Kentucky's Independent Voice for Kids!

2023-2024 Impact Report
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Financials

Revenue

Contributions: $606,847
Fee for service: $371,373
Foundation and organizational grants: $2,795,422
Contributions of nonfinancial assets: $17,966
Program revenue: $145,930
Other revenue: $14,744

Total revenue: $3,952,282
Increase in net assets: $186,207

Expenses

Program Expenses $3,144,993
General/Administrative $462,986
Fundraising $158,096

Total expenses: $3,766,075
Final net assets: $3,050,415

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Fiscal Year October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023
Investments made October 2022 through September 2023

Champions for Children
Thank you to these donors and funders for their generous support.
Our solutions-focused approach to improving the well-being of all children and their families is data-driven, research-backed, and often the result of personal experiences. We empower young people with diverse backgrounds to share their stories, strengthen their advocacy skills, and to use their voices to speak up for the vulnerable.

As the lobbyist for kids, we double down on our vision of making Kentucky the best place to be young – despite the challenging political realities – and urge you to remain steadfast in your support of Kentucky Youth Advocates.

With gratitude,

[Signature]
Speaking Up

for Kentucky Kids in Frankfort

Although much work remains to ensure Kentucky is the best place for all kids to grow up, we celebrate several wins for kids during the 2024 legislative session.

**Wins for Kids**

**HB 377** strengthens the student-to-teacher pipeline by creating the Teacher Recruitment Student Loan Forgiveness Pilot Program and establishing Student-Teacher stipends in eligible programs.

**HB 561** supports the stability of the child care infrastructure by permanently establishing the Employee Child Care Assistance Partnership and creating the Certified Child Care Community Designation Program.

**SB 145** increases child safety when interacting with healthcare professionals by allowing child abuse and neglect registry checks of employees within the healthcare system.

**SB 151** prioritizes children who have experienced abuse and neglect by closing gaps in kinship caregiver access to additional supports and by allowing young people themselves a say in where they are placed upon removal from their home.

The **biennial state budget** invests in child care, youth mental health services including for those in juvenile detention, the Relative Caregiver placement benefit, summer food supports for students, among other areas impacting kids and families.
The 2024 Children’s Advocacy Week featured our 20th Day at the Capitol!

11 LIVE VIRTUAL EVENTS including Q&A sessions with legislators; a data and advocacy lunch-and-learn; information sessions for advocates to learn more about the Blueprint for Kentucky’s Children policy priorities; and networking coffee breaks that offered advocates the chance to connect with one another.

MORE THAN 800 ADVOCATES from across the Commonwealth participated during the week and joined us in the Capitol Rotunda to rally on behalf of Kentucky kids for Children’s Advocacy Day. 300 OF THE ADVOCATES WERE YOUTH PARTICIPANTS
Bloom Kentucky has had an impactful year in continuing its efforts to prevent and mitigate the impact of childhood adversity.

In the summer of 2023, the Sowing Resilience: A Bloom Listening Tour visited 19 regions throughout Kentucky, covering 2,000 miles, and heard from over 350 Kentuckians, including teachers, parents, community leaders, elected officials, youth, and more.

Each region identified themes specific to the needs of children and families, including food insecurity, community violence, kinship supports, and substance misuse, amongst others.

Following the tour, the Bloom initiative crafted state policy and budget recommendations based on themes that permeated all regions across Kentucky.
Health Youth Ambassadors (HYA) are a statewide cohort of high school students advocating for improving the health outcomes of youth, including curbing youth vaping.

Over the last year, HYA members shared testimonies in the 2023 Kentucky KIDS COUNT County Data Book and at the release day event. HYA members also participated in the annual Blueprint Summit, led the Rally for Kentucky Kids at the 20th Children’s Advocacy Day at the Capitol, gained valuable skills during the legislative retreat, and testified on legislation to protect kids from nicotine products.
A HIGHLIGHT OF THE KID-SECTOR WORKFORCE AND YOUTH TESTIMONY IN THE 2023 COUNTY DATA BOOK

For more than 30 years, the KIDS COUNT County Data Book has provided readers with a report card on Kentucky’s children within 16 indicators of economic security, education, family and community, and health.

The most recent edition of the County Data Book also highlighted Kentucky youth’s input on what their communities need through video testimonies on mental health, housing insecurity, school nutrition, and justice involvement.

The opening essay of the 2023 edition focused on the kid-sector workforce, including teachers, counselors, youth detention and child welfare workers, and many others. We attested that a strong “kid workforce” is an integral piece of our state’s infrastructure, in line with bridges and roads, in need of investment as an investment in our children’s current and future well-being.

REFORM Louisville, a group of young people with justice experience, advocated for community groups to be able to come into detention centers and connect with youth to support their well-being as they prepare to exit detention. With legislator support, a bill was filed and passed because of the efforts of the young adults who work with REFORM Louisville.

Journey to Success (JTS) Kentucky joined national JTS advocates in Washington D.C. to urge Kentucky Congressmen to pass federal legislation focused on better outcomes for foster youth.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE AND TO HELP US TURN DATA INTO ACTION
In October 2023, the Kosair for Kids Face It Movement once again brought awareness to the critically important TEN-4-FACESp Bruising Rule, the technique to recognize concerning bruising on young children and the importance of training adults on recognizing, reporting, and preventing child abuse.

In recognition of October 4th as TEN-4 Day, Face It hosted three Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma trainings with more than 250 social workers, early childhood educators, community health workers, emergency medical service providers, dentists & dental hygienists, FRYSCs, and nurses in attendance.

Face It secured TEN-4 Day proclamations from Governor Andy Beshear, former Attorney General Daniel Cameron, and 14 local Mayors and leaders across the Commonwealth. TEN-4 Day is beginning to spread nationwide with recognition by the Governors in Illinois, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Michigan.

To balance recognition with prevention, Face It partners hosted positive parenting events throughout the year with over 2,750 participants to help strengthen families by building parental resilience, social connections, and more.

Learn more at faceitabuse.org/ten4rule
As they considered their legacy, they made the decision to include Kentucky Youth Advocates (KYA) as a beneficiary in their will.

As a donor of 35 years and board member, Bill shared:

“I have literally seen the impact that KYA has made for children, legislatively and systemically. I attended the first Children’s Advocacy Day at the Capitol back in 2004 when there were only a handful of attendees and have seen it grow to a full week with a rotunda overflowing with advocates.

KYA’s consistent track record of wins and positive approach to tackling hard challenges emboldened me to make the decision to support KYA even after I’m gone. It brings me peace to know that, with my support, KYA will continue to make a difference for my grandson’s generation and beyond.”

Join Bill and other generous supporters by making a gift to KYA today!
Kentucky Youth Advocates is the independent voice for Kentucky kids. We advocate for policies that give children the best possible opportunities for a brighter future and are making Kentucky the best place in America to be young.

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