



***Annual Report* | 2024**







## ***Our mission...***

We provide affordable, high-quality early childhood education and childcare services for working families in the Lowcountry.



## ***Our purpose...***

We support our community by enabling parents to fully participate in the local workforce and ensuring every child is ready to achieve success upon entering kindergarten.



## ***Our vision...***

We strive to be the standard of excellence for early childhood education, development and care in the Lowcountry.



# Last year in review

Cradle to Kindergarten, that's the most important time in a person's life for developing the necessary skills for lifetime success. That's the time in a child's life when The Children's Center works our magic. Watching a child grow and develop is a responsibility that everyone on our team takes extremely seriously. The commitment of our teaching staff is reflected in the kindergarten readiness results of our graduating PreK students.

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## The 2024 graduating PreK students mastered a collective 97% of their kindergarten readiness skills!

The creation of partnerships benefits everyone and this year, The Children's Center focused on ensuring our partnerships provided specific benefits to our families. We are grateful for each organization that adds value to the children and families we served last year.

- Deep Well – weekend food bags
- Second Helpings – fresh produce weekly
- Volunteers in Medicine – annual dental checks for children
- Rotary Club of Hilton Head Sunset – new shoe program
- Women's Association of Hilton Head – family Christmas gifts
- St Francis Church – children's Christmas gifts
- Those of Prose at Hampton Hall – children's books at Christmas

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Building awareness ensures a sustainable future for The Children's Center. This year we concentrated our efforts on expanding our social media presence and working together with community business partners.

**Increased social media following by 1700%.  
(60 followers to 1,100)**

Thank you to all the local businesses who were our partners for a month in 2024. This has helped in our effort to share the message of The Children's Center to the general community.

**Hilton Head Farmer's Market**

**Corner Perk**

**Belk Stores**

**NY City Pizza**

**Wine Time**

**The Cottage**

**Char Bar**

**Cactus Cantina**

**Lincoln & South**

**Italian American Club**

**Java Burrito**

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Finally, to our HEROES – our staff. In 2024, our team of about twenty-five dedicated individuals worked tirelessly to provide a safe, enriching and loving environment for the children we serve. Our team is solid, we decreased turnover by 15% year over year.

## Childcare Teacher

**(n): A song singing, smile bringing, child chasing rockstar who lives to inspire and loves to encourage. They're kind of a big deal!**

Thank you for making all this possible!



**Jody L. Levitt**

**Executive Director**

## Community Involvement

Adding value to our programs, families and community

### Happy Feet – Sunset Rotary Club:

**130** pairs of shoes for **99** families

### Rotarians Offering Community Service (ROCS):

**60** yards of wood chips moved and spread  
to provide safe play on **12,500** sq. ft. of  
playground space

### Women's Association of Hilton Head (WAHHI):

Provided holiday gifts for **98** households

### St Francis Church:

Holiday gifts for **102** children

### Those of Prose – Hampton Hall:

Books for **97** children

### Volunteers in Medicine:

Free Dental Screenings for  
**80** children

### Deep Well Project:

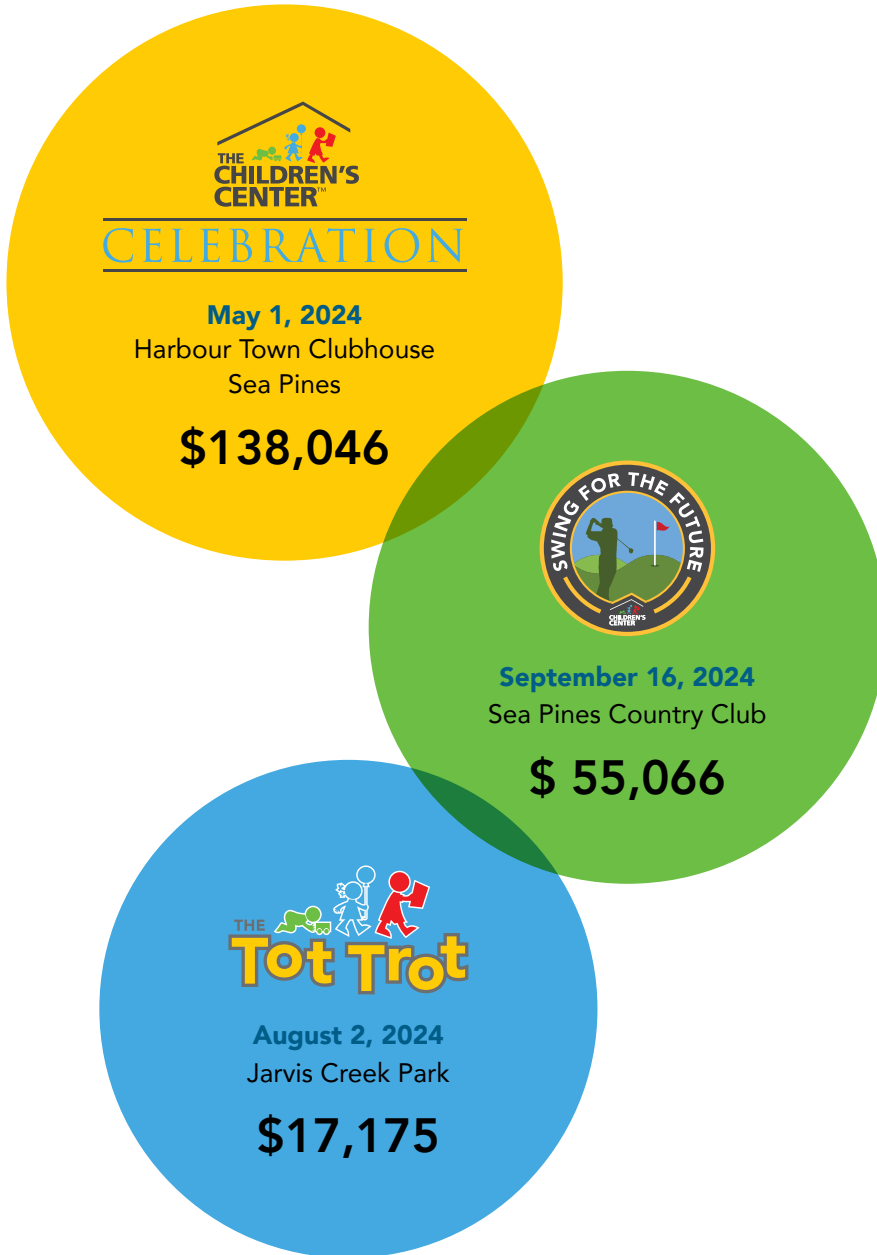
**30** weekend food bags  
for **50** weeks – **1,500**  
weekend meals

### Hilton Head Quilters:

**50** quilts of Love



## Fundraising Events



## Partners in Educational Excellence

### Grants

Beaufort County Human Services Alliance	Hilton Head Alumnae Association of Kappa Kappa Gamma	Sisters of Charity of South Carolina
Berkeley Hall Charitable Fund	Hosts4Community	St Luke's Anglican Church
Coastal States Bank Community Commitment	Kappa Delta Foundation	St. Francis Thrift Shop
Colleton River Charitable Fund	Long Cove Club Community Charitable Fund	The Bargain Box
David M Carmines Memorial Foundation	Palmetto Dunes Cares	The Beaufort Fund, Coastal Community Foundation
Eleanor A & Bernard H Breedlove Foundation Endowment	Port Royal Community Charitable Fund	The Church Mouse
First Presbyterian Church HHI	Quinn Malzone Family Trust	The Eberly Foundation
Heritage Classic Foundation	Sea Pines Resort Community Fund	Ward Family Foundation
		Wexford Plantation Charitable Foundation
		Women's Association of Hilton Head Island

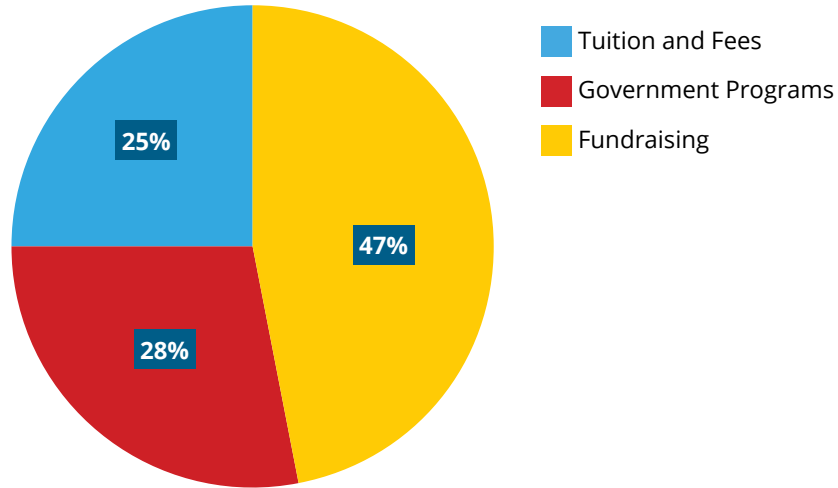
### Corporate & Community Donors

100 Women Giving Back to the Lowcountry	Italian American Club of Hilton Head
Belk Stores	Jolley Law Group
Billy Wood Appliance	Kiwanis Club of Hilton Head Island
Bunting Construction Company	Lindsay Bunting & Charlie Wilmot, Realtors
Cactus Street Cantina	Palmetto Electric Trust
Cambridge Building, Inc	Pinnacle Financial Partners
COAST LLC	Reilley's Match Play Championship
Correll Insurance Group HHI	Rotary Club of Hilton Head Island - Sunset
D. Anderson Construction	South State Bank
Disney's Hilton Head Island Resort	The Herb Society of Hilton Head Island
Erickson Associates Inc.	The Rose Foundation
Helen H Payne Fund	The Tuttleman Foundation
Hilton Head Farmer's Market	United Way of the Lowcountry Inc
Hilton Head Island Community Church	VanLandingham Rotary
Icon Golf of South Carolina	Wine Time
Island Legacy Fund	Zonta Club of Hilton Head
Island Recreation Center	

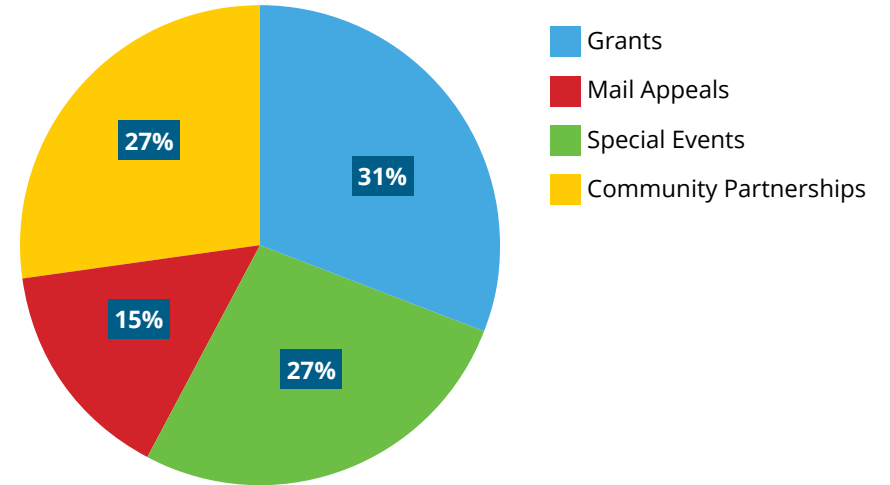


# By The Numbers

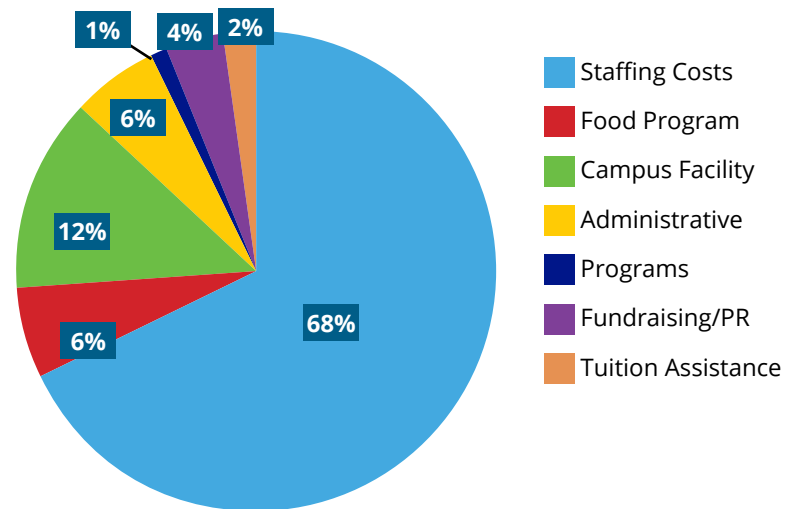
## 2024 Revenue Sources



## 2024 Fundraising Sources



## 2024 Expenses



## Board of Trustees

### Barbara Pawlishyn

#### BOARD CHAIR

Retired Hospital Administrator

### Gretchen Griggs

#### TREASURER

Retired CPA

### Joanna Hicks

#### VICE CHAIR

Retired Educator

### Celso White

#### SECRETARY

Retired Supply Chain Executive

### Robin Berkeley

Retired Educator

### Larry Brown

Retired Attorney

### Sara Coffin

Retired Marketing Executive

### Meredith DiMuzio

Magazine Publisher

### Robert Eberly Jr.

Retired Attorney

### José Fuentes

Jenkins, Esquivel & Fuentes – Partner

### Teresa Kelly

Retired Marketing and Fundraising Consultant

### Kimberly Lewis

Pinnacle Financial Partners

### Ann McBrien

Retired Marketing Executive

### Jordan Norris

SERG Group

### Robert Rotella

Retired Supply Chain Executive

### Charlie Wilmot

Sea Pines Real Estate

### Louis Wright III

Beaufort County Schools

did **YOU**  
know?



provides high-quality  
early childhood  
education and care  
for over 100 children  
ages 6 weeks  
through 8 years

is the only Center  
to offer a sliding scale  
tuition based on  
income and family size

ensures parents  
can work to support  
their family today  
and prepares the local  
workforce of  
the future

is open from  
6:30 am to 6:00 pm  
Monday through  
Friday, year-round

graduating students  
master at least 90%  
of kindergarten  
readiness skills

holds a  
B+ rating with  
ABC Quality

offers a  
competitive  
starting wage for  
new employees

was founded  
in 1967

is the 2nd oldest  
non-profit on  
Hilton Head Island

has NO debt



P.O. Box 21240  
Hilton Head Island  
South Carolina  
29925

843.681.2739  
[info@thechildrenscenter.org](mailto:info@thechildrenscenter.org)  
[www.thechildrenscenter.org](http://www.thechildrenscenter.org)

*Get involved!*

