



IMPACT REPORT

January 1, 2023 -
December 31, 2023



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A LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

December 31, 2023

Dear Members, Supporters, and Community of Partners and Affiliates,

This year has flown by, as most do. Heightened unrest and division create havoc across the world. Ravaging hate and its aftereffects are intolerable! Yet, we remain hopeful due to the committed good works done by Sister-to-Sister: International Network of Professional African American Women, Inc. (“Sister-to-Sister, Inc.”) and other dedicated organizations and individuals.

As an “all-volunteer” board with demanding professional and personal responsibilities of our own that might otherwise consume us, we choose to move forward given the great needs that exist. We are inspired and motivated by your trust in our collective ability to advance equity to enrich the lives of those most marginalized and vulnerable. To fulfill the mission and purposes for which Sister-to-Sister, Inc. and its predecessor, Sister-to-Sister, were created, we strive, while often holding multiple roles. To succeed at the highest possible level, we need your assistance. Join as a paid member for \$25, annually; volunteer; and/or donate an amount of your choosing.

With deepest appreciation,

Velveta Golightly-Howell, Esq., Chair & CEO*

Sherry Bursey, Esq., Vice Chair*

Bobbie Harbert, MPA, Secretary/Treasurer*

Sherlenia Sims-Mitchell, MS, Scholarship Committee Co-Chair*

LaRuth McAfee, PhD, Scholarship Committee Co-Chair

Sharon Devine, DNP, Black Maternal and Mental Health Education Program Chair

Angela White, Advisory Council Co-Chair*

Sandy Hartgens*

Gina Rouhlac, MBA*

Alexis P. Jackson, Esq.

Beth Robinson, Esq.

***2024 Fundraising Committee Members**



Executive Summary of Our Works

If not us, who? If not now, when?

Introduction

Sister-to-Sister, Inc. is a strategic, forward-looking public charity with a strong brain trust that includes leaders experienced in healthcare, law, academia, business, and public administration. As such, our organization uses three principle strategies to direct its limited human, financial, and technology resources for maximum impact: education, collaboration-building, and empowerment.

Gifting Vital Education

Sister-to-Sister, Inc. hosted monthly educational and empowering events led by subject-matter experts, who voluntarily and selflessly shared their knowledge and professional experiences. Topics included: 1) Black maternal and infant mortality and morbidity epidemics (two public events); 2) the devastating effects of Alzheimer's and strategies to care for those with this terminal disease; 3) racism and discrimination confronting Black children and families caught within foster care and adoption systems; 4) recognizing internalized trauma and understanding its dangers; 5) stress triggers and coping mechanisms; 6) the essentiality of physical health and wellness strategies offered through dance and nutrition; 7) money management; 8) the intersectionality of race and faith - an internationally published author's perspective; and 9) Deconstructing Karens who use their race and gender to abuse Black peoples, the positive effects of unification of Caucasian and Black women, and immense harms caused by past lack of support. Hybrid formatting delivered all except one intimate, in-person event. With the exception of one, all were free.

Expanding Education Online with A Resource Compendium

Sister-to-Sister, Inc. offer a plethora of categorized, educational resources, some of which are accessible by any website visitor. Resources include films, videos, books, academic course materials, and more.

Closing the Wealth Gap

Sister-to-Sister, Inc. is committed to doing its part in helping to close the enormous wealth gap and set Black families on a path to save for the future, educate their children, and invest in home ownership. Thus, in collaboration with Blue Federal Credit Union, we developed and implemented a financial literacy program designed for women.

Sister-to-Sister, Inc. = Open, Strategic, & Results-Oriented

Taking Small Steps to End Homelessness and Poverty

Sister-to-Sister, Inc. formed a collaboration with DIVA, Inc., a nonprofit, and The Samaritan House – the Denver, Colorado-based and oldest shelter in the U.S. – to provide hygienic products for female and transgender homeless females, who utilize the shelter. African countries face abject poverty that harms and diminishes the lives of their children. **Sister-to-Sister, Inc.**, partnering with Beyond Horizons Travel, LLC, and others, donated money, clothing, books, and toys to orphans in Ghana, Africa.

Empowering Onyx Women

Sisters Excel: Her Story Podcast

Following a year of planning, **Sister-to-Sister, Inc.** began its quarterly podcast series. Produced by Lion's Bridge, the series introduces the stories of successful women representing different professions, who overcame major barriers caused by the intersectionality of their race and gender. Their personal stories of struggle, resilience, compassion, and commitment to bettering communities inspire and motivate.

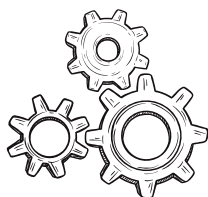
March 2023, **Sister-to-Sister, Inc.** co-sponsored and attended the Colorado Black Women Attorneys Association's Tribute to Black Women Jurists. Our public charity also financially contributed to and participated in Metropolitan Diversity & Economic Equity Partners' annual economic development conference.

Expanding Opportunities to Cultural Travel, Professional Development, & Artistry

With invaluable support from its affiliates, **Sister-to-Sister, Inc.** continued to offer opportunities that might otherwise be unavailable. These include discounts on cultural trips exposing travelers to other cultures and further an understanding that people share more commonalities than differences through Beyond Horizons Travel, LLC. Also included are sliding scale fees on career coaching via Diverse Talent, LLC, and access to discounted original, beautiful art by Adderly Fine Arts.

Advancing Equity and Opportunity by Supporting Partners

In March 2023, **Sister-to-Sister, Inc.** co-sponsored and attended the Colorado Black Women Attorneys Association's Tribute to Black Women Jurists. Our public charity also financially contributed to and participated in Metropolitan Diversity & Economic Equity Partners' annual economic development conference.



Expanding Access to Cultural Travel, Professional Development, Networking, & Creative Platforms

With invaluable support from its affiliates, Sister-to-Sister, Inc. continued to offer opportunities that might otherwise be unavailable. These include discounts on cultural trips exposing travelers to other cultures and further an understanding that people share more commonalities than differences through Beyond Horizons Travel Design, LLC. Also included are sliding scale fees on career coaching via Diverse Talent, LLC, and access to discounts on fine art by Adderly Fine Arts.

Increasing Knowledge & Access through Publications

Sister-to-Sister, Inc. publishes monthly newsletters with educational materials; cultural and community events; commendations, and not generally published job announcements. And Teri Sewell Huff, a certified nutritionist, offers health and wellness blogs. Generally, up to three news updates are published each month. Our publications are available to both dues-paying members, individuals offering no financial or other support, and visitors.

Benevolence

A core identity of Sister-to-Sister is benevolence towards those in need, including those within our Sister Circle. Express acts of compassion are critical in times of serious illness and loss of life. In 2023, we continued offering aid (e.g., visitations, assisting with memorial services, personally paid meals, etc.).



PARTNERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Our effective results are largely due to our partners, affiliates, and external volunteers.



NAACP
Boulder County



AdderlyArt



Going Forward in 2024

January 25, 2024, *Black Maternal Health & Mental Health Education Program*
(Kick-off)

January 28, 2024 @ CoraFaye's Café, Aurora, CO, *What Happened to the Dream? A Soul Food Discussion on Opinions re: the Dream's Status and Keeping the Dream Alive*

February 22, 2024, *Black Maternal Health & Mental Health Education Program*
(Session 2)

February 25, 2024, *Proclaiming Black Colorado's Black History Exhibition Tour with Docent Minister Glenda Robinson*

The Boulder Museum. Afterwards, Docent Robinson will lead.
A relationship-strengthening off-site dinner follows

March & August 2023, *Letting Go of Money Worries Series Course* presented by
Blake Kennedy, Blue Federal Credit Union & Networking Convening

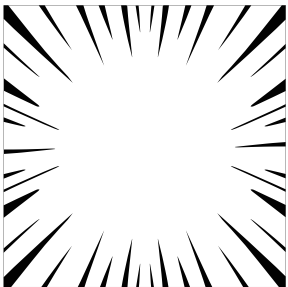
April 6, 2024, *Towards Health Equity: Answering Silent Cries for Help Educational, Bridge-building, and Fundraising Gala*
@ The Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities, 5 p.m. – 10 p.m.

June 2024, *Internalized Trauma: Digging Deeper Overnight Gathering with Jazmyne Peters, PhD*

July 2024, *Cooking with Adrian Miller, Scholar Chef & Three-time James Beard Award-winner*
(Space limited for this in-person only special event.)

February, May, September, and December 2024
Sisters Excel: Her Story Podcast Recordings

More offerings to come!



Special Acknowledgements

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Deconstructing Karen
Co-Executive Producer

Katrina Miller, MNS, rising DSN
Professor, Metropolitan State
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University of Colorado School of Medicine

Rosalyn Reese, BA, Director, DEI
Alzheimer's Association - Colorado

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MJ Consulting & National Expert
in Adoption & Foster Care Systems

Natilla Sibert, Creator & Director
D2G Socafit Dance Studio

2023 Gala Planning Team

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Ida Daniel, MS
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Lisa Parker-Carter, BS
Retired Corporate Administrator

And Sister-to-Sister, Inc.'s
Board of Directors

Co-Chairs

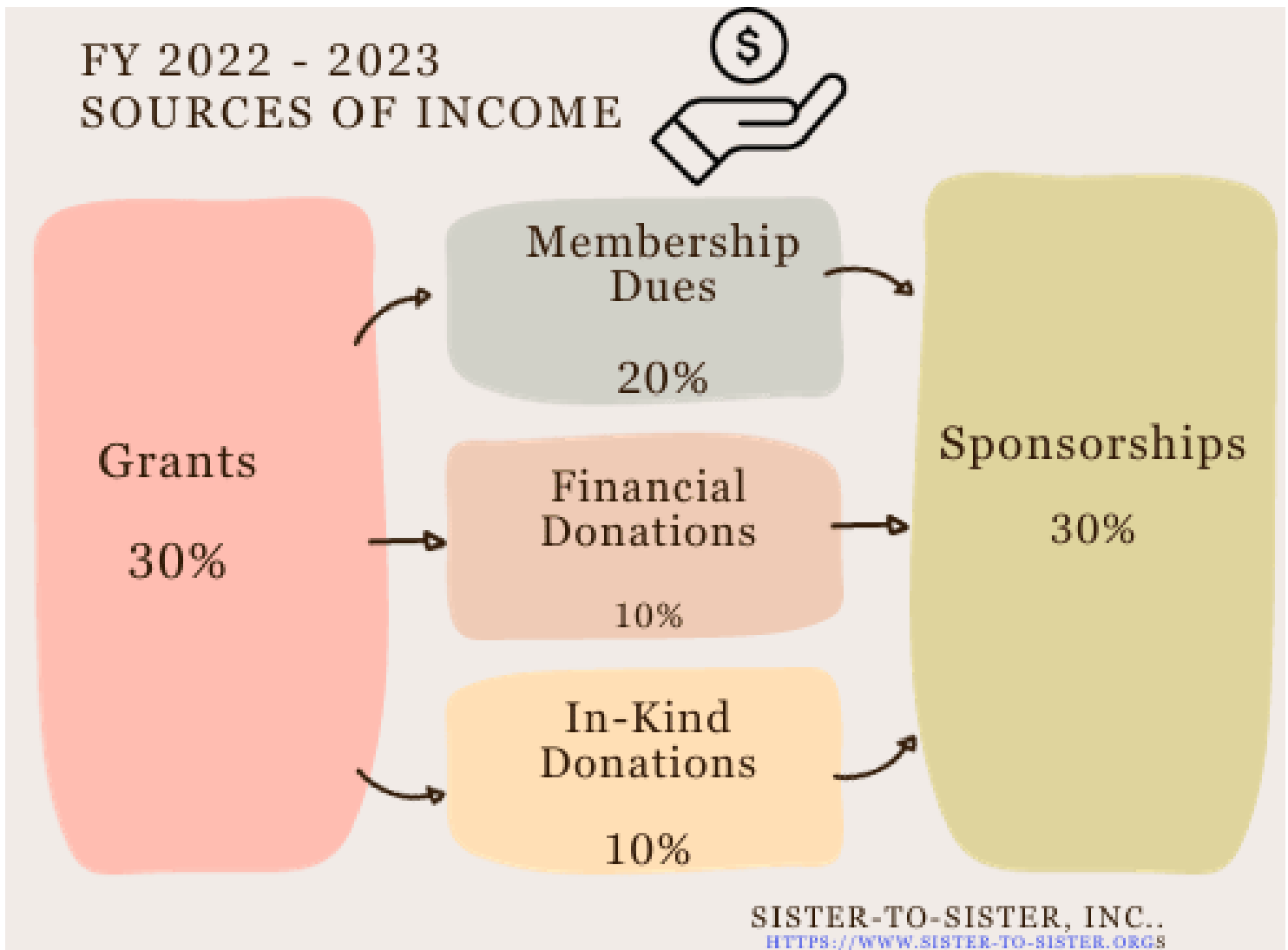
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Funding



Love has to be shown by deeds not words.

Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania

Asante!

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