



Game On!

# Annual Report

2022-2023



[jtcc.org/game-on/](http://jtcc.org/game-on/)



[gameon@jtcc.org](mailto:gameon@jtcc.org)

# LETTER FROM THE GAME ON! PROGRAM MANAGER

What a year it has been for the Game On! program. Tennis and academic services expanded to 12 new partner sites. Our first ever tennis and college prep program launched this summer with an inaugural cohort of high school students. And more than 800 youth participants made impressive strides in athletic development, tennis fundamentals, and social and emotional learning (SEL) skillsets.

Students who are competent in SEL skills such as self-awareness and emotional regulation are more likely to succeed in school. As a result, we increased emphasis on SEL development for our tennis and academic enrichment activities in 2022-2023.

Stories from coaches at our Game On! sites highlight this focus on SEL. In the spring, I paired up with a six year-old student for a tossing and catching activity. When we reached the target number of catches, she turned to her classmates and declared, "we reached the goal because we are working as a team!"

Despite her young age, this student identified two character skills that she was practicing during the lesson - goal setting and teamwork. While in the moment she was focused on using those skills to play a game, I anticipate that she will find plenty of opportunities to apply them in bigger moments of her life.

Just like a simple tossing and catching activity, the Game On! program requires teamwork to achieve success. More than \$230,000 and over 300 hours of time were donated to the program this year, leading to immense growth in the scope and impact of our services.

We are excited to share this report with you that details successes, challenges, and upcoming opportunities for our program. Whether you are a Game On! student, family member, partner, volunteer, or donor, we appreciate your ongoing involvement in our programming, and we hope to see you on the courts soon!



Community Outreach Manager  
**Ava Todd**

**Sincerely,**

*Ava Todd*

# VISION

We envision a DC metro area where every family, regardless of factors such as income or school district, has the opportunity to introduce their children to the healthy, lifelong sport of tennis. Additionally, any child who aspires to play high school, college or professional tennis can pursue these goals without financial constraints.



# MISSION

The mission of Game On! is to deliver affordable tennis and academic instruction to low-income youth ages 5-18 in the DC metro area. In doing so, we hope to instill a love of healthy, physical activity and encourage our students to practice essential social and emotional learning skillsets. We also aim to identify youth who show an early passion for the sport and provide the logistical and financial assistance for them to train at any level.



# GAME ON! BY THE NUMBERS

## Our Data Collection Process

As a non-profit, we know how important it is to collect and report meaningful, accurate data. Donors and followers want to know that we are: 1) putting tennis racquets into the hands of our sport's most underrepresented youth and 2) having a positive impact in the lives of low-income families.

Below you will find a selection of statistics from the 2022-2023 Game On! season. These results have shaped our 2023-2024 goals and projections found on page 8. If you'd like to learn more about our data collection process or program analysis, please feel free to email us at [gameon@jtcc.org](mailto:gameon@jtcc.org).

## Participant Demographics

**806**

children learned tennis

ages 5 and under (7%)

ages 6 - 10 (74%)

ages 11 and over (19%)

over **78%** identify as Black, African-American, Hispanic or Latino

**60%** report household incomes of less than \$75,000

**52%** are **not** regularly engaged in organized sports

over **\$23,000** awarded in financial aid

## Participant Outcomes

### Relationship Skills



**77%** practiced **taking turns and sharing** during the program

**81%** made new friends and **worked as a team**

**90%** reported that their **coaches care about them**



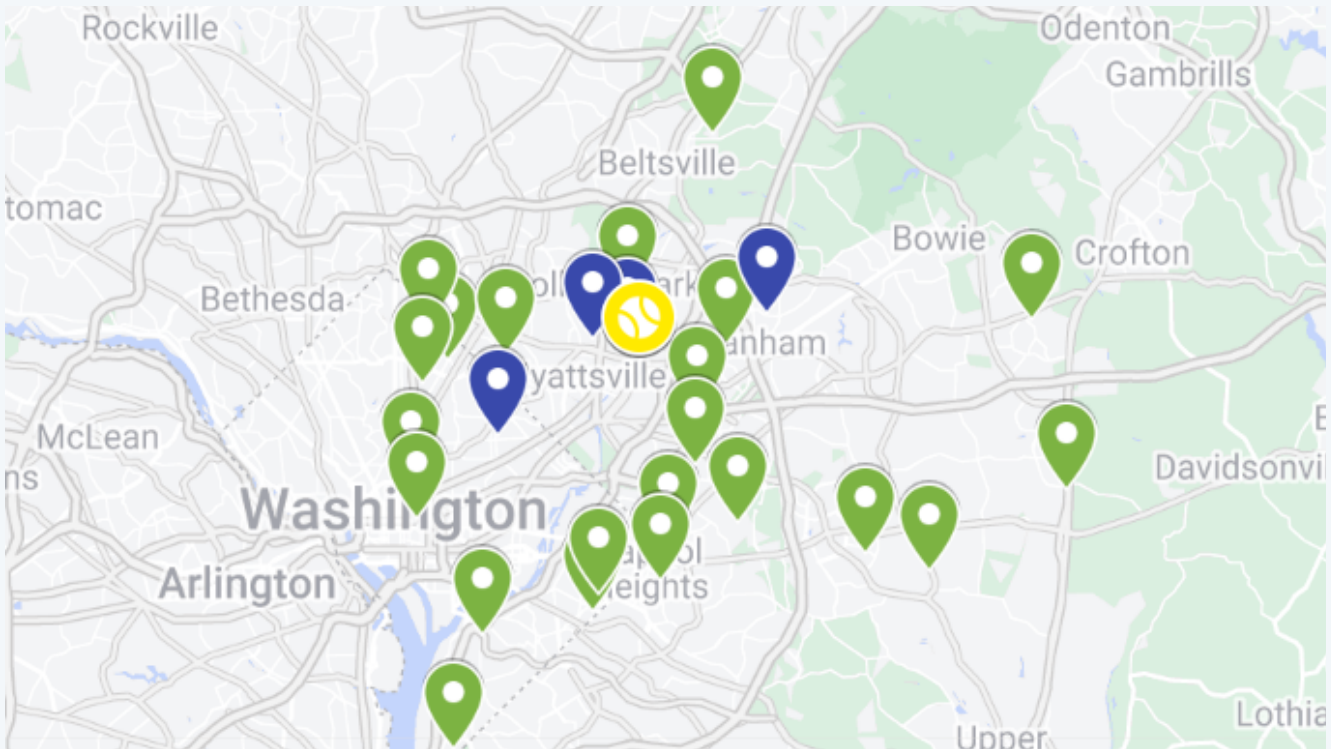
**63%** identified as **tennis players** at program conclusion

**91%** had fun at tennis

**12.7%**

of students attend additional classes at JTCC after participating in the Game On! program

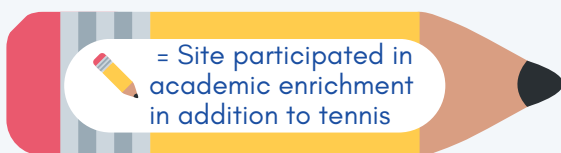
# GAME ON! SITES



## FREE PROGRAMMING (10 WEEKS)

- Bald Eagle Recreation Center
- Barry Farm Recreation Center
- Bowie Community Center
- Capital City Public Charter School
-  Charles Carroll Middle School
- Fort Davis Recreation Center
- G. James Gholson Middle School
- Kentland Community Center
- Meridian Public Charter School
-  New Hope Academy
- Ridge Road Community Center
- Seat Pleasant Activity Center

## JTCC



## FREE PROGRAMMING (20 WEEKS)

-  College Park Community Center
- Gaithersburg Middle School
-  Kettering Elementary School
- Largo/Kettering/Perrywood Community Center
- Rollingcrest-Chillum Community Center
- South Bowie Community Center
-  Vansville Community Center

## FREE PROGRAMMING (30 WEEKS)

-  Capitol Heights Elementary School
- Police Athletic League
-  Takoma Elementary School
-  Thomson Elementary
- Truesdell Education Campus

## LOW COST PROGRAMMING (10-20 WEEKS)

- College Park Academy
- Elsie W. Stokes Public Charter School
- Lanham Christian School
- University Park Elementary School

# TESTIMONIALS

**96%**

of staff at sites report that students engage with character building concepts during tennis



**100%**

of staff at sites report that students developed an athletic base that is transferrable to other sports



## Staff at Game On! sites

"Coach Eric was amazing, knowledgeable and nurturing with the students. We look forward to the program next year, with hopes of seeing him this summer." -June 2023

"The participants ABSOLUTELY looked forward to Mondays for tennis and they want to continue." -November 2022



Coach Eric Davidson



## Parents/Guardians of Game On! students

"I appreciate the opportunity to introduce my son to different sports. The instructors were knowledgeable, engaging, and patient. My son had fun and wishes to continue in this sport." - November 2022

"Thank you!!! My daughters loved your program and looked forward to Tuesdays, because it was tennis day!" - November 2022

# STUDENTS ON THE PATHWAY

High Performance



Game On!



Future Champs

These players have completed Game On! and are excelling in the Future Champs program at JTCC!



Malachi Cummings

"Tennis has been such an important sport for me, so I want to play in college. If I could excel like Tiafoe I'd probably go pro."

"It is an honor to coach Malachi; he brings terrific energy and excitement to every class. He has grown into a strong leader and player. We see a bright future in tennis and life for Malachi, and we hope to give him the tools to fulfill his dreams, whatever they may be."

-Coach Isosua Malaki



Jahzarah Taylor

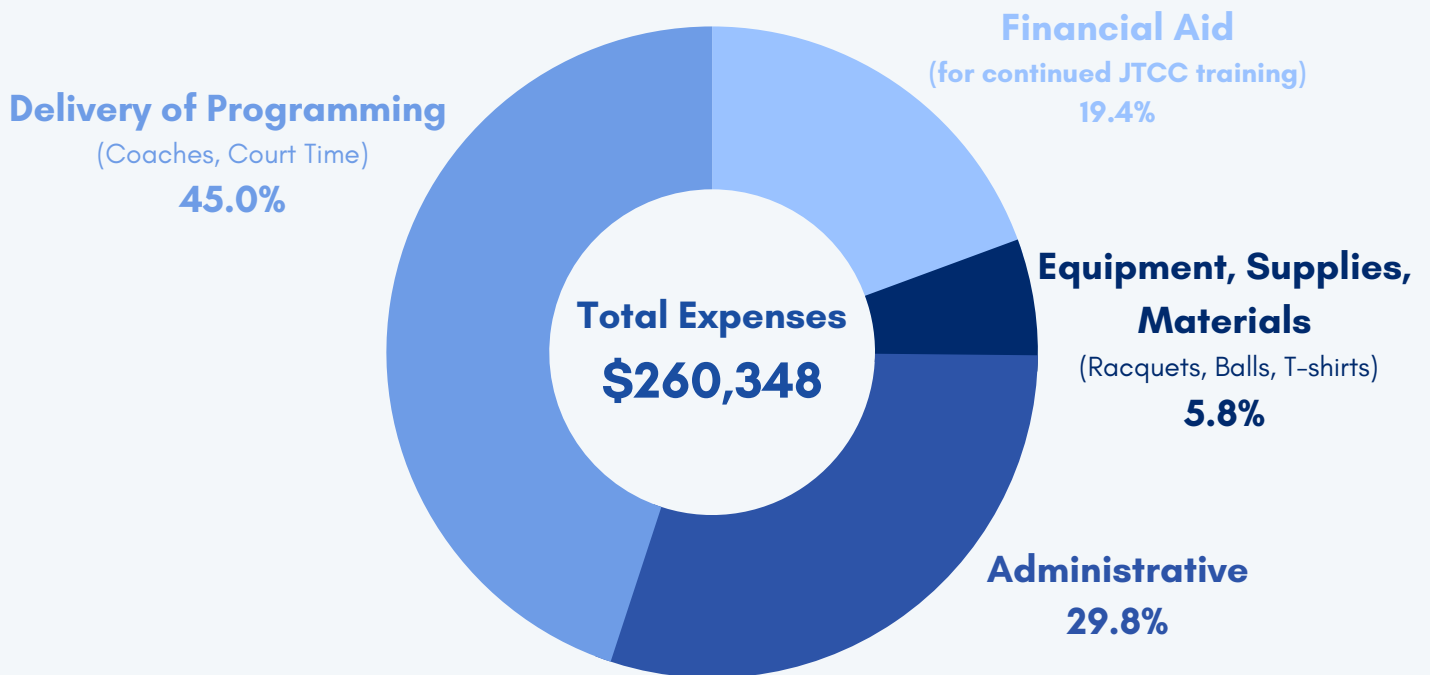
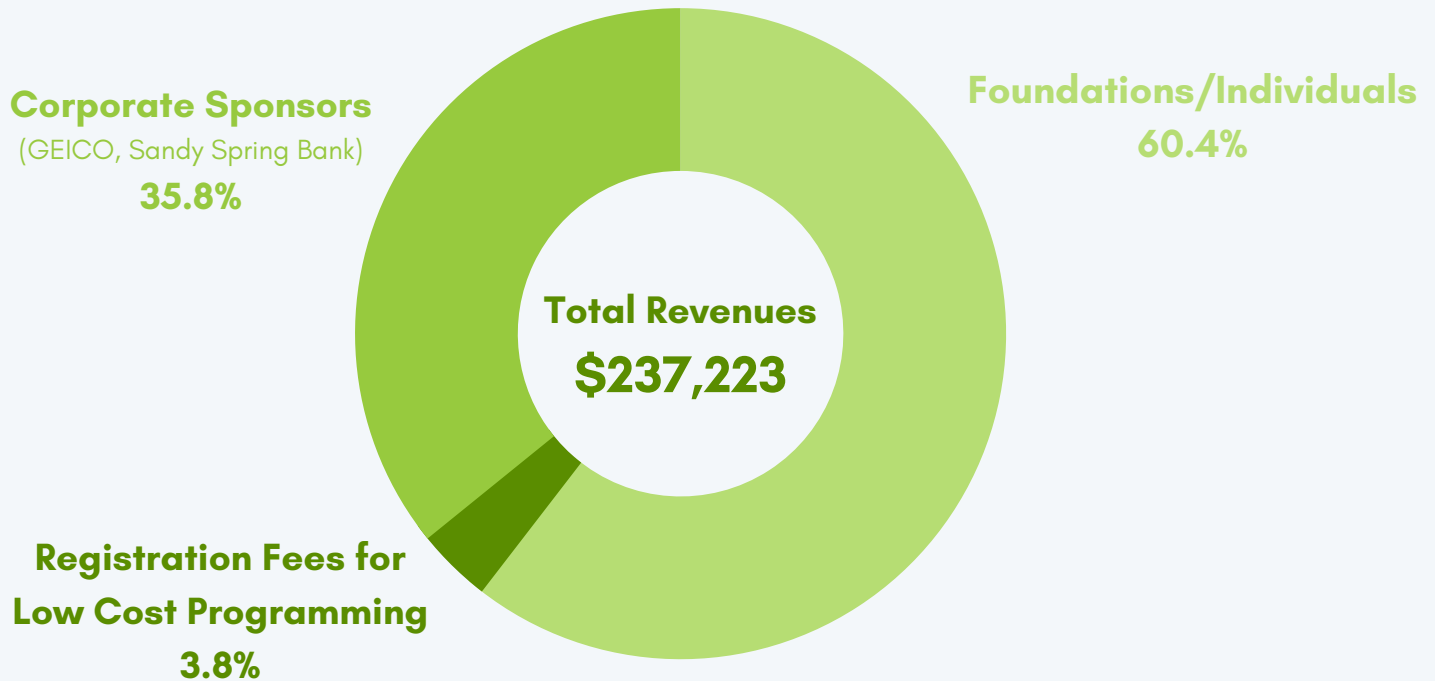
"[My favorite part of tennis is] doing volleys and overheads. I want to learn how to do topspin. And it's okay if you lose [at a tournament] because we're all having fun."

"Jahzarah is one of the most athletic and coachable students I have worked with and has become a great example to her teammates."

-Coach Jinny Yu



# 2023 REVENUES AND EXPENSES\*



\*The difference between revenues and expenses is covered by funds carried over from the 2021-2022 Game On! program cycle.





# 2024 GOALS AND PROJECTIONS



"How many ball bounces in a row do you think you can get? By the end of the program, do you think you will be able to rally with a partner?" These are some of the questions coaches pose to help students practice goal-related behavior. We want students to take ownership of their learning so that they understand how to define and achieve their full potential. The Game On! department is no different, and we're excited to share below our 2023/2024 program goals!

## Triple the number of students on the JTCC Future Champs pathway

**...Because** JTCC's pathway provides an opportunity for Game On! students to advance from a beginner to high performance level.

## Have 80% of Game On! students report an intention to continue playing tennis

**...Because** we want to grow tennis participation in the D.C. metro community, whether at JTCC or elsewhere.

## Reach 100 high school students

**...Because** "Tennis for Everybody" means "Tennis for Everybody." Game On! currently runs only one program serving low-income high school students in the DC metro area.

## Register 80% or more Game On! participants who qualify for JTCC financial aid

**...Because** tennis has inherent socioeconomic barriers. It is important that the Game On! program, as much as possible, provides free programming to low-income students and families.

## Score 90% or higher on social and emotional learning categories in end-of-programming surveys

**...Because** we strive to use tennis to promote our students' holistic growth in categories like relationship skills, healthy self-concept, goal-related behavior and self-agency.

# THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are an integral part of the Game On! program. We are grateful for individuals who volunteered their time to the program in 2022 - 2023.



53 volunteers



315 hours

Some of our most important volunteers are students in the High Performance Champs program here at JTCC. Adrienne Moseley and Andrea Vargas were our superstar volunteers this year. They each volunteered over 30 hours in the Game On! program.

"Seeing the kids improve, have fun and get to know the benefits and life skills of tennis, makes volunteering so rewarding for me. "

- **Andrea Vargas**, 14yo Champs Player



"One of my most cherished memories from volunteering in Game On! was when a young girl successfully hit her first forehand shot over the net. It was a moment filled with pure joy and excitement, not just for the student but for the entire class. Witnessing her growth and knowing that I played a part in her tennis journey was truly rewarding. Being part of an initiative that promotes inclusivity and provides equal access to sports is incredibly meaningful to me."

- **Adrienne Moseley**, 13yo Champs Player

# THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

Thank you to our corporate sponsors, GEICO and Sandy Spring Bank.



And thank you to the following foundations, corporations, and individuals for their support in 2022-2023:

- 2023 Gala Sponsors and Ticket Buyers
- Dawn Yules
- Dimick Foundation
- Events DC
- Fight For Children
- Frederic C. Collin Trust
- Herb Block Foundation
- Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
- Mayor's Office of Latino Affairs (D.C.)
- Prince George's County
- Samuel Freeman Charitable Trust
- Tammy Jennissen
- USTA Foundation



**Want to support the  
Game On! mission?**

Select 'Game On!' to direct your donation



**VOLUNTEER**



**DONATE**



**THANK  
YOU**



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