

Kids Impact Community

Annual Report 2023



Mission

→ **Our mission** is to empower children of all ages to work with their caregivers to build relationships and strengthen the Milwaukee community through partnerships and service experiences in an inclusive environment.

→ **Vision**
Our vision is to instill the belief in our children that they are responsible for and capable of being dynamic and change-making citizens within their community.

→ **Values**
Kids Impact Community strives to provide an environment where all children and families feel safe and affirmed, valued and reflected. We are unaffiliated with any faith traditions or other organizations. We partner with diverse, established, and effective organizations within Milwaukee that, like us, recognize the capability of children to make change, serve others, and build relationships.



A Message from KIC's Executive Director

Dear KIC Community,

Building connection and social skills are at the core of what we do at Kids Impact Community. Volunteering teaches kids compassion and empathy. They learn about different circumstances and struggles that exist in the community and how people can come together to solve problems and help one another. Volunteering gives kids a sense of purpose and wellbeing. Kids love to be helpers, even starting at an early toddler age. Service projects and volunteering give them that sense of purpose.

Since KIC's inception, thousands of children and their families have had the opportunity to work alongside community partners throughout Milwaukee. And with each year we continue to expand our efforts and impact. In 2023, we connected 3,000+ child and family volunteers to more than 100 service projects with 37 partner organizations.

This year, KIC also initiated a Junior Leaders Program to empower youth leaders (ages 9+) to envision, coordinate and implement service projects of their own creation under the mentorship of an experienced leader. Our first Junior Leader spearheaded a healthy food drive for Kinship Community Food Center after learning that the organization had numerous empty shelves at the end of the summer. She gathered 500 pounds of donated food items! We are excited to position children in leadership opportunities as we recognize that our kids have the human power, vision and best ideas for making our community a better place for all.

Moving forward, KIC will work towards creating even more diverse service opportunities that not only reflect the needs of our greater Milwaukee community but engage those communities in the process to create lasting partnerships.

Finally, we could not do this work without YOU – our KIC volunteers, donors and supporters. Thank you for being a part of the KIC family. Together, we are developing a compassionate, community-minded future generation, showing that little hands and big hearts can have a huge impact.

With gratitude,



Lynn Raines

Co-Founder and Executive Director



A Look at the Numbers in 2023

- 3,000+ Engaged KIC Volunteers
- 115 Service Projects Offered, including 14 established projects offered monthly
- 37 Partner Organizations
- 24 KIC Volunteer Project Leaders
- 3,100 volunteer hours

Small hands, big hearts, HUGE IMPACT!

KIC is a true community collaboration. We work with established Milwaukee nonprofits to provide meaningful impact opportunities for young children and their caregivers.

A special emphasis is placed on building relationships between children from different neighborhoods to help bridge Milwaukee's racial, socio-economic, and cultural divides. KIC creates service-learning projects that are welcoming to all families and suitable to the developmental level of kids from birth to tween.

Through service to and with the community, KIC shows how local action can tackle global issues like poverty, food security, intergenerational connections, environment, housing stability, foster care, social justice, youth empowerment, and building community.



MLK National Day of Service Project Series

Kids Impact Community celebrated the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. by helping kids and families spread Dr. King's message of equality and love. Held in January and celebrated as part of MLK National Day of Service, the series of events serves as an excellent opportunity to harness the human power of children and families to come together to learn about racial equity and give back to their community through volunteer work. This year marked KIC's 8th National Day of Service Series.

In January 2023, KIC's impact included:

- 200 kids, parents, and caregivers learned about Martin Luther King Jr. through story time with Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson and celebrated the National Day of Service with Meagan Johnson from the Milwaukee Diaper Mission culminating in a diaper dash donation.
- 3,800+ diapers and 75 packages of wipes were donated to the Milwaukee Diaper Mission.
- 125 Fostering Hope Duffel Bags were assembled by kid leaders and delivered to Kids Matter Inc. to support children entering foster care.
- 30+ small and mighty thinkers (ages five and under) talked about big ideas, celebrated our similarities and differences in honor of MLK Day and created a self-portrait art display at the North Shore Library.
- Seven families assisted 64 households at Kinship Community Food Center in selecting groceries, carrying bags, serving snacks, and cleaning up – reducing poverty through the power of food.
- 100 hot and nutritious taco dinners were distributed at St. Vincent de Paul's meal service.

- Thousands of diapers prepared for distribution by 40 volunteers at Milwaukee Diaper Mission during four different volunteer sessions.
- 560+ lunches packed for Just One More Ministry supporting Milwaukee residents struggling with food insecurity.

THANK YOU to Johnson Financial Group for generously sponsoring our 2023 Martin Luther King Jr. Day project series, enabling us to continue to expand this important work!

Changemaker Spotlight

Madeline, Age 8

When I volunteer I think that at the moment I'm making a big difference in life, and I help a lot of people. I like to volunteer because it's fun for kids like me and it's usually very creative and I learn a lot from it.

One of my favorite volunteer experiences is filling Kids Matter Inc. duffel bags for kids entering foster care. I like to shop for the stuff in the duffel bags and pick out things kids might like. I also like to ask friends and family to help. If you volunteer, you get a fun experience and you get to be a happy person knowing that you helped someone.



Addressing Food Insecurity

KIC families engaged in full-circle experiences that demonstrate the many ways our community works to address hunger and access to healthy foods for all. In the summer months, children planted, tended and harvested vegetables at the KIC community garden in Glendale. They also worked in the gardens managed by Kinship Community Food Center. Both gardens provide fresh produce to Kinship Community Food Center, where KIC families assist with monthly food distribution.



Families were also engaged throughout the year through monthly at-home lunch pack assembly for Just One More Ministry and assisting community members living with food insecurity. In 2023, more than 200 KIC volunteers assembled and distributed almost 5,000 lunch packs that included notes of love and encouragement from KIC's kid volunteers.

Community Partner Spotlight: Kinship Community Food Center

Kinship Community Food Center is a beloved partner of KIC. We embrace the reciprocal nature of service that Kinship so beautifully models for Milwaukee. Their motto is "Everyone gives and everyone receives." They believe that "a wonderful transformation happens in our hearts when we are called out of our isolation and into community."

One child volunteer named Henry turned to his creativity after spending a morning at Kinship. He explained how he "really liked running the store for his customers" as he helped the shoppers at the food pantry find protein items like beans and nuts.





St. Vincent de Paul Meal Program

KIC's St. Vincent De Paul project engages the whole family from the youngest toddlers to tweens to parents. Once a month, children and their caregivers prepare and serve 150+ taco dinners for the adult and child guests of St. Vincent de Paul at All People's Church in the Harambee neighborhood. In 2023, KIC re-launched this as an in-person project after a hiatus during the pandemic. Working together, KIC served 1,500 meals with almost 150 volunteers!

KIC Service Projects in 2023

- Adopt a Week - Gardening for Good 2 - Parkway Community Garden*
- Allies for Teens in Foster Care Toiletry Bags
- Art Kits for Caring Kids*
- Artwork Delivery to Grand-friends at Congregational Home
- Be a Monarch Foster Family*
- Be a Race Helper for Miles for Mr. Bob's 5K and Fun Run
- Decorate Holiday Placemats for Seniors
- Fall Yard Clean Up for Seniors 2023
- Family Game Night Celebrating All Abilities at Life Navigators
- Fill a Sweet Dreams Pillowcase for Youth Living in an Emergency Shelter
- Fostering Community Holiday Gift Sort
- Gardening for Good - Hoop House Helpers*
- Gleaning at the Thiensville Village Market*
- Halloween Costume Drive
- Holiday Cookie Drive 2023
- Holiday Gift Tags 2023
- Intergenerational Playgroup at Eastcastle*
- Intergenerational Playgroup at St. John's on the Lake*
- Intergenerational Playgroup in Oak Creek
- Kinship Food Drive+
- Lemonade on the Lawn at Eastcastle Place*
- Lunch Pack and Love*
- MLK Virtual National Day of Service Event (Diaper Dash)
- On the Go Bag Pack for HomelessPack Diapers for Milwaukee Diaper Mission*
- Pack Foster Home Placement Bags for OneHope27
- Panera End of Day Dough-nation Delivery*
- Planting Work Day - Gardening for Good 2 - Parkway Community Garden
- Prepare and Serve Breakfast to Families in Need at Hope Center in Waukesha
- St. Vincent de Paul Meal Service*
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing*
- School Supply Drive for Our Next Generation
- Serving Pantry Guests at Kinship Community Food Center*
- Share the Love on Valentine's Day
- Soaps & Suds Drive for Friends of All Abilities
- Social Justice Story Time: Celebrating MLK Day!
- Social Justice Story Time: Racial Justice and Taking Action
- Spring Yard Clean Up for Seniors 2023
- Thanksgiving Sweet and Savory Baking Kits Food Drive+
- Trick or Treating @ Eastcastle Place
- Trick or Treating @ St. John's on the Lake
- Unleash Creativity Alongside Foster Families at Tosa Block Party
- Uplifting Holiday Cards for Foster Families
- Volunteer at the Fall Harvest Party with Fostering Community Families
- Youth Helping Youth - Pack a Fostering Hope Duffel Bag for Kids in Foster Care

*repeated projects in 2023

+Led by a Junior Leader

Junior Leaders Program

In the fall of 2023, KIC launched its new Junior Leaders Program for kids ages 9 and older. The goal of the program is to empower older children to create their own service opportunities and engage their peers in working towards solutions to community issues and concerns. Junior Leaders participate in the planning and development of the project, learning side-by-side with a KIC adult leader-mentor. KIC is excited to position children in leadership opportunities as we recognize that our kids have the human power, vision and best ideas for making our community a better place for all.



"One of the reasons KIC is important is because it not only helps people in need but it also helps the people who serve and grows better connections with each other."

- 10 year old volunteer

← Junior Leader Spotlight:

Zoe, Age 9

"My daughter Zoe really enjoyed helping with the Thanksgiving food drive for Kinship Community Food Center last November and talks about it periodically. When I received an email from Kinship saying their shelves were practically bare and they were in extreme need of certain food items, I read the e-mail to Zoe knowing her prior excitement for helping Kinship. She immediately suggested organizing a food drive like we did in November. She even suggested that we do one seasonally to help prevent the urgent need. A perfect example of what a Junior Leader could do through the program!"

Making a Positive Change Together!

It is the support of our donors that make KIC a strong force for change in our community. Your financial and in-kind contributions make service projects possible, providing unique, accessible, and meaningful opportunities to kids and their families. KIC donors are helping to foster dynamic young citizens who are capable and responsible for making positive change TOGETHER.



"I support Kids Impact Community through my donations as they provide opportunities for both my family and me to contribute to charitable causes throughout the city. Engaging in volunteer activities through KIC helps instill in my children the importance of kindness and the positive influence they can have on the world from a young age. Additionally, I contribute knowing that the majority of KIC's service projects rely on volunteers. I recognize the dedication and effort required of these volunteers to organize and facilitate numerous events each month." - Stephanie C., donor

Community Partners

Kids Impact Community works with nonprofit and other organizations to identify meaningful service projects appropriate for kids of all ages and their caregivers.

Allies for Teens in Foster Care
Cathedral Center
Community Advocates
Community Projects for Seniors
Congregational Home
Dispensa de la Paz
Eastcastle Place
Eras Senior Network
Family Sharing of
Ozaukee County

Fostering Community
The Gathering
Hope Center
Just One More Ministry
Kids Matter, Inc.
Life Navigators
Luther Manor at River Oaks
LX Club
Milwaukee Diaper Mission
Milwaukee Women's Center

Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge
Kinship Community
Food Center
Kinship Community Food
Center - Urban Gardens
Newcastle Place-Mequon
OneHope27
Operation Sunshine
Our Next Generation
Parkway Community Garden

St. John's on the Lake
St. Vincent de Paul
Salvation Army
Thiensville Village Market
Tikkun Ha-Ir
The Waters of Oak Creek

KIC's 2023 Sponsors and Funders

- Bradley & Co Real Estate
- Confluence Graphics
- Hickey & Turman, SC Attorneys at Law
- Johnson Financial Group
- Ken Cook Co
- Little Sprouts Play Cafe
- Northwestern Mutual
- Sendik's Food Market
- Steve Stricker American Family Insurance Foundation
- von Briesen & Roper, SC Attorneys at Law
- Wagner Pediatric Dentistry
- The Walt Disney Family of Companies



KIC's 2023 individual Donors

Abigayle Williams	Christina Jack	Heidi Russell	Katie Petersen	Meghan Parsche	Stacy Roller
Aimee Welsh	Christina Steinbrecker	Heidi Skinner	Katrina Dickinson	Melissa Feldmeyer	Stephanie Burton
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Charlotte and	Gary Waldo	Katherine Hall	Megan Lancioni	Shaine Chiu	
Derek Supple	Ginnie & Steve Davis	Katherine Janas	Megan Nazaret	Sherry Perlberg	

Join the KIC Community!

We welcome everyone to join the KIC community and further our mission to empower children of all ages to become changemakers in their community. There are a variety of ways to get involved. Learn more by visiting kicmke.org

- **Volunteer** for KIC service projects and share those opportunities with other friends, families and community members
- **Sign up** for KIC's newsletter
- **Follow** KIC on Facebook and Instagram
- **Join** the Leadership Team and help lead service projects
- **Make** a Donation



"KIC helps the community and it's for all ages. It makes me feel happy to help others." - 7 year old volunteer

Meet the KIC Team!

Lynn Raines, Co-Founder and
Executive Director

Erin LeMoine, Vice President of
Project Management

Keara Prasse, Communications Director

Ashley Hoover, Social Media Manager

Annie Turim, Group Connections
Coordinator

Katie Muellenbach

Jobea Murray

Kathy Platt

Lynn Raines

Teresa Rice

Kim Robinson

Maria Sartori

Joanna Schrader

Savannah Schreck

Kristin Sherman

Annie Turim

Board of Directors:

Lara Proctor, President

Tracy Pelt, Vice President

Alison Antoine, Secretary

Katie Muellenbach, Treasurer

Ali Briggs

Andrea Chua Billings

Jobea Murray, President
through October 2023

Adrienne Shea

Angela Stowe

Melissa Talbot

Leadership Team:

Emily Bandsma

Rachel Carlberg

Shaine Chiu

Katie Cizauskas

Anna Graham

Tiffani Hart

Ashley Hoover

Lizzy Howayeck

Kitty Janas

Erin LeMoine

Julia Mattek

Senta Metz

Bridget McMahon



Kids Impact Community Statement of Activities

January - December 2023



		% OF INCOME
Income		
Amazon Smile	\$143.00	0.70%
Grants	3,500.00	17.25%
Corporate Donations	5,685.00	28.00%
Individual Donations	10,970.00	54.05%
Total Income	\$20,298.00	100.00%
Expenses		
<i>Administration Expenses</i>		
Cards/Thanks Yous	\$75.00	0.37%
Insurance	475.00	2.34%
Contracted Services (Website/Social Media Manager)	4,350.00	21.43%
Office Supplies & Software	3,118.00	15.36%
Social Media Promotion	101.00	0.50%
Website Hosting	1,005.00	4.95%
WI Charitable Organization Certificate	79.00	0.39%
Storage Unit	1,541.00	7.60%
Marketing/Promotional Materials	332.00	1.64%
Total Administration Expenses	\$11,076.00	54.58%
<i>Staff Recognition/Development</i>		
Board/Leadership Thank You Event	\$564.00	2.78%
Professional Development	300.00	1.48%
Total Staff Recognition/Development	\$864.00	4.26%
<i>Service Projects</i>		
Project Supplies	\$2,083.00	10.26%
MLK Day Service Series	3,989.00	19.65%
St. Vincent DePaul Meal Service	2,661.00	13.11%
Presenter Stipend	700.00	3.45%
Total Service Projects	\$9,433.00	46.47%
Total Expenses	\$21,373.00	105.29%
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	(\$1,075.00)*	5.29%

* Cash Reserve Balance as of 12/31/23: \$31,959



Kids Impact Community
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