



CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR NEW YORK CITY

2024 IMPACT REPORT

WHO WE ARE

CitizensNYC, founded in 1975 as one of the nation's first micro-funding organizations, provides financial and capacity-building support to thousands of neighborhood leaders who are making their communities more connected, resilient, and healthier.

Grassroots groups have the power to create lasting change in New York City. However, their small size, informal structures, and lack of connections to traditional networks and institutions mean that they are frequently excluded from conventional funding opportunities. There are more than 40,000 small nonprofits and countless volunteer groups in NYC that can't access traditional philanthropy.

CitizensNYC exists to fill this gap. We envision a city where community leaders in every neighborhood have the resources and opportunities to thrive.

Every year, CitizensNYC receives thousands of applications and awards hundreds of microgrants of up to \$5,000 across all five boroughs to small nonprofits, small businesses, volunteer-led initiatives, and public schools. Our grantee partners define their community priorities, and as a result we support a diverse range of projects in the areas of arts and culture, education and youth, environment and climate, health and wellness, economic development, and public safety. CitizensNYC funds projects developed and led by those directly affected by the same challenges they hope to change, and we're proud that our network of grantee partners is representative of the city's vibrant diversity.

At CitizensNYC, we believe all New Yorkers have the power to create lasting change in their communities. As a Leadership Hub, we provide funding, capacity-building, and collaboration opportunities to grassroots leaders, small businesses, schools, and nonprofits, helping them tackle local challenges and drive sustainable improvement.

Beyond grant making, we are a convener and capacity-builder for community leaders across all five boroughs. Through our interconnected programs, we foster a network where grassroots leaders come together to share knowledge, exchange ideas, and develop solutions that strengthen the social and economic fabric of New York City.

CitizensNYC is the only institution in New York City that provides citywide microgrants at this scale while also offering a community network and capacity building.

OUR 2024 GRANTEE PARTNERS

BY THE NUMBERS

WHAT ISSUES ARE THEY ADDRESSING?

21% ARTS & CULTURE
17% EDUCATION & YOUTH
27% ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE
25% HEALTH & WELLNESS
10% ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PUBLIC SAFETY

WHERE ARE THEY MAKING A DIFFERENCE?

17% BRONX
28% BROOKLYN
28% MANHATTAN
19% QUEENS
8% STATEN ISLAND



WHO LEADS THESE INITIATIVES?

2,000 APPLICANTS FROM ACROSS NYC
77% IDENTIFY AS PEOPLE OF COLOR
66% IDENTIFY AS WOMEN
15% IDENTIFY AS LGBTQ+
52% ARE FIRST OR SECOND GEN IMMIGRANTS

HOW DID THEY IMPROVE NYC?

256 UNIQUE AND INNOVATIVE PROJECTS
ACROSS 100 NYC NEIGHBORHOODS

100,000+ NEW YORKERS REACHED BY GRANTEE
PARTNER INITIATIVES

GRANTEE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: THE BRONX COLLAB

Tea Ingram is building community and empowering youth at The Bronx Collab

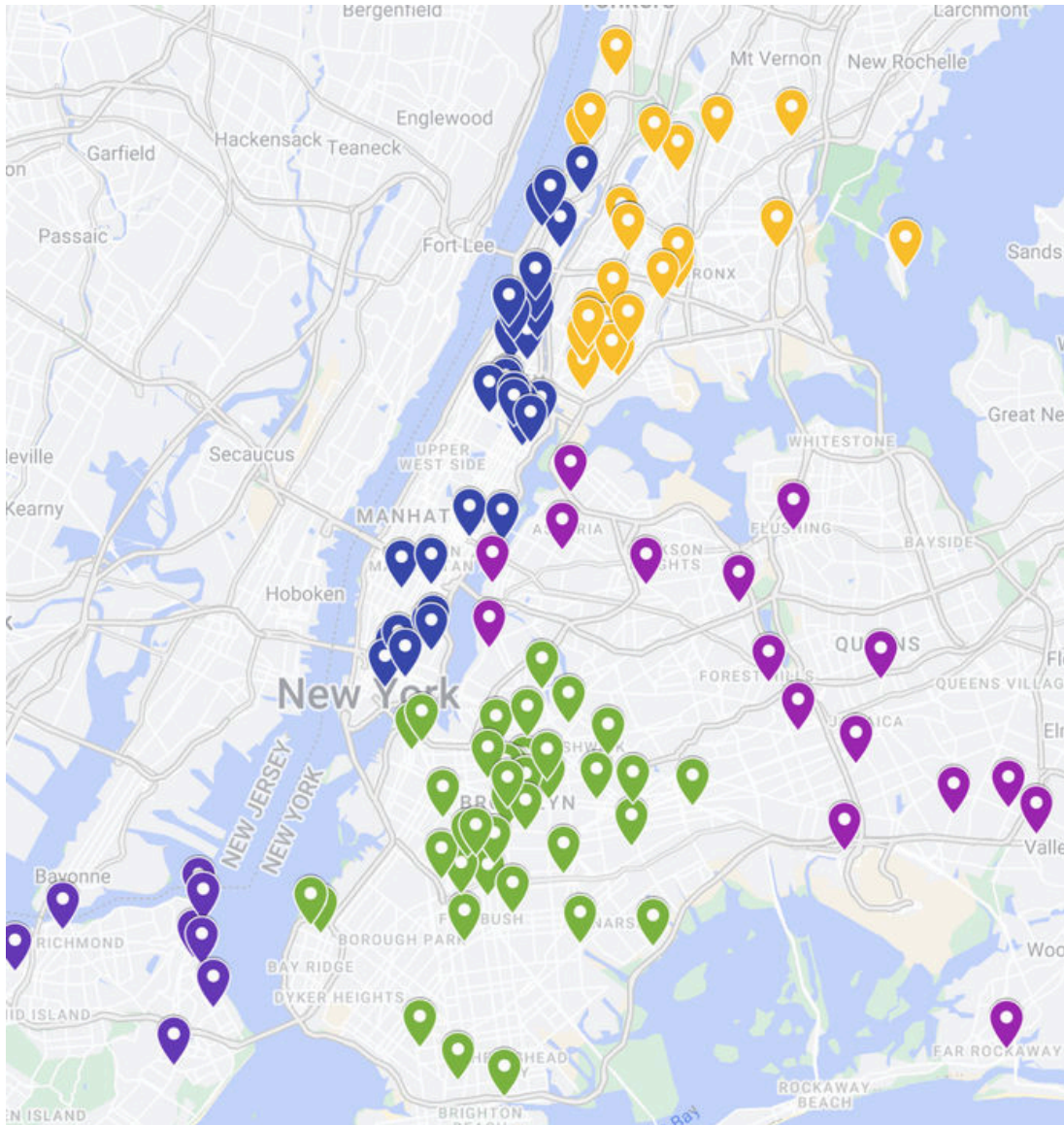


The Bronx Collab, led by Tea Ingram, is a dynamic hub of creativity, collaboration, and empowerment in the Bronx. As a proud CitizensNYC grantee partner, Bronx Collab provides a space where artists, entrepreneurs, and community leaders can come together to develop their skills, share ideas, and foster meaningful connections. With a guiding philosophy of “community over competition,” Bronx Collab inspires partnership and supports local leaders in realizing their potential.

One of those leaders is Angelica Taveras, a young writer who found her voice as part of the Bronx Collab community. She gained the confidence to publish and share her work, exemplifying the impact of Tea's commitment to fostering the potential within every individual.

The Bronx Collab continues to grow as a vital resource for its community, empowering individuals, nurturing creativity, and strengthening connections that sustain the community. It is a powerful example of how shared spaces can inspire cooperative and transformative change.

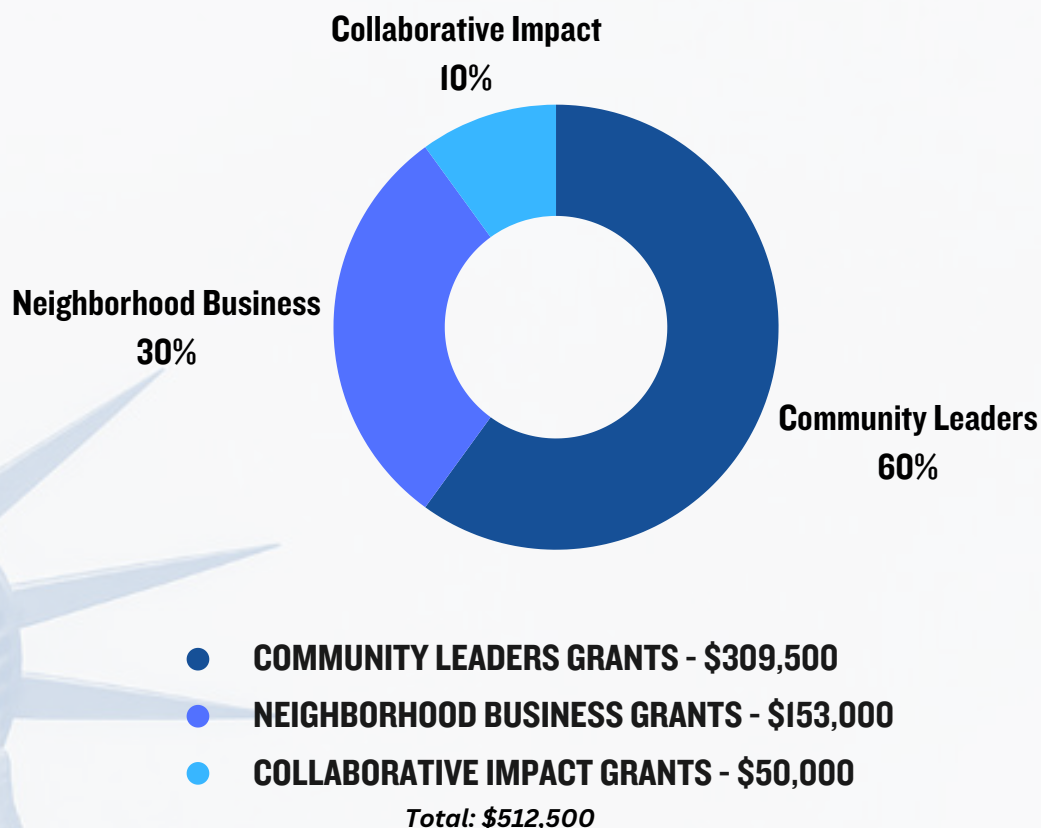
CITYWIDE IMPACT



CitizensNYC funds hundreds of projects and businesses across more than **100 neighborhoods in all 5 boroughs.**

Click the map above to explore each of these partners on a live map and find one in your neighborhood!

OUR GRANTMAKING



- **Community Leader and Neighborhood Business Grant:** Building the foundation for grassroots change, these grants provide up to \$5,000 to local leaders with deep ties to their neighborhoods. These grantee partners use the funding to implement impactful projects addressing community needs while gaining entry into CitizensNYC's network of support and resources.
- **Collaborative Impact Grant:** For leaders ready to expand their reach, this grant, piloted in 2024, provided \$50,000 spread through five grants - one in each borough - to collaborative projects involving multiple grantee partners. By encouraging cross-sector partnerships—such as addressing food insecurity through combined efforts of small businesses, grassroots groups, and nonprofits—this grant helps tackle complex issues holistically and promotes sustainable, collective solutions. This program was successful and will be expanded in 2025.
- **Capacity-Building Workshops:** These workshops support community leaders in identifying and strengthening the skills they value most and provide tailored training on critical topics. CitizensNYC also builds relationships with external partners to deliver specialized expertise, equipping leaders and organizations with the tools and resources to maximize their impact.

CORPORATE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: CON EDISON

ConEdison and CitizensNYC are investing in grassroots leadership for a greener NYC.



This year, CitizensNYC and Con Edison have strengthened their longstanding partnership to bolster local environmental initiatives across New York City. With a generous contribution of \$150,000, Con Edison is supporting forty new Community Leader Grants, each dedicated to fostering environmental stewardship and climate resilience.

One such grantee, the James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center (JBOLC) in the Bronx, exemplifies the profound impact of community-driven environmental efforts. Situated near DeWitt Clinton High School, JBOLC has transformed adjacent spaces into vibrant hubs where residents of all ages engage with nature, access health-oriented programs, and strengthen community bonds. Their weekly Garden Community Farmers Market offers farm-fresh produce, vegan and vegetarian foods, and a variety of programming, including live music, yoga, dance lessons, and family art activities.

We are proud to partner with Con Edison in supporting grassroots organizations like the James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center, which are making tangible environmental and social impacts in their communities.

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION PARTNERS

CitizensNYC's corporate and foundation partners provide essential support for grassroots leaders and small businesses across New York City. In addition to funding, our partners make a difference through hundreds of volunteer hours, making connections and providing visibility for the leaders in our network, and hosting events that bring changemakers together.

We're grateful for their partnership and support!



CORPORATE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: Amazon

Amazon and CitizensNYC partnered to bring a little extra holiday cheer to families in need.



This past holiday season, CitizensNYC and Amazon joined forces to bring hope and warmth to neighborhoods across the five boroughs through the Holiday Giving Fund. Sharing a commitment to empowering hyper-local leaders, the partnership provided essential support to grassroots initiatives focused on addressing food insecurity, gifting, and winter needs. With generous grants of \$2,000, community leaders were able to fund impactful holiday programs that brought immediate relief and joy to families during the festive season.

From coat drives in the South Bronx to toy giveaways in East New York, the Holiday Giving Fund empowered neighborhood leaders to respond to the specific needs of their communities. In Staten Island's Stapleton neighborhood, a local group hosted a holiday bazaar that provided warm clothing, toys, and festive meals to families in need. Meanwhile, in Queens, a community leader used the grant to organize a gift-wrapping event where parents could select and wrap toys for their children, fostering a sense of dignity and connection.

We're proud to partner with Amazon to bring warmth and cheer to those who need them the most.

OUR PARTNERS IN CITY AND STATE GOVERNMENT

Government partners play a crucial role in amplifying the reach and impact of our grant programs in every corner of NYC. By working in collaboration with elected leaders and city agencies, we bridge the gap between resident-led initiatives and public resources, thereby strengthening the city's infrastructure.

CitizensNYC holds a unique 5-year \$75M master contract with the city based on our expertise and community relationships. This allows us to help city agencies quickly get funding to community groups addressing the city's critical challenges.

In 2024, CitizensNYC provided \$8.3M in public grants to 323 Community Groups on behalf of New York City.



\$1,008,800

Environmental Resilience



\$5,458,658

Participatory Budgeting



\$300,000

Job Seeker Support



\$1,500,000

Access to Childcare

CitizensNYC works closely with elected leaders, including partnering on community outreach in every city council district. We're grateful for the support of City Council and State Assembly representatives, which enables us to expand access to resources for community groups throughout the city.



JOIN US IN LIFTING UP LOCAL LEADERS

Our community of partners and supporters makes our impact in NYC neighborhoods possible, and we hope that you will join us in investing in local leaders across the five boroughs.

DONATE to support CitizensNYC grantee partners across New York City. You can join us for our two annual fundraising events, the New Yorkers for New York Gala on June 2, 2025 and the All in for NYC Fall Cocktail Reception on October 30, 2025.

VOLUNTEER to directly support the initiatives our partners are leading in their neighborhoods. If your organization would like to join CitizensNYC for a volunteer event, email Abril Peña at apena@citizensnyc.org.



AMPLIFY CitizensNYC grant opportunities and partner stories by [signing up for our monthly newsletter](#) and following CitizensNYC on social media:



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