

IT'S HAPPENING! SKATEPARK 2024!!!



2023 ANNUAL REPORT
GND DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE



OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to providing a place to be used by members of the community for social, cultural, learning and recreational purposes.

WE VALUE

our community and each of its members

education, physical activity and our environment

those who promote positive actions and give back to our community

the opportunity to have fun as we promote services in our community and strong personal relationships

WE SERVE

children through seniors by offering a wide variety of amenities, programming, and structured and unstructured activities to enjoy.



The GND Development Alliance operates as the GND REC, located at

**801 101st Avenue West
Duluth, MN 55808**

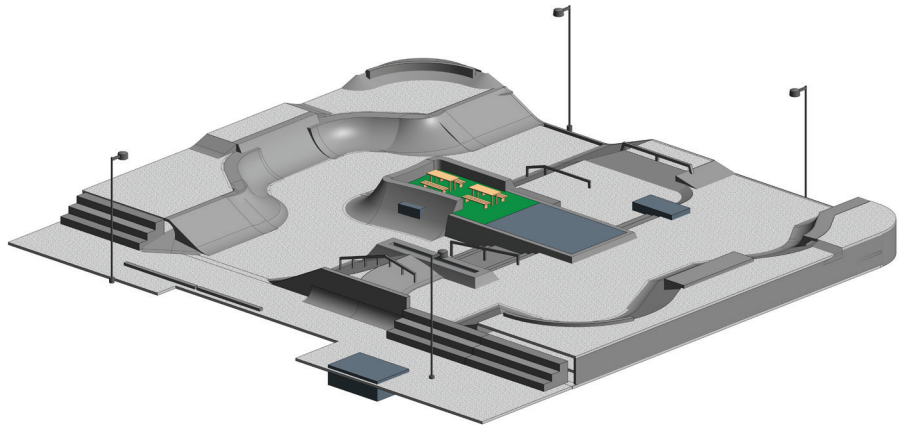
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We have raised enough funds to complete the capital improvements. We are out for bids to complete the skatepark, our final amenity at the GND REC and the crown jewel. The skatepark will be an urban style streetscape design that will provide a challenging opportunity for the estimated 3,500 local skateboarders—and a regional draw for many more.

Thank you to all who have supported us to this point including but not limited to: the City of Duluth, St. Louis County, foundations, the private sector, trade unions, individual contributors and our many volunteers.

"What an amazing opportunity to be a part of such a diverse and unique organization that is prepping for its final crown jewel amenity this year—the urban street skatepark. The synergy and excitement for the skatepark and vitality of the entire GND REC is absolutely astounding. It is an incredible destination. Of course, none of it would have been possible without the tremendous giving from our community members, local and nationwide businesses, charitable foundation contributions, city and county officials, and volunteers. We are extremely grateful for the support and long-term future of the GND REC. YOU are making a difference!"

—Barb Bucar, Vice President, GND Development Alliance



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Sr. Vice President

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Vice President

Robert Espenson,
Secretary

Kristen Haller

Dale Lewis

Wyatt Lindberg

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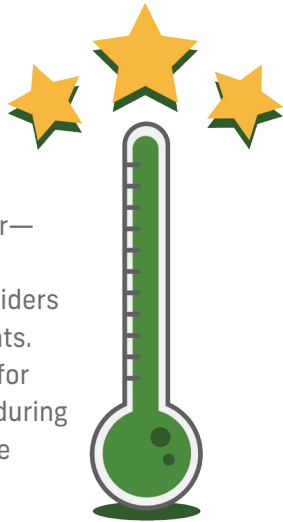
Mike Tusken

Mary White

IT'S HAPPENING! THROUGH COMMUNITY & GENEROSITY

**Our original
\$3.3 million
fundraising goal
was exceeded!**

And we couldn't be prouder—
of our community. Of our
board. Of our program providers
and our program participants.
Of our donors. Of all of us, for
what we've accomplished during
2023. We cover some of the
highlights in the pages
that follow.



Future Needs

We're celebrating *our* accomplishments
- *your* accomplishments! - and planning
our future. Community giving provides
for ongoing operational needs including
programming and special events as well
as meeting our construction goals which
includes completing the new parking lot
and sidewalks. We estimate that additional
constructions costs could reach \$180,000
due to construction cost inflation.

*Please see page 6 for more information about
giving to meet ongoing and future needs.*

IT'S HAPPENING! IN THE GND REC COMMUNITY

Our vision of the GND REC Center as
the family center of the community
continues to grow and develop.
We've included a few of the
highlights from 2023.

Our Community's Youth

Our community partners continue to
work with our youth, contributing their
time and materials so generously.
Please see the inside back cover for
more information about our partners.

**Youth programming is FREE of
charge—every young person in our
community has access to the GND REC
programs and events!**

Youth activities during
2023 included:

- After school youth programming
- Youth field trips - Enger Tower,
Hartley Nature Center, Chambers
Grove, North Shore Scenic Railroad
- Cross country skiing
- Happily Haunted Hike
- Annual I Love to Read event
- Stowe School End of the Year Party
- Far West Kidz Fest



IT'S HAPPENING! IN THE GND REC COMMUNITY

Community Celebrations and Community Fundraising

The GND REC community celebrated with music in 2023:

- Independence Celebration Concert featuring Donny Buck
- Fish Heads in concert

The GNC REC community continued its tradition of community fundraising:

- Two rummage sales - one in the spring and one in the fall
- Holiday bake sale

Adult Programs

The GND REC community continued to enjoy adult programming:

- Exercise classes and more for active adults
- Senior lunch
- Mental health presentation
- Project Joy - free meals for youth delivered by Union Gospel Mission



The skateboard community joined us for some very valuable community input:

- *City Council advocacy with skateboarders*

FROM FITNESS TO FRIENDSHIP

In 2020 I was asked to teach some YMCA Fitness Classes at the GND REC.

I had heard rumors about the welcoming, fun and community-minded people in Gary-New Duluth. I was excited to bring a new class program, meet new people and learn about an area I didn't know much about. Little did I know I was going to have the opportunity to not only help folks stay strong and healthy, but also that these classes would help grow a tight-knit community of forever fitness friends!

Group fitness classes are about much more than just getting "in shape"—it's about the connections made, the laughter, the fun and support of one another in the good times and the bad.

Our fitness group not only gets together to exercise but they also volunteer at the GND REC, meet for walks, hikes, and other social events and activities. I am grateful and blessed to have gotten to know these people and this welcoming community at the GND REC! If it weren't for this building and all the people who support it, we wouldn't have these classes and activities that enrich so many lives! Thank you, GND REC Community!

—*Heidi Rudstrom, ForeverWell
Coordinator, Duluth Area Family YMCA*



WE'RE SO EXCITED FOR WHAT'S AHEAD

The Gary-New Duluth Community Center and Recreation area (GND REC) is the cement of a wonderful foundation for Gary-New Duluth and its surrounding areas. It offers so much for all ages and is staffed by such wonderful people, including volunteers. The GND REC is a great place to give donations when thinking about what matters in the lives of our



community and City of Duluth. It is "the place" to consider.

We would like to see the GND REC continue with all it has to offer in years to come as the cost of new focuses, maintenance, programs, etc. increases with time.

Another great idea is when you are doing your estate planning, to leave a remembrance to the GND REC. You are supporting our community and giving thanks for all the facility has done to make Gary-New Duluth—and all who benefit from the Center—their home away from home!

—*Helene "Sissy" Abbott*

The GND REC has naming rights available for the skatepark and soccer field #1 and soccer field #2. Additionally, we have established an endowment fund to ensure that we have sustainable funding into the future. Please contact us for more information.

Make a donation now by mailing your check to:

**GND Development Alliance
2630 West Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55806**

Or via the GND REC webpage:

<https://gnd.community/get-involved/donate/>

Or via Venmo: Venmo at:

@GNDSKATEPARK

Your donations are recognized on our web site and in our annual report. If you prefer to remain anonymous, your donation is listed as such.



venmo

THE BEST COMMUNITY CENTER AROUND

I'm a true Gary-New Duluth native—born and raised here. I believe I had one of the best upbringings a child and young adult could ever experience. My belief in this is in large part due to the very close-knit, caring, safe, clean, engaging, and family-oriented community I was fortunate enough to be a part of, early in life, right from my beginning.



After graduating from Denfeld High School, I committed to serving in the military, leaving my hometown and giving back to my country. After honorably serving a successful 30-year career, I retired.

I could have retired anywhere. I decided to return to my hometown and focus on ways to give back to this one-of-a-kind community that afforded me childhood experiences that proved critical to forming me into the person I am today. I wanted nothing more than to give others in my community the coveted opportunities I was given. I feel incredibly fortunate to have returned to my original roots as there is just no place like it anywhere in the country.

As a kid, I spent countless hours with my friends enjoying the GND REC, which, back then, was well known as the "Shack." I cherish the fond memories and safe and exciting experiences I gained from the Shack but honestly didn't realize, until much later in life, how lucky I was to have this in my community.

As an adult, I now recognize that it's an extraordinary group of volunteers, vision seekers, and leaders that has created the GND Development Alliance. This group has selflessly served to revitalize—and now continues to keep growing—the GND REC as the best community center around.

Thanks to this phenomenal group, I can help assist and pursue my goal of giving other kids the opportunity I was given growing up. Children and adults of all ages are getting access to the best amenities and experiences that otherwise would not be available.

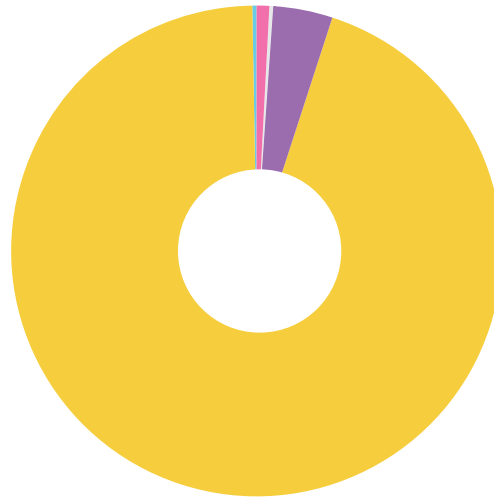
I'm thrilled to join forces with the team—to continue to help provide a place that offers a plethora of opportunities for community members of Gary-New Duluth, the City of Duluth and the upper Midwest.

—*Barb Bucar, Vice President,
GND Development Alliance*

FINANCIALS

Income

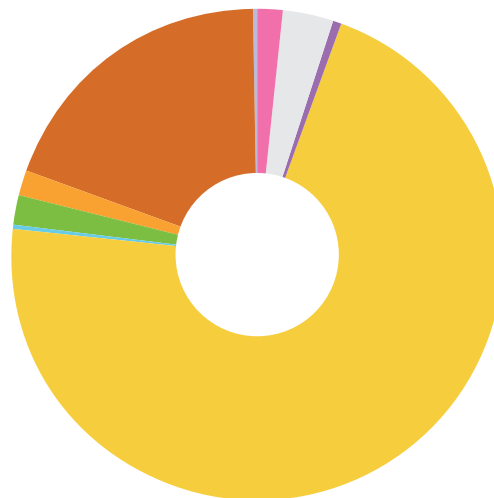
(Year Ended June 30, 2023)



- Other \$1,297
- Facility Rental \$540
- Fundraisers \$9,780
- Public Support \$237,460
- Interest Income \$711

Expenses

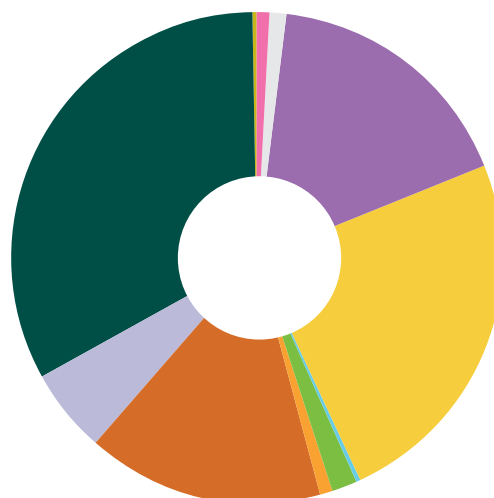
(Year Ended June 30, 2023)



- Facilities and Equipment \$3,241
- Fundraising \$5,517
- Other Expenses \$661
- Phase 3 Improvements \$119,909
- Phase 2 Improvements \$250
- Insurance \$3,412
- Design, Architecture and Engineer Fees \$2,479
- Operations \$32,541
- Business Expenses \$100

Total Project Expenses

(Year Ended June 30, 2023)



- Facilities and Equipment \$17,340
- Fundraising \$19,406
- Phase 2 Improvements \$288,764
- Phase 3 Improvements \$418,583
- Other Expenses \$4,915
- Insurance \$27,428
- Legal Fees \$12,940
- Operations \$270,580
- Design, Architecture and Engineer Fees \$95,171
- Phase 1 Improvements \$564,769
- Business Expenses \$861

2023 CONTRIBUTORS *Through December 31, 2023*

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Donations Under \$100

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Nancy Arvidson
In Memory of: Joe Balach
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In Memory of: Murial Kay Strand
James & Doris Thorsen
Bob & Jean Vanderport
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Wyatt Zulkosky

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In Memory of: Agnes Turk
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In Memory of: Raymond Ulvi
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West Duluth American Legion
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Young & Associates Agency Inc.

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Dale Lewis

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Marcella Vaydich
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In Memory of: Ronald Soberg
In Memory of: William M. & Suintina T. Spehar
In Memory of: Helen Stojevich

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Donations From \$5,000 to \$9,999

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Diamond

Donations From \$250,000 to \$999,999

St. Louis County

Friends

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 Brady Anderson
 Anonymous
 Anonymous
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 Nancy Arvidson
 Joe & Shirley Balach
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 Therese Balach
 Carol Barnstorff
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In Memory of: Thanie Petrich
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In Memory of: Sophia & Anton Rubin (Rubcic)
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In Memory of: Ray Rybos Sr. & Ray Rybos Jr.
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Helen Stojevich
In Honor of: Helen Stojevich
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In Honor of: Polly Stojevich
Carolyn Sundquist
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In Memory of: Agnes Turk
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Donations From \$500 to \$999

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Tom Bell
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Lyle & Lynn Bergal
Robert & Faith Bubalo
Laura Budd
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Darlyn J. Davis
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Greg & Sheila Fox
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Bill Glowacki
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In Memory of: Raymond Ulvi
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Donations From \$1,000 to \$2,499

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Janet Akervik
Nick Alworth
Anonymous
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George Balach
In Memory of: Robert Balach
Bell Bank
Deanna Bennett Real Estate Team
Allen Boben
In Memory of: Edward & Helen Boben
In Memory of: John & Frances Boben
In Memory of: Pamela Boben
In Memory of: Norman Bourestom
Judge David & Gloria Bouschor
Mary Ann Boyat
In Memory of: Robert Boyat

In Memory of: Dan Bubalo
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Debbie Inwood
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City of Duluth
St. Louis County

Producing an annual list of contributors is always a challenging task with the potential for both human and computer error.

The GND Development Alliance has made every effort to list our contributors accurately. If there is an error in your listing, please accept our apologies and email us at: gnddevelopmentalliance@gmail.com so that we may correct our records.

Thank you.

Additional Grants



St. Louis County \$250,000



Bernick Family Foundation \$15,000

MANY THANKS

*The continued support of our community and community partners allows us to provide **enriching, empowering, and impactful** programming to our area youth.*

Our community partners provided major support to GND REC in 2023. These pictures celebrate that support.



KSKJ \$1,000



\$20,000



A GRANDMA'S MARATHON PROGRAM

\$3,000



Irving Community Association

"Putting for Children"

\$2,000

THANK YOU

*to those who provided in-kind contributions of labor, services and materials
and those businesses, foundations and organizations that provided significant monetary contributions.*

Advantage Systems Group
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Duluth, MN 55806

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