

Gratitude Report FY22



Our Mission

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



Our Staff

In fiscal year 2022 we established the part-time position of Tribal Engagement Coordinator with former mentor Cheyanne Jackson, maintaining vital connections to indigenous friends in the Klamath Basin.



Amanda Squibb
Executive Director



Corey Stamper
Operations Coordinator



Anne Keyser, Director of
Development & Marketing



Jordon Falconio
FACE Specialist



Cheyenne Jackson
Tribal Engagement
Coordinator



Crystal Muno
Program Director



Anne Taylor
Friend



Kayla Barros-Matheney
Friend



José Hernandez
Friend



Michael House
Friend



Jeff Press
Friend



Sarah Smart
Friend



Naomi McCleve
Friend



Phillip Squibb
Friend



Licensed clinical social worker Phillip Squibb mentors youth in Chiloquin while we search for a permanent Friend there.

A Message from Our Board Chair

I was invited to join the Friends of the Children - Klamath Basin Board of Directors nearly 10 years ago by Wayne Snoozy, a long-time Board member and dear family friend. His love for and belief in Friends - Klamath Basin was obvious, heartfelt, and contagious. I am so thankful that he encouraged me to be a part of this organization, and I am truly grateful to all of our supporters who made a donation this year in Wayne's memory. It is an honor to acknowledge Wayne as an outstanding board member, community member, educator and man, and to recognize his passion for Friends of the Children.

2022 has been a time to reflect on our organizational roots and envision where we want Friends of the Children to go. From receiving unwavering community support during COVID uncertainty, to launching our capital campaign for our new clubhouse, to being recognized by national foundations and donors, this year has given us so much to be thankful for. We know that we must not sit idle but embrace our momentum and strive to support more local youth on their life journeys.

Our growth relies on a strong foundation of dedicated staff members, a committed board of directors and a broad field of supporters. Thank you to every individual, corporation or foundation who has chosen to support our mission. Together we will be here for Klamath Basin youth – 12+ years. No matter what.

Traci Freid



Wayne Snoozy, 1938 - 2022
Former Board Member



Traci Freid
Board Chair

Our Board

Chair Traci Freid, Former Educator
Vice Chair Debi Catron, Retired Executive Administration Office Manager, JELD-WEN, Inc.
Secretary Susan Kandra, Retired Educator
Treasurer Tessa Koch, Owner, TMK Creamery
Robert Mulcare, Marketing Director, Klamath Insurance Center



Gian Christmas, Educator, Conger Elementary School
Heidi Gaither, LCSW, Assistant Director Klamath County Developmental Disability Services
Dr. Tracy Graham, Pediatrician
Jessie Hecocta, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones
Alycia Edgeworth Kersey, Circuit Court Judge
Cathy Mason, Relationship Banker, Umpqua Bank
Jenine Stuedli, Loan Consultant, Caliber Home Loans
Janet Thede, Retired Branch Manager, Umpqua Bank
Heather Tyler, Branch Manager, WaFd Bank
Victor Vazquez, Sales Representative, Lithia Ford



Emeritus Terry Kenfield, Retired Administrator, Klamath Falls City Schools
Emerita Nancy Wendt, Founding Board Member



Heidi Gaither
New to the Board in 2022

Our Ambassadors

From young professionals to retirees, Ambassador volunteers share a passion for supporting Klamath's kids.



Sergeant Daniel Anderson (L) donated stocking stuffers from Kingsley Airbase, then bought holiday gifts for several of our teen boys.



In April, Maggie Huntley (L) and Johanna Scholer helped clean up our future home. (See more about the "Clubhouse Campaign" project on p. 16).

Sabree Johnson (R) presented more than \$4,000 to Executive Director Amanda Squibb from the charity golf tournament she organized at Harbor Links Golf Course in July 2022.



Cassi Stevens (L) hosted an Ugly Sweater Game Night event that raised over \$500 for our program.

Our Youth

Our youth are resilient in the face of great obstacles, including poverty, foster care, and social disadvantage.



100% qualify for free/reduced lunch



58% live in a single-parent household



42% identify as African American, Latinx, or Native American



56% are impacted by foster care



21% experience homelessness or housing insecurity

Our Enrollment Partners

We work closely with Klamath's two school districts, the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) and other community partners to identify children ages 4-6 most in need of professional mentors.

Our Growth



Our Model

Our model is data-driven, research-based, and time-tested. Friends teach 9 Core Assets and help youth achieve individual goals in 5 Intermediate Outcomes, which are mapped annually and measured weekly for 12+ years.

Core Assets



PERSEVERANCE/GRIT: I work hard through challenges and finish what I start.



BELONGING: I understand who I am, have a place where I feel accepted, and know that my contributions count.



FIND YOUR SPARK: I use creativity to explore my passions.



GROWTH MINDSET: I love learning and know that my abilities will improve through dedication and effort.



HOPE: When I have tough times, I believe it can get better.



SELF-MANAGEMENT: I know how to manage my feelings and take care of myself in a healthy way.



PROBLEM-SOLVING: I know how to weigh the pros and cons and make a decision.



POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP BUILDING: I get along well with others and am able to find people to support me.



SELF-DETERMINATION: I believe in myself and am able to set goals and achieve them.

Intermediate Goals

School Success
Improved Health
Making Good Choices
Prosocial Development
Plans & Skills for the Future

Long-Term Outcomes

Postpone parenting until after the teen years 93%
Remain free from juvenile justice system involvement 96%
Earn a high school diploma or a GED 93%

Return on Investment

The Harvard Business School Association of Oregon showed that each program graduate saves the community \$900,000 in social costs. Notably, this excludes savings on foster stays prevented or shortened through family-stabilizing work.

**\$1 invested =
\$7 returned to the
community**

About their Friends . . .

youth said:

What I needed in my life
My mentor but more of a peer
because I can talk about anything
Like family

caregivers said:

A significant positive
male role model
The mother figure missing in
our lives
Amazing daily support

86% of youth worked on their School Success goal at least 2x monthly

School Success

Living with the instability of foster care, Jack* struggled with kindergarten attendance, behavior, and learning. Two years later, Jack finished 2nd grade with flying colors.

“He’s gone from spelling test scores of 0 to 100,” said Friend Jeff. “He has developed perseverance and self-management and now does his homework right after school instead of throwing fits.”

“He says, ‘I don’t like it but if I just do it, then it’s done!’ When I tell him he’s completed his required 10 minutes of after-school reading, he tells me, ‘No, I have to finish reading the story to (clubhouse therapy dog) Soba.’ This is the success story you hope for.”



86% of youth worked on their Improved Health goal at least 2x monthly

Improved Health

Because of early trauma, 10-year-old Lea* struggled with episodes of flight and self-harm, such as running from her elementary school toward the highway. Such episodes in spring and summer 2022 caused two hospitalizations.

Friends - Klamath Basin program staff were there to support Lea's mom, advocate for residential treatment, and, when that was denied, fight for and secure placement in a year-round behavioral health classroom where Lea is doing well with the support of staff and Friend Sarah.



88% of youth worked on their Making Good Choices goal at least 2x monthly

Making Good Choices

Alan* hasn't always coped well with early abuse. Facing 7th grade bullies this year, he fought back physically (and was suspended) multiple times.

With hard work and Friend José's guidance, Alan said he learned "to breathe and walk away." He finished the year with As and Bs – even a summer job as a junior camp counselor.

"José has helped me a lot," Alan said, who was proud to share his skills with campers in conflict.

"I help campers negotiate solutions and get adult help instead of fighting, said Alan, who aims to continue this peace-making as a police officer. "I want to make people's lives better," he said.



88% of youth worked on their Prosocial Development goal at least 2x monthly

Prosocial Development

One of the trauma responses Friend Anne often sees in Laura* is fear of failure and, therefore, hesitation to take risks. She wasn't surprised when Laura hung back during a group fishing trip this summer – and delighted when Laura eventually felt safe enough to give it a try.

“Before we were finished, she was asking me if I could get her a fishing pole and a fishing starter kit for her birthday!” said Anne.

Back home, Laura even challenged herself to prepare, cook, and eat the day's catch.

“It ended up being a full and complete circle – a huge accomplishment,” said Anne. “She persevered and used her determination to stretch herself outside of her comfort zone in so many ways.”



Plans & Skills for the Future

Nine-year-old Kai* wasn't getting ready for school and was exhibiting attention-seeking behaviors that were disrupting both home and classroom.

Friend Phillip was invited into Kai's home to facilitate conversation around these challenges. He helped Kai understand his parents' needs and showed mom and dad how Kai might feel lost in their large, busy family.

Kai and his parents quickly created systems for giving Kai the one-on-one time he craved and the structure he needed. With more attention and clearer structures, Kai became focused at home and engaged at school. In May 2022 he was named his school's Student of the Month!



Mental Health Support

Depression, anxiety and suicidal ideation have increased significantly among our youth. In response, Friends - Klamath Basin expanded mental health training for staff and this year and introduced mental health activity nights with licensed clinical social worker Heidi Gaither.

At each “Headspace” mental health meeting, teens shared experiences, identified emotions, and learned healthy coping techniques for stress and anxiety. The gatherings were popular and impactful.

Mark*, who became withdrawn and depressed during the pandemic, attended Headspace with Friend Jeff. “He began coming out of his shell again – becoming more talkative, making jokes, and engaging in activities he enjoys,” said Jeff.

“Mom shared that he was in a better mood at home. Headspace helped him learn emotional coping skills and strategies that are showing in the rest of his life.”

*Name changed to protect privacy



Family Support

From our Friends, caregivers get emotional support, help navigating school systems, and connection to area resources. From our Family & Community Engagement (FACE) Specialist, they get help tackling some of the most challenging obstacles to family stability. During his first year of work, FACE Specialist Jordon Falconio helped:

- A single working mom needing assistance vouchers and house-hunting help to keep her family housed,

- A grandmother needing respite resources for herself and mental health resources for the children in her care,

- A mom navigating meetings with crisis team professionals and seeking day treatment at KBBH for her daughter.

- And many more!

Two-generation (2Gen) support of caregivers means a positive impact on more children in the Klamath Basin – program youth and all their siblings!



Chiloquin Support

Because of the 45-minute drive time between Chiloquin and our Klamath Falls clubhouse, program youth living in Chiloquin have not enjoyed the same quality of mentoring as our youth in Klamath Falls. Our search for a community space has been unsuccessful until . . .

In summer 2022, we found private rental space in downtown Chiloquin, right near the community's park and library!

With Board approval and a generous donation from John and Fran Von Schlegell (pictured right), we are equipping the space as a "Chiloquin annex." We hope to start using it in early 2023.

Less drive time will mean more time for Friends and Chiloquin youth to learn, play, and relax together, and we hope the Chiloquin space will help us attract the Chiloquin-based Friend we seek to hire.



John and Fran Von Schlegell

Our capital campaign for a larger clubhouse launched in fiscal year 2022 and reached its goal of \$1.5M thanks to many generous funders, including:



**New clubhouse at
1515 Old Fort Road**

Gifts of Realization: \$100,000+

Anonymous
The Ford Family Foundation
The Goodwin Family - Greg & Michele, Mark & Heidi
The City of Klamath Falls
The KMSB Foundation
The Mike & Bessie Short Trust
The Wendt Family Foundation

Gifts of Vision: \$50,000 - \$100,000

The County of Klamath Falls
Fred W. Fields Fund of Oregon Community Foundation
The Marie Lamfrom Charitable Foundation

Gifts of Hope: \$20,000 - \$50,000

The Campbell Foundation
Doug & Shelly Kintzinger
The Silver Family Foundation

Gifts of Empowerment: \$5,000 - \$20,000

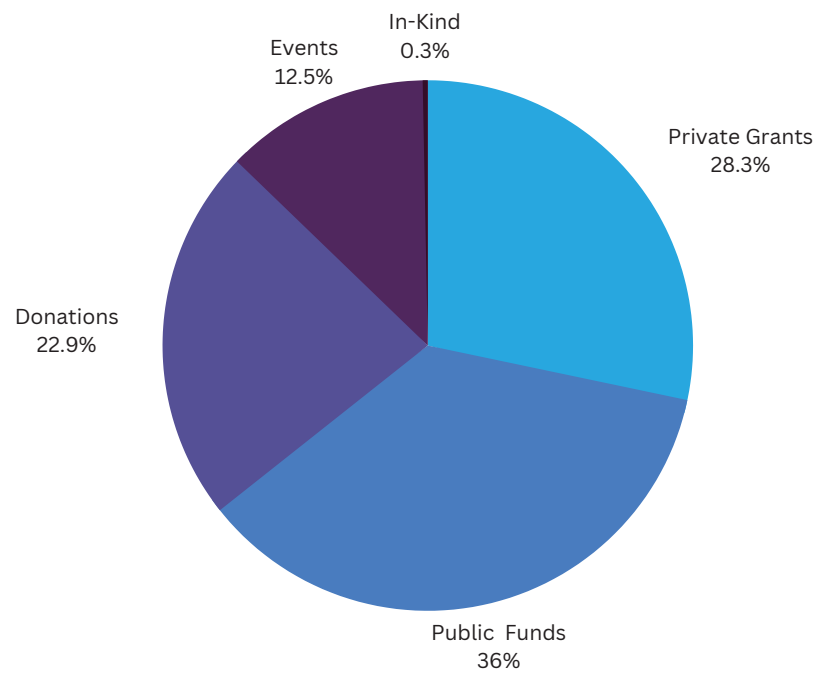
AT&T	Gerald & Susan Freschi
Keith & Linda Colahan	Klamath County Rotary
Columbia Forest Products	The Washington Federal Foundation

Gifts of Love: \$1,000 - \$5,000

Absolute Tree Care	Christopher & Linda Moudry
Debi Catron & Anthony Igou	Nick Alexander Films
Thomas & Anne Keyser	Scott & Johanna Scholer
Bob & Linda Kingzett	ZCS Architecture & Engineering

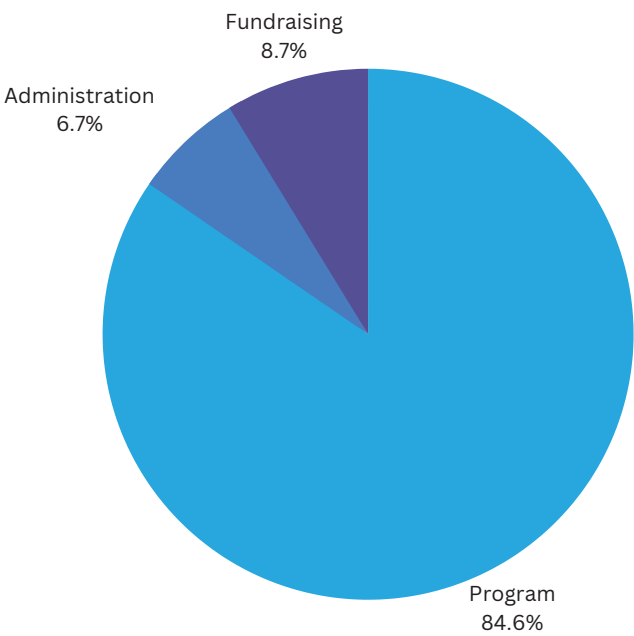
Financials

Revenue



Total Revenue: \$1,068,270*

Expenses



Total Expenses: \$809,867

*excluding capital and MacKenzie Scott gift (see p. 20)

Our Corporate and Foundation Supporters

Absolute Tree Care	Enchanted Forest	Klamath Falls Subaru / Honda
Almond Aesthetic Medicine	Ferguson Wellman Capital Management	KLAD/Basin Mediactive, LLC
Anonymous Foundation	First Interstate Bank	KOA
Armijo Designs	Fireserve Broadband Internet	KOTI-TV NBC2/KOBI-TV NBC5
Arthur R. Dubs Foundation	Frosted Shuffle	Ledge
Ashley's Cheesecake Delights	Give Me Some Sugar	Les Schwab Tire Center
Avista	Golden Touch Landscaping	Liberty Mutual
Basin Book Trader	Gordon Elwood Foundation	Linkville Playhouse
Basin Cookie Co.	Gray Family Foundation	Lithia Ford of Klamath Falls
Basin Natural Medicine	Grocery Outlet	Marquis Plum Ridge
Big 5 Sporting Goods	Gulf (Oregon Ave)	Mermaid Garden Cafe
Big T's Bees	Harbor Clubhouse Bar & Grill	Meyer Memorial Trust
Bills Bug E Business	Harbor Isles Tennis & Fitness Club	Midland Empire Insurance
Bogatay Construction	Harbor Links Golf Course	James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation
C & D Burger	Hatchet Haus	Monster Mac
Cal-Ore Communication	Henris Roofing	Nick Alexander Films
Cal-Ore Produce	Herald & News	Ninja Mountain Bike
Cascade Health Alliance	Holliday Jewelry	Oregon's Choice Gourmet Seafood
Cherish K9	Home Depot	Oregon Community Foundation
Clarabells Catering	Howard's Meat Center	Oregon Department of Human Services
Collins Family Foundation	IamOneTruth	Oregon Department of Juvenile Justice
Columbia Forest Products	IMS Capital Management, Inc.	Oregon Health Authority
Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation	J & A Auto	Oregon Youth Development Division
D.A. Davidson & Co.	James and Shirley Rippey Family Foundation	Pacific Crest Federal Credit Union
D & F Investment	Juan Young Trust	Pacific Power
Diamond Home Improvement	541 Jump	Pacific Seafood
Dianne Jean Bettles	Kars4Kids	Packer Plant Co.
Dollar General	Klamath Basin Medical Service Bureau	Paul and Robert Wampler, Inc.
Double C	Klamath County Museums	Peoples Bank of Commerce
Dutch Bros	Klamath County School District	Portland Trail Blazers Foundation
Ed Staub & Sons Petroleum, Inc.	Klamath Dental Association	Poppy

Our Corporate and Foundation Supporters

Reach
Rhine-Cross Group
Robert D. & Marcia H. Randall Charitable Trust
Rocky Mountain Construction
Rogue Credit Union
Ronald W. Naito Foundation
Ross Ragland Theater
Rotary Club of Klamath County
Running Y Properties
Sargent Certified Public Accountant, LLC
Seven Feathers Casino Resort
Sheldon's Machine Shop
Sherms Thunderbird
Silver Family Foundation
Sofa King Legit Limo
Starbucks
Stewart Restaurant Group
Subway
TMK Creamery
Turtle Bay Exploration Park
United Way of the Klamath Basin
Vestaboard
Washington Federal Bank
Wendt Family Foundation
Windermere Real Estate
Winema Elevators
Worrell Contracting
Wynne Broadcasting
Zach's Bikes



For many years, Cal-Ore Produce has donated hundreds of boxes of premium russets to the Friends of the Children - Klamath Basin Potato Sale.

With free transportation from Winema Elevators, storage by Klamath Falls Subaru & Honda, and sales help from area banks and businesses including WaFd, First Interstate, Pacific Crest Federal Credit Union, and Les Schwab Tire Center, those potatoes raise \$10,000-\$15,000 for youth mentoring in the Klamath Basin.

Empowering youth truly is a community effort!

Our sincere apologies for any omissions; please email us at ddm@friendsklamath.org.

National Recognition

Philanthropist MacKenzie Scott

In July 2022, philanthropist MacKenzie Scott donated \$1.1 million to Friends - Klamath Basin as part of a \$44 million gift to Friends - National and 12 of its nationwide locations. The unprecedented gift will help Friends - Klamath Basin meet urgent programming needs, accelerate plans to support more youth and families, and sustain itself long term.

Olympic Gymnast Simone Biles

Olympic gymnast Simone Biles hosted an interactive Q&A and stretching session for Friends youth in May 2022. Of Scott's gift she said, "Having just one person who believes in you can truly impact a young person's life. I am excited that MacKenzie Scott is investing in Friends of the Children to empower more youth across the country!"

U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy

Friends of the Children was one of 30 organizations applauded this year by U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy for addressing youth mental health.

House of LR&C, Vestaboard

Friends of the Children - Klamath Basin was featured in the House of LR&C Instagram account and in Vestaboard's newsletters, Twitter account, and Instagram account.

Grammy-Winning Artist Ciara Wilson

Artist Ciara Wilson and her husband, NFL quarterback Russell Wilson, have provided strong support to Friends of the Children through their Why Not You Foundation and House of LR&C apparel company.

When Ciara guest-hosted an episode of The Ellen DeGeneres Show in March 2022, she featured a segment about Friends of the Children and celebrated audience member Brittanie, a parent in the Friends - Los Angeles program.

"Everyone in the world would love to have someone that's behind them, letting them know that, 'Hey, we got you.'" says Brittanie. "And so, it's everything for me. And it's everything for my children."



A Message from Our Executive Director

As 2022 comes to a close, I reflect on the tremendous growth of our program over the last two decades – a capacity increase of 281% since our inception in 2000! I am also reminded of the continued community need and celebrate the further expansion that will be possible through MacKenzie Scott’s historic gift – so timely given the academic and mental health impact of COVID on already-marginalized communities. I look forward to all the possibilities 2023 holds with a new clubhouse location on Old Fort Road, an auxiliary space in Chiloquin, and the privilege to serve more youth than ever before. I am thankful for the incredible staff, board, and supporters who have made this possible.



Amanda Spill

Did You Know?

Established in 2000, Friends - Klamath Basin was the 3rd location in the Friends of the Children network. Today there are 30 locations, from Portland, OR, to New York City, NY, and there will be 40 by 2025. The model is expanding because the mentoring works!

FR1ENDS of the **CH1LDREN**

Klamath Basin



Water Day
Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts-Math Camp
Summer 2022

friendsklamath.org
(541) 273-3022