

Transform Kenmore
TOGETHER



Better 
KENMORE
Community Development Corporation

Welcome to

THE BLVD HISTORIC DISTRICT

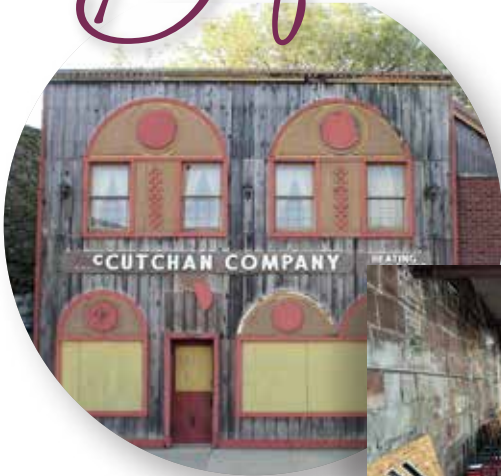
KENMORE

2024
Annual
Impact
Report

Biggest Accomplishments of 2024

Together, after nearly 20 years of vacancy, we renovated and hosted a grand opening of 1028 Kenmore Boulevard, which now serves as the Better Kenmore headquarters and small business resource hub.

Before



After



This was made possible thanks to



Akron Community Foundation

John Buntin and Julie Ann Sweet-Buntin



City of



Renovating vacant and blighted buildings is one way we have been able to reduce the retail corridor vacancy rate by double digits since we were founded in 2016.

Biggest Accomplishments of 2024

We came together as a community for our annual Kenmore First Fridays, Boo on the BLVD, and Light the BLVD...and a special solar eclipse event. These events were made possible with the help of 112 volunteers giving 328 hours of their time.



Together, we designed and installed BLVD Historic District welcome signs.

We also worked with the City to install signs leading people from the Towpath Trail to the BLVD.



Our Team

Board of Directors

CHAIR

John Zoilo
Nonprofit fundraising
consultant

VICE CHAIR

Tom Fuller
Former Executive Director,
Alpha Phi Alpha Homes

SECRETARY

Derrick Hall
JD, PharmD, MBA, MCSO
Assistant Vice President,
Integra Connect

TREASURER

Wendy Zarara
Manager, Kenmore Branch
Library

Staff



Eleni
Manousogiannakis,
Executive Director



Elisha West,
Community Liaison/
Event Coordinator

Jim Ballard
Recording Artist and Producer
Owner of Skylyne Studio in
Kenmore & Kenmore resident

Patricia Shipe
President, Akron Education
Association & Kenmore High
Graduate

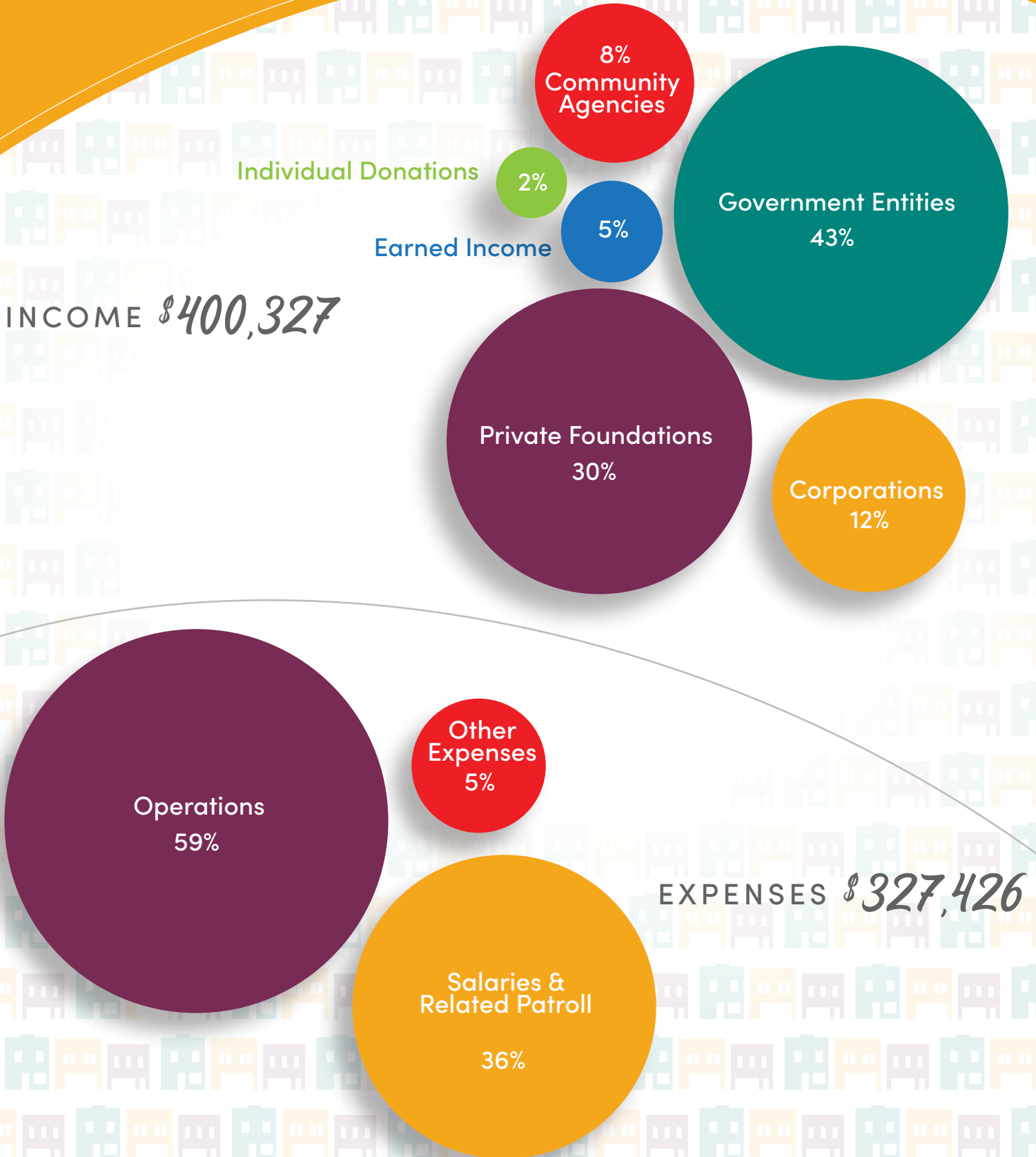
Seth Vaill
CFO, Just a Dream Entertainment (The
Rialto Theatre)
Kenmore Resident & Property Owner

Charles Bowman
Former City manager and
Community & Economic
Development Professional

Laura Smiley
Sales Director & On-Air Host,
The Summit (91.3 FM
Akron/Canton, 90.7 FM
Youngstown, 90.1 FM Athens)

Liz Yokum
Co-Founder/Brand Manager of Rock
Candy Holds, LLC & Kenmore Resident

Financials



*Income includes restricted funds

Financial Supporters

\$1-\$499

AAA Auxillary
Akron-Summit County Public Library Staff Association
Anonymous (4)
Anonymous
in honor of Steven Motich
Joe Baker
Joseph Dombi
Nancy and Tom Fuller
Josh Gippin
Wendy D. Hart
Dave and Kathy Hoppe
Kenmore High School Class of 2009
Phillip Morlan
in honor of Stew Burdett
Joni Schultz
Laura Smiley
Srina Tea House & Cafe
Eric Williams
in honor of Janice Williams
Wendy Zarara

\$500-\$999

Drs. Mark and Sandy Auburn
Antionette Dudley
Derrick Hall & Jessica Coleman
Just A Dream Entertainment
Mike Patel
Liz Yokum

\$1,000-\$4,999

Akron Children's Hospital
Akron Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau
Bi-02-Tek Services
BLC Roofing
Rob and Alyssa Briggs
Fairfax Foundation
Fastenal
Huntington Akron Foundation
Kaulig Giving
Ohio Arts Council
Portage Path Behavioral Health
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Pat Shipe
Summit County Opiate Task Force
Thomas C. Loepp Law Offices
United Way of Summit & Medina
John D. Zoilo

\$5,000-\$9,999

Maynard Family Foundation
PNC

\$10,000-\$24,999

Acme Fresh Market Foundation
Akron Community Foundation
Cargill Salt
County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board
Kenmore Chamber of Commerce
Summit County Land Bank

\$50,000+

City of Akron
GAR Foundation

IN KIND SUPPORTERS

Akron Glass Works
Akron Police Department
Garden Portrait
J&L Printing
Pierre's Brooklyn Pizza & Deli
Primo's Deli
R B Stout, Inc.
Regina's Pizza
The Rialto Theatre
Rocco's Pizza
Showcase Meats
Special Times LLC
The Summit FM
Wick Studio

We would also like to thank the many volunteers who gave their time.

*Data from January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024.

2024

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

Better 
KENMORE
Community Development Corporation

1028 Kenmore Boulevard, Akron, Ohio 44314
www.betterkenmore.org • 330.714.9621

Mission:

Founded in 2016, we build a better Kenmore through cultural, recreational and business revitalization, embracing our history, celebrating our creativity and improving our historic business district.