



# 2024 Annual Report

## A Year Of Growth

***"You have renewed my faith in myself and confidence we are doing the right thing for our family!"***

*- a kinship mom after one of our Mom's Nights*

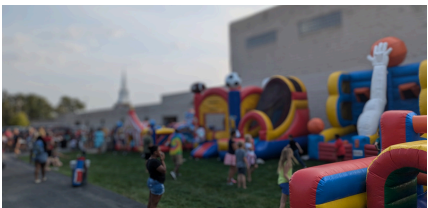


Every year for the last 4 years we've seen a lot of growth in our programs and services, but 2024 was our biggest year of growth yet! In terms of families we were able to serve and connect with, participation in programs, financial support, and volunteer support, 2024 was an amazing year and we are SO grateful for how many people have given of their time, finances, and energy to help

make our community a better place for kids and families connected to foster care!

Numerical growth isn't always the most important thing, but it is still encouraging to quantify when we are reaching more people and seeing more families being encouraged and supported through Kids Belong events and programs. Our goal is not simply to grow the size of our events and budget, but to help families to engage in meaningful connections. We've seen that happen in more ways with more opportunities in 2024.

## 2024 numbers and growth



- One of our 3 Back to School events set a record for the largest Kids Belong event we've ever hosted! 112 families, 555 people.
- All together Back to School events gave away 700 backpacks full of school supplies to foster, adopt, and kinship families. That's 40% growth over 2023.
- We hosted 62 total events in 2024. That is a 17% increase over last year.
- We had 24 large family events. That is 40% more than last year.
- Those large family events were also larger, the average attendance of those events was 22% more than the average attendance last year.
- All together we served 302 Foster, Adopt, and Kinship Families in 2024, 23% more families than last year. That is 1500 different people we connected with over the course of the year!
- We provided 600 Christmas stockings to 183 families this year. This is 20% more stockings with 23% more families involved.
- First Place took HUGE steps forward this year. It's almost hard to even compare, but our fundraising total for this specific project increased by about 280% over 2023. There is much more to say about the growth of this program later in this report.

# 2024 Financial Report

## 2024 Giving



***“How can we write thank you notes? It means more than they know...”***

*- an adoptive mom after receiving her family's Christmas stockings*

We've been talking about all of the growth in our programs and events and how many people we've been able to reach this year, but here is a big part of what has made that growth possible: growth in giving!

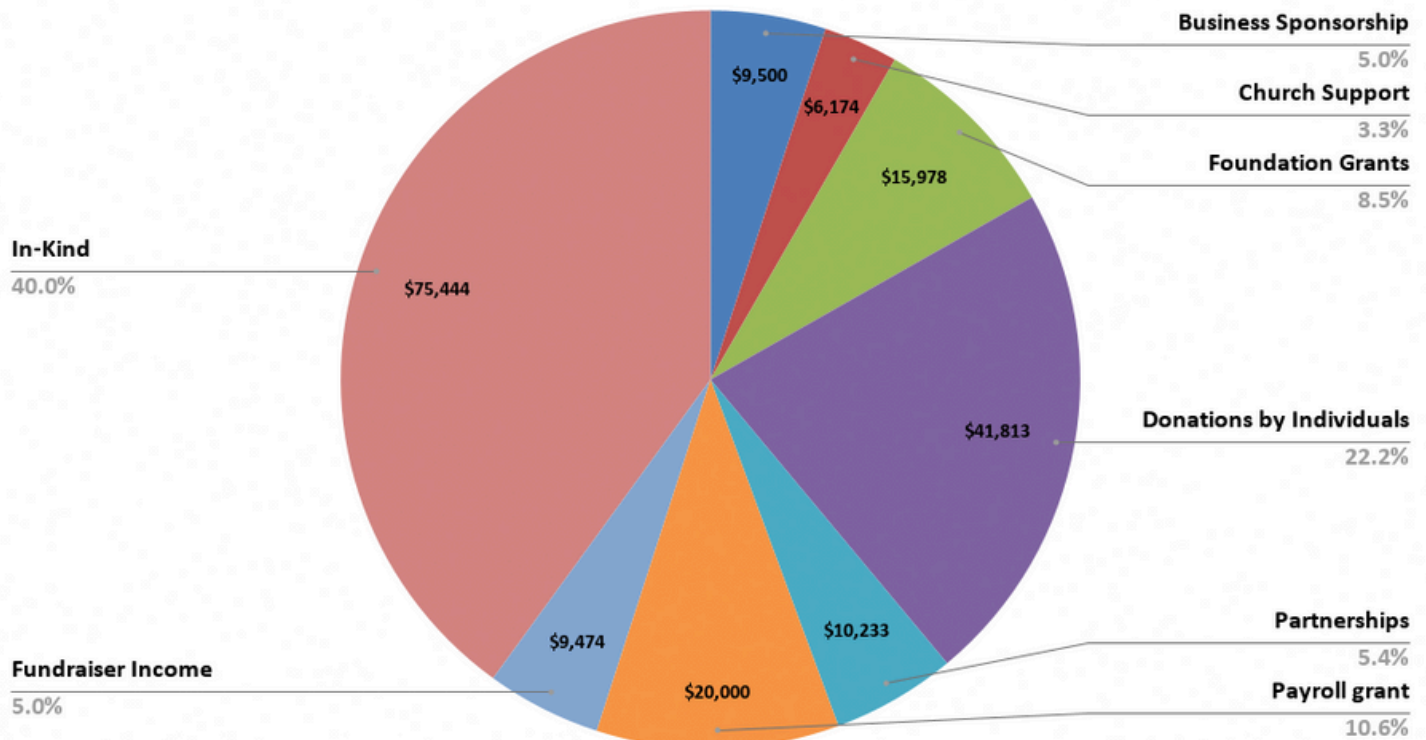
In almost every category of giving we saw increases over the last year, business sponsorships, individual gifts, in-kind giving.



One thing that was new for us this year was to have individuals and groups ask if they could host fundraisers for us! Fundraising is an important part of operating any nonprofit. With so much of our time devoted to running the events and programs that support foster and adoptive families and youth, we have not yet adopted a full fundraising strategy. It's something we are definitely working on for the future.

That's why it's an incredible gift when someone calls or emails and says, "Hey, can we do a fundraiser for you?" Those fundraisers have helped support the growth of what we've been able to accomplish this year.

2024 Giving \$188,616 (Not Including First Place)



# 2024 Financial Report

## 2024 Program Spending



*"It's such a relief and really eases my stress. Thank you, Kids Belong, for creating a safe space where our families can gather, share a meal, let the kids play, and receive the resources that make the start of the school year so much easier."*

*- a foster parent after attending a Back to School event*

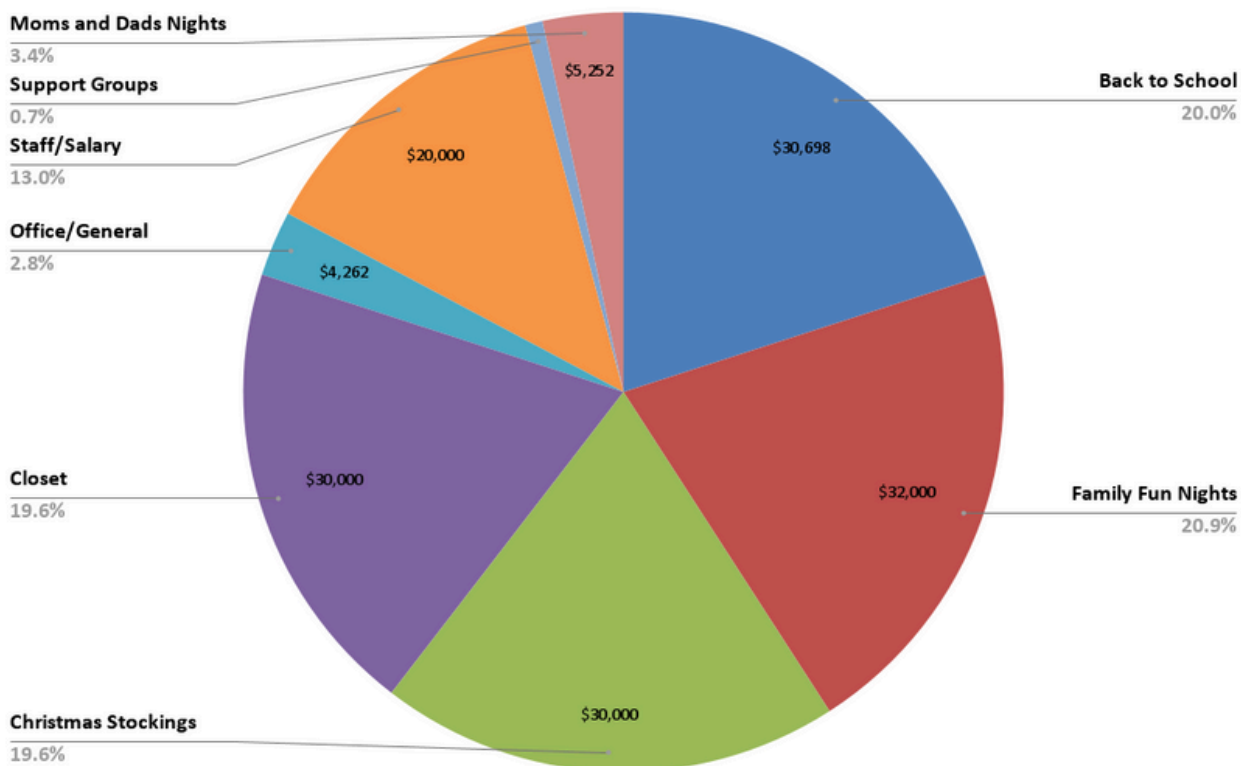
Because of increased donations, partnerships, and support, we have been able to not only offer more events, but the events we've hosted have been larger which brings all our associated costs up.

Because we are focused on building community, there are a certain number of events we need to host in order to accomplish that. **We want every foster, adopt, and kinship family in our area to feel a sense of belonging to a real and life-giving community.** We've found that is not something that we can accomplish with a single annual large-scale event.

Frequent and regular groups, meetings, and events help keep families connected to a community that supports them all along the way. Supported foster families are able to foster better and last longer, kids in their care face fewer placement disruptions, which all leads to better outcomes. Better outcomes in foster care mean higher achievement for youth, which is better for everyone!

**Supporting foster and adoptive families truly helps make a stronger system and community.** That is what your donations and our programming costs go towards. We are committed to helping make better outcomes for as many families and youth as possible.

2024 Program Spending (including in-kind)





# First Place Update

*"I slept so good last night knowing I'm ok now..."*

*- a First Place resident the day after after moving in*



At this point last year we were still talking about our first duplex under construction. I thought we might build one, then fundraise for a year, build another, then fundraise for another year, build another, etc. I am so grateful to have been so wrong.

1 year later we have 3 duplexes finished - 6 finished apartments - and one more under construction! By spring of this year, we will have 8 fully finished and occupied apartments for youth coming out of the foster care system. As of this writing, we have 5 residents already in the program and one more joining soon!



## FUNDRAISING/FINANCIAL INFO

We received our first donations toward First Place in December of 2021. We raised funds and began planning in 2022, and then broke ground on the first building in 2023.

**As of 1/17/25, our First Place total is - \$773,710.35**

## FIRST PLACE SPENDING

We now have 3 duplexes (6 apartments) complete and 1 more duplex finishing soon. Through donations of supplies and volunteer labor we are excited to share that we were able to come in under budget on our total construction costs for each unit!

**Site Work Total - \$121,599.75.** (this includes excavation, utility fees and installation from the road to the buildings, site development)

**Duplex 1 (complete) Total - \$137,098.77**

**Duplex 2 (complete) Total - \$124,122.05**

**Duplex 3 (complete) Total - \$125,681.74**

**Duplex 4 (in progress) - \$80,500.57**



## NEXT STEPS

4 buildings fulfill our phase 1 site plan. We've begun working on surveys and adjustments to finish our full site plan, which will include 3 more duplexes and a house to be used for office and meeting space that we intend to use to support foster families, biological families, and foster care agencies!

**THERE IS SO MUCH MORE TO DO! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**