

FY24 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION

The mission of Horizons for Homeless Children is to improve the lives of young homeless children in Massachusetts and help their families succeed by providing high-quality early education, opportunities for play, and comprehensive family support services.

VISION

Every homeless child will have the opportunity to learn, play, and thrive.

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To read more about Horizons' initiatives and the work we're doing with children and families, visit our blog at horizonschildren.org/blog



Dear Friends of Horizons,

Thanks to the generosity of our community, Horizons for Homeless Children continues to provide high-quality early education, opportunities for play, and comprehensive family support services to the growing number of children and families experiencing homelessness in our community.

Your contributions have played an integral role in our ability to expand our programs and services. A few highlights of the impact you have made over the past year include:

Expanded our services:

- We served over 108,000 meals and healthy snacks to children in our early education center to account for 80% of their daily nutrition.
- Over 280 children accessed our early education center and benefited from a trauma-informed curriculum.
- We welcomed 74 newly enrolled children.
- More than 60 Playspaces throughout the state hosted over 2,200 child visits a month.
- We increased the number of Playspace volunteers by 33%, providing 52,000 hours of play to children living in shelters.
- Parents completed 447 goals in education, employment, family stability, well-being, and financial literacy through our new parent coaching framework known as Pathways to New Horizons.
- We provided critical thought leadership and strategic action in response to the evolving homelessness landscape, including the arrival of
 migrant families at temporary hotel-based shelters.
- In partnership with Boston Children's Museum, we developed and piloted the newly designed Powerful Playtime playgroups, a five-week hands-on parent and child playgroup emphasizing the importance of play for families living in shelter. Training and videos extended the reach of these playgroups statewide.

Expanded our knowledge:

- Our early education center launched Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) to support the development of social emotional capacity of children in our care.
- We increased our resources, language, and cultural capabilities to meet the growing population of Haitian families utilizing our services.
- We partnered with Neighborhood Villages and others to create a new learning curriculum for toddlers "Learning Through Exploration" to fill the gaps in Pre-K childcare and education.
- In a competitive employment market, we invested and created a new employee competency model to facilitate career growth and skill development for Horizons staff.
- Recognizing the retention of our staff is critical to the long-term health of Horizons, we improved our employee professional development program and updated the employee retirement savings plan, now based on tiered, non-elective employer contributions that reflect years of service.

Expanded our community:

- Partnering with the state to address family homelesssness, we hosted a roundtable discussion and press conference with city officials, advocates, and Horizons parents to discuss the local impact of new federal funds for emergency childcare for families experiencing homelessness in the City of Boston.
- We formed and celebrated a parent council to better provide Horizons' families a voice in decision-making on services and care.
- We developed a Horizons family engagement committee to help inform programming design, policies, and practices that lead to better participation and outcomes for families.
- We hosted Aprendemos Juntos, an event to highlight our work and introduce newcomers to our work with Latino families and staff.
- We grew our community online and enhanced our digital presence, including our website, to make it easier to navigate in multiple languages.

These highlights are just a glimpse of the tremendous difference your support has made in the lives of the children and families we serve.

With Gratitude,

Kate Barrand President & CEO

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Over the past fiscal year, Horizons made great strides in our work. Here are just a few highlights:

Early Education Centers



We continued our work on behalf of children experiencing homelessness in Boston by offering free, high quality, trauma-sensitive early education in the Edgerley Family Horizons Center, located in Roxbury, Massachusetts.

Family Partnerships Program



We partnered with Horizons' parents by using a strengths-based program to support and empower them as they build skills and strategically set goals for a sustainable future.

Playspace Program



We reached children and families all across Massachusetts by designing, building, and staffing playrooms called Playspaces in shelters, providing value to children, parents and volunteers.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Horizons for Homeless Children and Affiliate

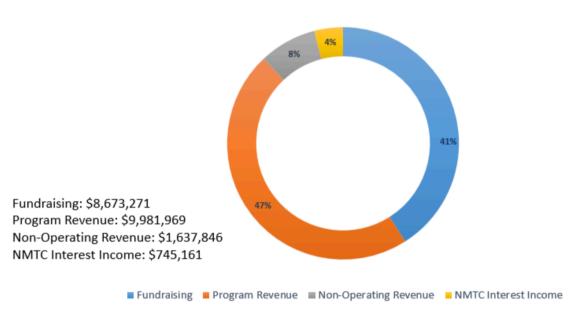
Combined Statements of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Revenues Program revenues:		Without Donor Restriction		With Donor Restriction			<u>Total</u>
Contracts, grants and vouchers	\$	9,823,276	\$	-	\$;	9,823,276
Donated professional services		158,693		-			158,693
Total program revenues	_	9,981,969			_		9,981,969
Fundraising revenues:							
Contributions		5,555,543		681,168			6,236,711
Capital campaign contributions		458,677		100,000			558,677
Special events		1,877,883		-			1,877,883
Net assets released from restrictions		997,122		(997,122)			-
Total fundraising revenues		8,889,225		(215,954)	_		8,673,271
Interest income on notes receivable		745,161		-	_		745,161
Total revenues		19,616,355	_	(215,954)	_		19,400,401
Expenses							
Program services:							
Early education centers		10,790,050		_			10,790,050
Playspace		1,207,612		_			1,207,612
Training and technical assistance		154,725		_			154,725
Evaluation		180,164		_			180,164
Policy and advocacy		188,487		-			188,487
Total program services	_	12,521,038	_				12,521,038
Supporting services:							
Fundraising		1,953,978		_			1,953,978
Marketing/communications		399,417		_			399,417
General and administrative		1,205,948		_			1,205,948
	_	_	-	_	-		_
Total supporting services	_	3,559,343	_		-	_	3,559,343
Total expenses	_	16,080,381	_		-		16,080,381
Changes in net assets from operations	_	3,535,974	_	(215,954)	-		3,320,020
Non-operating activity							
Rental income		100,363		_			100,363
Interest and dividends on investments		434,739		_			434,739
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments		1,102,744		_			1,102,744
	_	-,,	-	_	-		-,,
Total non-operating revenues	_	1,637,846	_	-			1,637,846
Changes in net assets	_	5,173,820	_	(215,954)			4,957,866
Net assets, beginning of year	_	41,600,539	_	1,692,059			43,292,598
Net assets, end of year	\$	46,774,359	\$	1,476,105		\$	48,250,464

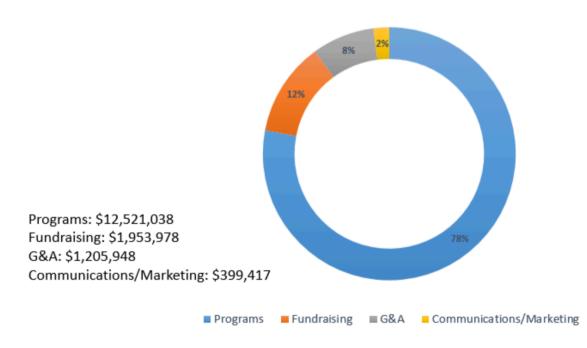
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023 assets

FY 24 Revenues: \$21,038,247



FY 24 Expenditures: \$16,080,381



HORIZONS' IMPACT

Last year, Horizons for Homeless Children had...



280

children access our early education center and benefit from a trauma-informed curriculum including 74 newly enrolled students



2,200

child visits per month to over 60 Playspaces statewide



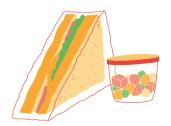
52,000

hours of play volunteers spent with young children experiencing homelessness



100%

of parents in our program completed goals in education, employment, family stability, well-being, and financial literacy



108,000

meals and healthy snacks served to children in our early education center to account for 80% of their daily nutrition

Key Moments of 2024



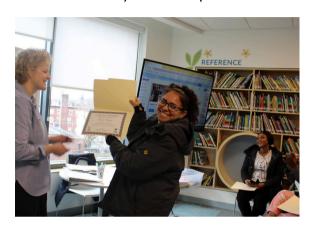
Federal Funds for Emergency Childcare

Horizons hosted a roundtable discussion and press conference with city officials, advocates, and Horizons parents to discuss the local impact of new federal funds for emergency childcare intended for families experiencing homelessness in the City of Boston.

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley was joined by Boston Mayor Michelle Wu to announce this funding that will supplement Horizons' budget and the work of seven other local early education providers.

Education Opportunities for Parents

Computer skills unlock career pathways, expand educational opportunities, and help families navigate online resources as they're working to improve their situation. This year we offered computer classes for parents - the curriculum covers basic computer skills, such as typing, using the internet, sending email, composing documents, and using a shared platform like Google Classroom. Each participant completes the course with a formatted resume and a Chromebook to take home to build on the basic skills they learned in the course.





Advocates warn the youngest kids in Mass. shelters need more support

In the state's shelter system as a whole, there are more than 10,000 children. State officials estimate that about half are too young for school, which means they may not get the services and enrichment that classrooms can offer. Horizons' Playspaces provide a vital service helping to meet the needs of families with young children. WBUR 90.9 FM covered the Playspace program which offers children access to playrooms and enriching activities all across Massachusetts.

STEAM Olympics

The underlying STEAM curriculum at Horizons is intentional and woven into many school days. Increasing access for students to learning activities they wouldn't be likely to experience any other way is one way we help address racial and ethnic disparities in advanced mathematics and science achievement which can occur as early as kindergarten. Our Annual STEAM Olympics is a favorite among students and teachers alike.





Teacher Appreciation

Throughout Teacher Appreciation Week, Horizons honored the work of our dedicated and trauma-informed early childhood educators in a celebration with customized tote bags, hand-delivered pastries and coffee, games and desserts, a mocktail bar and wonderful words of appreciation shared.

Karian's Story

Working night shifts at a fast-food restaurant, Karian was exhausted and overwhelmed raising her daughters on her own. Bouncing between her mother's apartment and spending time in a homeless shelter, Karian and her children were struggling to find stability and success in life.

Karian needed reliable daytime childcare to focus on improving her family's situation. Though the future seemed uncertain, a crucial lifeline soon appeared, offering Karian's family a chance for a fresh start.

That's when she discovered Horizons for Homeless Children.

At our early education center, Karian's youngest daughter received free high-quality care while she completed her own education and sought work with better hours and pay. Her daughter, once struggling with regressive behaviors and speech issues, now has a vocabulary and is flourishing in preschool.

With her children cared for, Karian was connected with Horizons' dedicated Family Advocate, Teresa. Together, they crafted a plan that addressed Karian's immediate needs and long-term goals.

Teresa helped Karian secure a housing voucher, connected her with mental health resources, and supported her in obtaining her GED—an accomplishment she achieved within just two months! All made possible with the assistance of Horizons for Homeless Children.

Karian then completed a culinary arts certificate, landing a job as a cafeteria manager with the Boston Public Schools. This new position offered a schedule that aligned with her daughters' school days, providing stability to their lives.

Horizons for Homeless Children wasn't just a safe place to learn; our team provided the support Karian needed to rebuild her life. With a focused career, consistent schedule that works with her daughters' education, and a stable home, Karian's family is thriving. Her journey is a testament to the impact of our two-generation model, which supports both children and their parents in achieving stability and success.

The support of our community makes it possible for families like Karian's to overcome challenges and build a brighter future. Together, we can continue to offer hope and create lasting change.



OUR DONORS

We are so grateful for our donors and supporters who make our work possible. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of thousands of children and families experiencing homelessness in Massachusetts. Horizons' Annual Report reflects donors whose gifts exceeded \$5,000 in FY24 (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024).

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We are deeply grateful for the generosity of our inkind donors, whose contributions brought comfort and joy to the families at Horizons. Your kindness provided children with toys, backpacks, and warm winter clothing. Parents, too, felt the community's support through meaningful holiday gifts and thoughtful donations throughout the year. Horizons' Annual Report reflects in-kind donations whose gift value exceeded \$1,000 in FY24 (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024).

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