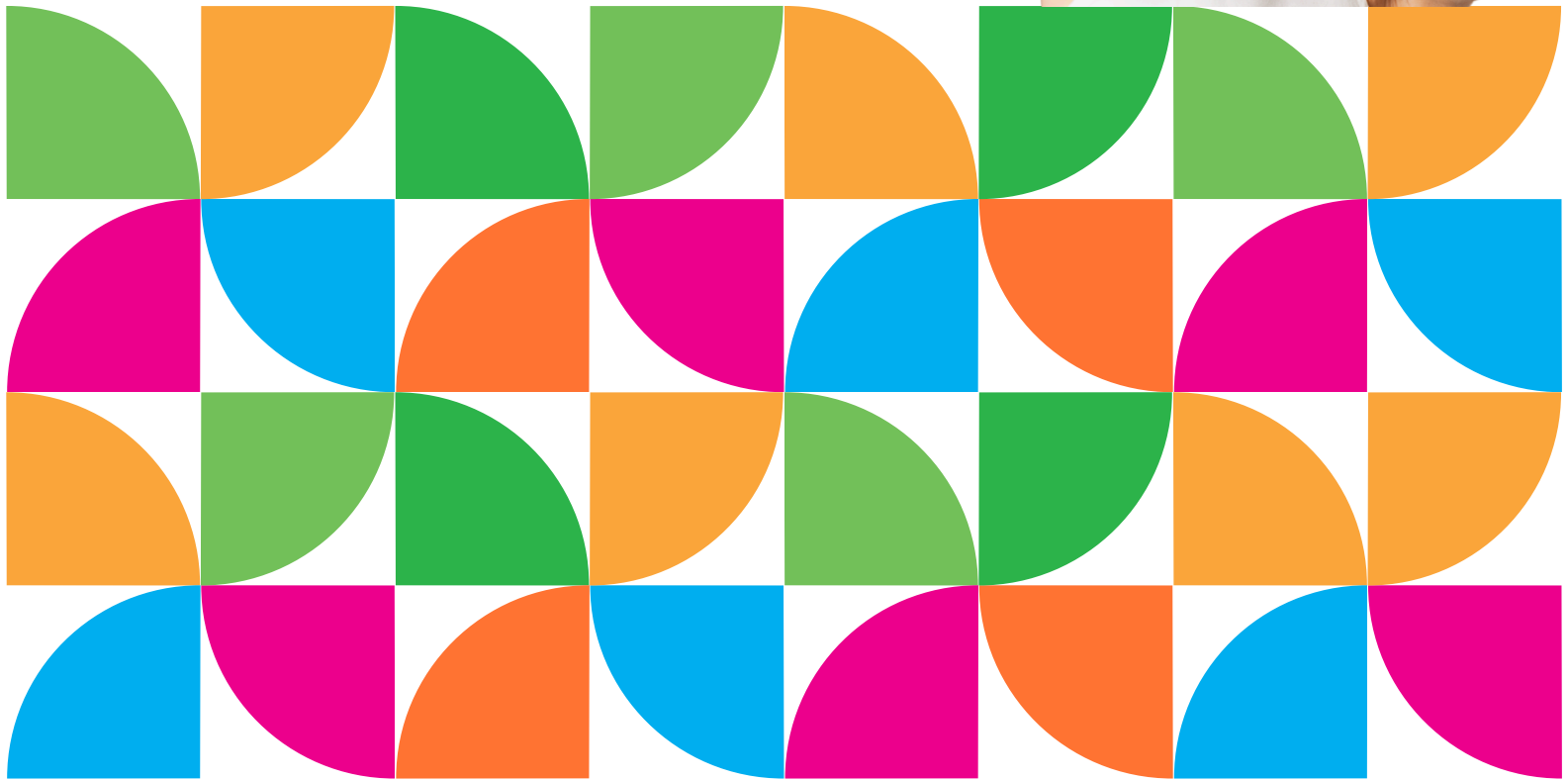




Nurturing strong beginnings.

# ANNUAL REPORT



2022-2023

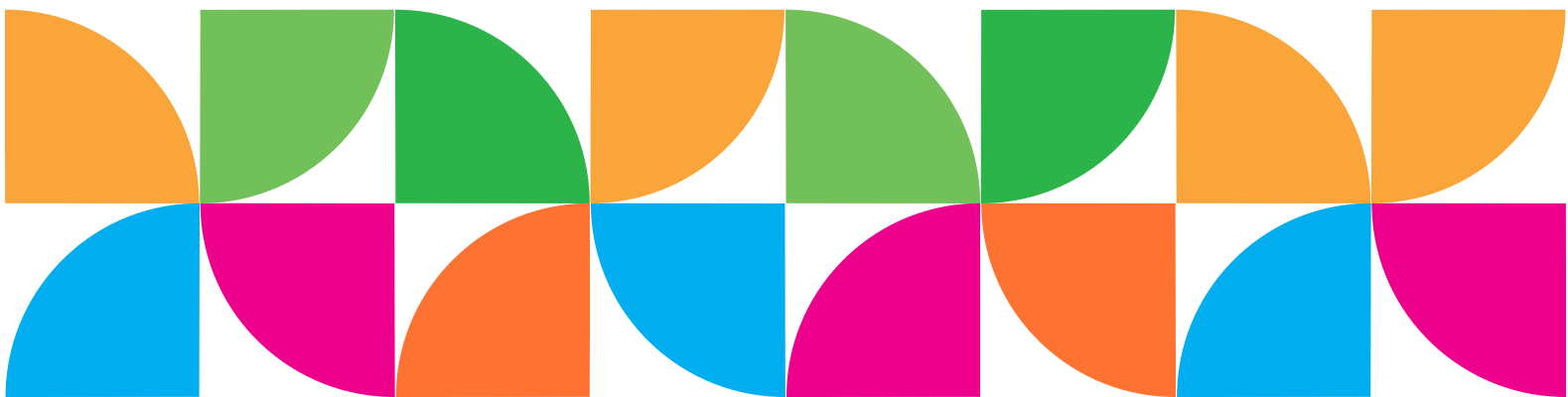
Data Collected from:  
August 2022 - July 2023



Nurturing strong beginnings.

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- ⑫ VOLUNTEERS
- ⑬ DONORS
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# A Message FROM THE CEO

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude and pride for the remarkable strides our organization has made in advancing child development. Thanks to your unwavering support and commitment, we have been able to impact the lives of countless children, families, and communities in profound and meaningful ways.

This year has been one of both challenge and opportunity. The landscape of child development continues to evolve, and with it, so do the needs of the children we serve. In response, we have adapted our programs and strategies to ensure that we are providing the most effective support possible. From expanding our early childhood education initiatives to enhancing our mental health and wellness services, our focus remains steadfast: to empower every child to reach their fullest potential.

One of the highlights of this year has been the launch of our Early Head Start Centerbased Program which has already shown promising results in Hilldale. This program represents our commitment to innovation, community voice, and evidence-based approaches that are designed to address the unique challenges faced by children in our community.

Our team has worked tirelessly to forge new partnerships and strengthen existing ones. Through collaborations with local schools, healthcare providers, and community organizations, we have been able to extend our reach and enhance the quality of our services. These partnerships are crucial to our mission, and we are incredibly grateful for the shared vision and dedication of our partners.

I am also thrilled to share that we have seen a dramatic impact in child outcomes as evidenced in our Annual Report. These achievements are a testament to the hard work of our staff, the support of our volunteers, and the generosity of our donors. Each success story we hear reinforces the importance of our work and motivates us to continue pushing boundaries and seeking new ways to make a difference.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the opportunities that the future holds. We remain committed to enhancing our programs and exploring new avenues to support child development. However, we cannot do this alone. Your continued support and engagement are vital to our success. Whether through volunteering, donating, or simply spreading the word about our mission, your involvement makes a significant impact.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. Together, we are creating a brighter future for children, one where every child has the opportunity to thrive. I look forward to another year of progress and partnership.

With sincere appreciation,

*Suzanne Leonelli*

**13,794**  
*home visits*

**3,153**  
*home visit hours*

**1,041**  
*children served*

**26**  
*pregnant women served*

**263**  
*families served*

**355**  
*children graduated*

## ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHTS



In the past year, our non-profit achieved significant milestones, notably expanding our impact through the introduction of Early Intervention Services to San Juan County.

Additionally, our creative fundraising efforts took a vibrant turn with our inaugural glow-in-the-dark golf tournament in October 2021, followed by a successful cornhole tournament in March 2022. These events not only brought our community together but also contributed substantially to our mission.





# CATERPILLAR CLUBHOUSE

Caterpillar Clubhouse is a forward thinking Early Childhood Development Center that promotes optimal development with high-quality care and learning opportunities that help your child receive the best possible start in life. We serve children from 6 weeks to age 3.

21

children served



To best support each child's development, our classrooms utilize Creative Curriculum to guide classroom experiences. Our in-house USDA certified cook makes healthy food from scratch every day to provide the best nutrition for the little ones. Also, once a year we provide free health screenings with licensed professionals to children enrolled in childcare such as hearing, vision and development.

*"We've been amazed at how much he has learned in this program; his language skills have improved far more than we ever expected at his age (just turned 3)."*

**-Caterpillar Clubhouse Parent**





# EARLY HEAD START



Early Head Start at Root for Kids serves pregnant women and children from birth to age three in Washington County, Utah. Early Head Start is a comprehensive family development program that promotes the physical, cognitive, social and emotional growth of infants and toddlers to ensure their school readiness. Root for Kids administered 2,826 home visits and 2,263 home visit hours in 22-23.





# FAMILY TESTIMONIAL

"We cannot express enough how thankful we are for Early Head Start. From the moment we began, we felt supported not only as parents, but as a family. The home visits were so valuable, offering personalized guidance and resources to help us with our child's development. We've seen tremendous growth in our baby's social skills, language, and overall confidence. Knowing our child is on the path to school readiness with the help of such a caring team has given us peace of mind. Root for Kids truly invests in the future of families, and we're beyond grateful for the impact it's had on ours."

**94%**

children had a dental home by end of year

**98%**

children had a medical home by end of year

**53%**

children received dental services

**78%**

up-to-date on immunizations

**69%**

pregnant women received dental services



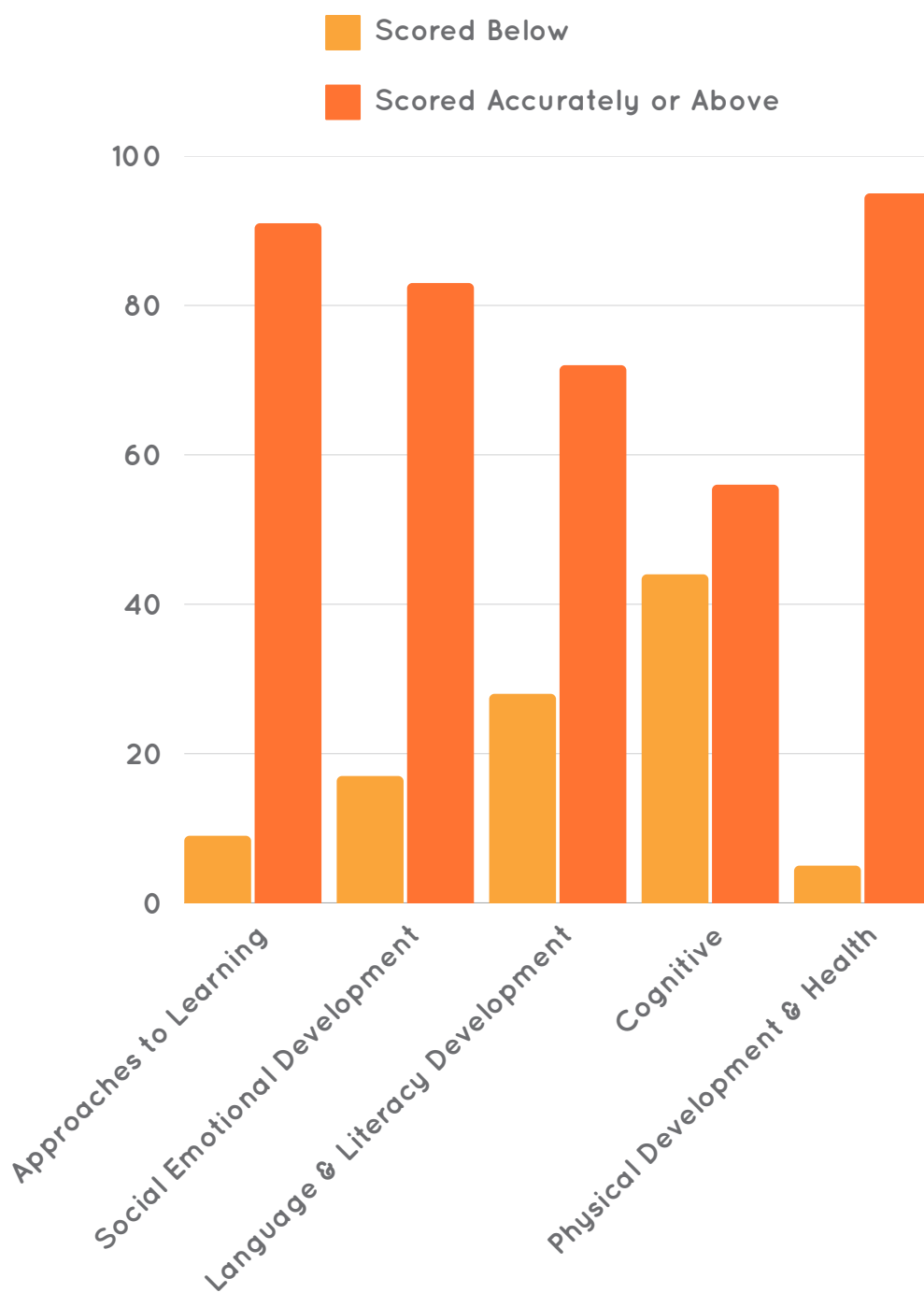


# PROGRAM OUTCOMES



## School Readiness Gains

The graph below shows the percentage of children assessed in our program who either met or exceeded goals for each of the areas of development.







# EARLY INTERVENTION



Early Intervention provides services to children who are showing a developmental delay or who have a condition strongly linked with a developmental delay. We serve children from birth to age three who live in Washington County and along the Arizona Strip.

**739**

children enrolled (IFSP)

**478**

families served

**8,483**

in-person home visits

**1,406**

virtual home visits

**791**

children served through Baby Watch Early Intervention

**45**

children enrolled through AZEIP (65 children served)



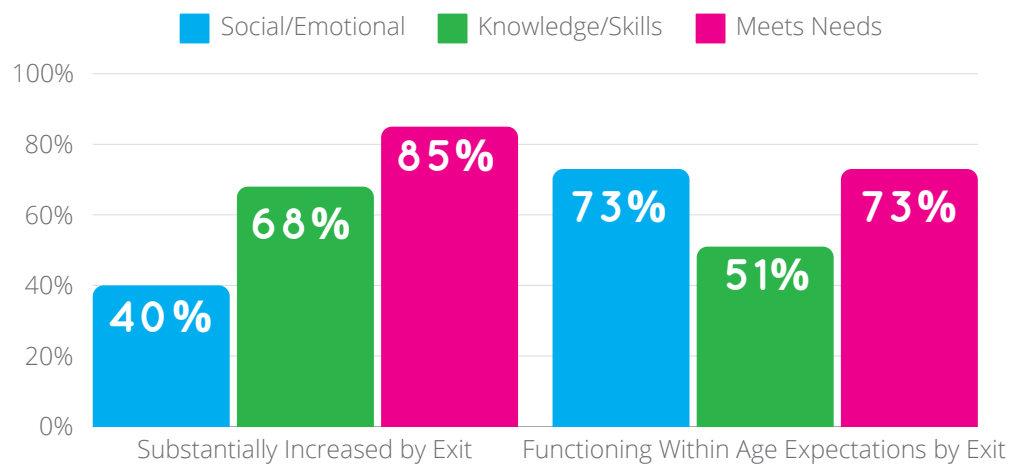


# PROGRAM OUTCOMES

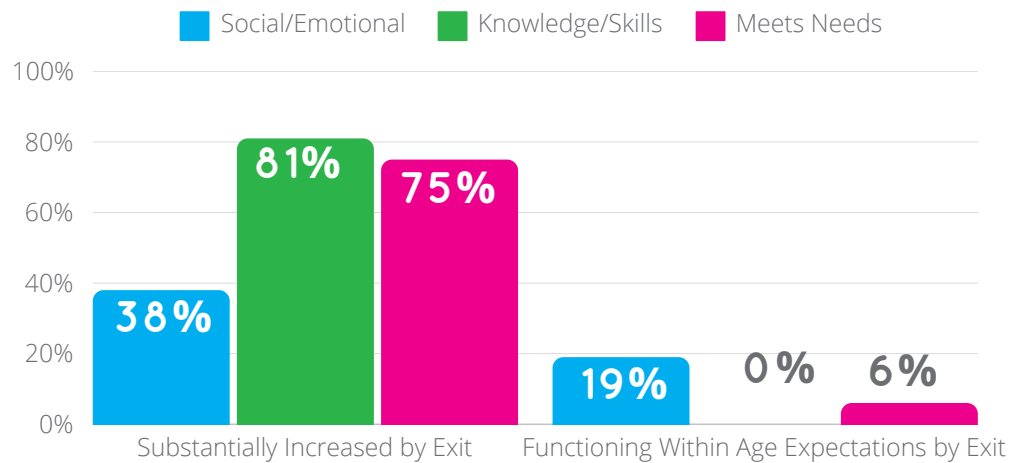


In both Utah and Arizona, Root for Kids' Early Intervention programs were found to be 100% compliant for 2022-2023 for the Federal Annual Performance Report Indicators.

## Baby Watch Early Intervention (Utah)



## Arizona Early Intervention Program





# AGENCY PERFORMANCE



Each year, the Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES), Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP), makes a determination whether each Service Providing Agency meets requirements.

In 2022-23 our Utah Baby Watch Early Intervention Program received 567 newly referred children, of those 237 were determined eligible for Early Intervention Services.

## FAMILY TESTIMONIAL

*Early Intervention isn't just support; it's a partnership that empowers us as parents. Our son's speech delay became an opportunity for us to learn, connect, and celebrate his unique journey with a dedicated team by our side.*

*-C. McDonald*



# MUSIC & PLAY STUDIO



Our Music & Play Studio is a licensed Kindermusik® studio offering family music classes for children and their parent or caregiver. Kindermusik classes are open to the public and classes are open enrollment.

263  
children served



## FAMILY TESTIMONIALS

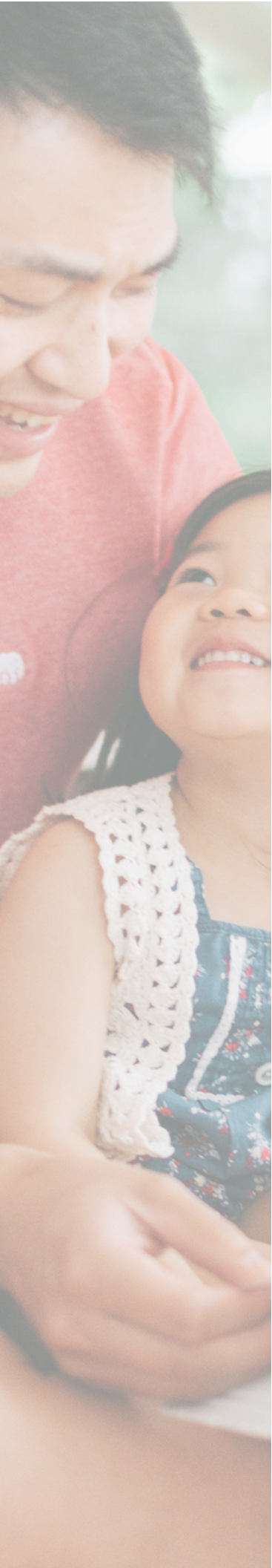
*We are so grateful for the incredible music class that Kindermusik and Teacher Marnie conduct. I appreciate the way the class creates a supportive learning environment and encourages all kids to have fun with music.*

*This class is the highlight of my son's week and has been a joy to attend!*

**-Community Parent**

*Kindermusik has been vital to my children's development. Over the years, I've had 4 kids enrolled in Early Intervention for different reasons. Each one of them developed and hit their milestones significantly faster than they would have without Kindermusik. They love to attend and always ask when they get to go next. This is a vital program and I highly recommend it!*

**-Early Intervention Parent**



# PARENTS AS TEACHERS



Parents as Teachers is an early childhood family support and parent education home-visiting model. Family Support Specialists work with parents to strengthen protective factors and ensure that children birth to 5 years old are healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

We serve children from birth to age five and pregnant women who live in Washington County and along the Arizona strip.

**138**  
children  
served

**108**  
families  
served

**1,303**  
home visits

**1,781**  
home visit  
hours

**22**  
children  
graduated

**13**  
pregnant women  
served

## Screenings and Assessments Completed

**124**  
child  
screenings

**137**  
Family-Centered  
Assessments

**136**  
Parenting  
Assessments



# FAMILY SUCCESS STORY



*A mom in the program who has 2 kids, one the is 5 and the other one is 2 1/2, was involved with DCFS until today. She has been battling with depression and anxiety, and one day she bit her oldest daughter. That's when DCFS got involved. We have been working with her and DCFS for now about a year and a half.*

*She has come along way, using breathing techniques and knowing when to apply some other methods to help her calm down. Like asking the oldest child why is she behaving badly, why is she crying, and letting her know there is a better way to talk to about her feelings, and that there is a consequence for actions. She has become a wonderful and patient mother. She is always making sure her kids are taken care of. She understands that them being happy allows mom to manage her reactions and manage her depression and anxiety.*

*Today I was able to go to court with her to hear the good news. They closed the DCFS case, and the judge said nothing but good things about the mom. Also the judge pulled me aside and thank me for going and supporting the family and thanked **Root for Kids** for the great work that we do with all families in the program.*

*The Judge said "You being here at court shows how much the program really cares about the families you work with."*



# VOLUNTEERS



Our **Root for Kids** volunteers are the backbone of our organization. Young lives are changing in Washington County and along the Arizona Strip because of their commitment, time, and dedication to keeping our mission alive.

We have many ways volunteers can get involved with **Root for Kids**. We do in-house service projects as well as off-site ones. We also take group and community volunteers of any age. At **Root for Kids**, we have the option for volunteers to participate in our events such as our annual Glow in the Dark Golf Tournament and Radiothon. The second option is creating interactive learning kits that support the motor and language development of children in our home-visiting programs.

**612** Volunteers **6,847** Volunteer Hours

## VOLUNTEER TESTIMONIAL

*Volunteering with Root for Kids has been one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life. Every time I walk into the center, I'm reminded of just how important early childhood development is, and I feel honored to be part of an organization that makes such a lasting impact on children's lives.*

*What I love most about Root for Kids is their approach to helping families. It's not just about addressing the needs of the child; it's about providing support to the whole family. Whether it's through early intervention services, home visits, or developmental screenings, every child is treated with care and respect, and their unique needs are met.*

*Root for Kids has not only opened my eyes to the importance of early intervention but also to the power of compassion and care. I would highly recommend volunteering to anyone looking for a meaningful way to give back.*



# DONORS

\$100+



- Anonymous
- AAA Child Passenger Safety Donation Program
- Alex Davidson
- Alta Bank
- Amber Callister
- Amber Rees
- America First Credit Union
- Andrea Parkinson
- Annie Howell
- Becky Sodenkamp
- Beehive Insurance
- Boulevard Home
- Brad Hafen
- Brandon Howard
- Brenda Jones
- Brian Garner
- Bryan Atwood
- Bryce Christensen Excavating
- C3M Foundation
- Camping World RV Sales
- Carl Kulyk
- Carsen Rainbow
- Charlotte Shelley
- Chaz Whitbeck
- Children's Dental
- Christy Jones
- Costco United Way Campaign
- Cydney Holt
- Cydney Holt
- Dixie Leadership Academy
- Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation
- Donna Ricci
- Doug Watts
- Dustin Taylor
- Eagle Gate Title
- Egor Shulman
- Erin Welsh
- Findlay Hyundai
- Findlay Kia
- Friends of TLC
- Gene Arrey
- Heather Bland
- Hurst Wood Education Foundation
- Infinite Solutions
- InfoWest
- Intermountain Audiology
- Jackelyn Choto
- Jackie Deardon
- James Christopherson
- James Lyman
- Jeff Smith Construction
- Jennifer Madsen
- Jolene Pace
- Josh Kaneversky



# DONORS

\$100+



- Katering Koncepts
- Kathleen Neid
- Kelly Prior
- Kelsey Hunt
- Kerry Ann Hunt
- Kim Fry
- Kyle Maxam
- Lacey Gurr
- Lacey Rainbow
- Landon Staley
- Larry D. Eggert M.D.
- Larry R Hansen
- Litehouse, Inc.
- Lori Maloof
- Lorraine Wright
- Lowry Snow
- Mark Owens
- Matt Clark
- Melanie Murphy
- Nancy Hubler
- Neal Smith
- Oscar Alba
- Pamela Heath
- Parke Cox Trucking
- Paul Callister
- R Lynn Carlson
- Rick Sims
- RuthAnn Beardsley
- Savannah Clark
- Shelli Breinholt
- Shriners Hospitals for Children - Salt Lake City
- Snow Jensen & Reece
- Sophia Neil
- Southern Utah Home Builders Care Foundation
- St. George Chamber of Commerce
- Stacy Lamb
- State Bank of Southern Utah
- Stephanie Flowers
- Stephanie Peterson
- Susan Sims
- TDS Telecom
- The Albertsons Companies Foundation
- The Harper Family Fund
- Tim Chase
- Todd Hughes
- UFirst Credit Union
- Unite Us
- United Methodist Women of Shepherd of the Hills
- United Methodist Church
- United Way Dixie
- Utah Disaster Kleenup
- Utah Tech University
- Valerie Munt
- Walmart
- Washington County Fair
- Women In Business
- Yesi Arrey



# DONORS



## \$100+ (IN-KIND)

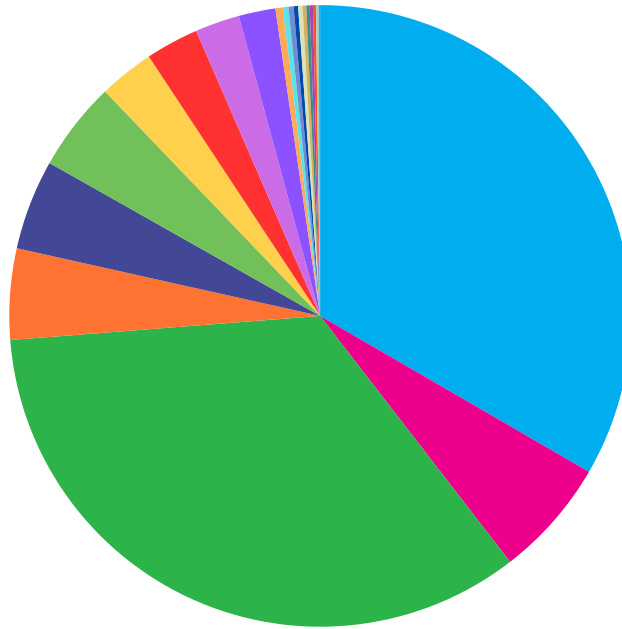
- Amber Rich
- Angela Hasting
- Ann Betts
- Axiom Chiropractic
- Brad Adamson
- Carrie Forbes
- Chantell Landford
- Dove Center
- Gal's Giving Circle
- InfoWest
- Lavender & Sage Cottage
- Leadership Dixie Academy
- Morningside 2nd Ward
- Morningside 7th Ward
- Padre Lakes Humanitarians
- Sonia Larson
- The Happy Factory
- United Women in Faith
- Washington Chamber Women in Business



# FINANCIALS



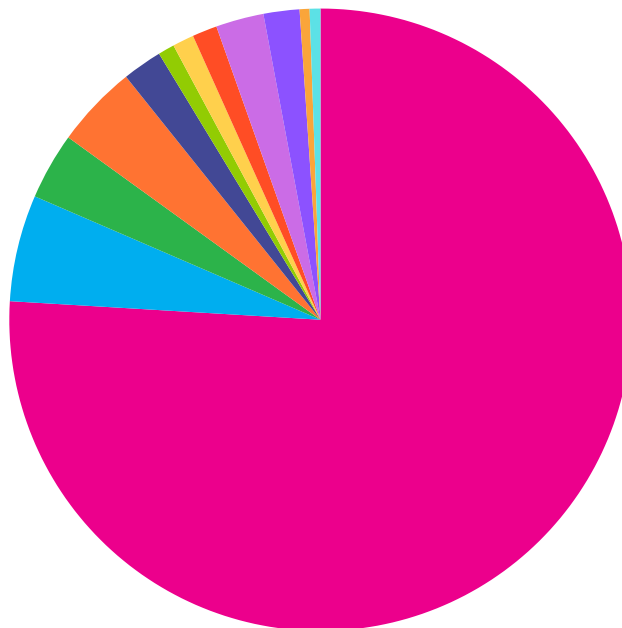
## Root for Kids Revenue 2022-2023



- Early Head Start
- Early Head Start - In-Kind/NFS Contributions
- Baby Watch Early Intervention Program
- Child Care - UCA
- First Things First
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families III (TANF)
- Hurst Wood Education Foundation
- Arizona Early Intervention Program
- Donations - Restricted/Unrestricted (Other)
- Diane Bledsoe/The Harpur Family Fund
- Litehouse
- Boulevard Home
- KinderMusik
- Dominion Energy
- Friends of TLC
- Watts Construction
- Christopherson Family Fidelity Charitable
- Love Like Joe Foundation
- SSBG o DWS
- United Way
- Other Income

Total Revenue: \$5,225,605

## Root for Kids Expenses 2022-2023



- Personnel Expenses
- Rent/Occupancy & Facility Expenses
- Contract & Technical Services Expense
- Program Supplies & Materials Expense
- Communication Expenses
- Program Equipment Expense
- Professional Training & Development Expenses
- Depreciation Expense
- Travel Expenses
- Child Find, Public Awareness, & Special Event Expense
- Parent Incentives & Services Expense
- Other Current Expenses

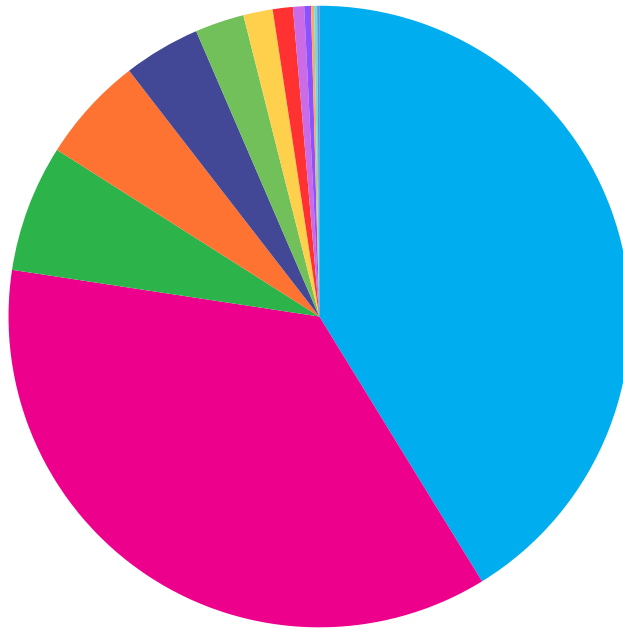
Total Expenses \$4,729,741



# 23-24 APPROVED BUDGET



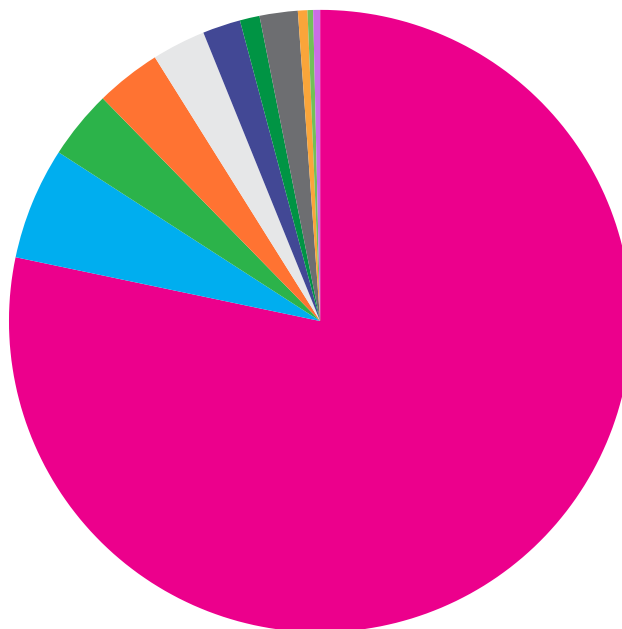
## Root for Kids Budget Revenues 2023-2024



- Baby Watch Early Intervention Program
- Early Head Start
- Child Care - UCA
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families III (TANF)
- Donations - Unrestricted
- Arizona Early Intervention Program
- First Things First
- Donations - Restricted
- Rental Income
- KinderMusik
- SSBG - DWS
- United Way Dixie
- Other Income

Total Revenues: \$4,897,570

## Root for Kids Expenses 2023-2024



- Personnel Expenses
- Rent/Occupancy & Facility Expenses
- Contract & Technical Services Expense
- Program Supplies & Materials Expense
- Travel Expenses
- Communication Expenses
- Professional Training & Development Expenses
- Child Find, Public Awareness, & Special Event Expense
- Parent Incentives & Services Expense
- Program Equipment Expense
- Other Current Expenses

Total Expenses \$4,897,570



# FINANCIAL AUDIT

Root for Kids financial statements were independently audited by Hinton Burdick CPA's and Advisors. Their findings were summarized as follows:

*"We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). In our opinion, The Learning Center for Families, dba Root for Kids complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023."*

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## GRANTORS



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St. George, UT 84770

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rootforkids.org

