

2022

# IMPACT REPORT

**Mission:**

To strengthen families through education, connection, play, & partnership

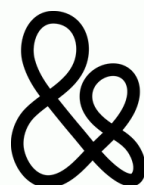
**Vision:**

To create a community where families feel supported, empowered, and inspired to learn and play together



Wow, what a year! We have had so much fun getting to spend time with children and their families in Missoula & Lake Counties. This year, we have tripled our team and grown our education base by 300%! We are proud of the professionals and local partners who make our work possible. We wouldn't have been able to achieve our exciting growth if it weren't for our board, staff, volunteers, donors, community and government leaders, and local families. I am grateful for communities around Western Montana and their support in strengthening families. Here's to another year of growth and impact.

-Hannah Zuraff, Executive Director



**FAMILIES FIRST**  
LEARNING LAB

**BECAUSE CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE, FAMILIES ARE OUR FOCUS.**



# CHILD ENRICHMENT

The more time kids spend playing with the fishing poles, whirlpool, and ball ramp, the happier they are. It is pretty cool to see parents, especially dads, play too.  
-Sydney, Child Enrichment Ambassador

**~1,380**

Visitors per week in the water room!

## KINDERGARTEN

### READINESS SUMMER CAMP

Summer camps work with children 4-6 years old to enhance their social and emotional skills in prep. for kindergarten!



**4** Camps offered

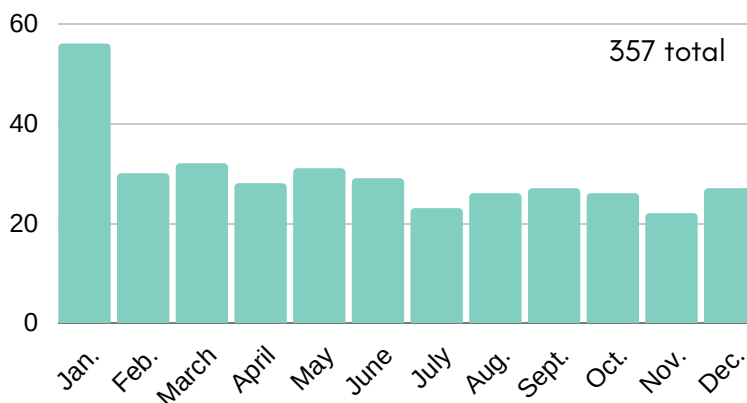
**36** 4-6 years old Campers

**13,537** FAIRY KITS DISTRIBUTED

**1,808** ART WITH A PURPOSE PARTICIPANTS

**240** COOKING CLASS PARTICIPANTS

## NUMBER OF EVENTS BY MONTH



## SUMMER EATING & READING PROGRAM

In partnership with the Missoula Food Bank and Community Center, we offered free lunches and books to children during the summer with special readings by guest readers.

**580+**

Books distributed to Missoula's neighborhoods which are most in need.



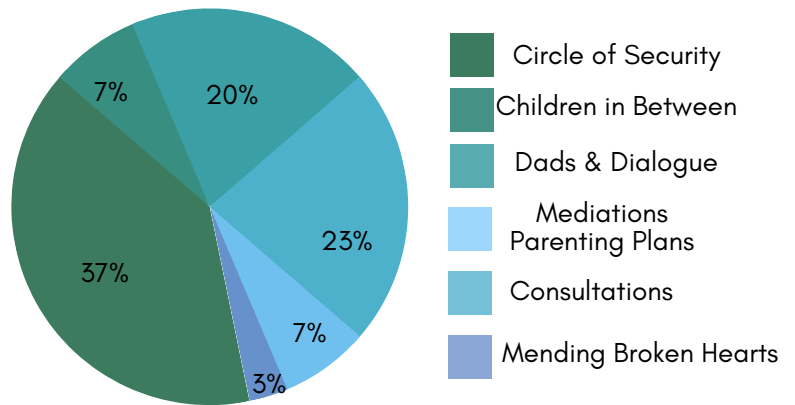


# FAMILY EDUCATION

In our Family Education programs, parents and guardians have the opportunity to network and exchange ideas and advice. All programs are free and open to the public with childcare provided, or have a reduced fee option. Our core curriculum emphasizes positive parenting, communication, and self-esteem in families.



## PROGRAM PARTICIPATION



“ ***Our Children in Between group was so open to sharing with one another and members were able to find similarities in each others' stories. The members felt validated and valued through sharing and the group process.*** - Amy Friedman, Parent Educator ”

**300%** Increase in fathers attending our Dads & Dialogue program

**66** Number of parents who have sought out 1:1 support on child development, parenting skills, divorce/ separation navigation, etc.

Mission Valley Advisory Council  
Recruitment Developed!  
Let us know if you are interested!

Funds raised for a localized part-time position to manage programs and partnerships

**\$16,225**

**61** Event attendees at our first annual Mission Valley Cornhole Tournament

- 1 exhibit utilized at Migrant Worker Cherry Harvest event with Rural Employment Opportunities
- 750 activity kits distributed to families through Fun and Fancy Free Learning Center, Headstart, community events, and parenting classes
- 3 exhibits loaned to Early Childhood Headstart in Mission

**978**  
**CHILDREN**  
**ENGAGED**

**45**  
participants in our  
Confederated  
Salish & Kootenai  
Tribes childcare  
workshops



# TEENS & COMMUNITY

## MONTANA HAPPINESS PROJECT

678

Happiness workshops  
taught to high school  
students

62

Attendees at the  
Happy Media  
series premier

470

Happiness presentation  
attendees located  
throughout the state



The Montana Happiness Project is dedicated to supporting mental health, promoting well-being, and reducing suicide rates through professional education, consultation, and supervision.

## NURTURING WELLNESS IN MONTANA AND BEYOND



**DREAMBIGGER**

100%

Participants reported a greater understanding  
about career paths and budgeting

With dream bigger, our vision is to create dynamic  
programs focused on making our communities stronger.  
We work across boundaries and stigmas to connect at-  
risk teens and young adults with a supportive network of  
mentors who are equally committed to their success.

\$3,500

Allocated for professional  
development awards

11

Graduates of the  
20-session teen program

25

Partners making the  
program successful



## SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR PROGRAM SUPPORTERS

ALPS  
DAILY'S MEATS  
ENVISION EYECARE  
JIFFY LUBE  
OTTO BREMER TRUST  
RHINO ROOFING  
RIVERSIDE CONTRACTING  
SAMPLE FOUNDATION  
SCHEELS

BLACKFOOT COMMUNICATIONS  
BILL & ROSEMARY GALLAGHER FOUNDATION  
BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF MONTANA  
DENNIS & PHYLLIS WASHINGTON FOUNDATION  
GIANFORTE FAMILY FOUNDATION  
HEADWATERS FOUNDATION  
JOHN & RITA SOMMERS-FLANAGAN  
LOUIS L. BORICK FOUNDATION  
TOWN PUMP CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

CLEARWATER CREDIT UNION  
ENTERPRISE CAR RENTAL  
FIRST INTERSTATE BANK  
FIRST SECURITY BANK  
KARL TYLER CHEVROLET  
MARY'S MOUNTAIN COOKIES  
MONTANA PEDIATRICS  
MURALT FAMILY FOUNDATION  
PARKSIDE CREDIT UNION