

# Impact Report

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR In our third year, Cohort Sistas achieved remarkable success — expanding our influence, enhancing key programs, launching new initiatives, growing our team, and hosting impactful in-person events.

However, this year also brought unique challenges, with escalating anti-DEI sentiments and legislative setbacks across the United States, emphasizing the urgency of our mission in supporting Black women and nonbinary scholars.

Despite these obstacles, our dedication is unwavering. Your ongoing support has been instrumental, and we invite you to explore how your contributions have tangibly shaped the impact of Cohort Sistas. Together, let's continue fostering a brighter future for our community.

#### IMPACT SNAPSHOT

**26** 

Doctoral applicants mentored in Sista Circle Mentorship Program

270

Workshop and networking social attendees

Writing group/bootcamp participants

11,419

Downloads of the Cohort Sistas Podcast



### In their own words...



#### Danielle M., Sista Circle Mentee

The Sista Circle Mentorship Program GREW my confidence and allowed me to really shift my vision and perspective about graduate school to where I now know exactly what I need to do to be accepted.



#### Chinua I., Dissertation Challenge Participant

As an online doctoral candidate, I often feel isolated. But, I am happy to find a supportive community in Cohort Sistas. My writing partner was an absolute joy!



#### Dr. Ucheoma N., Sista Circle Mentor

I was able to learn and journey with my mentees through their application process. I learned a lot from them as well and am excited for what their future endeavors hold.



#### 4th year Doctoral Student & Podcast Listener

Not only do the guests and moderator provide us with great tips and knowledge, their real-life experiences provide us with inside information that nobody else will tell us.



#### Ashanté J., Sista Circle Mentee

Through the lessons and workshops, I felt more confident when applying to schools. My mentor is the academic big sister that I've always wanted, helping to guide me through the craziness of academia.



#### Mikaela S., Dissertation Challenge Participant

I started the challenge with 2/5 chapters completed and ended with 5/5 chapters. This was incredibly helpful for meeting my goals. I'm going to be a doctor thanks to this program!



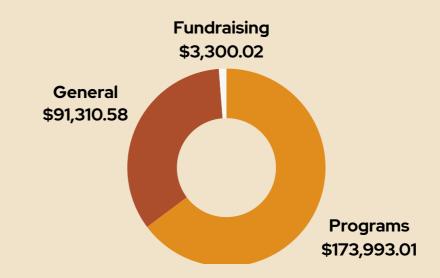
#### **FUNDS RAISED**

## \$237,498.88

#### **FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES**

65% of our expenses were allocated towards program-related activities.

In order to support our expanding community, we increased our staff capacity by hiring a full-time team member and expanding our part-time team to two members.



KEY PROGRAMS	OUTCOMES	IMPACT
Sista Circle Mentorship Program	26 mentees, all doctoral applicants	• 75% of mentees felt supported post-program
	8 mentors/Circles	• 100% mentor satisfaction
Professional Development Workshops	13 workshops hosted 178 unique workshop attendees	<ul> <li>92% of attendees reported increase in academic or professional skills and/or knowledge.</li> </ul>
Writing Groups & Bootcamps	Fellowship Writing Bootcamp (6 scholars) Dissertation Writing Challenge (80 scholars)	<ul> <li>1,925 hours of writing time</li> <li>84% of participants wrote more consistently</li> </ul>
Cohort Sistas Podcast (Season 2)	30 episodes recorded with Black women and nonbinary PhDs/EdDs	<ul><li>11,000 season downloads</li><li>Crossed 45,000 total downloads</li></ul>

# We couldn't have done it without your generous support.





to all our donors, funders, board members, and volunteers. We couldn't have done this without you!

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Gifts over \$1,000

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