

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Bayview Foundation bike recipient

## Who we are

Serving Madison and Dane County since 1992, Wheels for Winners is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that supports bicycling through an earn-a-bike program and related activities. Working with community organizations and schools, we provide refurbished bicycles to youth and others who perform activities that enrich and help their communities. Our enhanced programming includes free bike repairs and support for neighborhood riding events. Our efforts as an all-volunteer organization encourage volunteerism, recycling of unused bicycles, and bike riding as part of a healthy lifestyle. We are committed to promoting equitable access to cycling as an important component of a strong, vibrant, and healthy community.

## By the numbers: bikes, locks and helmets

- ❖ 674 bikes received as donations
- ❖ 345 donated bikes refurbished

# 645

Bikes distributed

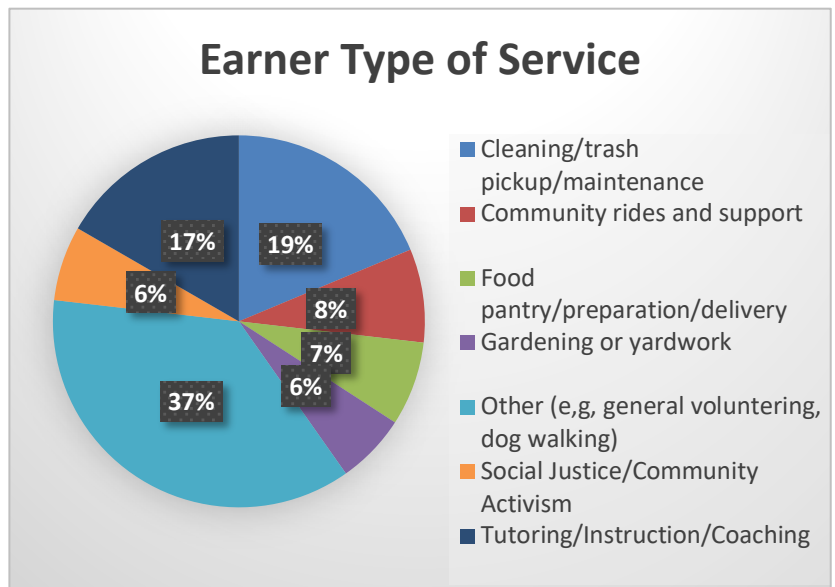
- ❖ 250 refurbished bikes given to earners for community service
- ❖ 86 refurbished bikes provided to community groups and events
- ❖ 309 unrestored bikes donated to FreeBikes4Kids (188) and Working Bikes (121)
- ❖ 278 helmets and 237 locks distributed

# 345

Bikes refurbished

## Bikes provided based on service to the community

Historically our bikes have been earned through community service. Examples include preparing and distributing food, cleaning and maintenance, coaching and tutoring, gardening and yard work, and social justice activities. Without partners such as the Bayview Foundation, BikEquity, Northport Community Center, and Madison Metropolitan School District, we would be unable to identify youth interested in getting bikes and find these youth community service opportunities to earn their bikes. For our partners, the opportunity for their youth to earn bikes offers tangible support for their programming.



With input from community members, we built additional flexibility into our earner model to recognize the challenges faced by our bike earners from communities of Color. With these changes, we saw creative forms of community service and increases in the number of bike recipients including older earners. For example, 20 earners got their bikes by organizing rides and promoting cycling. Nearly 75 percent (180) of our 250 earners identified as a member of a community of Color. Nearly 70 percent (167) were 18 or under.



*Repaired 35 bikes at Waunakee Bike Rodeo*

## Keeping bikes rolling

Our volunteer mechanics with hired help attended over 30 community and other events held from April to November, where we repaired 391 bikes, five times the number of our 2020 repairs. Through grant funds, we were able to pay DreamBikes to help us with these repairs.

## Supporting community riding

We supported community rides by providing refurbished bikes, securing volunteers to do bike checks and repairs, and making financial contributions to purchase equipment and hire mechanics to do repairs. We contributed to the success of school and community rides with partners such as BikEquity and the Wisconsin Bike Federation, small-scale rides in parks and on bike paths hosted by Darbo Worthington and other neighborhood groups, and bike rodeos with obstacle courses organized in Stoughton and Waunakee. We supplied refurbished bikes to community groups to provide to young riders. In addition to donating 72 bikes to Centro Hispano for Three Kings Day Celebration, we gave refurbished bikes to sponsors of the Stoughton and Waunakee Bike Rodeos for distribution to needy participants, and to Wisconsin Bike Federation for a giveaway at Western Hills Park.

Our powerful relationship with BikEquity increased access to cycling within communities of Color. The 10 additional bikes donated by REI Coop powered 18 community riding events including school club rides. These BikEquity sponsored rides had 257 participants, 176 of whom borrowed bikes from the Kitty Knox lending library. Our volunteer mechanics helped keep bikes rolling. While we were saddened by the organization's end, we are hopeful that a new initiative will emerge in the future.



We improved our working relations with other bike-related non-profits such as DreamBikes, Working Bikes, and FreeBikes4Kids to exchange bikes, expand the number of bikes distributed and coordinate offsite cycling events offering bike repairs.

# Our supporters

