

2022 Annual Report

Fred Wells
**Tennis &
Education**
Center



20 Years of Building Community through Tennis

Greetings to our FWTEC Community

Thank you for being on this journey with us as we marked 20 years of building community through tennis in 2022. It was a year of celebration, reflection, and continued progress in living out the mission that our founder, Fred Wells, graciously set in motion two decades ago.

When delivered well, tennis is one of the best vehicles to build community, advance equity, help students succeed in the classroom, and improve mental, emotional, and physical health. As an organization, we officially endorsed the Aspen Institute's Children's Bill of Rights in Sports in 2022, and we hold ourselves accountable to honor the following basic rights that all children have.

- To play tennis
- To safe and healthy environments
- To qualified program leaders
- To developmentally appropriate play
- To share in the planning and delivery of their activities
- To an equal opportunity for personal growth
- To be treated with dignity
- To enjoy themselves

We believe that these rights are universal and are proud to deliver high quality programming for all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. This programming expanded in 2022 as we introduced new adult beginner lesson packages, beginner specific classes for our 10U and 12U junior groups, a new TennisWorks Academy summer camp, junior fitness classes, longer training sessions for high performance players,

The strong foundation built over the last 20 years happened in partnership with you. Thank you for your continued trust and support.

more match play opportunities, and added two new school partnerships.

We are proud to report that we have completed or made significant progress on all of the core goals outlined in our current 2021-2024 strategic plan. The strong foundation built over the last 20 years enabled this growth, and as we prepare for the next phase of this great organization, we remain steadfast in our pursuit to build community through tennis and expand opportunity, confidence and success with the youth we serve.

The impact we have in our community happens in partnership with all of you, and we cannot thank you enough for your continued trust and support.



John Ahern
BOARD PRESIDENT



Christine Nickels
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

20th Anniversary Spotlight

Since our doors opened on June 8, 2002, the Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center has been building community and expanding opportunity through tennis!



Watching the first pilot program in 2003 come together is when I realized this was the real deal. It's hard to quantify your impact the first few years, but to see kids find themselves and have a safe place to evolve, that isn't quantifiable.

DAN SHANNON – First Executive Director

We have students who graduated from college, completed a term in the Marines, and so many other major milestones. We are so committed to our youth, and I hope that remains and continues to motivate us.

JUDY LONG – FWTEC staff member since 2004



I've watched so many kids grow up. I get to see people brand new to the sport come and love it. Tennis has an impact on people of all ages.

DAN SWANSON – FWTEC staff member since 2004

Our facility became synonymous with accessible tennis, not just a place for underserved youth. It is very rare to see representatives from different communities come to one hub. That changed my perception of what the possibilities were for us.

MARC STINGLEY – Former Junior Tennis Director

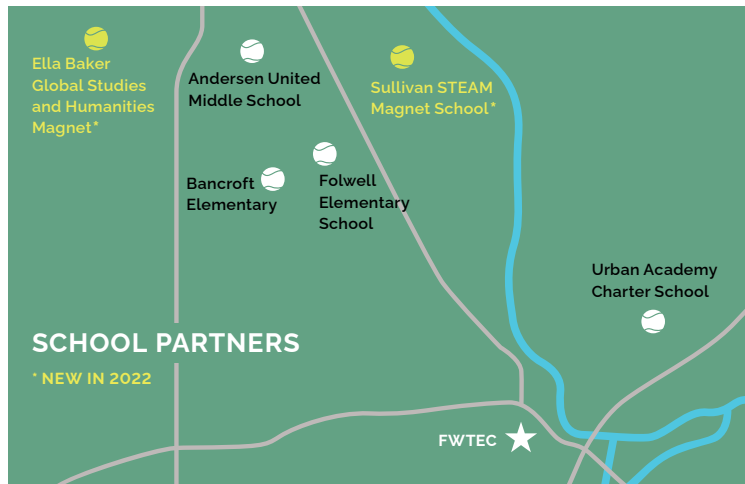
TOP LEFT Dan Shannon and Fred Wells

BOTTOM LEFT Staff photo from 2008

ABOVE Dan Swanson and summer campers

TennisWorks

Our free TennisWorks program provides accessible and high-quality programming that supports the physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being of youth with less access to opportunities.



TENNISWORKS ACADEMY LAUNCHED IN 2022

Deep relationships with students and families helps ensure our programming meets the evolving needs of our community. During the three-week MPS labor strike, FWTEC offered a day program for students to have a safe and accessible location to be together, understand and process emotions, and have a physical outlet through tennis.

This extra time together and the increased awareness of challenges facing our students prompted the creation of TennisWorks Academy (TWA), a free tennis and educational enrichment summer camp. In the first year, TWA sparked curiosity and a renewed joy of learning through interactive field trips and engaging educational activities while deepening relationships and a sense of community.

1023
Unique Program Participants

4943
TennisWorks Interactions

FWTEC provides our students with a unique, fun experience to try a lifelong sport, along with the inspiration to live an active lifestyle. Their coaches foster a strong sense of teamwork and community.

ALICIA ROBEY – Minneapolis
Community Education Programs
Coordinator





Rides from coaches are important because they take time to get people who need transportation to The Fort. It's important, and we give big thanks to them. What makes rides fun is the music and conversations.

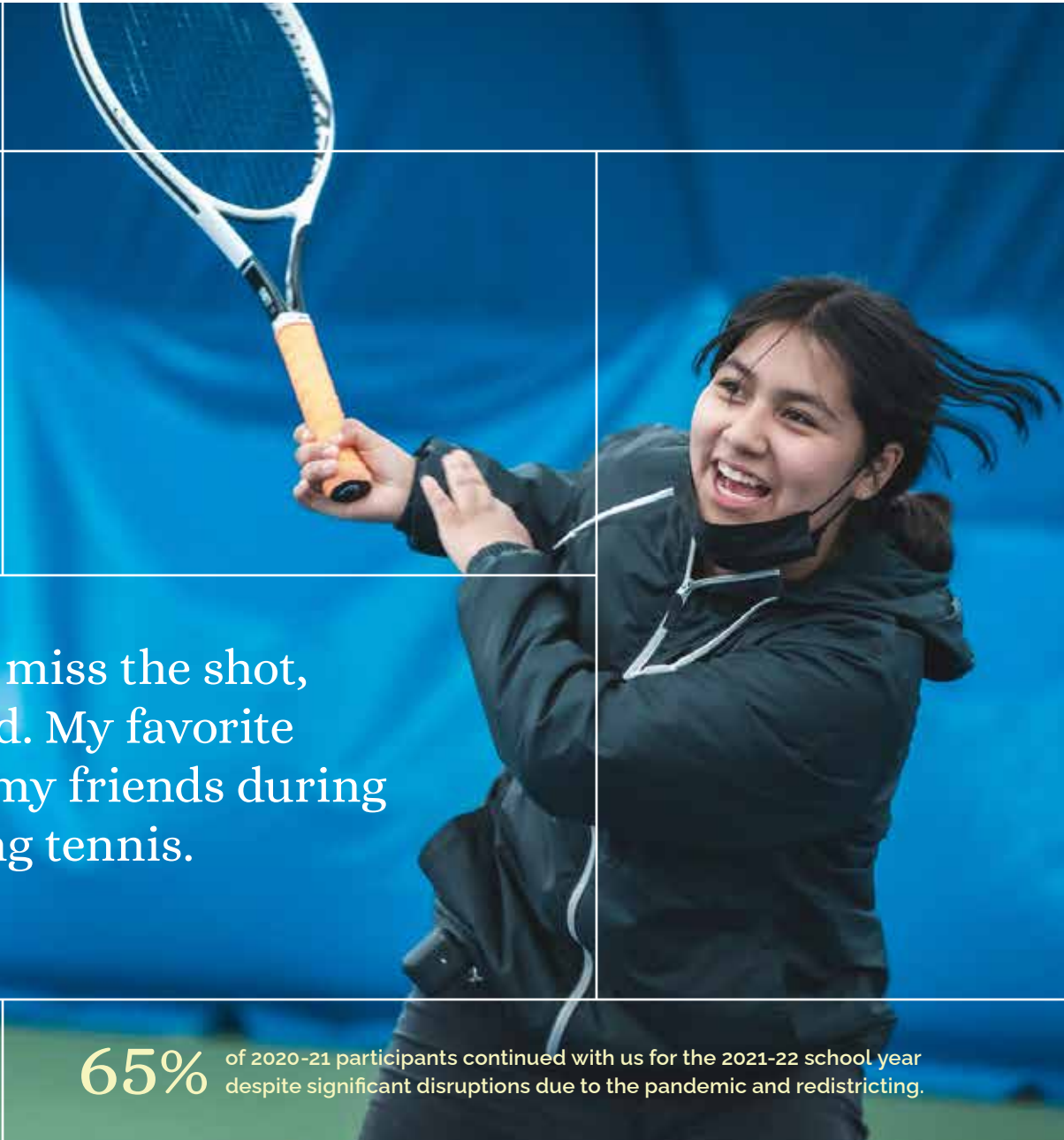
LEO – TennisWorks Student

It doesn't matter if you miss the shot, it matters that you tried. My favorite memory is being with my friends during the summer and playing tennis.

JENNY – TennisWorks Student

73 TennisWorks students participated in two or more program offerings

65% of 2020-21 participants continued with us for the 2021-22 school year despite significant disruptions due to the pandemic and redistricting.



Tennis Programs



Juniors

- New fitness classes focused on endurance, strength, agility, speed, flexibility, balance and coordination to supplement on-court training.
- New three-hour summer training sessions for high performance players.
- New 10U and 12U Beginner Classes

During recent financial hardship, the scholarship program has allowed our kids to continue playing the game they love at a facility that supports them emotionally and socially. It's been the one constant in their lives during a job loss we didn't anticipate.

PARENT OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

\$54,330

awarded in junior program scholarships to 67 unique students

Adults

100

registrations in our new
adult beginner lesson series

1,043

unique adult players

4,810

registrations



I truly love the Fort so much!
It's my therapy and feels like
my second family.

SARA ERICKSON



Legends of the Fort

Our Legends of the Fort distinction is awarded to seniors who have demonstrated a lifelong passion for tennis and who have engaged our community with their enthusiasm, volunteer service, or commitment to the Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center. Meet the 2022 honorees below.



Susie Neet

Susie is a native of Minneapolis who has volunteered for more than 30 years in our tennis community. She

was our very first volunteer in 2003 with Girls Squad and after-school programs for under-represented students from local schools. Susie retired in 2002, after teaching grade school for 34 years. In 2013, she was inducted into the USTA Northern Hall of Fame. Susie's personality, spirit, and wisdom has influenced so many.



Jo Batty-George

Jo consistently volunteered with the FWTEC Girls Squad program every Tuesday and Thursday night. While she filled the

courts with laughter, her real superpower was working with the girls off the court. Jo listened to all the girls and helped them navigate the bumpy journey through middle and high school. She

passed away in February 2022, but will always be remembered for her huge heart and ability to always find time for anyone who needed support.



Jeanne Lacy

Jeanne started volunteering with Girls Squad in 2005 and became known as our Crafty Youth Mentor. Her

projects allowed time for conversation to flow, and she would lead or listen depending on the situation. Both her daughters, Rasheeda and Milliecia, progressed through the program as tennis players, and both served as tennis captains for their high school teams. Our staff, coaches and players are so lucky for her work with Girls Squad.



Linda Langeness

Linda began working for Fred Wells in 1968 at his family-owned business, the Peavey Company. At the Fred Wells

Tennis & Education Center, Linda served on the Board of Directors from 2001-2009, and was the Business Manager from 2002-2013. She did everything behind the scenes to keep the lights on and ensure Fred's vision stayed a reality. She continued working for Fred in various jobs until his passing in 2005. Since 1992, Linda has worked for the Wells Family Foundation.



Dan Shannon

Dan worked alongside Fred Wells for six years before our doors officially opened in 2002. He served

as Vice President of Tennis and Education, Inc. (our former legal name) from 1996-2002 and was the first Executive Director from 2002-2006. He stayed involved as a Board Chair until 2009, and a Board Member until 2014. He continued impacting lives in the Twin Cities by joining the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic Tournament Advisory Board and serving as a Player Liaison. Dan has been instrumental in the growth of FWTEC from the very beginning.



2022 Events



2022 PRO-AM AND COMMUNITY GALA

Thank you to our amazing community for coming together at our 2022 ProAm and CommUNITY Gala to raise support for our free TennisWorks outreach programming!



Financials

Ending December 31, 2022

Revenues and Other Support

	2022	2021
Program Revenues	2,315,666	2,102,255
Support	627,766	792,769
Other Revenues	8,268	77,430

Net assets released from restrictions

Restrictions satisfied by payments or time	12,269	45,000
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Total Revenues and Other Support without Donor Restriction

	2,912,172	2,972,454
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Statement of Financial Position

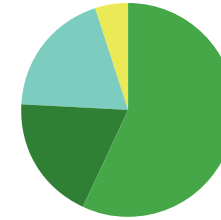
Total Assets	4,373,913	4,362,736
Total Liabilities	579,865	645,599
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions		
Designated by the Board of Directors	683,608	478,884
Undesignated	3,041,907	3,209,248
Total without donor restrictions	3,725,515	3,688,132
With donor restrictions	68,533	29,005
Total Net Assets	3,794,048	3,717,137

Statement of Cash Flows

Cash at Beginning of Year	1,011,789	661,697
Cash at End of Year	1,194,825	1,011,789

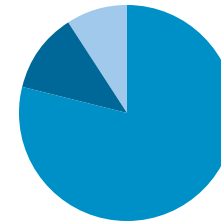
REVENUES

- Programs (57%)
- Fundraising & Contributions (19%)
- Court Time (19%)
- Other Income (5%)



EXPENSES

- Program Services (79%)
- General & Administrative (12%)
- Fundraising (9%)



Donors

\$80,000+

Isora Foundation

\$25,000+

Otto Bremer Trust
USTA Foundation

\$10,000-\$24,999

Anonymous
Andrea Boado & Mike Ile
Tom & Michelle Bradley
Sheltering Arms Foundation
USTA Northern

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous (2)
Nancy & Tom Driano
Frederic C. Collins Trust
Visala & Joe Goswitz
Gloria Kumagai
Rick Rinkoff & Julia Ferguson
Jim & Kelley Schneider
USTA National

\$2,500-\$4,999

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Josh & Tisha Colton

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\$1,000-\$2,499

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\$250-\$999

3M
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James Bernards
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Katie Gesensway
Sue Gherity

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 James Walker
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 Erin Yang
 Sophia Youngdahl

Up to \$249

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 Sarah & Mark Twedt
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 Verena & Pat Van Fleet
 Danyl Vavreck
 Jennifer Veeramachaneni
 Kathy Vogel
 Susan Volin
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 Joan Weber
 Patrice Werner
 Ric & Linda Yates
 Lavonne Young
 Mary Ann Zastrow
 Eric Ziegler
 Jeff Zuckerman

Jim Dixon Tournament Scholarship

Gail Dixon
 Susan Elsass
 Mary Freppert
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 Katie Gesensway

Diamond Ho
 Tim Kennedy
 Joan Madden
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 John Ryan
 Kathleen Short
 Deni Svendsen
 Verena & Pat Van Fleet
 Kathy Vogel
 Ric & Linda Yates
 Frank Zink & Katie Resch

Nguyen Vo Family College Scholarship

Lisa & Andrew Mushett
 Phoukhine &
 Phonekeo Soundara
 Bao Thao
 Jim Vaughan
 Nguyen & Emi Vo

In-Kind Donations

Abdallah Candies
 Abrahamsons
 Amber Ellingson
 Amber Senn
 Ames Center
 Andrew Lehner
 Antler's Restaurant
 Arther Murray Dance Center
 Ashland Productions
 Austin Seaverson
 Bakken Museum
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 Bijoux by Cindulou
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 Minnesota Orchestra
 Minnesota State Fair
 Minnesota Timberwolves
 Minnesota Vikings
 MN UFC
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 Nordic Ware
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 PikNinja Pickleball
 Pinz
 Premeir Hospitality
 Pries Brewing

Punch Pizza
 PuzzleWorks
 Red Rabbit
 REM5 Virtual Reality Lab
 RF Moeller Jeweler
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 Ruthie Krech
 Rya Peck
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 Sever's
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 The New Standards
 The O'Shaughnessy
 The Woodhouse Spa
 Tom Bradley
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 USTA Northern
 Vino In The Valley
 WE Fest
 YogaFit

Special recognition for gifts dedicated to the following individuals:

In Honor Of

Front Desk Staff
 Judy Long
 Kimberly Miller
 Dan Shannon
 Clay Sollenberger
 Esther Tsai
 Nguyen Vo

In Memory Of

Jo Batty-George
 Cindy Idelkope
 BJ Kuhn
 Bea Langford
 Bruce & Diane Meyers
 Concy B. Rajkumar
 Don Rott
 Pone Vongsouvan
 Carl Walz

Our Team

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Christine Nickels

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Esther Tsai served as Executive Director through March 2022.

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VICE PRESIDENT

Andrea Boado

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Visala Goswitz

TREASURER

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Fred Wells
Tennis & Education Center

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