

2021 Impact Report

FR_IENDS of the
CH_ILDRN
Seattle



To our dedicated community of supporters,

As we start off 2022, we are grateful for your continued support as we navigated (and continue to navigate) through several transitions around Covid, welcoming new organizational leadership, fostering anti-oppressive practices, and deepening our commitment to our youth and families.

As a member of our community, you know that long-term and continuous mentorship is why our youth become confident young adults committed to the well-being of themselves and their families. We want to take the same approach for our entire community. Our next 3-year strategic plan will ensure that the well-being of our entire Friends-Seattle community is a priority.

That means continuously listening more to the voices that are important to our work – from our youth and their families to our staff, to our community partners, to our donors, to our volunteers, and to you. It means taking a proactive long-term planning approach to ensure the sustainability of our programming.

Thank you for committing to this journey.

In community, Friends-Seattle Leadership Team



Michelle Hurd
Chief Operating Officer



Edgar Masmela
Sr. Director of Outreach
& Engagement



Alicia Uehling
Sr. Director of Programs



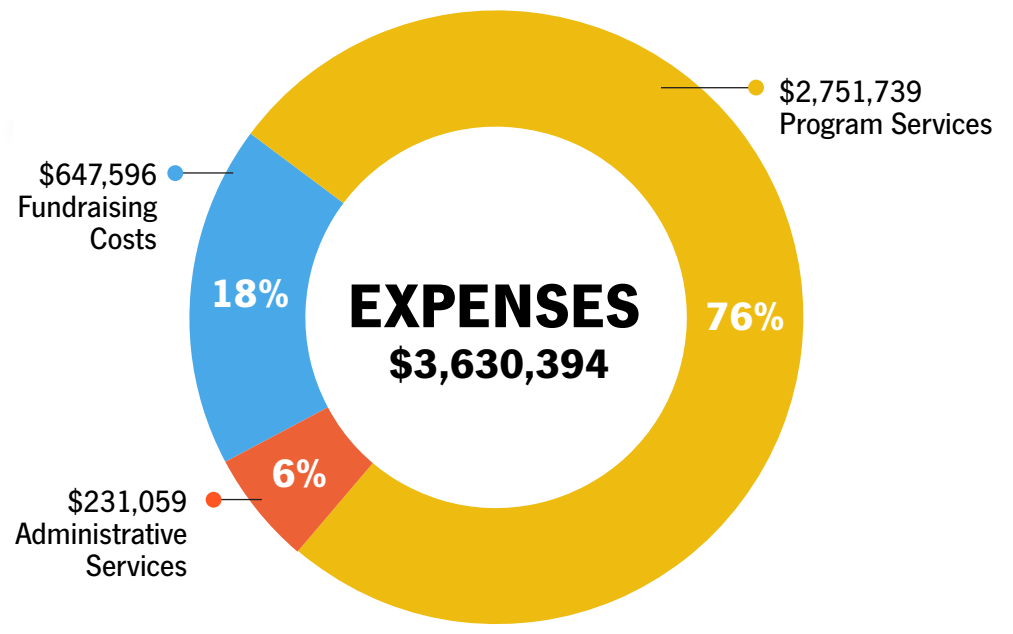
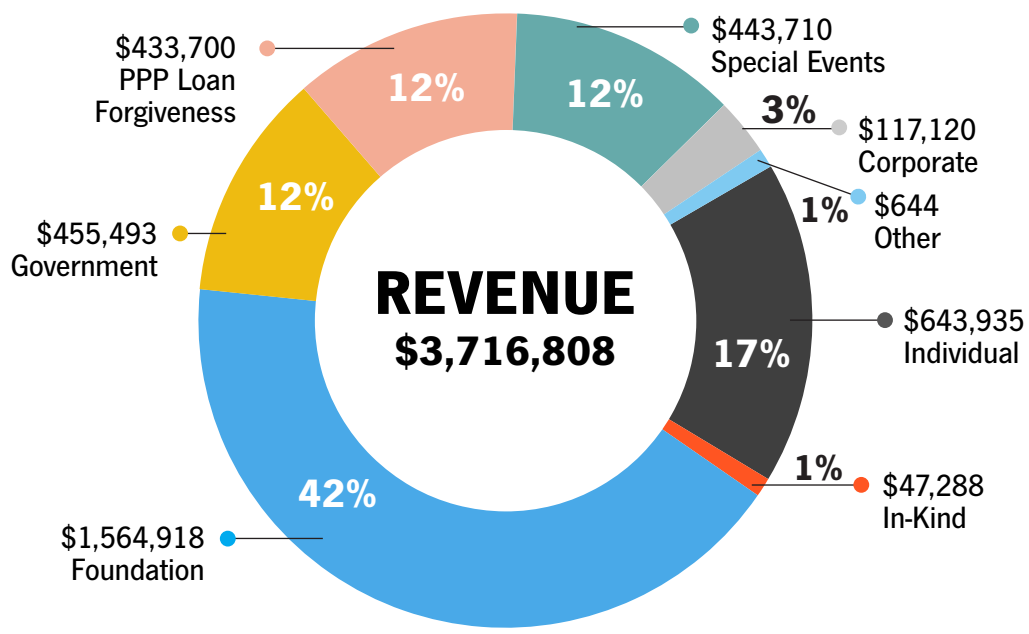
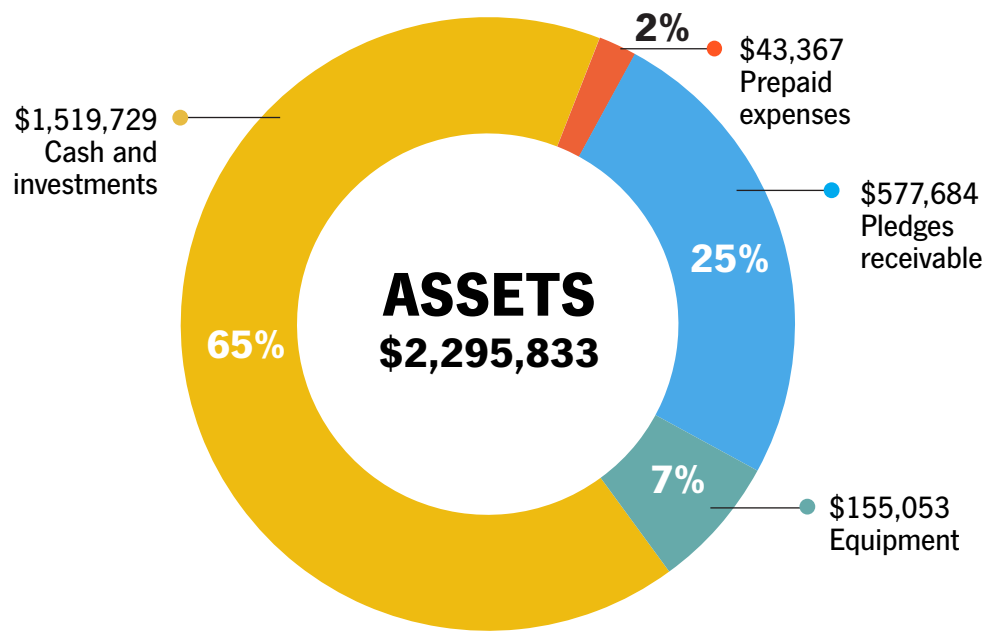
Lacie West
Executive Director



Kelsey Woods
Chief Development &
Communications Officer

Fiscal Year 2021 Financials

September 2020-August 2021





98%

We retained 98% youth in our program



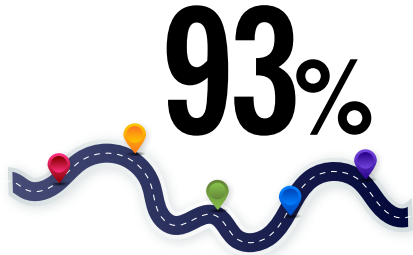
12 HRS

On average, each child received 12 hours of service and support each month



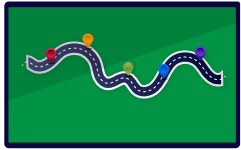
5/MOS

On average, mentors conducted at least five outings (virtual and/or in-person) each month with each child



93%

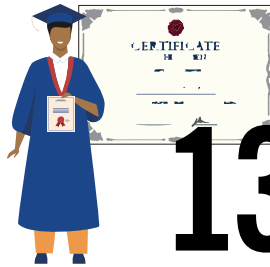
On average, 93% of youth made progress each quarter on their Planning for the Future roadmap goal



95%



On average, 95% of youth made progress each quarter on their School Success roadmap goal



13 YOUTH

In June 2021, 13 youth completed the Friends-Seattle program after 12 1/2 years. 12 youth received their high school diploma and one will complete their GED this year

Since we opened in 2000...

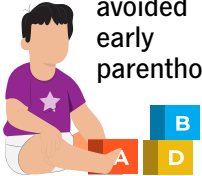


92%

have avoided the juvenile justice system

92%

have avoided early parenthood



86%

have graduated high school or completed GED by the end of the program

In 2020-2021...



Solving clues helps Seth develop a growth mindset.

Since meeting his professional mentor, Taylor, Seth*, who is 6, has been on a journey of exploration and growth. Seth is brilliant and friendly. When Seth and Taylor were first paired together, Taylor recognized Seth's need for perfection. "[Seth] needed to learn that failing is okay because it allows an opportunity to learn," said Taylor.

Whenever Seth got something wrong, he would immediately shut down. Outings with Taylor would end because Seth would angrily storm off to his bedroom. Seth's mom, Serena*, and Taylor would spend the rest of that outing brainstorming ways to support Seth.

As an avid gamer, Seth perseveres at solving puzzles. So, Taylor created a scavenger hunt for Seth to complete in the park. To find treasure at the end, Seth had to solve clues that started off easy. Taylor also intentionally included challenging clues so Seth would have to develop his problem-solving skills to complete the task.

The first clue said to search for something that holds books. Seth's eyes lit up, and he shouted, "that's easy; it's the little library on the corner!" Seth ran over and found the next clue. This went on for a few minutes until he found a message that said his next clue was located underneath something green. Since they were in a park with many trees and grass, this needed additional thought.

"It's impossible to figure this out," Seth complained. "I don't want to do this anymore." Taylor stepped in to remind Seth that he could ask for help if he needed it. First Seth claimed he didn't need help. Then he changed his mind. Now working together, they started getting closer to finding the treasure. The final clue was the hardest, and Taylor told Seth he could finish this up independently. Reluctantly, Seth tried to figure out the final clue alone.

Again, Seth shouted, "it's impossible!" Only this time, he didn't give up. "Watching him work through his frustration was my proudest moment," recalled Taylor. "For the first time, he didn't shut down." A few minutes later, Taylor could tell by the look on Seth's face that he had finally found the treasure.

Ever since the scavenger hunt, when Seth is working on something hard, he still gets frustrated, but he doesn't shut down or give up. He keeps trying. Seth knows that this growth mindset will get him further in life than striving for perfection.

**Name changed for family's privacy*

Mentoring Moment

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