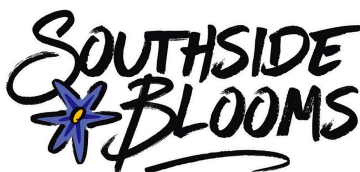


CHICAGO ECO HOUSE

2025 ANNUAL REPORT





TOGETHER, WE PLANT SEEDS OF HOPE.

In many ways 2025 was a year when seeds of hope grew and blossomed into flowers of opportunity.

Some growth was structural. A new hoop house at the Cook County Jail farm will allow us to extend our growing season, diversify into higher-value floral varieties, and offer new opportunities for youth to learn about greenhouse management. Opening our second flower shop in the North Lawndale neighborhood will create new employment opportunities on the West Side of Chicago and increase capacity for national shipping operations.

Perhaps most importantly, though, we experienced personal growth. Armani, one of our star florists, started her freshman year at the University of Illinois and is pursuing her dream to be the first person in her family to graduate college.

Rashod, who joined Southside Blooms when he was 16, was promoted to a management position and began earning a middle class salary with a high school education. Although traveling different paths, Armani and Rashod exemplify our hope for the future and the opportunities that Southside Blooms offers young people in Chicago.

These seeds of hope and this growth are possible because of your support. Whether you bought a bouquet, booked us for an event, or made a donation - **thank you** for believing that flowers can empower.

*Quilen
Blackwell*

QUILEN BLACKWELL

President

Chicago Eco House and Southside Blooms

BECAUSE OF YOU...



40

youth jobs created



11

acres of vacant land transformed



7

urban flower farms planted



1

new flower shop opened

Community Engagement

810

K-8 youth participated in after nature education

305

community volunteers

Environmental Impact

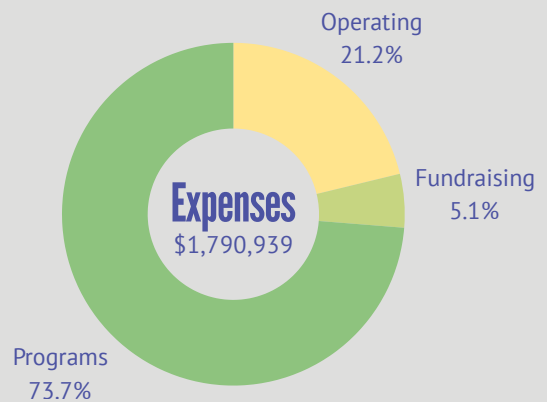
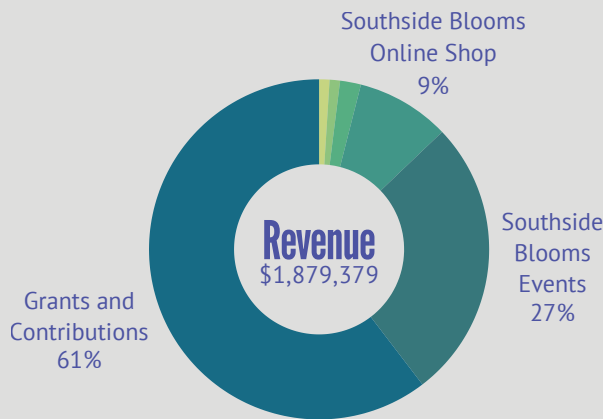
8,220

kilowatts of solar power generated

40,000

gallons of rainwater harvested

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



Miscellaneous, In-Kind Donations, Gain on Fixed Asset Disposal, and Net Investment Income are each less than 2% of revenue.

AWARD WINNING IMPACT



Quilen was voted **2025 CNN Hero of the Year**. Chicago Eco House received a \$200,000 grant from CNN and The Elevate Foundation in honor of this achievement.



Southside Blooms was featured in the new documentary film **In Our Nature**. Youth florists and farmers spoke on a panel with the filmmakers during the Chicago premiere.



GET INVOLVED

Donate: southsideblooms.com/donate

Shop: southsideblooms.com/shop

Events: southsideblooms.com/social

Volunteer: southsideblooms.com/volunteer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Quilen Blackwell, President

Hannah Bonham Blackwell, Vice President

David Lapidus, Treasurer

James Harris, Director

Warren Skipper, Director

Nehemiah Group DBA Chicago Eco House is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit organization with the mission to leverage sustainable solutions to alleviate poverty. The organization also runs an in-house flower shop called Southside Blooms. Our tax ID number is 46-5737246.

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Photos courtesy Synchronous Pictures unless otherwise noted.