TOGETHER!

Annual Report 2021-2022

MISSION

TOGETHER! is on a mission to advance the health and wellbeing of all young people.

VISION

We envision a world where all young people are supported, healthy, safe and valued.

CORE VALUES

Equity: All people deserve social, health and educational equity.

Community: We partner with families, schools, and the community to collaboratively address root causes to community problems.

Systems Change: We lead and support change across sectors to serve the needs of the whole child.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and TOGETHER! Community,

In each of our nearly 35 years, TOGETHER! faces new challenges with the help of community. In 2021, TOGETHER! lost our Board Member José S. Gutierrez, Jr. to COVID-19. José was a highly respected leader and educator, and a Board Member since 2016. Then in 2022 TOGETHER! celebrated a transition of a different kind: the retirement of our 26-year Finance Director, Jenifer Morgan, whose incredible legacy of strong financial management lives on!

As we come through 2022 and into 2023, the TOGETHER! team is excited to continue deepening our connections to community because we know that this work can only be done in deep partnership and solidarity. As I walk the halls of our offices, I am heartened to see our team members continuing to laugh, talk, brainstorm, and interact with one another. Most importantly, I hear the sounds of an organization that is very much alive.

In 2022 TOGETHER! officially began housing students through our new Host Homes program! These are teens who are embedded in their communities and engaged in school, but for a range of reasons are unable to live with a parent. If you haven't heard about Host Homes yet, reach out; we'd would love to tell you more about it.

In 2022 we also began recording our Thrive TOGETHER: Building Community As an Act of Resistance podcast to help tell the stories of our work, and highlight our values of community, equity, and systems change. Throughout recording, we learned a lot. Check it out at watogether.org/thrive or wherever you get your podcasts.

In Solidarity,

Meagan Darrow (she/her)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-22

- Angela Jefferson
- Jose S. Gutierrez, Jr. (deceased)
- Katherine Flynn, President
- Lauren Clinton, Treasurer-Secretary
- Massiel Aspron, Psy.D.
- Nicolette Slaughter
- Nicole Colgan, Vice President
- Raul Rodriguez, Jr.

CLUB HOUSE

A student in 1st grade approached me and said 'I need you to call my mom because we are going to be homeless soon. If you can pay the rent for this month, we can stay in the house for the holidays.' When speaking with the parent, at first the mother said they didn't need help, but the next day she reached back out. They are a working family with kids but with inflation, couldn't catch a break. TOGETHER! helped the family stay in the house for the holidays, covering rent and energy bill.

-Paulette (Club House Family Liaison)

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

When a family with a special needs child had continuous auto issues, and was unable to use public transit, two local auto shops stepped up to help with expensive repairs. Then, Olympia Firefighters Foundation paid for new tires. Because of this the family has been able to visit Hands On Children's Museum and Boston Harbor to see the beach. The mother said it was amazing to see her children happy and they had an amazing summer thanks to our community's support!

– Courtney (Community Schools Manager)

THRIVE TOGETHER!

Learn more about our Thrive TOGETHER!: *Building Community as an Act of Resistance* podcast and watch/listen at watogether.org/thrive or wherever you get your podcasts.

OVER 750
students & families directly case managed across sites

1 revolving Swift Fund created for donors to give $ for direct student & family support

130
pairs of brand-new shoes and coats distributed to students in Tumwater & North Thurston districts

>50
partners engaged in meeting student & family needs

1 NEW PROGRAM
Host Homes program officially launched & first students housed

OVER 70
families safely housed (99% still housed)

Began recording
1 NEW PODCAST
Thrive TOGETHER!: Building Community as an Act of Resistance

236
youth and family members served by Club House

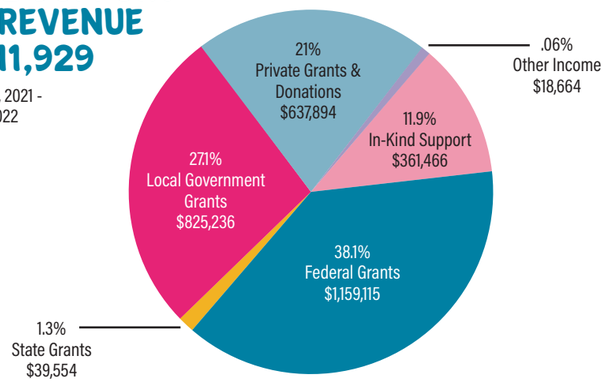
233
days of Club House before & after school and summer programming

20
schools served by Club House and Community Schools Case Management and student and family supports

$125,000+ in funds leveraged by TOGETHER! & partners to immediately meet student & family needs

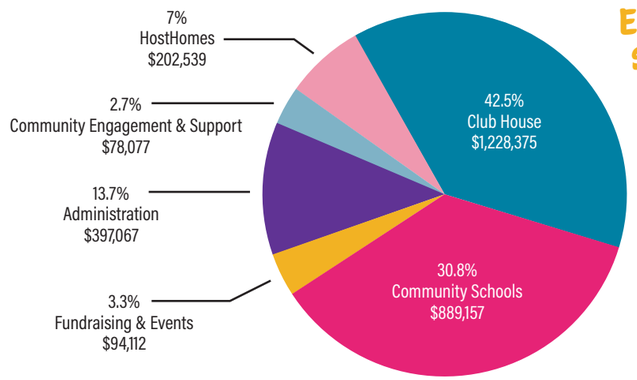
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE $3,041,929

September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022



TOTAL EXPENSES $2,889,327

September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022



FISCALLY SPONSORED PROGRAMS – WE'RE PROUD TO SUPPORT

i. **Expanding Your Horizons Thurston County is a Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math (STEAM)** Conference at South Puget Sound Community College for Thurston County area Female Identified & Gender Non-Conforming Individuals in grades 6, 7 & 8.

ii. **Discovering Opportunities in Technology for Kids (DOT4Kids),** a youth-run program exposing kids from all backgrounds to careers in STEAM through free youth-led courses.

LISTEN TO LOST CAT SONG CREATED BY CLUB HOUSE STUDENTS

Go to tinyurl.com/25czcy98 or scan with a QR reader app

1520 Irving Street SW Ste. A
Tumwater WA 98512
www.WaTOGETHER.org
360.493.2230

SAVE THE DATE

TOGETHER! Fore Kids Golf Tournament
Thursday August 24, 2023

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

For info on additional events throughout the year,
visit watogether.org/What-We-Do/Events