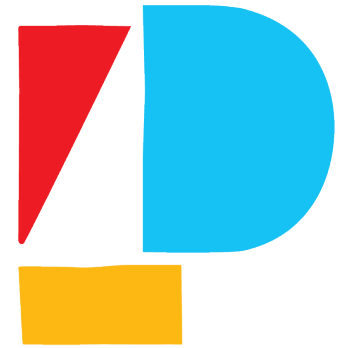




portland children's levy



**City Council
February 15, 2023**

Overview

- Portland Children's Levy ("PCL") is a local option property tax measure
- Grew out of a need to *increase opportunities for all Portland's children and youth*
- First passed in 2002; *overwhelmingly renewed by voters 3 times*
- **83% of voters approved the 2018 renewal**
- Invests *\$23 million* annually in proven programs
- Tax rate = \$0.4026 (4.062¢) per \$1,000
- Currently funds *91 programs* for children from birth thru 24
- **Administrative costs limited to 5%; audited annually**

Mission

The Portland Children's Levy strives to:

- **Change the trajectory** of the *disparities in outcomes for children and youth navigating poverty and children and youth of color*
- By **supporting community-based programs** that help:
 - *Prepare* children for school,
 - Support them to be *successful in and out of school*, and
 - Eliminate *racial and ethnic disparities in child and youth outcomes*.

PCL Governance

- 5-Member Allocation Committee sets policy and oversees implementation
- All grants recommended by Allocation Committee are *reviewed and approved by City Council*
- Grants are made through a competitive process
- Grant **performance metrics** include *number of people served, level of service, participation and participant outcomes, alignment with PCL mission*

PCL Allocation Committee



Allocation Committee Meeting



Jessica
Vega
Pederson



Traci
Rossi



Dan
Ryan

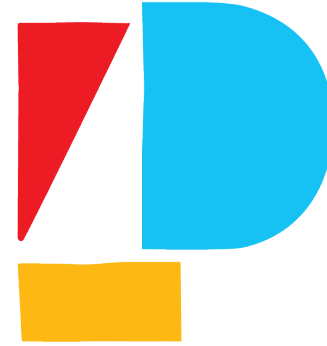


Felicia Tripp
Folsom



Mitch
Hornecker

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PROGRAMS & GRANTEES

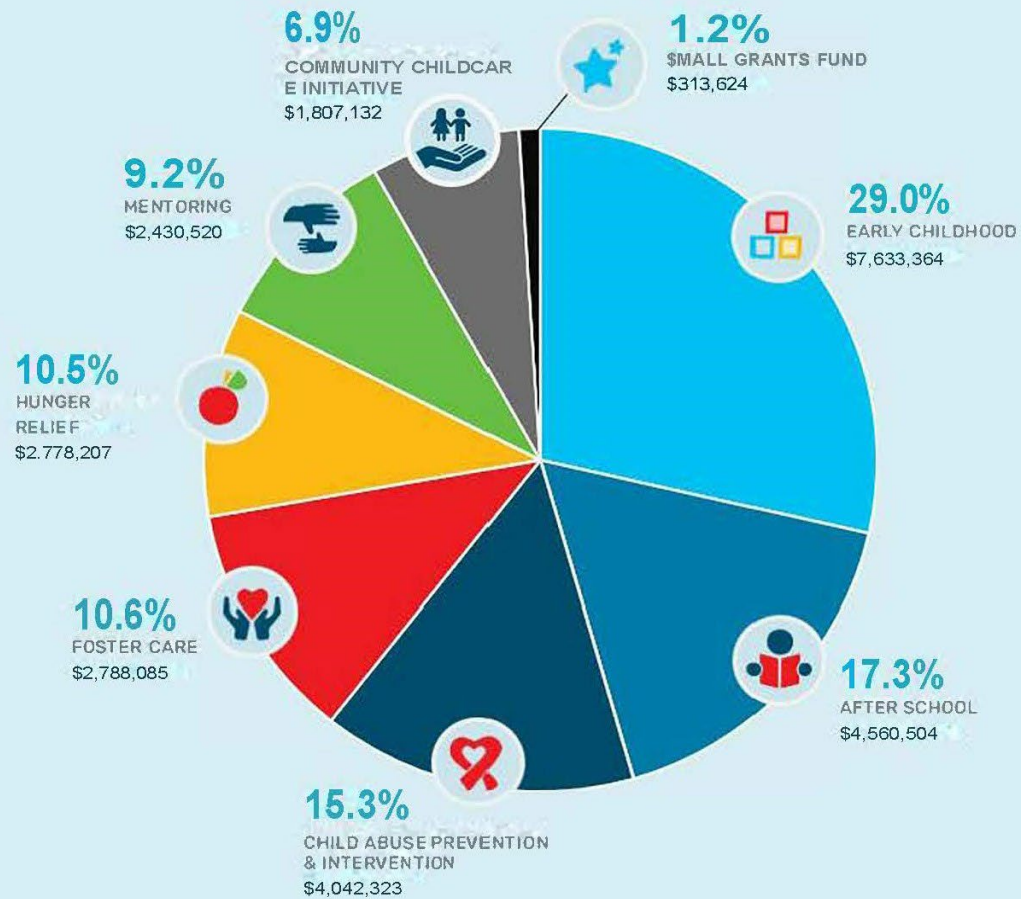
Programs

- Currently **funds 91 programs** for children and youth, from birth through age 24, in *six program areas*
- **Program services** include:
 - *Home visiting* for young children and their parents
 - *Therapeutic classrooms and respite care* for stressed families
 - *After-school tutoring and enrichment*
 - *Caring adult mentorship* that provides group and 1:1 support for youth
 - *College and career transition support for foster youth*
 - *Daily access to nutritious food*

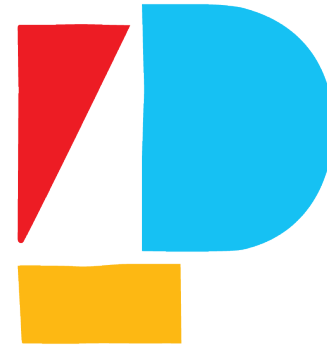
Community-Based Agencies

- Supports **more than 45 community-based agencies** including:
 - Ethiopian and Eritrean Cultural Resource Center
 - Elevate Oregon
 - Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization
 - Latino Network
 - Lifeworks NW
 - Metropolitan Family Service
 - Native American Youth and Family Center
 - Self Enhancement, Inc.
- **PCL-funded programs support 750+ jobs** at community-based agencies.
- Many PCL grantees provide **first employment experiences** for parents and youth who were once program participants.

2022-23 GRANTS AWARDED



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levy**

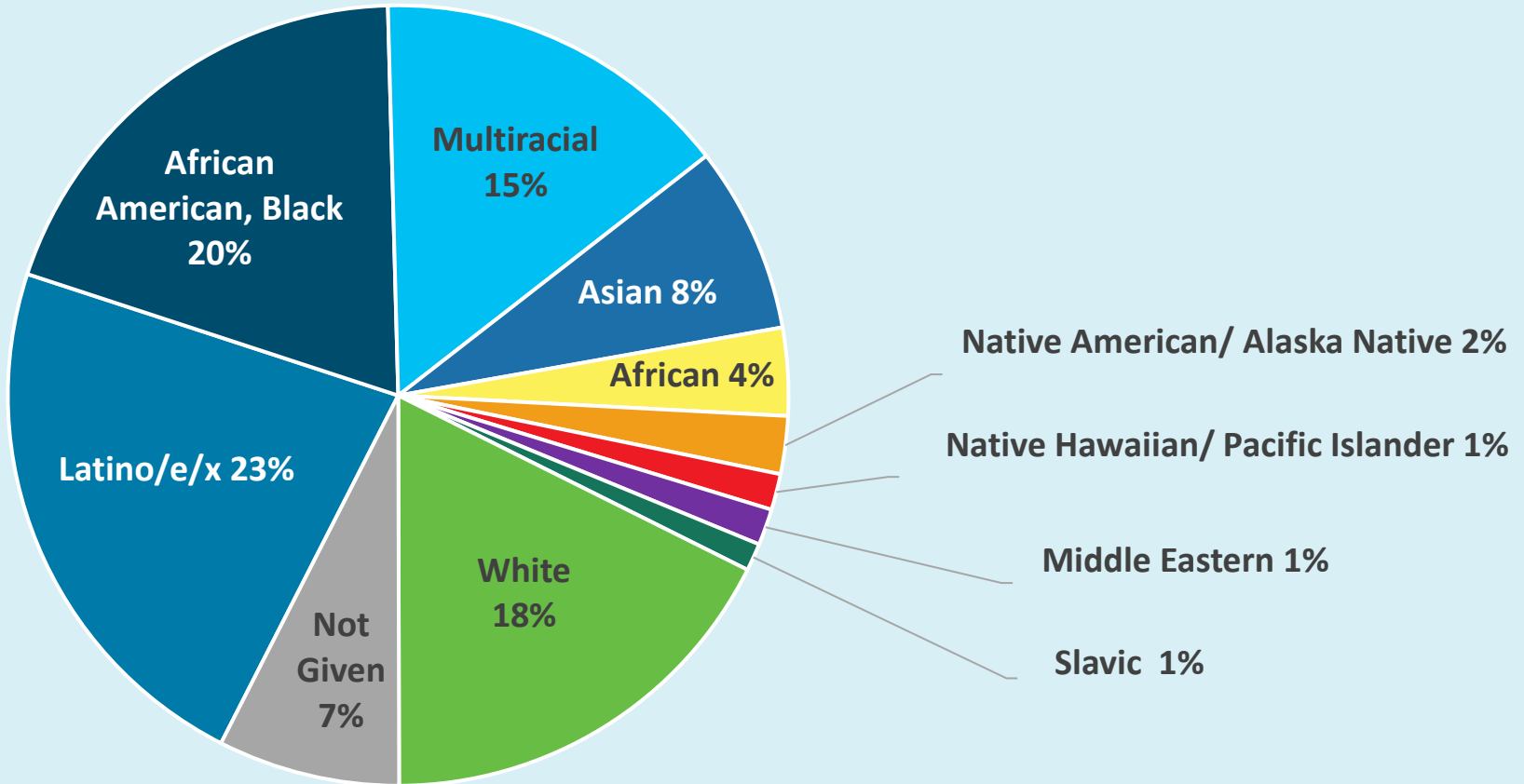


POPULATIONS SERVED

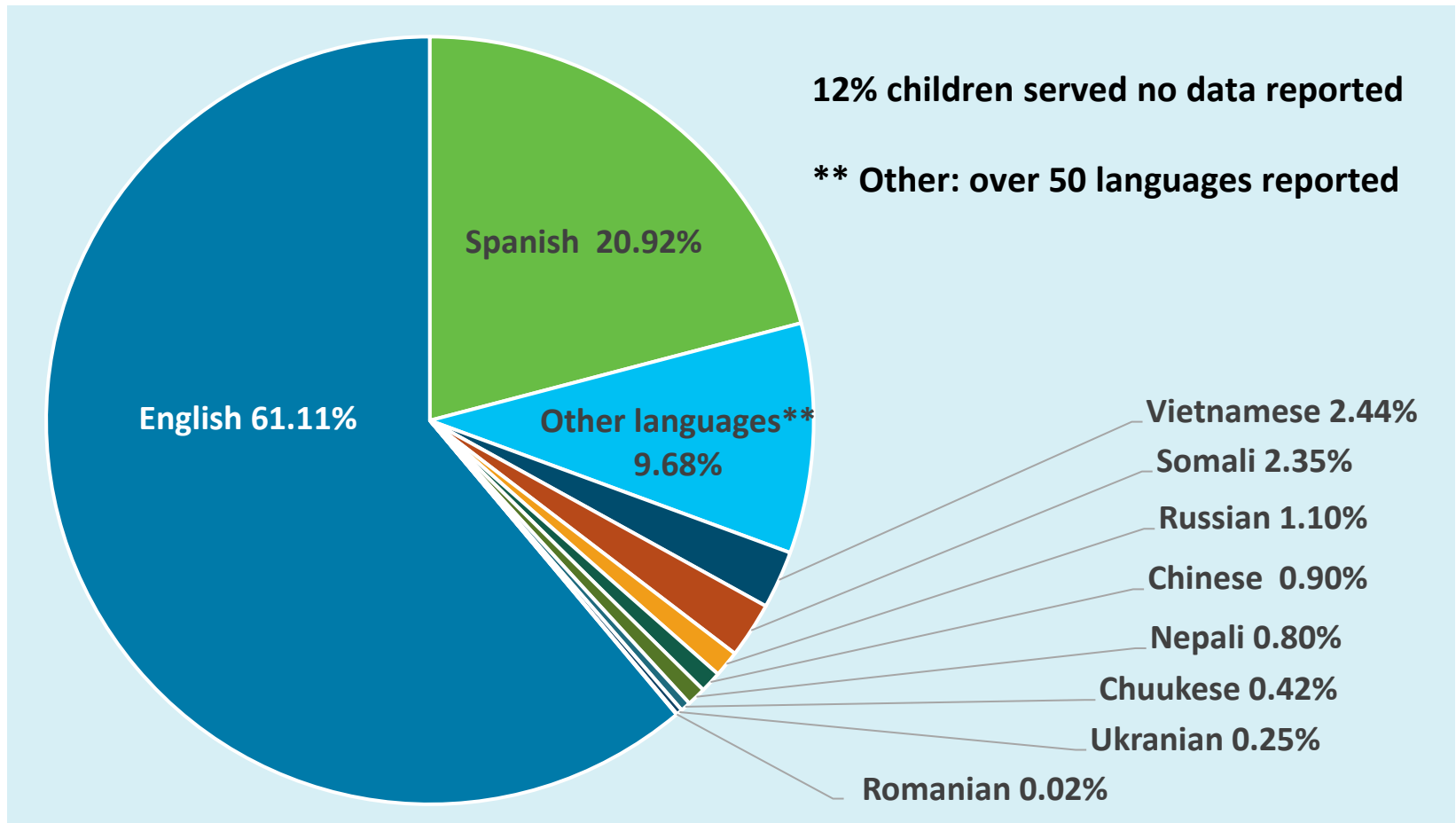
Populations Served

- Average of **10,000 children served annually** (*non-hunger relief*)
 - 75-80% identify as Black, Indigenous or children/youth of color
 - 35-40% live/go to school in East Portland
 - 40-45% from homes where primary language is not English
- 12,000-17,000 children and families receive *hunger relief services*

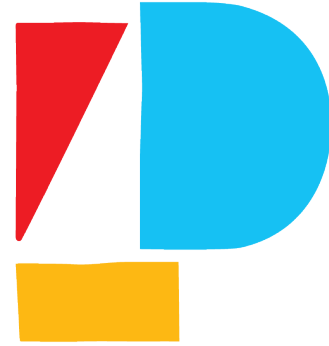
Population Served: Race/Ethnicity



Population Served: Primary Language








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OUTCOMES

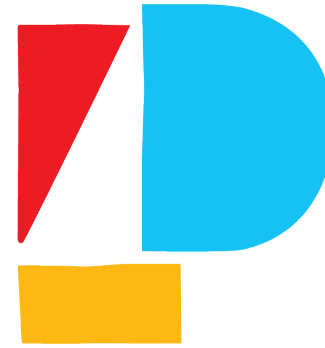
Outcomes, 2021-22

Program Area	Results for some Common Outcomes
 <p data-bbox="272 354 498 458">Early Childhood</p>	<p data-bbox="633 382 1825 429">87% of children met expected developmental milestones.</p>
 <p data-bbox="272 525 498 629">Early Childhood</p>	<p data-bbox="633 525 1644 629">91% of children not on track with developmental milestone(s) referred for additional support.</p>
 <p data-bbox="272 694 498 798">Early Childhood</p>	<p data-bbox="633 719 1611 766">97% of parents/caregivers met parenting goals.</p>
 <p data-bbox="233 843 517 948">Child Abuse Prev. & Interv.</p>	<p data-bbox="633 872 1561 919">86% of parents met parenting practice goals.</p>
 <p data-bbox="233 1006 517 1110">Child Abuse Prev. & Interv.</p>	<p data-bbox="633 1035 1760 1082">86% of parents reported increased safety and stability.</p>

Outcomes, 2021-22

Program Area	Results for some Common Outcomes
 Foster Care	96% of youth met academic goals.
 Foster Care	100% of youth met positive youth development goals.
 After School	95% of children & youth met youth development outcomes.
 Mentoring	97% of youth met school engagement outcomes.
Small Grants	92% of youth met academic goals.

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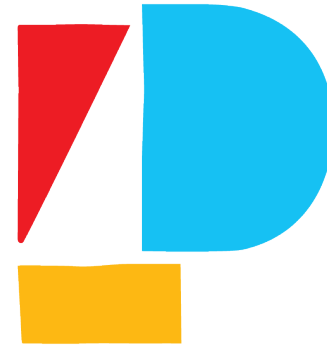
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement

PCL Response to Community Feedback:

- Created small grants fund *to improve equitable access* to Levy funding for smaller organizations with barriers to applying for PCL grants
- Created 12-member Community Council to advise staff and Allocation Committee on community engagement practice, policy and funding
 - Volunteers for this Committee represent and have experience with PCL-served communities:
 - BIPOC
 - LGBTQIA+
 - Children and youth with disabilities
 - Houseless families, and
 - Families experiencing poverty and food insecurity

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BUDGETING & THE FUTURE OF PCL

PCL Historical Budget Data

FISCAL YEAR	PCL REVENUE (millions)	AMOUNT GRANTED (millions)	TOTAL NO. OF GRANTS	PCL ADMIN COSTS (audited yearly by independent third-party)
2018-2019	\$21.7	\$19.0	74	4.65%
2019-2020	\$21.9	\$19.2	70	4.69%
2020-2021	\$22.3	\$23.8	85	4.70%
2021-2022	\$22.8	\$27.0	92	4.68%



Funds Raised v. Grants Awarded

- Before a competitive funding round, City economist projects revenues for the grant period.
- Fund balance can accrue when revenues exceed projections, and/or grant budgets are not fully expended.
- Grant contracts are paid on a reimbursement basis; staffing shortages impact grant spending.
- Before the 2019-20 funding round, the full fund balance accrued to date was added to projected revenues for allocation in the funding round.
- The pandemic-related staffing shortages impacted grant spending in FY 2021 and 2022 which resulted in fund balance declining more slowly.

5-Year Priorities & Long-Term Financial Outlook

- Revenues include an allocation from the Parks Levy to PCL to offset increased compression of PCL
- Levy revenues are projected to be sufficient to meet current grant commitments and projected 2-year renewal grants through 2024-2025, assuming voter renewal of PCL
- Upon voter renewal, PCL resources should be sufficient to maintain current program investment levels over next 5 years.

Post-Pandemic Need is Great

- Children and youth *struggled to maintain academic achievement, school attendance, social skills and connections and mental health during the pandemic*
- Additional factors of *increased houselessness and increased community violence add to disruptions in education*
- *Post-pandemic, children and youth need community support more than ever*