Franklin Wright Settlements

EST. 1881

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Empowering Generations, Building Futures

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A Letter from the **Chairman of the Board**

Dear Friends, Partners, and Neighbors,

For over a century, Franklin Wright Settlements has stood as a beacon of hope, resilience and support in the heart of Detroit. As Chairman, I am honored to share our continued dedication to the “settlement house” philosophy – treating the whole person, strengthening the family unit and uplifting our community.

This past year has been a testament to the enduring spirit of our neighborhood. Despite unprecedented challenges, our team has remained steadfast in focusing on the prevention, treatment, and amelioration of social problems. We have continued to provide vital services, ranging from youth development and senior support to family counseling and community engagement.

Our success is not measured solely in numbers, but in lives changed. Because of your support, we have been able to:

- Strengthen families: Providing resources that help parents and caregivers create stable environments.
- Empower Youth: Offering safe spaces and educational programs that foster growth and opportunity.
- Support Seniors: Ensuring our older residents have access to the care and community need.

As we look ahead to the future, our commitment to strengthening Detroit’s neighborhoods remains stronger than ever. We are focusing on expanding our reach modernizing our facilities, and deepening our community partnerships to ensure that no individual or family is left behind.

None of this would be possible without the unwavering support of our volunteers, donors, and staff and the community members who trust us to be their partner in progress. You are the heartbeat of Franklin Wright Settlements. I invite you to continue walking alongside us as we build on our foundation, fostering a brighter, more equitable future for all in our community.

Sincerely,

Tarence Wheeler

Chairman of the Board
Franklin Wright Settlements, Inc



A Letter from the **President & CEO**

Ella Fitzgerald captured the culture here at Franklin Wright Settlements best when she said:" Where there is love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong." That is the spirit that the dedicated staff, board and volunteers bring to our mission every day. 2025 was a year of drastic change and draconian cuts to philanthropic efforts to serve the community. We saw a storm of attacks on everything from diversity, equity, and food benefits, to global relief to help children suffering from starvation and deadly diseases here at home and abroad. Parents are struggling to keep their children safe and empowered. Organizations like Franklin Wright battle the challenge of fewer resources alongside greater challenges each and every day.

Notwithstanding the mighty monsters of cuts, reductions, eliminations, and assaults on those tasked with uplifting and empowering the community, we here at Franklin Wright Settlements continued in 2025 to SLAY! As the federal government tightened resources, we secured over 3 million dollars in grants from the federal government to help seniors make improvements to their homes to address physical limitations. As the national trend toward early education advocated cuts to out of school programs, we secured millions of dollars in new grants from the Michigan Department of Education. The work we do here is done with excellence and we are consistently being noticed.

Our food program participants reached nearly 20,000 people. Nearly a half million direct care service hours were delivered through our Senior Outreach Services Program. 71,600 early start service hours were provided throughout the year. For youth ages 7-17, over 18,000 Out of School program hours were provided to over 800 K-12 children. The family growth and development team provided over 650 hours of Therapeutic service hours this year. We provided 5000 meals through our partnership with Focus Hope. We provided over 8,000 referrals in our kinship program, and expanded our efforts to partner with other organizations. We now count Diversified Credit Union as one of our signature sponsors and resource partners on community initiatives. Our Spirit of Giving Gala was a complete success! It has now become a signature event for those looking for an elegant and exciting night out during the holidays.

Our numbers speak for themselves. As I stated earlier, here at Franklin Wright Settlements we don't shy away from adversity, we don't cower when confronted with the fire breathing dragon of difficult circumstances. Instead, we SLAY! I am so thankful and humbled to be at the helm of this fantastic organization. The staff, board, volunteers, and constituents we serve are simply the best any organization could hope for. We are looking forward to another great year of progress, progress all made possible by you. Thank you.

With Warm Regards,

Monique Marks, LMSW

President & CEO



Mission Statement

Franklin Wright Settlements, Inc. is a leading Detroit neighborhood human services organization existing to assist individuals, families, groups and the community with basic life, family and social needs. Embracing the settlement house philosophy, a multi-service holistic approach in cooperation with the community, Franklin Wright Settlements focuses on the prevention, treatment and amelioration of social problems through advocacy, programs, projects, activities, services and facilities. The enduring strength of Franklin Wright Settlements lies in the flexible, responsible programs that recognize ongoing basic needs, despite changing societal priorities and funding.





Community Outreach

Serving the community is what Franklin Wright Settlements does best.

The Franklin Wright community outreach team remains focused on seeking new collaborations and sustaining existing partnerships with groups such as the Eastside Colts and Eastside Raiders youth sports organizations. Utilizing sports as a draw, we focus on social and emotional learning with the participants. We also emphasize healthy nutrition and active lifestyle choices for youth.

At the beginning of this year, the community outreach team added three new youth sports organizations. We are working closely with Detroit PAL to develop our collaboration with youth sports organizations even further.

We are actively reaching out to community youth sports leagues and encouraging them to use our facilities and the services we offer as an agency. During the last year we have met with several basketball, and football coaches and league leaders.

Our collaboration with the Detroit Police Department remains strong. We often invite officers to come out and speak to the youth who participate in the various sports programs that take place in our gyms.

We recognize the importance of community engagement. We often open our doors to the community for graduation parties, repass gatherings, retirement and block parties. We provide our space at no or low cost to the residents of the surrounding community.

Our Charlevoix location, due to its long presence in the community, is host to a variety of activities aimed at helping to preserve families. We are now hosting infant care parenting classes.

Our goal for the second quarter of 2026 is to begin another youth mentoring group that will teach flag football.





PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Franklin Wright and **Diversified Credit Union**

Building economic opportunity together

More than a partnership - a meaningful investment in bridging opportunity gaps

Franklin Wright Settlements is proud to partner with Diversified Credit Union in a shared commitment to strengthening our community. This collaboration represents more than just a partnership—it is a meaningful investment in bridging opportunity gaps for the youth and families we serve.

Together, we are expanding access to financial education, resources, and pathways to economic empowerment, ensuring that every individual has the tools needed to build a brighter future.



Sati Smith
CEO of Diversified Credit Union

In Loving Memory: Ms. Della Vinson's **Journey with Franklin-Wright Settlements**



Ms. Della Vinson (December 8, 1932 – January 2026) was a beloved member of the Franklin-Wright Settlements community for over 20 years, whose life reflected resilience, service, and connection. Through her participation in programs like Food and Friendship and her dedication as a volunteer, she inspired others while finding joy, purpose, and fellowship. Her legacy is a testament to the lasting impact of community and will continue to live on at Franklin-Wright Settlements.

The Spirit of Giving Gala

2025





















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Settlements
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Senior Outreach Services

Senior Outreach Services (S.O.S.) comprises several programs through our partnership with Detroit Area Agency on Aging (DAAA), Molina Healthcare of Michigan, and Focus Hope to support area residents who are of senior age. As a service provider, Franklin Wright Settlements' goal is to make sure seniors remain healthy, safe, and independent. We support our seniors by offering congregate meals, transportation, socialization, enhanced fitness, and access to community resources and the most appropriate and affordable combination of services that help them stay vibrant and active in the community for as long as possible with our help.





8,190
REFERRALS

KINSHIP/GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

In partnership with Detroit Area Agency on Aging (DAAA), this program provides grandparents with valuable resources, referrals, and support services.



350,000+
SERVICE HOURS

Direct care service hours for the Senior Outreach Services Program. By securing a dedicated team who are trained in First Aid, CPR, blood borne pathogens, fraud, elder abuse, and much more, the Franklin Wright Senior Outreach team provides outstanding service to seniors in our community. We work every day to exceed our seniors' expectations and provide a unique experience for every event and program.

Senior
Outreach Services

FWS SENIOR OUTREACH PROGRAMS

- Kinship Care Circle
- Food & Friendship
- Focus Hope
- Urban League Senior Mature Workers
- Friendly Reassurance
- Chore Service
- Personal Care Services
- Financial Literacy
- OAHMP Home Modification Program

OUTINGS AND EVENTS

- Mother's Day Luncheon
- Annual holiday shopping trip to Great Lakes Crossing Mall
- Walmart
- Detroit Zoo
- Apple orchard
- Chase Bank Financial Literacy
- Annual Senior Friendship Day
- Eastern Market

Program Accomplishments

2,000+
WELLNESS CHECKS
made throughout the year to homebound seniors as part of our Friendly Reassurance Program.

400+
ENROLLED
in one or more programs for older adults.

200+
LAWNS
cut and maintained for older adults.

100+
CARPETS
cleaned for older adults.

200+
HOURS
of Enhanced Fitness provided for older adults.



Family Growth & **Development**

Family Growth and Development had 650 service hours for 2025. The lack of service hours is due to the contract with Assured Family Services ending due to Assured Family Services no longer being the entity that works directly with the Juvenile Justice court system and having those cases and services out-sourced to the Department of Health and Human Services. This change resulted in the clinicians at FWS getting no new cases and focusing on closing the ones that they did have. Closed Client files at FWS will be transferred to DHHS at their request in the upcoming future.

FWS continues to investigate ways that this department can be reimagined, as it is a pivotal part of the services we provide to assist in keeping families together by providing clinical therapist(s) services in and to our community members.

650
SERVICE HOURS



Early Child Development





Where Learning Begins

The Early Start program has serviced students from age 6-weeks to 6-years old. We have 71,600 total Service hours from September to January. We strongly believe in the importance of providing our children with high quality, developmentally appropriate, learning environments to give all students the very best start at learning.

All our classrooms implement the HighScope Infant & Toddler or HighScope Preschool Curriculum, placing an emphasis on active participatory learning. Children's interests and choices are the foundation of our classrooms, as our staff support children by playing an active, and intentional, role in guiding and extending student learning. Our Early Childhood Programs provide a daily balance of developmentally appropriate learning, while also incorporating curriculum elements of our district's Kindergarten classrooms.

71,600

Total Service Hours



Pathways to Hope

Program Overview and Impact



During the past year, the Out of School Time (OOST) Department continued to expand its reach and deepen its impact across Detroit. Collectively, OOST programming served over 800 youth and delivered more than 18,040 hours service hours and high-quality programming, reinforcing Franklin Wright Settlements' commitment to academic support, enrichment, and whole-child development.

Our Afterschool Program currently serves 250 students in grades K–12, providing a safe, structured, and engaging environment that supports academic growth, creativity, leadership development, and social-emotional learning. Programming is intentionally designed to meet students where they are while introducing hands-on, future-focused learning experiences that prepare youth for academic success and workforce pathways.

Enrichment, STEAM/STEM Learning & Student Engagement

Students participate in a diverse and innovative menu of enrichment and STEAM/STEM-based learning opportunities, including Esports, STEM Coding, STEAM projects, Entrepreneurship, Piano, Hair Braiding, Chess, Etiquette, Crochet, and Financial Literacy. These offerings integrate science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) concepts with real-world application, encouraging creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration.

Hands-on activities such as coding, Esports strategy, chess instruction, entrepreneurship, and creative arts allow students to strengthen analytical skills while exploring personal interests and potential career pathways. Creative enrichment such as crochet and piano further supports fine motor development, focus, and artistic expression—key components of a well-rounded STEAM learning environment.

In addition to enrichment, students engage in structured recreation through our valued partnership with the YMCA, promoting teamwork, physical activity, leadership, and overall wellness. This balanced approach ensures students are supported both academically and physically during out-of-school hours.

Through our partnership with Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD), Franklin Wright Settlements is able to provide free lunches and snacks to all participating students, helping to meet essential nutritional needs and removing barriers to consistent participation.

26,624+
SERVICE HOURS
Total service hours provided to Out-of-School Time students ages 5-24 throughout the year.

800+
PARTICIPANTS
Out-of-School Time students ages 5-24 were serviced throughout the year.

Vendor Spotlight:
STEAM Learning in Action







Pictured: A Chess instructor working with one of her many classes and Laila Bates, age 9, enjoying chess.





Pictured: Mahki Jones, age 13, in E-Sports Class and Ziyah Williams, age 10, Autumn Lee, age 10, Aarayna Cole, age 8, and Aubrey Ferguson, age 10, enjoying their vision board project in Entrepreneurship Class.

2025 Financials

Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2025

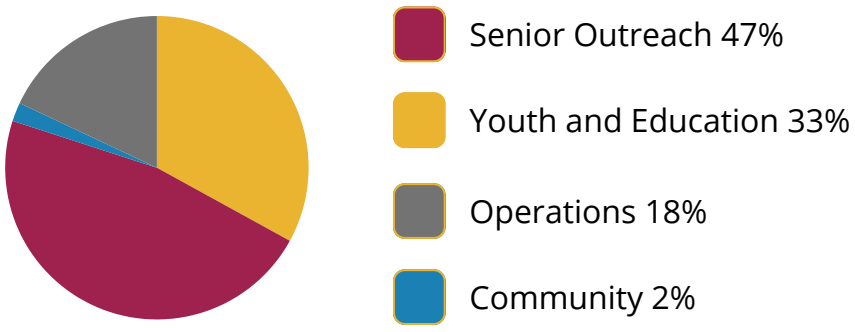
Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	172,273
Accounts Receivable	530,469
Prepaid Expenditures	43,251
Fixed Assets	4,332,175
Funds Functioning as Endowments	4,154,193
Total Assets	**9,232,361**
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	64,045
Deferred Revenue	46,867
Total Liabilities	**110,912**
Total Net Assets	**9,121,449**
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	**9,232,361**

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as of December 31, 2025

**Completed February 3, 2026 unaudited*
A financial audit will be conducted by GJC CPA's & Advisors, an independent auditing firm in July 2026.

	Revenue	Expenditures
Education and Youth Services	1,200,258	899,457
Senior Outreach Services	1,732,888	1,424,553
Community and Neighborhood	65,443	60,271
Operations	661,511	1,884,531
Total Revenue/Expenditures	**3,660,100**	**4,268,812**

Revenue Sources



Franklin-Wright Settlements (FWS) *is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides multi-generational human services support to residents in Southeast Michigan. To support programs, we rely on philanthropic dollars, grants, in-kind donations, fundraisers and partnerships to ensure that Detroit's most vulnerable residents are serviced.*

Special Thanks To Our **Partners & Donors**

Partners
Assured Family Services
Behavior Frontiers
City of Detroit
Connect Detroit
Detroit Area Agency on Aging
Detroit Edison Public School Academy
Forgotten Harvest
Gleaners Food Bank
Legacy of Literacy Inc
Matrix Human Services
Molina Healthcare of Michigan
Patterson Bryant
State of Michigan - MDE
United Way for Southeastern Michigan
Wayne RESA

Corporate
360 Risk Management
Abrodos Music
Barton Malow
Comcast
Diversified Members Credit Union
GJC CPA's & Advisors
JPMorgan Chase Bank
Litigation Associates, PLLC
SEEL LLC

Community
Baird Foundation Inc
Blackbaud Giving Fund
Centers for Family Development
Comcast NBSUniversal
Community Foundations SE Michigan
Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences
Detroit Parent Network
DTE Energy Foundation
Ecumenical Theological Seminary
JPGMorgan Chase Foundation
MGM Resorts Foundation
Orchards Children's Services
he Opportunity Fund
The Skillman Foundation
Wayne State University

Individuals
Ahmad Nassar
Alexsis Wiley
Alice Thompson
Alruthus Dulin
Anita Johnson
Ashley Brown
Barbara Firestone
Barbara Leake
Bertram Marks
Bertram Marks II
Blake Milnes
Carol Thomas
Caroline Brown
Catherine Perkins
Cathy Nedd
Charita Purnell
Charlena Echols
Chartease Jackson
Chevelle Brown
China Smith
Christie Laster
Cleo Beal
Concetta Lewis
Cynthia Mixon
Dan Pitera
David D Hamm
Debra Doll Rush
Dee Dee Flowers
Deiredra Ford
Denise Brooks-Williams
Deon Mullen
Dillon Brown
Dr E'Lois Thomas
Dr Wilsetta McClain
Dubrece Miller
Elenore Humphrey
Erika Murray
Geraldine Ellis
Geraldine Richardson
Gregory & Bartena Brown
Gregory Burkhardt
Hali Giessler
Harry Greenspan

Individuals
Jamaine Dickens
Jametta Lilly
Janay Edwards
Jesse Lipson Donation
Jessica Howel
Jessica Parker
Jonathan Miodownik
Jordan Spencer
Karen Ogden
Kenyatta Stephens
Kiaira May
Kimberly Batchelor Davis
Lacey Charbonea
Lauren Spencer
Leonard George
Letitia Davis
Linda Curtis
Lisa Erby
Maria Milletti Donation
Maureen Horton
Michael Van Tull
Michael Welch
Monique Marks
Monique Phillips
Natasha Dorsey
Nicole Horton
NZ Bryant Jr
Paul Murphy
Rashida Williams
Regina Bride
Ricky Fountain
Shannon Dulin
Shardae Herriford
Shirley McCullough
Stella Fowlkes
Tammy McCrory
Tarence Wheeler
Teola Hunter
Teresa Woods
Veikko Kohler
Yvonne Dudley
Yvonne Young

Board of Directors



Monique Marks, LMSW
President & CEO



Tarence Wheeler
Board Chair



Michael Van Tull
Vice Chair



Debra Rush
Vice Chair



Dubrece Miller
Treasurer



Kimberly Batchelor Davis
Secretary



The Honorable Teola Hunter
Board Member



Dan Pitera
Board Member



Cathy Nedd
Board Member



Dr. E'lois Thomas
Board Member



Jamaine Dickens
Board Member



Christie Laster
Board Member



Barbara Leake
Board Member



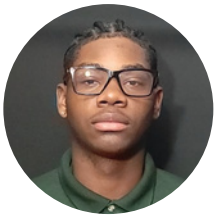
Yvonne Young
Board Member



Charlena Echols
Board Member



Lauren Spencer
Board Member



Jordan Spencer
Board Member

Meet Our Staff

The dedicated team behind Franklin Wright Settlements' mission



Monique Marks, LMSW
President & CEO



Ahmad Nassar
Vice President of
Strategy & Development



Erika Murray, MPA
Vice President of Education



Natasha Dorsey
Director of Human
Resources and Compliance



Deon Mullen
Executive Assistant to
the President & CEO/ Sr.
Director of Senior
Outreach Services



Veikko Kohler
Director of Finance



Bertram Marks II, MA
Director of Community
Outreach



China Smith
Program Manager

Community Spotlight

A NOTE OF GRATITUDE



Monique Marks, LMSW
President & CEO

With sincere gratitude, we thank our President & CEO for being a true beacon in our community. Through visionary leadership and unwavering commitment, Franklin Wright Settlements was awarded $2 million to support senior home modifications creating safer, more secure living environments for our elders. This milestone reflects a deep dedication to dignity, care, and community impact.

CONGRATULATIONS



Taylor Davis, Bertram Marks II, and Mary Sheffield

Congratulations to Mary Sheffield on your historic election as Mayor of Detroit! Wishing you great success as you lead with vision, strength, and a continued commitment to uplifting our city and its communities.



GIVING

WWW.FRANKLINWRIGHT.ORG



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3360 Charlevoix St.
Detroit, MI 48207
313.579.1000



Sophie Wright Settlements
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Detroit, MI 48207



Youthville
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