

Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report

15th Anniversary Edition



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Reflecting on 15

Hi Friend!

Welcome to Women for a Healthy Environment's (WHE) FY25 Annual Report: 15th Anniversary Edition! It has been a privilege to watch this organization grow—from a team of one to many, from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. In the beginning, we focused only on food and consumer products. Now, our work spans across the spaces people spend the majority of their lives—the built environment.

WHE emerged from a powerful moment of collective awakening. In 2007, the Women's Health & the Environment conference, created by Teresa Heinz, The Heinz Endowments, and Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC, brought together nationally renowned scientists, authors, and advocates who spoke with great urgency about the connection between environmental exposures and human health.

In the months that followed, a passionate network of women began meeting to channel the conference's momentum into sustained community change. Their eyes were opened to an urgent truth: that our environment shapes our health, and that every community deserves the knowledge and tools to protect their well-being.

By 2010, these grassroots efforts formalized into an organization dedicated to advancing environmental health in one critical place: our homes. Thus, the Healthy Homes program was born. Soon to follow was the launch of the Healthy Schools and the Healthy Early Learning programs. The spaces where we live and where we learn continue to be the most impactful on our long-term health and wellbeing. WHE officially became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 2014.

We see, feel, and smell the beauty of this work every day. We see it as we walk through our neighborhoods and see children playing in the yards of childcare facilities that have had the lead removed from the soil, paint, and water. We smell the beauty in a garden created by students in our Eco-Stewardship program, who are learning about the intersection of environmental, racial, and social justice. We feel it in the clean air of a school that we have monitored and provided filters to. And we see it in the familiar faces of our community partners who have stood by our side for more than a decade, fighting this critical fight, because we cannot do this work alone.

May this annual report serve as a celebration of 15 years of impact. We honor the courageous beginnings of this organization: a moment when women saw the threats before them and decided to act. Their vision continues to guide our work every day, as we strive for a future where every person, no matter their zip code, has the ability to live, learn, and thrive in a healthy environment.

All the best,



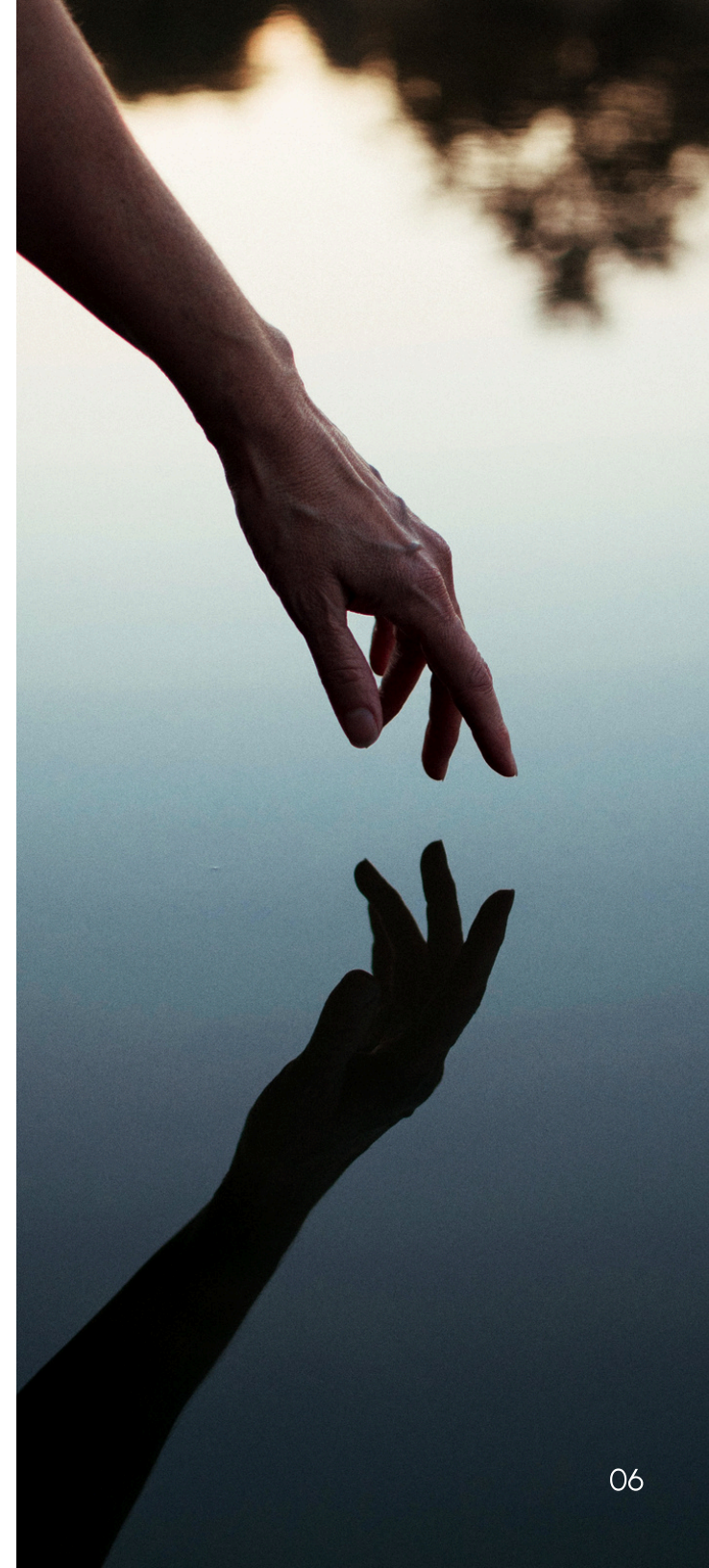
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis".

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis
Executive Director



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracey Conti MD".

Tracey Conti, MD
Board Chair





Our mission

Women for a Healthy Environment (WHE) uses a scientific approach to achieve equitable lives free of environmental hazards through advocacy and community-based programs.



Healthy Homes

We empower parents and caregivers to protect their children from hidden dangers like lead, mold, and polluted air – because no one should have to choose between shelter and health. Through home visits, resources, and education, we make healthier home living possible.



Healthy Early Learning

We help early learning facilities create toxin-free spaces where infants and young children can learn, play, and grow without the shadow of environmental harm. Every child deserves a healthy start.



Healthy Schools

We work alongside schools to clear classrooms of toxins, improve indoor air quality, and create spaces where students and teachers can thrive. Learning should happen in a safe and healthy environment.



Environmental Health Policy

We fight for environmental policies that protect families and communities, ensuring that health is a right, not a privilege. When we raise our voices together, change happens.



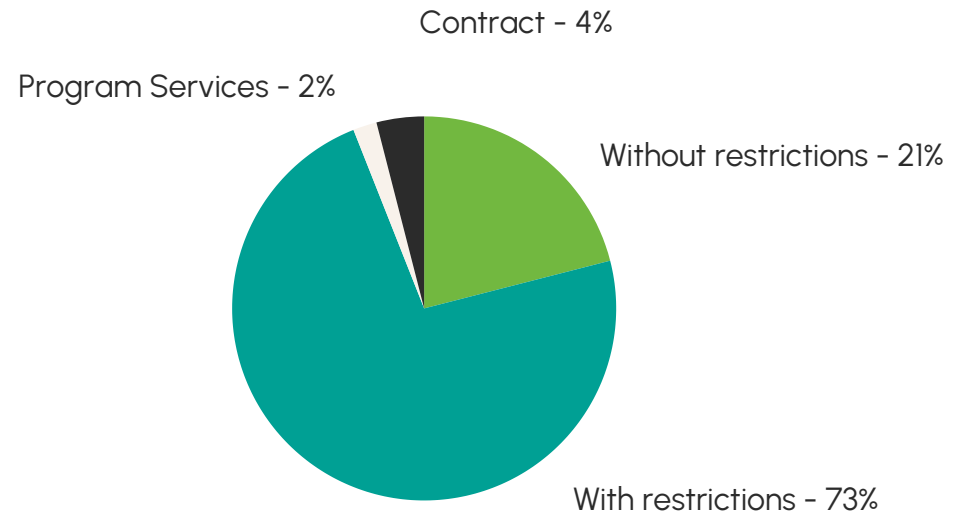
Our 15 years of impact

- 40,000** Community members served
- 49** Homes renovated within the Healthy Homes Asthma Program
- 153** Healthy Home Assessments
- 2,100** Green cleaning kits distributed
- 2,882** School personnel served through professional development
- 176** School buildings tested for lead
- 286** Early learning centers completed environmental assessments

Our revenue

Contributed Revenue (without restrictions)	\$379,500
Contributed Revenue (with restrictions)	\$1,315,380
Program Services	\$26,867
Contract	\$69,685
Miscellaneous (not depicted)	\$4,111

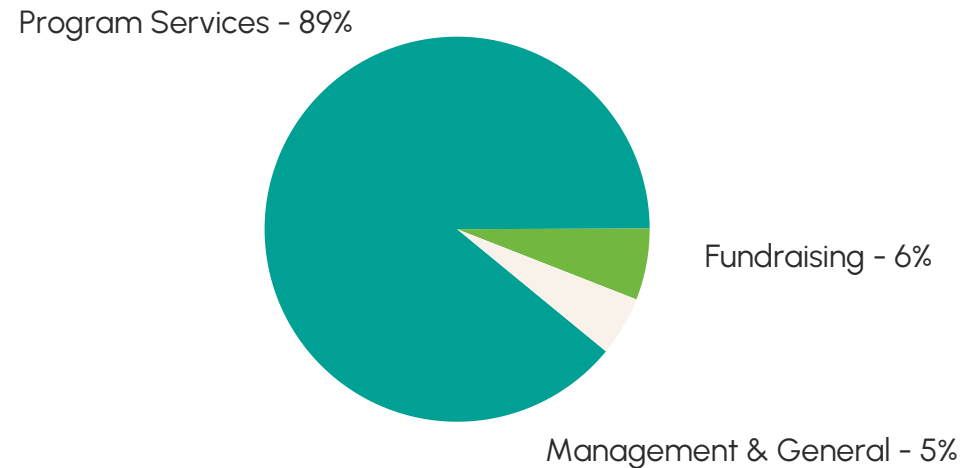
Total revenue **\$1,800,967**



Our expenses

Program Services	\$2,548,683
Fundraising	\$173,085
Management & General	\$149,447

Total expenses **\$2,871,215**



We are proud that **89%** of our total spending went directly to program services, far exceeding best practices.

Your support went where it matters most - healthier homes, learning spaces, and communities.



A health architect: Jody Mulvihill

For Jody Mulvihill, supporting WHE has been about a lifetime commitment to protecting the community she calls home.

Born at Shadyside Hospital and raised in the Pittsburgh region, Jody has deep roots in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Over the course of a long and distinguished career in healthcare administration and finance, Jody served as a corporate accountant for Westinghouse and Rockwell International, a healthcare contract negotiator for BlueCross of Western Pennsylvania, and a healthcare administrator for the Children's Institute.

“When WHE was first starting, it felt like it was just me, accounting staff, and Michelle,” Jody recalls. In those early days, WHE was housed at The Children's Institute, and Jody played a hands-on role supporting operations, finances, and grant administration. She watched WHE grow from a small, emerging organization into a respected environmental health leader.

After retiring in 2015, Jody's relationship with WHE deepened even further when she joined the Board of Directors, where she served for seven years, including through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. With her background in accounting and healthcare finance, she helped strengthen WHE's financial systems and governance, ensuring the organization was positioned for long-term sustainability.

“I can't tell you how much WHE was a part of my life,” she says. “When I think about all the things they've done—clean water in schools, community gardens, environmental education, standing with communities like Clairton—it's constant. Everywhere you look, WHE has been there helping people.”

Now living in a more rural area, Jody remains deeply connected to the region and to environmental protection. She understands how difficult it can be to “fight against money” when development threatens health and nature, and why organizations like WHE are so essential.

That belief is what inspired Jody to take an important step for the future: naming Women for a Healthy Environment in her will and joining Health Architects, WHE’s planned giving community.

“I’m not super rich,” Jody says. “But WHE is the organization I want to support in my will. My hope is that everything Michelle and the organization have accomplished continues long after I’m gone.”

Through Health Architects, supporters like Jody ensure that WHE can continue creating healthier communities for generations to come.

For Jody, it’s about legacy. “This work is a constant battle, but it’s worth fighting,” she says. “I want WHE to be there to keep that fight going.”

And because of Health Architects like Jody, it will be.



Scan to learn more about
becoming a Health Architect



"I had a wonderful and blessed experience with Women for a Healthy Environment."

Joel R.
Program Participant

A safe home, a second chance

Joel has lived with significant chronic illness for over 40 years. As his medical needs became more complex, he could no longer maintain consistent employment and eventually went on disability. While he did his best to remain independent, his health challenges made everyday life increasingly difficult.

Joel's home began to fall into serious disrepair as his health worsened. Roof damage, broken skylights, and water intrusion threatened not only the structure of the house, but Joel's health as well. That's where his friend of over 30 years, Michael, came in. Drawing on his own construction experience, Michael did everything he could to slow down the damage of Joel's home—patching holes, repairing plumbing fixtures, replacing a faulty water heater. These repairs were essential, but didn't make the problem go away. The scale of need far exceeded what any one person could manage alone.

That changed when Joel and Michael learned about WHE and applied for the Healthy Homes Asthma Program. At the time of the referral, Joel's roof was in critical condition. There was a hole that had been temporarily patched, two cracked and leaking skylights, and ongoing water damage throughout the home. A full roof replacement, estimated at \$10,000, was completely out of reach.

WHE stepped in at exactly the right moment. The Healthy Homes staff were able to mobilize resources and complete the roof replacement in just one day.

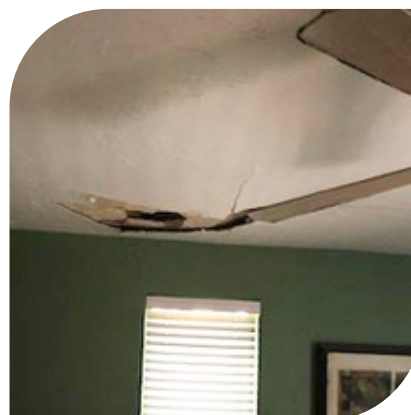
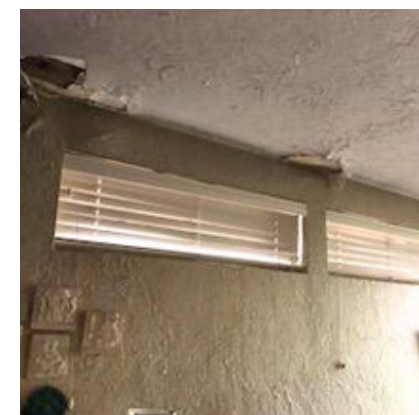
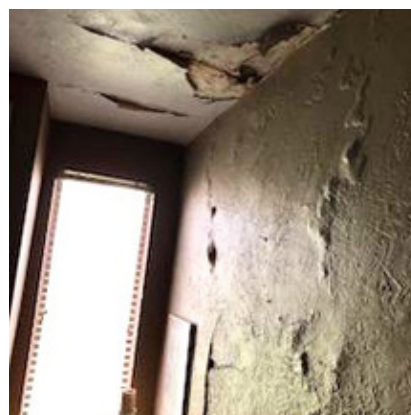
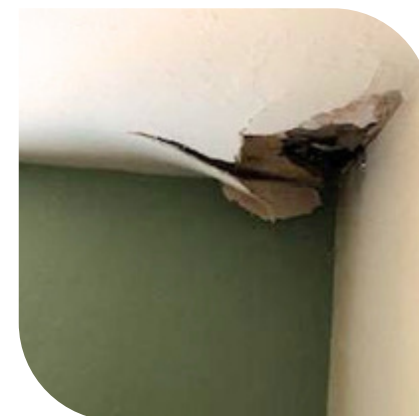
“The whole process was made less stressful by the kindness and professionalism of everyone involved. It has made life a lot better for me. Having medical issues, I would definitely be honored to have another experience with WHE for their kindness and comfort in achieving all the goals I had. Thank you!”

Today, Joel remains safely in his home, protected from further water damage and environmental risk. With a secure roof overhead, his health is better supported, and he is no longer forced to choose between temporary fixes and impossible costs.

Behind every healthy home is a network of trust: neighbors, friends, and community organizations committed to seeing the whole person, and lending a helping hand.



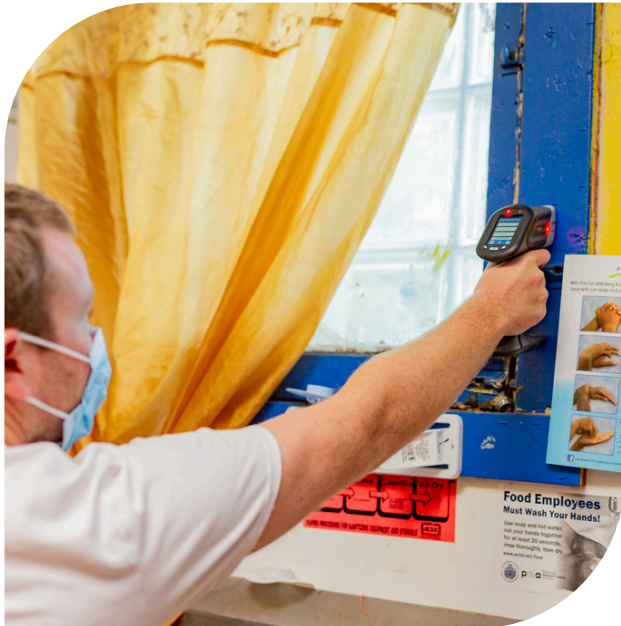
Scan to learn more about our
Healthy Homes Program



(photos of Joel's home)

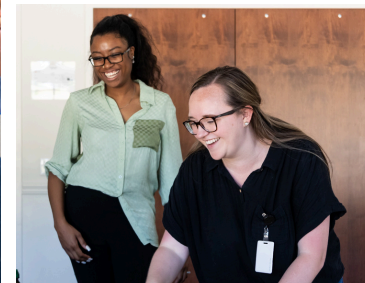


A Look Back at the Moments that Mattered...





A Look Back at the Moments that Mattered...



Our staff

Mounika Abbareddy, MPH
CDC Childhood Lead
Poisoning Prevention
Program Project
Coordinator

Pecola Abele, MPH
Director of Healthy
Learning

Kesa Ahomana, MSW
Director of Development

Maria Anderson
Director of Operations

Mike Davis
Community Program
Specialist

Sandy Fischer, MPH
Environmental Health &
Building Performance
Manager

Lindsay Fraser, MPH
Director of Healthy Homes

Hannah Geiser, MPH
Healthy Homes
Program Coordinator

Amanda Jimcosky, MPH
HUD Program Manager,
Healthy Homes Production
Grant

Paige Kizior, M.ED
Healthy Learning Program
Coordinator

Mia Meredith
Community Health Worker

Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis
Executive Director

Dolores Parker
Associate Director of
Communications

Germaine Gooden Patterson
Community Health Worker

Kathryn Wolfe, MPH
Environmental Education
Coordinator



Our board

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Tracey Conti, MD, **Chair**

Patricia Salapa, **Vice Chair**

Crystal Calla, **Treasurer**

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Jeanne Antonuccio

Tracey Armant, PhD

LaVerne Baker Hotep

Cassandra Brown,
MsEd/Adm, MSN,
CRNP-FNP-BC, CSN

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Ann McGuinn

Michelle Merlo

Christina Ndoh, PhD

Rajesh X. Raman

Anna Siefken

Donna Evans Sebastian

Peggy Slota, PhD

Britnee Weatherspoon

Directors Emeriti

Dorothy Beckwith

Susan Brownlee

Nancy C. Fales

Caren Glotfelty

Peggy King

Ways to give



Health Guardian

Become a monthly donor and enjoy exclusive updates and early bird access to WHE events



Health Architect

Leave a lasting legacy. Include WHE in your will or estate plan, ensuring environmental health for generations



United Way

Give monthly through payroll deductions. Our United Way of Southwestern PA contributor choice number is: **12945754**

For more information, email kesa@whepa.org
Kesa Ahomana, Director of Development



With deep gratitude, we honor our **Founding Health Guardians**,
the first members of our monthly giving community.

Amy Arden

Leanna Bird

Maren Cooke

Tracey Conti, MD

Patricia DeMarco, PhD

Donna Sebastian Evans

Laurie Fink

Janice Harrison

Susan McCarthy

Michelle Merlo

Barbara Murock

Talor Musil

Christina Ndoh, PhD

Taylor Pelow

Peggy Slota, PhD

Britnee Weatherspoon, EdD



Learn more:

womenforahealthyenvironment.org/health-guardians/



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