



20
22

ANNUAL REPORT

Message from Our ED

2022 was a year of strategic growth where we focused on the sustainability and future of the African American Roundtable.

Welcome to our 2022 Annual Report, and thank you for reading!

We had an exciting 2022, including installing a LiberateMKE-inspired mural on Milwaukee's Northwest Side that was led by local youth and artists, launching our membership and influencer programs, hiring two key consultants to help us with fundraising and building our strategic three-year plan, and bringing on three new Black women as board members.

Take a look at our journey on the next few pages, and we invite you to get involved with AART in the near future.

MARKASA TUCKER-HARRIS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**We will continue to
lead and push for
transformational
change in our
communities.**

About AART

Here's our why and what motivates us.

We're excited to announce that we've expanded our mission, vision and values. We're going to focus on training the next generation of Black leaders and becoming a model that other organizations can follow. That rollout will happen later this year.



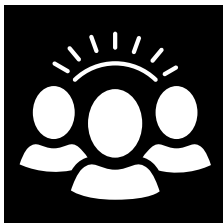
MISSION

AART collaborates to show power, amplify each other's voices, nurture leadership, promote racial equity and accessibility, and pass policies to radically improve the lives of Black people in Milwaukee.



VISION

AART envisions a Milwaukee where Black people are walking in their power, organizing, leading, and transforming policies to change the trajectory of their community to thrive and live at their greatest potential.



VALUES

Transformation | Community & Civic Engagement |
Authentic Relationships | Empowerment | Organization

The Budget

Revenue

Foundations	_____	\$998,468
Donors	_____	\$10,600



Expenses and Deductions

Staff salaries and benefits	_____	\$362,090
Leadership development and programs	_____	\$62,111
Marketing, branding and outreach	_____	\$72,422
Staff professional development and training	_____	\$27,950
General administrative expenses	_____	\$14,034

Note: In 2022 AART began developing a three-year strategic plan that includes launching new programming in 2023, including expanded youth engagement work and a self-funded community participatory budgeting program, and adding two new full-time staff members.

Notable Highlights



- Held our first **Black Joy Fundraiser**
- Launched a **Membership Program** to build community power
- Launched an **Influencer Program** to amplify our initiatives
- Installed a youth-led mural, "Blossom," on Milwaukee's Northwest Side
- Added **three new Black women** as board members
- Hired a strategist to help us build our **three-year strategic plan** to inform our programmatic work, operations and infrastructure
- Hired a fund development consultant to build a plan to support our programs, staff, and **infrastructure sustainability**
- Visited Wisconsin's first and only Black community, **Lake Ivanhoe, WI**
- Lost a Democracy Organizer due to a run for public office, but continued to deeply engage residents through other **civic engagement programs**



Staff also completed a **Basic Life Support (CPR and AED) Program** through the American Heart Association to support our ideas around how we can add to our community safety tools.

By the Numbers

700

Petition signatures collected

Hundreds of Milwaukee residents joined in our fight for participatory budgeting on the local level.

78

Milwaukee youth engaged

They were supported during listening sessions, evening meetings, events and youth-led projects.

50

Black-owned entities supported

This includes Black-owned businesses and Black-led organizations, of which approximately 95% were local.

27

New members onboarded

We provided 10+ hours of training to new members and held our first Membership Intensive event.

5

New funders secured

They are Greater Milwaukee Foundation (JP Morgan Chase), State Voices, Butler Family Foundation, Milwaukee County Office of Equity and America Votes.

A Year in Photos

In 2022 we held those in power accountable, built authentic relationships and experienced Black joy across our communities.



Program Success: Membership & Coalition

"Our movements need more people." - M. Adams



Membership

AART launched its membership program in April 2022. This was our attempt to bring more people into our movements. By the end of 2022, we recruited 27 members, and we provided over 10 hours of training to them, including during our first Membership Intensive event.

LiberateMKE

We defended local libraries' budget from being cut by the mayor, and over 700 people signed our petition for participatory budgeting.

Join us on this journey. Join us in this fight.

Program Success: Base Building & Youth Engagement



Base Building

In 2022 AART set out to begin identifying future issue priorities. Through canvasses, phone banks, one-on-one relationship building, and community engagement opportunities in our target Aldermanic Districts 5 and 9, we identified housing, mental health, and safety (including gun violence, reckless driving, and meeting community needs) as three resident priority issues.

Youth Engagement

AART's work with young people remained a priority. We held five listening sessions and engaged 78 people between the ages of 13 and 24 in discussions about their communities and the world they want to see. We installed a youth-led mural, "Blossom," on Milwaukee's Northwest Side, held youth-focused evening meetings, and partnered with Mentor Milwaukee to train young men of color in basic organizing skills.

Northwest Side Stories (NWSS)

AART expanded its Northwest Side storytelling project to welcome business owners in the district and hired KQ Productions to evolve the quality of stories told. We collected eight stories in 2022, which featured businesses and discussed experiences, community needs, and the youth prison coming to Milwaukee's Northwest Side.

Program Success: Digital



In 2022 AART produced a new internal messaging guide, held two digital and communications training sessions on social media best practices and the power of effective storytelling, and developed our Online Community Standards. We also increased our followers, engagement and reach substantially on all social media platforms.

Partnerships & Affiliations

Local Partners & Coalitions

- All in Wisconsin
- Milwaukee Freedom Fund
- Hmong American Women's Association
- Generations of Excellence Trendsetters
- Black and Pink: Milwaukee
- Milwaukee Democratic Socialists of America
- Working Families Party Wisconsin
- VIA
- St. Joe's Accountability Coalition
- Ubuntu Research & Evaluation
- ROCS Software LLC
- Heal the Hood Milwaukee
- Health Connections, Inc
- The Black Joy Retreat

Staff/ Board Dev. Partners

- Courage to Fight Lions, Inc
- Management Center
- Maximized Communications
- RBJ Consulting
- Well Endowed Philanthropy
- M.A.D.E. To Lead
- Synergy Power Consulting
- NPAG
- Vision Change Win
- Joo-Hyun Kang
- Weyam Healing & Conflict Transformation
- The Cultural Club, Inc
- D&J CPR Training

Foundations

- Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies
- Freedom Inc
- America Votes
- Butler Family Foundation
- Tides
- Public Welfare Foundation
- Borealis Philanthropy
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation
- JP Morgan Chase
- Milwaukee County Office of Equity
- Norman Foundation
- State Voices

National Partners

- Civilytics Consulting
- Community Resource Hub
- Interrupting Criminalization
- State Voices

Board of Directors



Dr. Cassandra Bowers
Board President



Sharonda Hunter
1st Vice-President



Dr. Gabrielle Gray
Secretary



Anita Johnson
Member



Angela Harris
Member



Rashidah Butler-Jackson
Member



Maya Neal
Member

Contact

info@africanamericanroundtable.org
414-253-3366
aartmke.org

