



June 4, 2024

Dear SBANP Members,

Since its inception in 2000, the South Boston Association of Non-Profits (SBANP) has been a catalyst for change, dialogue and collaborative approaches and initiatives to address community issues. Recognizing the increased needs and rapidly changing demographics of the neighborhood, we organized ourselves to be in a better position to support our community. In the beginning, substance abuse, housing, education, waterfront development, lack of funding resources, and bridging the gap between those with access to resources and those with little hope were among the issues identified by the nonprofits as critical to improving the quality of life for the families of our community. Today, we continue to focus on these important issues and build upon all that we have done together.

Our monthly meetings are inclusive and open to all groups and individuals in the community, and will continue to take place on Zoom. Guest speakers, informational presentations, and opportunities to network and share program updates are all important parts of our meetings.

We invite you to re-new your membership and/or to join our efforts as a new member, working together to forward our mission, “to inspire a collective and powerful voice among the leadership of South Boston’s nonprofits to influence change and build a healthier community for all of our residents and neighbors.”

Member organizations will have access to grant opportunities through SBANP, will be highlighted on SBANP’s new website and social media platforms, and program/fundraising events will be added to the SBANP calendar.

For the past 24 years, SBANP has represented all that is best about South Boston - and worked tirelessly and bravely towards a more just and equitable community. In 2011, SBANP convened the “We Are South Boston” campaign to highlight, celebrate and support South Boston’s diverse community members, with a special emphasis on its LGTBQ residents. In 2014, SBANP secured a permit to march in the South Boston St. Patrick’s Day Parade under a rainbow and shamrock festooned “We Are South Boston” banner. This courageous and inclusive statement by a coalition of community members and nonprofit providers gained national as well as local media attention. In 2021, SBANP convened a dialogue-centered initiative with a focus on racial justice, equity, and racial healing. Courageous Conversations South Boston was a four-part series, “It’s Time To Talk About Busing”, focused on busing and school integration in Boston in the 1970’s. The series was held virtually (Zoom) during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and included an additional four open space meetings for continued conversation. Courageous Conversations will continue to address issues that are important to our community.

Last year, Tufts Medical Center awarded over \$1.2 million in grants to 20 Boston nonprofit organizations through its Community Benefits Initiative and selected SBANP for a three-year grant to initiate our Collaborative Response for Child and Family Recovery. The South Boston Association of Non-Profits (SBANP), Fourth Presbyterian Church, and COASA (Children of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse), have partnered to provide post-traumatic healing groups for children of addicted parents, healing groups for adult participants affected by trauma, and monthly professional development workshops for South Boston agency staff and community members focused on understanding trauma and its impact on our participants and ourselves, as caregivers. With this community funding, we have an opportunity to positively impact generational trauma, break cycles of enablement and co-dependency and foster greater social-emotional health and opportunities for our community's families, especially for our young people.

During the pandemic, SBANP members stayed connected to each other, to our elected officials and to city and statewide resources to ensure that our community and its residents' needs were met. We remain focused on the needs of our community, working together to ensure that families, seniors, and children have access to food, housing and other resources.

We hope you see the benefits of joining SBANP and encourage you to complete the membership form and pay the annual (\$200) dues (7/1/2024-6/30/2025) using the link below.

[Click here for Membership Form and Dues](#)

Sincerely

SBANP Board of Directors

Kathy Lafferty, SBNH

Donna Brown, SBND

John McGahan, Gavin Foundation

Burns Stanfield, 4th Church

Mercy Robinson, South Boston En Accion

Maureen McGlame, COASA