

# impact report

2023 ANNUAL REVIEW



## board of directors\*

Bob Sachs, *Chair*  
Linsey Dicks, *Vice Chair*  
Simi Gupta, *Secretary*  
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*\*As of May 2024*



# our mission



Through targeted, compassionate, and effective early intervention services, We Care helps young children and their families reach their full potential, regardless of their abilities or circumstances.

This mission is at the heart of everything we do. Our dedicated staff is focused on providing our crucial services to those who need them the most at a time when we can have the greatest impact. We are deeply committed to making our mission a reality every day for every child and family we serve.

**We couldn't do this vital work without you.**

Your support is a lifeline. It empowers a family to break free from cycles of trauma, a child to enter kindergarten on the right foot, and another to simply thrive despite the odds stacked against him or her. The stories of progress and change you'll find in this report are not just their successes – they are also yours. They were made possible because you chose to care, to give, and to support our essential work.

Thanks to your generosity, what were once aspirations are now achievements.



# a message of gratitude



**Thank you so much for reviewing our annual Impact Report.**

What the numbers you'll see can't convey, though, are the profound experiences they represent – a child using language with her mother for the first time, generations of abuse stopped in its tracks, a completely new and healthy developmental arc assured.

Every number means that something important has changed for a child, a family, and our community.

Doing the work we do, there are incredible rewards. Among them is the partnership we have with you and all it accomplishes. You inspire us to feel that we can take on any challenge – even a pandemic – and your philanthropy last year ensured that so many children who were falling through the cracks were lifted to a better place.

Beyond the tangible benefits of a child's improved life, your support sends our community a powerful message of solidarity and compassion. It demonstrates your commitment to investing in the future generation, and helping at-risk children have access to the resources they need to succeed.

**It's a straight line between the support we receive from you and the transformative experiences of the children your work supports. And for that, we are deeply grateful.**

In this year's report, the data are a testament to the power of your partnership in We Care's mission.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and commitment. We look forward to continuing to make a lasting impact together for years and years to come.

Pete Caldwell  
Executive Director







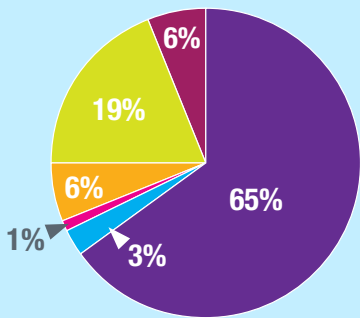
# highlights 2023

## 2022- 2023

### Financial Report

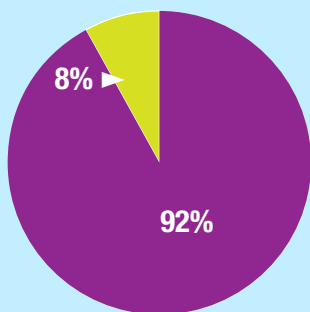
Below is a review of our financials for our Fiscal Year 2022-23

#### REVENUE



- CONTRA COSTA COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES
- CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRST 5
- REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY
- PRESCHOOL
- INDIVIDUAL & CORPORATE SUPPORT
- GRANTS & FOUNDATION SUPPORT

#### EXPENSES



- PROGRAMS
- ADMINISTRATIVE & FUNDRAISING

“We have supported We Care for years and always feel it’s a great investment.”  
—Betsy and Christopher B

For over six decades, volunteers have enriched the heart of our mission. Their diverse involvement has been crucial, from classroom assistance to spearheading projects and community engagement. These compassionate individuals dedicate their time and talents to helping us guide children and their families toward a brighter future. On behalf of We Care and the families we serve, thank you for your boundless generosity.



OUR PROGRAMS  
AND EVENTS  
ENGAGED  
MORE THAN  
**1,200**  
CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES



# developmental services



## Preschool

In We Care's 2022 Impact Report, we outlined plans to sunset our preschool classrooms as part of a strategic decision to better help underserved children in Contra Costa County. However, unforeseen changes in state and county dynamics ultimately – and positively – altered our course.

This shift has not only allowed us to keep our preschool operational, it also enhances it by integrating additional classroom-based behavioral support into our enriched learning environment. This expansion enables us to offer more in-depth, developmentally appropriate learning activities that emphasize mental health, and focus on preparing children for kindergarten and beyond with pre-academic readiness and positive social interactions.

Building on the agility we discovered during the pandemic, we've also significantly amplified our communication with parents, adopting strategies that help them be more engaged and informed about their children's progress and our evolving educational approach.

We are very excited to continue this journey of learning, innovation, healing, and growth for the children and families we help.



## "We Play" Developmental Playgroups

Our developmental playgroups support the early growth of young children who fall outside the eligibility criteria for government-funded initiatives, but who face developmental challenges that could impede healthy growth.

These small-group sessions, held at local First Five centers, unite parents and their children in a nurturing environment. In these sessions, parents learn how to work with their children through interactive activities tailored to therapeutically and educationally promote language development, motor skills, cognitive growth, and socio-emotional well-being.

Importantly, our group activities are carefully designed to carry over into the home, benefiting siblings and other family members. And the adaptability demonstrated over the last few years has also significantly impacted our program.

Through the evolution of lessons learned, we now supplement in-person groups with at-home lessons tailored to the needs and preferences of the families we serve. This flexibility and the overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants have been instrumental in continuously refining our approach, ensuring we provide effective developmental support to children and caregivers.



## Beyond Boundaries Toddler Program

In its second year, our Beyond Boundaries program continues to profoundly affect the lives of children aged 18 months to 3 years with autism or at risk of autism. Through the Early Start Denver Model (ESDM), a play-oriented and relationship-based approach, we offer these toddlers a nurturing group environment that fosters individual growth across all developmental domains.

The dedication of our staff, with a notable 1 to 2 teacher-to-child ratio, ensures personalized attention, creating a warm, engaging atmosphere that caters to each child's needs and abilities.

This effort is bolstered by parent education, which strengthens family relationships and builds a supportive community around each child. Reflecting on the growth and lessons from our initial years, we're enthusiastic about the future as we continue to reach even more children who would benefit from this impactful program.

# mental health services



## Home and Clinic Services

Our clinical services provide crucial support through attachment-based therapies for families with children from birth to age six. Embracing a hybrid model initially created as we adapted to the lingering effects of the pandemic, we continue to cater to families' preferences for telehealth or in-person sessions (either in the home or our family therapy room).

We've seen that being flexible in our approach offers the greatest comfort and accessibility for each family, which ultimately increases the effectiveness of the session.

This year, we worked with hundreds of children and their families to navigate trauma, anxiety, depression, and behavioral issues. We are honored to play an important role in each child's healing journey.



## Wraparound Program

Our Wraparound program, grounded in a family-driven, team-based approach, provides customized services to children with emotional or behavioral challenges.

This year, we've continued to deepen our collaboration with families, providers, and communities, creating individual plans for each child that build on the family's strengths. By involving the child's core group of loved ones and/or caregivers, we create a cohesive environment for growth, healing, and healthy development.

As families face and overcome the myriad of challenges that arise in today's fast-paced world, our services wrap the child and their family in the protection needed to build resilience and to thrive.



## Intensive Foster Care Services

Our Intensive Foster Care Services focus on young, high-risk children in foster care or the family reunification process.

In 2023, we remained committed to meeting the complex needs of some of the most vulnerable children in our community more comprehensively, ensuring that they and their foster families receive the support needed to face this challenge.

By providing highly specialized treatment, resources, and hope, our clinicians help pave the way to a brighter future for these children.



### **Preschool Consultation Program**

Our Preschool Consultation Program provides vital early childhood mental health consulting for community preschools, specifically focused on preventing expulsions.

Our mental health consultants work closely with early care staff and families to enhance their skills in recognizing, preventing, and addressing mental health concerns in children. More than just therapy, our approach empowers preschool teachers to implement broad-based interventions, benefiting every child, not only those initially identified for support.

By reducing expulsion rates, we ensure that children and families receive the guidance and support they need at a time when it can have the greatest impact.

This program remains foundational to our community’s efforts toward mitigating the potentially lifelong effects of preschool expulsions.



### **Everyday Moments Program**

In 2023, our Everyday Moments program continued to support families with tailored guidance to help them navigate life’s everyday parenting challenges. In collaboration with partner agencies – Early Childhood Mental Health Program, First 5 Contra Costa, C.O.P.E. Family Support Center, and Lynn Center – this program offers a blend of community groups and individual consultations, focusing on nurturing children’s development through everyday interactions.

The positive feedback from families has been overwhelming, and we are thrilled to continue guiding parents to find the magic in these important moments in a child’s growth and development.



### **Infant/Parent Services for Families with Babies up to 18 Months Old**

Our Infant/Parent Services have continued to support parents of newborns to 18-month-olds, helping them navigate the challenges of caring for an infant who cries excessively, struggles with sleep, or faces feeding challenges.

Our infant specialists work with parents, through home visits or telehealth sessions, to help them understand the needs of young babies while recognizing the parents likely feel helpless, anxious, and overwhelmed.

Our collaborative and empathetic approach empowers parents and caregivers, helping them to build confidence and establish a deeper connection with their infants.

This program has continued to be successful by supporting parents and caregivers, ensuring they don’t have to face these challenges alone.







# on the horizon

We Care constantly strives to find ways to better address the developmental and mental health needs of young children in Contra Costa County, e.g., finding resources to increase the number of children we can see in any of our programs, and finding well-vetted and evidence-based programs that we believe will help broaden our efforts.

**We're excited this year to build on our high-risk infant mental health efforts with new perinatal services for pregnant and postpartum women.** We know that up to 27% of new and expectant mothers experience mental health issues that can impact their infants, and We Care will be providing supportive and therapeutic services to help them transition to healthy family lives.

We'll keep you updated as the program grows!







# message

from our  
board of directors  
Bob Sachs, Board Chair

In last year's Impact Report, I wrote that our board and leadership will continue to develop We Care's long-term future to meet the significant needs of the young children in our community. We knew that entering 2023, with the cost of providing services going up and funding not fully keeping pace, meeting those needs was becoming increasingly challenging.

The accomplishments in this year's report, despite these significant challenges, speak to the amazing work and dedication of We Care's exceptional staff, and the generous support We Care has received from grants and donations.

On behalf of the board, our sincerest thanks to all of you who made this possible.

In 2024, the cost of providing services relative to the funding for those services remains a significant concern. But We Care remains committed to providing more at-risk kids the opportunity to realize their full potential.

We are reviewing our portfolio of programs to assure that we are developing services to optimize the resources of this agency consistent with our mission, while also assuring the long-term sustainability of We Care. With the help of our amazing team and our friends in the community, we look forward to reporting back another long list of successes to you next year.





# THANK YOU

## 2023 SUPPORTERS

We deeply appreciate the incredible philanthropy shown by caring individuals who believe in the work we do with at-risk children and their families. Because of your partnership, we have been able to help even more of our community's most vulnerable members reach their full potential, regardless of their abilities or circumstances. We couldn't be more grateful for your heartfelt compassion and support.

### **\$200,000 and Above**

Steve and Debra Gonsalves

### **\$50,000 to \$200,000**

Anonymous  
Farallon Capital Management  
George and Vicki Gallegos  
Jim and Laura Hulburd

### **\$15,000 to \$50,000**

American Income Life  
Insurance Company  
Kaiser Permanente  
Dan Martin  
Quest Foundation  
Bernard E. & Alba Witkin  
Charitable Foundation

### **\$5,000 to \$15,000**

AF Group/CompWest  
Banister Electrical, Inc.  
Black Diamond Electric  
Concord-Pleasant Hill  
Healthcare District  
Marc and Wendy Greenberg  
Dorene Gustitus  
Matt Hill  
Shay Martin  
Hendrika Neys  
Scott and Lisa Pickford  
Bob and Susan Sachs  
Trio Foundation

### **\$2,500 to \$5,000**

Jim Aliferis and Paula Boas  
Christopher and Betsy Beros  
Jeff and Lyssa Butler  
Cache Creek Cares Program  
Pete Caldwell and Jim Martin  
John Daws and Steve Noack  
David and Karen Eichler  
Linda English  
Greg Gould and Nancy Kenyon  
Kenneth and Jennifer Grullon  
Simi Gupta and Nipun Agarwal  
John Muir Community Support  
Nancy Kurpinsky  
Steve and Carol Lane  
Ed and Betty Manoyan  
Foundation  
Marathon Petroleum Corporation  
Ianthus and Xiomara Martin  
Mechanics Bank  
Pacific Service Credit Union  
Jake and Cristina Pauline  
Fred Piazza and  
Gina Hens-Piazza  
Andrew and Alanna Seitz  
Chris and Angela Simmons  
VISA Consult for Change

### **\$250 to \$2,500**

Al Accurso, Jr.  
Alamo Women's Club  
Christine Andersen  
Brian and Melissa Assael  
David and Cora Benoun  
Barbara Bentley  
Tom and Debi Branch  
John and Janet Bruno

Tom Buskovich and  
Susan Christie  
Raully and Sarah Butler  
Steve and Adela Carrillo  
Weide Chang  
Chevron  
Kevin Conners  
Jeff and Mary Corley  
Iona Da Costa Pereira  
Dorine Dianda  
Linsey and Natalie Dicks  
Mike and Lori D'Orazi  
Dianne Dunathan  
Ryne and Madelyn Eckenrodt  
Eric and Erica Faller  
Glenn and Lynda Garabedian  
David and Saundra Gius  
Amir and Amy Golan  
Kazuo and Autumn Gray  
Rahul Gupta  
James and Anissa Hagedorn  
Nick Hallett  
Lee Harmon  
Pria Joglekar  
Richard and Diane Jones  
Ed and Janette Kennedy  
Knights of Columbus #6038  
May Lamoreux  
Stephen and Joanne Lucero  
Marc Maier  
Bob and Susan Martin  
Kevin and Diane Matlock  
Cheryl Mills  
Scott and Felicia Monroe  
Bridget Moore  
Paul and Laura Moran  
Sharon Mowat  
Scott and Barbara Murray  
Benjamin and Katlynn Neill  
Mabel Neys

Mark and Jenn Neys  
Frank and Barbara O'Connell  
Patty Owens  
Kevin and Allison Padilla  
Steve Paskow  
Kristin Peterson  
PG&E  
Pleasant Hill Community Foundation  
Lesley Potash  
Dan Purcell  
R.C. Fischer & Co.  
Michael Redalia and Julie Halsey  
James and Valerie Ritchey  
Cynthia Rucker-Raulston  
Bob Rosenberg  
Eric Ruitter  
Brian and Adrienne Russi  
Raj and Mandeep Sahota  
San Ramon Valley Firefighters –  
Local 3546  
John Jr. and Kathleen Schmitz  
Pat Sheehan and Kathleen Jevons  
Matt and Liza Shriner  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Norman and Adria Schwartz  
John Schroeder  
Atul Sharma  
Barry Silberman  
Medford (Pepper) Snyder  
Mary Staunton  
Troy and Barbara Stevenson  
Matthew and Alicia Tunney  
Keira Lynn Ufalusi  
United Way of the Bay Area  
Valero Benicia Refinery  
Wells Fargo Community  
Yield Giving  
Scott Zimmermann



## Donations in Memory & in Honor

Alfred Accurso, Jr. in memory of [Alfred Accurso, Sr. and Marisa Accurso](#)  
 Gabriela Alvarez in honor of [Mateo and Andrew Ponce](#)  
 Barbara Bentley in memory of [Rex Johnston](#)  
 Ysabel Catapang in honor of [Juhee Krishan](#)  
 Steven and Robin Cavagnolo in honor of [Paula Tippery](#)  
 Naomi Chamberlain in memory of [Paul Harris](#)  
 Barbara Cross in honor of [Grace Cannon](#)  
 Mark Day in honor of [Matthew Day](#)  
 Dorine Diana in honor of [Steve Gonsalves](#)  
 Ami Dodson in honor of [Marc and Wendy Greenberg](#)  
 Dianne Dunathan in memory of [Jim Dunathan](#)  
 Glenn Garabedian in memory of [Darci](#)  
 Jim Hulburd in honor of [Pete Caldwell](#)  
 Lee Anne Jordan in honor of [Paula Tippery](#)  
 May Lamoreux in memory of [Ian Russell](#)  
 David Logan in honor of [Erica Williamson](#)

Lisa Mason in honor of [Laura Hulburd](#)  
 Diane Matlock in honor of [Fletch](#)  
 Robert Miller in honor of [John Jones](#)  
 Cheryl Mills in memory of [Alex](#)  
 Hendrika Neys in memory of [Michele Neys-Hill](#)  
 Mabel Neys in memory of [Michele Neys-Hill](#)  
 Anonymous in honor of [Iona Da Costa Pereira](#)  
 Dale Rotner in memory of [Lois Schwaeber](#)  
 Eric Ruitter in memory of [Dia and Suzanne Ruitter](#)  
 Stephen Schendel in memory of [Wanda Schendel](#)  
 Cheryl Shaffer in memory of [Donald Shaffer](#)  
 Cheryl Shaffer in honor of [Joanne Hawkins](#)  
 Dorene Silva in honor of [Hudson Bullotta](#)  
 Medford (Pepper) Snyder in honor of [Steve Gonsalves](#)  
 Stephanie Young in honor of [Marc and Wendy Greenberg](#)  
 Scott Zimmermann in honor of [Barbara Bentley](#)

## 2023 Contributions Through Charitable Giving Programs

We extend our sincere gratitude to the many companies and community groups that supported their employees' and members' contributions to We Care through charitable giving programs in 2023:

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>Abbott Laboratories<br/>         Adobe<br/>         AF Group/CompWest<br/>         Alamo Women's Club<br/>         AmazonSmile<br/>         American Income Life Insurance<br/>         Cache Creek Cares Program</p> | <p>CarMax<br/>         Chevron<br/>         CSAA Insurance Group<br/>         Fraternal Order of Eagles<br/>         Gilead<br/>         Kaiser Permanente</p> | <p>Knights of Columbus #6038<br/>         Macy's<br/>         Marathon Petroleum Corporation<br/>         Morgan Stanley<br/>         United Way of Greater Atlanta<br/>         PG&amp;E</p> | <p>San Ramon Valley Firefighters – Local 3546<br/>         Smartsheet<br/>         St. Paul's Episcopal Church<br/>         United Way of the Bay Area<br/>         Valero Benicia Refinery<br/>         Wells Fargo Community</p> |
|--|--|---|--|

## In-Kind Donations

The 2023 We Care Gala would not have been as thrilling or successful without the remarkable in-kind donations from generous businesses and friends in our community. From unexpected aerial adventures to carefully curated wine escapes, our thoughtful donors ensured that our silent, dessert, and live auctions were nothing short of magical.

- |   |   |  |  |   |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| <p>Abbott's Passage Winery<br/>         Adventure Cat<br/>         All-Outdoors CA Whitewater Rafting Co.<br/>         Amazing Co.<br/>         American Conservatory Theater<br/>         Balletto Vineyards<br/>         Balloons Above the Valley<br/>         Betsy Beros<br/>         Board Sports CA<br/>         Tom and Debi Branich<br/>         Brie Grazing Boards</p> | <p>Buena Vista Winery<br/>         Pete Caldwell and Jim Martin<br/>         California Symphony<br/>         Spencer Christian<br/>         Claremont Club &amp; Spa<br/>         Covert Estate<br/>         Crumbi Concord<br/>         Diablo Ballet<br/>         Drive Simulations<br/>         Fine Arts Museums of SF<br/>         Firenze by Night</p> | <p>FlyWithWine<br/>         George and Vicki Gallegos<br/>         Getaway Adventures<br/>         Marcellus Gray<br/>         Heller Jewelers<br/>         Jim and Laura Hulburd<br/>         Indigo Yoga<br/>         Inglenook<br/>         Kennedy Space Center<br/>         Lafayette Park Hotel &amp; Spa<br/>         Lamorinda Music</p> | <p>Lawrence Hall of Science<br/>         Lindsay Wildlife Experience<br/>         Napa Valley Lodge<br/>         Napa Valley Wine Train<br/>         Nothing Bundt Cakes<br/>         Oakland Museum of CA<br/>         Oakland Zoo<br/>         On the Bit, Inc.<br/>         Painting With a Twist<br/>         Pangloss Cellars</p> | <p>Patz &amp; Hall Winery<br/>         Peju Winery<br/>         Pixar Animation Studios<br/>         Robert and Heidi Ramos<br/>         Repris Wines<br/>         Quixote Winery<br/>         Red Door Escape Room<br/>         SF Giants<br/>         SF MOMA<br/>         Sherwin Family Vineyards</p> | <p>Sloat Garden Center<br/>         Sonoma Cutrer<br/>         The French Laundry<br/>         The Lodge at Sonoma<br/>         Total Wine<br/>         Tsar Nicoulai Caviar<br/>         Vintner's Collective<br/>         VJB Cellars<br/>         Wellington Cellars<br/>         Winchester Mystery House</p> |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|



