



**United Nations Association of the
National Capital Area**

2025 - 2026

ANNUAL REPORT

A Letter From Our Leaders

Dear Members and Supporters,

In a year marked by profound geopolitical challenges, we remain inspired by your extraordinary efforts to bridge global engagement with meaningful community involvement here in the National Capital Area.

At the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area, our community brings together individuals from diverse backgrounds, beliefs, and perspectives—united by a shared commitment to building a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world. As global dynamics evolve and institutions are tested, one constant remains: the resilience and dedication of this community. From championing human rights to opening pathways for students to engage in global affairs, your contributions have strengthened our mission and helped cultivate the next generation of leaders.

Our work is grounded in the broader mission of the UN Association of the USA—to educate, inspire, and mobilize Americans to support the vital work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. At a time when multilateral cooperation is more essential than ever, UNA-NCA plays a critical role in advancing understanding of how the UN system addresses global challenges while advocating for a strong and effective U.S. - UN partnership.

This past year held special significance as we marked the 80th anniversary of the United Nations. In celebration, UNA-NCA hosted a memorable gala at the Embassy of France, bringing together distinguished diplomats, policymakers, and leaders from across sectors. The event served as both a reflection on eight decades of international cooperation and a renewed call to action for the future.

UNA-NCA is uniquely positioned in the nation's capital as a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization open to all who care about America's role in the United Nations. Our diverse and intergenerational membership includes professionals and thought leaders committed to strengthening the multilateral system. Through mentorship and collaboration, we harness the depth of our region's foreign affairs community to inspire and guide emerging leaders.



Through flagship initiatives such as Global Classrooms Model UN, the Graduate Fellows Program, and the Young Professionals Program we equip high school students, university scholars, and early-career professionals with the knowledge and skills to become engaged global citizens. These programs are central to our mission of educating communities about the importance of international cooperation and empowering individuals to take action.

Together, we connect the global with the local. Across Washington, DC, Maryland, and Northern Virginia, our members rely on UNA-NCA to inform, engage, and advocate—ensuring continued public understanding of the United Nations and support for strong U.S. leadership within it.

This Annual Report offers a snapshot of our shared impact. We are deeply grateful for your continued commitment and partnership, and we look forward to building on this momentum together in the year ahead.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paula Boland'.

Paula Boland
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Simmons-Benton'.

Anne Simmons-Benton
Chair, Board of Directors

Board of Directors

Officers

Continuing

- Anne Simmons-Benton (Board Chair)
- Danielle Dean (Vice Chair of Advocacy)
- Joi Edwards (Vice Chair of Membership & Volunteer Engagement)
- Audré Park (Vice Chair of Programs)
- Adam Wolf (Vice Chair of Communications)
- Maria Moreno (Vice Chair of Development)
- Barton Edgerton (Vice Chair of Strategy & Operations)
- Nadjad Nikabou (Vice Chair of Young Professionals)

Incoming

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- Kristen Hecht (Vice Chair & Secretary)
- Oluwatosin Pinmiloye (Student Representative)
- Allison Viescas (Vice Chair of Finance & Treasurer)
- Nadjad Nikabou (Vice Chair of Young Professionals)

Outgoing

- Brian Heilman (Vice Chair of Finance & Treasurer)
- Sam Worthington (Advisory Council Chair)

At Large

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- Desirée Cormier Smith
- Andrew Hyde
- Thomas Liu
- Amanda Molina
- Jessica Tollette

Incoming

- Kendra Brown
- Jacqueline Hatch
- Catherine Kannam
- Hayley Pottle

Outgoing

- Shawn Baker-Garcia
- Tom Bradley
- Aaron Sean Poynton
- Maya J. Hadley

Past Board Chairs

- Jill Christianson
- Stephen F. Moseley
- Amb. Donald T. Bliss (Ret.)
- Karen Mulhauser
- A. Edward Elmendorf

Strategic Goals

Goal 1: Build Support

- Followers: 12k
- Interactions: 150k
- Number of Events: 37

Goal 2: Enhance Membership

- Active Members: 396
- Youth Members: 119
- Percentage of Members 25 and Under: 8%
- Percentage of Members 40 and Under: 22%

Goal 3: Partnership Network

45+
Partners

Goal 4: Financially Stable Organization

Strengthened financial position for operations and long term investments;
Strengthened governance practices and policies

Graduate Fellows Program



Graduate fellows and staff ready to connect with and learn from others at the morning portion of this year's UNA-USA Global Engagement Summit in New York City.

"Overall, the fellowship has been a very good experience, especially for international students. It provides valuable exposure to global impact topics before returning to our countries."
 - 2026 Graduate Fellow

Our History

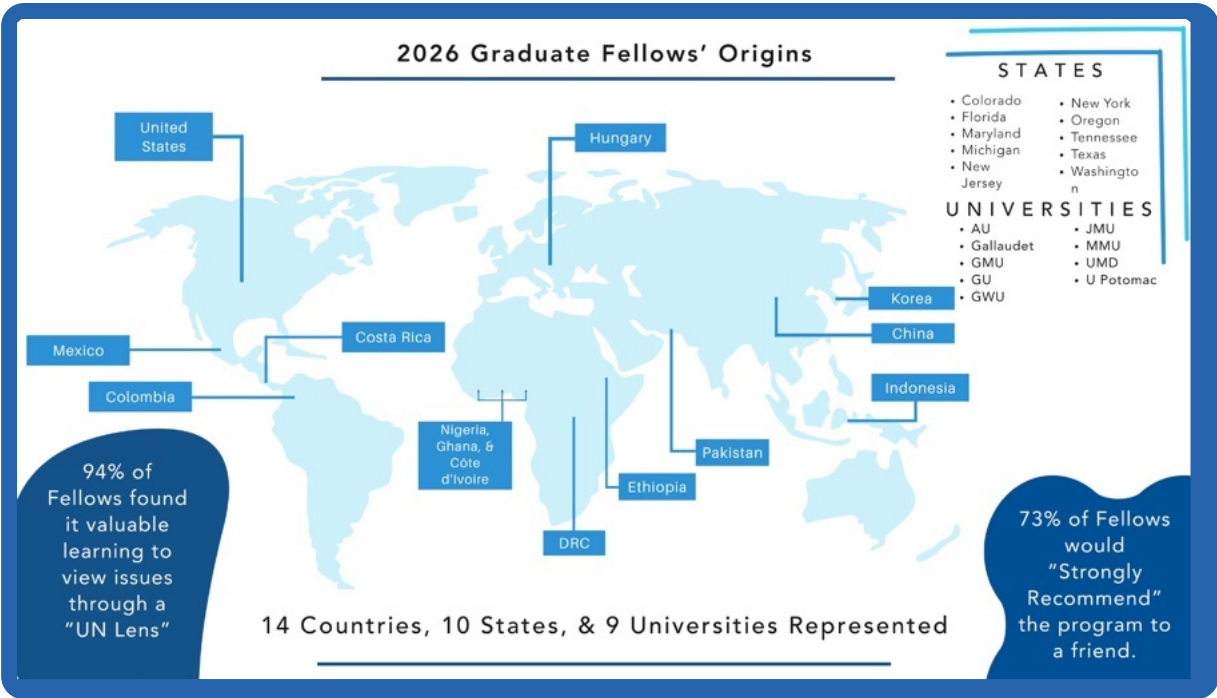
Since its founding in 1991 by UNA-NCA, the Graduate Fellows Program has brought together the resources of UNA-NCA with over 500 students and 40 international public and non-governmental organizations.

Our Mission

The mission of the Graduate Fellows Program (GFP) is to help graduate students studying at a university within the DC-Maryland-Northern Virginia (DMV) region the opportunity to develop an understanding of UN issues, policies, and organizations while assisting them in preparing for UN-related careers. Students learn to view the world through a "UN lens" alongside like-minded peers, experienced faculty, and foreign affairs professionals.

500+
Students Served

40
Partner Organizations



Human Rights Awards

Each year UNA-NCA hosts its awards reception commemorating Human Rights Day in December, recognizing individuals and institutions for their work, perseverance, and passion in advancing human rights.



The 2025 Human Rights Awards Reception commemorated the UN General Assembly's adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 by presenting the:

Louis B. Sohn Award



Gimena Sánchez-Garzoli
Director for the Andes at the
Washington Office on Latin
America (WOLA)

Perdita Houston Award



Sia Nowrojee
Associate Vice President, Girls &
Women Strategy at the UN Foundation

F. Allen "Tex" Harris Diplomacy Award



Uzra Zeya
President and CEO of
Human Rights First

Emerging Leader Award



Oscar Lopez III
13th U.S. Youth Observer to the
United Nations

Community Award



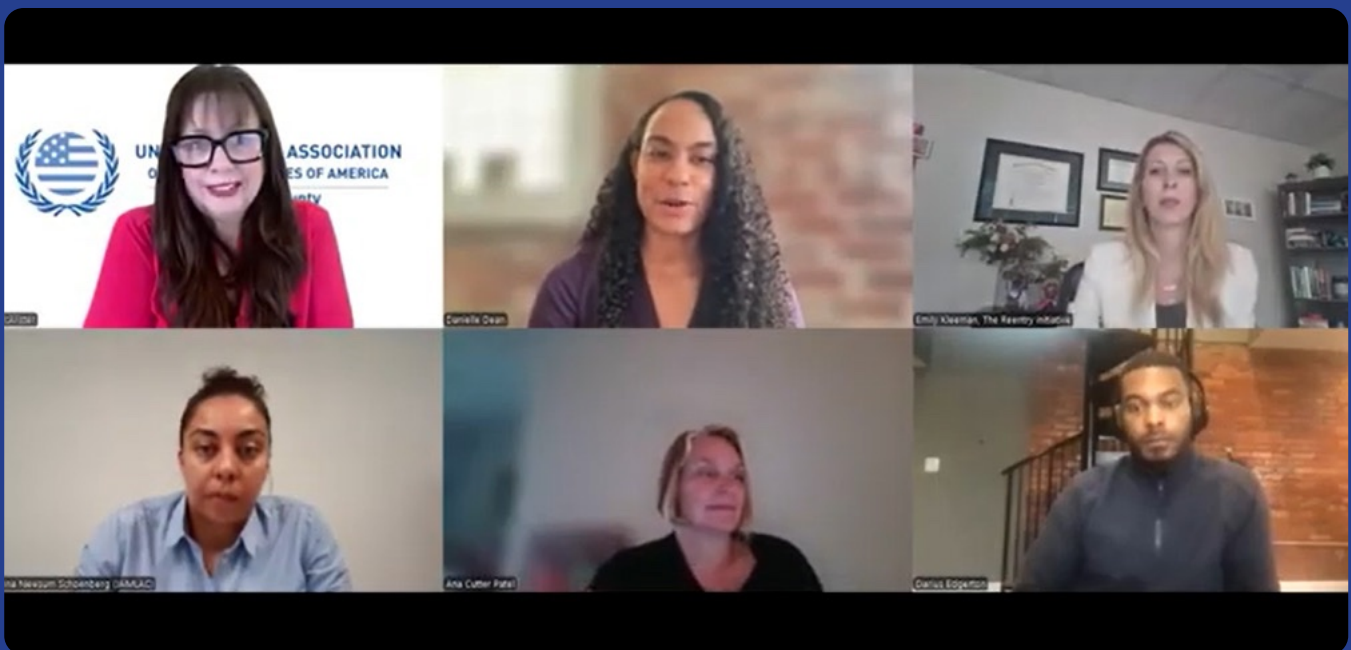
Bridgette Stumpf
Volare Founder

Local Outreach

Advocating for Equity, Inclusion, and Global Cooperation



UNA-NCA Advocacy presented a coffee chat on Advocating for a Strong U.S.-U.N. Partnership in Challenging Times on August 27, 2025. The program brought together a panel of experts to discuss the importance of a strong partnership between the United States and the United Nations. In the face of global challenges such as conflict, climate change, and humanitarian crises, speakers explored how renewed U.S. leadership can support international cooperation, promote peace, and advance human rights through the UN system.



The 70th annual Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), held at UN Headquarters in New York from March 9–19, 2026, focused on strengthening access to justice for women and girls by promoting inclusive legal systems and eliminating structural barriers. In connection with this theme, UNA-NCA and UNA of Boulder County hosted a virtual side event bringing together experts to discuss challenges facing immigrant women and LGBTQ communities in the U.S. Panelists highlighted systemic obstacles such as high legal and healthcare costs, limited bilingual and gender-responsive services, housing difficulties after incarceration, trauma, and a justice system focused more on punishment than reintegration, alongside broader issues like criminalization, discrimination, fear, and lack of access to immigration information. They emphasized the critical role of civil society in raising awareness, documenting abuses, and advocating for accountability, noting that tools like storytelling, the arts, social media, and intersectional approaches can drive meaningful change, and stressed the importance of treating all individuals with dignity while advancing justice and equity.

Local Outreach

Innovating for Sustainable Development



In response to the Administration’s proposed budget, UNA-NCA Advocacy engaged in efforts on Capitol Hill to support strong U.S. global leadership. Through in-person and virtual meetings with congressional offices, we urged full funding for the United Nations and key international programs advancing peace, security, sustainable development, and human rights. These efforts underscore the importance of international cooperation and citizen engagement in addressing global challenges.

The United Nations Association of the USA’s Global Engagement Summit 2026 brought together advocates, policymakers, UN leaders, and emerging changemakers in New York City for its largest annual gathering. Centered on the question of how to build a stronger, more effective United Nations, the summit featured dynamic discussions, cross-sector collaboration, and opportunities for participants to engage directly with the ideas and people shaping the future of global cooperation. UNA-NCA brought a strong delegation including leaders and graduate fellows.



**GLOBAL GOALS
AT HOME**

The Global Goals at Home dashboard underwent significant technical improvements to enhance functionality and user experience. Software-related issues affecting the dashboard’s visual presentation and performance were successfully identified and resolved in October 2025. These enhancements have improved platform reliability, accessibility, and data visualization capabilities, providing users with a more effective

tool for exploring SDG-related data and insights. Continued upgrades and content development will ensure that the dashboard remains a valuable resource for tracking progress, informing decision-making, and supporting local action on the Global Goals. UNA-NCA is developing the Impact Innovation Hub, a new platform designed to expand the reach and impact of the Global Goals at Home (GGH) initiative while fostering future public-private partnerships that advance the SDGs. The Impact Innovation Hub will serve as a dynamic forum for content, events, and collaborative initiatives focused on emerging technologies, innovative solutions, and scalable approaches to sustainable development.

Global Classrooms DC (GCDC)



Global Classrooms DC (GCDC) is the flagship global education program of UNA-NCA, engaging students in grades 5–12 in global issues and the United Nations through Model UN simulations and a global education curriculum. Serving students across the DC area and beyond, GCDC helps participants build skills in research, public speaking, negotiation, and writing.



2025 Winter Model UN Conference

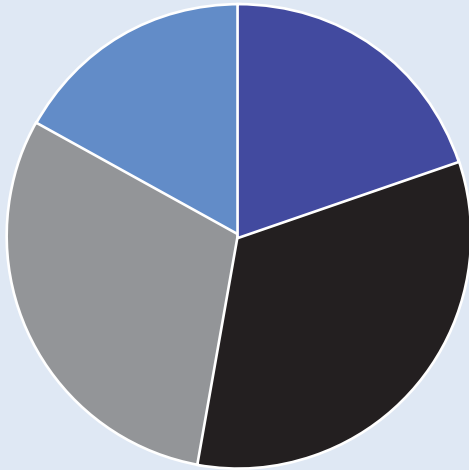
The GCDC Winter Model UN Training Conference is a preparatory conference leading up to the Spring Conference in April, that gives students hands-on experience with Model UN simulations while building confidence and core diplomatic skills ahead of larger conferences later in the academic year.



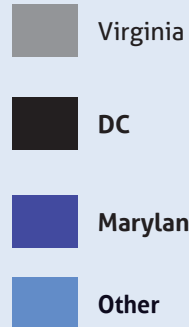
2026 Spring Model UN Conference

The GCDC Spring Model UN Conference is the culminating event for students to step into the roles of diplomats and collaborate with peers around the DMV. The conference provides participants with an immersive opportunity to strengthen skills in public speaking, research, writing, diplomacy, and critical thinking while gaining a deeper understanding of the work of the United Nations and the importance of global cooperation.

Global Classrooms DC (GCDC)



Where Does GCDC Work?



MD= 20 % students

DC= 33% students

VA= 30.4% students

Other= 17 % students

Who Does GCDC Work With?



1,001+ Participating Students



19 Public Schools



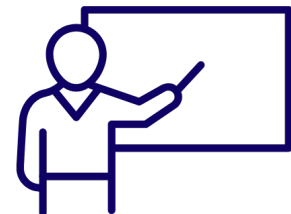
11 Private Schools



3 Public Charter Schools



1 Dedicated Team



60 Educators & Teachers



50 Volunteers



4 Groups & Homeschools



7 Title I Schools

UN 80th Anniversary Gala



On October 25, UNA-NCA celebrated the 80th Anniversary of the UN with a gala at the Embassy of France. For over 80 years the United Nations has become the indispensable forum where nations meet, clash and converse, build consensus and commit to common goals. As we reflected on the journey, we paid tribute to the many milestones which remind us that what we dare to imagine, we can achieve when we act together. We honored the past 80 years by pledging to make the next decades even stronger. We owe that to children yet to be born, to communities still enduring injustice, and to the planet itself.

We recommit — to be bold, to be inclusive, to be persistent, and to act together. Because when nations stand together, when communities engage, when individuals believe, the impossible becomes possible. We marked this 80th anniversary not as an end, but as a powerful new beginning! Thank you to our leaders, partners, sponsors, staff and volunteers.



A Special Thanks To Gala Sponsors

Don and Nancy Bliss
Fadi Ghantous
Stephen F. Moseley
Aaron Poynton
Robert Schott
Jonathan and Anne
Simmons-Benton

Gala Committee

Aaron Poynton, Chair
Paula Boland
Katherine Boyce
Kristen Hecht
Amanda Molina
Maria Moreno
Anne Simmons-Benton

Thank You to Our Gala Sponsors



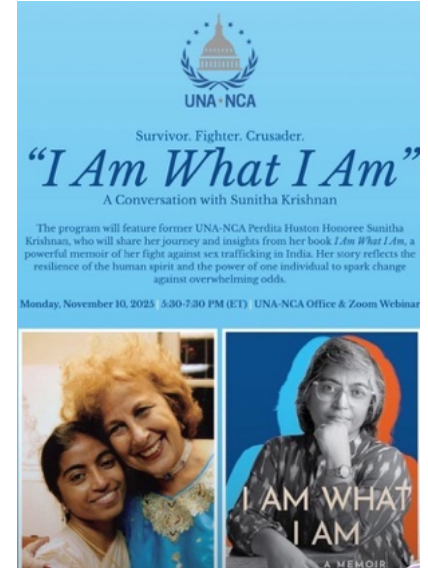
Program Highlights

Our Work In Action

UNA-NCA's 2025-2026 programming year was one of the most robust since before the pandemic. UNA-NCA delivered strong programs addressing 18 distinct themes across more than two dozen events. See here some of the themes and topics addressed and learn more about them at www.unanca.org.

Human Rights - 7 Events

- Combating human trafficking
- Educational equity
- Gender equity and empowerment
- Public education and advocacy
- Social justice and inclusion



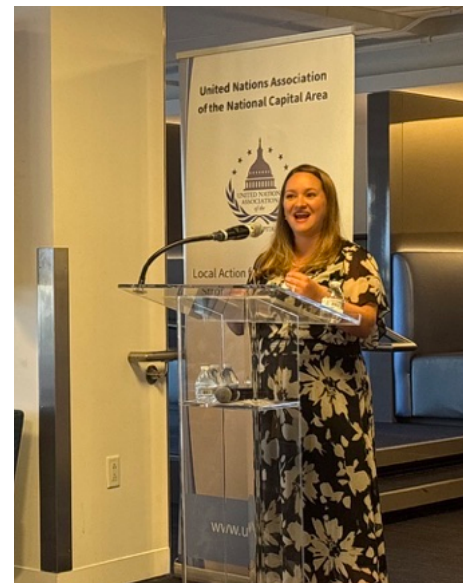
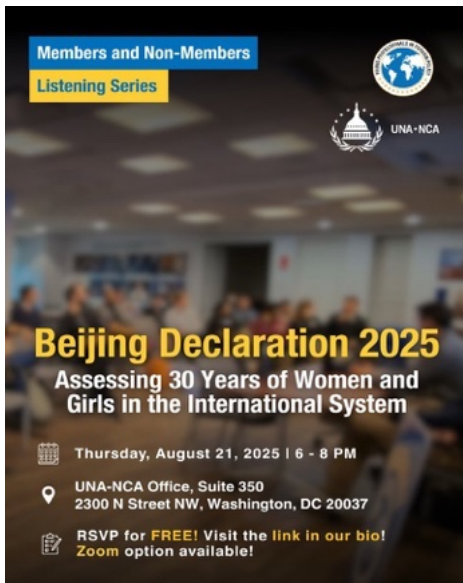
Peace and Security - 7 Events

- Multilateral cooperation
- NGO leadership and innovation
- Global citizenship

Program Highlights

Community - 10 Events

- Career and leadership development
- Community awareness, advocacy, and engagement
- Global and local collaboration
- Cross-sector collaboration
- Inclusive learning opportunities
- Professional development
- Youth engagement



List of Program Committees

African Affairs
DC for CEDAW
Human Rights
International Law

Peace and Security
Sustainable Development
Young Professionals
Advocacy

Development - 2 Events

- International development
- Sustainability

Donor Recognition

Global Goals Achievers (\$10,000+)

Anonymous
Accenture LLC
Florence & Murray Schott
Family Foundation

Stephen F. Moseley
Siemens Energy
UNFCU
World Bank Group

Ambassadors Circle (\$5,000–9,999)

Don and Nancy Bliss
Billie Ann Day
Desert Stories LLC

Focus Investment Bankers
Charles W. and Cordelia Puttkammer
Jonathan and Anne Simmons-Benton
AIRSCHOTT

Diplomats Circle (\$1,000–4,999)

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Frank Vogl
Thomas Bradley
Dawn and Tino
Calabia
Jill Christianson

Judith Edstrom
Shawn Baker-Garcia
Roger Griffis
Julie Harris
Andrew Hyde
Katherine Marshall
Amanda Molina

Audré Park
Aaron Poynton
Robert J. Schott
Bob Berg and Vivian Derryck
Samuel Worthington

Advocates Circle (\$500–999)

Babak Akhlaghi
Tim Barner
Patricia Beneke
Katherine Boyce
Danielle Dean
Barton Edgerton

Kristen Hecht
Thomas Liu
Maria Moreno
Karen Mulhauser
Nadjad Nikabou-Salifou
Nancy Okail

Nora O'Connell
Donal O'Leary
Jessica Tollette
Douglas Wake
John C. Williams
Black Professionals in International Affairs
United Nations Association of the USA

Citizens Circle (\$200–499)

Kaashif Ahmed
Roberta Cohen
Dorian Corcoran
Paula Feeney
Richard Gregory
Shannon Hader
Christina Hansen

Jeffrey A. Meer
Marilyn Moreno
Abbey Ogunwale
Diana Ohlbaum
Loyce Pace
Philip S. Reynolds
Daniel G. Ritchie
Richard C. Rowson

Richard Seifman
Cheryl Seinfeld
Iqbal Unus
Lanice Williams
Melissa Wolfe
Michael and Pamela Nardolilli
John and Lucilia Harrington

Donor Recognition

Legacy Circle Members

Anonymous
 Thomas Bradley and Sandra Gregory
 Tim Barner and Kathy Guthrie
 Emily L. Carnes
 Dawn T. and Tino Calabia
 Jack W.† and Sarah Anne Corbett
 Edison W. Dick
 Sidney Austin Ellis
 Evelyn Falkowski
 George A. Garland
 Richard† and Anne Griffis
 Arthur W. Johnson
 Michael Marsh
 Ellen McGovern
 Karen and Fritz Mulhauser
 Firoze and Susan Rao
 Andrew E. Rice
 Markley Roberts
 Murry† and Florence Schott
 Cherie Settle
 Tim Wierzbicki
 Monthly Sustainers
 Jill Christianson
 Christina Hansen
 Stephen F. Moseley
 Thomas Riesenber

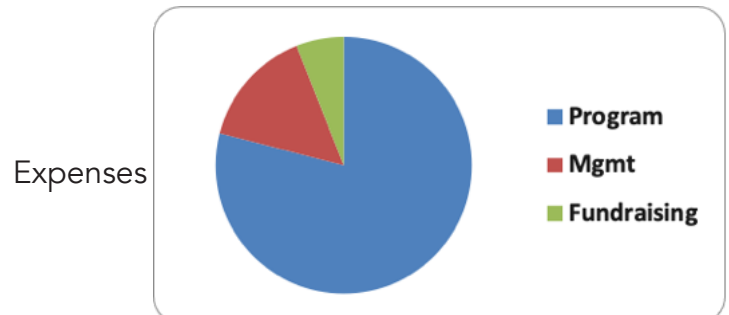
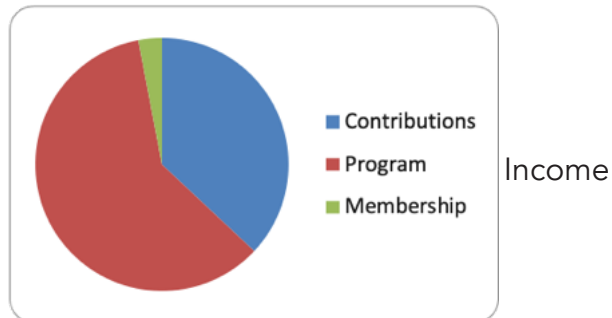
Richard C. Rowson
 Jonathan and Anne Simmons-Benton
 Jessica Tollette
 Dr. Iqbal Unus
 Henry Webster-Mellon
 John C. Williams
 Melissa Wolfe
 Samuel Worthington

World Bank Community Campaign

A. Edward Elmendorf
 Nicholas Burnett
 Judith Edstrom
 Richard Gregory
 Paul Isenman
 Deane Jordan
 Yumiko Kaizuka
 Jeffrey Katz
 Katherine Marshall
 Donal O’Leary
 Shirin Rateshtari
 Daniel Ritchie
 Richard Seifman
 Alexander Shakow
 Frank Vogl

2025 Consolidated Financial Statement

ASSETS	2025
Cash & Cash Equivalents	76,854
Receivables	18,073
Prepaid Expenses	4,567
Investments	854,014
Total Assets	953,508
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	8,817
Total Liabilities	8,817
NET ASSETS	
Undesignated	251,213
Board Designated	294,553
Total Unrestricted	545,766
Temporary Restricted	337,343
Permanently Restricted	61,582
Total Net Assets	944,691
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	953,508



Note: FY25 Financial statements have not yet been audited.



United Nations Association of the National Capital Area
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www.UNANCA.com