



## WESTCOTT COMMUNITY CENTER 2024-2025 **ANNUAL REPORT**

At Westcott Community Center we invest in our community by offering essential services and engaging programming to embrace the diverse needs of all.

- Essential
- - Engaging Embracing



# A message from our Executive Director Joan Royle

Since opening our doors, Westcott Community Center has remained deeply rooted in its mission to invest in our community — offering essential services, meaningful programs, and a welcoming space that reflects the diverse needs and voices of all who walk through our doors.

Over the past three decades, we've grown alongside our neighborhood and city — listening, learning, and evolving to meet the changing needs of individuals and families. From youth enrichment and older adult programs to food access, education, and workforce development, every effort we make is grounded in the belief that a stronger community is built through connection, compassion, and collaboration.

Our vision has always been clear: to create a community center that not only meets needs but inspires belonging — strengthening and enriching the vibrant east side of Syracuse, our city and beyond. This anniversary is more than a milestone; it's a celebration of the countless volunteers, partners, staff, and supporters whose passion and dedication have made this vision possible.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to fostering an inclusive, thriving community — one that honors our past while embracing the promise of what's to come. Thank you for being part of our story and for helping make Westcott Community Center a place where everyone feels seen, valued, and supported. I am thankful to be part of this ongoing story.

Sincerely,

## **Our Service Areas**

From youth enrichment, to removing barriers to employment, to meeting essential community needs, to promoting healthy aging, our programs and services support individuals and families at every stage of life. We remain committed to strengthening our community through connection, support, and opportunity.

#### YOUTH PROGRAMS

- After School & Summer enrichment programs at SCSD schools
- Skilled Youth Program



#### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**



- Supported Employment Program
- Vehicles to Work
- Bridge Program

#### COMMUNITY

- Basic Needs Pantry & Program
- · Community Health Advocate
- High School Equivalency Classes Westcott Art Trail
- Talk to a Lawyer Legal Clinic
- Ride United, Last Mile Delivery
- Spectrum Learning Lab



#### **OLDER ADULTS**

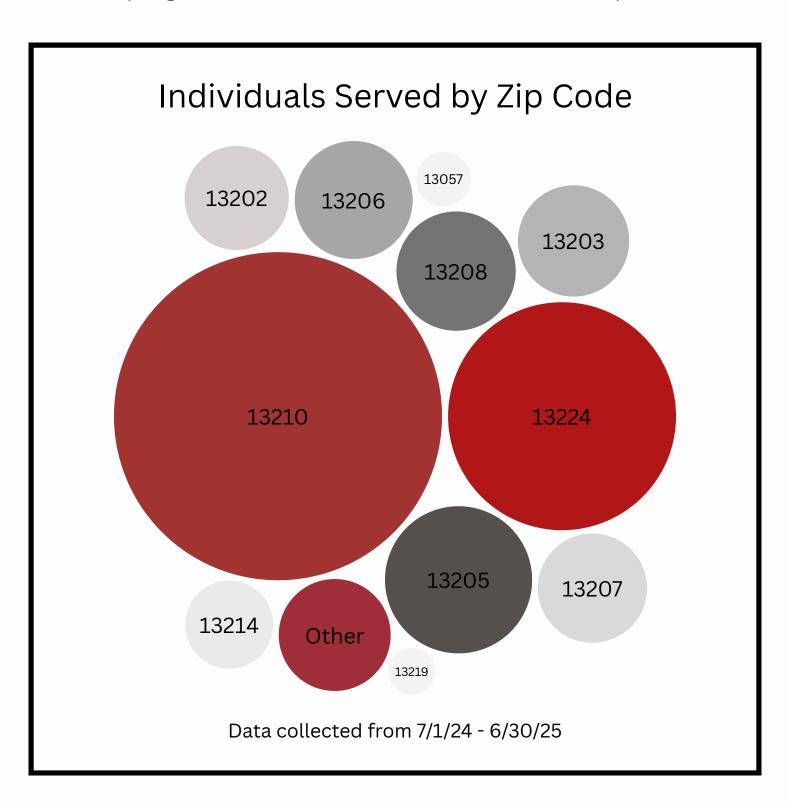


- Congregate Breakfast & Lunch
- **Depends Briefs Bank**
- **Enrichment & Activity Program**
- **Exercise Program**

- Senior Companion Program
- Senior Neighborhood Advisor
- Senior Technology Program
- Senior Transportation Program

## **Our Reach**

We are a Neighborhood Center with a city-wide reach. Serving over **6,000** individuals in the city of Syracuse and beyond, our programs and services reach more than 20 zip codes.





## Westcott Community Center Community Impact



53,515

Pantry Meals Provided



6,350

Individuals Served through Programs and Referrals



1,670

SCSD Students
Served



7,637

Older Adult Breakfast and Lunch Served



3,887

Rides Provided to Older Adults



162

Vehicles to Work
Participants Secured
Transportation



547

Workforce
Development
Participants Served



689

Older Adults Served

Data collected from 7/1/24 - 6/30/25



3,285

Fresh Food Distributions



#### **Expanding our Impact: The New Westcott CC Annex**

In January 2025, we acquired a new annex property just across the street from our main center enabling us to expand programs and support more neighbors in need. We are deeply grateful to the Rolf Leininger estate, whose generosity made this possible.

Renovations are already underway, including a generously donated electrical upgrade completed by **IBEW Local 43** during the **United Way Day of Caring**, and soon, restroom renovations supported by the **Central New York Community Foundation.** 

This new space is more than a building, it's an opportunity to grow connections, strengthen our community, and serve even more people in meaningful ways.

#### **Annex Renovations**

We are deeply grateful to our funders, donors and volunteers whose generous efforts have made essential renovations to our annex possible. While the work continues, we are thankful for all that has been accomplished to ensure our building is safe, warm, and welcoming. This progress allows us to better serve our community and expand the reach of our programs.



















Community helps us feel connected, supported, and better able to express and be ourselves. Westcott CC participates in bettering our neighborhood community by collaborating with others, supporting the arts, nourishing our neighbors, while we continue to support the larger Syracuse community.

#### **Workforce Development**









Vehicles to Work,
Supported
Employment, and
Bridge Programs
are designed to
help individuals
pursue their career
paths and provide
the support
needed to turn
their dreams into
reality.

## **Older Adult Programs & Services**

Our Older Adult programs and services are designed to engage, meet individual needs, promote wellness, and enrich the lives of older adults in our community. We offer a variety of opportunities and supports that encourage happy, healthy aging in place.















### **After School Program**









SCSD After School
Programming is an
important part of
student educational
experiences and
academic growth.
Our programs serve
youth in grades
K-8 at a variety of
school locations.

This year, we expanded to two additional sites, Dr. Weeks and Frazer schools.

### **Basic Needs Pantry**

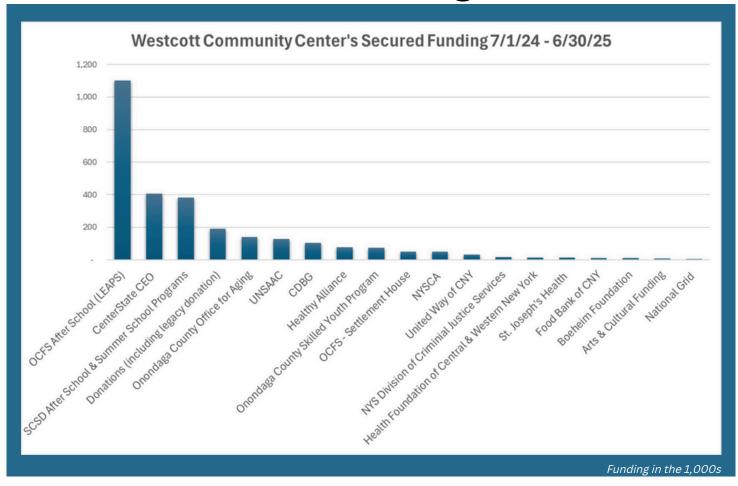






This year, our Basic Needs Pantry supported more than 1,400 individuals through over 3,500 visits, a number that has doubled this year as the need for food assistance continues to rise. Our shelves are often emptied after each distribution, reflecting both the urgency and the reach of our work. From older adults and families to college students, we're honored to help ensure that everyone in our community has access to food and basic needs.

## **Our Funding**



#### **Our Collaborations**

Our collaborative partnerships enable us to expand our reach, and provide growth opportunities in order to achieve a greater impact in our community.









































#### **Board of Directors**

Gabe Coleman, Board Chair Patricia Bliss, Vice Chair Scott Neal, Treasurer Jacqueline Pilon, Secretary Jim Corbo

Jonathan Kalinowski

Nathan Jerauld

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Anne Cofer

**Libby Murphy** 

**Todd Goehle** 

\*Cainaan Webb (new)

\*Jason Scharf (new)

Paula Freedman, Emerita

#### **How We Stand Out**

#### >>> Collaborative

Collaboration is key to the work we do. We collaborate with philanthropic, government, and non-profit organizations to best meet the needs of those we serve.

#### **>>>** Responsive to Need

Regardless of an individual's needs, when they walk through our doors, we either provide them with services or refer them to an agency that can help. Additionally, we evolve our programming to meet the changing needs of our community.

#### Data-Driven

We track program data in our Salesforce database and the Life Needs Assessment in order to be accountable for our work, look for trends in need, and ensure our impact makes a difference.

#### >>> Fiscally Transparent

Our annual report is published on our website and the annual review of our finances by an external auditor has never uncovered a deficiency.

#### Our heartfelt gratitude to:

Our volunteers, who give selflessly to their community and our generous donors, who help us fulfill our mission and support their community with their contributions.

#### Please help us further our mission by:





