

2022 REVIEW + 2023 VISION

# *Love is...* **BU WELLNESS NETWORK**



Dear Friends,

**2022 was a year of expansion for BU Wellness Network as we sought to enhance the health and wellness of black communities in Indiana.**

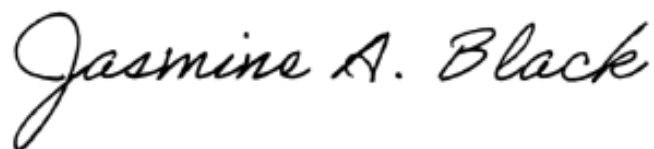
Last year, we set out to achieve more of the goals we set out in our 3-year strategic plan. We provided services to more than 1,400 people. We expanded signature prevention programs and our nutrition programs to further address health disparities beyond HIV through new partnership developments. We launched a social media and web-based PrEP campaign titled “Love Is: Conversations about Love, Sex, and Prevention” The campaign aims to increase the uptake of PrEP in the black community. We prioritized our ability to enhance our staff’s capacity by elevating their expertise and capabilities through investments in training, conferences, and expanded education. In 2022, through support of our funders, our team, and certainly people like you, we have moved to 1712 N Meridian Street Suite 200. We now have a new beautiful place to call home and provide high quality services to our community. We are so proud of the impact and progress we made in year two of our strategic plan!

**What lies ahead for BU Wellness Network becomes more clear each and every day.**

The Black community remains overrepresented across many health disparities which proves a need for BU Wellness Network to expand our ability to provide care. Moving forward, BU Wellness Network will empower the black community through service provision that seeks to care for the whole person and partners with the community to seek to enhance the health and wellness of black people. This year, BU Wellness Network will collect feedback and input into our next strategic plan which will guide our work through the end of this decade. The work ahead will require the collective responsibility of us all.

I hope that this report provides you with a sneak peek inside the impact of our work and brings you alongside us as we seek to create change that empowers us all towards improved well-being.

We couldn’t do what we do without people like you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jasmine A. Black". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and larger than the others.

Jasmine A. Black, MPH  
*Executive Director*

## BOARD PRESIDENT LETTER

Dear Donors and Friends,

**I am so excited to share our annual report with you!** We have experienced another year of substantial growth and progress of the organization. Due to the diligent hard work of our Executive Director and staff, we have been able to build new community relationships, as well as, secure substantial grants, which includes a prestigious grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration that supports our BU-FIT program providing services to client living with HIV or at high risk and are actively using substances m. The grant is the first of its kind for BU Wellness Network and a vital step forward to expanded supportive services to people in our community. The increase in donor and funder support has allowed BU Wellness Network to expand our programmatic reach and provide a better space to serve our community. Speaking of a better space, we have officially moved into our new headquarters! We have received amazing feedback since our move. We are enthusiastic to share the new space with everyone as we have a year full of impactful events.

As we look ahead to the rest of the year, we ask for your continued support of our initiatives and engagement at our community events. We are also working to continue to evolve the Board of Directors so that it reflects the diversity of our community, the services we provide, and meets the needs of our ever-growing organization. If you are interested in board membership or know of an individual that would be a great fit, we would greatly appreciate your recommendations.

As always, we welcome your thoughts, questions, and engagement throughout the entire journey.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "SaRetta Brown". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "SaRetta" written in a larger, more prominent style than the last name "Brown".

SaRetta Brown  
*President, Board of Directors*



### Vision Statement

BU envisions a world where...

- Black people in Indiana have comprehensive access and improved health outcomes.
- The community recognizes BU as the expert, first point of contact for Black health and wellness and looks to BU for thought leadership.
- The health services BU provides combats racial inequities.

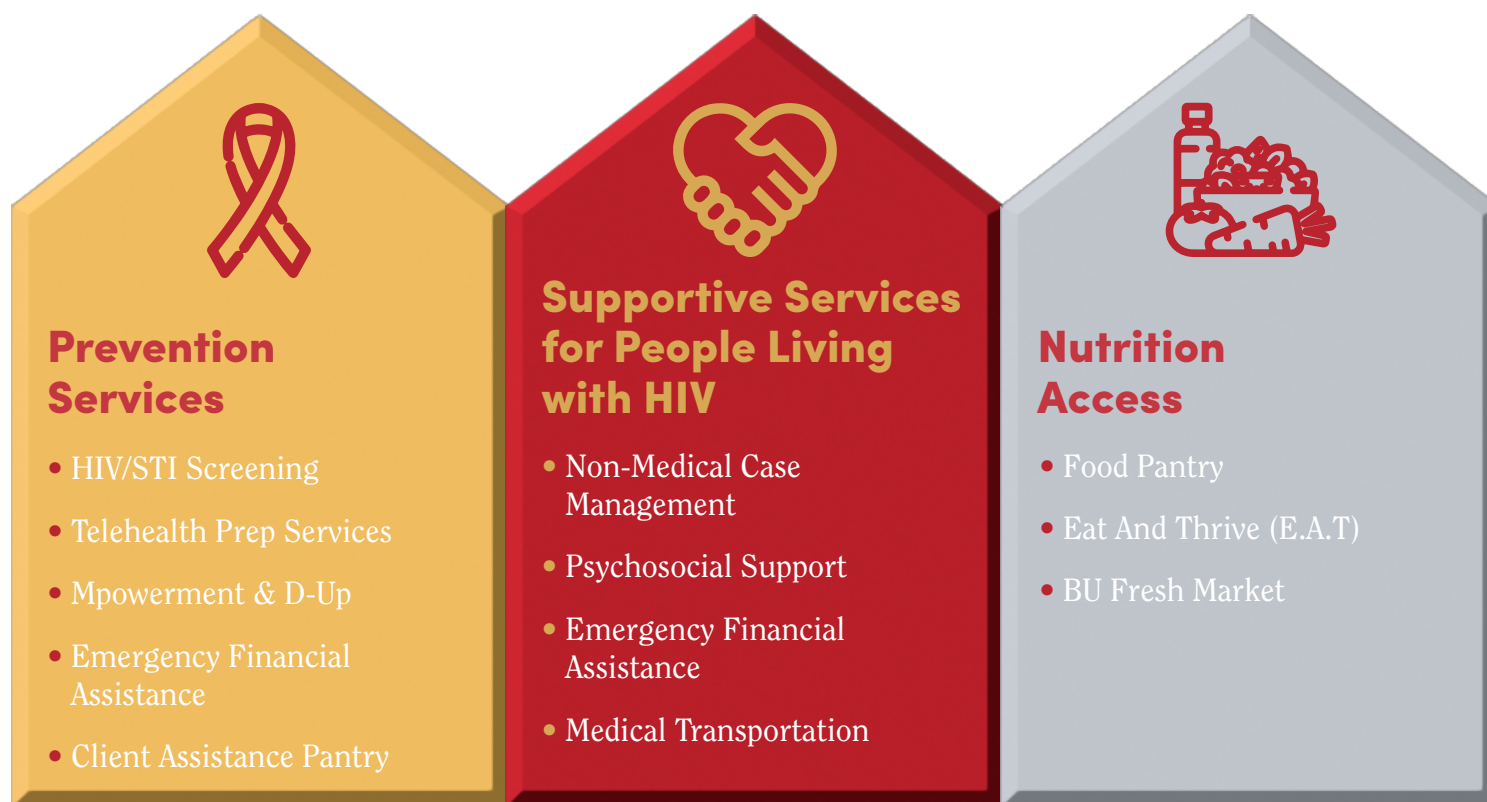
### Mission Statement

To enhance the health and wellness of black communities in Indiana.

### Core Values

- Advocate
- Education
- Wellness
- Equity
- Intersectionality
- Excellence

### Three Pillars





## OUR IMPACT

### Prevention Data

163

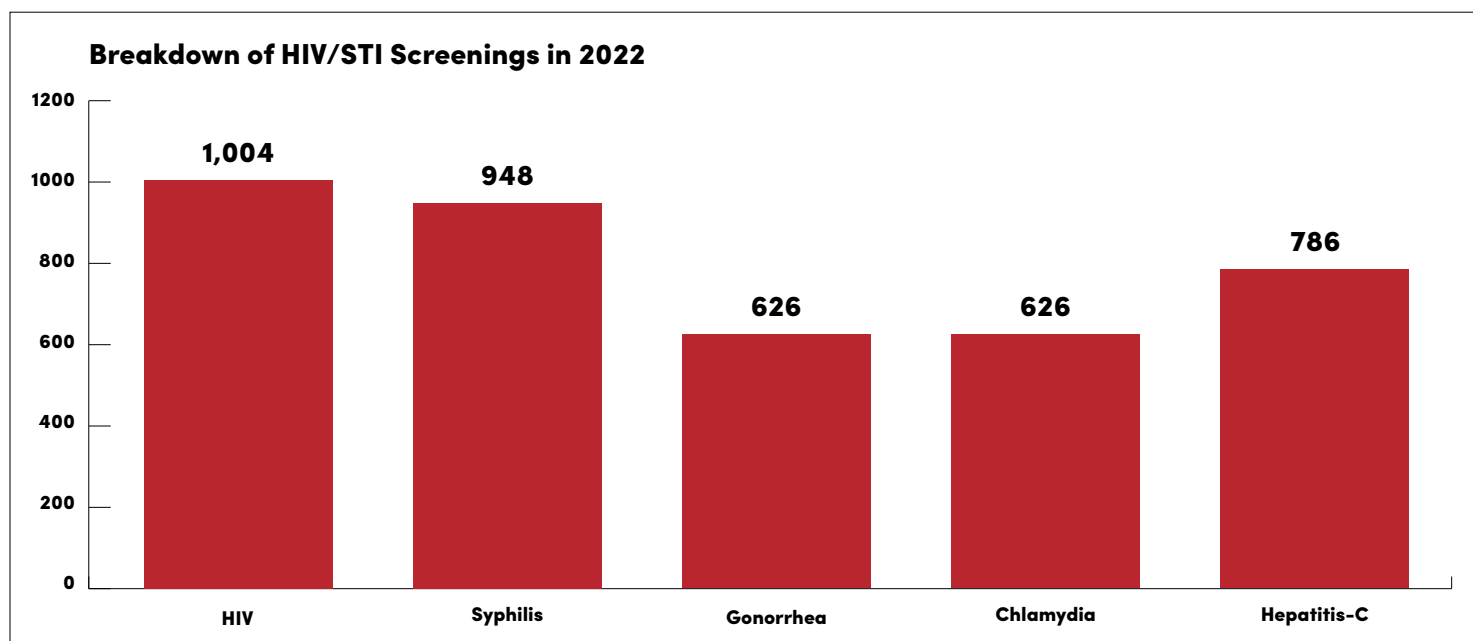
**PrEP REFERRALS**  
62 (2021)

4,394

**CONDOMS DISTRIBUTED**  
2,000 (2021)

1,027

**INDIVIDUALS SCREENED**  
1,010 (2021)



### Supportive Services for People Living with HIV

100%

**NEWLY DIAGNOSED INDIVIDUALS  
LINKED TO CARE**

\$6,360<sup>74</sup>

**DISTRIBUTED IN EMERGENCY  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

### Nutrition Access

1,089

**PEOPLE RECEIVED  
FRESH PRODUCE**

364

**PARTICIPANTS  
IN E.A.T.**

308

**CLIENT ASSISTANCE  
PANTRY VISITS**

1,080

**FRESH MARKET PARTICIPANTS** 394 ON THE GO  
621 THRIVAL ACADEMY  
64 HOLY ANGELS

## OUR PEOPLE



### BU Wellness Network Board of Directors

SaRetta Brown, *President*

Devin Craig, *Vice President*

Ninya Bostic, *Treasurer*

Daquavise Winston, *Secretary*

Jaime Roberts

DeMarc Hickson, PhD

Damon Rice

Michael Menafee

## OUR PEOPLE

### BU Wellness Network Staff

Jasmine Black

*Executive Director*

Meisha Wide

*Director of Development*

Autumn Davenport

*Strategic Operations Manager*

### Prevention Services Program

Edward Benson

*Director of Prevention*

Damon Hamilton

*Prevention Program Manager*

Aaron Hardy

*Lead Prevention Specialist*

Kynnedi Mitchell

*Lead Prevention Specialist*

Dez Peterson

*Prevention Specialist*

Blake Foster

*Prevention Specialist*

AJ Crawley

*Community Health Worker*

Tiffani Crawford

*Community Health Worker*

Ivy Townsend

*AmeriCorp Member*

### Client Care and Retention Program

Ayriane Bailey

*Director of Client Care and Retention*

Aminata Tounkara

*Non-medical Case Manager*

Johnathan Smith

*Non-medical Case Manager*

Dellmus Porter

*BU-FIT Program Manager*

Kem Moore

*BU-FIT Program Coordinator*

Lori Harvey

*Community Health Worker*

### Nutrition Program Services

Khara Ice

*Director of Nutrition*

De'shon McClain

*Community Health Worker*

Destiny Muliira

*Americorp Member*

Jaida Jones

*Intake Specialist*

### Quality and Data Management

Michael Range

*Director of Quality Management*

Alyssa Smith

*Intern*



## PrEP CAMPAIGN

### LOVE IS... PrEP CAMPAIGN

The campaign consists of a YouTube series featuring couples and single people having honest conversations about love, relationships, sex, and prevention to promote sex positivity and PrEP use.



### Overall Goal of Campaign

BU Wellness Network (BUWN) launched a city-wide sex-positive PrEP/HIV stigma social marketing campaign to increase PrEP awareness and readiness while reducing HIV-related stigma. The campaign has a web-based presence with ads and a website landing page, Youtube videos, and social media content. A PrEP work-group will be developed to engage members of priority populations and be a diverse body. They will help reach priority populations and be heavily involved in the planning of the campaign.

### Campaign Participants

Ayriane	Sandra	William	Shariah	Dreya
Ebony	Joshua	Edward	Flomichelle	Devyn
Damon	Dajuan	Jessie	Mikayla	
Jeffrey	Michael	Aminata	Mahogany	



### Black LGBTQ+ Town Hall (Oct 26, 2022)

The mission of BU Wellness Network is to enhance the health and wellness of Black communities in Indiana. That is inclusive of all sub-communities within the community and largely the LGBTQ+ Community. Our town hall tells us how we can improve our services and programs to serve our community better.

These opportunities inform us of resources, events or programs the community wants to see provided. It is a space to ensure safety, equity, and elevation of our community inclusive of other BLACK LGBTQ+ serving community organizations as well.



### CAB (Community Advisory Board)

The Community Advisory Board (CAB) is a committee with a purpose to collaboratively support the development, monitoring, and implementation of programs and services at BU Wellness Network. Membership is comprised of diverse community representation of the people whom BU Wellness Network intend to serve. The CAB meets monthly and the members serve as outreach ambassadors while also assisting with engagement of diverse communities in relationship building for the organization.



### E.A.T. Client Impact

*The turkey sliders were so good! I looked at the video, followed the basic instructions and served it up!*

*I put together this nourishing soup, thanks to the ingredients from my Eat And Thrive box. I felt so happy to create my own nourishing and healthy pot of soup. Not only that, I had some neighbors who were sick with Covid. What did I do? I utilized my extra veggies, got them some extra broth and made them some soup to take over and sit at their front door. From my pineapple smoothies, healthy soups, Thank you, Thank you. I feel so blessed because I can assure you as a person living on social security I could not get half these gifts on my own."*



## MS LORI: A CLIENT TO EMPLOYEE JOURNEY



For many of the individuals we support with services, we provide a space that gives them hope and empowers them to see greater in themselves. We provide a space that is free of judgment and wraps around them in every aspect of their life, more than any other support system they've ever experienced before. We become a place that feels like family. This leads our clients to sharing the impact of our services with other people in their circle that are also seeking a safe space.

This is exactly how Lori Harvey came to know and love BU Wellness Network. She had heard about the organization and a support group for long time survivors called Sisters United from a really close friend in 2013. The two of them were

inseparable and became regular attendees at Sisters United meetings. It became a way for them to connect with other women that had been living with HIV and finding ways to enjoy life and thrive. Lori had attended other support groups, but the experience BU Wellness Network was unique because it was a supportive space that focused on Black women survivors and helped them build a sisterhood, a new support system that could be there for them in their time of need.

In 2017 Lori found herself at a time where she was seeking assistance with housing and she remembered that BU could provide guidance. The previous experience with the BU staff and the nurturing environment is what reminded her that this was a space that would support her without judgement.

That was the turning point that inspired Lori to start sharing the BU Wellness Network mission and her passion for HIV prevention for Black women in the community. Lori became a volunteer and would speak at events to share her journey and a life of thriving, not just surviving. Despite

working in the labor intensive cleaning industry, speaking at community events empowered her to be unapologetic and authentic about her journey as a woman living with HIV and deliver the message of prevention in the communities.

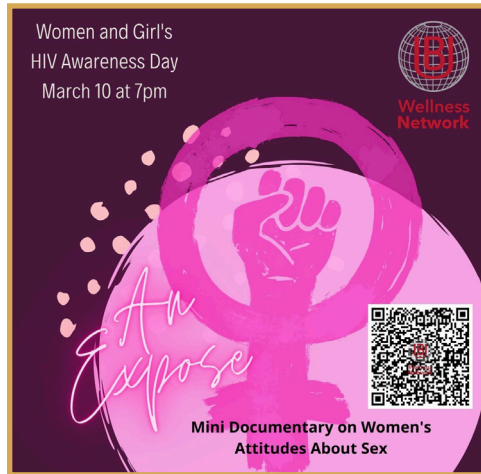
Lori's dedication and impact did not go unnoticed. There was an opportunity to join the team as an employee at BU Wellness Network and it was one that she knew she could not let pass. She started working a few hours and is working significantly more hours and loves her job and the environment being warm and caring. Becoming an employee with the organization has challenged her to develop professionally in so many ways. Lori has grown in her career and has completed her Community Health Worker Certification to strengthen her ability to support more women with similar life experiences.

*"It wasn't easy. But I made it. I have no regrets and it was my journey. I overcame it. I'm a strong black woman with a lot of life left to live."*

Lori is 31 years positive and living life to the fullest.



## LET'S GET SOCIAL: A RECAP OF WOMEN'S PROGRAMMING



### National Women & Girls HIV Awareness Day

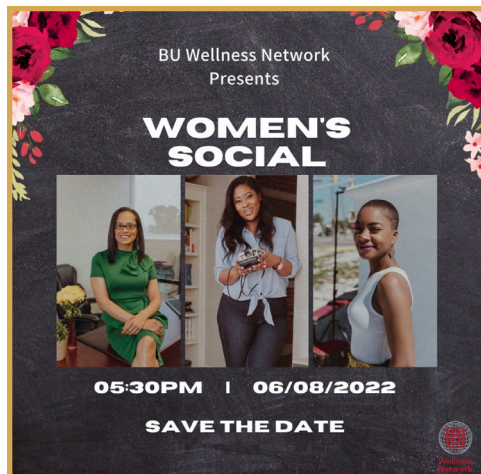
### National Women & Girls HIV Awareness Day (March 10, 2022)

*Join BU Wellness Network this Thursday for the premiere of "An Expose", a Mini-Documentary on Women's Attitudes About Sex.*

Awareness Day (March 10), a day to shed light on the impact of HIV and AIDS on women and girls and show support for those at risk of and living with HIV.

Terri Young, BU Wellness Network Director of Client Care & Retention will be the host.

"An Expose" will be screen virtually. Link will be sent in advance of the event.



### Women's Social

### Women's Social (June 8, 2022)

*BU Wellness Network is thrilled to present The Women's Social!*

We will be in the brand new MavenSpace in downtown Indy, on Wednesday, June 8th at 5:30pm. The event will be co-hosted by @martina.drea

We will be networking, discussing women's health topics, relationships and - simply having a good time over wine and conversation!



### Trans-Women Experience

### Trans-women Experience (June 9, 2022)

*In honor of Pride Month, BU Wellness Network is thrilled to present: The Transwoman Experience. An event curated specifically for transwomen.*

We will be designing a safe and welcoming space for the ladies to come together to build connections.

This event will be an opportunity for us to have candid conversations about health, safety, sexuality and self care.

## LET'S GET SOCIAL: A RECAP OF WOMEN'S PROGRAMMING



Sexual Health Summit

### Sexual Health Summit (July 16, 2022)

*We hope you'll join us on THIS Saturday, July 16, for the FREE Community Sexual Health Summit hosted by @blackwomenincharge*

BU Wellness Network is thrilled to be a sponsor this year and to be apart of the amazing health professional panel.

Join us in conversation about what you can do for the future of your own sexual health!



Seat at the Table Event

### Seat at the Table Event (August 28, 2022)

*Meet us on August 28th for Sisterhood At The Vineyard. There will be food, cocktails, and a moment to celebrate women who are doing great things.*

Get your tickets today. Some tickets are sold out, so don't wait too long. This event is open to everyone so bring a friend, a man, a spouse... whomever! Lol We will see you at the vineyard.



Annual End of Year Celebration

### Annual End of Year Celebration (December 4, 2022)

*BU Wellness Network is giving a Ball. This year's celebration will be a ROYAL affair that seeks to honor black cisgender and transgender women and their significant contributions and commitment to Ending the HIV Epidemic.*

Join us as we honor the women who stand alongside us in this work.



# EAT AND THRIVE



## E.A.T. Episode 14

This episode is centered around Women's Reproductive Health and the importance of having annual checkups and regular routine STI and HIV testing. Our hosts discuss the topics that can be addressed during the annual checkups and the reality of high maternal mortality in the Black community. Family planning discussions should include the partner to address what support is needed for mom during the pregnancy. We also discuss the impact of fibroids, benign tumors on the female reproductive organs, on our reproductive health and how Black women are more likely than their non-Black counterparts to have fibroids.

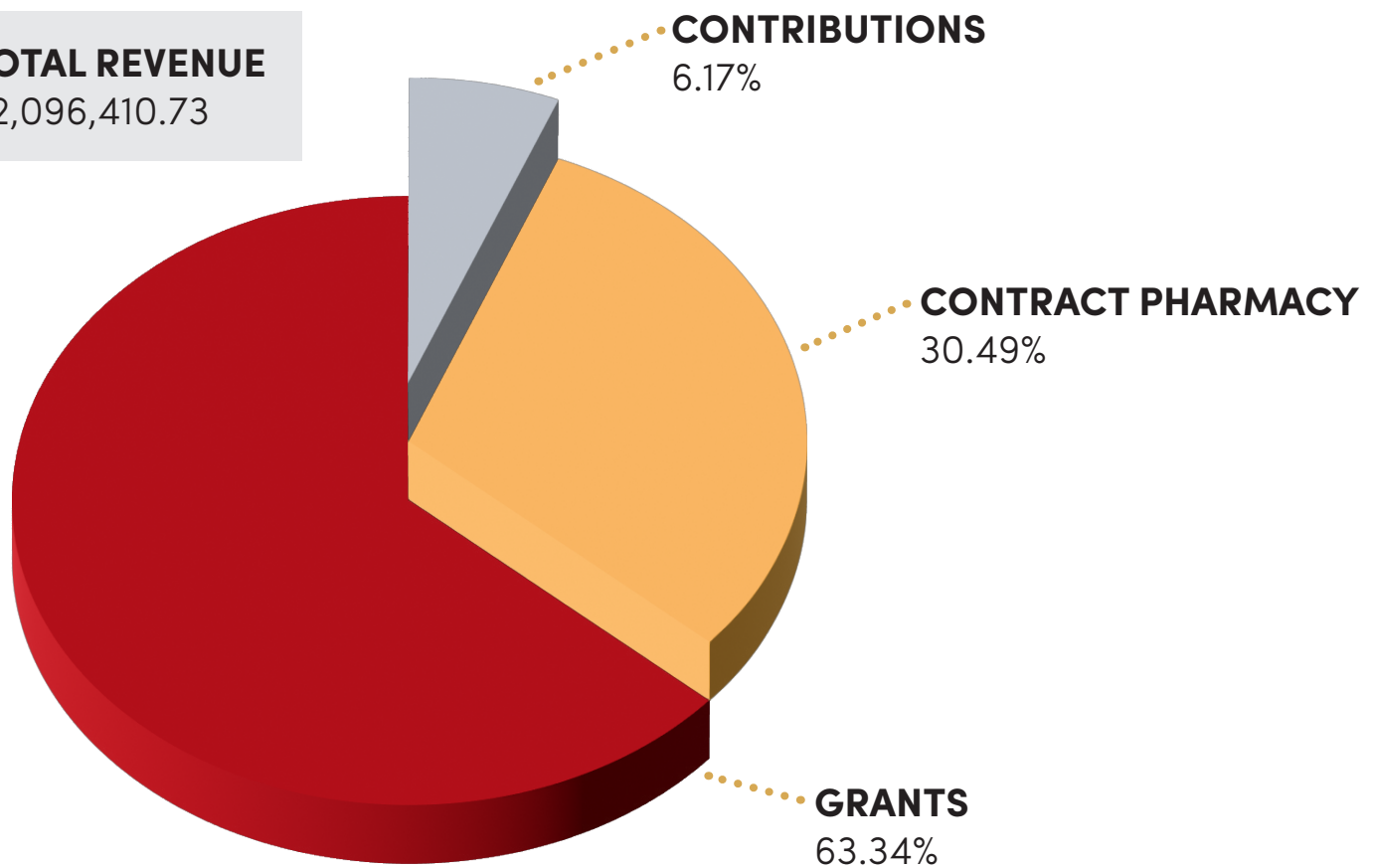


In support of our mission to enhance the health and wellness of Black communities in Indiana, we strive to patronize and promote Black-owned organizations and businesses in our work wherever possible. In 2022, **BU Wellness Network supported 51 black businesses and nonprofits** through our own events and community engagement opportunities.

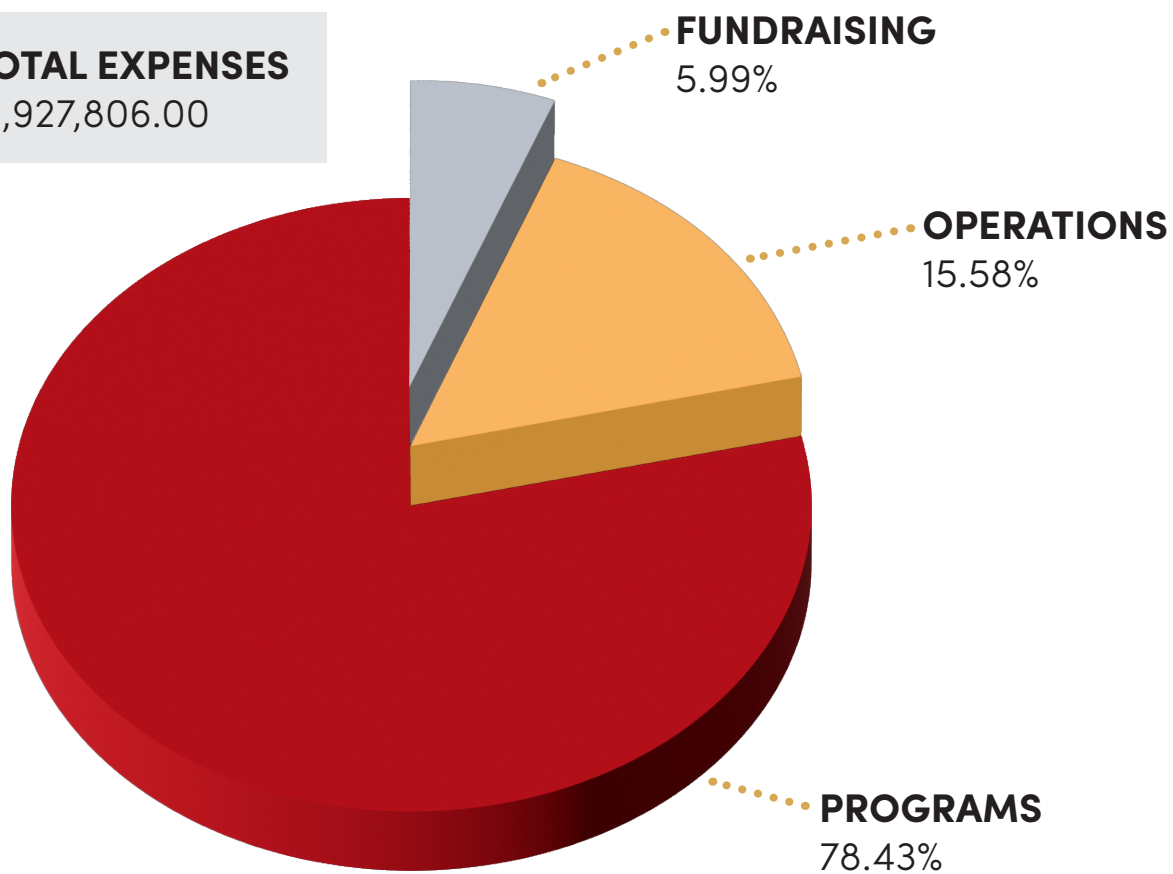
3D Trophy	Lashawna Young	The Board Pro
Anatome Yoga	Mapleton Medical Center	The Silver Center
Ashley Burton	Michael Bush	Tiny Tapas
Be Nimble	NAESM	Transsolutions Research &
Blaqwire AV	NoyzProduct	Resource Center
Brandmirchi LLC	2Shay	Turkey Leg
Brandon Hendricks	JG Productions &	Women in Motion, LLC
Cleo's Cafe	Management	Words&Wicks
Darrin Johnson	Makeup Glam	
Decor by D	Obsrv Agency	
DJ DJ	Paul's Kitchen	
Drea & Co, LLC	Perfect Apparel LLC	
The Dutchess	Psylo Soundz	
Hello Gurlz LLC	Pull Up Grill	
Honey Bea Naturals	Punkins Pies	
Inclusion Consultant Net	Reczone	
Indy Black Professionals	Revadiva Designs	
Invictus Designs	Sip & Share Wines	
Jamaican Breeze	Speak on It Media	
Katara Enterprises	Spotlight Event Center	
Kings Food Service	Tasia Lee	
Kontrolled Khaos	Teas Me Cafe	
	The Botanical Bar	

## 2022 FINANCES

**TOTAL REVENUE**  
\$2,096,410.73



**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
\$1,927,806.00



### Thank You to Our Supporters!

The impact that BU Wellness Network has on the Black community is due, in part, to the generous support of individuals and organizations who invest in our mission. BU Wellness Network leadership and staff would like to thank and recognize the donors of 2022.

#### \$10,000+

Human Rights Campaign  
Meijer  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

David Chropka  
& Jason Grisell  
David Johnson  
Dejha Harvey  
Demetrius Robinson

Michael Menafee  
Michelle Y Harris  
Natalie Nhok  
Nick Musselwhite

#### \$1,000-\$9,999

Anthem  
Capital Group  
Christin Johnson  
Dawn Pier  
Joseph Coleman  
Rebecca and Ira Waletich  
Women's March on  
Washington - Indiana

Edward Benson  
Eric Meininger  
& Peter Kim  
Esther Gurevich  
Gabriel Peoples  
George OffuttGillenwater  
Jamie Roberts  
Jeffrey Stolworthy  
Jessica Cochran  
John Patton

Ninja Miles  
Pamela Goodwin  
Rajesh Danala  
Salesforce  
State Employees'  
Community Campaign:  
The Indiana United Ways  
Stephen McCoy  
Tammy Hughes

#### \$1-\$999

Alyssa Brooks  
Andrew Wilburn  
Brandon Rutten  
Brianna Brantley  
Conner Tiffany  
Cynthia Lasher  
Damon Hamilton  
Dani Hervas  
Daqavise Winston

John W. Fromme  
Justin Jackson  
Kenneth Spry  
Krista J Longtin  
Loretta Reed  
Lori ann Harvey  
Marcus Harden  
Marlo David &  
DuShaun Goings  
Micaylah Rose

Tanji Bailey  
Terrell Parker  
Terri Young  
Tia Walker  
Todd Fuqua  
Traneisha English  
Tricia Pinatiello  
Victor Black  
Vincent Black
















## Connect with Us

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Scan  
to view  
our 3-year  
Strategic Plan





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