



2019/20

# Downtown United Soccer Club

Annual Report of 2019/2020

[www.dusc.net](http://www.dusc.net)





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# Executive Director's Message

## *Evolve, Adapt & Move Forward*

In reflecting back on the year, and the fact that we're still faced with uncertainties related to COVID-19, this title highlights how the DUSC community navigated adversity, developed resilience and continues to forge ahead together.

Sometimes the values of an organization tend to reflect what already exists at its core. In other organizations, values are aspirational and reflect how they want to show up in the community. Our Mission, Vision and Core Principles (pages 2/3) at DUSC have always been a mix of aspirational and foundational, consistent with what is important to our community – sustaining the good things and moving forward with vision and values that guide us into a positive future.

In learning from our players and parents, our staff, coaches, committees and the Board over this past year, we recognized the necessity to evolve. To strengthen our commitment in serving NYC youth regardless of economic status, talent, or zip code and to pursuing equity and justice for people of all races, DUSC had its initial Soccer for All Committee meeting in January 2020. The financial difficulties brought on by COVID-19 for many families, the tragic death of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter movement reflect the need for the Soccer for All Committee and is a clear example of the importance of DUSC always working to increase understanding and the practice of our values in action every year.

DUSC pivoted to virtual training immediately after the cessation of outdoor training due to COVID-19. It was the beginning of our journey in navigating adversity and adapting to the new norms (page 12/13).

We fully expect to continue to deliver programs that provide safe and fun environments for your children to play and contribute to their health, well being and overall development on and off the field. There will be hurdles to clear moving forward. Our 2020 summer camps were impacted with significant revenue loss by COVID-19. DUSC camp revenue allows us to keep fees lower than our peer clubs, support community programming and have safe and accessible field spaces to play. We will work together on fundraising and know your support will help us to continue and bring DUSC values to our community as we did when our collective voice helped reverse the NYC Parks decision not to issue permits this fall. The reversal allowed DUSC and other sports leagues to provide vital programming for NYC children at a time when schools could not.

I sincerely want to thank and acknowledge the people we serve, our players and families, and our stellar coaches and staff too, for their patience, kindness, strength, creativity and support during this pandemic. As you know, this has been an exceptionally difficult time for everyone – but the unwavering dedication of everyone in our DUSC community to ensure we could deliver our on field programming in a safe environment has given me unending amounts of hope and gratitude. On behalf of the entire leadership team of DUSC, THANK YOU!



Kevin McCarthy, Executive Director



# MISSION & VISION

## Our Mission

Downtown United Soccer Club, Inc. is organized as a 501c(3) not for profit entity to educate, train and inspire youth soccer players of all ages and abilities in a positive, respectful, supportive environment. To foster a community that reflects the diversity of New York City in which children can develop a lifelong love for the beautiful game and realize their full potential as both players and people.

## Our Vision

- Provide world-class youth soccer educational experience
  - on and off the field
  - to players, staff and parents
- In state-of-the-art facilities
  - on the field: outdoor and indoor
  - in classrooms
  - that also serve as a community meeting place
- Funded sufficiently
  - to be accessible and affordable to all



## Our **Core** Principles

1. Put the best interest of players first by emphasizing individual long-term development.
2. Provide the proper environment to learn important life skills through the sport of soccer.
3. Include all members of our community.

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# The DUSC Way

## Our Player Development Philosophy

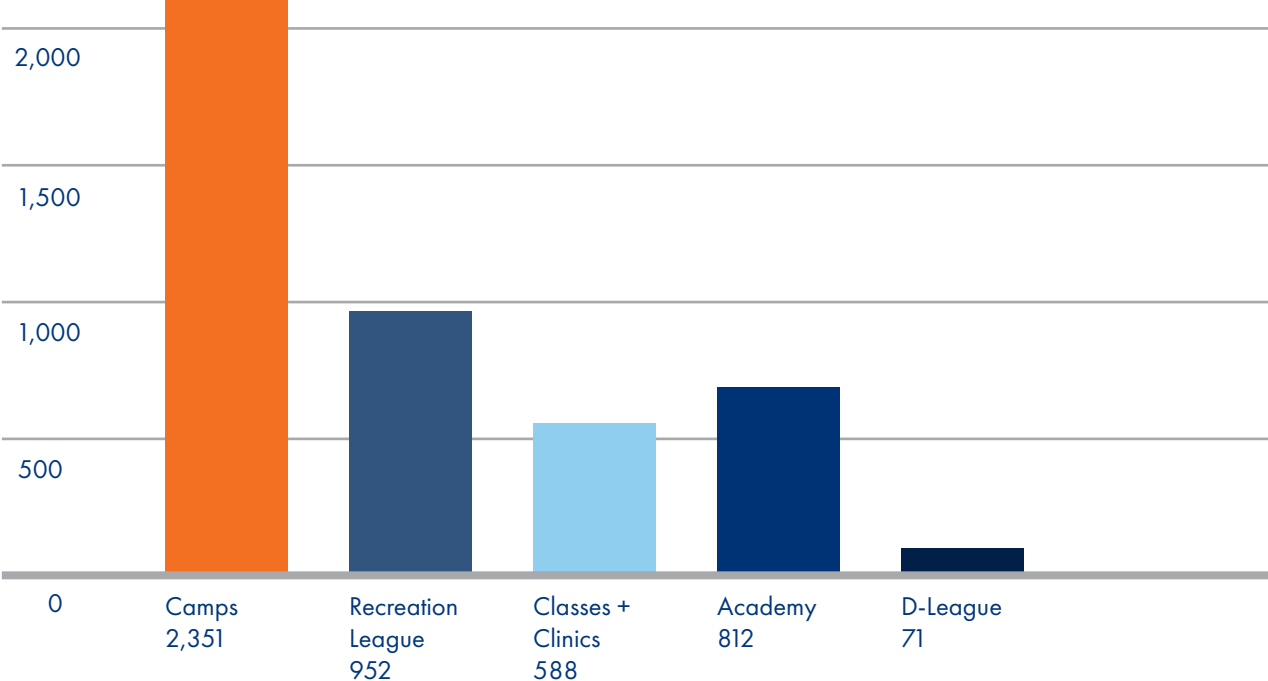
DUSC is committed to providing pathways in soccer that maximize the long-term individual **Development** of our players. With programs that are available **Universally** to players of all ages, abilities and speeds of development, that are designed to create **Successful** players on and off the field. By focusing on key **Character** strengths such as integrity, positive attitude, teamwork, and determination. Creating a **Winning** mindset — over the long term and not focused on individual games — while retaining the joy, excitement and happiness that comes from simply playing the game. With an emphasis on an **Attacking**, possession-oriented style of play that is positive and progressive. DUSC seeks to empower the diverse **Youth** soccer players of NYC to continue to develop as self-driven, imaginative and intelligent players and people long after their time at DUSC.

— **Acronym: D.U.S.C. W.A.Y.** —

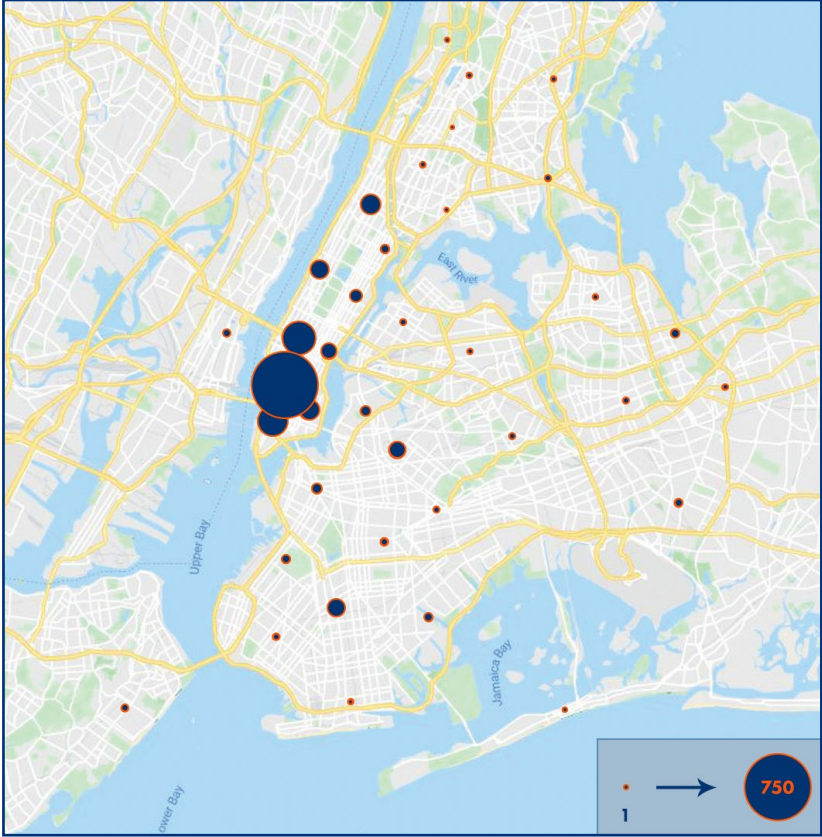


# Our Year in Review

## Player Registration



## Player Heat Map





# Soccer for All

## A Community Commitment

Regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation and socio-economic status, NYC youth should have the opportunity to play the game we all love. Besides the joy of scoring a goal, making a save, or even being a part of a team, the impact of soccer can be profound. Kids who play sports are more engaged in school, graduate at a higher rate from college, and links have been shown to greater success in professional life. Not to mention that playing the game leads to improved mental and physical health outcomes. In short, soccer is more than just a game. Yet many who may benefit most from it are left out. Eighty-one percent of families making less than \$25,000 are not playing organized sports. DUSC listens and builds bridges of opportunity to improve access to potential stakeholders in communities of immigrants, refugees and other underserved neighborhoods. DUSC programs and partnerships create environments that are safe, fun places, designed to meet the developmental needs of young players in urban areas.

DUSC believes creating access to the game for all NYC youth is a worthwhile endeavor, but it is not an easy task. It requires creative partnerships, organizational commitment and lots of hard work. January of 2020 marked the creation of an essential committee dedicated towards equitable access to soccer in NYC. The DUSC Soccer for All Committee is dedicated to fulfilling the DUSC core value of providing soccer opportunities for all of NYC youth. The DUSC Commitment to foster a community that reflects the diversity of New York City in which children can develop a lifelong love for the beautiful game and realize their full potential as both players and people is seen in the following initiatives:

- Over \$400,000 in financial assistance
- Partnership with NYC Department of Education & U.S. Soccer Foundation to provide Soccer for Success programming to over 2000 NYC school children
- Deliver of a free after-school soccer to Public School students
- Funding for more field space to accommodate our demand in grassroots programs in underserved NYC neighborhoods





# Downtown United Soccer Club

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**Our Programs** offer a wide range of opportunities for all ages and skill levels. We provide a place to enjoy soccer, *regardless of one's ability to pay or to play.*



**Classes + Clinics**

**Recreation  
League**

**Summer  
Camps**

**Academy**

**Development  
League**





**Classes** focus on individual player development through our skills based training program including but not limited to dribbling, passing, shooting and creativity. All classes are taught by our professional coaching staff teaching the “DUSC Way.” Open to all players.

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The **Recreation League** offers an opportunity for young players to build friendships, develop community and build a passion for the game through friendly competition. The program is managed by our professional soccer staff with years of experience in youth development, however all teams are coached by parent volunteers. We offer guidance to volunteer coaches to support a positive learning environment. Open to all players.

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We offer a full range of **Camps** during the summer months and school breaks, from fun in the sun for the youngest players to advanced training camps for the serious athlete looking to take their game to the next level. Open to all players.

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Run strictly by our professional coaching staff, our **Academy** is geared towards the complete development of high level players looking to progress to the collegiate level and beyond. Our Academy uses internationally-recognized, age-specific best practices to prepare young players for competition in a fun, safe environment, instilling a lifelong love of our game. Try-outs required.





## Camps

Downtown United Soccer Club's Summer Camp of 2019 was amongst some of the most successful in club history. This edition of camp saw the introduction of a new option for younger campers aged 3-6. This new adjustment to the half day option for young players was created in tandem with DUSC's mini ballers program (established in spring of 2019). A high bar was set for the years to come as 200 half day campers participated throughout the summer. Our full day camp averaged 130 campers per week with 1,558 campers in total throughout the 12 week summer period. As a staple of Downtown Manhattan's camp landscape, DUSC Summer Camp unites an outdoor camp experience with an engaging competitive atmosphere filled with soccer fun. Whether a camper is looking to run around Pier 40 in the sun with friends or improve on fundamental soccer skills with our professional camp staff, DUSC Summer Camp is a home for everyone.

## Classes + Clinics

Classes + Clinics represents foundational elements of DUSC: fun, friendship, teamwork, and professionalism. Our professional Classes + Clinics coaches create safe learning environments where players can build fundamental soccer skills along with an everlasting love for the sport. 2019/2020 was certainly a year of two halves; the fall season displayed a turnout of 317 players, while the spring season was superseded by COVID-19 precautions. The pandemic shifted the spring season online where virtual sessions were offered for participating families. A tremendous collective effort from the DUSC coaches provided engaging virtual sessions to our players, who were hungry for soccer and physical activity. The virtual sessions provided the basic fun our players and coaches were missing during the initial months of home isolation. The parent feedback we received exhibited how important human interaction via DUSC virtual programming was and further that our programming supported the mental well being of the spring season's participants.



## Recreation League

Recreation League is a foundational pathway towards heightened competition in a team or group setting; it is a great place for families to start before investing more time and money in to higher levels of competitive soccer. Many DUSC Academy players start their soccer journeys in the Recreation League and continue to come back for additional playing opportunities throughout their DUSC experience. The fall of 2020 saw record participation numbers with a total of 515 players. Winter was also a highly participated Recreation season with 437 total players.

A special component of the Recreation League is the aspect of the Volunteer Parent Coach. DUSC supervises every Recreation League session, however, Parent Volunteers provide the instrumental community spirit and innate interest for the game that brings our league to life. In addition, our volunteer community members, along with DUSC on-site staff, act as role models for their teams. Recreation League is an opportunity for players to be part of a team

environment where the goal is to have fun while learning to play the sport of soccer. DUSC does not offer a spring Recreation League season, therefore Recreation League was unaffected by the COVID-19 precautions in spring of 2020.

### Recreation League Testimonial

“Having played in several leagues over last 2 years, both my son and I enjoyed this one the best.”

– Participant Family



# Girls Academy



## Highlights

- DUSC Girls Academy has the highest representation of female coaches in NYC Club Soccer.
- 264 players participated in Girls Academy – an increase of 20 players from 18/19.
- 25 players graduated
- Summer of 2019 – Girls Academy travels to WWC in France for International Trip
- Summer of 2019 – Eva Kellner (G02/03 Blue) selected by Generation Adidas for Domestic Select in Lyon France

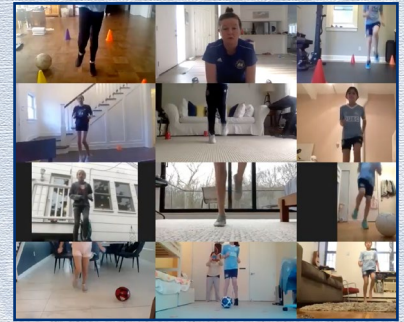
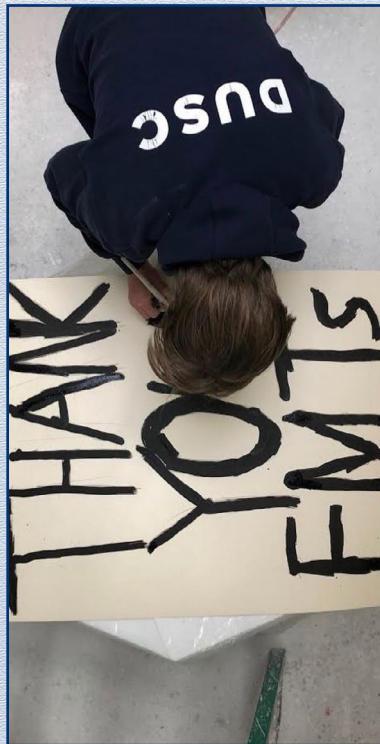




## Highlights

- 548 players participated in Boys Academy – a slight decrease from 18/19 due to the impact of the pandemic on our community.
- 31 players graduated
- BU17s win group at San Diego Surf Cup
- BU19s defeat #1 team in the country at the Potomac Memorial Tournament and win their group
- BU19s win ENY State Cup
- BU23s win EDP Championship





# COVID-19 Virtual Response

On March 13th, 2020, DUSC announced a suspension of programming until further notice. This suspension was a proactive safety measure made in effort to keep our community safe during an unpredictable moment in history. The health and well-being of our community has always been at the forefront of DUSC as an organization.

Our player-first culture made the decision to take our spring season online an easy one. The spring season displayed the community's tremendous ability to band together and adapt to the new realities of the world. The DUSC Coaching staff showed

immense resolve in their utilization of Zoom video conferencing for virtual training sessions. Our players met our coaches half way, attending these sessions with as much passion, and even at times more, as they would for a traditional training. This collective spirit was the inspiration DUSC Coaches, Players, and Staff needed to endure the initial stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

During this infamous spring period, new opportunities presented themselves in the forms of Instagram Live community training sessions, FIFA20 Video Game Tournaments, and wellness Zoom sessions such as

group Yoga. During a moment in time where we experienced limitations unlike those in which we have faced in the past, DUSC found ways to remain connected with our community. The organization uncovered new forms of communications, many of which will be incorporated even after the pandemic has come to an end.



# Working With Our Community



**SOCCER RECYCLE**

## eDUSC FIFA20 Tournament, Spring 2020

In the spring of 2020, DUSC joined forces with Sofive Soccer Centers to provide our community with a remote FIFA20 video game tournament. FIFA is an extremely popular video game in the soccer community and one that is widely played by DUSC community members. DUSC players aged 8 or older were eligible to participate in this tournament at no cost with the option to donate to first responders in the NYC metro area. Over 140 players registered to participate helping the club raise over \$1,200 in donations. More than 1,000 matches were played throughout the tournament with the finalists from each age bracket winning cool prizes from the likes of Sky Blue FC, NYCF, SoccerZone, Pele Soccer, and Sofive Soccer Centers. Despite such an unprecedented time, the DUSC community banded together to have some at-home soccer themed fun and thank our hard working first responders throughout the process.

## Mission Statement

Soccer Recycle collects new and gently used soccer uniforms and redistributes them to needy programs around the world. We engage youth volunteers to promote social responsibility and foster a lifetime commitment to public service.

## Origin

The DUSC Soccer Recycle Project was initiated by DUSC '99 player Eyob Ford. The first delivery was to an orphanage in his native Ethiopia in 2010. In the years that followed, Eyob scrimmaged with local youth and delivered uniforms to programs around the world including Kick-4-Life in Lesotho, BREDs in Jamaica, several programs in Guatemala, and Worldwide Orphans in Ethiopia.

## 2019/20 Donation

At the beginning of the 2019 season, DUSC joined the NYC soccer community in hosting a used equipment drive for a village school in Dschang, Cameroon. The donation was facilitated through CJSJ Director and DUSC Operations Assistant, Dimitrie Draguca, and his friend, Manny Petit.



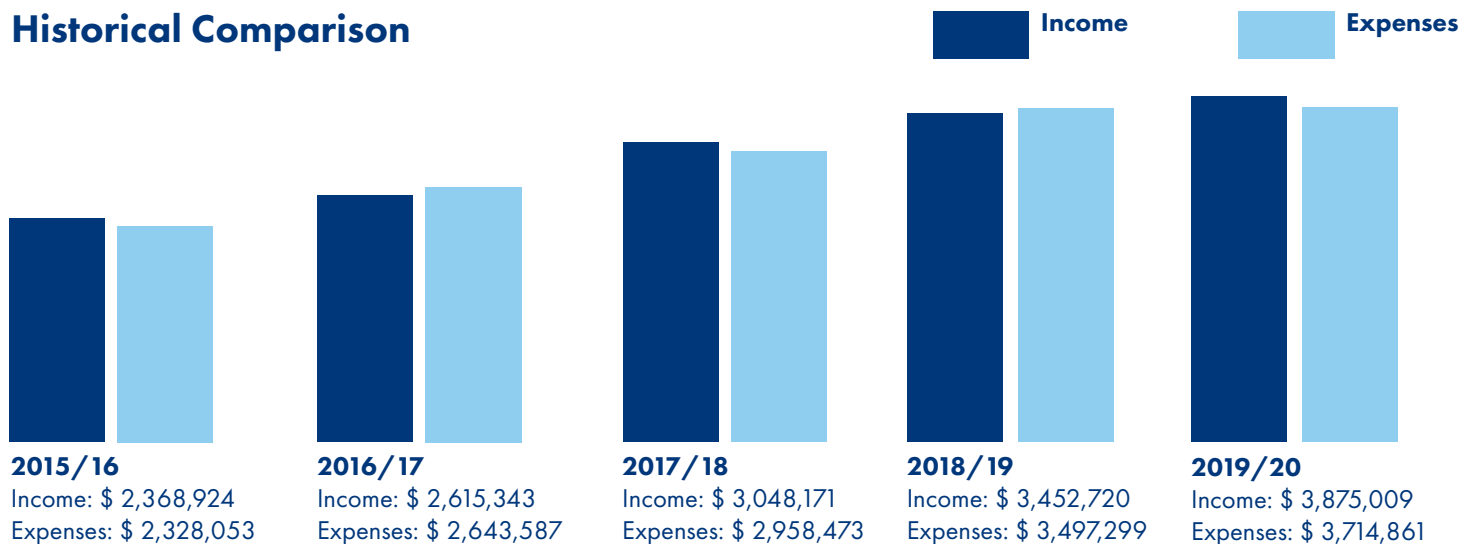
# Our Financial Summary

	2019/20
	Actual
<b>Income</b>	
Academy	\$1,920,987
Recreation League	\$193,790
D-League	\$163,407
Camps	\$1,033,717
Classes	\$234,761
Fundraising	\$306,137
Other Income	\$22,207
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$3,875,009</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Compensation	\$2,582,340
Fields	\$292,693
Other Programming	\$536,235
Finance, Oper. + Admin	\$303,592
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$3,714,861</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$160,148</b>
<b>Net Reserves — Beginning of Year</b>	<b>\$537,246</b>
<b>Net Reserves — End of Year</b>	<b>\$697,394</b>

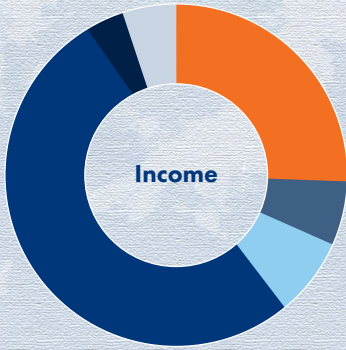
## Note:

The financial performance and position of the club in 2019/20 as shown to the left does not reflect the adverse impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. In particular, what is not reflected is the adverse financial impact of the cancelled summer 2020 camp season and reduced registrations in other programs which occurred this season. The loss of income has severely impacted 2020/21 financial performance and we expect to operate with a deficit this fiscal year. Thanks to the combination of healthy reserves, cost cutting in response to the pandemic and government support in the form of a PPP loan, the long term viability of the club is being preserved, with the hope and expectation of a return to more normal operating conditions some time later this year.

## Historical Comparison

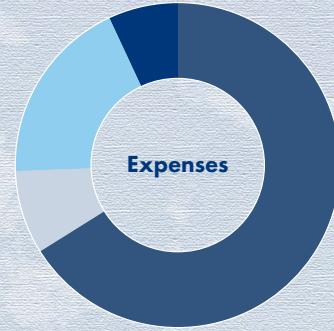






### Income

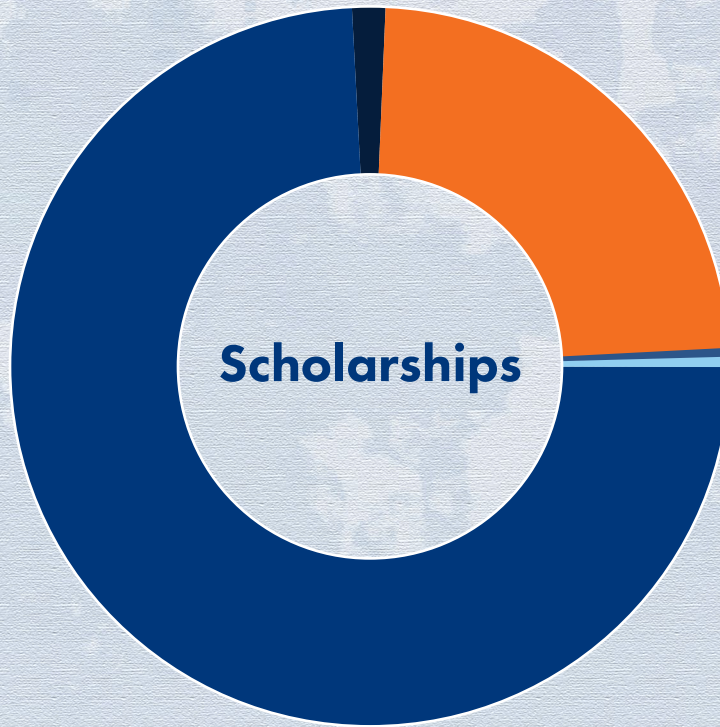
- Academy 50%
- D League 4%
- Fundraising 8%
- Camps 27%
- Recreation League 5%
- Classes + Clinics 6%



### Expenses

- Compensation 69%
- Other Programming 14%
- Finance, Operations, and Administration 8%
- Fields 8%





**Total of \$488,858**  
**474 Players**

### Scholarships

- **Academy 74%**
- **D League 3%**
- **Camps 20%**
- **Recreation League 1%**
- **Classes + Clinics 1%**

### Player Breakdown

- Academy**  
172 (\$353,333)
- D League**  
7 (\$12,365)
- Camps**  
238 (\$100,113)
- Recreation League**  
33 (\$6,395)
- Classes + Clinics**  
24 (\$6,652)



# Our 2020 Alumni

## Boys Academy

<b>Benjamin Altman</b>	St. Francis Brooklyn
<b>Preston Anderson</b>	Purchase College
<b>Sidi Camara</b>	St. Francis Brooklyn
<b>Leonardo Conte</b>	Purchase College
<b>Nathan Cook</b>	
<b>John Curte</b>	Liberty College
<b>Leonardo Elie</b>	Georgetown University
<b>Pietro Elie</b>	Georgetown University
<b>Angel Encalada</b>	NYC College Of Tech.
<b>Eric Flores-Dolores</b>	John Jay College
<b>Lewis Govan</b>	Washington College
<b>Roy Hedley</b>	
<b>Nicholas Holquist</b>	
<b>Phillip Holtzman</b>	University of Michigan
<b>Andy Hueyopan</b>	College of Staten Island
<b>Juninho Juca</b>	
<b>Eli Klein</b>	Binghamton University
<b>Gabriel Koenig-Beane</b>	Drake University (Iowa)
<b>Hans Langer</b>	Monroe College
<b>Jackson Meli</b>	Tulane University
<b>Felix Messeca</b>	San Diego State University
<b>Jackson Rheingold</b>	
<b>Evan Rivera</b>	Manhattan College
<b>Pierre Roederer</b>	Elon University
<b>Jeffrey Saeteros</b>	New York University
<b>Ramchwy Saintvil</b>	St. Francis Brooklyn
<b>Immanuel Clement-Sealey</b>	Vassar College
<b>Oscar Shub</b>	College of Mount Saint Vincent
<b>Stefan Sorobay</b>	Carnegie Mellon University
<b>John Timoney</b>	Dickinson College
<b>Ivan Valderrabano</b>	

## Girls Academy

<b>Chloe Barosy</b>	Brooklyn College
<b>Lily Bender</b>	University of Wisconsin
<b>Tali Berk</b>	Grinnell College
<b>Simrun Bose</b>	University of Michigan
<b>Hannah Buri</b>	
<b>Leena Demers</b>	
<b>Jade Dinkins</b>	Bard College
<b>Desiree Dinkins</b>	Bard College
<b>Julia Fields</b>	UMASS Amherst
<b>Claire French</b>	Barnard College
<b>Andie Harty</b>	Georgetown University
<b>Hallie Hayne</b>	Bates College
<b>Angela Hernandez</b>	Monroe College
<b>Evelyn Marquez</b>	
<b>Ella Marriott</b>	Cornell University
<b>Nicole Maritnez</b>	Queens College
<b>Anisa Mujaj</b>	Hunter College
<b>Sydney Nhambiu</b>	Cornell University
<b>Jane Olsen</b>	Bowdoin College
<b>Michaela Rein</b>	Tufts University
<b>Idonia Salfarlie</b>	University of Albany
<b>Allison Stern-Lantow</b>	Skidmore College
<b>Alex von Schmeling</b>	Pratt School of Architecture
<b>Michelle Vovsha</b>	Bucknell University
<b>Anna Ziselman</b>	Brandeis University







# Our 2019–20 Donors

## Champion Sponsors \$ 5,001+

Amanda Marsted  
Andrew Scruton  
Atrium Staffing  
Britton Family Foundation  
Goldman Sachs Gives  
Louise Whittet  
OxFORD Asset Management  
Todd Aaron  
Tyson Family

## Platinum Sponsors \$ 2,501 – \$ 5000

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CIBC Private Wealth  
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## Gold Sponsors \$ 1,001 – \$ 2,500

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## Silver Sponsors \$ 501 – \$ 1000

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Tamryn Shami  
Uta Knablein  
Vanessa McGuire  
Werwaiss Family Trust  
William Burkoth

## Bronze Sponsors \$ 1 – \$ 500

Aaron Family  
Abdo Family  
Adam Norse  
Agnes Chapski  
Aimee Shieh  
Aisha Steiner  
Akiko Fujiwara  
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Alicia Melendez  
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Allison Grover  
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Alyssa Epstein  
Amanda Libotte  
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Amelia Richards  
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Amy Richards  
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Andrea Pivnick  
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Anne du Boucheron  
Anne Seban  
Annie Eckstein  
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Anthony Mendez  
Antoinette Stratton  
Antonia Batalias  
Arango Family  
Arena Family  
Ari Rosenberg  
Ariel Kaminer  
Ariel Levy  
Arif Nathoo  
Arin Yuksel  
Arman Osooli  
Arnold Family  
Aronson Family  
Ashley Gundersen  
Ashwin Verma  
Astrachan Family  
Audra Tuskes  
Audrey Train  
Avanee Patel  
Bagtas Family  
Banner Family  
Banu Ates  
Banu Roso  
Barkley Family  
Barnett Family  
Barrie Schwartz  
Belgies Anan  
Ben Agin  
Ben Nicholl  
Benaim Family  
Bender Family  
Benn Family  
Bernardo Piquet  
Best Family  
Beth Maletz  
Bethany Sousa  
Bettina Caiola  
Binn Family  
Boaz Family  
Bodhi Godfrey Ryan  
Brian Milberg  
Britt Skerianz  
Brooke Picotte  
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Buman Family  
Burden Family  
Calvert Family  
Cameron Whiteley  
Cara O'Connor  
Carisima Koenig  
Carlin Greenstein  
Carlos Reino

Carol Swedlow	Duncan Parsley	Goldsmith Family	Jay Hirschson
Caroline Andoscia	Edgar Saeteros	Golman Sachs & Co Matching	Jean-Damien Ladeuil
Carrie Comerford	Ehrenkranz Family	Gift Program	Jeanette Pieper
Cass Family	Ehrlich Family	Gomez Family	Jeanine McHugh
Catherine Frey	Elina Fuzeyeva	Goodwin Family	Jeffrey Traugot
Cavallo Family	Elizabeth Kwon	Gorm Family	Jennifer Blum
Chaandni Singh	Elizabeth McCabe	Gorman Family	Jennifer Silane
Charles Gailliot	Elizabeth Minchala	Gustavo Palomino	Jennifer Spain
Charlotte Priddle	Elizabeth Sharp	Gwendolyn Bellmann	Jennifer Vasold-Singh
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Chiao Li	Ellen Yeoh	Han Family	Jenny Miller
Christina Czap	Elyssa Stein	Harvey Purchase	Jens Andermann
Christina Summers	Emily Hunt	Hayes Family	Jeremy Tinker
Christine Banks	Emma Davies	Healy Family	Jerome Strelov
Christine Murphy	Enriqueta Herrera	Heather Crowley	Jess Winstanley
Christopher Buckley	Eric Frank	Heather Miller	Jessica Romm
Cindy Chao	Eric Suarez	Heidi Brant	Jesus Perera
Ciro Codallos	Erica Hoefler	Heidi Mount	Jill Whalen
Cj Follini	Erika Bloom	Helima Croft	Jim Best
Cleary Family	Ernesto Teran	Hella Zouiten	Jim Goldman
Colin Brown	Esther Sobol	Hernan Farace	Jinyang Li
Colleen Flores	Eugene Schafer	Hertz Family	Jinyang Li
Conovitz Family	Eva Tokarczyk	Hirsch Family	Joanna Scott
Cora Daniels-Evans	Evan Cygler	Hoefler Family	Joe Train
Corrente Schankler	Evelyn Calixto	Hollis Vandamme	Joelle Scott
Cross Family	Evelyn Franco-Perez	Holtzman Family	Joey Netter
Crystal Eley	Fajgenbaum Family	Holub Family	John and Michele McGreal
Currie Family	Fausto Family	Hortensia Sinclair	John Conte
Cynar Family	Feldkam Family	Howard Family	John Harris
Cynthia Donaldson	Fenlon Family	Hui Family	John Liu
Daniel Schwartz	Ferguson Family	Huma Abedin	Jonathan Schaffer
David Newins	Fevzi Seker	Hunt Family	Jordan Family
Davis Family	Francesca Damato	Ibtesam Khurshid	Josh Krakowsky
Deane Family	Frank Dabek	Igor Pusenjak	Josh Taekman
DeBevoise Family	Frank Family	Ilham Zoughi	Joshua Krakowsky
Deborah Hayashi	Frank Gallinaro	Ilya Chemakin	Julie Satow
Denise Johnson	Frankel Family	Irina Tsoneva	Julie Wong
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Saper Family	Takeda Family
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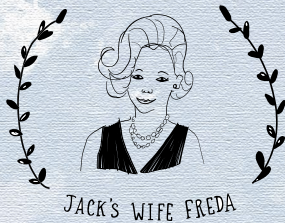


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Downtown United Soccer Club

# DUSC



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DUSC

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