



# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

In 1980, neighbors banded together to speak as one on issues affecting our West Seattle community and, for 45 years, FCA has been doing just that.

This report summarizes how, together, we embraced the opportunities before us in 2025 and addressed the challenges that came our way.

## ADVOCACY

**Residential rezoning:** As a proposed plan to increase housing density across the city inched its way toward a City Council vote in December, the FCA Board devoted the time needed for a considered response, given the plan's potential for negative environmental and quality-of-life impacts. Timely information and lobbying by FCA leaders and concerned residents successfully advocated for a reduced size to the "Fautleroy Neighborhood Residential" zone.

**Fautleroy Ferry Terminal rebuild:** Since 2021, FCA leaders have been tracking and speaking out about Washington State Ferries' plan to rebuild its terminal in Fautleroy Cove. In October, the project team advanced a preferred design for detailed environmental review that would extend and widen the structure. The FCA Board is also monitoring the state's planned installation of signals and signage that will affect traffic flow where the terminal intersects Fautleroy Way SW.

## COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

**Pedestrian safety:** After raising concern for several years, the FCA Board was able to prompt the Seattle Department of Transportation to start planning a safer crossing for pedestrians at SW Rose St. and Fautleroy Way SW. The FCA Board is pressing for a responsive plan and timetable.

**Illegal encampments:** Warm weather drew campers to Fautleroy and, while those at Cove Park soon moved on, two campers remained for six weeks near popular trails in Fautleroy Park.

FCA leaders and creek volunteers filed numerous reports about drug use, fires, and environmental damage, and preschool teachers curtailed taking students into the park. Citing a lack of housing options to offer the campers, the city did not post removal notices until Seattle Police weighed in. FCA will act on lessons learned this summer as the city wrestles with ongoing homelessness,

**Environment:** As FCA's environmental arm, the Fautleroy Watershed Council continued its focus on natural features of our neighborhood by

- hosting 1,430 visitors to Fautleroy Creek for salmon releases, annual drumming to call in spawners, and spawning-season open creek.
- enabling annual research to document aquatic life in the creek, smolts that survive to leave for saltwater, and spawners that come in.
- collaborating with Seattle Parks to stay on top of maintenance needs in Fautleroy park.
- introducing digital wayfinding to guide visitors through the park.
- finalizing a poster to acquaint visitors with wildlife in the park.

**Culvert projects:** City planning to replace the creek culvert under 45th Ave. SW in 2026-2028 included a final round of public input, with an emphasis on parking, traffic flow, and pedestrian access near the construction site.

Upstream, an emergency team from Seattle Public Utilities worked with Fautleroy Church, its tenants and those at the Fautleroy Schoolhouse, and area residents to extend the life of the creek culvert under California Ave. SW and the church parking lot until it can be replaced.

## CULTIVATING COMMUNITY

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**Annual Meeting & Food Fest:** This March event drew scores of residents to reconnect, browse information tables, sample food from local eateries, and elect officers and board members.

**Hunts:** In late March, 63 children scrambled to claim 600 treat-filled eggs during FCA's annual egg hunt. In October, 40 children participated in FCA's annual pumpkin search and a chance to win the grand prize of a glass version donated by Avalon Glassworks.

**Fauntleroy Fall Festival:** Weather uncertainty did not deter an estimated 2,000 residents of all ages from coming to the church/schoolhouse/Y hub in October for this annual afternoon of activities, music, food, and community building. FCA has been a co-sponsor since the first event, in 2002.

## COMMUNICATION

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**Website:** Bill Wellington managed our website, Facebook page, and special FCA Flash alerts.

**Newsletter:** Judy Pickens edited our annual report and our quarterly *Neighbors* newsletter, which included actively soliciting news from FCA's business partners to enhance the value of their advertising.

## TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

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**Meetings:** The FCA Board hosted monthly business meetings open to all members except in August and December.

**Leadership:** Mike Dey resigned in January after 11 years as president and Frank Immel stepped in as interim president until being elected to the post at the annual meeting in March. During the year, Martin Westerman, Diana Spence, and Nils von Veh stepped down from the board and David Follis and Reed Haggerty joined.

**Membership:** FCA closed this year with 247 household members and 11 business members. These numbers compare with 207 households and 14 businesses in 2024.

**Finances:** The time and energy generously given by volunteers greatly contributed to what we were able to accomplish with available funds. This summary includes income and expenses for FCA activities as well as for the Fauntleroy Fall Festival, for which we are fiscal agent.

Total income of \$12,678 for the year came from household memberships (\$3,530), contributions above dues (\$1,525), business partnerships (\$2,200), targeted business contributions (\$2,250), in-kind donations (\$672), and cash donations during events (\$61). After deducting \$2,440 for the festival, income for FCA activities was \$10,238 compared with \$11,614 in 2024.

Total FCA expenses for 2025 were \$10,161 compared with \$13,807 in 2024. After paying for our annual meeting and food fest, spring egg hunt, fall pumpkin hunt, crosswalk flags, planter-box supplies, and administrative software, we closed the year-with a balance of \$77.

Thanks to many neighborhood institutions and businesses, plus fund-raising events, financial support for the fall festival totaled \$9,908 - more than double the \$4,884 total for 2024. Expenses of \$9,572 (compared with \$11,071 in 2024) left a balance of \$336 toward the 2026 event.

## ON OUR RADAR

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Issues and opportunities on the FCA Board's radar for 2026 include

- advocating to preserve community character and environmental assets as the city moves toward **increased housing density**.
- keeping **traffic flow and pedestrian safety** uppermost during culvert construction on 45th Ave. SW and during city planning for crossing improvements at SW Rose St.
- **checking in with residents and businesses** to be sure our actions and activities continue to align with their concerns and interests.
- fostering **long-standing and new activities** that strengthen community ties.
- encouraging **greater resident participation** to ensure that all voices are heard.