

568

children under the age of five



1,119

children and caregivers served



> 65%

families speak a different
language at home



28

different languages spoken



Dear Friends of Denise Louie Education Center,

Approaching the end of 2023, my daily reflections remind me that we are all part of this organization because children remain our greatest hope for future peace and prosperity in our community. This year, we joyfully embraced our preschool children who are the first classes of kiddos born during the global pandemic. Navigating a distinctive reality, these young learners find steadfast support from our exceptional staff, who consistently rise to the occasion, addressing their social-emotional needs to ensure they are not only prepared to learn but also thrive both now and in the future. Words fall short in expressing the gratitude I feel for their dedication.

Looking ahead to 2024, our central goal is to enhance the compensation for our devoted staff, empowering them to continue nurturing the sense of belonging for our children and families within our ever-evolving community. We aspire to achieve this with a resolute dedication to infusing joy and laughter, aiming to contribute to the healing of our children.

Sincerely,



Susan Yang, Executive Director



Our Children

Ensuring a Successful Start

Early Head Start (EHS) provides low-income families and women 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 developmental milestones to identify special needs and provide resources as early as possible.

- 21 infants, 98 toddlers, 6 pregnant mothers
- 86% of EHS children improved or maintained 4 out of 6 developmental domains that indicate school readiness



Preparing Kids for Kindergarten

Our preschool program serves predominantly 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, families experiencing homelessness, and children with special needs.

- 4 preschool centers
- 234 children served throughout the program year

During the 2022-2023 program year, 79% of children enrolled in the Head Start program were up to date on the schedule of preventative and primary health care and 41% of the children were up-to-date on dental exams. The preventative health care numbers was higher by 5% than the year prior, reflecting a growing trend to go back to the doctors' office.

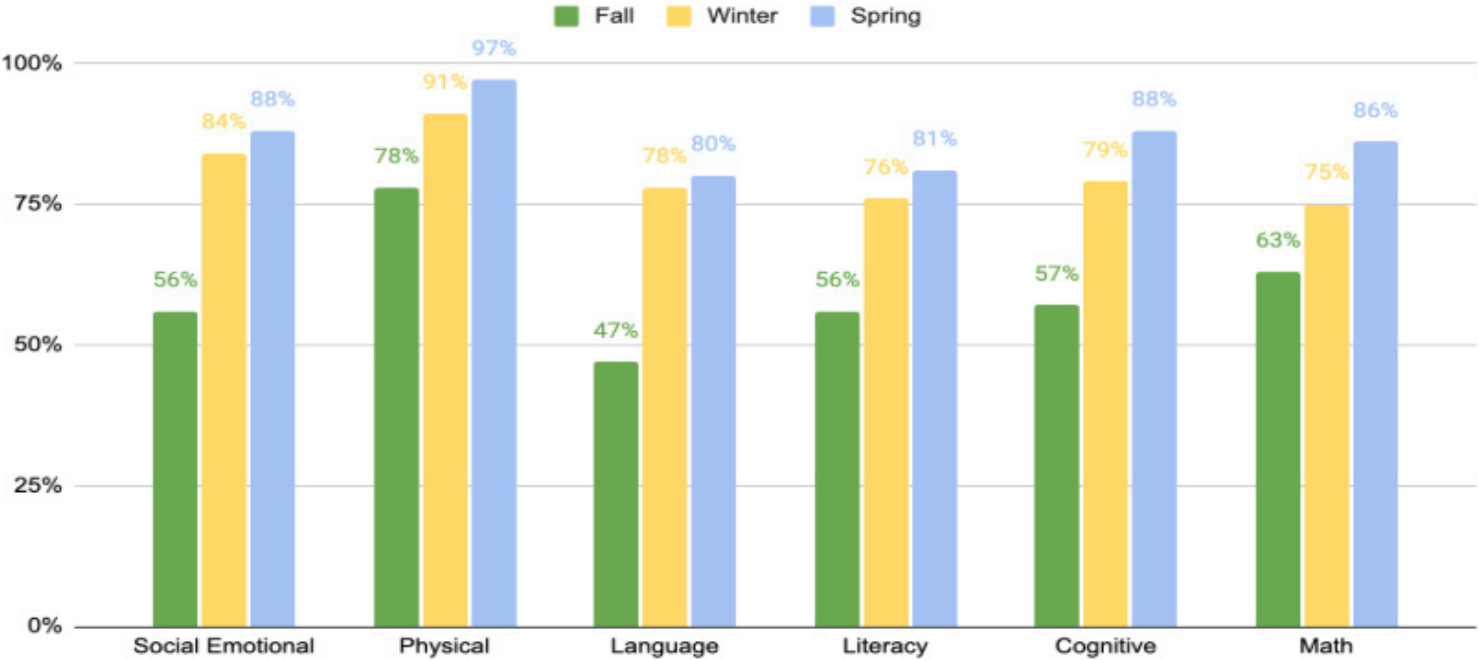


Efforts to Prepare Children for Kindergarten

Denise Louie Education Center works to ensure that all children are ready for school. With this in mind, and with the help of parents and teachers, we developed school readiness goals that are tailored to each program. Each school readiness goal was created using information from parents, teachers, and data collected through assessment and observation tools.

During the program year 2022-2023, our goal was that **85%** of children would meet kindergarten readiness targets in **4 of the 6 domains**. We met our goal of **85%** children meeting/exceeding in our school readiness goals by Spring in all domains except Language and Literacy. The data shows that we have met that goal in PY22-23 with **86%** of EHS children having improved or maintained **4 out of 6 developmental domains** that indicate school readiness.

% Students Meeting/Exceeding in TSG Domains



Key Takeaways from the Assessments Illustrated:

- The percentage of children meeting/exceeding in each TSG domain **increased** each quarter.
- Areas that did not quite meet our goal of 85% meeting or exceeding by Spring quarter were Language and Literacy.
- We are so proud of DLEC children for their growth in Social-Emotional and Math skills, since these are challenging areas around the state right now.

2022-2023 Program Budget

The program's operating budget includes Expenses for Educational and Program Services, as well as Management and General expenses. Education and Program Expenses include line items for instruction, such as teacher salaries and benefits, classroom supplies, and other teaching-related expenses; family engagement, which includes social service staff and support for parent activities and kindergarten transition; interventions, which include health, mental health, and nutrition; staff professional development, which includes training and technical assistance for staff and supervision and support expenses.

FY22-23 UNAUDITED REVENUE

Federal Funding	\$ 4,808,233
Other Govt Funding	\$ 2,291,872
Tuition and Fees	\$ 330,686
Fundraising & Other	\$ 1,694,270
Total	\$ 9,125,061

FY22-23 UNAUDITED EXPENSES

Educational & Program Services	\$ 7,619,147
Management & General	\$ 1,168,878
Fundraising	\$ 274,427
Total	\$ 9,062,452

FY23-24 BUDGET

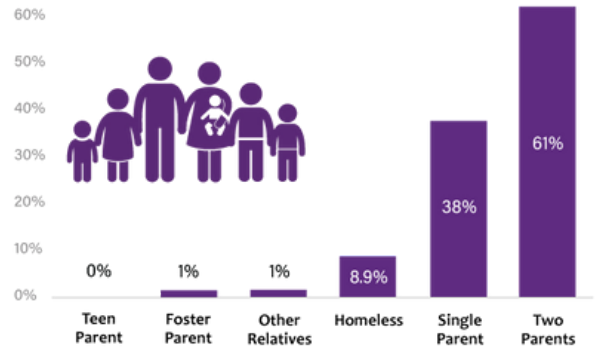
Federal Funding	\$ 4,542,858
Other Government Funding	\$ 2,139,943
Tuition & Fees	\$ 949,850
Fundraising & Other	\$ 570,000
Total	\$ 8,202,651

FY23-24 EXPENSES

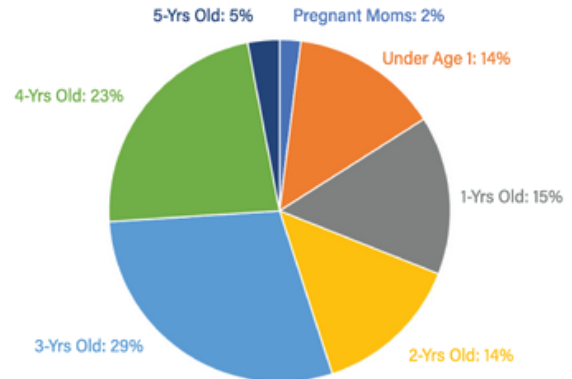
Educational & Program Services	\$ 6,930,906
Management & General	\$ 1,063,292
Fundraising	\$ 249,638
Total	\$ 8,243,836

Our Community

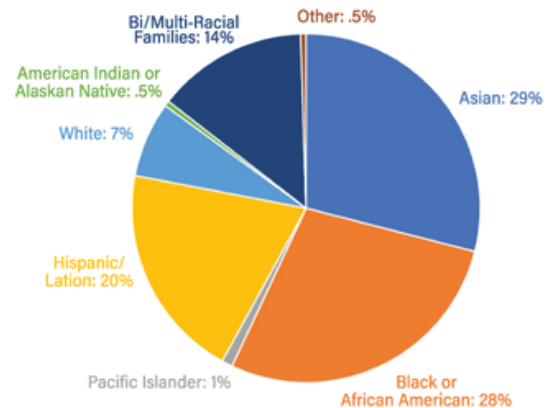
HOUSEHOLD



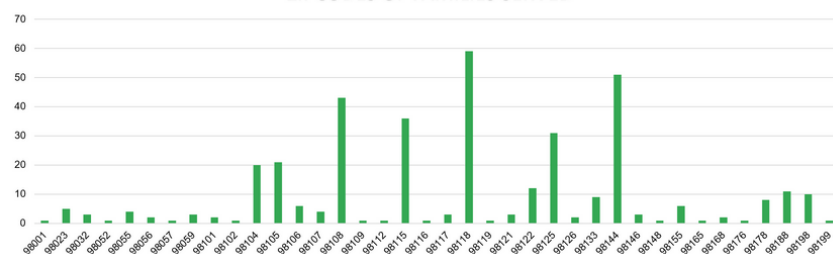
FAMILIES SERVED



DEMOGRAPHICS



ZIPCODES OF FAMILIES SERVED



Our Commitment to Our Families

Engaging and Listening to Our Parents & Guardians

Last program year, Denise Louie hosted 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.

Our family support and home visiting teams connect and educate parents on available resources from housing and nutrition to immigrant rights.

Parent Training			
Date	Training	Parents Attended	Fathers Attended
August 23, 2022	Health Orientation	50	10
October 18, 2022	Conscious Discipline	28	4
October 24, 2022	Social Emotional Parent Night	17	1
November 8, 2022	Mental Health	24	4
December 13, 2022	Zeno Math	20	1
January 10, 2023	Kinderten Online Training & Kindergarten Readiness	42	4
February 14, 2023	Dental	34	1
March 14, 2023	Early Intervention & Special Education	34	3
April 18, 2023	Finance Loan and Credit	25	4
May 9, 2023	Food Insecurity	14	1

Parent Committee		
Month	Parent Attended	Father attended
September	27	3
October	27	1
November	23	3
December	14	0
January	15	0
February	23	2
March	14	0
April	13	2
May	12	1
June	25	0

In our End of the Year survey, we asked our parents two questions: 'How have Parent-Teacher Conferences helped your understanding of your child's education?' and 'How has Mobility Mentoring with your FSS helped your family this year?'

- **76%** said they have gained confidence in their ability to help their child be prepared for kindergarten
- **62%** said they have a better understanding of the importance of their involvement in their child's education
- **50%** said they know better how to meet their family's needs
- **41%** said they have more resources and information they need to live a healthy lifestyle

Play and Learn Successes!

Supporting Caregivers: Kaleidoscope Play & Learn

Play & Learn is a program for parents and caregivers of young children to learn and explore together. This facilitated program is designed to support the development of children's school readiness skills and to provide education and support for parents and caregivers. After providing remote and outdoor groups for nearly 2.5 years due to the pandemic, we safely transitioned back to onsite services in the Seattle Public Libraries in the fall of 2022.

Since that time, we have had **192** caregivers and **215** children join us for Play & Learn. As one of the first public programs to return to in-person services for the birth through 5 years age range, Play & Learn provided many children with their first opportunity to socialize with peers. Play & Learn groups are held weekly in the Lake City, Columbia, and Rainier Beach libraries.

Of surveyed participants,

- **88%** said the program increased their understanding of child development.
- **85%** said they were more likely to use community activities or services to help the child in their care learn and be healthy.
- **84%** said they felt more supported as a parent or caregiver in their community.
- **83%** reported an increase in understanding that children develop school-readiness skills when they play.
- **100%** of participants who completed the survey said they would recommend our program to others who care for young children.



Thank you to our Community Partners and Funders!



We've Been Busy This Year!

Yesler Terrace

Our Yesler Terrace Capital Project was completed in the summer of 2023, providing combined living, early learning, and community-based retail business space. Located within the 13th & Fir apartment building is our Yesler Terrace location, which started classes in the fall! Infant care, toddler care, and preschool classes are offered at Yesler Terrace.



Successful Partnership with PEPS



PEPS and DLEC have partnered since 2021 to offer Spanish and multilingual peer support groups to families in their home visitors program. Since 1983, PEPS has helped parents connect and grow as they begin their journey into parenthood. The PEPS experience strengthens families, increases family wellness, and prepares families to cope with life stresses by creating thriving parent peer-support groups. Their contributions have paved the way for a brighter and more inclusive future for early learning!

Sustainability Campaign

We are excited to launch a 5-year sustainability campaign to raise \$5 million, focusing on the workforce needed to support children and families. Committed to transforming lives, we seek to sustain our vital services of providing high-quality early education and family support. Funds raised will boost our Educator Compensation & Health & Wellness Initiatives, enhancing staff wellbeing and addressing cost of living and wage challenges. Join us in securing a bright future for every child and their family!



Our Annual Auction



We held our annual dinner and auction on June 3rd, 2023! The community joined us in celebrating our 45th anniversary and we are happy to report that together we raised over \$280,000! We were honored to have the University of Washington Tacoma Chancellor, Dr. Lange, a Head Start alumni, as our Guest Speaker. Dr. Lange talked about the importance of community and the need for early education.



Join us on 6/1/2024 at Museum of Flight for our 46th Dinner and Auction!

Our Donors

We are incredibly grateful for the generous support of our 2022–2023 donors. Throughout this challenging year, it has been an honor to be making a difference with you and our families. Thank you!

▲ D&A Sponsors ● Grantors ■ Donated over \$1000

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We have included all donors who made financial contributions between September 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. We appreciate all your support. If your name has been omitted or misspelled, please accept our sincere apology, and contact us at development@deniselouie.org or (206) 806-7389 so we can update our records.

Our Volunteers

Denise Louie Education Center sincerely thanks our **76** volunteers for their donating their time and energy to the families and children we serve! Your **5,202+** hours of service in our classrooms, office, 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's children and their families!

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Alyssa Black
Amanda Chen
Aofan Wang
Ashley Chicas
Awa Njie
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Victoria Jackson
Virginia Wanjiru
Vivian Song Maritz
Whitney White
Xiu Wen Li
Yong Guo
Yuanyuan Lei
Yueyuan Lei
Yuz Yuan
Zheng Zhang

MISSION: Denise Louie Education Center promotes school and life readiness by providing multicultural 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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Our children and families depend on your support. To make a donation please visit:

[Deniselouie.org/give/donate](https://deniselouie.org/give/donate)

VISION: Denise Louie Education Center's vision is to educate and empower children and families to reach their full potential so they can advocate for themselves, our communities, and the world.

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Seattle, WA 98144

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