



584

children under the age of five



491

unique families served



1,194

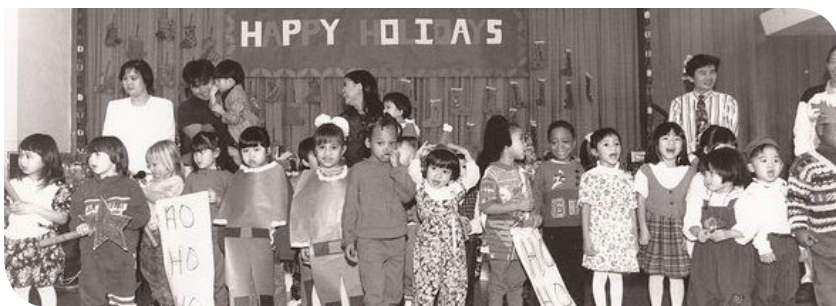
referrals made

72%

immigrants  
and refugees

23

languages  
spoken



## Dear Friends of DLEC,

2018 marked Denise Louie's 40th anniversary as an organization. We were founded in response to the unmet needs of Asian immigrant workers in Seattle's International District. As Seattle's immigrant community has grown, DLEC has evolved to meet these changing needs, while continuing to provide high-quality, multicultural family services to all that need them. We would not be able to commemorate these past four decades without recognizing the hard work of our staff and the generosity of our donors. I am grateful for their commitment to our mission and longevity!

During the 2017-18 program year, our organization reached 584 children under the age of 5, and 491 individual families. We reached our goals that 85% of our preschoolers were prepared for kindergarten; 90% of our infants and toddlers improved or maintained their developmental progress in four out of five domains that indicate school readiness; and 80% of caregivers reported that our Play & Learn groups gave them a better understanding of their role in preparing their child for kindergarten.

In addition to providing much-needed early learning services this past year, we have been preparing to open the doors of our new site, Mercy Magnuson Early Learning Center, in fall of 2019. Our new site will expand to north Seattle while serving an additional 300 children and their families every year. DLEC has thrived because of our steadfast commitment to meeting our community's ever-changing needs. The Mercy Magnuson Early Learning Center is a testament to this commitment.

After 40 years, our work to close the opportunity gap for Washington's children is more critical than ever before. We are proud to stand by our families, and look forward to expanding our reach to new ones in the next year. Thank you again for your commitment to our organization's and families' successes. We look forward to your support over the next 40 years!

Sincerely,



Susan Yang  
Executive Director

谢谢 **Salamat**  
Galatoomi **Nuwari**  
धन्यवाद  
謝謝 **THANK YOU**  
Yekeniyeley  
MAHADSANID **شکرا** 唔該  
**Cảm ơn bạn** **Gracias**

# 2017-2018 Program Budget

## FY18 Audited Revenue

Head Start	\$ 1,717,177
Early Head Start	\$ 1,382,210
Other Govt Grants	\$896,862
Fundraising & Grants	\$566,725
Capital Campaign Contributions	\$10,000
United Way	\$214,401
Tuition & Fees	\$181,828
Investments & Other	\$481
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,969,684</b>

## FY18 Audited Expenses

Educational & Program Services	\$4,547,695
Management & General	\$495,640
Fundraising	\$181,631
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,224,966</b>

## FY19 Budgeted Revenue

Head Start	\$1,717,177
Early Head Start	\$1,382,210
Other Govt Grants	\$885,272
Fundraising & Grants	\$311,000
United Way	\$213,148
Tuition & Fees	\$203,546
Investments & Other	\$6,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,718,353</b>

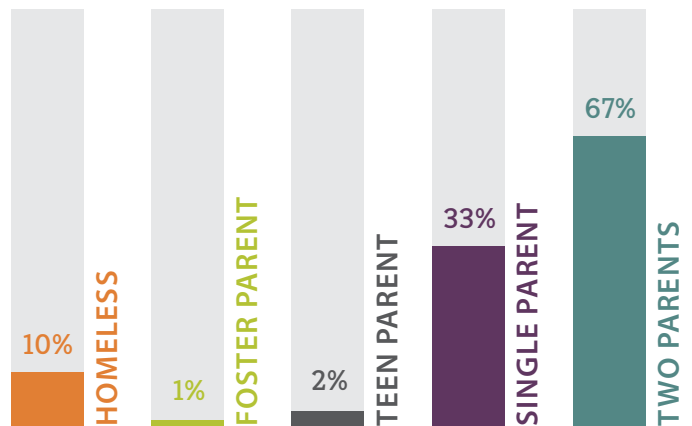
## FY19 Budgeted Expenses

Educational & Program Services	\$4,320,856
Management & General	\$484,048
Fundraising	\$200,272
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,005,176</b>

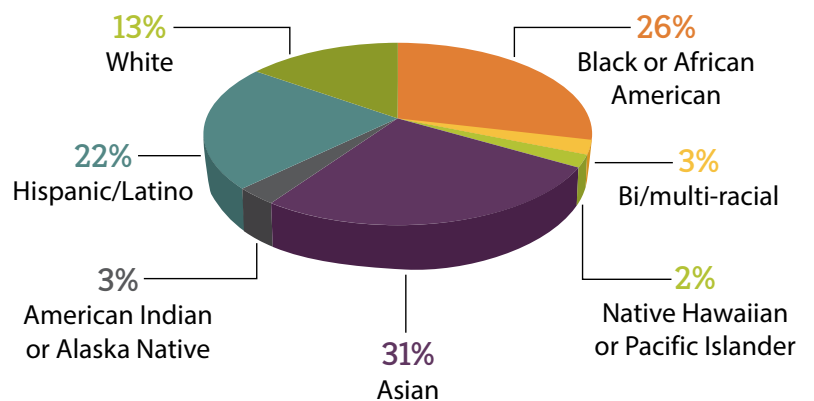


## Our Community

### Welcoming of All Households



## Embracing Diversity





## Our Children

### Ensuring a Successful Start

Early Head Start (EHS) provides low-income families with children ages birth to three or who are pregnant with services to prepare their child for success. These services include weekly 90-minute home visits to provide caregivers with early learning activities, parent support, and health services in their home languages; bi-monthly socialization events to bring together caregivers to learn about topics they choose, from financial planning to health education; and early intervention through regular assessments of children's development milestones to identify special needs and provide resources as early as possible.

- **85** infants, **110** toddlers, **12** pregnant mothers
- **>90%** of EHS children improved or maintained progress in four out of five developmental domains that indicate school readiness

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**Of the 28 children** who aged out of EHS, **23** entered a Head Start program and **3** entered another early childhood program.

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### Preparing Kids for Kindergarten

Our Head Start (HS) preschool program serves predominately immigrant and refugee families whose children are between ages three and five, and have an income under \$25,100 for a family of four. Priority for enrollment into the program is given to children in foster care, homeless families, and children with special needs.

- **3** preschool centers
- **174** children served throughout the program year
- **5.8%** of Head Start eligible children in Seattle were served by DLEC
- **99%** received dental, hearing, vision and/or physical exams
- **85%** of preschoolers met or exceeded expectations and were prepared to enter kindergarten

## From Early Learners to Top Readers

This year, 77 families and 86 children from our EHS program participated in our annual Read-a-Thon, a three-month literacy event to support learning experiences at home. Parents and caregivers received training on interactive reading practices, such as describing illustrations and asking open-ended questions to their little readers. We distributed 139 books in nine different languages for our families, and our 86 children recorded a total of 59,304 minutes reading during our Read-a-Thon. With the help of parents and caregivers, our top three readers Chloe (27 months), Daniel (39 months), and Biruk and Mia (16 and 24 months) submitted a total of 15,690 reading minutes—an average of nearly 44 minutes a day!







## The Deng Family: From DLEC Preschool to the University of Washington!

When Yan moved to the United States from China, her son, Jia Hao, was only one year old. As Yan didn't speak any English, the cultural and language barriers made for a difficult transition. Fortunately, Yan was able to enroll Jia Hao at Denise Louie's Beacon Hill preschool site, having learned about DLEC through the community. While her son attended preschool, Yan took English classes and volunteered her time to serve as a member of DLEC's Policy Council Member, providing feedback and guidance on the direction the organization was headed, as well as participated in hiring decisions. When Jia Hao entered grade school, Yan, who was then a teacher's assistant at DLEC, took the opportunity to also go back to school and earn a degree in Early Childhood Education. After graduating, she took on the role of Lead Teacher at our Beacon site. Yan has been a DLEC staff member for 14 years. Her son is now 19 years old and is currently in his first year as an engineering student at the University of Washington.

## Our Families

### Building Stronger Communities

Our family support and home visiting teams connect and educate parents on available resources ranging from housing and nutrition to immigration rights and healthcare. 1,194 referrals made for 288 families, including the following:

- **134** received emergency/crisis intervention to meet basic needs
- **86** received housing assistance
- **192** received adult education or English as a Second Language training
- **115** received job training
- **209** received health training
- **220** received parenting education
- **148** received mental health services
- **3** received child abuse or domestic violence support

### Engaging and Listening to Our Parents and Guardians



Last program year, Denise Louie hosted bi-monthly parent nights where families help choose topics and speakers to identify and support their most immediate needs, with topics ranging from financial literacy,

nutrition and special needs. Our preschool classrooms also have parent-teacher conferences and home visits throughout the year to facilitate more intimate dialogues on children's educational progress. We encourage families to help children with their homework, as well as to provide us with ongoing feedback and we welcome families to volunteer in classrooms.

Our Policy Council is integral to our programs' success and represents the families we serve. Every year, parent representatives are elected from both HS and EHS programs. Our parent-led Policy Council functions in partnership with our Board of Directors to approve policies, budgets, and hiring decisions, as well as provide program feedback.

- **24** parent nights
- **12** Policy Council meetings
- **10%** of staff is former program parents

# Our Commitment

## More Bonding: Circle of Security

Circle of Security is an eight-week, research-based intervention program designed to help parents understand child attachment patterns, increase their awareness of children's needs, and improve their responses to meet them. Each group focused on eight to ten parents, and was offered in English, Spanish and Mandarin.

- **22** families served through Circle of Security

## More Wellness: Health Care Institute Training

Health Care Institute (HCI) trainings empower staff and families to be the first and most important guardian of their children's health. HCI focuses on coping with common childhood illnesses through tips, a health book and various tools to help keep the doctor away all year long.

- **38** families participated in HCI trainings
- **94%** of participants reported using what they learned in HCI trainings at home

## More Caregiver Support: Kaleidoscope Play and Learn

For eight years, Denise Louie has partnered with the Seattle Public Library (SPL) and Child Care Resources to offer Kaleidoscope Play and Learn—a free, drop-in program designed to create a safe, culturally diverse environment for caregivers and young children to learn and explore together. Current facilitators speak English, Spanish, Amharic, German, Cantonese and American Sign Language.

- **129** 90-minute Play & Learn sessions held last year at three SPL branches (Columbia City, Lake City, and Rainier Beach)
- **92** unique families served throughout the year
- **80%** of caregivers reported that Play and Learn gave them a better understanding of their role preparing their child for kindergarten
- **65%** participating households came from very low- to moderate-income households



## Coming Soon: Mercy Magnuson Early Learning Center

In 2018, DLEC completed a \$4.3 million capital campaign for our newest site: Mercy Magnuson Early Learning Center, set to open in fall of 2019. The Center will allow DLEC to reach an additional 300 children and their caregivers in an area of north Seattle where nearby public schools had reported an increasing number of children qualifying for free and reduced lunches. Located next to Solid Ground's Sand Point Housing campus, which provides transitional and permanent housing, DLEC will be able to provide more services to families who need it most with the help of our community partners. The Center is part of a larger redevelopment project led by Mercy Housing Northwest that will provide access of health care, affordable housing and early learning services to vulnerable families. The Mercy Magnuson Early Learning Center will offer preschool, infant and toddler classrooms, as well as rooms for socialization, therapy, music, art, gross motor skills and administrative offices. For more information, please visit [www.thefirstyears.org](http://www.thefirstyears.org).

# Our Donors

We are incredibly thankful for all of our donors' generous support last year. Their contributions have helped to create more opportunities for and to ensure the success of the children and families we serve every day!

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## Our Volunteers

Thank you to our 105 volunteers for donating their time and energy to the families and children we serve! Your 6,387 hours of service in our classrooms and at our events have made an immeasurable impact on the lives of the people we serve. Thank you for believing in our mission of educating and empowering Denise Louie children and their families!

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**MISSION:** Denise Louie Education Center promotes school and life readiness by providing multi-cultural early learning services to children and families, especially those who need our services the most. We will respect and preserve each child and family's individuality, cultural heritage, and home language. We will promote personal and social responsibility with integrity and love in an environment defined by social justice and peace.



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## Locations

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Fax (206) 767-2919

### Beacon Hill

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*\*Opening fall of 2019!\**