

Celebrating

30

YEARS

Of Generational Change

**FR1ENDS of the
CH1LDREN**



2022-2023 IMPACT REPORT

Celebrating 30 YEARS

of Generational Change

Graduates from Friends of the Children shared with us how their mentors and the program impacted their lives.

My Friend was there for all my struggles when nobody else was, including my own family. Everything would have been different in my life if I hadn't had her. I've learned to become independent and move on by myself. My Friend helped me overcome my school challenges which led me to graduate on time. Friends teach you to be more honest. Not just with other people but with yourself. Being honest with myself has helped me be the man I am now. If it weren't for Friends, I probably wouldn't be going to such a good school, and I wouldn't be able to speak up. It allowed me to look differently at life by appreciating those who took the time out of their day to help me. My Friend was always there to help me overcome obstacles.



“ Our hope is one day every child who needs a Friend has one. ”

DEAR FRIEND,

I'm honored to share our 2022-2023 Impact Report with you as we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Friends of the Children long-term, professional mentoring model. Friends of the Children began in 1993 as a small, research-informed program with 24 youth and 3 Friends in Portland, Oregon and has grown into a national network serving 3,000 children and impacting 15,000 youth and family members in 22 different states including partnerships with Sovereign Tribal Nations across the country.

This impact report shares stories about how our *12+ years, no matter what* commitment confronts societal challenges that include youth mental health, intergenerational poverty, foster care, and more. You'll read stories from Austin, Boston, Chicago, the Oglala Lakota Nation, and Portland as we celebrate the youth and families we serve; staff and Friends in our national network; and partners including World Champion gymnast and youth advocate Simone Biles, philanthropists Gary and Christine Rood, Portland program alumni Jimmy, and Oglala Lakota cultural advisor Rick Hmuya Mani Two Dogs.

Together, we are leveraging our unique mentoring model to create systems change for youth and families. This past June, Friends of the Children - Los Angeles secured \$13.5 million in funding for a three-year expansion to address the nation's largest foster care population. This funding from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health aims to serve more Black girls in the County and will double the impact of Friends - Los Angeles.

Our national network continues to grow, especially in rural America and Indian Country. In the last fiscal year, Friends of the Children has grown from 29 to 36 locations throughout the United States, in rural, Indigenous, suburban, and urban communities. New sites include the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, Chiloquin in Oregon, the Flathead Indian Reservation in Montana, as well as East Boston, Houston, La Pine, Philadelphia, Pocatello, and South Chicago.

The strength of the youth and families we have served for 30 years inspire us. With your support and the hard work of our national network, we look to increase our impact with a goal of 40 Friends of the Children locations by 2025, growing into 25 states including partnerships with Sovereign Tribal Nations. This network growth means we will serve more children and families than ever before, and by 2030 we will reduce the number of 5-year-olds entering foster care by 10%.

It is because of you and your support that we can achieve these big goals — the biggest being our hope that one day every child who needs a Friend has one.

Warmest regards,

Terri Sorensen | CEO, Friends of the Children

VALUES

Our values guide us to achieve our mission. Each value applies not only to our youth, Friends and program teams, but also applies to all Friends of the Children employees, volunteers and partners. We use our values to make informed decisions; to hire, coach and manage; and most importantly, we use our values to change the way the world treats and views the youth and families we serve.



PUT CHILDREN FIRST

We intentionally serve youth who are facing the greatest obstacles. To help our youth discover their limitless potential, we foster their internal resiliency. We listen to our youth and base decisions on each youth's needs and dreams. We prioritize self-care so that we bring our best selves to our work and focus on our youth.



BUILD RELATIONSHIPS ON LOVE

We nurture long-term relationships from a foundation of love, acceptance and culturally-informed practice. We don't give up easily and take a no matter what approach to our work. We commit for the long-term. We intentionally develop collaborative relationships over time with trust, empathy and healthy communication. We believe that we build community through one-on-one connections that are authentic, respectful and meaningful.



COMMIT TO EMPOWERMENT

We leverage personal strengths to take ownership of our futures. We build relationships within the communities of our youth and families to strengthen social networks and provide bridges to new opportunities. We consistently inspire possibility through empathy, hard work and fun. We model all of this for our youth, families and each other.



PURSUE GOALS RELENTLESSLY

We celebrate all achievements, big and small. We are disciplined in our commitment to goals, while innovative in how we reach them. We believe that the definition of success requires intentional reflection and adjustment over time. We work together and hold ourselves accountable with data to achieve short and long-term outcomes.



DEMAND EQUITY

We acknowledge the historical and present injustices impacting marginalized communities. We demand equity from ourselves and from our community. We insist that all people have the necessary support to achieve all of their hopes and dreams. We amplify the voices of our children, families and communities. We bring together different experiences, skills and backgrounds to provide opportunities to overcome personal, systemic and institutional barriers.

Our Mission

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

With the help of a Friend, 95% of youth made progress on social and emotional development, such as asking for help from a caring adult and practicing healthy ways to cope with stress.



PROMOTING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH WITH LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS

Even before 2020, the number of young people in America feeling persistently sad and hopeless was increasing. The pandemic made things worse and, in fall 2022, the U.S. Surgeon General declared a youth mental health crisis.

When youth and caregivers at Friends of the Children - Boston were struggling to have their mental health support needs met, the chapter responded. The chapter enhanced training for their Friends and leveraged new partnerships with local culturally-specific mental health clinicians to increase timely access to mental health services for youth in the program.

Youth like JT, a 16-year-old junior who has been in the program since he was in first grade. JT is a driven teen, and his goal to make the football team is a major motivator for him.

JT and his father Thomas, who is raising him on his own, have been through a lot. When concerns about JT's mental health first came up, it was hard for Thomas to trust that schools and the mental health system had his family's best interest in mind. This year when bullying led to serious concerns about JT's safety, the system took

months to respond and Thomas was worried. Friends - Boston was able to get support in place for both JT and Thomas right away — a request that Thomas made because the organization had built trust with him and his son. Thomas joined a fathers' support group, and JT is working with his therapist and with his Friend, Stefan, on ways to process his emotions and build more positive relationships with his peers.

Our long-term, “no matter what” relationships are the number one reason families trust Friends of the Children to help when their children are in crisis. Friends aren't therapists, but our work is therapeutic. Acknowledging the hard things that youth and families have faced is part of our trauma-informed approach. With love, compassion, and the right supports, we are creating safe spaces for youth and their families to heal.

For Thomas, healing looks like finding time to connect more with his son and cooking dinner together once a week. For JT, it is finding the courage to work to build stronger peer friendships and to step up as a leader at the Friends - Boston entrepreneurship competition. This is what generational change looks like — one child, one Friend, one family at a time.

*Names changed to protect privacy.

CASA PILOT TRANSFORMS LIVES AND KEEPS FAMILIES TOGETHER

In Austin, Texas, children who have been in foster care and go home to live with family typically go back into care about 10% of the time within one year. Within five years, that number goes up to 40%.

In 2019, inspired by her own work as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer, Nancy Pollard, the Executive Director of the Friends of the Children - Austin chapter, worked with the local CASA program to launch a pilot project focused on giving a Friend to children in the area who had been in foster care and were returning home to their families. The goal of the pilot was to keep youth safely at home and avoid returning to foster care.

Friends - Austin met Daniella in 2019. Daniella loves her family and is very artistic. Although shy and reserved at first, Daniella can be witty and funny once she feels at ease. She also loves animals and having somebody to play with. At her first visit with Friends - Austin, Daniella's mom shared her commitment to her children coming home to live with her. Daniella joined the program and things were on track for that to happen when the pandemic hit. Courts closed, services were unavailable, and supervision of the case became an issue. Daniella had to move from Austin to Houston with another family member. Due to the distance, Daniella couldn't remain enrolled in the program, but her Friend visited, stayed in touch by phone, and wrote letters to make sure Daniella felt supported and connected.

Two years later as the world reopened, Daniella returned to Austin, the court case

closed, and her mom's dream of having her family back together came true. It didn't take long for mom to reach out to Friends - Austin to make sure Daniella still had a Friend — which of course, she did!

Daniella is now an upcoming 6th grader and she and her Friend Andrea have been working together to find positive ways to process all that she has gone through. Daniella has slowly come back to feeling at home at the Friends - Austin clubhouse, reconnecting with old friends, building new relationships, and easing into her witty, funny self. And of course, continues growing up and working towards her goals. Andrea has worked to build a strong working relationship with Daniella's mom and continues to support her to keep her family together.

Now, more than three years into the CASA Pilot project, **not a single child with a Friend in Austin has gone back into foster care — not one!**

The Texas legislature was so inspired by these results that in 2023, they invested \$4.5M to grow the Friends of the Children CASA Pilot in Austin, expand it to Friends of the Children - Houston, and scale the pilot to a third Texas location in 2024!

We commit to all youth in our program for 12+ years, no matter what. Because of that, Daniella — and her entire family — will have a Friend walking alongside them until she graduates from high school. Along the way, we'll be celebrating every milestone both she and her mom accomplish!



*With the accelerated expansion of the Friends of the Children model, we believe that by 2030, we will **reduce the number of 5-year-olds entering foster care by 10%**. Friends of the Children - Los Angeles is well on its way toward meeting that goal. In 2023, the **Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors invested \$13.5M** to scale the model throughout LA County and double the chapter's enrollment with a focus on Black girls, firmly establishing our model as part of the county's family well-being continuum.*

*Names changed to protect privacy.

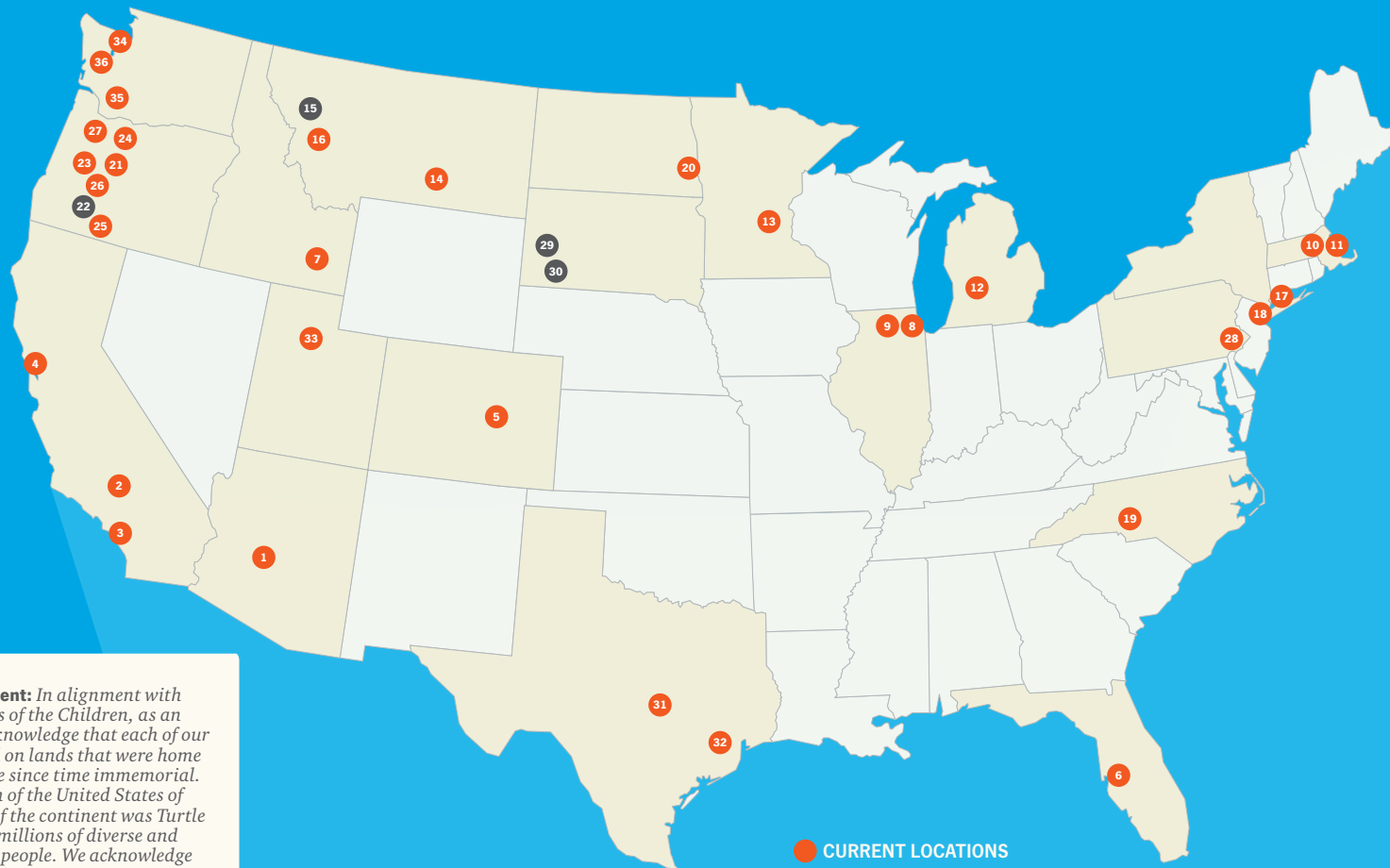
EXPANSION UPDATE

Over the past ten years, Friends of the Children has grown from 5 to 36 locations across the United States in rural, Indigenous, suburban, and urban communities. The astounding growth of our national network means we are walking alongside youth and families for 12+ years, no matter what in 22 different states including partnerships with Sovereign Tribal Nations: the Oglala Lakota Nation, the Confederated Salish-Kootenai Tribes, and the Klamath Tribes.

In the last fiscal year alone, Friends of the Children has launched four new chapters in Eastern Idaho, Houston, Philadelphia, and the Twin Cities. We have

also increased our reach at existing chapters by adding new locations in Boston, Chicago, South Dakota, Oregon, and Western Montana.

Our national network is collaborating with community leaders, school systems, government agencies, foundations, and youth and families themselves in every corner of the country to work toward a day where every child who needs a Friend has one. Together, we are breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty, increasing access to mental health supports, and preventing youth from being impacted by the foster care system.



CURRENT LOCATIONS

- ARIZONA**
 - (1) Phoenix
- CALIFORNIA**
 - (2) Antelope Valley
 - (3) Los Angeles
 - (4) San Francisco Bay Area
- COLORADO**
 - (5) Colorado Springs
- FLORIDA**
 - (6) Tampa Bay
- IDAHO**
 - (7) Pocatello
- ILLINOIS**
 - (8) South, Chicago
 - (9) West, Chicago
- MASSACHUSETTS**
 - (10) Boston
 - (11) East Boston
- MICHIGAN**
 - (12) Detroit
- MINNESOTA**
 - (13) Minneapolis-St. Paul
 - (20) Fargo-Moorhead
- MONTANA**
 - (14) Billings
 - (15) Flathead Indian Reservation
 - (16) Missoula
- NEW YORK**
 - (17) Bronx
 - (18) Harlem
- NORTH CAROLINA**
 - (19) Charlotte
- NORTH DAKOTA**
 - (20) Fargo-Moorhead
- OREGON**
 - (21) Bend
 - (22) Chiloquin
 - (23) Eugene
 - (24) Gresham
 - (25) Klamath Falls
 - (26) La Pine
 - (27) Portland
- PENNSYLVANIA**
 - (28) Philadelphia
- SOUTH DAKOTA**
 - (29) He Sapa (Rapid City)
 - (30) Pine Ridge Indian Reservation
- TEXAS**
 - (31) Austin
 - (32) Houston
- UTAH**
 - (33) Salt Lake City
- WASHINGTON**
 - (34) Seattle
 - (35) Vancouver
 - (36) Tacoma

- CURRENT LOCATIONS
- IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SOVEREIGN TRIBAL NATIONS

Land Acknowledgment: In alignment with the values of Friends of the Children, as an organization we acknowledge that each of our chapters are located on lands that were home to Indigenous people since time immemorial. Prior to the creation of the United States of America, this part of the continent was Turtle Island, the home of millions of diverse and thriving Indigenous people. We acknowledge and respect the inherent sovereignty and unique cultures of the first peoples of this land.

TRANSFORMATIVE \$33 MILLION INVESTMENT BY GARY AND CHRISTINE ROOD

Gary and Christine Rood's journey into philanthropy shines a light on the extraordinary power of inspiration and impact. The spirit of generosity ignited by icons like Phil Knight and Michael Jordan paved the path for the Roods to give back in a new way. Fueled by the desire to create lasting change, the Roods invested \$33 million in Friends of the Children — the largest gift they've ever given to a single organization.

Guided by research and heartfelt conversations, their monumental gift echoes the catalytic investment of MacKenzie Scott. This transformative investment reflects their faith in Friends of the Children's rapid growth and the demonstrated success of our paid, professional mentoring model.

With the \$33 million investment, Gary and Christine Rood are the presenting sponsors for Friends of the Children's 30th anniversary celebration. With \$23 million dedicated to expanding our child and whole-family well-being

services, and \$10 million for a challenge match for the Duncan and Cindy Campbell National Center of Excellence and for the Gary and Christine Rood Southwest Washington Clubhouse, the Roods are building a brighter future for paid, professional mentoring.

As Gary nears the age of 85, he is not content with waiting to witness change; he is making sure he is part of it now. Their investment is a catalyst, and they are inviting others to join in and support the hopes and dreams of the youth and families we serve.

By also including us in their estate plan, Gary and Christine's dedication isn't just for now, but for generations to come — a legacy that will forever shape the lives of those they touch. The Roods hope their generosity will inspire others and ignite a chain reaction of support to bring Friends of the Children one step closer to achieving our vision that every child who needs a Friend has one.



"Friends of the Children's proven track record and long-term commitment to youth deserves not just recognition but continued and sustaining investment," says Gary Rood.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DISCOVER MORE ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN AND TO FIND WAYS TO HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES. YOU'LL ALSO FIND THE IMPACT REPORT ONLINE TO READ AND TO SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.



"You have shown communities in every corner of the country the extraordinary power of putting children first, building relationships based in genuine love, and aiming for equitable empowerment."

– U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy on Friends of the Children

FROM INSPIRATION TO ACTION: SIMONE BILES' POWERFUL PARTNERSHIP

Friends of the Children has been honored to grow our partnership with World Champion gymnast and youth advocate Simone Biles. Over the past year, Simone has passionately engaged with our organization, leveraging her platform to support and to empower our mission of transforming the lives of youth facing the greatest obstacles.

One of the many notable highlights from this year was when Simone unveiled a limited-edition *Wheaties* box featuring Friends of the Children, bringing national attention to our work. General Mills and Simone hosted the Breakfast of Champions in her hometown of Spring, Texas, celebrating the *Wheaties* box and the launch of the Friends of the Children - Houston chapter. Her presence and support have energized the Friends of the Children network and have been a powerful boost to our growth.

In February, Simone chose to feature Friends of the Children in *Controlling Complexity: Adaptation*, a commercial featuring her and cybersecurity company Axonius. Simone used her platform to not only amplify our story, but also surprised us with a \$50,000 gift from Axonius! This is one of many examples of Simone's philanthropy and how she positively leverages her influence to help Friends of the Children maximize our reach and impact.

Simone's passion for making a difference in the lives of young people shone through when she chose to spotlight Friends of the Children in a *People Magazine* "Why I Care" story. Her heartfelt advocacy showcased the importance of our work to a national audience. Simone's unwavering support continued as she shared her work with Friends of the Children in an op-ed with *USA Today*. In the article, she shed light on the importance of mentorship, creating lasting impact, and being a voice for youth facing the greatest challenges — such as foster care and mental health.

As part of her ongoing dedication, Simone hosted a Zoom call with hundreds of youth in the Friends of the Children program to celebrate National Foster Care Month and Mental Health Awareness Month. Her genuine connection with the youth, as well as her words of encouragement, provided invaluable inspiration to overcome fear and doubt and to never stop dreaming big.

We are incredibly grateful for Simone Biles' partnership with Friends of the Children. Her support, dedication, and belief in the transformative power of mentorship have made a lasting difference in the lives of youth and families across the country. We look forward to continuing to work together to build a brighter future for every child we serve.

“It is my hope that everyone who needs a ‘Friend’ can have a Friend so they, too, can be fearless, courageous, achieve their big dreams, and have fun while doing it.”

– SIMONE BILES

World Champion Gymnast & Youth Advocate





CHANGING THE NARRATIVE FOR CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY GUN VIOLENCE

Dialo* is an outgoing, charismatic 11-year-old — full of promise and potential. He and his Friend love to play basketball and his natural leadership abilities shine with both his peers and adults.

Dialo joined the Friends of the Children - Chicago program in kindergarten. Living on the West Side, Dialo and his mom face a lot of challenges. Since joining the program, they have struggled to make ends meet, and have moved into a number of different homes. Like many of his peers in the neighborhood, Dialo's young life has already been impacted by gun violence: at his 7th birthday party, Dialo had to hide in the bathtub because shots were fired in his own home.

Children and families on Chicago's West Side, where we work, are faced with disproportionate amounts of violence and trauma that can challenge their ability to thrive, and impact both mental and physical wellbeing. The chapter has enrolled children who had already, by the time they turned five years old, lost a parent or caregiver to gun violence. Many of the Friends have also been impacted by gun violence like the children they serve.

Knowing that every child is full of possibility and deserves to feel safe, Friends - Chicago creates safe spaces — physically and emotionally — giving children tools to process their emotions and recover from trauma. The chapter is also working to change the narrative about children and families impacted by gun violence and intergenerational trauma.

“No one is destined to become involved in gun violence,” says Taal Hasak-Lowy, Executive Director of Friends - Chicago. “We know that if we provide a child with proper support, they can stay on a positive trajectory toward achieving their dreams.”

This includes children like Dialo, who is well on his way toward achieving dreams of his own. This year, in a meeting with a state Senator at the Friends - Chicago clubhouse, Dialo was the first to offer a handshake to the elected official and advocate for himself and his community. We can't wait to see where this young man's journey leads!

Inspired by Friends - Chicago's commitment to children and families impacted by gun violence, the **Cook County Justice Advisory Council** invested **\$1.6 Million** to expand the chapter to the city's South Side.

*Names changed to protect privacy.

EXTENDED KINSHIP INFORMS THE FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN MENTORING MODEL IN INDIAN COUNTRY

As Friends of the Children works with youth across the country to reach for their dreams, we are striving to be good relatives to Indigenous youth and families in Indian Country. In the last year, we have cultivated and deepened partnerships with multiple Sovereign Tribal Nations, and are tailoring our long-term, professional mentoring model to embrace the tradition of extended kinship that is common in many Indigenous communities.

Friends of the Children - He Sapa was launched in Rapid City, South Dakota last year as the first culturally-specific chapter in our national network. Recently, Friends - He Sapa opened a new location on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, in partnership with the Oglala Sioux Tribe, supported by powerful leaders to guide and ground our work in Indian Country. Rick Hmuya Mani (Walks with a Roaring) Two Dogs serves as cultural advisor to Friends - He Sapa and ensures we honor Indigenous culture and support the empowerment of Indigenous youth.

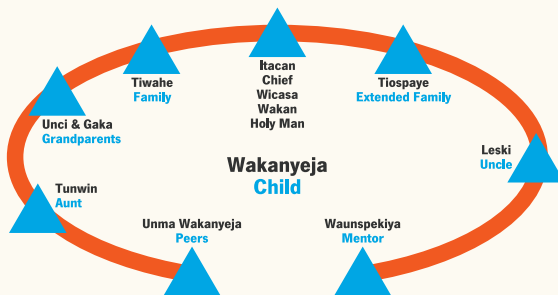
Mr. Two Dogs is from the Mato Oyate, Kiyuksa Band and is an Oglala traditional healer and a Wakan Iyeska (Interpreter of the Sacred). He brings decades of experience in Lakota mental health and wellness, language revitalization, cultural competency, child and family development, and individual/family healing. Friends of the Children is committed to providing culturally responsive mentoring as culture serves as a protective factor for youth, providing them with a strong sense of identity and belonging. With the deep knowledge and connections to Indigenous traditions, Mr. Two Dogs has been instrumental in shaping our approach within the extended kinship system that helps raise Indigenous youth and supports youth in understanding their culture.



28 out of 36 sites across the country serve Indigenous youth and families.

Indian Country is not monolithic — each Sovereign Tribal Nation is a diverse collection of people, and Friends of the Children works to meet communities where they are. Our mentoring model recognizes and celebrates that identities of the youth and families we serve are tied to their cultures, languages, and histories. Through naming ceremonies, the making of relatives, coming-of-age ceremonies, and healing camps, we honor these restorative and healing practices in our programming. Embracing these cultural ceremonies and practices provides a pathway for Indigenous youth to reconnect with their heritage and find empowerment within their communities.

The Friends of the Children national network has seen other growth in Indian Country. Friends - Western Montana has extended beyond Missoula to create a new site on the Flathead Reservation within the sovereign territory of the Confederated Salish-Kootenai Tribes. Friends of the Children also continues to nurture its work with Indigenous communities through existing chapters, including in Klamath Basin, Eastern Montana, Fargo-Moorhead, and the Twin Cities. We are grateful for the direct collaborations with Sovereign Tribal Nations and look forward to building a brighter future for the Indigenous youth who inspire us every day.



Traditionally, the Lakota people had a circle of care who collectively loved, and guided the Wakanyeja (sacred beings/youth). This circle was multilayered and reinforced tribal values and teachings. It also included a Waunspekiya (mentor) who was outside of the family but served to support the youth. Friends of the Children's culturally-specific Lakota model is working toward re-establishing this important role in the lives of Indigenous youth and families.

This representation of the extended kinship model is based on the work of Rick Two Dogs and is shared with his permission.

GENERATIONAL CHANGE, ONE CHILD AT A TIME: JIMMY'S JOURNEY

MEET JIMMY, a graduate of Friends of the Children - Portland. His story is one of determination and transformation. In a family where every generation of males had ended up in prison, Jimmy was determined to break free from that cycle.

Jimmy's resilience was evident from the moment he joined Friends of the Children. Having lost his father at two years old, Jimmy was raised by his grandparents. Growing up surrounded by drug addiction and mental illness, he yearned for a different life. When he met John, his paid, professional mentor, he found someone who accepted him and understood his world without judgment.

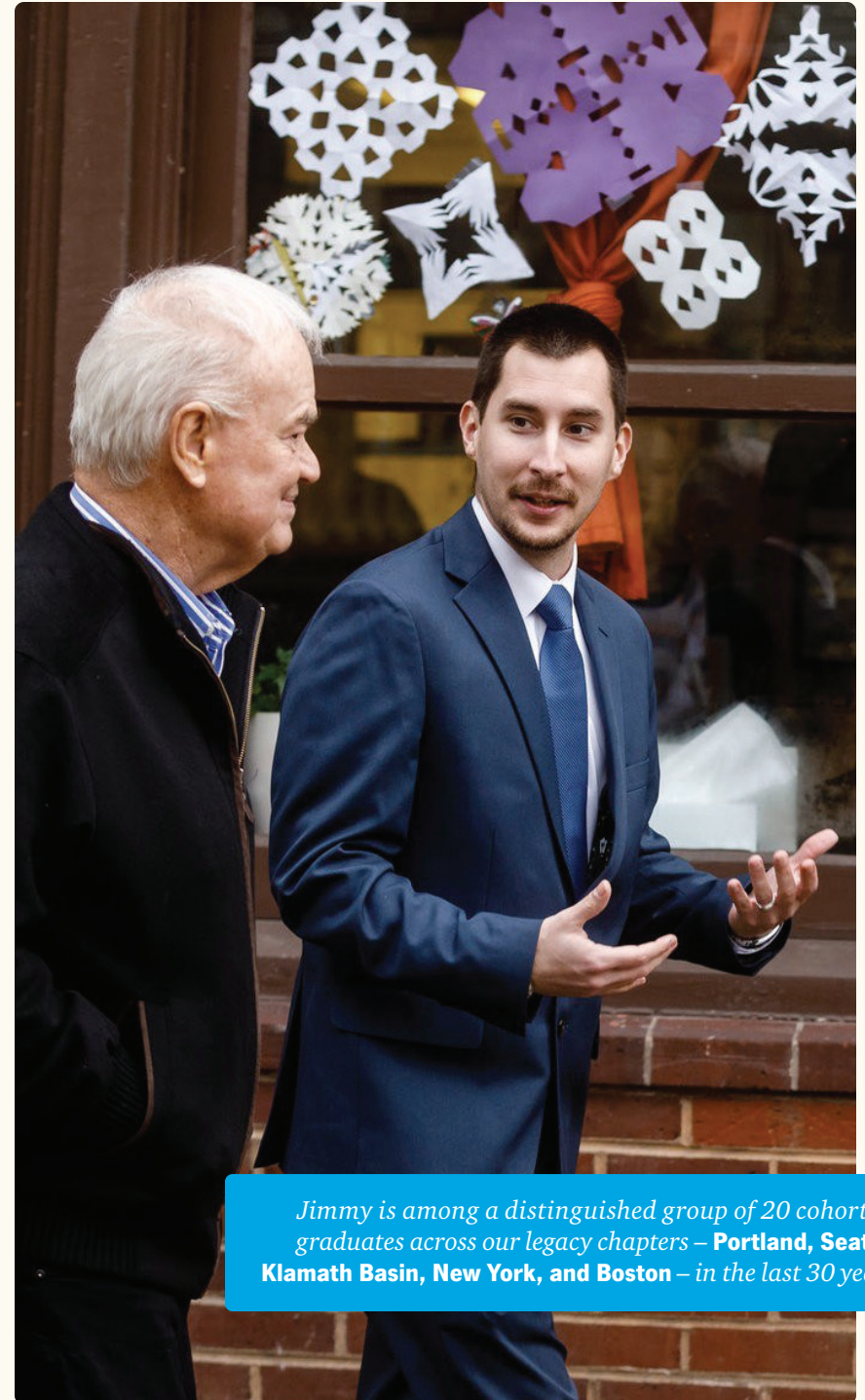
Friend John became Jimmy's bridge, connecting him to school, home, and his dreams. Together, they bonded over activities like attending Blazers games and snowboarding, which not only built Jimmy's confidence but also helped him feel accepted by others.

At 14, Jimmy faced a profound challenge when his last guardian passed away. In a room full of people unable to provide care for Jimmy, John was the only one who stepped up. He asked Jimmy what he wanted, and Jimmy expressed his desire to be emancipated. From that moment, John guided him, helping build his resume and secure internships that altered the course of Jimmy's life.

With John's unwavering support and guidance, Jimmy broke the cycle, avoiding prison, and embarking on a career at a prestigious legal firm. Years after graduating from the program, John remains a significant presence in Jimmy's life, offering continued support. Jimmy now works in the Oregon State court system, advocating for others facing similar obstacles to those he once faced.

Jimmy attributes his success and the positive trajectory of his life to Friends of the Children. Without the program, he believes he would have ended up in jail and battled addiction, but because of Friends of the Children Jimmy says, "my kids will never have to experience that."

Friends of the Children's ability to foster the inherent resilience in children like Jimmy is rooted in the deep relationships formed between paid, professional mentors and the youth they serve — where Friends recognize each child's unique spark and tackle individual obstacles, guiding them towards transformative paths. These dedicated Friends provide "no matter what" support and a listening ear to every child's dreams, wishes, and needs, empowering change and possibility.



*Jimmy is among a distinguished group of 20 cohorts of graduates across our legacy chapters – **Portland, Seattle, Klamath Basin, New York, and Boston** – in the last 30 years!*

FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN'S TWO-GENERATION RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL LED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Friends of the Children's mentoring model is unique not only because it empowers youth with paid, professional mentors for 12+ years — *no matter what*, but also because it is evidence-based. Since the organization's founding 30 years ago, we continue to measure the impact of our program on families throughout the country through rigorous research and data.

The University of Notre Dame's Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities (LEO) is leading a second randomized controlled trial (RCT) of the Friends model. Five Friends of the Children chapters will participate in this six-year RCT to examine

the two-generation (2Gen) impact of professional mentoring. The study aims to examine the early-years impact of the model on family stability and about 650 families will participate. Positive results will inform our work to prevent foster care and could lead to increased investment in the model as a systems change strategy.

The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Wilson Sheehan Foundation, and the American Idea Foundation have invested in the study. Previous research funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation has shown the benefits to whole families of having a Friend in a child's life. Results from the 2Gen RCT are expected in 2028.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

After 30 years of seeing youth in our program achieve incredible success, we remain inspired by their accomplishments:



92% of youth go on to enroll in post-secondary education, serve our country or enter the workforce with a living-wage job.



83% of youth receive their high school diploma or GED.



93% of youth remain free from involvement in the juvenile justice system.



98% of youth wait to parent until after their teen years.

THE HISTORY OF FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN

In 1993, Duncan Campbell and his wife Cindy redefined youth mentoring by creating the first and only long-term professional mentoring program in the country, Friends of the Children.

Their passion for helping youth and families facing the greatest obstacles grew from Duncan's own experience as a child living in a distressed area of Portland, Oregon.

"I was one of those children," Duncan says of the youth served by Friends of the Children. "I believe people have a responsibility to reach back and take care of others, so that they can break the cycle of poverty and become self-reliant, contributing citizens...all through the power of relationships."

The Friends of the Children model was founded on research showing that the single most important factor in overcoming childhood adversity is a long-term, nurturing relationship with a consistent, caring adult. We began with three paid, professional mentors serving 24 children in Portland, Oregon. Today, Friends of the Children serves 3,000 children and impacts 15,000 youth and family members in 36 locations across 22 different states including partnerships with Sovereign Tribal Nations.



1993

Friends of the Children is founded by Duncan Campbell in Portland, OR

2000

Chapters established in **Seattle, WA** and **Klamath Falls, OR**

2010

Social Return on Investment Study determines that every dollar invested in Friends of the Children returns over \$7 to the community

2013

\$5M gift from Bob and Dottie King to establish a National Endowment, ensuring there will always be a National headquarters

2014

Tampa Bay, FL chapter established
New York chapter expands to second location in the **South Bronx**
Friends of the Children begins selecting youth directly from foster care

2018

Michael Jordan makes multi-million dollar investment in Friends of the Children
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation invests \$1.75M to launch 2Gen pilot

2019

Chapters established in **Fargo, ND; Tacoma, WA; Detroit, MI; and Salt Lake City, UT**
Los Angeles chapter expands to second location in **Antelope Valley**
Annie E. Casey caregiver study results published in *Child & Family Social Work*

2020

Chapters established in **Eugene, OR** and **Vancouver, WA**
In response to COVID-19, Family Needs Assessments take place across the network
Friends of the Children Racial Equity Audit completed

2001

New York, NY chapter established

2004

Boston, MA chapter established

2008

NIH awards \$3M for Randomized Controlled Trial of the effectiveness of the Friends of the Children model

2015

Portland chapter expands to second location in **Gresham**

Network-wide performance management system launched

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention invests \$500,000 to support the expansion of service to foster youth – the first of six awards through 2022 totaling \$12.5M

2016

San Francisco Bay Area, CA chapter established

Friends of the Children receives a \$4M Social Innovation Fund award

Russell Wilson begins investing in Friends of the Children through his Why Not You Foundation; wife Ciara joins partnership later

2017

Chapters established in **Austin, TX; Charlotte, NC; Chicago, IL; Los Angeles, CA; and Bend, OR**

Preliminary findings from the Longitudinal Randomized Controlled Trial are published in *Prevention Science*

2021

Chapters established in **Missoula, MT** and **Colorado Springs, CO**

Echo Fund invests \$6M to support the expansion of partnerships with rural and tribal communities

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation invests an additional \$3.4M to expand 2Gen work and to study its impact

Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies invests \$2.5M to expand partnerships with tribal communities

2022

Friends of the Children - He Sapa established in **Rapid City, SD**, as first culturally-specific chapter

Chapters established in **Phoenix, AZ; Billings, MT; Houston, TX; and Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN**

He Sapa chapter expands to second location on **Pine Ridge Indian Reservation**

MacKenzie Scott invests \$44M in the Friends of the Children network

2Gen Impact Randomized Controlled Trial launches in partnership with the University of Notre Dame

2023

Gary & Christine Rood invest \$33M in the Friends of the Children network

Chapters established in **Pocatello, ID** and **Philadelphia, PA**

Boston chapter expands to second location in **East Boston**

Chicago chapter expands to second location in **South, Chicago**

Klamath chapter expands to second location in **Chiloquin** in partnership with the Klamath Tribes

Western Montana chapter expands to second location on **Flathead Indian Reservation**

Central Oregon chapter expands to second location in **La Pine, OR**

Echo Fund invests \$6M to support the expansion of partnerships with rural and tribal communities



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Here's a financial snapshot for fiscal year 2022.

OPERATING REVENUE

Individual	\$20,745,614
Foundations	\$5,213,305
Consulting Fees	\$1,962,647
Government	\$1,364,415
In Kind	\$216,892
Corporate	\$177,277
Other	\$6,228

Total Operating Revenue \$29,686,378

OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Expenses	\$11,074,401
Administrative Services	\$621,074
Fundraising Costs	\$243,149

Total Operating Expenses \$11,938,624

ASSETS

Cash & Investments	\$32,905,155
Receivables	\$3,891,172
Equipment	\$77,145
Prepaid Expenses	\$46,115

Total Assets \$36,919,587

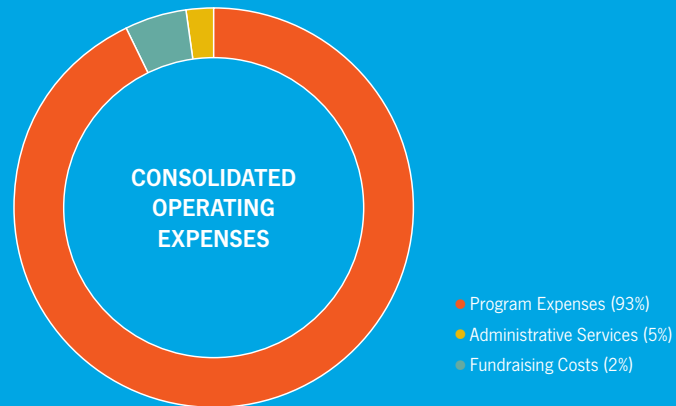
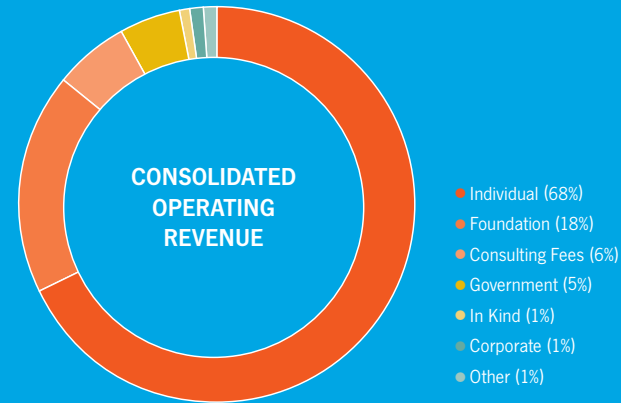
LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$4,141,631
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NET ASSETS

With Donor Restrictions	\$14,277,378
Unrestricted Board Designated	\$10,000,000
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$8,500,578

**Total Net Assets
& Liabilities** \$36,919,587



THANK YOU

Thank you to the following lifetime contributors who have supported our work:

Lifetime \$44 Million

MacKenzie Scott**

Lifetime \$33 Million

Gary & Christine Rood**

Lifetime \$2.5 Million & Up

Anonymous**
Ballmer Group*
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SCHEELS*
Sean Kuni*
#StartSmall
Tykeson Family Foundation**
Vital Life, a Marquis & Consonus Foundation*
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2021-2023 INVESTMENTS†

Thank you to our generous donors for their investments in youth and families:

\$44 Million & Up

MacKenzie Scott**

\$33 Million & Up

Gary & Christine Rood**

\$2.5 Million & Up

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation**
Echo Fund**
Greg & Michele Goodwin**
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health*
Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies**
Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention**

\$1 Million-\$2,499,999

Jeff & Lisa Gordon*
Brent & Jorja Hicks*
King Philanthropies
Quest Foundation*
SCHEELS*
Sean Kuni*
Stand Together Foundation**
#StartSmall
Tykeson Family Foundation**
WoodNext Foundation*

\$500K-\$999,999

Anonymous**
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Administration (SAMHSA)*
Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust*

\$100K-\$499,999

Anonymous (3)**
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Subway
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Van Denburgh Family Foundation*
Wilson Sheehan Foundation**

\$50K-\$99,999

American Idea Foundation
Anonymous
BlueCross BlueShield of Montana*
Bryan R. Bickmore Foundation**
El Pomar Foundation*
General Mills
The Bob and Lisa Swift Family*

* Denotes support of chapter(s) across the Friends of the Children network

** Denotes support of Friends of the Children-National and chapter(s) across the Friends of the Children network

† Investments recognized between the time period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2023



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My Friend taught me a lot of life skills, introduced me to new experiences, gave me a break from hard things at home, and helped me with schoolwork. They helped me choose the field I work in now, which is working with kids. This program has taught me to be humble, to be happy, to be safe. I look at every encounter we had as a learning experience. He gave me hope when I was down and got me the help that I deserved. My Friend gave me the love and care I needed through all my hard times. I could count on him, and he never gave up on me. I could've given up a long time ago...I'm just proud of myself that I keep going, even though everything in me is telling me to quit—but I can't. Friends of the Children helped change my life for the better.

Celebrating 30 YEARS of Generational Change

Graduates from Friends of the Children shared with us how their mentors and the program impacted their lives.

FRIENDS of the CHILDREN

44 NE Morris St.
Portland, OR 97212
503.820.0903
info@friendsofthechildren.org
friendsofthechildren.org

@friendsnational



DISCOVER MORE ABOUT
FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN

