

FR1ENDS of the CH1LDREN

Portland



2024 IMPACT REPORT

Celebrating 31 Years of Generational Change in Portland

FR1ENDS of the CH1LDREN

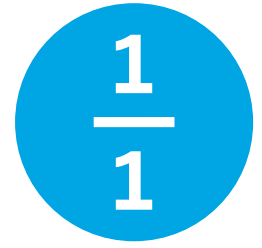
Portland

OUR MISSION

Impacting generational change by empowering youth who are facing the greatest obstacles through relationships with professional mentors — 12+ years, no matter what.



Dear Friends of FriendsPDX,



It is my pleasure to present Friends of the Children – Portland’s 2024 Impact Report. From enrolling the class of 2036 to graduating 21 youth, it has been a year of great progress for the youth we are privileged to walk alongside every day. The underlying message in this report is one of community coming together to make a difference. I am also proud that for the 10th consecutive year, Friends of the Children – Portland has been awarded the Portland Business Journal’s Most Admired Non-Profit award for the State of Oregon. Not only did we receive the honor for the Most Admired Non-Profit, we were also awarded the 5th Most Admired Organization Across All Industries. Whether as an individual, a business, a foundation, or public partner, you have played a critical role in making our success possible. Thank you!

2024 saw 404 young people take another amazing step forward in their journey. With Friends walking alongside the youth, young people in our program set goals, completed homework, forged new friendships, supported each other, went on

adventures, won and lost games, laughed and cried, graduated high school, secured jobs, and dreamed big dreams. The Friends model encourages youth to guide their own experience and follow their passions!

The strength and spirit found in every single one of the youth we have the privilege of spending time with is evident every day. Whether you are a donor, staff member, caregiver, family member, volunteer, or partner: Thank you! This model works, and your deep investment is truly appreciated.

We hope you enjoy hearing about our year in the following pages and look forward to seeing you again soon!

Warmly,

Traci Rossi
Executive Director
FriendsPDX

Walking Alongside Portland's Youth in 2024

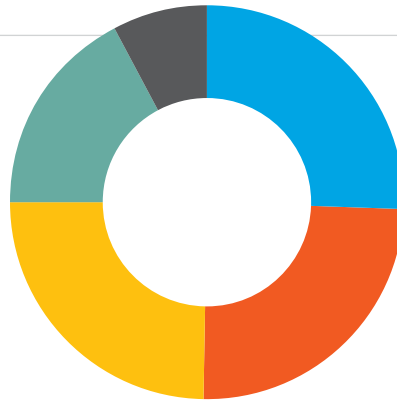
IMPACT STATISTICS

404 youth supported

46 newly enrolled youth

21 teens graduated our program

14 of our graduates received a high school diploma/GED



Youth Demographics

- 25.8% Black
- 23.7% Latinx
- 24.7% White
- 17.2% Multiracial
- 8.6% Pacific Islander, Asian, and Native American

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

54,558

hours of service, provided to youth

235

youth activities

Sample Youth Activities:



literacy camps



recreational daytrips



STEM activities



affinity groups

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

135

partner referrals provided to caregivers for housing, food, clothing, and transportation

Thanks to our Family Engagement Partners

Bloomin' Boutique, Northeast Emergency Pantry, Northwest Children's Outreach, TriMet, Fred Meyer, Portland Open Bible Church, SnowCap Clothing Closet, Urban League, SEI, IRCO, MET, and more.



Will and Jay Shape the Future

Program Manager and Professional Mentor Jay met Will through FriendsPDX when Will was in fifth grade. From an early age, Will’s hunger for knowledge stood out. “Will is voracious,” Jay says. “He loves to set goals, he loves to challenge himself, and, most of all, he loves growth.”

Their bond was built on a shared love of learning and problem-solving. As Will grew up, strategy games, problem-solving, and deep discussions became their language.

At FriendsPDX, mentorship is about more than guidance—it’s about igniting “sparks,” the interests program youth have that serve as the foundation of life-long passions, hobbies, goals, and dreams.

For Will, that spark was everywhere—in puzzles, in ideas, in the drive to improve. “FriendsPDX is a gateway as well as a training space for youth,” Jay reflects. Through his relationship with Jay, Will wasn’t just learning—he was preparing for the future, fueled by a mentor who believed in his potential.

Now, as Will shapes his future as a program graduate, his relationship with Jay has evolved to that of peers. As Jay says, “I’m here, and, as long as they want me to be, I’m around.”

That’s the Power of One in action.

Some names of youth and mentors featured in our stories have been changed to protect privacy.

Core Assets

FriendsPDX works to develop nine Core Assets in each child. Core Assets are social-emotional pillars that provide a solid foundation for success in school and life – they are tools that young people can return to for the rest of their lives.

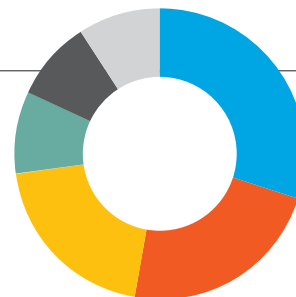
- Growth Mindset
- Belonging
- Hope
- Problem-solving
- Perseverance & Grit
- Self-management
- Self-determination
- Finding Your Spark
- Positive Relationship Building

Financial Snapshot

Fiscal Year 2024 (9/1/2023 - 8/31/2024)

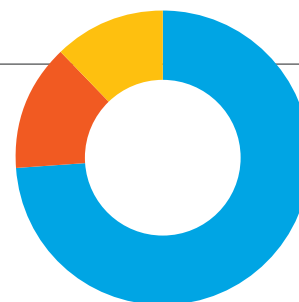
ASSETS	
Cash & Investments	\$6,687,662
Property & Equipment	\$3,164,290
Receivables	\$1,822,008
Prepaid Expenses	\$136,538
Right of Use (Leased) Asset	\$ 4,994
Total Assets	\$11,815,492
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	\$543,283
Operating Lease Liability	\$ 5,198
Refundable Advances	\$43,529
Total Liabilities	\$613,110
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$6,134,660
Unrestricted Board Designated With Donor Restrictions	\$3,926,512
Total Net Assets	\$11,202,382
Total Net Assets & Liabilities	\$11,815,492

REVENUE



Foundations (30%)	\$1,938,017
Special Events (23%)	\$1,489,001
Government (20%)	\$1,316,098
Corporate (9%)	\$592,743
Individuals (9%)	\$590,847
Other (9%)	\$557,735
Total Operating Revenue	\$6,562,889

EXPENSES



Program Expenses (74%)	\$6,599,024
Administrative Services (14%)	\$1,282,140
Fundraising Costs (12%)	\$1,059,132
Total Operating Expenses	\$8,940,296



Friend Raiser 2024
TOTAL RAISED: \$1.695 MILLION

In FY24 we entered year 2 of a 5-year Strategic Plan to propel our impact and expand our reach. An intentional decision was made to use the Board-designated funds to fill the deficit while we implement this plan. This deliberate approach allows us to strategically allocate resources during this transformative period and build diverse revenue streams for our long-term sustainability.





Diamond's Determination Shines

One day, Diamond came to me with a goal: “Ayni, I want to learn gymnastics.” This was no surprise, as she’s one of those kids who drops into the splits on command to make people cringe and does cartwheels whenever there’s grass around. Together, we broke that big goal down into smaller goals and identified the barriers to problem solve.

First, we wrote a letter to a gym, which earned her a scholarship so her family wouldn’t pay out of pocket. Next, we found a gym near her home and arranged weekly transportation through one of our staff members. Diamond used her monthly budget from FriendsPDX to pick out a leotard she felt confident in. Diamond worked so hard to take the seed of an idea and turn it into something real.

But here’s where it gets special—through a connection, we were able to set up a Zoom meet-and-greet with none other than Simone Biles, the most decorated gymnast in history! Diamond’s story has many parallels with Simone’s story; they both have experience with foster care and adoption, being a person of color in a predominately white sport AND being wicked smart and super funny. It was a pivotal moment for her to imagine the many, many options available in the future. Today she continues to attend weekly classes, building both skills and friendships, AND she recently leveled up again last month.

This isn’t only a story about a youth learning gymnastics. It’s about how Friends of the Children lets youth lead, creates opportunities for them to

(continued on pg. 7)

Some names of youth and mentors featured in our stories have been changed to protect privacy.

Friends of the Children lets youth lead, creates opportunities for them to deeply explore their interests, supports them in developing skills, navigates barriers to success, and ultimately empowers them to write their own stories.



(continued from pg. 6)

deeply explore their interests, supports them in developing skills, navigates barriers to success, and ultimately empowers them to write their own stories. Like one who recently graduated from dental school, another who's currently stationed in Japan serving in the Marines, or another who earned Middle School Teacher of the Year this spring.

If you've had a mentor at some point in your life, you know how transformational it can be. If you didn't have one, you deserved one. Thank you all for supporting the work we do to provide caring, consistent adults for all youth who could use a Friend. Most importantly, thank you for believing in our youth and their families.

- Ayni H, Associate Director of Outreach & Enrollment and former Mentor

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Legacy Society

The following individuals are making a difference in our children's lives by designating a bequest through their will or estate plan to benefit the Friends of the Children – Portland Foundation:

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The following individuals are impacting the lives of the youth we walk alongside by contributing a cash gift or pledge to the Friends of the Children – Portland Foundation:

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Awards and Recognitions

Last year, we received recognition from philanthropy verification organizations and continued a 10-year streak as Portland's #1 Most Admired Nonprofit by the Portland Business Journal.





Aiden Flies to New Heights

Aiden, his mentor, and his father outside FriendsPDX, Rockwood

In 2024, Aiden, a FriendsPDX youth, was awarded full college tuition support from the Jordan Wings Scholarship Program. As one of just a few dozen graduates nationwide who received this annual award, Aiden is now better equipped for the next phase in his life journey.

“This is a big honor,” Aiden said right after a surprise reveal for him at the FriendsPDX Rockwood location. “I’m still in shock. I’m still choosing a college right now, but with this award all options are open.”

Aiden is interested in both Marine Biology and fashion. Being aligned with one of the premier clothing brands in the world in Jordan Brand, his future is very much his oyster.

“Friends of the Children has been huge for Aiden,” said his father, James. “Friends really made a difference for him and his brother, and I just can’t believe this is all happening. I’m so proud of him.”

Aiden graduated from the FriendsPDX program in 2024 and we couldn’t be prouder. Join us in wishing Aiden the very best in the next phase of his life!



Donor Spotlight: Biking Across America

Andrew Berlinberg, a supporter, advocate, and ambassador of FriendsPDX, rode his bike cross-country on the 2024 Trek Across America in support of FriendsPDX. He raised more than \$40,000 for the organization and wore a riding jersey signed by many of our youth and friends all the way from Astoria, Oregon to Portland, Maine. We’re so honored to be part of his outstanding achievement!

FRIENDS of the CHILDREN

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