



# Our 2023 Top 10 Accomplishments

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The Power of Partnerships

#10

**Fundraising & Team Talent:** Hit Fundraising Goals and gained additional annual sustainable funding, enabling us to focus on team talent retention.



# #9

**Board Representation & Strategic Planning:** Continue to align our board representations with our community. Thanked legacy board members and welcomed four new board members this year. Our team and board also attended LCE's Onboard Training and we refreshed our strategic plan through FY2027.



**Alex Held**  
Small Business Manager at  
Arlington Economic  
Development



**Daniel Rogers**  
Regional Manager at  
BM Smith



**David Hilde**  
Vice President of  
Development at Jair Lynch  
Real Estate Partners



**Kevin Sheffield**  
Member Relationship Advisor  
at Arlington Community  
Federal Credit Union

#8

**Boletín:** In our commitment to diversity and inclusion, we have expanded Boletín to include both Spanish and English languages. The publication is now available in both print and digital formats and is released quarterly. This has allowed us to broaden the information we share and increase our outreach.





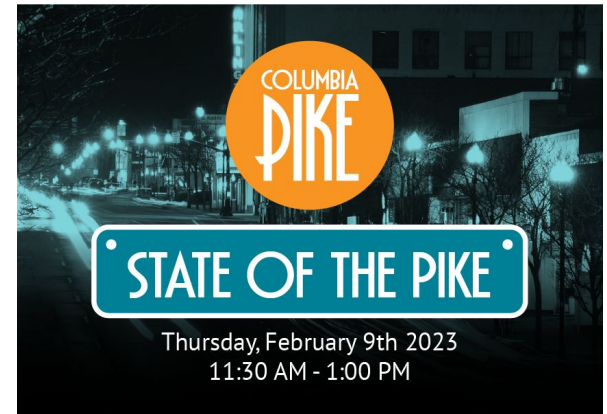
#7

**Ribbon Cuttings:** We connected, coordinated, and welcomed six new businesses to the Pike: Meda Coffee & Kitchen, Papa Deenos Pizza, Cabaña Restaurant, Eli's Taqueria, Sabores Tapas Restaurant and Mpanadas



#6

**Progress Events:** The Columbia Pike Progress Luncheon was brought back in person this year with the theme "Embracing Diversity and Fostering Inclusive Growth". It was a huge success, selling out days in advance. Additionally, we partnered with the Pike Presidents Group and Arlington County to formalize the State of the Pike.



# #5

**Partnerships:** We teamed up with BHMA, the Swiss Embassy, Arlington Career Center, and the Sankofa Mobile Museum to present a panel discussion called "Teaching Heritage: Reaching Community" in celebration of Black History Month. The discussion centered around the significance of public history, creative curation, and museum education as powerful means to engage with local communities.



#4

**Movie Nights:** Our summer movie nights series became more popular after being recognized as one of the top 20 Best Summer Outdoor Movie Events in the United States by Travel Magazine.





# #3

**Recipes for Recovery:** In collaboration with Sushmita Mazumdar and the Washington Forrest Foundation, we published *Recipes for Recovery*, the story of the restaurants on the Pike, and how we partnered through the Buy a Nurse Lunch program through COVID. The book was printed in Colombia and delivered to Columbia Pike.



# #2

**Lunch Club:** Our restaurants were struggling to attract customers during lunch hours. To address this issue, we decided to utilize the Recipes for Recovery book, and started a Monthly Lunch Club to entice customers from the Pike and surrounding areas. This initiative has turned out to be a massive success, bringing in a significant number of food enthusiasts.





# #1

**Blues Festival:** Our 26th annual Blues Festival was a massive success! We welcomed over 10,000 people to join us for a full day of fun on Columbia Pike. There were more than 50 vendors on site, five nationally recognized Blues bands/artists, and numerous activities for all ages to enjoy. The festival showcased the diversity and essence of our community, making it an unforgettable event.





# Thank You!





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