



Teaching Tree
Early Childhood Learning Center

2024 Annual Report

"Teaching Tree Early Childhood Learning Center provides quality, affordable, early childhood care for families of all socio-economic and cultural backgrounds. Our children are our future; the growth of each child must be considered on an individual basis. We believe in supporting families and strengthening our community by providing a safe, nurturing and supportive education for our children."

Executive Director's Statement



Teaching Tree has experienced significant growth to meet the increasing childcare demand in our community. In early 2024, our Loveland center joined the Loveland Youth Campus, quadrupling its capacity. We are now able to serve 200 children daily, and over 300 children annually in Loveland, mirroring our Fort Collins capacity. Together, our two centers have the capacity to serve **over 600 children annually**. As we continue to grow, we've expanded our team by bringing on new Early Childhood Teachers, Assistant Teachers, administrators, and kitchen staff. Teaching Tree now employs approximately 90 team members. This growth reflects our dedication to delivering high-quality childcare and supporting the families we serve.

2024 was also a year of collaboration, not only at the Loveland Youth Campus, but within our programming as well. We have made great efforts to make therapy services accessible to families. By partnering with a number of different service providers, we have been able to connect families with mental health therapy, and speech, occupational and physical therapy for their children. We provide space onsite for therapists, and, with parent permission, they are able to work with children in need of supports, without parents taking time out of their workday to get children to and from appointments.

The growth that we have experienced at Teaching Tree has been incredible. However, with our expansion and the need to support more families paired with rising operating costs have put significant pressure on our budget. As we enter 2025, our organization faces the need to reassess our financial strategies. In order to maintain the high quality of care we provide, and to continue supporting our dedicated staff, students, and families, we will need to make some difficult financial decisions. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to our mission and will work diligently to ensure that our growth continues to benefit the community.

In this report, we celebrate the funders, partnerships, and accomplishments that led Teaching Tree to another successful year.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne M. Lance". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Anne Lance, Executive Director

2024 AT A GLANCE

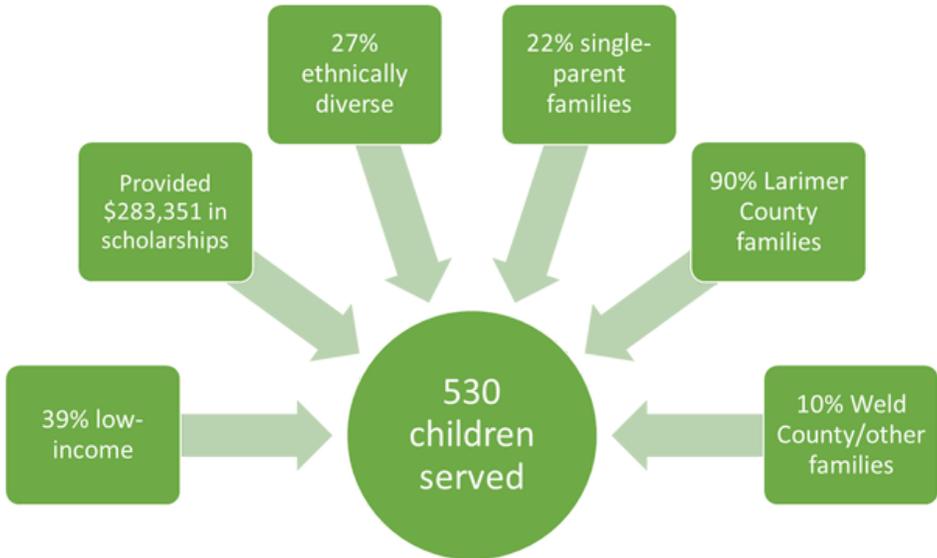


Evidence of Success:

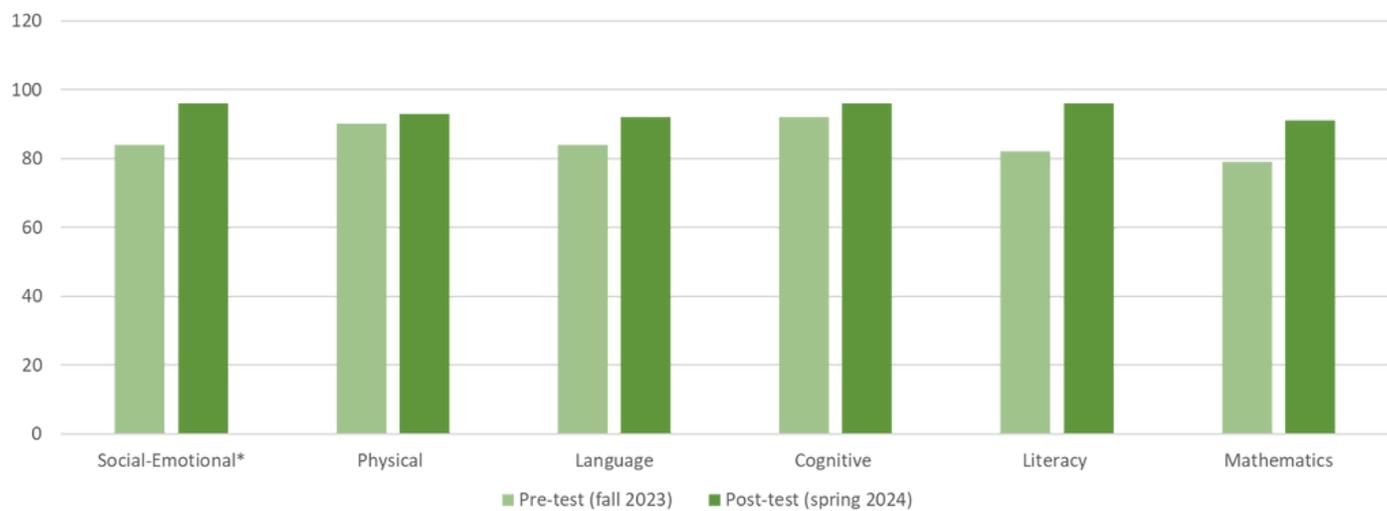
- Provided quality early learning and childcare for 530 children, ages 6 weeks to 12 years
- Provided \$283,351 in childcare scholarships, enabling low-income families to have quality childcare while parents worked toward self-sufficiency
- Continued an incentive bonus program to retain and reward early childhood educators.
- Provided 152,680 nutritious meals and snacks.

Family Satisfaction:

- During a spring 2024 parent survey, over 97% of parents reported that Teaching Tree supported their child’s growth and development; provided a warm and nurturing environment where their child was happy; and was accessible to their family’s needs.
- 100% of families said that using Teaching Tree allowed their family to be employed, pursue job training, or attend school.



2024 AT A GLANCE



The numbers shown above indicate how many students were at or above widely held expectations at the fall checkpoint vs. spring checkpoint.

*Research shows that social-emotional competence is the foremost indicator of a child’s likelihood to succeed in school. Children who are socially and emotionally competent are able to regulate their behavior, follow routines, respect others, and follow instructions.

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Figure 1.
Social-Emotional: 84% | 96%
Physical: 92% | 94%
Language: 84% | 92%
Cognitive: 92% | 96%
Literacy: 82% | 96%
Mathematics: 79% | 91%

OPERATING REVENUE & EXPENSES



Operating Revenue

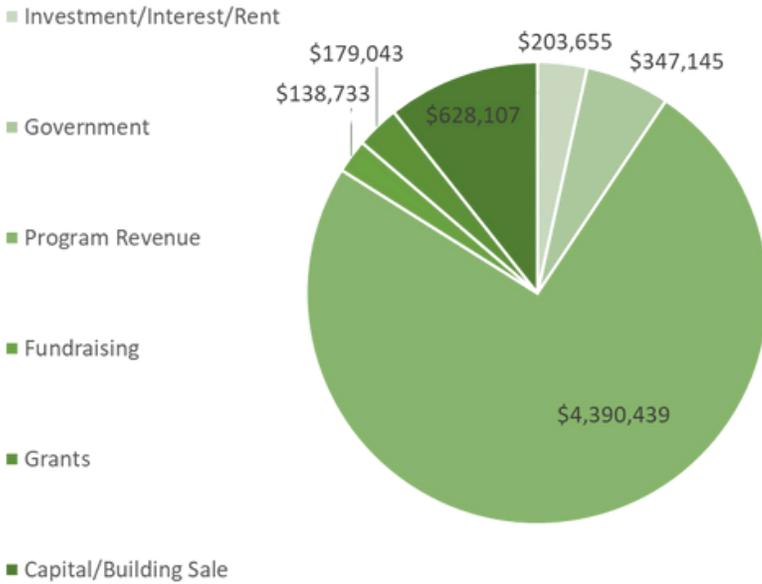


Figure 1. Sources of Income
 Investment: \$203,655 | 3%
 Government: \$347,145 | 6%
 Program: \$4,390,439 | 75%
 Fundraising: \$138,733 | 2%
 Grants: \$179,043 | 3%
 Capital: \$628,107 | 11%

Operating Expense

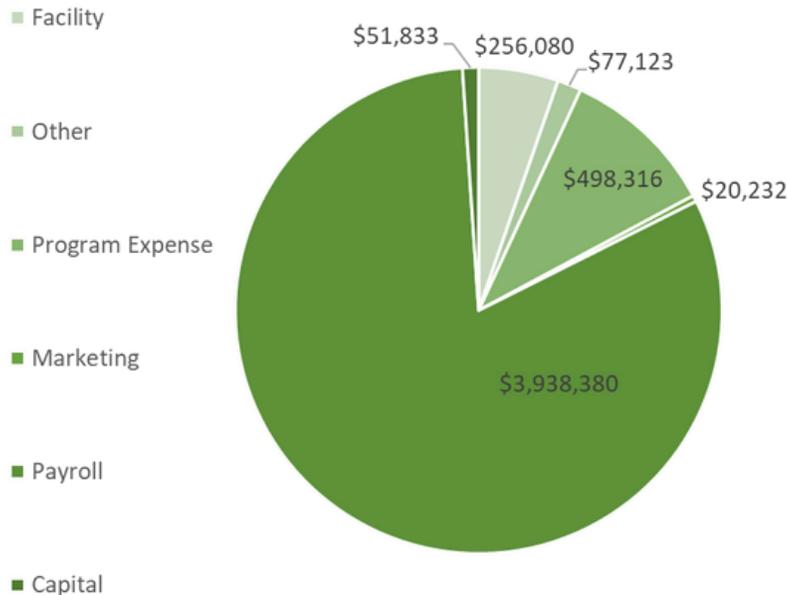


Figure 2. Program Expense
 Facility: \$256,080 (6%)
 Other: \$77,123 (1%)
 Program Expense: \$498,316 (10.6%)
 Marketing: \$20,232 (.4%)
 Payroll: \$3,938,380 (81%)
 Capital: \$51,833 (1%)

THANK YOU



Thank you to our 2024 major donors:

Anschutz Family Foundation
Buell Foundation
City of Fort Collins
City of Loveland
Colorado Department of Human Services
Community Foundation of Northern Colorado
Ent Credit Union
FirstBank
Individual Donors
Loveland Generations
New Belgium Brewing
Nordson Foundation Corporation
Realities for Children
Rotary of Fort Collins
Run Rabbit Run LLC
Poudre Golden K Kiwanis
Sam S. Bloom Foundation
Virginia W. Hill Foundation
United Way of Larimer County

*Thank
you*

INVEST IN THE FUTURE



Innovation is going to be key to Teaching Tree's success in 2025. With rising operating costs, the CCAP freeze, and many funders at a standstill, we will need to adapt and get creative with our fundraising efforts to ensure the forward movement of our mission by providing quality, affordable childcare for those that need it most.

Other goals for 2025 are to:

- Strategize funding priorities to continue implementing quality programs.
- Continue staff retention efforts and attracting new hires so that we can keep all 24 classrooms full.
- Secure funding to embed Occupational Therapy support into our program.
- Maintain Level 4 Colorado Shines ratings at both Fort Collins and Loveland.

How You Can Help

Donate. Your contribution to Teaching Tree will increase the quality and availability of childcare in our community. You can donate today at <https://www.coloradogives.org/donate/teachingtree>

Volunteer. Serve on our board or committees; assist in our classrooms.

Advocate. Children are our most precious resource and our hope for a vibrant future. Learn more and spread the word about the importance of affordable, quality early care and education.

Where You Can Find Us

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