



**2025
MIDYEAR
REPORT**

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Expanding our Mission and Focusing our Vision

In May, our Board of Directors came together for a full-day retreat, where we refined our strategic plan, rewrote our mission to better reflect our investment in families, and crafted a more focused vision for the future.



Our Updated Mission:

We Belong PDX is empowering kids and their families through consistent investment in trusted relationships and comprehensive programs to improve mental well-being and repair social connectedness

Our Focused Vision:

We believe in a world where every kid and their family has access to a community that brings a sense of belonging and improves mental well-being



CLARITY IN OUR APPROACH

At We Belong PDX, our two-fold approach addresses the youth mental health crisis by fostering social connection and cultivating healthy habits. We're building a strong foundation of belonging and simultaneously nurturing wellbeing.

1. Social Connection

PEER TO PEER



1. ENGAGE TWICE WEEKLY
2. VARIETY OF AGES
3. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MENTOR TO MENTEE



1. STAFF INVESTMENT
2. VOLUNTEER INVESTMENT
3. COMMUNITY BIGS

FAMILY TO FAMILY



1. QUARTERLY SMALL GATHERINGS
2. ANNUAL BIG GATHERING

2. Healthy Habits

NUTRITION



1. ACCESS
2. INVOLVEMENT
3. CONVERSATIONS

ADVENTURE



1. OUTDOOR TIME
2. STAYING ACTIVE
3. MONTHLY OUTINGS

CREATIVITY



1. 100% SCREEN FREE
2. FORMING NEW HOBBIES
3. CREATING TOGETHER

KIDS PROGRAM STRATEGIES

Monthly Activity Focus

Each month, we focus on a different theme that guides our activities, like friendship, creativity, nutrition, exercise, and community service. These themes invite kids to engage in depth with topics proven to impact mental health outcomes.



Growth Goals

Every child sets a personal growth goal in partnership with a trusted staff member, goals that reflect their unique challenges and strengths. These might focus on building friendships, managing emotions, trying new things, or developing positive habits. Staff check in monthly to encourage progress, celebrate wins, and adjust goals as needed. It's a relationship-driven process that nurtures confidence and long-term growth.

ENGAGEMENT WITH KIDS

So far this year, **57 kids have consistently attended** program across three locations. We've invested **448 hours** building relationships with them. These hours include time spent on shared adventures and everyday moments that matter. Each one is helping grow their confidence, strengthen their resilience, and deepen their sense of belonging.

Group Mentors

21 vetted and trained volunteers have been showing up consistently to invest in the kids a minimum of four hours per month.



Community BIGS

BBBS Columbia NW has provided our Centennial and Rockwood site with a paid BIG to invest in our kids alongside our staff. They attend **3-4 days per week**, allowing a trusted relationship to grow more quickly.



Outings

This year, we've taken children on **25 enriching outings**, most of them intimate small-group experiences with just 3 to 10 kids, creating meaningful opportunities for deeper connection, exploration, and joy.



ENGAGEMENT WITH FAMILIES

The Family Celebration

83 people from 22 families joined us for an unforgettable Family Celebration on June 13th. The evening was full of laughter and connection, with face painting, a caricature artist, balloon animals, crafts, and a bounce house. But the most heartfelt moment came when children from each of our sites **presented their families with a framed, professionally taken photo of themselves**, paired with a quote about what they love most about their parents.



Ongoing Family Investment

our commitment to family investment is woven into every part of our programming. **We host gatherings** that bring families together to connect, eat and play games. Each month, **we check in** with parents or guardians by phone or in person, to share updates, offer encouragement, and learn how we can support their unique needs. **We also connect families with helpful resources** and ensure they're informed about what their children are learning through our monthly wellness focus, reinforcing the growth happening at program in the home.



IMPACT THROUGH SURVEYS

We surveyed 31 WBPDX kids and these are some of the results...

84% said there are at least 2 adults and two peers that they have a trusted relationship with at WBPDX

81% said WBPDX has helped them be a better friend

71% said WBPDX has helped them better control their emotions

74% said WBPDX has helped them think about how to better take care of my body



77% said they've used calming strategies they learned at WBPDX at school or at home

74% said they do activities at home now that they first learned at WBPDX

68% said they made a snack at home that they learned about at WBPDX



IMPACT THROUGH STORIES

Centennial

Marcus has been a bright, energetic part of our Centennial site for three years, but recently began struggling with impulse control and emotional regulation. After a tough week, Site Director Jackie gently reached out to his guardian, opening a conversation about screen time and its possible impact on his behavior. With trust and honesty, they created a plan to set healthier boundaries together. This moment highlights the power of working closely with families—when we're on the same team, we can make a lasting difference in a child's well-being.



Rockwood

An 11 year old boy who has been attending for over two years approached our staff while on an outing at a Winterhawks game and asked, "How old do I need to be to be a helper at We Belong?" When this boy began with us at 9 years old, he was often paralyzed by social anxiety and now he's eager to give back and reinvest in his community.



Montavilla

A 5-year-old shared, "You know, I cry every morning when my grandma brings me to school, but I don't cry when I come here because I like it here." These moments are a testament to the environment we've created, a place where children not only feel safe and seen, but also ready to grow, contribute, and embrace the support of their community.



LOCATION DETAILS

Our Neighborhoods

CENTENNIAL



Programs run year-round at
Parklane Christian Reformed
Church off 162nd & Main

ROCKWOOD



Programs run year-round at
The Hope Center on 182nd
and Stark

MONTAVILLA



Programs run year-round at
Rose City Nazarene on 80th
and Everett

Our Site Directors

JACKIE PATTEN CENTENNIAL



ALICIA GONZALEZ ROCKWOOD



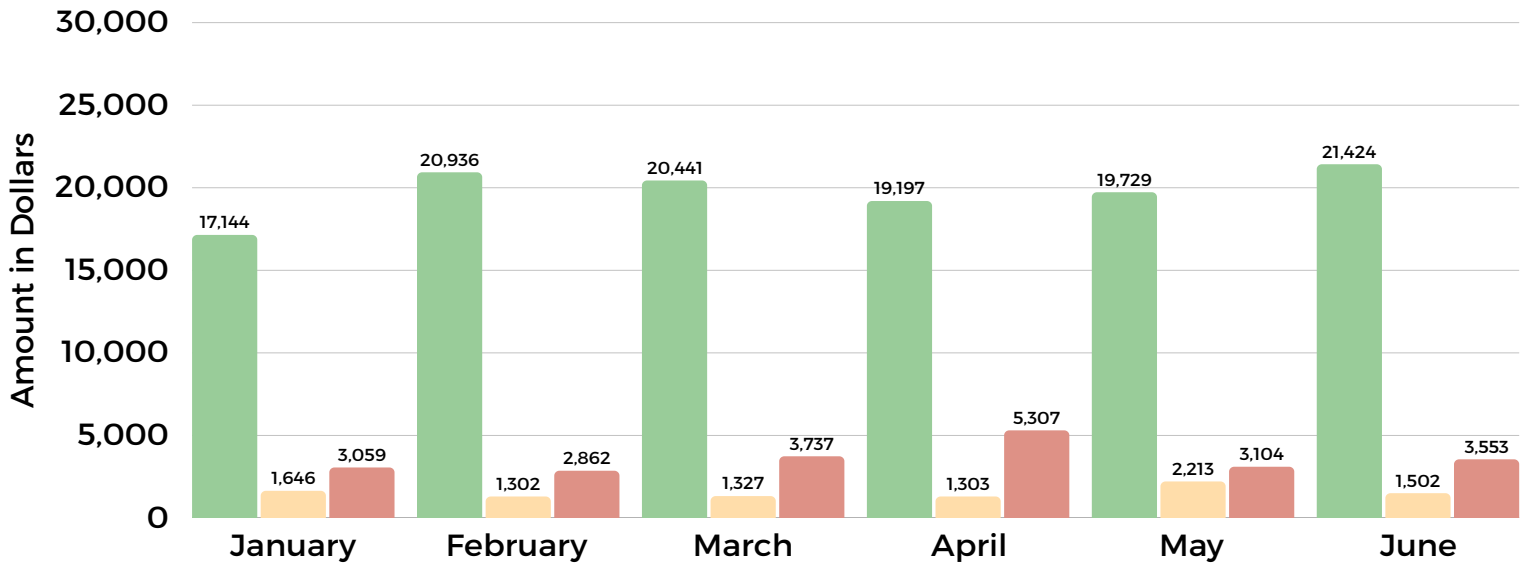
RUTH MUNIZ MONTAVILLA



FINANCIALS

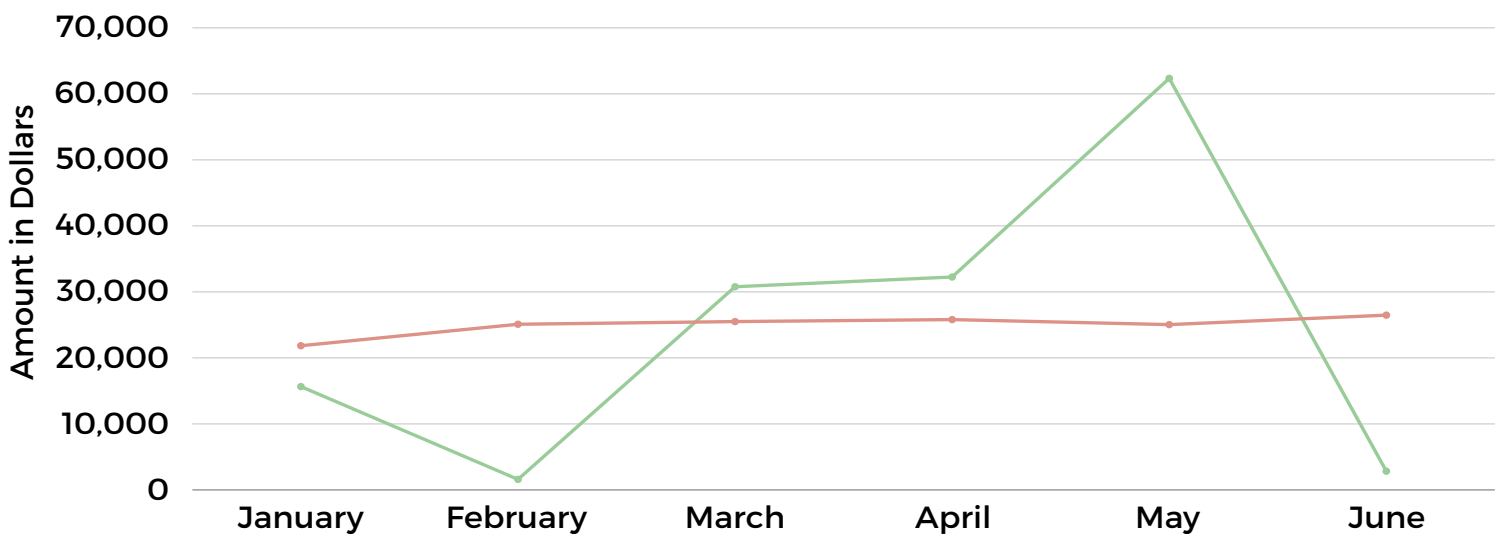
Expenses Breakdown by Category

● Programs ● Admin ● Fundraising



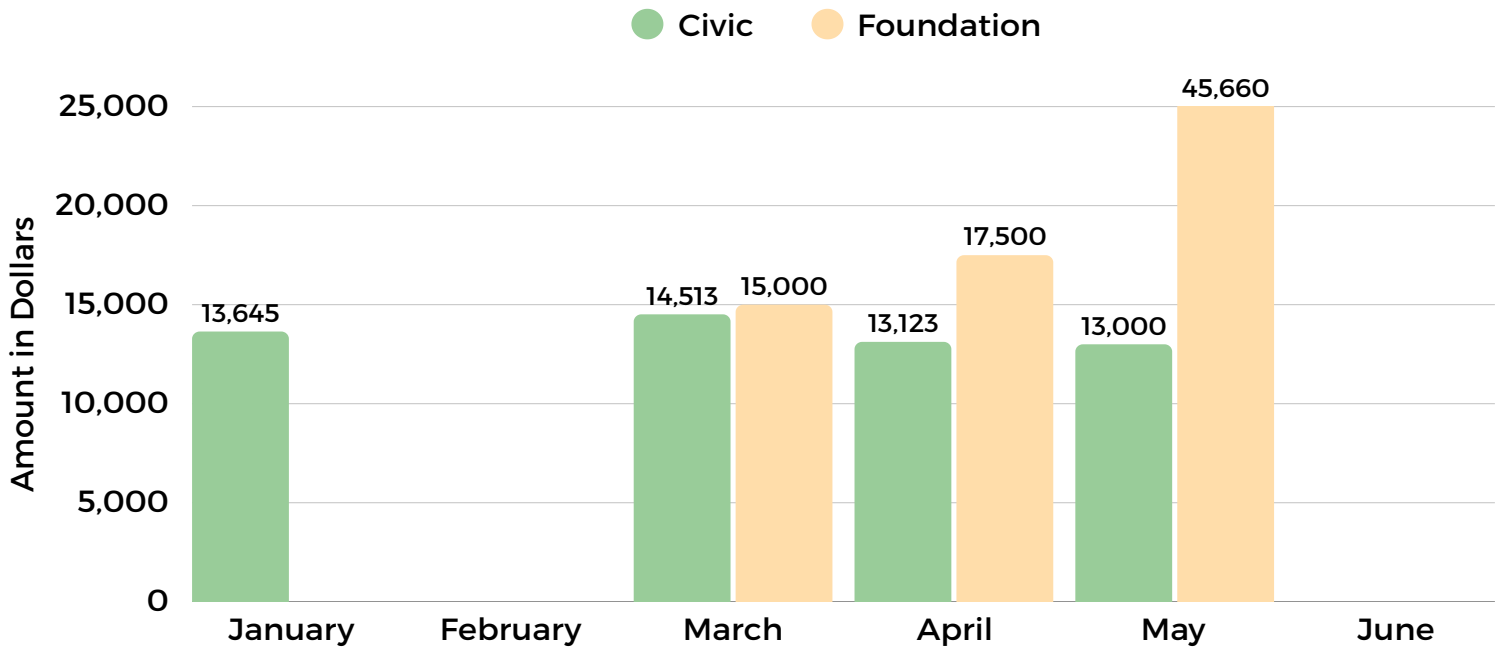
Comparing Revenue & Expenses by Month

● Revenue ● Expenses

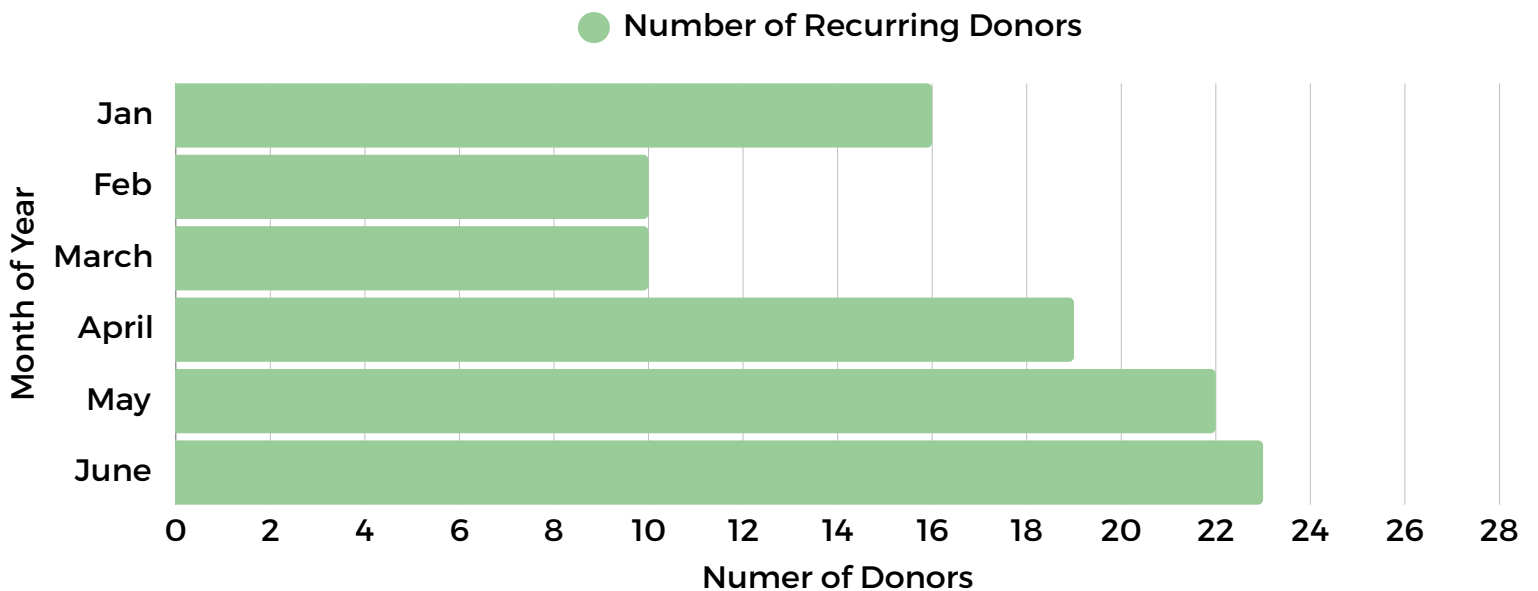


FINANCIALS

Revenue from Grants



Recurring Donors



IMPORTANT THANK YOU'S

Foundations,

Your belief in our vision and your trust in our work fuels everything we do. Thank you for helping us create spaces where kids and families can heal, grow, and thrive together.

Thank you to the following foundations for your generous contributions this year:

Juliet Ashby Hillman
Braemer Charitable Trust
Nike Community Impact Fund
Dorothy Lemelson
Reser Family
SE Uplift
Full Potential Fund
Central East Portland Rotary

Our Recurring Donors,

Your dedication to these children and their families, providing a community for them to thrive is truly humbling. We need you and are deeply grateful for your consistency

City of Gresham,

Your investment in prevention and belonging is already making a lasting impact. We are honored to partner with you in building a safer, more connected future for children and families.

RWB Contributors,

In November 2024, **Renegade Worship Band** organized a powerful fundraiser on our behalf, raising an incredible \$34,145 making the launch of our Montavilla location possible. We are deeply grateful for the heart, hard work, and generosity that provided a new group of children the opportunity to belong.

Our Nonprofit Partners,

Your collaboration and shared commitment make this work stronger and more meaningful. We're grateful to stand alongside you in building a community where everyone belongs
Special shout out:
BBBS Columbia NW & The Underground PDX

GET INVOLVED

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY



INQUIRE TO BECOME
A GROUP MENTOR



INQUIRE TO REGISTER
YOUR CHILD