



Annual Report

September 2023 - August 2024

Proudly serving Dane and Waukesha Counties

Madison | Middleton | Waunakee | Verona | Merton | Kettle Moraine | Waukesha

Our mission is to engage youth in opportunities to encourage them to be their best selves.

12

Summer Programs

20

School Year Programs

54

School Year Program Staff

1,558

Children Attended Program

64

Summer Program Staff





Executive Director Letter

This year, Wisconsin Youth Company, celebrated its 50th anniversary. We spent the year reflecting on the impact we have made over the past 50 years and thinking about the work we will do in the next 50 years. In some ways, it feels like our organization is all grown up. And in other ways, I'm reminded that we are young at heart.

In addition to celebrating 50 years, we did other great work with the support of our community:

1. We advocated for after school, educating decisionmakers about the lasting impact of our programs:
 - We invited state legislators to visit after school programs during Lights On Afterschool, a national campaign that shines a spotlight on the important work of after school.
 - Wisconsin Youth Company and other local and state organizations applied for and received funding to continue our advocacy work.
 - With partners from local philanthropic foundations, I presented at the Wisconsin Nonprofit Conference on the partnership between philanthropy, nonprofits, and advocacy.
2. As we have done for the past 50 years, we responded to the needs in our community:
 - We opened a new program in Middleton when another provider no longer offered services.
 - We distributed more than 400 backpacks full of school supplies to kids in our neighborhood center community.
 - We offered engaging programs that included activities like juggling, cookie decorating, swimming, playing outside with friends, making slime, and so much more.

Through all of this work, **we focus on our purpose.** Our purpose is bigger than our programs. Our purpose is building community. We are often the bridge that links families to

school staff. We're the glue that deepens friendships when kids share time together outside of the classroom. We are the extra piece busy families need to keep their families running. **And each time we fill in a gap, we make our community stronger.**

Parents can't do it alone. Teachers can't do it alone. And we know, even when they think they might not, our kids really need us. They need us to teach them that supporting each other is what builds a better world for everyone.

When we celebrated our 50th anniversary, I saw so many people who have been impacted by our work come together. Parents who had children in our program, staff who started their careers with us, and staff who retired from Wisconsin Youth Company. People came to celebrate because Wisconsin Youth Company is more than an after school program, more than a summer camp experience, more than just a job — we are a community.

It's important to celebrate our 50 years of community building. With the support of this amazing community we have been a part of creating, we are inspired to continue making a difference for another 50 years.

Rebecca Carlin, executive director



Board Letter

For 50 years, Wisconsin Youth Company has empowered children to thrive in Dane and Waukesha counties. Our programs consistently have full enrollment. Our dedicated staff continues to offer engaging activities alongside chances for free play. Under the leadership of Executive Director, Rebecca Carlin, we are actively working to **build a coalition that advocates for enhanced support and resources** for out-of-school childcare programs at both the state and federal levels.

In today's digital-centric world, the opportunity for children to connect through play is more important than ever. The **board takes great pride in our play-based programs**, where the joy of making slime, decorating cookies, scaling the playground, and dancing to the latest beats creates a vibrant atmosphere of learning and connection.

In our conversations with alumni during the past year, one theme emerged: Wisconsin Youth Company has consistently provided a nurturing space for play and friendships to flourish. As we look to the next 50 years, **we remain committed to our core pillars** of creativity, free play, and community connection, all in support of the holistic development of each child.

Thank you for being part of our journey.

Julianne Lind, board president

Parents say ...

80% of parents say their child has improved their social interactions with peers since attending the program

“My son has loved summer camp and looks forward to it every day. He enjoys special theme days — card day, stuffie day, field trips to the pool, and more. He has made all new friends with kids of all ages, and is excited to tell us about the new games or activities he learns.”

90% of parents say their child's personal interests have been supported and encouraged at program



Financials

Support & Revenue

Program Fees	\$4,230,240
Registration Fees	\$35,184
Grants/Program Support	\$463,318
Donations	\$82,924
Other	\$144,513
Child Care Counts	\$291,274
Total	\$5,247,352

Expenses

Personnel	\$3,776,741
Direct Program Costs	\$615,327
Office Expenses	\$436,711
Space Costs.....	\$57,815
Insurance	\$165,644
Marketing.....	\$12,078
Professional Services.....	\$61,229
Interest	\$13,495
Depreciation.....	\$71,736
Other	\$216

Total\$5,210,993



“We’ve loved the after school program. The teachers are wonderful with the kids and very engaged. I’ve also been surprised and pleased with the variety of crafts, activities, and creative projects the kids do. I know that takes extra effort and planning.”
– Wisconsin Youth Company parent



Thank You Donors!

*Current staff member +Current board member

Donors and supporters make our purpose of community building possible. Thank you to those who have given to advance our mission this year.

6 Year Donor

- Rebecca Carlin *
- Trisha O'Connell

5 Year Donor

- Tulika Bose & Kevin Black
- Jennifer Burken-Brett +
- Rick & Bobbi Carlin
- Christl Eggleston
- Rock family
- Nate Jorgensen
- Jordan Kizmann
- Anne Lindgren
- Lienau family
- Layla Moosavi *
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- Andrew Schirmer
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3 Year Donor

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- Ahmed Yusuf

Organizations

- Bosch
- Builders FirstSource
- CapSpecialty
- CAP Times
- Counting on the Arts
- Downtown Rotary Foundation
- Enchanted Valley Acres
- Evjue Foundation
- Findorff
- Gigi's Cupcakes
- Greywolf Foundation
- Group Health Cooperative
- Husky Homes
- Krupp General Contractors
- Madison Community Foundation
- Madison Gas & Electric
- Midvale Community Lutheran Church
- Millipore Sigma
- Pellitteri
- QBE
- Spray-Net of Southern Wisconsin
- TASC
- Technology Education Foundation
- TruStage
- Wegner CPAs
- Widen Family Foundation

Based on giving database information starting in 2017.

