

Photo by Loma Smith, Mentor

# 2025

*Adventure Awaits*

**FY 2023/2024  
Impact Report**

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## A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

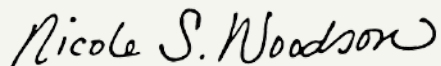
No child should ever feel alone.

Children thrive when they feel secure. Feeling cared for and supported helps children build confidence, self-esteem, and improve resiliency. Secure children are adventurous children, and research shows that adventurous children seek to learn new skills, are better problem solvers, fare better under adverse conditions, and are more likely to develop the social/emotional skills needed to be successful in school, co-curricular activities, and beyond. Adventurous children develop transferable skills which are used throughout a lifetime.

Circle of Friends continues to look for new and innovative ways to foster our children's sense of belonging by providing trained mentors and space for them to explore their interests, discover their talents, and find their spark. We support and encourage each child's sense of adventure, provide access to exploration, and encourage our children to reach their dreams.

Your support means that Circle of Friends can continue to serve our most vulnerable children each year through one-on-one mentoring, programming activities, transformative experiences, and connections to resources. Please enjoy this twelve month view of all we have accomplished. This coming year, Circle of Friends looks forward to the future, getting our children and youth out and more connected to all that Central Oregon has to offer.

We look forward to the new year where **Adventure Awaits!**



Nicole S. Woodson, Executive Director

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# JAN



## BY THE NUMBERS

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- Full time active Mentors: 30
- Fully enrolled youth: 39
- Partially enrolled youth: 9
- Number of hours served: 2,196
- Average time per week: 1.2 hrs

# FEB

Est. 2011



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**“My student absolutely  
LOVES the Circle of  
Friends program, and  
typically thrives on days  
when he knows he is going  
with his Mentor or is able to  
go to programming.”**

Sisters School District Teacher

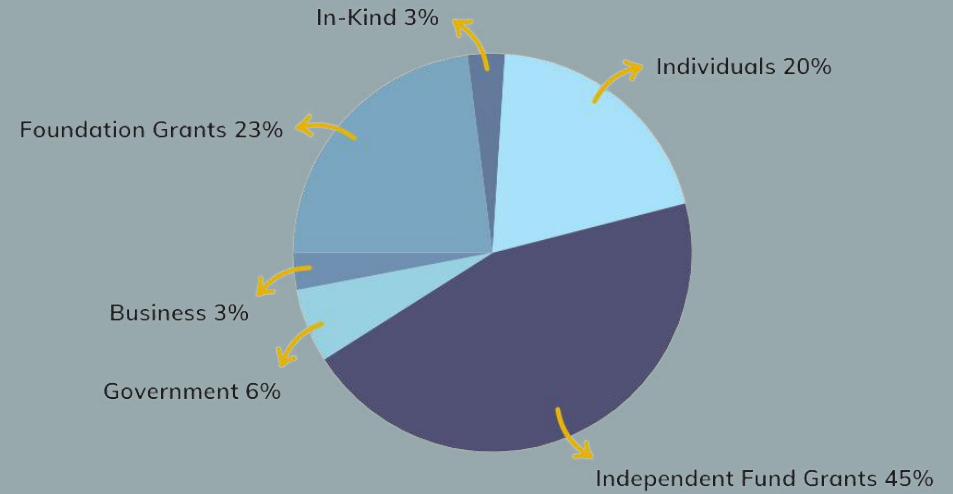
# MAR



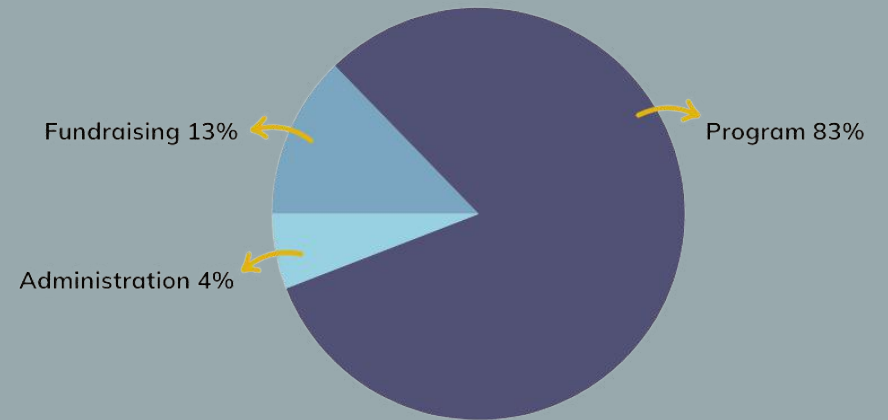
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## FY 2023-2024 OPERATION REVENUE



## FY 2023-2024 OPERATION EXPENSE







**“I am glad I am a part  
of Circle of Friends.  
Without it I would be  
a completely  
different person.  
I don’t know where  
or who I would be.”**

Circle of Friends Youth

**MAY**



# JUN

## FY 2023/2024 GROWTH

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- **10% More Mentors**
- **27% More children and youth served**
- **40% Increase in active volunteers**
- **12% Increase in Youth Program participation**
- **26% Increase in hours of one-on-one Mentoring**



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**“Teachers and students are very fortunate to have Circle of Friends as a resource. The work you do makes a dramatic impact on students and families, and I hope it’s able to continue to grow into the future!”**

Sisters School District Administrator

# JUL



# AUG

## **YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH IN OREGON**

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- **Oregon is the second-worst ranked state (49 out of 50) for youth mental health.**
- **25% of Oregon youth experienced at least one Major Depressive Episode (MDE) in the past year. Nearly half (45%) of them received no treatment, counseling, or medication.**
- **15% of Oregon youth had serious thoughts of suicide.**
- **12.5% of Oregon youth reported a substance use disorder in the past year.**

Source: Mental Health America



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# SEP

**“Circle of Friends has always served my child and family in any need we have. We are so blessed with this organization and staff.”**

Circle of Friends Parent





# OCT

## STATS FOR THE 97759 ZIP CODE

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- 17.2% of the population under-18
- 7.6% of youth live below the poverty line
- 3.1% of youth live in a home without internet access
- 1.1% of youth speak a language other than English at home
- 22% of families eligible for food stamps/SNAP benefits
- \$103,721 is the median annual family income (30% of families earn less than \$75,000/year)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



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# **SISTERS SCHOOL DISTRICT AT-A-GLANCE PROFILE (POST-COVID)**

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- **Total student enrollment = 1,165**
- **Students supported by Special Education department = 13%**
- **Students attending more than 90% of enrolled school days = 71% (OR avg = 62%)**
- **3rd graders meeting state language arts standards = 52% (OR avg = 40%)**
- **8th graders meeting state mathematics standards = 30% (OR avg = 26%)**
- **9th graders on track to graduate = 95% (OR avg = 84%)**
- **Students earning a diploma within 4 years = 90% (OR avg = 81%)**
- **Students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch = 18%**
- **Students are non-white = 17%**

Source: Oregon Department of Education

# NOV





## Circle of Friends Mission & Vision:

To provide Friends and resources that promote equal access and opportunity for Sisters' underserved children and youth to develop life skills, social skills, academic success, and individual talents.

Circle of Friends offers every Sisters' child or youth in need with trained mentors who provide consistent, long-term, meaningful relationships. Working collaboratively with Sisters School District, community service providers, and parents, Circle of Friends develops and implements inclusive plans and support systems for mentees. Circle of Friends works to provide children and youth with positive experiences and opportunities that contribute to their current and future success.

# DEC

*Thank You!*  
for your support



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**Please visit us at:**



**[www.circleoffriendsoregon.org](http://www.circleoffriendsoregon.org)**

**Photos provided by Mentors and staff**