



Next Chapter

2025 Annual Report



Mission

Kent Youth and Family Services promotes the healthy development of children, youth, and families in our community by providing professional counseling, education, and support services.

Vision

Helping youth and families achieve their goals for a better future.

Values

Equity and cultural inclusion, accountability, partnering, advocacy, responsive to clients and community.

Contents

A Look Back at 2025.....	2
Early Learning Program Impact.....	3
After School Program Impact.....	5
Behavioral Health Program Impact.....	9
Financial Overview.....	12
Board & Leadership Team.....	13
Our Supporters.....	14

The Next Chapter

For 55 years, Kent Youth & Family Services has grown alongside the children, youth, and families we serve. What began as a community response to the needs of local young people has evolved into three interconnected areas of service: Early Learning, After School and Summer programming, and Behavioral Health. Over the years, one thing has remained constant: we listen to our community and we respond to their needs.

In 2025, that meant helping preschoolers reach the milestones needed to start kindergarten, giving youth safe places where they feel they belong after school and over summer, and providing accessible mental health and substance use disorder counseling to youth and their families. It also meant adapting to change, strengthening program offerings, and preparing for new ways to meet emerging community needs.

Every person who comes to KYFS is at a different point in their story. Whether they are a preschooler learning to communicate their needs, a teenager discovering a pathway to their first job, a behavioral health client realizing that their past does not have to determine their future, or an intern becoming a mental health professional, KYFS can help provide the tools they need to achieve their goals for a better future.

KYFS is entering its next chapter, and so is every person we serve!

2025 at a glance

3,257

Participants served
across KYFS' programs

1,636

Behavioral Health
clients served

802

Preschoolers served
in Early Learning

819

Students served
in After School and
Summer Programming

86%

of Behavioral Health
Clients made progress
on treatment goals

92%

of Early Learning
students improved
kindergarten readiness

Early Learning

KYFS' Early Learning program provides comprehensive, whole-child and family-focused Head Start and ECEAP preschool services for low-income children ages three to five. In 2025, **802 students** participated in Early Learning across **23 classrooms at 6 sites**, generating **39,645 classroom contacts**. **Ninety-two percent (92%)** of participating students **showed improvement in kindergarten-readiness skills**.

The year also brought significant change. Funding reductions resulted in the loss of 40 preschool spots, requiring KYFS to adapt classroom operations while protecting the quality of services available to children and families. Despite those changes, the program reached full capacity early into the school year.

Changes in state requirements also contributed to KYFS serving more three-year-olds in 2025. As classrooms welcomed younger learners, staff continued responding to each child's developmental needs and connecting families to tailored resources when needed. In 2025, **twelve percent (12%)** of children were identified as **qualifying for special education services**.

The Early Learning program remains centered around helping every child develop strong social-emotional skills, become confident, and receive the support they need to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.



Finding Z's Voice

When 'Z' started ECEAP, it was very difficult for him to **communicate** his feelings and needs. When he couldn't find the words to explain what was wrong, he would quickly become frustrated and overwhelmed.

In ECEAP, **Z began receiving speech therapy** along with support from his teachers and classroom staff. By the middle of the school year, his ability to communicate had improved significantly. Instead of becoming overwhelmed when something bothered him, **he was able to express himself** and tell others what he needed in the moment.

That growth went beyond speech. Z developed social-emotional skills that helped him better communicate with his classmates and teachers, **enabling Z to make friends and participate more confidently in the classroom.**

Early Learning Impact

802 preschool students

92% improved kindergarten readiness skills

90% low-income

71% BIPOC

68% limited English proficiency

12% qualified for special education

6% experiencing homelessness

ECEAP helped Z find his voice and empowered him with the skills to advocate for himself inside and out of the classroom!

After School

KYFS' After School Program provides a year-round safe space with caring mentors who help youth develop both academically and personally. After School programming takes place in our youth centers located in three King County Housing Authority communities in Kent. In 2025, KYFS provided **4,442 direct program hours** and **710 core enrichment sessions** to **819 youth** from **155 households** throughout the year.

Youth participated in **STEM projects, reading challenges, arts and crafts, sports and recreation, cooking, social-emotional development activities, college and career exploration**, and more. Additionally, **Kids' Choice** activities allowed youth voice to directly impact program planning by giving participants opportunities to learn about topics they were interested in throughout the year.

The program also continued bringing families and neighbors together through community events ranging from family-centered potlucks, bingo nights, and talent shows, to a community-wide National Night Out block party attended by more than **300 community members and 15 community resource providers**.

The After School program remains a constant in the community where youth and their families can connect, learn, and grow together.

After School Impact



819

Youth
Served



155

Households
Served



4,442

Direct Program
Hours



710

Core Enrichment
Sessions

99% low-income | **78% BIPOC** | **58% ages 6-12**



Jae'Andre, 15

Participant since kindergarten

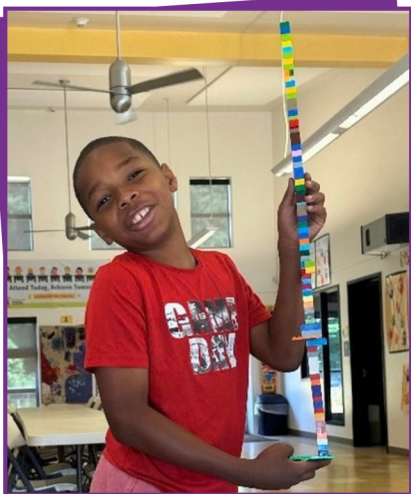
"You guys always support me and push me to do better and believe in myself.... Whenever I'm down y'all make me happy and are my safe place."



Jillisa, 13

Participant since 6th grade

"I get to experience what it's like to be a part of a community that is kind and respectful and helps one another."



Prince, 10

Participant since first grade

"Without the rec hall my life would be boring.... [the After School program] makes everything better!"

10 Years of Summer Splash_____

Celebrating a decade of learning and leadership development!

2025 marked the **10th year of KYFS' Summer Splash**, a free **summer literacy program** helping kids stay engaged in learning throughout the summer.

In partnership with Kent School District teachers and with support from School's Out Washington, Summer Splash helps address summer learning loss for students in kindergarten through third grade. **Participants receive two hours of guided academic and literacy activities each day, lunch service, and weekly field trips that combine structured learning with fun and connection during summer months.**

Summer Splash has grown alongside our community. High school students can develop workplace skills, responsibility, leadership, and confidence as Summer Splash staff. Some of the **youth who previously participated in the program have even returned years later to become Summer Splash staff** and even year-round employees of the After School Program.



The next chapter doesn't always mean going somewhere new.

Sometimes, it means coming back to lead.

Growing up with KYFS



At 16, Sekou has spent three quarters of his life engaged in the After School Program at KYFS.

Sekou first came to the youth center when he was in kindergarten. Over the years, **the youth center became the place where he would finish his homework, play basketball, spend time with friends, and turn to trusted adults who were always ready to listen and help.**

As Sekou grew, his involvement in KYFS did too. He began volunteering at the youth center and quickly started taking on more responsibility. **After having participated in Summer Splash himself years before, Sekou returned, this time as a Teacher's Assistant.**

Today, Sekou says his academic performance has continued to improve because of his participation in the program. He also credits the After School program with helping him visit new places and try new things, like going to the beach, hiking, and camping.

When asked what After School service is most important to him, Sekou didn't name a particular program activity, **he named the staff who have supported him over the years.** Sekou now brings his younger brother to the youth center so he can receive the same support he's always had at KYFS.

As for what his goals are for his next chapter, Sekou says 'getting a good education.'

Behavioral Health

KYFS' Behavioral Health program provides mental health and substance use disorder counseling to children, youth, and their families, meeting clients in schools, at KYFS offices, and through remote services to reduce barriers to care.

In 2025, KYFS served **1,636 individual Behavioral Health clients from 1,194 households**, providing **10,925 hours of direct counseling** and another **1,444 hours of case management**. Counseling services were provided in **28 schools**, and **86% of Behavioral Health clients made progress toward their treatment goals**.

KYFS also built on services introduced in 2024, including Perinatal Counseling, Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, and group support options for youth, parents, and caregivers. In 2025, KYFS offered **15 summer groups**, creating additional ways for youth and their families **to connect, get support, and have fun together all while developing healthy coping skills during summer break**.

The Behavioral Health team also welcomed its **largest cohort of interns** to date, **helping 11 graduate students prepare for careers in community behavioral health** while expanding their experience working with diverse clients in our community.

Behavioral Health Impact



1,636

Clients
Served



1,194

Households
Served



10,925

Direct Counseling
Hours



28

Schools
Served

86% of clients made progress towards their goals

Intern. Graduate. Counselor

"Being an intern at KYFS was an incredibly rewarding experience, both personally and professionally. It gave me the opportunity to experience many different parts of community mental health, from providing therapy in both agency and school settings, to leading groups.

One of my favorite experiences was helping create and facilitate a Wellness Group for youth with other interns, where we were able to bring our own ideas to life.

It was especially meaningful to work with marginalized youth, including kids whose backgrounds and experiences reminded me of my own.

This experience helped me foster community with hands-on learning on applying evidence-based practices while adapting to each child's and family's unique needs, identity, and lived experiences.

I'm also grateful for supervisors who were supportive, encouraged me to grow, and gave me opportunities to explore my interests."



-Luis Lopez, KYFS Intern
Graduating Class of 2025

Moving Forward

Sometimes the next chapter begins with asking for help.

At 18, one KYFS client sought substance use disorder counseling after completing inpatient treatment. They wanted to continue treatment and **build the skills needed to move forward.**

Through counseling, the client worked on anger management, reduced their alcohol and marijuana use, and began attending AA meetings.

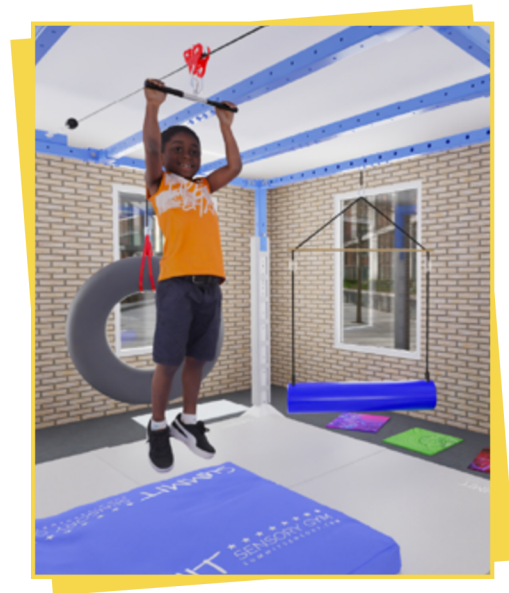
When asked what has changed most for them since coming KYFS, the client assured, **“I don't need alcohol....I don't have to have a drink. I'm in control of my life.”**

Through counseling, they have learned more about themselves and become **confident making healthy decisions for their future**, not “falling for easy gratification.”

Occupational Therapy

In 2025, KYFS began plans to build an **Occupational Therapy gym** to meet an emerging need in our community. Occupational Therapy (OT) strengthens things like motor skills, self-regulation skills, sensory processing, and executive functioning to support growth and independence.

By adding OT teachings in foundational body awareness and regulation skills, we will **help kids increase their ability to use the coping strategies they learn in counseling** more easily.



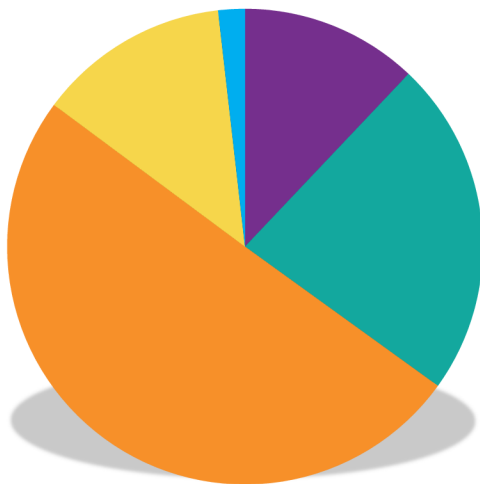
This is the beginning of an exciting new chapter for KYFS and we can't wait to make more difference in our community!

Financial Overview

Investing in the Next Chapter of KYFS.

Every service KYFS provides is made possible through the careful stewardship of public funding, grants, contributions, and community support.

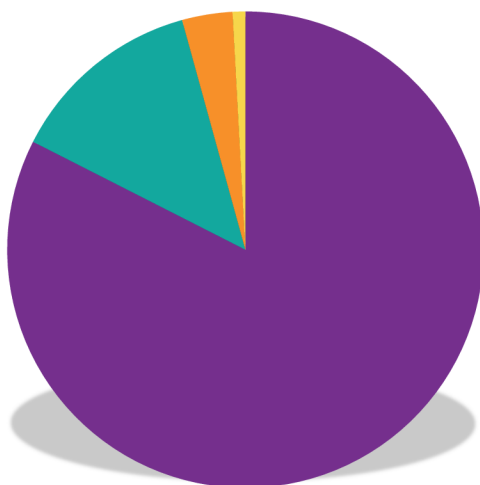
In 2025, KYFS continued investing resources where they would have the most impact for the children, youth and families we serve, while navigating changes in the funding environment.



Expenses

- Administration, 12.1%
- Behavioral Health & Clinical Services, 22.9%
- Early Childhood Education, 50.2%
- After School & Community Based Services, 13%
- Development, 1.8%

Total: \$8,784,919



Revenue

- Government Agencies, Grants, and Program Fees, 82.5%
- Donated Facilities and Services, 13.2%
- Contributions, 3.4%
- Other Revenue, 0.9%

Total: \$9,164,953

Board & Leadership

Our Board

Brian Smith, President

Director of Athletics & Activities, Kent School District

Gaby Beecher, 1st Vice President

Owner, Just Poké

Hannah Chelimsky, 2nd Vice President

Assistant Attorney General, Washington State

Hira Singh Bhullar, Treasurer

Manager of Application Development, Starbucks Coffee Company

Brandy Reed, Secretary

Liason Nurse, Kaiser Permanente

Cynthia Boyd, Past President

Assistant General Manager, accesso ShoWare Center

Alisa Abraham, Board Member

Community Member

Claire Eaton, Board Member

Student, Kent School District

Lesley Hogan, Board Member

VP of Human Resources, Renton Technical College

Michael Mathews, Board Member

VP/Branch Manager, Banner Bank

Rafael Padilla, Board Member

Chief of Police, City of Kent

Rae Permann, Board Member

Events & Community Relations Manager, Kent Station

Cora Peterson, Board Member

Mechanical Engineer, Blue Origin

Jane Prestbye, Board Member

Retired Pastor, Kent Lutheran Church

Viriya Reichersamer, Board Member

VP, Treasury Management Officer, JP Morgan Chase

Asaleigh Tila, Board Member

Student, Kent School District

Our Team

Trista Helvey, Executive Director

Brenda Rogers, Director of Behavioral Health

Susan Morgan, Director of Human Resources

Theresa LaRonde, Early Learning Director

Lily Stellmon, Director of Operations

Cyoon McBride, After School Program Director

Stacia Russell / Anna Zaster, Directors of Finance

Ashley Gregory, Community Engagement
& Marketing Director

Supporters

Individuals

Alisa Abraham
Saif Al Sammarraie
Terri Ameri
Josh Anderson
Trisha Arias
Jeff Arnold
Sara Bago
Wade Barringer
Erik & Lilly Barron
Angela Bascomb
Sheree Batayola
Gabriela Beecher
Kyle & Jeannette Benson
Cecil & Cynthia Boyd
Robert Bradford
Kory & Roberta Brooks
Susan Brown
Lindsay Brown
Cathy Browning
Leah Caglio
Sue Camou-Arrant
Vanessa Canter
Teresa Chay
Hannah Chelimsky
Munna Choudhry
Katherine Cooper
Sean Cooper
Arlene Cooper
Joy Cortado
Teri Crosswhite
Stuart Currie
Tracey Daniel
Irma Davis
David De LaFuente
DJ & Elaine Del Rosario
Jacob Esparza
Joe & Steffanie Fain
Robyn Finkbeiner
Pat Fitzpatrick
Michael Franco
Deborah Gates
Krista Goodman
Hanna Gozum
Steven & Ashley Gregory
Karen Gregory
Greg & Debbie Haffner
Sherry Hamilton
Motoko Haney

McKenzie Harris
Mike & Gail Heinisch
Janice Helgeson
Trista Helvey
Axel Henning
Karl Henry
Tim Higgins
Steven Huff
Shannon Jephson Hernandez
Lyn & Allyson Johnson
Scott & Katie Jones
Satwinder Kaur
Sahib Kaur
Parwinder Kaur
Sutinder Kaur Chawla
Joseph & Silvia Kennedy
Daman Khatra
Rick King
Lorena King Palmer
Susan Kipper
Bridget Klee
Diane Klem
Chris & Steve Kunzelman
Ruth Laitila
Theresa LaRonde
Greg & Mary Leach
Ed Lesnick & Lesley Hogan
Megan Lillas
Dana Lindquist
Jackie Long
Romina Macias
Carol Magallanes
Meghin Margel
Linda Martinez
Lesley Martinez
Mike Mathews
Kate Matos
Cyoon McBride
Christina McCartin
Mary Pat McGurk
Carmelina Mendiburu
Debra M Meyers
Marlla Mhoon
Zandria & Patrick Michaud
Kelly Milbrandt
Susan Mitchell

David Moerdyk
Susan Morgan
Mark Myser
Brad & Janelle Neil
Carolyn & Bill Nirk
Lark Ohta
Tina Orwall
Tod Oyefeso
Rafael Padilla
Teresa Pahrman
Pat Pawlak
Yohana Pena
Rae Permann
Brandon Persall
Chris & Cora Peterson
Jane Prestbye
Linda Putt
Dana Ralph
Jasmine Randhawa
John Reardon
Brandy Reed
Viriya Reichersamer
Lailani Richmond
Jessica Richmond
Corey Rivers
Tiffany Robson
Jeremy & Brenda Rogers
Navdeep Sandhu
Ann Sappington
Elizabeth Scharnhorst
Jim & Rita Ann Schwarting
David Seidel
Mashal Sherani
Tim Shoemaker
Jasmit Singh
Gurpit Singh
Akshdeep Singh
Hira Singh Bhullar
Paramjit Singh Chawla
Faith Sisley
Brian & Rhonda Smith
Lily Stellmon
Linda Sterling
Fred Swanson
Julie Taylor
Justin Thornton
Penni Thorpe
Asaleigh Tila
Anne Timlick

Toni Troutner
Sarah Veele
Israel & Krista Vela
Apostolos & Darivanh Vlachos
Gerald W Oppliger
Michelle Wagner
Matt Wagner
John & Kimberly Waterstraat
Iris Watson
Nate Webers
Kelsey White
Carl Wilkins
Chris Wilson
Keri Wittenauer
Judith Woods
Anna Zaster

Organizations

Banner Bank
BECU
Blackbaud Giving Fund
Charities Aid Foundation of America
City of Covington
City of Kent
City of Seattle
Covington Chamber of Commerce
DAF Giving 360
Fidelity Charitable
Fireside Home Solutions
Fleck Family Foundation
Gesa Credit Union
Hempler's Foods Group / Isernio's
Hypertherm Hope Foundation
JP Morgan Chase
Kaiser Permanente
Keller Associates
Kelley Imaging
Kent Community Foundation
Kent Education Association
Kent Lutheran Church

Kent Police Foundation
Kent Station
Khalsa Gurmat Center
King County
King County Housing Authority
Kiwanis Club Of Kent
Kroger / Fred Meyer
Laird Norton Family Foundation
Lucky Seven Foundation
National Philanthropic Trust
Paypal Giving Fund
Pinnacle Printing Foundation
Randhawa Foundation
Rotary Club of Kent
Rotary Club of Kent Sunrise Foundation
Seattle Foundation
Seattle Thunderbirds
Seattle Times Fund for Those in Need
State of Washington - Secretary of State
Sweet Lailanie LLC
Sweet Themes Bakery
Thunderbirds Community Sports Foundation
Topgolf
Vanguard Charitable
WellPoint
Wich Came First, LLC
YMCA of Kent

**Thank you
for making
our work
possible!**



232 2nd Ave S. Kent, WA 98032 | 253.859.0300 | www.kyfs.org