

# Striving

# & THRIVING



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## Annual Report 2023

*Atlantic Street Center's mission is to support families and communities with raising healthy and successful children and youth through direct services and advocacy for social justice and equity.*

August 2024





# Dearest Community,

This Annual Report serves as an acknowledgement to all the wonderful accomplishments at Atlantic Street Center last year by our staff, supporters, and participants. We are thrilled to share these milestones with you!

In 2023, we saw so much striving and thriving by those in our circle. We witnessed our programs enhance as pillars of sustainability in the community. Our Annual Juneteenth Celebration grew in attendance numbers and positive reception, especially as it made the cover of The Seattle Times. The Kinship Care Support Group attracted more members and their families with some even advocating for themselves in Olympia for custodial rights. Our Early Learning Program expanded to year-round in Seattle, while expanding to serve more families in South King and Northern Pierce counties. The Behavioral Health Program also continued to see expansion of its CoRe Program, our therapeutic video game therapy service that is now available in multiple Seattle middle schools and on-site with two new community service partners.

As now we round the halfway point in 2024, we are still aware of inequities in our immediate community and their unfortunate impact on our young people and families. This means our mission here at Atlantic Street Center is needed all the more as we level up services and our capacity for impact in South Seattle, King County and Pierce County.

We hope this Report inspires your continued support of Atlantic Street Center and all the accomplishments your belief in us has helped make happen. Truly, we owe our ability to support others to your steadfast belief in our cause and mission. Thank you for continuing to strive and thrive with Atlantic Street Center!

With gratitude,

Pela S Terry, Ed.D  
Executive Director



## OUR MISSION

*Atlantic Street Center's mission is to support families and communities with raising healthy, successful children and youth through direct services and advocacy for social justice and equity.*



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***Mei-Ling Morrison-Beals***, Director of Behavioral Health

***Shwetha Panchal***, Director, Gender-Based Violence Support Program

***Diesha Rodgers***, Director of Early Learning

# THE PROGRAMS

## *Behavioral Health:*

We create access to mental health through counseling available to people ages 6 - 24, our therapeutic gaming program called CoRe (Courage, Cooperation, Respect, Resourcefulness), and case management. We also facilitate an internship program for upcoming mental health professionals in school.

## *Early Learning:*

In conjunction with the national organization ParentChild+, our Early Learning Program closes the gap in early education by uplifting both toddlers and their adults. Early Learning Specialists visit homes bringing educational books and toys for the child to keep as they learn letters, numbers, and school ready cognitive behaviors. Parents/guardians are also given tools to be their child's first teacher and learning advocate.

## *Youth Development & Education Support:*

We provide multiple ongoing services under this umbrella resource including after-school supports, a Teen & Young Parents Program, and our Kinship Care Support Group. During the summer, we also run Summer Academy, a 6-week program for Seattle students for further engagement in their community and the classroom - preparing students for success as they begin the next school year.

## *Gender-Based Violence Support:*

Gender-based violence encompasses verbal abuse, sexual exploitation, financial abuse as well as domestic abuse. Our program supports survivors, and their children, in establishing safety and long-term planning for sustainability. This assistance can include finding new housing, accessing mental health, and mobile advocacy.



## THE IMPACT

In 2023, we initiated **1,405** acts of service to support our enrolled participants.

Our **Summer Academy** accepts a minimum of 40 students each year. In 2023, we had a total of **57 students** take part in the program.

Our **Gender-Based Violence Support Program** supported **398 individuals** with establishing safety in 2023. **22% were children.**

Of the 280 children and adults enrolled in our **Early Learning Program**, **60% of parents/guardians** were between the ages of 21 and 35.

Additionally, we served **785** participants community members through public events and initiatives.



In 2023, the **Kinship Care Support Group** saw an **18% increase**, bringing the total number of participants, including children, to **104 participants.**

**CoRe**, our Behavioral Health therapeutic gaming supports, saw a **40% increase** in student outreach. We were able to serve 180 Seattle middle school students.





# MOMENTS TO REMEMBER

## A TALE OF A GARDEN PARTY

At our fall 2022 Annual Gala, guests had an opportunity to bid on a spot at our 2023 Pig Roast & Garden Party hosted at a gorgeous home in Fremont. Later in the spring when the sun came out, longtime and new supporters gathered to make connections with one another. Former Councilmember Larry Gossett and his wife also joined us in spreading more awareness about the mission of Atlantic Street Center and the importance of an engaged community.



## Thank you to our 2023 gala sponsors



# MOMENTS TO REMEMBER

## 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Atlantic Street Center has been hosting our Annual Juneteenth Celebration for over two decades now; one of the longest running in Seattle. In 2023, we started a new tradition: The Legends Awards, which honors local heroes. For the inaugural year, The Legends Awards recognized Former Councilmember Larry Gossett, Black Panther leaders Aaron and Elmer Dixon, and social activist and radio host Eddie Rye. With more than 300 people in attendance plus vendors, food, and performances, it was a spectacular day to celebrate!



## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SUPPORT SPOTLIGHTED IN THE TIMES



We have been fortunate year after year to be a featured nonprofit in The Seattle Times's Fund for Those in Need. The fundraising campaign highlights several local organizations and the work they do. In 2023, our Gender-Based Violence Support Program was profiled with a focus on Eli, an alum of the program.

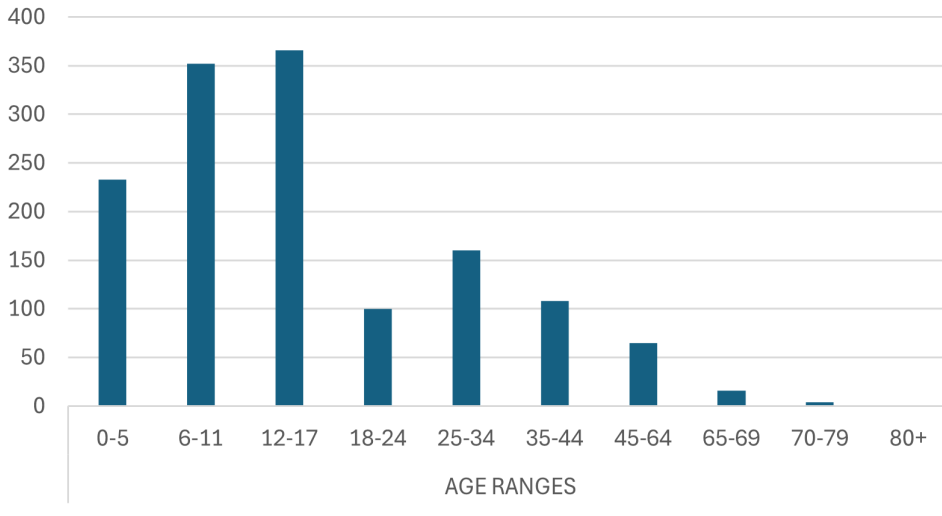
Eli came into contact with Atlantic Street Center (ASC) when she and her young child were living in a homeless shelter to escape domestic violence. At the time, Eli was also pregnant. She was struggling to establish a new sense of normalcy for herself and her children while

also facing homelessness, and the physical and mental repercussions of abuse from a partner. These stressors are insurmountable and challenging to navigate alone. Through the shelter, Eli was connected with ASC Gender-Based Violence Bilingual Therapist, Natalia. With Natalia's experience in uplifting survivors, Eli was able to rebuild her life and the lives of her children. Since working with her ASC team, Eli has established better self-care habits for herself and her children, acquired new housing, and is working towards her degree in Computer Science. We are so proud!

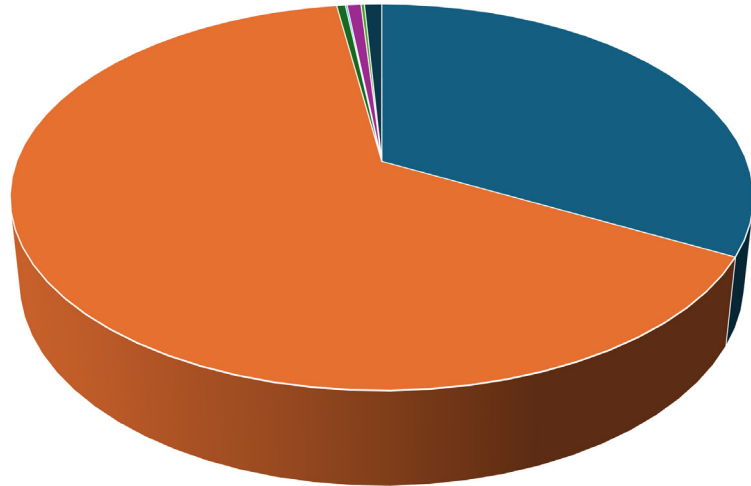
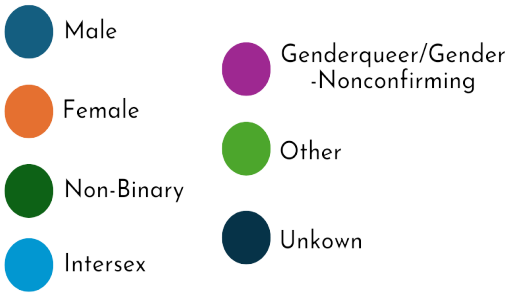
*In 2023, the Seattle Times Fund for Those in Need profiled 13 different local nonprofits and raised \$2.9 Million. Atlantic Street Center received \$100,395.00. This unrestricted gift supports our work and impact for local youth and families.*

# DEMOGRAPHICS

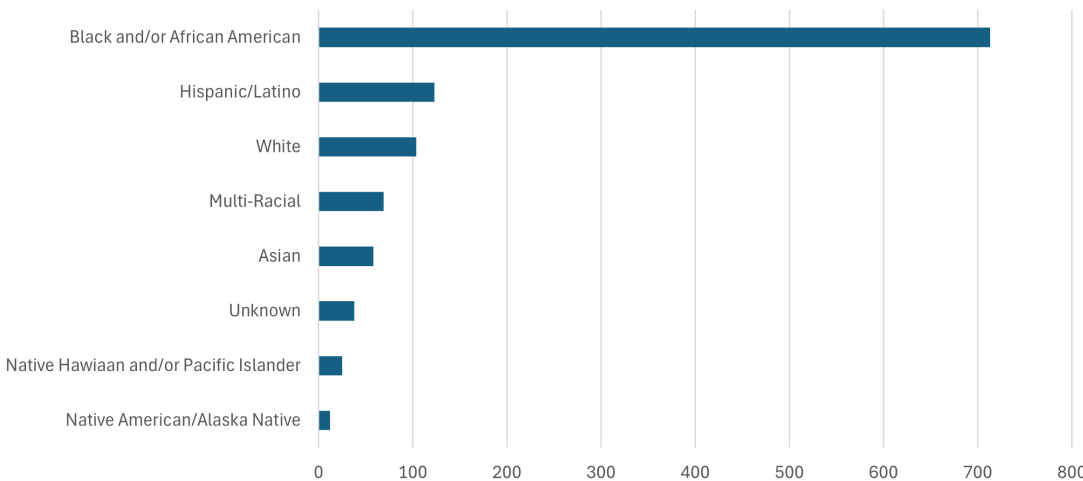
## Participant Ages



## Participant-Identified Gender Identity



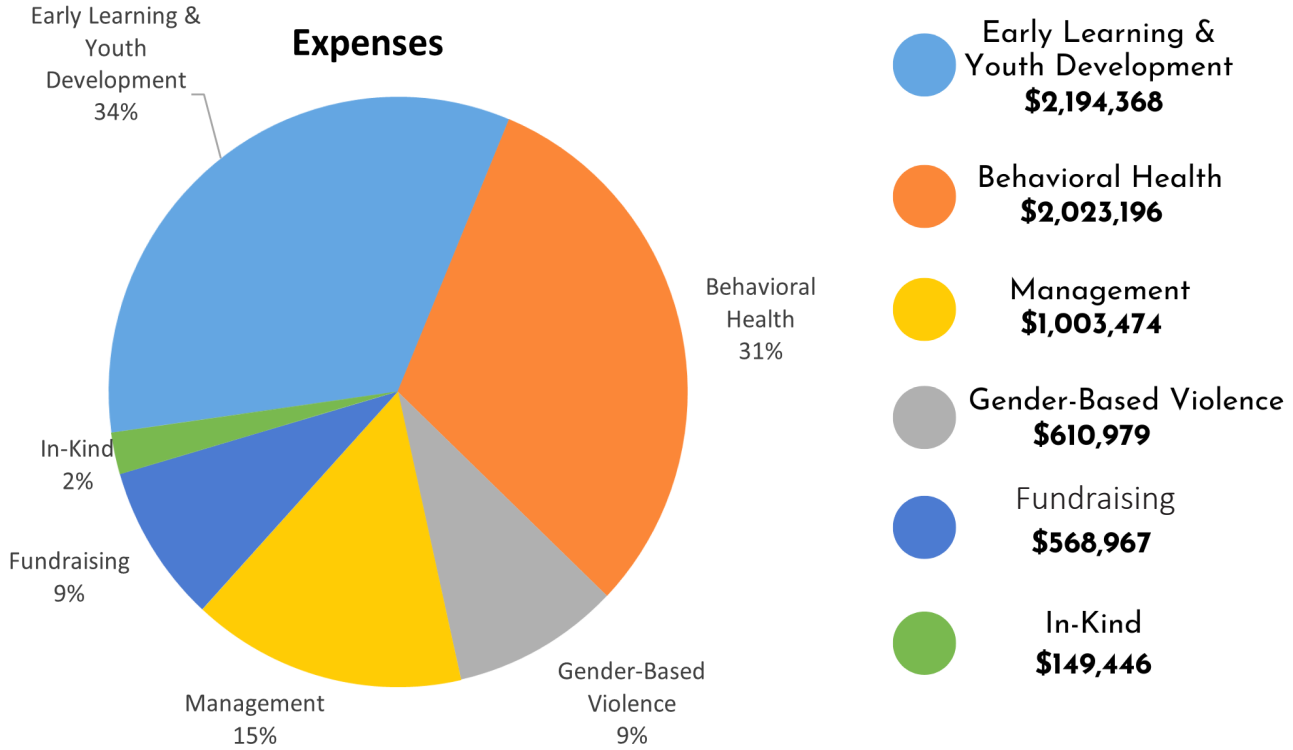
## Participant-Identified Race



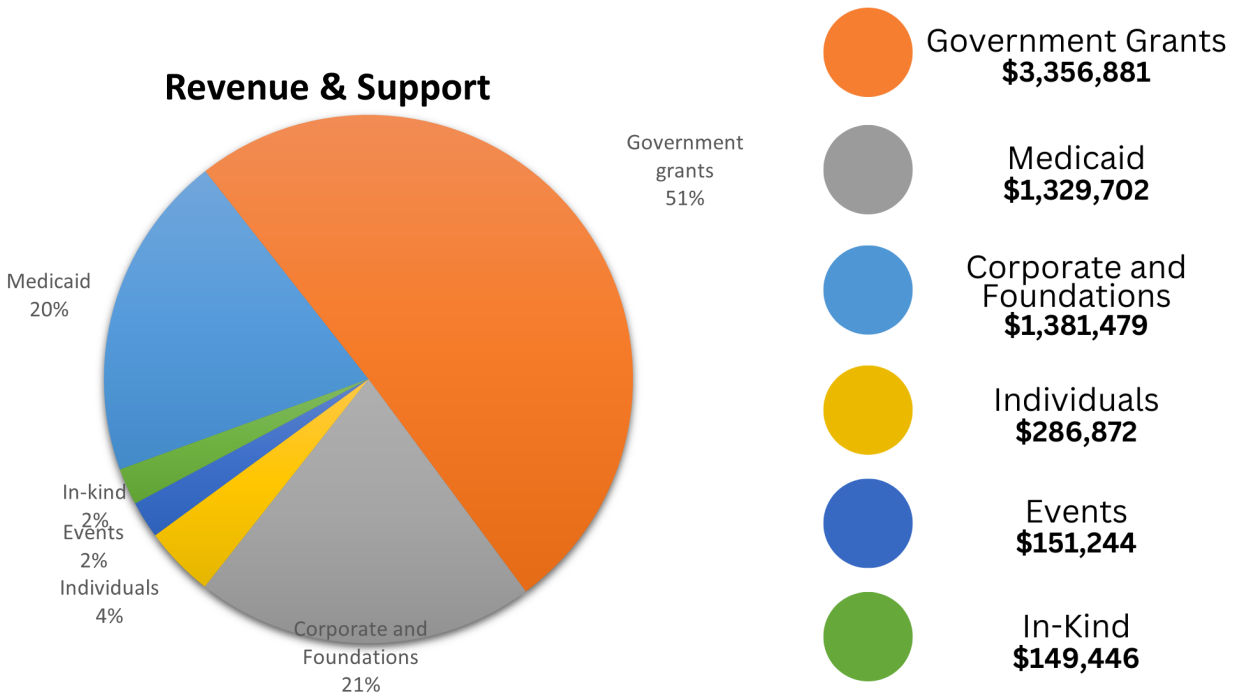


# FINANCIALS

## Expenses



## Revenue & Support



# THANKING OUR DONORS



*Our Kinship Care Support Group kicked off Summer 2023 with a barbeque at Pritchard Beach.*



*(L to R) Tiffany, Shemekia, and Michelle make sure our Youth Development & Education Support Program runs exciting and helpful programming.*



*Therapist Victoria preps popcorn for a movie night hosted by the Behavioral Health Program. Families watched Encanto and discussed generational mental health.*

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Your Cause

All Anonymous Donors - we thank you for your generosity.



*Our Fall 2023 Class of Behavioral Health Interns. These students take on case loads and cultivate their skills while at Atlantic Street Center.*



*A young man shows off his painting that was included in our Black History Art Walk. Local artists as well as participants and staff had the opportunity to showcase their art at our Youth & Family Center.*

# Upcoming in 2024

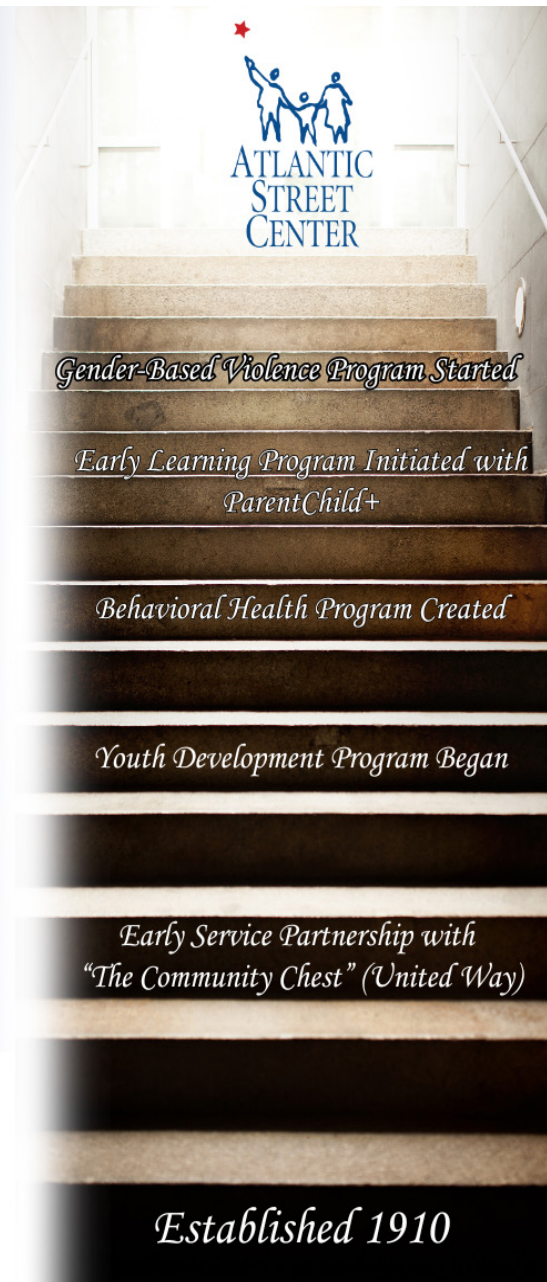
Atlantic Street Center  
Annual Gala 2024

## The Leveling Up Celebration!

Saturday, October 5, 2024

Renaissance Seattle Hotel  
515 Madison Street  
Seattle, WA 98104

Come celebrate 114 years of  
impactful support.



To purchase tickets, register for bidding, and more, go to [atlanticstreetcenter.org/gala](https://atlanticstreetcenter.org/gala)

## Then in 2025...

Join us again for Atlantic Street Center's big birthday bash celebrating one hundred and fifteen years of successful impact on children, youth, and families!

Follow us on social media and sign up to receive our emails to know of details as they come out!

# Celebrate

# 115!



