



portland  
children's  
investment  
fund



# 2005/2006 PROGRESS REPORT

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Providing today's youth the chance  
to build a safer and stronger city  
for tomorrow.



## portland children's investment fund

Dear Portlander,

I'm pleased to share with you the Portland Children's Investment Fund 2005-06 Progress Report. Thanks to the support of city residents, the Fund is annually reaching more than 10,000 of Portland's neediest children and families in all corners of the city.

The 67 programs we fund give children a healthy start in life, prepare them for success in school, provide a safe and nurturing place to go after school, help Moms and Dads become better parents and seek to break the cycle of abuse struggling families face.

A Leverage Fund created to partner our dollars with private ones has generated \$5 million in matched investments that have maximized tax dollars along with improving the lives of even more of Portland's children.

We keep a tight rein on spending: the Children's Investment Fund is annually audited and a 5 percent administrative cap means that 95 cents of every dollar goes directly to proven programs offering hope and opportunity for future generations. Your investment in Portland's children is paying off.

Sincerely,

Dan Saltzman  
Portland City Commissioner,  
Children's Investment Fund  
Allocation Committee Chair  
dan@ci.portland.or.us  
503-823-4151

## What we do

The Children's Investment Fund reaches children who might otherwise grow up without a healthy start and the positive influences that lead to success in school and beyond.

A majority of the children we serve live in low-income households. The barriers they face include poverty, abuse and neglect, school failure, homelessness and risky behaviors such as abusing drugs and alcohol. More than one in four grows up in homes where English is not the primary language.

The 67 programs we fund help children overcome these hurdles. They provide health screenings, access to mental health support, peer and adult role models and after-school classes in core subject areas as well as music and the arts. Other services include parent education, housing and career resources for immigrant and refugee families and counseling and respite care for parents at risk for family abuse and neglect.

Inside this report you'll see how your support has translated into healthy children and thriving families, making Portland a better place for all its residents.



## OUR PROGRAMS

Through the support of a five-year tax levy passed by Portland voters in 2002, the Fund annually generates about \$10 million to support programs for more than 10,000 children ages birth through high school. These services are designed to break the cycle of poverty many children face by building community connections that lay the foundation for stronger families and a stronger city.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD

Kids enter kindergarten prepared to succeed.

- Early childhood education and intervention.
- Parent education.
- Access to immunizations and health screenings.

### AFTER SCHOOL & MENTORING

Students stay engaged in school and safe after school.

- Constructive programs to promote academic achievement in core subject areas and music, art and athletics.
- Positive and consistent adult and peer role models.
- Tutoring, homework assistance, community service and college prep activities.

### CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION & INTERVENTION

Stressed families most at risk receive support and intervention services.

- Intensive case management, therapy and counseling.
- Respite care.
- Parent education.

## How we do it

All city homeowners help support these programs through a property tax of about \$60 a year for a home with an assessed value of \$150,000. Organizations receive funding through a competitive grant process. They must have a track record of success, demonstrate they are cost effective and achieve positive results for children. A five-member Allocation Committee meets quarterly to make funding decisions. All funded programs are monitored by staff and are subject to regular site visits and performance assessments.

To learn more call 503-823-2936 or visit [www.ChildrensInvestmentFund.org](http://www.ChildrensInvestmentFund.org)





# YEAR AT A GLANCE

- ♦ Families received more than 6,500 home visits.
- ♦ Parents participated in more than 500 parenting workshops and 180 parenting classes.
- ♦ More than 700 parents participated in parent education classes or home visiting services.
- ♦ More than 750 immigrant children and their families received health, education and outreach services.
- ♦ Children in our programs speak at least 15 different languages and regional dialects, excluding Spanish and English.
- ♦ Nearly 80 percent of Portland Public Schools students in our after-school and mentoring programs had fewer discipline or behavioral referrals while participating in programs we fund.
- ♦ More than 30 percent of PPS students in our after-school and mentoring programs improved their grades while participating in programs we fund.

## Why we do it

The need in Portland is great. Thousands of children live in poverty. They lack medical and education resources. They have refugee or immigrant parents unsure of how and where to find assistance for employment, housing or continuing education. They seek adult mentors and safe places to go after school. They face the risks of dropping out of school and making poor choices that lead to alcohol and drug use. They grow up in households with the threat of abuse or neglect.

### We can make a difference.

Research shows that children who receive early childhood education have better reasoning and language skills and develop healthy social and emotional traits. Society as a whole benefits too. Leading economic experts from the RAND corporation to the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank to Nobel Laureate Economist James Heckman all agree that early childhood education has the highest return of any public investment — as much as \$17 for every dollar invested. Reduced costs for remedial education, social services and crime, coupled with higher graduation rates and lifetime earnings, all add up to tremendous savings.

For older students, quality after-school and mentoring programs provide a safe place to learn and have fun while improving their school attendance and academic performance as well as decreasing their at-risk behaviors.

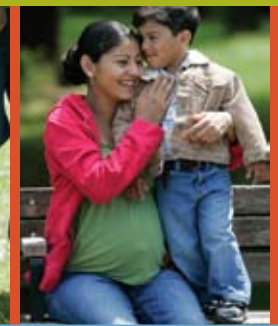
And families struggling with violence and neglect can make meaningful and lasting changes through multiple support systems that ease stress.

## Who we help

### EARLY CHILDHOOD

Maria Guadalupe was a shy, isolated 18-year-old single mom with limited English language skills and a 3-month-old baby when she entered the Insights SEEDS program (Supporting Early Emerging Development). During the past two years she received help from a weekly home-visiting caseworker and a bi-monthly support group, giving her the confidence and skills to complete high school and find a job and a safe place to live. Her family life is stable now as she raises her 2-year-old son Alexis and looks forward to a new baby.

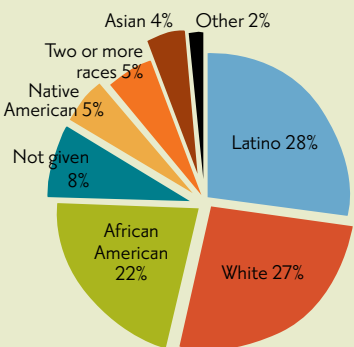
- ♦ **Children are thriving:** Based on results of more than 1,200 child developmental screenings performed on children in Fund programs, 80 percent of the children were meeting key milestones in growth and development. The remaining 20 percent of children were making progress toward meeting benchmarks.
- ♦ **Education is helping Moms and Dads become better parents:** Of those assessed, a majority are managing their kids' behavior better, using more appropriate parenting techniques and interacting more positively with their children.
- ♦ **Early preparation leads to later school success:** 99 percent of children at eight child care centers and 60 home-based programs with access to mental health counselors were not removed from their preschool setting because of behavioral problems.



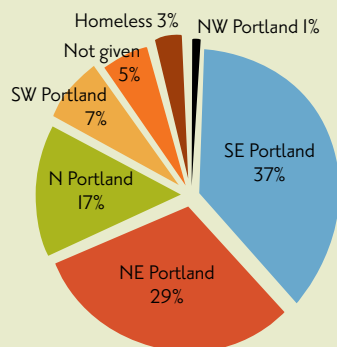
### ORGANIZATIONS

- Albertina Kerr Centers
- Albina Early Head Start
- Cascade AIDS Project
- Child Care Improvement Project
- Friendly House Preschool
- Housing Authority of Portland
- Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization
- Insights Teen Parent Program
- Morrison Child and Family Services
- Mt. Hood Community College Head Start
- Native American Rehabilitation Association
- Neighborhood House
- Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement
- Peninsula Children's Center
- Portland Community College Child Development Center
- Portland Impact
- Portland Public Schools/ Head Start

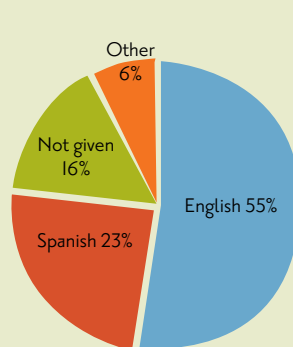
### Race/Ethnicity



### Residence



### Primary Language







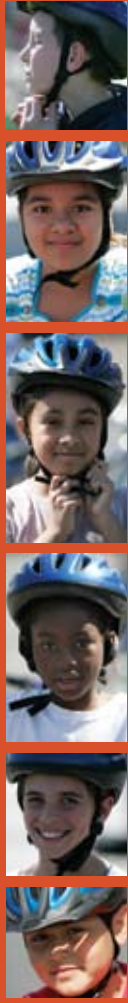
### ORGANIZATIONS

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Portland
- The Boys and Girls Aid Society
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Portland
- The Bridge Builders
- Camp Fire USA Portland Metro Council
- Chess for Success
- Community Cycling Center
- Ethos Inc.
- Friends of the Children
- Girls Inc. of Northwest Oregon
- Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization
- LifeWorks NW
- Metropolitan Family Services
- Native American Youth Association
- Open Meadow
- Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement
- Oregon Health Career Center
- Portland House of Umoja
- Portland Impact
- Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center
- Portland Public Schools/SUN Program
- REAP
- Self Enhancement, Inc.
- SMART
- Tears of Joy Theatre
- Trillium Family Services
- Urban League of Portland

## Who we help AFTER SCHOOL & MENTORING

A loose axel nut or a flat tire is an easy fix for fifth-graders at Woodmere Elementary School. The students at the southeast Portland Public School have become two-wheeled road experts as participants in the after-school Community Cycling Center's Bike Safety club. The kids learn about bike safety as well as how to perform basic repairs. At the end of the program, they've gained self confidence, valuable skills, new friends ... and their own bike.

- **Students making the grade:** More than three of every four students attending a Fund after-school or mentoring program met or exceeded state benchmarks in reading and math. This includes students in Portland, Centennial, David Douglas and Reynolds school districts.
- **Students attending class:** 74 percent of PPS students in Fund programs attended school at least 90 percent of the time.
- **Students improving behavior:** 64 percent of PPS students in Fund programs who were suspended or expelled the previous year received fewer or no referrals resulting in suspension or expulsion during the 2005-06 school year.



## Who we help CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION & INTERVENTION

When 48-year-old Martha Zulu arrived in Portland last year it was the end of a long journey that began in 1992 when civil war caused her to flee her native Liberia. She spent the next 13 years in an Ivory Coast refugee camp where her three children were born, trying to find the means and the money to get to the United States. Once in Oregon, her troubles weren't over: she was without a job or any social support and lacked essentials such as clothes, housing and furniture. Through caseworkers from LifeWorks NW Family and Community Alliance, she found an affordable house for her family, mentors and education assistance for her children and parent classes to help her become a more confident and skilled parent.

- **Reducing violence and abuse:** Multnomah County Child Abuse Hotline received no further referrals for 97 percent of families in one Fund program within 90 days of completing services.
- **Strengthening families:** 91 percent of children in three Fund programs saw an increase in stability in their homes including reduction in risk of family violence and improvement in safety and overall family functioning.
- **Helping troubled kids cope:** 65 percent of children with mental health issues in four Fund programs demonstrated a decrease in their condition.



### ORGANIZATIONS

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Portland
- Catholic Charities
- Children's Relief Nursery
- Christie School/Multnomah County Children's Receiving Center
- LifeWorks NW
- Listen to Kids
- Janus Youth Programs
- Native American Rehabilitation Association
- Salvation Army/West Women's & Children's Shelter
- Volunteers of America

# Where it goes FINANCES

## THE NUMBERS JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

### USING TAX DOLLARS WISELY

We have made \$2.5 million available through a Leverage Fund that has matched public funds dollar for dollar with private funds for a total \$5.1 million investment in services for children.

These public-private partnerships maximize community impact so that more of Portland's children are attending programs in early childhood, after school and mentoring and child abuse prevention and intervention.

Children's Investment Fund partnerships sustain and expand programs and support organizational development at:

- ♦ **Peninsula Children's Center** - \$1.1 million with the United Way of the Columbia-Willamette and the Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund.
- ♦ **Saturday Academy** - \$500,000 with Paul G. Allen Family Foundation and David and Christine Vernier.
- ♦ **Multnomah County Library Foundation's Raising a Reader program** - \$1.5 million with Meyer Memorial Trust.
- ♦ **Start Making a Reader Today (SMART)** - \$640,000 with the Gates Foundation.
- ♦ **Juvenile Rights Project's Schoolworks Program** - \$650,000 with Meyer Memorial Trust.
- ♦ **Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Portland's Nightscape Teen program** - \$750,000 with the Schnitzer Care Foundation.

July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

#### Revenues

Earned in FY 2005-2006	\$ 11,468,482.00
Accrued from July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2006	\$ 7,099,275.00
	<b>\$18,567,757.00</b>

#### Investments and Commitments

##### Program Investments, FY 2005 - 2006

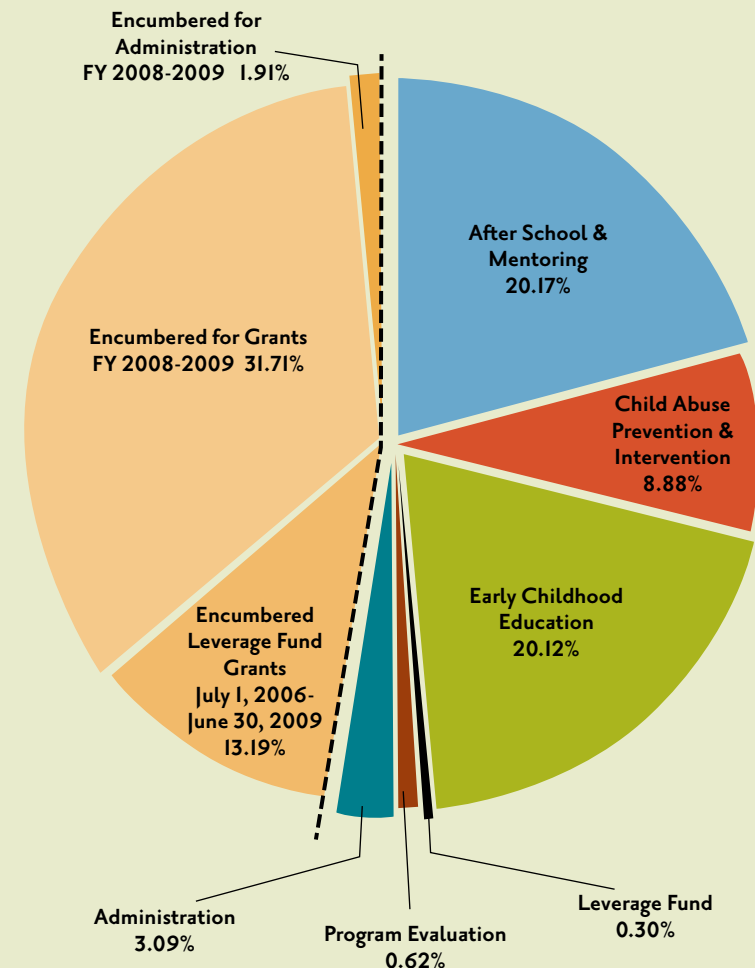
After School and Mentoring	\$ 3,745,637.72
Child Abuse Prevention & Intervention	\$ 1,649,618.00
Early Childhood	\$ 3,736,491.84
Leverage Fund	\$ 56,250.00
Program Evaluation	\$ 115,210.00
Administration, FY 2005 - 2006	\$ 573,424.00

##### Encumbered Funds for Grants and Operations

Encumbered Leverage Fund Grants, July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2009	\$ 2,448,750.00
Encumbered for Grants, FY 2008-2009	\$ 5,887,411.69
Encumbered for Administration, FY 2008-2009	\$ 354,963.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$18,567,757.00</b>

### PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

The Portland Children's Investment Fund is annually audited and administrative expenses cannot exceed 5 percent of revenues; 95 cents of every dollar is invested in programs serving the city's children. The most recent audit completed in September 2005 by independent auditor McDonald Jacobs, PC found that administrative expenses were less than 5 percent of revenues, were necessary and proper, and all grant disbursements were properly documented and in accordance with approved program budgets.





## Who guides us

### ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

The Fund is overseen by a five-member Allocation Committee that meets regularly in public meetings at Portland City Hall to make all funding decisions. It is structured to have one Portland City Commissioner, one Multnomah County Commissioner, and one member appointed by the city, county and Portland Business Alliance respectively.

Current members are:

**Dan Saltzman:** Portland City Commissioner and Allocation Committee Chair

**Lisa Naito:** Multnomah County Commissioner

**David Willis:** M.D., Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrician

**Clara Padilla Andrews:** El Hispanic News Owner and Publisher

**Ron Beltz:** Louis Dreyfus Property Group Vice President

For the committee schedule or past meeting agendas and minutes, see our website at [www.ChildrensInvestmentFund.org](http://www.ChildrensInvestmentFund.org)



## Making a difference everyday

### THE CHILDREN'S INVESTMENT FUND

Four-year-old Morgan lacked speech and receptive language skills and could not follow directions when he arrived at the Kerr Early Intervention Program. The preschooler suffers from the trauma and stress of his father's suicide. His grandparents sought help at KEIP, a partnership between Albertina Kerr Centers and Multnomah County Early Childhood Program targeting 3- to 5-year-olds with emotional and/or behavioral problems.

During the past year, Morgan made a great developmental leap forward and has gained language, social and fine motor skills while receiving the therapy he needs to catch up with his peers.

"He's come miles in years," said his grandfather Gary Barnes while his wife, Shelley, added, "They love him here and you can tell the difference. He loves coming to school."

Morgan – and thousands of other children – have a great shot at a bright future because of Portland residents and their support of the Portland Children's Investment Fund.



The Portland Children's Investment Fund is reaching the city's neediest children through supporting early childhood development programs and parent education; offering quality after-school and mentoring programs; and helping struggling parents cope with stress so they can avoid family violence that leads to abuse and neglect.



THANK YOU PORTLAND



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