

2023 Annual Report



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Promises made... promises kept

In 2023, the Seattle Fire Foundation (SFF) funded 100% of the requested Seattle Fire Department (SFD) funding priorities.

**We want to extend a
huge THANK YOU**
to our sponsors, donors
and volunteers for this
remarkable
accomplishment!



A Message from the President

The Seattle Fire Foundation (SFF) board is pleased to present the 2023 annual report. Although this is our first annual report, a great deal of progress has been made since the SFF began in 2019.

That year, Chief Harold Scoggins met with Debbie Steinhauer to discuss the critical need for more community support for the Seattle Fire Department (SFD). As an active community member and philanthropist, Debbie worked tirelessly with Chief Scoggins, Nancy Senseney and other dedicated individuals to create the SFF.

As we celebrate our five-year anniversary, founding members Carter Harrington and Kim Schmanke continue in their roles, and Debbie and her husband, Greg, remain philanthropic supporters of the SFF. We are eternally grateful for all the effort this group invested to create and grow the foundation.

Today, we are fortunate to have an all-volunteer board that passionately believes in our mission to provide critical, unmet resources to SFD. We work closely with Chief Scoggins to identify these critical funding priorities. Many of these aim to improve the safety, health and effectiveness of SFD personnel while they respond to calls from the community.

We are so grateful for the incredible support we received in 2023 from our individual donors and sponsors. Collectively, they answered the call for assistance from the brave members of SFD.

We are humbled by the incredible work that SFD members do for our community every day. It is our honor to be part of supporting those that never fail to respond when we call for help.

With gratitude,



Steve Elsoe



Photo provided by
Alabatro Photography

A Message from the Chief

Each year, the impact of the Seattle Fire Foundation has grown by leaps and bounds.

The foundation began in early 2019. Despite the challenge of growing during a global pandemic that next year, the foundation found ways to support the Seattle Fire Department as it faced its own unprecedented circumstances. Their first major purchase for the department was ballistic vests and helmets in 2020. They also provided essential training supplies for our COVID-19 testing sites so we could meet the need for community testing.

Fast forward to 2023 to see all of the success stories that have been made possible because of the foundation and community supporters.

The first major dinner auction fundraiser grossed more than \$300,000 and created greater awareness of the fire department's work. Community partners reached out to work with the foundation to fulfill some of our highest priority needs. Community members grateful for how the fire department showed up for them on their worst day have also lent their support.

Best of all, our personnel are receiving equipment, training and support so they can provide the best service to Seattle.

For all that has been accomplished and all that is yet to come, we are grateful and appreciative.

Yours in safety,



Harold D. Scoggins, Fire Chief
Seattle Fire Department



Meet Our Seattle Fire Department

The SFD provides emergency response through five battalions, consisting of 33 fire stations (plus Battalion 3/Medic One at Harborview Medical Center) strategically placed around the city in order to maximize coverage and minimize response time. These stations are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by four separate shifts. To meet the needs of the city in 2023, the department had 995 uniformed personnel and 85 civilian personnel. Uniformed personnel includes 898 firefighter/EMTs, 36 chiefs and 61 firefighter/paramedics. Every day, there are 216 members responding to emergencies across the city.

Depending on the type of emergency, the Fire Alarm Center will dispatch the appropriate resources to provide fire suppression, Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Life Support (ALS), Health One services and technical operations. The following chart displays the increasing demands for service.*

Type of Service	2021	2022	2023
Emergency Calls	186,571	202,344	206,482
Response Totals	93,233	106,453	111,319
Basic Life Support	56,208	64,127	66,336
Advanced Life Support	12,356	14,681	16,407
Fire**	24,255	27,180	28,107
Special Operations	361	407	385
Mutual Aid	53	58	84

**The "Fire" category includes any incident where firefighters don turnout gear such as fires, vehicle collisions, etc.

Beyond Emergency Response

Seattle Fire earned the most exemplary protection class rating from the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau

•

The Fire Prevention Division completed 20,000 fire inspections and tracked 27,000 fire protection systems

•

The Mobile Health Unit received 2,968 referrals. These referrals originated from every SFD unit and a majority of firefighters

•

The Fire Investigation Unit investigated 293 fire incidents

•

SFD converted a Health One unit into Health 99 to respond specifically to overdoses

•

The Mayor and City Council added new full-time uniformed positions to the department to staff Ladder 13 and Medic 26 in West Seattle as well as two other much-needed positions

•

SFD celebrated the second year of the Nurse Navigation program and launched an AI component to its dispatch system to route calls for service more quickly

•

SFD provided 253,000 hours of department training

•

Public Affairs hosted more than 2,300 community members at three fire safety fairs and the Seattle Fire Day

•

SFD welcomed many new professional staff members and graduated 59 recruits from the training academy

Vision and Mission

Vision

A Seattle community that supports its highly effective fire department through the maintenance of thriving partnerships, successful collaborations, and deep connections to the community.

Mission

The SFF helps provide the SFD with essential tools, equipment, and training resources not provided through the department's operational budget. The SFF also supports partners in the community that have a connection to the SFD.

Our Why

Seattle, like other cities, faces resource challenges in meeting critical needs. Only 3% of the SFD budget is available to invest in desperately needed technology, essential equipment and training.

Bravery



Service to our Community



The goal of the SFF is to foster support from the community and help fulfill these critical, unmet needs.

2023 Funding Priorities

Firefighter Effectiveness

Thermal Imaging Cameras

Thermal Imaging Cameras (TICs) are a vital piece of equipment to help firefighters protect themselves and the residents of Seattle. They enable firefighters to see through smoke, monitor fire spread, strategize quickly, identify hot spots, and ultimately save lives.

DEX Rescue Gloves

Firefighters often handle debris, sharp objects, and tools requiring dexterity. Dex-Rescue Gloves meet National Fire Protection Association certification and the highest standards for cut, abrasion, and puncture resistance testing by the American National Standards Institute.

Watercraft

Seattle has 200 miles of shoreline. Rescue watercraft quicken the ability of Seattle Fire rescue swimmers to reach people in distress and strengthen the department's water response capabilities.*

** Delivery is anticipated in Spring 2024.*

Wellness

2023 Funding Priorities

Resiliency

Seattle Fire personnel regularly face stressful situations and aid people in crisis, which can take a toll on their well-being. Additional support to enhance resilience is crucial. mPEAK is an intensive mindfulness training course for high-performing individuals in high-stress occupations and integrates the latest brain research related to peak resilience, focus, and flow.

Firefighter Fitness

Fire stations are the “homes” for firefighters while on duty. Ensuring that there is fitness equipment and weight racks to maintain their strength and endurance, reduce stress, and promote an effective response is of paramount importance to the department. SFF provided weight racks to ensure that equipment is organized and usable.

Fire Department Museum

The Last Resort Fire Department (FD) officially began in 1969 when a handful of dedicated individuals banded together to form what is now the largest collection of antique motorized fire apparatus in the Pacific Northwest. Led by retired SFD Firefighter Galen Thomaier, the museum is staffed only by volunteers and funded by donations. The Last Resort FD preserves our firefighting history and educates the public. Several of the antique rigs can be viewed each Thursday at the history museum located at SFD headquarters.

Awards Luncheon

Each year, the SFD celebrates its unsung heroes who have worked tirelessly to protect and serve us through the most challenging times. This event highlights the exceptional work of the entire department during the prior year, including firefighters, administrative and professional staff, and employees of the year.

Outreach

2023 Funding
Priorities

Rescue and Therapy Dogs

SFD is proud to have four service dog teams. The skills of search and rescue dogs can mean the difference between life and death, especially during natural disasters and when locating missing people.

Peer Support therapy dogs serve a different function, promoting physical and mental health benefits for staff, such as lowering blood pressure and helping staff decompress, relax, and reduce depression.

Health One

Health One was formed by the SFD in 2019 to provide specialized outreach, transport, and provider referrals for residents needing a better option than an ER visit. Many of these individuals are frequent utilizers of the 911 system. A multi-disciplinary team of firefighters and case managers respond to provide better solutions and connect individuals with appropriate services.

Community Programs

Camp Eyabsut

Every July, Camp Eyabsut organizes a week-long camp aimed at bolstering the quality of life for young burn survivors. Through team-building exercises, challenging activities, and fostering friendships in a safe and enjoyable environment, the camp aims to enhance their well-being. SFF contributes support for camp activities, while the board hosts the send-off dinner for both staff and campers.

Fire Science Program

North Seattle College provides a two-year study program designed to prepare students for a career in the fire service. SFF extends two scholarships annually to assist students enrolled in the program with covering their tuition.

Donation Impacts

2023 Funding Priorities

“When I learned how thermal imaging cameras can help search for victims and firefighters keep track of one another in a burning building, I knew this was something I wanted to support. I’m thrilled that I could help in this way.” - Sherry Raisbeck, donor



SFD Testimonials

“Because of the fire foundation's support, I am able to bring Rojo to work with me and continue our water rescue training. Without the training, he wouldn't have helped save a man's life the other day.” - Brandon Freeland, Firefighter

“I am glad this training was integrated into drill school. Stress management is key for performance, as well as longevity in this profession.” - anonymous Recruit mPEAK training



Fundraising Highlights

The 2023 Auction Gala

With the generous support of Debbie and Greg Steinhauer, the Pioneer Square Embassy Suites became the home for the SFF's first dinner auction fundraiser.

The SFD provided opportunities for the community to speak to firefighters and meet members of the therapy dog program. Department and community offerings were well received, and bidding was fast-paced, and fun!

The live auction and raffle netted \$242,996!



**Join us for the next dinner auction on May 30, 2024.
Learn more about this event at www.supportsfd.org.**



Photos provided by Alabastro Photography

Fundraising Highlights

The AHT Charity Golf Classic

AHT Insurance hosts an annual charity fundraiser, and in 2023, SFF was selected to be the beneficiary!

On September 18, 2023, the event was held at Redmond Ridge, and the weather cooperated for a wonderful day of birdies, pars, and a few bogeys. The Fire Chief joined several members of SFD and the board to speak passionately about SFD.

The event raised a total of \$55,000, which is a record amount in AHT's 18-year history of putting on this event.

Thank you to the attendees and AHT Insurance!



“AHT Insurance has supported local charities in the Emergency Service and Disaster Relief segment since 2006. Supporting the Seattle Fire Department and their dedicated staff was a natural fit for our Community Outreach program. Thank you to Chief Scoggins and the entire SFF board for including AHT in this team effort.”

**Ned Sander
Sr. Director of Sales
Market President, Seattle**

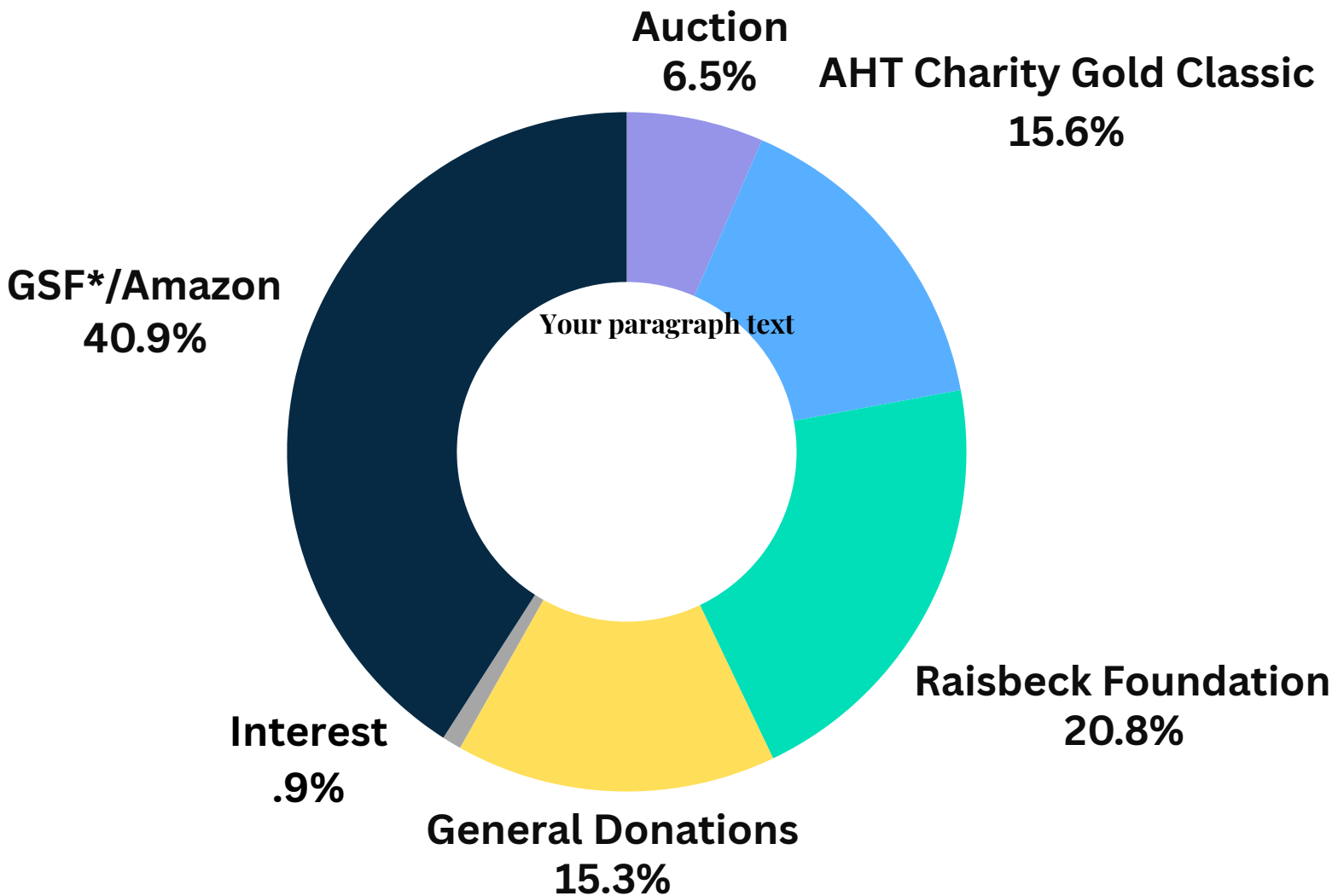
Sponsors

The SFF relies on the generous contributions of our community to make our work possible. Individual corporations and foundations provide essential funding and significant gifts of in-kind goods and services. We are proud to highlight our community partners.

Absco Solutions
Aetna
Aegis Living
AHT Insurance
Alaska Airlines
Amazon
Belfor Property Restoration
1-800-Board Up of Seattle
Embassy Suites Pioneer Square
Fire Fighters Retirement Planning Group
Firewall Capital Management
FirstNet Built with AT&T
Hungry Fish Media
James D. And Sherry Raisbeck Foundation
Juniper Foundation
Kilroy Realty
Live Oak Audio Visual
National Fire Sprinkler Association
Parker Smith and Feek
Prostar Insurance
Restoration ShalomSeattle
Schroeter Goldmark & Bender
Seattle Fire Fighters, Local 27
Seattle Kraken
One Roof Foundation
SODO Business Improvement Area
Sprinklerfitters, Local 699
Steinhauer Properties
Viking Fire Protection

Revenue

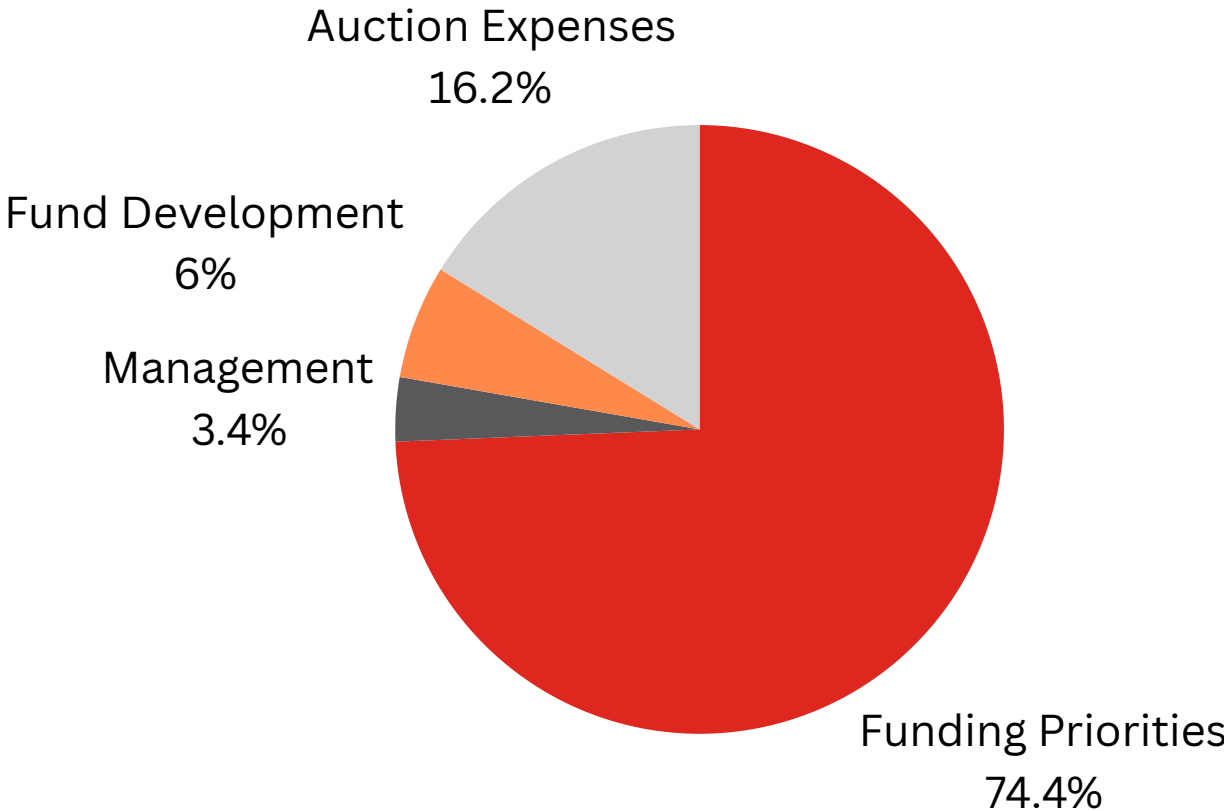
Through the generous contributions of our community, foundations, and event fundraising, **SFF's total revenue for 2023 was \$573,122.**



*Gary Sinise Foundation

Expenses

Several of the SFD priorities require a lengthy procurement process. Money is held in reserves to ensure adequate resources when equipment is delivered.



Funding Priorities	\$318,159
Management	\$14,546
Fund Development	\$25,874
Auction Expenses	\$69,286
<hr/>	
Total Expenditures	\$427,865

Underspend & Reserves **\$241,460**

Contact Us

255 S King St., Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104

www.supportsfd.org



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You can Help!

There are several ways to give to the SFF. Your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

**The SFF is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Federal Tax ID# 83-2715866**

Questions?

Contact us at:

<https://www.supportsfd.org> or
info@supportSFD.org

Give by Credit Card



Give by Check

Mail to:
Seattle Fire Foundation
255 S King St., Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104

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