

The logo consists of the letters 'S2S' in a white, sans-serif font, centered within a solid yellow square. The background of the entire page is a dark blue gradient with several diagonal stripes in shades of grey and yellow, creating a modern, geometric aesthetic.

S2S

SPRINGBOARD TO SUCCESS

A large, stylized yellow arrow graphic pointing to the left, composed of several overlapping, semi-transparent layers, positioned on the left side of the page.

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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Letter from S2S Board

Springboard to Success (S2S) is a transformative nonprofit that partners with organizations and stakeholders to serve the residents of the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA). Focusing on younger household members, S2S funds programs and creates opportunities for CHA youth to further their academic success, future financial stability, and independence.

We invest in CHA youth to help them pursue their academic, career and life goals. Our philanthropic efforts continue to target educational supports such as the S2S scholarship, summer programming for high school students, and college and career events.

Highlights in 2022 included CHA youth participants in the filmmaking program working on their first movie set and narrative film project. We hosted the Take Flight College Reception in the United Center Atrium. And our Back-to-School event returned to Brookfield Zoo for the first time since 2019.

The S2S commitment to championing and supporting CHA youth is unwavering. We will continue to build our network of partners and programs and raise necessary funds to help CHA youth achieve success. It is our hope that together we take the next steps forward – to ensure the brightest future possible for CHA youth.

The S2S board of directors would like to present the 2022 annual report and thank our community of supporters for your steadfast commitment to the S2S mission.



MISSION

Springboard to Success (S2S) supports programs and partners that propel the Chicago Housing Authority's youngest residents on their pathways to academic success, economic stability and independence.

VISION

Youth currently living in CHA households achieve housing stability as an adult without the requirement of a housing subsidy.

PURPOSE

1. Fund and enhance programs that support Chicago Housing Authority youth and the development of 21st Century Learning Skills needed to achieve success in college, career and life.
2. Fund and enhance the S2S/CHA Resident Scholarship Program.
3. Leverage Springboard to Success' network of local nonprofit partners to help CHA youth get to and through college. These organizations help us to identify CHA youth in their programs and connect them to S2S scholarships and services.



SPRINGBOARD TO SUCCESS

S2S By The Numbers



S2S program participants are twice as likely to attend college than CHA youth who do not participate in our college exposure programs.



S2S scholarship recipients are **6** times more likely to graduate or persist in college than those who do not receive the scholarship.

34%

Since 2017, **34%** of S2S scholarship awardees have left CHA housing.



S2S doubled the individual scholarship award from \$1,000 to \$2,000, distributing **\$320,000** in scholarships, the greatest amount to date.

3x

Increase in individual scholarship award amount tripled the impact of relieving out of pocket tuition expenses for students.



In 2022, **167** students received \$2,000 awards.

80%

S2S has become less reliant on large individual donations with more than 80% of individual donations smaller than \$500!

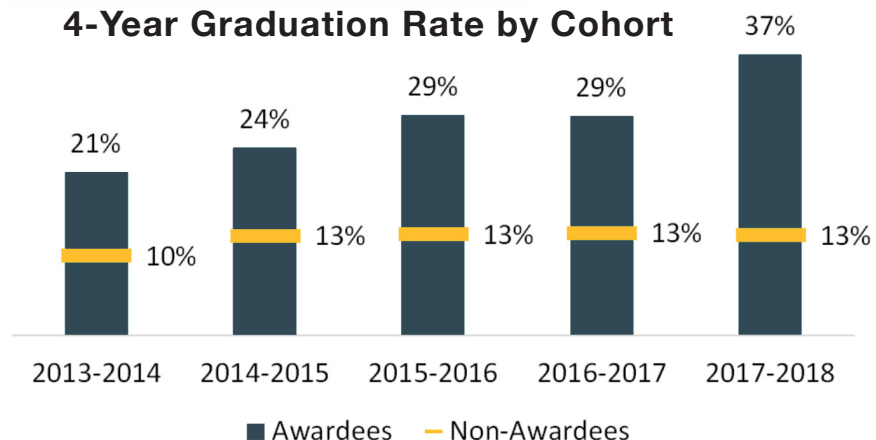
49%

In 2022, S2S had a 49% donor retention rate (industry average is 40-45%).

2022 Average Scholarship Awardee Profile

- 3.42 GPA
- Average Median Family Income \$13,000
- 76% women, 24% men
- 89 % Black, 1 % white, 5.5% Latino, 4% multiracial, .5% Asian

4-Year Graduation Rate by Cohort



**FLIPPING
THE SCRIPT:
CHA YOUTH
CHANGE THE
NARRATIVE**





GEORGE BEECHAM

George Beecham, born and raised in the Austin community on Chicago's West Side, is a ninth-grade biology teacher and boy's varsity basketball coach at Chicago Bulls College Prep. Prior to working in education, he worked as a Public Health Advisor for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He also volunteers annually as a mentor for high school juniors and seniors; and is a property owner in CHA's Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program.

He attended Amherst College on a full scholarship - but needed help. He used a patchwork of scholarships to help him pay for room, board and flights - including the S2S Scholarship.

"CHA's scholarship contributions slightly leveled the playing field between myself and my college peers," he said. "Furthermore, it made me feel more responsible for the next group of scholarship awardees: I wanted to succeed so that CHA would continue to give opportunities to others who come from circumstances similar to my own."

He said it is important for CHA residents to take advantage of the programs it offers.

"These opportunities can influence generational changes to their families," he said. "My family were CHA voucher holders throughout my childhood and, with the assistance of their programs, we were able to gain access to education and eventually become vendors with CHA."

JAEGEN ELLISON

Jaegen Ellison, a native of the Humboldt Park community, is an art teacher at Polaris Charter Academy and does commercial acting in television – having appeared in “Justified FX” on Hulu. He attended Harold Washington College and the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he earned bachelor’s degree in Fine Arts and is expected to earn his master’s in Education this year.

He did it with help from the S2S Scholarship.

“I only dreamed of going to college - I never really knew anything about the first step,” Jaegen said. “That changed when my mother told me about a program for residents of CHA housing. They were offering scholarships for residents who wanted to further their education. I was one of those residents that hopped on board and took it all the way to the end.”

It didn’t just work out well for him – he inspired his mother as well.

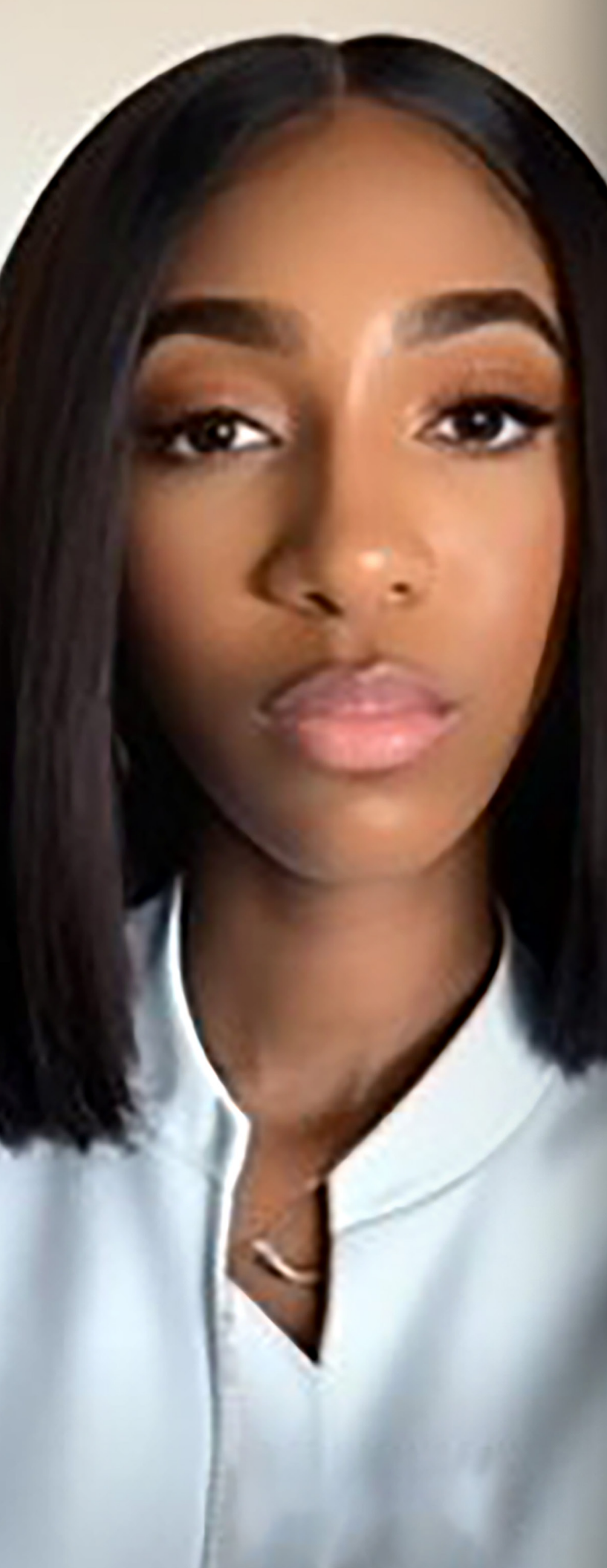
“My mother was motivated to go back to school after 40 years and she graduated from Harold Washington College in 2017 with her associate degree,” he said.

“This was truly a joy to witness and be a part of. CHA even recognized us as a mother/son duo and awarded us with a perseverance and dedication award.”

He encourages other young CHA residents to take advantage of the Scholarship and all other CHA and S2S funded programs.

“The world we live in will shame you for being on public assistance, but I learned to embrace it and share my journey because it was a steppingstone that helped me get to the point in my life that I’m at now,” he said.





SHAWNTELL SMITHERMAN

Shawntell Smitherman grew up in a family of nine. Her father was a disabled veteran and her mother cared for the family. So, times were tough in her CHA unit. But her parents had her back.

“Growing up, I was constantly aware that I wanted more,” she said. “My parents and family had faith in me.”

She went on to become the first in her family to graduate college, earning a bachelor’s degree from Illinois State University in 2021. She was also one of four young filmmakers, through the S2S funded Become a Filmmaker program at DePaul, who made the award-winning documentary “Rise Up” - about gun violence - while still in high school.

But her heart was in social work.

After graduation, she secured a position as a Pretrial Officer with Cook County Adult Probation, working in the field of domestic violence. Her job responsibilities include conducting arrest interviews, accurately scoring pretrial release assessments, and preparing pretrial release reports for the local court.

She said CHA and S2S has been vital to her success. Throughout college, she was able to receive the S2S scholarship to help with her expenses.

“It helped get me through college,” she said. “Seizing an opportunity will allow you to venture outside of your comfort zone and show others the way. I believe that opportunities help us to write our own success stories.”

A close-up portrait of Taaj Reaves, a Black woman with long, dark dreadlocks. She is wearing round, clear-framed glasses and a black top with a vibrant red and white floral pattern. She has a gold chain necklace and a nose ring. She is smiling warmly at the camera.

TAAJ REAVES

Taaj Reaves, who grew up from “humble beginnings” in CHA’s Horner Homes, is an intellectual property attorney at Willkie Farr & Gallagher. Always a bright student, her life changed when she studied abroad. It sparked her interest in law school.

“I can remember distinctly calling my mom in the square of our college and thought, ‘How am I going to save for this? She said, ‘Don’t let money be the thing that stops you from going to college,’” Taaj said.

She participated in a CHA mentorship program and other programs before graduating from University of Missouri for undergrad and New York University for law school. She recently joined the S2S board so that she can help young CHA students blaze their own paths.

Her advice on doing that?

“Get involved and get educated as much as you can about what the offerings are,” she said. “Listening and learning from other people was the number one thing I did – looking for opportunities is the best place to start.”



**SUPPORTED
SUMMER
PROGRAMS
FOR CHA
YOUTH**



BECOME A FILMMAKER

Geared towards female identifying youth, the ***Become a Filmmaker*** filmmaking intensive is designed to provide all essential skill sets for a job in film: pre-production, camera operation, lighting, sound, and video editing. While the focus of this program has been documentary filmmaking since its inception in 2016, the 2022 program had a narrative focus bringing to life a script written the previous summer by CHA youth Isis Gullette in the Movie & TV Scripts program. The 11 CHA youth in this six-week paid program had an opportunity to work on a fully professional film set alongside a cast and crew of predominantly people of color, female filmmakers.



NEXT LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Next Level Photography is a six-week intensive program designed to expose CHA youth to the field of photography and develop professional photographic skills. Each of the 13 participants received a prosumer-level camera and were taught camera mechanics, lighting techniques and editing software. Participants received daily access to desktop computers with industry standard Adobe Create Suites Lightroom program to store their images, and work with faculty and DePaul student mentors to refine and develop those images. Select images were made available for purchase in the silent auction at the annual S2S fundraiser.





MOVIE & TV SCRIPTS 101

Ten CHA youth were invited to participate in an intensive six-week summer program studying the art of screenwriting. Movie & TV Scripts 101 allowed youth to become well-versed in the Classical Hollywood conventions of writing for film and television, and then developing a story pitch in to an original short script. The program culminated with a live table read with actors from DePaul University's Theatre School. The final scripts presented at the graduation ceremony as a live table read were **Blue Morpho**, a short animated drama, and **Vampwolf**, a short dark comedy horror.





SMART ART + COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEEN PROGRAM

Twelve CHA youth participated in a summer program that invited them to access their lived experience, step into their creative brilliance, and contribute to civic dialogue through artful expression. Participants explored the ideas of clay as a democratic medium, financial literacy, Afrofuturism, found objects and materials, process-based making, and activist art. Artwork and ideas for the summer were informed by engagement with artists (Pugs Atomz, Theaster Gates' studio), curators (Laura Steward, Tracye Matthews), visiting lecturers (Sam Gambriel Wills, Alorie Clark) and field trips (Stony Island Arts Bank, Museum of Contemporary Art). CHA youth used these combined programmatic experiences to design and develop custom t-shirts which were sold in a final program exhibition.



S2S EDUCATION PATHWAY EVENTS



TAKE FLIGHT NETWORKING & RECRUITMENT EVENT

In supporting CHA youth getting to and through college, S2S also provides exposure and connection to professionals and a variety of career industries. The **Take Flight Networking & Recruitment** event offers CHA college students and recent graduates an opportunity to network, explore career options, and learn about summer internships and employment. It also serves as a valuable “check-in” over their winter college break to help them navigate any potential hurdles that could negatively impact their ability to continue in their studies.



TAKE FLIGHT COLLEGE RECEPTION

The **Take Flight College Reception** celebrates the accomplishments and achievements of graduating CHA high school seniors and endeavors to impart words of wisdom and guidance as they begin their collegiate journey. While CHA youth may receive financial aid to pay for tuition, they still face a significant gap between their financial aid award and their family's ability to pay the cost of other out-of-pocket expenses. The Take Flight reception meets a critical need by providing students with dorm room necessities such as linens, towels, and desk lamps. Each student also received a new chromebook.

Our 2022 event was hosted by the Chicago Bulls in the United Center Atrium with Meijer providing sponsorship support for the dorm room merchandise and Molina Healthcare generously underwriting the cost of the chromebooks.





BACK TO SCHOOL AT BROOKFIELD ZOO

CHA's youngest students were excited to return to Brookfield Zoo for our annual Back-to-School event. Our first gathering since the pandemic, CHA youth were treated to a fun-filled day that included animal exhibits, a dolphin show and received a brand new backpack containing school supplies.

S2S PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT



LONG EXPOSURE: BRINGING CHA YOUTH IN TO FOCUS

The annual S2S spring fundraiser brought together a cross section of professionals to raise money in support of S2S funded programs and participate in our first fundraising paddle raise for scholarships. Building on our theme, ***Long Exposure: Bringing CHA Youth in to Focus***, the silent auction featured photographs taken by CHA youth in the S2S funded Next Level Photography program at DePaul University. The theme also encapsulated S2S' impact: long-exposure photography captures one element over an extended period-of-time. S2S programs and events span years over the lives of CHA youth and support them along the college access pipeline.

CHA EMPLOYEE SUPPORT FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR RESIDENTS

For the third consecutive year, CHA employees have directly supported scholarships for residents. During open enrollment, each employee had an opportunity to make a one-time gift or sign-up for a payroll deduction to increase the number of available scholarships. Our employee campaign brought in nearly \$25,000 and offered another avenue to make a big difference in the lives of the youth we serve.

2022 DONOR LIST

We thank all of our generous donors and partners for their cash and in-kind support in 2022.

\$50,000+

Chicago Housing Authority

\$20,000 to \$29,999

Anonymous
Humana
Molina Healthcare of Illinois
T-Mobile

\$10,000 to \$19,999

Nan McKay & Associates
Open 4 Business Productions
WGN Film

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Amundsen Davis
Anonymous
Sheila Brown
BMO
Cabrera Capital Markets
CDW
Cinespace Film Studios
LR Development
Marquette Associates
Michael Petragallo
Yolanda Ross

\$2,000 to \$4,999

Anonymous
Altus Works
Applegate Thorne-Thomsen, P.C.
Ernst & Young
Keith Gee
Jordan Gross
Holsten Development
HUSarchitecture
Stephanie Klein
Diana Liu
Samuel Mendenhall

\$2,000 to \$4,999

Much Shelist, P.C.
NBC Universal
Near North Health
Alex Pissios
Reyes Kurson
Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr, LLP
SHVO
Southside TV LLC

\$1,000 to 1,999

AJ Gallagher & Co
Anonymous
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Anonymous
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God First Ministries
Kathleen Flynn-Barnett
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Gurgone Group, Inc.
Lauren Hooberman
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Angela Hurlock
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Ice Miller LLP
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Perry Mandera
Domenico Maniscalco
Ann McKenzie
Michael Moran
Northwestern Memorial Healthcare
National Philanthropic Trust
Oak Streat Health
Brian O'Neal
Taft, Stettinus & Hollister, LLP
Marcus Velasco

\$500 to \$999

Anonymous
Varsha Chandramouli
Thomas DeMay
Cheryl Colston
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Christoria Franklin
Kristen Hamer
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Jacobs Burns Orlove & Hernandez
John Knoepke
Bryan Land
Lisa Lee-Herbert
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Tonnie McGuire
Michael Schmieskors
Louise Smith
Cary Steinbuck
Donna Thomas
Jordan Townes
Kelly Waller
Debra Wesley

\$250 to \$499

Allstate Foundation
Gionna Branch
Nicole Brown
Charnese Davis
Allen Faucett
Steven Field
Lucas Fopma
Stephanie France
Kate Gronstal
Sheila Harris
Jennifer Hoyle
Devora Jones
Sunil Kumar
Glenda Lashley
Judith Lee
Anne Lehocky
Billy Lyman
James Matanky
Bruce Merrell
Ila and Robert Muller
Rebecca Olvera
Abdiel Ortega
Patricia Rodriguez
Michael Schmieskors
Margaret Sullivan
Shemika Swann Thompson

\$250 and under

Jessica Barnes
Dana Beale
Bethany Beaver
Vali Bodgan
Kent Born
Tamiko Casteel
Carlos Campos
Chris Chavez
Jan Clarence Concepcion
Kourtney Cockrell
Curtis Cooper
Julianna Crumlish
Clara Cruz
Daniel Cruz
Nakia Dale
Amanda DeWitt
Bill Dvorak
Tanger Fielder
Ana Finan
Venis Frazier
Ninette Galvin
Charlie Gebeck
Dena Giacometti
Emily Goldin
Kiana Gates
Kathleen Grady-Peralta
Lorne Green
Lakisha Hanson
Shaun Harris
Summer Hofford
Lauren Hooberman
Marvin Jarrett
Earl Johnson
Jason Johnson
Shelena Johnson
MaCassa Johnson
Wilson Jones
Frederica Juste
Petros Karahalios
Theresa Kinkle
Thomas King
Ariana Klitzner
Nicole Layton
Tamika Leach

Russell Leslie
Susie Linker
Lionel Lugo
David Martin
Lila McGrath-Mansour
Harold Moore
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Alana Paris
Debra Parker
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Miriam Rios
Solonge Robinson
Patricia Rodriguez
Kelly Ross
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Shelita Sevilla
Elizabeth Silas
Xiang Siow
Stephanie Smith
Quianna Solomon
Keeley Sorokti
Rachel Starr
Jennifer Stuart
Karen Tann
Andrew Teitelman
Peter Tulloch
Benjamin Urban
Erik VanderWeyden
Roslynne Ward
Mildred Watson
Bruce Weber
Kendrick White
Sarah Wick
Suellen Wolk
Thomas Worthy
James Zielinski

Thank
you!

2022 Financials

INCOME STATEMENT FOR YEAR TO DATE DECEMBER 31, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
REVENUE AND SUPPORT		
Corporate Contributions	\$ 119,191	113,570
Government Contributions	352,000	291,533
Individual Contributions	26,008	17,944
Annual Appeal Contributions	1,470	36,621
Pledged campaign contributions (net of related expenses)	175,533	46,495
In-kind contributions and gifts	177,310	173,195
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	-	-
Miscellaneous Income	-	-
Event Ticket Sales	21,176	26,475
Interest Income	8,117	2,659
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	880,805	708,492
EXPENSES		
Program Services		
Youth Program Services	632,398	534,093
Senior Program Services	158,258	144,260
	790,656	678,353
Management and General	60,060	58,625
Fundraising	30,000	30,000
	90,060	88,625
Total Expense	880,716	766,978
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	89	(58,486)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	2,076,636	2,135,122
Net Assets - End of Year	\$ 2,076,725	2,076,636

2022 Financials

BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022 and 2021

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash account	\$ 246,194	\$ 254,099
Accounts Receivable	10,000	-
Investments	1,818,931	1,811,579
Other Assets	1,600	10,958
Total Current Assets	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>2,076,725</u>	<u>2,076,636</u>
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	-	-
Total Current Liabilities	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Liabilities	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted net assets	222,920	215,641
Temporarily restricted net assets	1,853,805	1,860,995
Total Net Assets	<u>2,076,725</u>	<u>2,076,636</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>2,076,725</u>	<u>2,076,636</u>

The logo consists of the letters 'S2S' in a white, stylized, sans-serif font. The '2' is smaller and positioned between the two 'S's. The logo is centered within a solid yellow square.

SPRINGBOARD TO SUCCESS

—— www.S2SChi.org ——