directors

Malik Brown
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Mark Deitcher
Senior Vice President Business Strategy
Mission First Housing Group

Lauren Dickstein
Launcher
Atomic

Shannon Farmer Esquire,
Partner
Ballard Spahr

Donna M. Higgins
President
Higgins Group, Inc.

Keith Jones
Retired Educator

Donna Liggon
Senior Organizational Change Management Consultant

Mark Merkel
Client Partner
AmeriHealth Administrators

James F. Mogan III,
Fundraising Chair
Partner
ReedSmith

Monica Clarke Platt
Associate, Litigation
Klehr Harrison Harvey Branzburg, LLP

Bruce Shook
Chief Executive Officer
Vesper Medical, Inc.

William J. Stickney
Partner
Grant Thornton, LLP

Shayna Stoney
Cluster Market Leader
BB&T now Truist