

# *Wings Early Childhood Center*

Annual Report 2020-2021



Every child is meant to fly!



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## *A Message from the Director,*

Opening a non-profit early childcare center in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic was no easy task, but we believe that every child deserves high-quality education and is meant to fly. With this being our first year open, we faced many successes as well as many challenges.

Wings opened its doors in August of 2020, and already we were faced with several challenges some of which included hiring staff and enrolling children through the pandemic. As COVID numbers grew higher and higher, the previous director also fell victim to the virus causing her to resign and move back to Texas in December of 2020. The center closed for a short time and came back better than ever!

With a new director, a few new staff members, and a new food program, Wings began to truly soar. Although it took a lot of hard work, perseverance, and patience, Wings was able to fully open all 3 classrooms, provide reimbursed breakfast, lunch, and snacks, and provide high-quality care to families of all kinds! With all the changes we've had, Wings continues to have room for more students and more supporters as we watch our littles take flight!

Without your support and the support from our community, we would not have had our successes. Through all our ups and downs in our first year, we thank you for your support as we continue to provide high-quality care to the families and children of Pagosa Springs.

With Love,

***Rebecca Gartman***

Rebecca Gartman, Executive Director





## *Our Mission*

*To deliver high-quality, affordable early care and education to children ages 1-5 in Archuleta County regardless of income or family structure to inspire the importance of learning as they get older.*

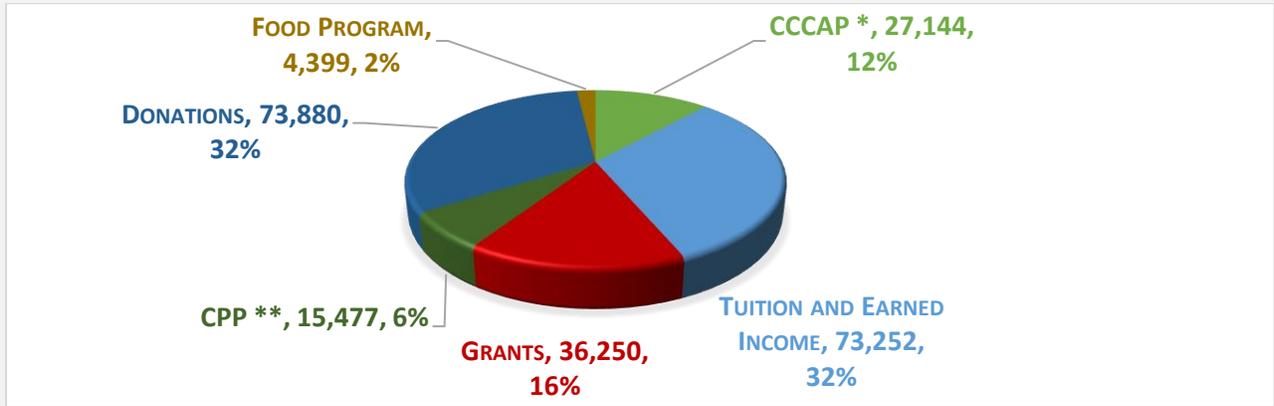
## *Our Philosophy*

At Wings Early Childhood Center, we respect families as the child's first teachers and understand our primary role is to support each unique family. We care not only about the educational enrichment and daily needs of each child, but also the needs of individual families we serve. We understand the importance of early childhood education, and we have made it our goal to show our families the importance of education by allowing each child to openly create, explore, and discover their natural world.



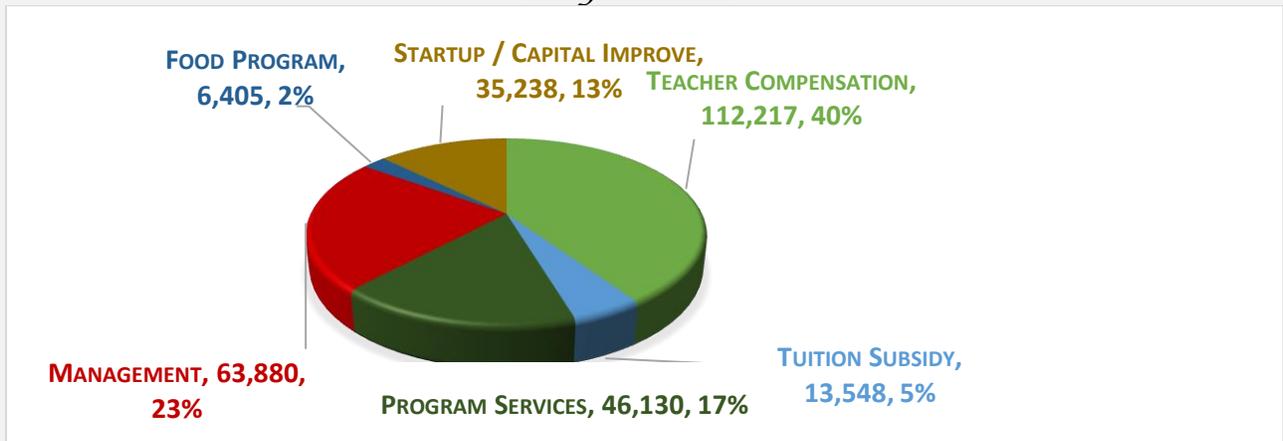
# Financial Report 2020-2021

## Revenues

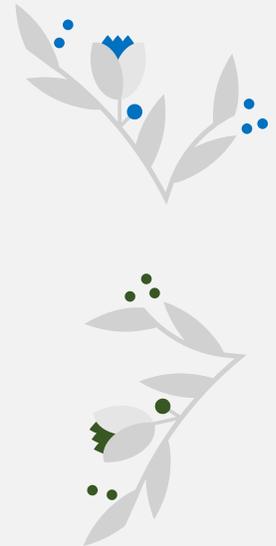


**Total Revenues: \$203,258**

## Expenses



**Total Expenses: \$277,418**





## *Our Program*

### *Natural Curriculum*

At Wings, we follow the child's interests while teaching children how to become closer to nature and build life-long skills. We bring nature to them in the form of outdoor play, nature walks, and natural materials. By mixing traditional learning with non-traditional activities, we teach children to form life-long connections to their natural environments.

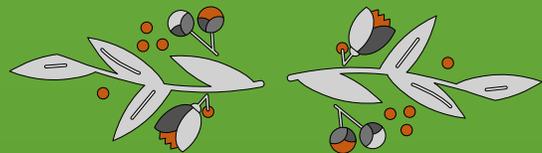
Teachers and students explore nature in many different shapes and forms. Children may plant an assortment of seeds all the while learning many different skills such as empathy, relationship-building, patience, mathematics, science, taking turns, life-skills, and many more.

### *Extracurricular*

Along with the fun of getting to know our natural world, our students also participate in weekly nature-walks, community library readings, a music program on Wednesdays, and a STEM program on Fridays. A few members of our community have volunteered at the school to bring real-life skills and learning to the children of Wings.

*“Nature is a tool to get children to experience not just the wider world, but themselves.”*

*-Stephen Moss*



## *Board of Directors*

**David Smith, *President***

**Jonnae Benzel, *Vice President***

**Linda Williams, *Secretary***

**Lynne McCrudden, *Treasurer***

**James Garrett, *Member***

**Michael Whiting, *Member***

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The Wings board of directors have been an enormous part of the Wings success. From starting this center's renovation almost 5 years ago to helping with small projects, they have been a true support system in the growing of Wings. Without the collaboration of our board, staff, families, and members from the community, Wings would not be possible. It is with great pleasure to show our appreciation by giving the children of Pagosa Springs a quality early education that is fun, filled with loving relationships, and inspires a love for education and nature! [Here are a few pictures from our first year being open...](#)

