Our Year in Profile

Investing in our future

portland children's levy

2018 COMMUNITY REPORT
Dear Portlander:

No doubt the past year has been a difficult one. Yet despite decisions being made at the national level, our community has responded with an outpouring of humanity, decency and compassion that has heartened our spirit and bolstered our resolve.

Rising to the challenge, organizations supported by the Portland Children’s Levy continue to reach out to disenfranchised and historically underserved families. They empower immigrants, refugees and minorities so children can overcome institutional barriers and experience the full promise and potential of our city, state and country.

Levy-supported programs are working everyday throughout Portland: youngsters arrive at kindergarten ready to succeed; after-school programs keep students safe and stimulated in engaging classes; children in foster care receive nurturing and attention from mentors and other caring adults; and more families have access to nutritious and healthy food.

We remain firm in our commitment to stand together: united in our belief in equity for all, and knowing that the Portland Children’s Levy continues to be a source of hope and opportunity for families.

Sincerely,

Dan Saltzman, Portland City Commissioner
Chair, Portland Children’s Levy Allocation Committee
dan@portlandoregon.gov

What if someone drew your profile and asked you to color it in showing who you are... your hopes and dreams, your favorite foods, your hobbies... what would it look like?

That’s the question the Portland Children’s Levy asked children and families this year when we visited six different programs we support.

The participants in our art project let us draw their profile and then colored it with images representing who they are – or who they hope to become.

They used imagination, creativity and some colored markers for their illustrations.

These colorful profiles reflect the empowering impact of PCL-funded programs.

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Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @pdxkidslevy
**PCL STRONGLY BELIEVES** in the inherent right of all children having educational and economic opportunities to thrive and prosper.

**OUR GOALS**
- Prepare children for school
- Support their success in and out of the classroom
- Reduce racial and ethnic disparities in their well-being and school success

Knowing that historical and institutional barriers, economic instability and systemic racism are key factors that explain disparities in our community, PCL supports:
- Positive early development
- School engagement and academic achievement
- High school graduation
- Family safety and stability

**FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The Portland Children’s Levy is overseen by a five-member Allocation Committee that meets publicly to make funding decisions. It is composed of a Portland City Commissioner, a Multnomah County Commissioner and three citizen members appointed by the City, County and the Portland Business Alliance.

The Levy has annual audits by an independent firm with results published on our website at www.portlandchildrenslevy.org. An administrative cap of 5 percent means that proven Levy programs receive 95 cents of every dollar. City homeowners support the Levy through a property tax of about $60 a year for a home with an assessed value of $150,000.

**ALLOCATION COMMITTEE CURRENT MEMBERS**
- Dan Saltzman: Portland City Commissioner, Allocation Committee Chair
- Deborah Kafoury: Multnomah County Commission Chair
- Julie S. Young: Youth advocate and community volunteer
- Serena Stoudamire-Wesley: Early childhood advocate and community volunteer
- Mitch Hornecker: Principal, Modoc Consulting

**ETHNICITY**

- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander 1.2%
- Native-American/Alaskan 2.5%
- African American 3.8%
- Asian 6.6%
- Latinx/Hispanic 23.6%
- Multiracial 15.4%
- Multiracial 15.4%
- White 24.0%
- Not Given 6.9%

**PRIMARY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME**

- Vietnamese 2%
- Spanish 19.9%
- English 61.8%
- Not Given 6.9%

**PORTLAND NEIGHBORHOOD**

- East 45.3%
- North 13.2%
- Northeast 15%
- Not Given 4.7%
- Northwest .5%
- Central City 1%
- South 1.6%
- Southwest 3.1%
- Southeast 10.6%
- Other 5%

*These pie charts represent the majority of Levy-funded programs which annually serve 11,500 children. They do not include Hunger Relief services that annually provide food to nearly 16,000 children, 57 percent who were children of color; 45 percent who spoke a first language other than English; and 70 percent who resided in East Portland.*
Early childhood programs lead to better reasoning and language skills as well as healthy social and emotional development.

Latino Network
Offers weekly preschool groups for children and parents, focused on Latino families.

At Lent Elementary, parents and caregivers shared the strengths and skills their children have gained this year.

Keyla is smart and helpful and loves coming to school.

Dayani is independent and picks out her own clothes before she comes to school.

David cried when coming to school last year, but now he loves it and says he is a "big boy."

School has helped Celeste to be less shy.

Isabella is happy and she loves to smile.

Emanuel is a fast learner and knows letter sounds and can count to 10.

Tony likes trucks and to sing and hear stories.
A safe place for students to learn and have fun. Students gain self-esteem, confidence and leadership skills in a safe haven with caring adults who provide academic support and fun activities.

Girls Inc.
OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST
Offers after-school program for girls focused on youth development at Portland schools for students ages 8-14.

Arleta Elementary students filled their profiles with drawings of their favorite rock bands, sports, hobbies and food. They have big dreams for their future.

Jangie: I like to draw and sing. I want to be a marine biologist. I really like the ocean.

Kierstin: I want to go to a good college and become a surgeon or a teacher.

Camaryn: I like BTS, which is Korean pop music.

Olivia: I am always writing. I like to read and make games.

Kaela: I want to be a teacher.

Mesa: I like swimming and I like playing the piano.

Mesa: I love animals. I like sculpting. I want to be a dentist and help people have great smiles.

Audrey: I like to read and write and play with my brother and sister.

Samantha: Everyone of us is different, but you can still be friends.

Hayley: I can be sassy and I can be nice. I stand up for other kids.

Avery: I like to play softball and basketball.

Kiera: I love BTS, which is Korean pop music.

Mesa: I like swimming and I like playing the piano.

Jangie: I like to draw and sing. I want to be a marine biologist. I really like the ocean.

Pearl: I like animals. I like sculpting. I want to be a dentist and help people have great smiles.

Samuel: I am always writing. I like to read and make games.

Kierstin: I want to go to a good college and become a surgeon or a teacher.

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Provides in-home and classroom parenting education and support focusing on African American families. As they colored their profiles, students talked about hopes and dreams for their children and their goals to be empowered and involved parents.

**POIC+RAHS**

Empowering the development of strong families. Children thrive when parents gain parenting skills and are supported in their role of parent.

**Lynn** (teacher): My hope for these students is that they would be nurturing, loving and compassionate parents.

**Shaleyah**: I want to be the best mom that I can be.

**Alashe’**: I want to be a good mom and always try my best and to never give up.

**Xavier**: I want to own my own business.

**Austen**: I want to be a successful young black male and a great father and a great leader.

**Fabiola**: I’m going to college to become a nurse.
MENTORING PROGRAMS
One-to-one help to support academic and social skills.

Positive, caring, consistent adult role models support students' engagement in school and help them realize their academic and life goals.

IRCO
IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION
Offers community-based mentoring program for high school immigrant and refugee youth.
High school students in the Refugee and Immigrant Mentoring program illustrated what they enjoy about their new lives in Portland. They plan to go away to college with many wanting to return to Portland to make a difference in their community.

Faisal: I want to be a policeman to help kids and their families when they have problems. Somalia

Somali: I want to be an engineer to change the world for the positive. Nepal

Abdinasir: I want to be either a motivational speaker or a policeman. We don’t have as many Somali cops as we need. Somalia

Eid: I like computers. Ethiopia

Sevak: I want to be an engineer to change the world for the positive. Nepal

Hassan: I want to be a policeman so other Somalis can see me. Somalia

Kushal: I like airplanes and I want to figure out how to build a plane. Nepal

Abdinsur: I want to be either a motivational speaker or a policeman. We don’t have as many Somali cops as we need. Somalia

Kashal: I want to be a policeman to help kids and their families when they have problems. Somalia

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HUNGER RELIEF

Getting healthy and nutritious food to children and families. Children who have consistent and nutritious meals can concentrate on learning, have healthy growth and fewer behavioral problems.

Oregon Food Bank

Provides food for school-based pantries, produce distribution at summer food sites, nutrition education, and classes in cooking and budgeting for families. While their families shopped for fresh fruit and vegetables, grains, canned goods and dairy products at the Earl Boyles Elementary School food pantry, children focused on what makes them happy - now and in the future - as they colored in their profiles.

Lynda: I want to be an artist. I love to draw.

Paislee: I want to be a doctor. Sometimes I play doctor with my dad and I give him a checkup.

Lupita: I want to be a doctor. Sometimes I play doctor with my dad and I give him a checkup.

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Oregon Food Bank

Porsche: I want to be an artist. I love to draw.

Lynda: I like to help out and make people happy.

Enbao: I want to be a teacher because my teachers are nice.

Lupita: I want to be a doctor. Sometimes I play doctor with my dad and I give him a checkup.

Daisy Jane: I want to be a vet because I like to help animals.

Anais: I want to make cupcakes and I love unicorns.

Maria (parent): It makes me feel good to volunteer. It’s very positive to help our school community and be a model for my two daughters.

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Programs work with children and youth to strengthen academic and life skills and assure the presence of caring adults.

**FOSTER CARE**
Supporting the well-being and development of children and youth in foster care.

**Friends of the Children**
Provides intensive year-round, long-term mentoring services for children in foster care beginning in kindergarten and lasting through high school.

Professional mentors and the youth enjoy weekly time together which includes a variety of academic and enrichment activities such as having fun together coloring in their profiles at Friends’ Rockwood facility.

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**Program Youth:** I love my three dogs: Blue, Cocoa and Momita.

**Program Youth:** I want to be a cop. I like to play rescue.

**Program Youth:** I can be myself around her, no one judges me. I like how we mess around and tell jokes.

**Program Youth:** I love going back to youth. I feel that everyone in this world needs somebody.

**Program Mentor:** We have a lot of adventures together. She’s really compassionate, is independent and has a wonderful sense of humor.

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Thank you Portland!

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