

PROGRESS REPORT

Portland Children's Investment Fund

2004 - 2005

A+



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

Dear Portlander:

I'm pleased to bring you the first Annual Report of the Portland Children's Investment Fund. In the following pages, you'll find detailed information about the worthy organizations we've invested in and how their programs have improved the lives of 10,000 children throughout the city.

Portland is a wonderful place where families can thrive as they enjoy all the bounties of the Northwest. Yet far too many of the city's children grow up without a healthy start and lack the resources that lead to success in school and beyond. Whether because of poverty, newly immigrated parents, abuse and neglect, drugs and alcohol or homelessness, these children grow up in a world filled with despair and low expectations instead of hope and opportunity.

With your help, the Children's Investment Fund is reaching those young people in a number of positive ways: expanding Head Start and early childhood development programs for children that pave a smoother route to kindergarten; offering quality after-school and mentoring programs that keep adolescents and teens motivated and excited about learning; and helping struggling parents better cope with stress so they can avoid family violence.

I assure you that your tax dollars are being used with great care: only proven and effective programs with a track record of success receive funding and those organizations are scrutinized to ensure they meet children's needs. Also, the Children's Investment Fund is annually audited and its administrative costs are kept to 5 percent so that 95 cents of every dollar is invested in our children.

On behalf of the Portland Children's Investment Fund, thank you for believing that all children in Portland should have the chance to reach their potential.



Dan Saltzman
Portland City Commissioner,
Children's Investment Fund
Allocation Committee Chair

dan@ci.portland.or.us
503-823-4151



The Portland Children's Investment Fund

In November 2002, Portland voters passed Measure 26-33 which created the Children's Investment Fund. Funding is generated through a property tax of \$.04026 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, or about \$60 a year for a home with an assessed value of \$150,000.

The five-year tax levy generates about \$8.5 million annually to support programs for children and youth that:

- Provide early childhood and parenting education and access to immunizations and health screenings so children enter kindergarten ready to succeed.
- Offer safe and constructive after-school and mentoring programs to promote academic achievement, provide positive role models and increase children's engagement in school.
- Provide child abuse prevention and intervention services to reach children affected by family violence, parental drug and alcohol use, and homelessness, and to support families most at risk for abuse and neglect.

Public Accountability

Programs applying for funding must have a track record of success and demonstrate that they are cost effective and achieve positive results for children.

All funding decisions are made publicly by a five-member Allocation Committee. All funded programs are monitored by staff and subject to regular site visits and performance assessments.

The Children's Investment Fund Allocation Committee meetings are open to the public and agendas are posted on the website at www.ChildrensInvestmentFund.org.

The Children's Investment Fund is subject to annual audits and its administrative costs cannot exceed 5 percent. Ninety-five percent of funding is invested in children's programs throughout the city of Portland.

Table of Contents

2-3 Early Childhood Programs

4-5 After-School & Mentoring Programs

6-7 Child Abuse Prevention & Intervention Programs

8 A Year at a Glance

9 Leveraging Resources

10 The Financial Report

11 Governance & Accountability

12 Roll Call

To Learn More

For more information about the programs and organizations we support, or to get on our mailing list, call 503-823-2936 or visit our website at www.ChildrensInvestmentFund.org.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

These programs offer early intervention, parenting education and access to immunizations and health screenings so Portland's at-risk children reach kindergarten healthy and prepared to learn. Research has shown that children receiving early childhood education develop enhanced cognitive and language skills and positive social and emotional traits that increase the likelihood they will succeed in school.

The Portland Children's Investment Fund annually invests about \$3.1 million in **19 different Early Childhood Programs**. Below are a few examples of how those dollars are making a difference for young children and their families.

The Housing Authority of Portland's Early Literacy Program, "Story Time," is an exciting place for 70 children and their parents residing in public housing sites throughout the city. Each session includes reading, art and other group activities that develop children's literacy and encourage parents to read with their children. More than 50 percent of the children who attend story time are Latino, many of whom speak Spanish at home.

Children aged birth to 3 have a safe, nurturing environment preparing them for kindergarten at the **Albina Early Head Start Program**. Children either attend year-round classes or receive home-based services focused on child development, parenting education and access to necessary health services. Seventy-seven percent of the children served are African American.

The youngest faces of HIV/AIDS can be found at **Cascade AIDS Project Kids' Connection**. The program provides intensive services to children who are either infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Children and families receive health assessments, intensive case management and help planning for children's care in the event of a parent's death from AIDS. Over half of the children served are Latino, African immigrant or African American.

Making a Difference.

A recent Portland State University study of a sample of the early childhood programs funded by the Children's Investment Fund shows that 80 percent of the children served are meeting key milestones in growth and development. The remaining 20 percent are making progress toward meeting appropriate benchmarks, with many enrolled in intervention programs addressing their developmental needs.

These results are promising because the programs studied predominantly serve children with substantial risk factors for poor educational outcomes such as living in poverty and speaking a language other than English.

Program Results

The Housing Authority of Portland "Story Time"

100% of children improved reading readiness and literacy behaviors.

100% of parents increased reading activities with child.

Albina Early Head Start

Children are meeting or making progress toward developmental milestones in literacy and communication, physical motor skills, cognitive skills and social/emotional growth.

Cascade AIDS Project Kids' Connection

54% improved their physical well-being.

52% improved their emotional well-being.

62% improved their access to resources.

MORRISON CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

“Dinosaur School” is a special time for children at one of nine childcare and preschool sites throughout Portland where mental health specialists from Morrison use large puppets and a nationally recognized “Incredible Years” curriculum to prevent, reduce and treat behavioral and emotional problems in young children. Through its Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program, 500 young children each year learn positive ways to express their feelings so they’re prepared for success in kindergarten, while Moms and Dads attend parenting classes to learn appropriate skills and techniques to better deal with their children’s behavior. The program increases positive social-emotional behaviors in children and positive parenting techniques while reducing problem behavior in children and symptoms of depression in parents.



AFTER-SCHOOL & MENTORING PROGRAMS

These programs provide a wide range of constructive after-school activities, regular contact with positive adult and peer role models and help students positively engage in learning. Research has shown that after-school and mentoring programs help children improve school attendance, improve academic performance and decrease problem behaviors such as drug and alcohol use.

The Portland Children's Investment Fund annually invests about \$3 million in **31 different After-school and Mentoring Programs**. Below are a few examples of how those dollars are making a difference by helping at-risk students stay in school, improve their grades and avoid violence.

The sound of learning comes through loud and clear at **The ETHOS Music Program**, which provides low-income students at five elementary schools a rich music curriculum of instrument lessons, music education and interactive performance.

More than 150 students attend the after-school program at **Self Enhancement, Inc.** where they receive homework assistance, tutoring and enrichment classes to help them meet academic benchmarks. Program services also include outreach to parents and family support to involve parents in their children's education.

Open Meadow's STEP-UP Middle School Academy reaches 40 eighth graders each year with tutoring, homework help and arts activities to prepare them for a successful transition to high school. STEP-UP also provides culturally-specific outreach services to African immigrant and Latino families.

Making a Difference.

Students who participate in programs funded by the Children's Investment Fund and who attend Portland Public Schools are predominantly non-white. These students showed improvements in academics, attendance and behavior during the 2004-05 school year. These early results are encouraging given the persistent achievement gap between white and non-white students in Portland.

- ✓ **84% attended school at least 90% of the time.**
- ✓ **80% had no discipline or behavioral referrals.**
- ✓ **3 of every 4 met or exceeded state benchmarks in reading and math.**

Program Results

ETHOS

79% had no discipline or behavioral referrals.

67% improved their grades.

65% made progress on meeting state standards in math.

58% percent made progress on meeting state standards in reading.

40% improved their school attendance.

Self Enhancement, Inc.

54% made progress on meeting state standards in reading.

51% made progress on meeting state standards in math.

40% improved their grades.

Open Meadow

61% made progress meeting state standards in reading.

44% made progress meeting state standards in math.

30% improved their grades.

OREGON COUNCIL FOR HISPANIC ADVANCEMENT

Eighth grader Irma Hernandez has seen her friends lose interest in school and become involved with gangs, drugs and alcohol. She joined OCHA's Oregon Leadership Institute (OLI) to receive weekly mentoring from high school peers who have taught her to be proud of her Latino heritage, participate in community service projects and stay focused on graduating from high school and pursuing her college dreams. OLI also reaches out to parents with computer literacy and citizenship workshops and engages parents in their children's education.



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION & INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

These programs support stressed families most at risk for abuse and neglect. These programs also work to mitigate the damage of child abuse and neglect through intensive case management, therapy and counseling, respite care and parent education. Research consistently demonstrates that programs providing multiple supports that ease family stress are most effective in preventing family violence, abuse and neglect.

The Portland Children's Investment Fund annually invests about \$1.6 million in **11 Child-Abuse Prevention and Intervention Programs**. Below are a few examples of how those dollars are strengthening family stability and breaking the cycle of abuse.

The Children's Receiving Center provides safe, temporary emergency care for children removed from their homes because of abuse and neglect. The center houses more than 300 children each year, over half of them siblings, until they are placed in foster care, with relatives or returned home.

The Children's Relief Nursery provides therapeutic classrooms and home-based intervention to reverse the developmental delays for children ages 6 weeks to 3 years who are at risk for abuse and neglect. Each year about 50 children receive intervention services such as physical and/or speech therapy while parents attend parenting classes.

Big Brothers Big Sisters' Project Hope matches caring adult mentors with 100 youth in foster care. Mentors provide a consistent and caring adult in the lives of children who have experienced, and may continue to experience, major changes in their lives. Mentors help with homework, share mutually enjoyable activities and support children in foster care as they cultivate relationships with foster parents and biological parents.

Making a Difference.

Based on reports from child abuse prevention and intervention programs supported by the Children's Investment Fund:

- ✓ **Over 90% of families served in three programs had no new incidents of child abuse while receiving services.**
- ✓ **75% of homeless youth in one program completed drug and alcohol treatment.**
- ✓ **97% of school-aged youth in one prevention program reduced high-risk behaviors and improved engagement in healthy and safe activities.**

Program Results

The Children's Receiving Center

60% of sibling groups are discharged together for foster care placements.

100% of children receive a health assessment within 24 hours of admission.

100% of eligible children attend their local school.

The Children's Relief Nursery

families served:

Increased appropriate parenting behaviors by 54%.

Increased appropriate parent/child interactions by 71%.

Increased family strengths by 46%.

Big Brothers Big Sisters' Project Hope

88% improved family relationships.

75% improved classroom behavior and class participation.

66% avoided substance abuse and involvement with the juvenile justice system.

NATIVE AMERICAN REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

Twenty-two-year-old Sarah grew up with an alcoholic father. As a teen, she too, fell into substance abuse. Realizing she needed to break the cycle so her 3-year-old son Alex could grow up in a healthy household, she sought help for her addiction at NARA's Residential Treatment Center. There, families live together as parents receive treatment and attend parenting classes during the day, while their children are cared for. Families also receive case management services and children are screened for health development risks. NARA's Star Shield Family Wellness Program annually assists 200 children and families at risk for abuse and neglect, and reaches an additional 2,000 families through its child abuse prevention campaign. Sixty percent of parents enrolled in the Positive Indian Parenting classes complete the entire course.



A YEAR AT A GLANCE

In 2002, voters responded to Portland’s children by creating the Children’s Investment Fund, which provides children more opportunities to succeed and thrive in their homes, schools and communities.

Your Money at Work

The Children’s Investment Fund regularly monitors all program investments to assure that organizations are providing services in accordance with contract provisions. Through regular monitoring, the Children’s Investment Fund collects a variety of data on all investments, which, when aggregated, provide a picture of who benefits from services. Demographic data collected from programs show the following:

- ✓ **Children’s Investment Fund programs served equal numbers of boys and girls.**
- ✓ **Investments are concentrated on serving children from birth through age 15.**
- ✓ **More than 50 percent of the children participating in programs funded by the Children’s Investment Fund live in households with income levels below the Federal Poverty Level (\$19,300 per year for a family of four).**

Additional demographic data collected from programs is shown in graph form below.

With Your Support

1,300 children receive developmental screenings.

300 children with special needs are helped.

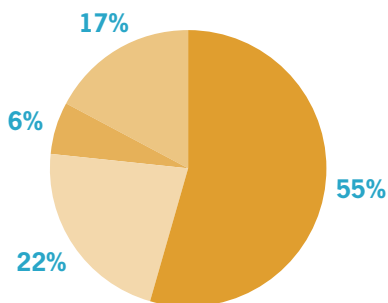
400 children from immigrant and refugee families receive a variety of services.

400 families participate in parent education classes.

250 youths with drug and alcohol problems get help.

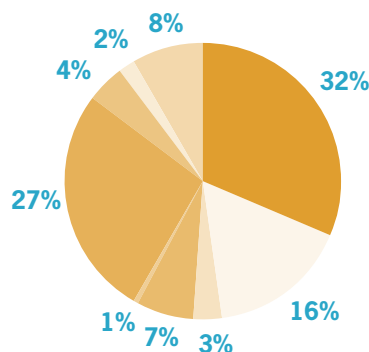
100 children receive services at eight local domestic violence shelters/programs.

PRIMARY LANGUAGE IN HOME



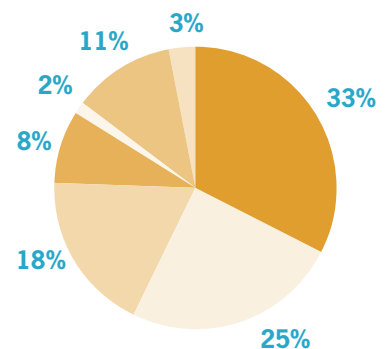
55% English
22% Spanish
17% Not Given
6% Other

RACE / ETHNICITY



32% White
27% Latino
16% African American
8% Not Given
7% Native American
4% Two or More Races
3% Asian
2% Other

RESIDENCE



33% SE Portland
25% NE Portland
18% North Portland
11% Homeless
8% SW Portland
3% Not Given
2% NW Portland

The Leverage Fund

In December 2004, the Children’s Investment Fund Allocation Committee voted to set aside \$3 million over three years to create a Leverage Fund. The purpose of the Leverage Fund is to match public investments in early childhood, after-school, mentoring and child abuse programs with private investments. The Children’s Investment Fund seeks to match its investments at least dollar for dollar with private funds. These public/private partnerships maximize community impact and make more resources available to Portland’s children.

The Children’s Investment Fund made its first leverage fund investment in partnership with the Schnitzer Care Foundation. The Schnitzer Care Foundation has agreed to provide \$375,000 toward the building of a new Boys & Girls Club in North Portland at the New Columbia housing site. The Children’s Investment Fund will provide \$375,000 over three years toward providing Nightscape Teen program services at existing clubs, and at the new club after construction is completed. The Nightscape Teen program provides constructive activities for teenagers during evening and weekend hours including leadership training, community service and career counseling.

Grantees: Stretching Every Dollar

Many organizations receiving support from the Children’s Investment Fund have maximized their investments by securing additional funding from other sources to expand their capacity to serve Portland’s children. Some examples include:

\$1.3 million	Mount Hood Community College
\$500,000	Janus Youth Programs
\$100,000	LifeWorks NW
\$100,000	Children’s Relief Nursery
\$90,000	Immigration Refugee Community Organization
\$50,000	Morrison Child and Family Services
\$50,000	Salvation Army
\$25,000	Campfire USA Portland Metro Council
\$22,000	Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Portland
\$7,000	Native American Youth Association

Ongoing Need

23% of Portland children live in extreme poverty.

Every \$1 invested in early childhood services can save taxpayers \$7 in long-term social costs.

1 in every 5 babies in Multnomah County is born to a high school dropout.

45% of students in Portland Public Schools are eligible for free or reduced price lunch.

Portland Police review about 1,000 child abuse and neglect cases each month.

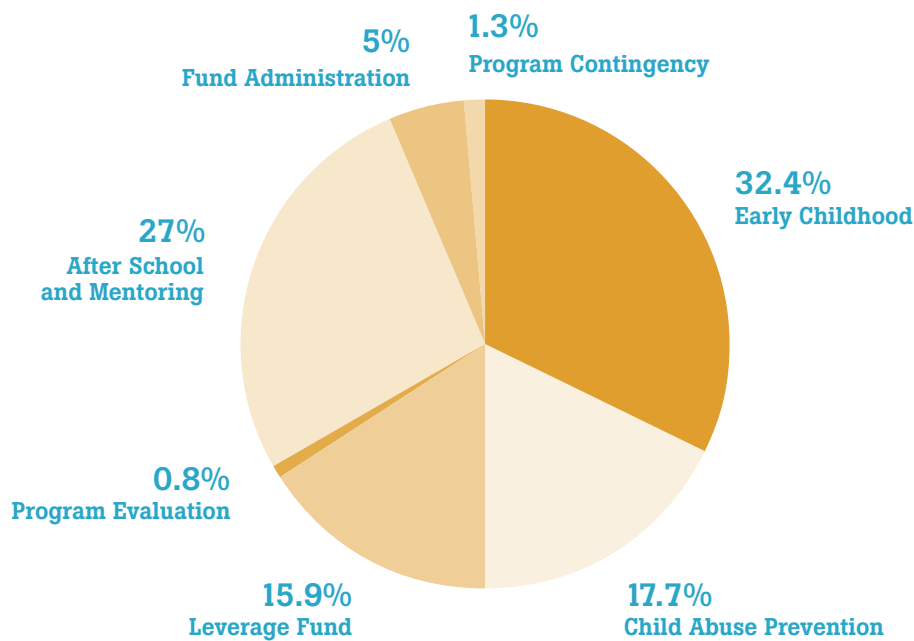
More than 3,000 children in Multnomah County are in foster care.

60–70% of students in East Portland school districts are eligible for free or reduced price lunch.

THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The Children's Investment Fund is subject to annual audits. The Fund's administrative expenses cannot exceed 5 percent of revenues so 95 cents of every dollar is invested in programs serving children. The most recent audit completed in September 2004 by independent auditor McDonald Jacobs, PC found that administrative expenses were less than 5 percent of revenues and were necessary and proper; and all grant disbursements were properly documented and in accordance with approved program budgets.

Portland Children's Investment Fund Allocations: JULY 1, 2003 to JUNE 30, 2005



REVENUES	
Revenues Received through 6/30/2005 (property tax and interest earnings)	\$18,848,381.13
INVESTMENTS AND COMMITMENTS	
Program Investments	
Early Childhood	\$ 6,108,158.88
Child Abuse Prevention & Intervention	3,328,245.25
After School & Mentoring	5,081,685.00
Leverage Fund	3,000,000.00
Program Evaluation	150,000.00
Fund Administration	942,419.00
Contingency	237,873.00
TOTAL	\$18,848,381.13

Portland Children's Investment Fund Allocation Committee

A five-member Allocation Committee oversees the Children's Investment Fund and meets regularly to make 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.



Dan Saltzman



Lisa Naito



David W. Willis



Clara Padilla Andrews



Ron Beltz

Dan Saltzman

Portland City Commissioner and Allocation Committee Chair

Commissioner Saltzman served as the architect and major champion for the Portland Children's Initiative, which in 2002 successfully created the Portland Children's Investment Fund. He is currently serving his second four-year term as Portland City Commissioner. In addition to overseeing the Portland Children's Investment Fund, his responsibilities include management of the Bureau of Parks and Recreation, the Office of Sustainable Development and the Bureau of Cable and Franchise Management.

Lisa Naito

Multnomah County Commissioner

Commissioner Naito was sworn in as Multnomah County Commissioner in June 1998 representing the Third District, which encompasses much of southeast Portland. She won re-election to a second full term beginning in January 2005. She chairs the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council and is a member of the Metro Policy Advisory Committee.

David W. Willis

M.D., Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrician

Dr. Willis is the city-appointed representative and is a developmental-behavioral pediatrician in private practice with over 25 years experience in assessment and management of young children's emotional, behavioral and developmental difficulties. He is director and co-founder of the Northwest Early Childhood Institute – a regional multi-disciplinary professional organization that promotes healthy mind and brain development of our youngest infants and children.

Clara Padilla Andrews

El Hispanic News Owner and Publisher

Ms. Padilla Andrews is the county-appointed representative and the owner and publisher of El Hispanic News, the Nation's No. 1 Bilingual Weekly. She has been a long-time advocate of promoting women and minority-owned businesses and previously served as New Mexico's Secretary of State from 1983 to 1986. She has been actively involved in the community during her entire life and has hosted many local and national conferences.

Ron Beltz

Louis Dreyfus Property Group Vice President

Mr. Beltz is the Portland Business Alliance representative and is vice president of Louis Dreyfus Property Group's holdings in Portland, overseeing property management, leasing, financing, marketing, tenant improvement, construction, acquisitions, dispositions and structuring and managing real estate projects. Previously, he was an executive vice president with Ted Durant & Associates and an assistant to the Speaker of the House in the Oregon House of Representatives.

ROLL CALL

Early Childhood

Albertina-Kerr Center
Albina Early Head Start
Child Care Improvement Project
Cascade AIDS Project
Friendly House Preschool
Housing Authority of Portland
Immigration & 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

After School

The Boys and Girls Aid Society
Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Portland
Camp Fire USA Portland Metro Council
Chess for Success
Community Cycling Center
Ethos Inc.
Girls Inc. of Northwest Oregon
Immigration & Refugee Community Organization
LifeWorks NW
Native American Youth Association
Open Meadow
Oregon Health Career Center
Portland House of Umoja
Portland Impact
Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center
Portland Public Schools/SUN Program
Self Enhancement, Inc.
Tears of Joy Theatre

Mentoring

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Portland
The Boys and Girls Aid Society
The Bridge Builders
Friends of the Children
Metropolitan Family Services
Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement
Portland Impact
REAP
SMART
Trillium Family Services
Urban League of Portland

Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Portland
Catholic Charities/El Programa Hispano
Children's Relief Nursery
Christie School/Mult. Co. 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



A special thank you to photographer Michael McDermott.

A large orange area at the bottom of the page, containing several horizontal dotted lines for writing.

Portland Children's Investment Fund

319 SW Washington Ave Ste 310

Portland, Oregon 97204

503-823-2936 Phone

503-823-2979 Fax

www.ChildrensInvestmentFund.org



**portland children's
investment fund**



 **PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.**