



Investing in our future

portland children's levy



A day in the life

THE PORTLAND CHILDREN'S LEVY:

At work in our community



2015 Annual Report

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS:

Helping children and families succeed in kindergarten



9 am

As the day begins

SPOTLIGHT ON: Latino Network “Juntos Aprendemos”

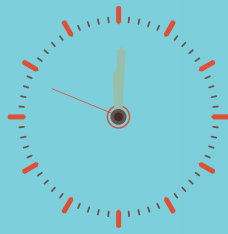
The sun is breaking through early morning clouds as parents and children stream into an auditorium at Shaver Elementary in the Parkrose School District and the six other Juntos Aprendemos programs in the city. The families meet weekly throughout the school year for this early childhood program that emphasizes literacy and kindergarten readiness for Latino children ages 3 to 5 through hands-on activities, story time, crafts and singing. Parents are coached on how to strengthen these new skills in their preschoolers, as they learn to lay the foundation for school success in the coming years.

“It’s really helped me with my daughter in a positive way to help her development,” says Alejandra of her daughter Nandi. “It’s preparing her for kindergarten and for life.”



MENTORING PROGRAMS:

Offering vital one-on-one help to increase academic and social skills



Noon

Lunchtime is shared

SPOTLIGHT ON: Portland OIC “Mentoring Program”

Angie and Ja’Cal were both looking for something two years ago. Angie, a mother and grandmother, knew she could be a positive role model for the right girl. Ja’Cal, a 17 year old, needed support and stability in her young life. The timing was right for both of them as they found each other through POIC’s Mentoring Program and their relationship has grown stronger over time as they frequently meet to eat, watch a movie, attend a sporting or cultural event, or to just touch base through texts and phone calls.

“I allow her to be herself. I’m not trying to be her mother or to be judgmental. I’m just there for her and I would hope I’m having a positive impact on her life,” says Angie.

For Ja’Cal, a high school senior looking to attend community college next year and pursue interests in psychology and social work, their relationship has helped her develop better coping skills and become more mature.

“It’s like she’s a relative now,” Ja’Cal says, “A family member to me.”



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

Providing a safe place for students to learn and have fun

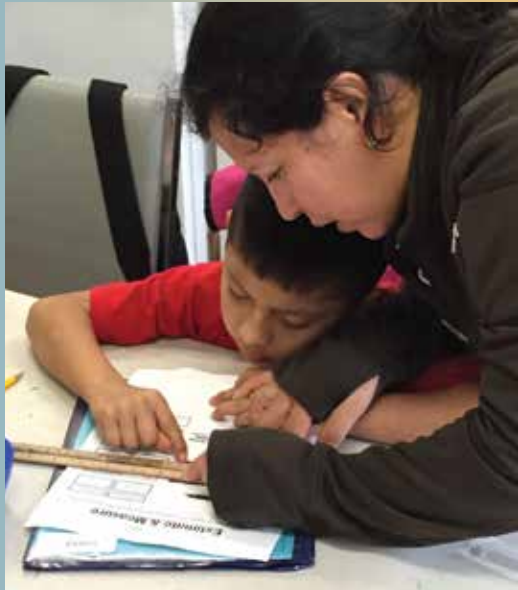


3 pm

The school day ends

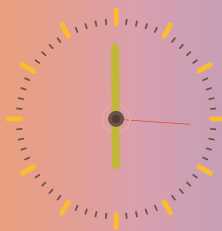
SPOTLIGHT ON: Hacienda CDC “Expresiones After-School Program”

The familiar yellow Portland Public Schools bus pulls away this cloudy afternoon as a group of youngsters walk, skip and run a dozen yards to an upstairs community room in a Hacienda CDC housing complex on NE 60th Avenue. This after-school program for elementary and middle school students at four different Hacienda sites operates five days a week from 2:30 through 6 p.m. providing homework help, enrichment activities and a healthy snack. The majority of the program’s children are Latino, but with a growing Somali population too. The students say they enjoy coming to a place where they get help for their reading, math and science classes. Monthly parent workshops offer Moms and Dads techniques to better navigate their children’s success at school and in the overall education system.



HUNGER PROGRAMS:

Getting healthy and nutritious food to children and families



6 pm

Time for dinner

SPOTLIGHT ON: Meals on Wheels “Meals 4 Kids” and Oregon Food Bank “School Food Pantry” programs

New investment area started in 2014 to help relieve childhood hunger

When Roxanne’s two grandchildren sit down for dinner each evening in her Boise-Eliot neighborhood home, she is relieved that she has a nutritious and healthy meal for the 7 and 10 year olds she is raising herself.

“The kids are sleeping better since they’re not going to bed hungry. They love the vegetables, bread, fruit and the milk. If it weren’t for programs like this I wouldn’t have been able to take them in. This way I can raise them and keep them out of foster care...this takes a big load off of me.”

The Meals 4 Kids program delivers a week’s worth of pre-plated meals with a protein, fruit and vegetable, as well as milk, fresh fruit and bread, to Portland-area families such as Roxanne who have difficulty accessing other emergency food resources because of mobility, transportation or other issues.

For other families throughout the city, 18 new or expanded school food pantries operated by the Oregon Food Bank with other community partners will provide much needed fresh fruit and produce, eggs, bread, frozen meat, canned items and rice. School pantries provide a three- to five-day supply of food to thousands of children and their caregivers across the city.

“This program helps me feed my kids,” says one mom at the pantry. “It’s a great idea.”



FOSTER CARE PROGRAMS:

Forging strong community connections with the city's most vulnerable children



9 pm

Still at work

SPOTLIGHT ON: New Avenues for Youth “Avenues to College”

It's dark outside and most of the downtown workers have long since headed home, but the New Avenues for Youth building is lit up and ready for business. Upstairs in a newly renovated work space a group of young adults are busy at computers filling out forms that could change their futures...and their lives.

The Avenues to College program enables young adults in foster care ages 17 – 24 to attend community college and move into their own housing. Young adults in foster care face tremendous barriers in going to college, with just a fraction, or about 3 percent, receiving a bachelor's degree.

To increase their odds of succeeding, students attend a variety of helpful workshops and eventually, a summer leadership training and a place to live independently.

“I'm really thankful for all that they've given me” says Adela, who is obtaining her GED and wants to pursue a career in dentistry. “They're pushing me and pushing me to go to school.”

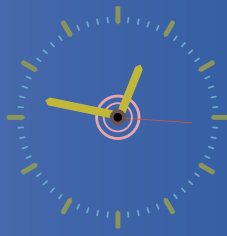
The 18 year old has already conquered much adversity: years in foster care, a young pregnancy and substance abuse challenges: “It's nice to have that support and to know that someone out there cares about you, cuz I haven't had that in a long time.”



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION & INTERVENTION PROGRAMS:

Promoting resiliency and stability for at-risk children and families

SPOTLIGHT ON: Salvation Army “West Women’s and Children’s Shelter”



Overnight

Sleeping safer through the night

Working with the Salvation Army’s Parent-Child Improvement Project has given Sally hope ... and the chance to be a mom to her son.

The 42 year old arrived in Portland as an immigrant three years ago and shortly thereafter faced several obstacles, including a difficult divorce with an ex-husband who was intent on denying her custodial rights to their young son. With the help of Salvation Army staff though, Sally fought back and eventually became an active and engaged parent to her 7 year old and is now on the way to become a U.S. citizen.

“She gave big hope to me,” Sally says of Anita Vinson, her PChIP case worker. “I can stay in America with my son which is really important to me. Sometimes I have trouble and she makes me more comfortable and I get through it. My son’s growing up and she will help me.”

The PChIP program offers women individual and group counseling, case management, and access to job readiness and training, along with essentials such as clothing, toiletries and food, as well as a safe place to learn to become a strong family.



Dear Portlander:

This is an exciting time for the Portland Children's Levy and those we serve. Because of the overwhelming support of city voters, we launched a new round of investments last summer, funding 59 local nonprofit organizations helping more than 10,000 children each year. We were also pleased to create a new focus area: providing nutritious meals to thousands of families throughout Portland.



The upturn in the economy has still left many behind as we see poverty shift and grow in the eastern portion of our city where our attention has shifted as well. But we are confident that after more than a decade of service, the Levy's breadth and depth is truly making a difference.

We're doing that through early childhood programs that make sure youngsters are ready for kindergarten; at after-school and mentoring programs that provide students a safe haven to receive homework help and kids enjoy caring role models; in child abuse prevention & intervention programs that work to keep kids safe from all forms of abuse and neglect; with foster care programs that offer this vulnerable population a better chance to succeed academically and in life; and through hunger relief programs that deliver fresh and healthy food to some of the 17,000 Portland children who eat from emergency food boxes each month.

We couldn't do any of this without the assistance of our many community partners who work with us to ensure our investments are making a difference. And as always, we are good stewards of the public trust as the Levy has annual audits, citizen oversight, extensive community outreach and an administrative expense cap of 5 percent so that 95 cents of every dollar goes to proven, quality and cost-effective programs helping Portland's children.

So as we move forward, we also want to pause for a moment and thank you for your steadfast support. We are confident that the Portland Children's Levy will continue to improve the health and well-being of our city's children and families.

Sincerely,

Dan Saltzman

Portland City Commissioner

Chair, Portland Children's Levy Allocation Committee

dan@portlandoregon.gov



P.S. These are really Portland's children in these photos

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GOALS *for* 2014 – 2019

Using public input, local data, best practices and community context, the Portland Children's Levy will pursue these goals through 2019.

Overall Goals for the Levy

- Prepare children for school.
- Support children's success inside and outside of school.
- Reduce racial and ethnic disparities in children's well-being and school success.

Program Area Goals

Early Childhood

- Support children's early development and readiness for kindergarten.

After School

- Provide safe, constructive after-school and summer programming that supports children's well-being and school success.

Mentoring

- Connect children and youth with caring adult role models that support their well-being.

Child Abuse Prevention & Intervention

- Prevent child abuse and neglect and support vulnerable families.

Foster Care

- Support the well-being and development of children and youth in foster care.

Hunger Relief

- Expand access to healthy, nutritious food for hungry children.

For more details on strategies and funding priorities, visit www.portlandchildrenslevy.org

OUR 2015 BUDGET

Early Childhood

\$3,379,751

Child Abuse Prevention
& Intervention

\$2,154,973

After School

\$1,989,316

Foster Care

\$1,194,849

Mentoring

\$1,069,070

Hunger Relief

\$794,883

Total

\$10,582,842



The Portland Children's Levy is overseen by a five-member Allocation Committee that meets publicly to make funding decisions. It is composed of a Portland City Commissioner, a Multnomah County Commissioner and three citizen members appointed by the City, County and the Portland Business Alliance respectively. The Levy is annually audited by an independent firm with results published on our website at www.portlandchildrenslevy.org. City homeowners support the Levy through a property tax of about \$60 a year for a home with an assessed value of \$150,000.

Current Members:

Dan Saltzman

Portland City Commissioner
Allocation Committee Chair

Deborah Kafoury

Multnomah County Commission Chair

Julie S. Young

Youth advocate and community volunteer

Serena Stoudamire-Wesley

Early childhood advocate and
community volunteer

Mitch Hornecker

Executive VP/Chief Legal Officer
Howard S. Wright/Balfour Beatty

Thank you, **PORTLAND**

Thanks for showing me how to help my daughter learn her letters.



I learned to read to my son at night – he loves it! Thank you.



Thank you for caring.



Thanks for helping me apply for college, I feel like I have a future now.



Thanks for the fresh fruit ... I love apples!



I've learned new ways to have fun with my daughter ... thank you.



I have a hot meal to eat every night, thank you.



Thanks for giving me a place to get help with homework.



I'm learning how to count and read, thank you.



I learned it's okay to share my feelings . . . thank you.



Thank you for helping me succeed in school.



I'm ready for kindergarten. Thanks!



Thank you for giving me hope.



Thanks for helping me believe in myself.



Thank you for making sure I have fresh fruit, vegetables and milk for my family.



INVESTMENTS

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

Albina Early Head Start ♦ Early Head Start classrooms and home-based Early Head Start services; N, NE, SE Portland.

Friendly House Preschool ♦ Subsidized preschool for children from low-income families; NW Portland.

Hacienda CDC ♦ Home-visit child development services with families in Hacienda locations; N, NE Portland.

Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization ♦ Home-visit child development services with immigrants & refugees; citywide.

Impact Northwest ♦ Home-visit child development services and preschool playgroups; NE, SE Portland.

Latino Network ♦ Weekly preschool groups for children and parents focused on Latino families; N, NE, E Portland.

Metropolitan Family Service ♦ Weekly preschool groups for children and parents focused on Latino families; E Portland.

Morrison Child & Family Services ♦ Mental health consultation and parenting education at 10 childcare sites & preschools; citywide.

Morrison Child & Family Services Listos Para Aprender ♦ Home-visit child development services with Latino families; citywide.

Mt. Hood Community College Head Start ♦ Home-based Early Head Start services; E. Portland.

NAYA Family Center ♦ Early childhood program including home-visit child-development services for Native American families; citywide.

Neighborhood House Early Oregon Pre-Kindergarten ♦ Home-based services modeled after Early Head Start; N, NW, SW Portland.

Peninsula Children's Center ♦ Subsidized preschool for children from low-income families; N, NE Portland.

Portland Public Schools Head Start ♦ Three extended-day Head Start classrooms; SE Portland.

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metropolitan Area ♦ SUN Community School program at Margaret Scott Elementary School; E Portland.

Ethos Music Center ♦ After-school music education program at 12 schools for students in grades 2-8; N, NE Portland.

Girls Inc. of Northwest Oregon ♦ After-school program for girls focused on youth development at nine schools for students ages 8-15; citywide.

Hacienda CDC ♦ Homework support and enrichment programming for children residing in Hacienda housing sites; N, NE Portland.

Human Solutions ♦ After-school program including intensive academic support and tutoring for children residing in four public housing sites; E Portland.

Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization ♦ After-school tutoring, academic support and parent engagement for immigrants /refugees in grades 5-8; SE Portland.

Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization ♦ SUN community school program at Parkrose Middle School and Ventura Park Elementary School; NE, SE Portland.

Impact Northwest ♦ Urban Opportunities program to prepare at-risk youth with employment training, job readiness skills and internships; N, NE, SE Portland.

Impact Northwest ♦ After-school science program at SUN Community Schools in Portland; citywide.

Metropolitan Family Service ♦ SUN Community School program at Cherry Park and West Powellhurst elementary schools; outer SE Portland.

NAYA Family Center ♦ Homework support, cultural arts and sports after-school program for Native American/Native Alaskan students ages 5-18; citywide.

Neighborhood House ♦ Intensive academic support for low-income students attending Hayhurst Elementary School, including children living at Stephens Creek Crossing; SW Portland.

Open Meadow ♦ After-school program offering tutoring, academic support, advocacy and dropout prevention at Madison, Franklin and Roosevelt high schools.

Playworks ♦ Junior Coach Leadership after-school program offered at nine schools includes training and practice in conflict resolution, leadership, teamwork and physical activity; citywide.

Saturday Academy ♦ After-school enrichment programs at 12 schools in grades 1-8; N, NE, SE Portland.

Self Enhancement, Inc. ♦ After-school academic support and enrichment services for children in grades 6-8, focused on African American youth; N, NE Portland.

MENTORING PROGRAMS

Camp Fire USA Portland Metro Council ♦ School-based mentoring for students at George and Lane middle schools; N, SE Portland.

Friends of the Children ♦ Long-term, community-based, one-to-one mentoring program for children grades K-12; citywide.

Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization ♦ Community-based one-to-one and group mentoring program for African immigrant youth in middle and high school; NE, SE Portland.

NAYA Family Center ♦ One-to-one and group mentoring for Native American youth transitioning from 8th grade into high school and emphasis on high school graduation and post-secondary goals; citywide.

Portland OIC ♦ School-based mentoring for students attending Rosemary Anderson High School; N Portland.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

Bradley Angle House ♦ In-home and group parenting education and support for families with children ages 0-12 who have experienced domestic violence; citywide.

CARES Northwest /Legacy Emanuel Hospital and Health Center ♦ Assessment and therapeutic services for children ages 0-18 with child abuse concerns; citywide.

Catholic Charities ♦ Individual and group parenting education and support for Latino families, with children ages 0-12, who have experienced domestic violence. Therapeutic services for children; citywide.

Children's Relief Nursery at LifeWorks NW ♦ Classroom-based therapeutic care for children ages 0-5, home visits, parenting education and respite care; N, NE Portland.

Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization ♦ In-home parenting education and support for low-income immigrant/refugee families, with children ages 0-18, who are at risk for abuse or neglect; citywide.

Janus Youth Programs/Insights ♦ In-home parenting education and support for teen parents and their children; citywide..

LifeWorks NW ♦ In-home parenting support for families with children ages 0-18 who are at risk for child abuse and neglect; citywide.

Metropolitan Family Service ♦ In-home parent education and support for families with children ages 0-11 who are at risk for abuse or neglect and live in the David Douglas School District; E Portland.

NAYA Family Center ♦ Culturally specific, in-home parenting education and support services for Native American/Native Alaskan families with children ages 0-5 who are at risk for abuse or neglect; citywide.

Pathfinders of Oregon ♦ Parenting classes, case management and in-home visiting services for families involved in the criminal justice system or are at risk; citywide.

Salvation Army/West Women's and Children's Shelter ♦ Individual and group parenting education and support for families, with children ages 0-18, who have experienced domestic violence; citywide.

Volunteers of America ♦ Drop-in child care for children, ages 6 weeks to 10 years old, while parents access services through the Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services; E Portland.

Volunteers of America ♦ Classroom-based therapeutic care for children ages 0-5, home visits, parenting education and respite care; citywide.

Volunteers of America ♦ Classroom-based therapeutic care for African American children, ages 0-5 who are at risk of abuse or neglect, and their families. Culturally specific parenting classes, mentoring, and support groups; citywide.

FOSTER CARE PROGRAMS

Boys & Girls Aid ♦ Supportive services focused on preparing youth and families for legal permanency. Serves youth in foster care, ages 14 and older; citywide.

Friends of the Children ♦ Intensive, year-round mentoring services for children in foster care. Includes home visits with foster parents. Recruitment into services begins for children age 5; citywide.

Impact Northwest ♦ Home visiting, parenting support and case management for 38 children in foster care, ages 0-8 years old, and their biological and foster parents. Services focus on reunification; citywide.

Janus Youth Programs/Insights ♦ Case management and in-home parent education for teen mothers and their children, where either the mother and/or the child is in foster care; citywide.

NAYA Family Center ♦ Culturally specific advocacy and enrichment services for Native American/Native Alaskan youth, ages 0-24, who are in foster care or have aged out of foster care; citywide.

New Avenues for Youth ♦ College preparation and support services for youth, ages 17-24, who are in foster care or aged out of foster care. Leadership development, dorm housing, case management and leadership coaching during their freshman year of college; citywide.

Self Enhancement, Inc. ♦ Culturally specific advocacy/case management, enrichment activities & academic support for youth, ages 7-19, who are in foster care; N, NE Portland.

Youth Rights & Justice: Attorneys at Law ♦ Educational advocacy, for children in foster care ages 4-21, focused on ensuring children receive appropriate instructions and other supports to address academic, emotional, and behavioral needs of each child; citywide.

HUNGER RELIEF PROGRAMS

Meals on Wheels ♦ Home-delivered meals to nutritionally at-risk families; citywide.

Oregon Food Bank ♦ Expansion/creation of 18 school food pantry sites, produce distribution at three summer feeding sites, classes in nutrition, cooking, gardening and food budgeting; citywide.