

**THE MOCKINGBIRD SOCIETY**



# **ADVOCACY REPORT**

**APRIL 2023-MARCH 2024**

***Published April 2024***



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear friends,

What an incredible journey the last year has been—marking my first full year as Executive Director of The Mockingbird Society!

As I reflect on our work over the last twelve months in our efforts to transform the foster care system and end youth homelessness, the prevailing theme has been community. Our community of invested stakeholders—community partners and peers, community leaders, policymakers, supporters, and most importantly, the community of young advocates at the center of our mission. The collective community's guidance, support, investment, expertise, and humanity have created a beautiful foundation for our next chapter. The strength of our movement is in the strength of our relationships, which can only be measured by their depth and will ultimately determine the strength of the system.

I love being in communities of practice. Our communities of practice form an ecosystem where knowledge and experience are shared and the soil where new information, skills, and competencies develop. As we gather new information and experiences from one another, a cycle of collective transformation begins, and over time, we can understand and embrace positions that are new for us. **In other words, we transform ourselves to transform the world.** We adapt and grow to stay purposeful in the face of constant change, which then determines both the quality of our lives and the impact we have when we take action together. **We need each other's best thinking and most courageous experiments if we are to create a future worth wanting.**

At the center of our community of practice are the young people participating in Mockingbird chapters across the state. They continue to raise our agency's bar for excellence through their wisdom, innovation, passion, fierce courage, and hope. It is an honor and a privilege to walk alongside them. It is my great pleasure to share Mockingbird's work through the last annual advocacy cycle—with a special focus on the ideas and efforts of these remarkable young people.

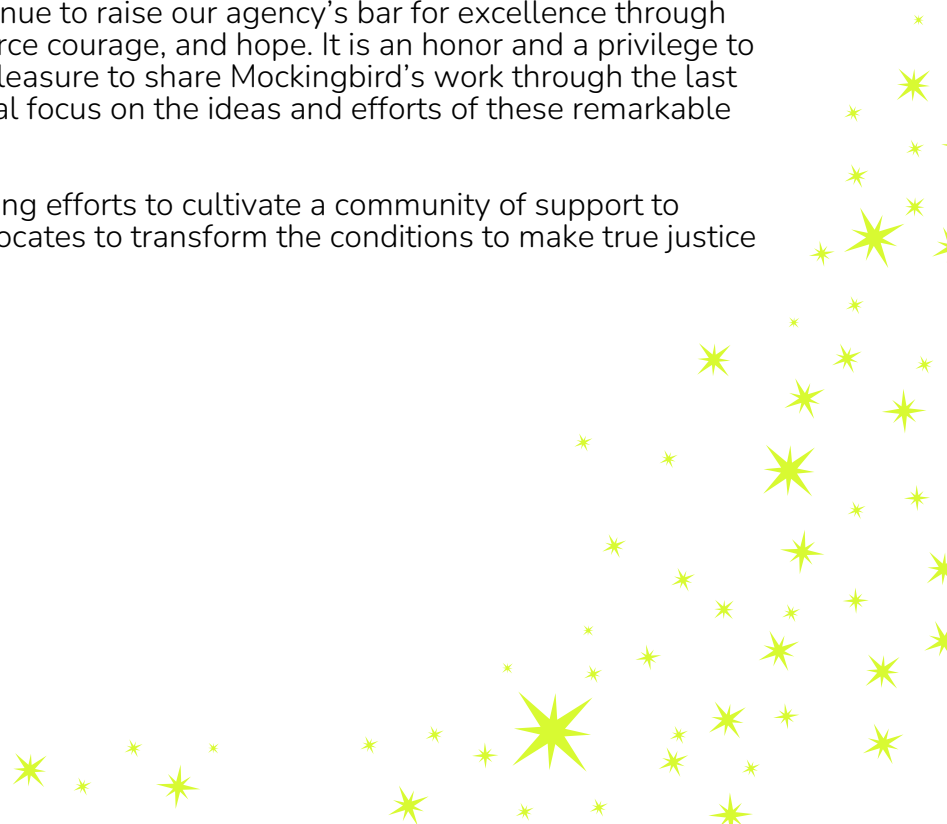
We hope you will join us in our ongoing efforts to cultivate a community of support to elevate and empower our young advocates to transform the conditions to make true justice possible.

With gratitude,

Natalie Lente

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natalie Lente', written in a cursive style.

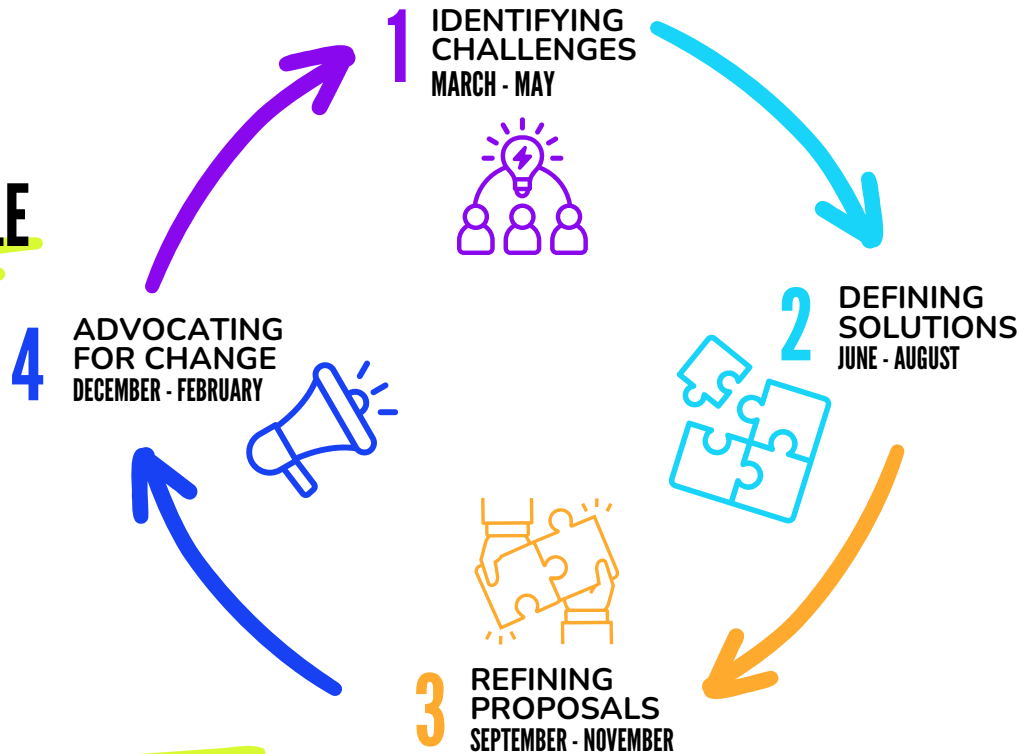
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MOCKINGBIRD SOCIETY



# IN THIS REPORT...

Journey with us through a full year of our advocacy cycle and get a glimpse of how The Mockingbird Society works. Learn how policy ideas created by young people can ultimately become legislative wins that bring us a step closer to transforming foster care and ending youth homelessness.

## PHASES OF MOCKINGBIRD'S ADVOCACY CYCLE



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# 2023 IMPACTS & ACHIEVEMENTS AT-A-GLANCE

- **Washington House Bill 1406** creating a pathway for youth under 18 to self-consent to shelter;
- Achieving a provision within the Washington state budget **directing the Juvenile Justice Council to report on juvenile record sealing and expungement**;
- **The full funding to support the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, & Families (WA DCYF) to implement Mockingbird's proprietary MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY foster care model statewide.** This legislative win will enable 8.5 full-time WA DCYF employees to be trained in, implement, and oversee 15 new WA DCYF-run MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY™ foster care constellations across the state—with the potential to impact 8,000+ youth in foster care annually.

## MOCKINGBIRD- LED POLICY WINS

## MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY™

Building on years of work with government systems and child-placing agencies across Washington State, national partners in California, New York, and Oklahoma, as well as international partners in Australia, Nova Scotia, the Netherlands, Japan, and the United Kingdom, **MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY™ is pleased to share the following impact highlights:**

- 91% Average foster parent retention in Washington's 11 MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY™ constellations of 91 foster families;
- 68 child-placing agencies in 6 countries worldwide are utilizing MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY™; and
- MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY™ provided stability and support to an estimated 1,629 families and 2,172 young people in care worldwide through 181 Constellations.



# 2023 IMPACTS & ACHIEVEMENTS, CONTINUED...

## MOCKINGBIRD YOUTH NETWORK

- **131 unique youth and young adults** directly engaged in Mockingbird's advocacy and youth development work across WA (+156% since 2022)
- **1,610 hours** dedicated to advocacy, community workgroups, trainings, chapter meetings, and speaking opportunities

These activities supported our youth and young adult participants to grow their skills and self-confidence while building a solid foundation to launch their future careers. **Through our most recent participant survey youth reported that through our Youth Programs:**

- Mockingbird helped them see themselves as a leader (89%);
- They improved their public speaking skills (78%);
- They better understand how government works (89%), how to change laws and policies (89%), and how to gain support from decision makers (100%); and
- They increased their desire to empower others and fight for change (89%).

The Mockingbird Times is a publication aiming to amplify the voices of youth and young adults with lived experience in foster care and/or homelessness, change public perceptions of homeless and foster youth, and educate the public on the the issues and challenges these young people face.

The Mockingbird Times was the very first project launched after The Mockingbird Society was founded in 2000 and has since played a key role in our Youth Programs. Not only does the publication provide an opportunity to elevate the voices of our young advocates and the issues they're facing, it also provides a picture of young leaders balancing their roles as powerful, positive change agents in our community with all the joys, challenges, and questions experienced by youth and young adults.

In November of 2023, we relaunched the Times with our first issue since 2019, and we're excited to continue publishing in 2024.

## THE RELAUNCH OF THE MOCKINGBIRD TIMES



# PREPARING FOR THE 2023 YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



By Sharn Kaur Shoker, Director of Youth Programs

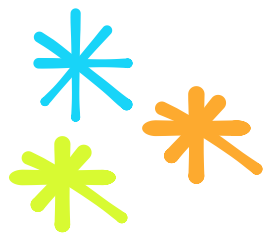
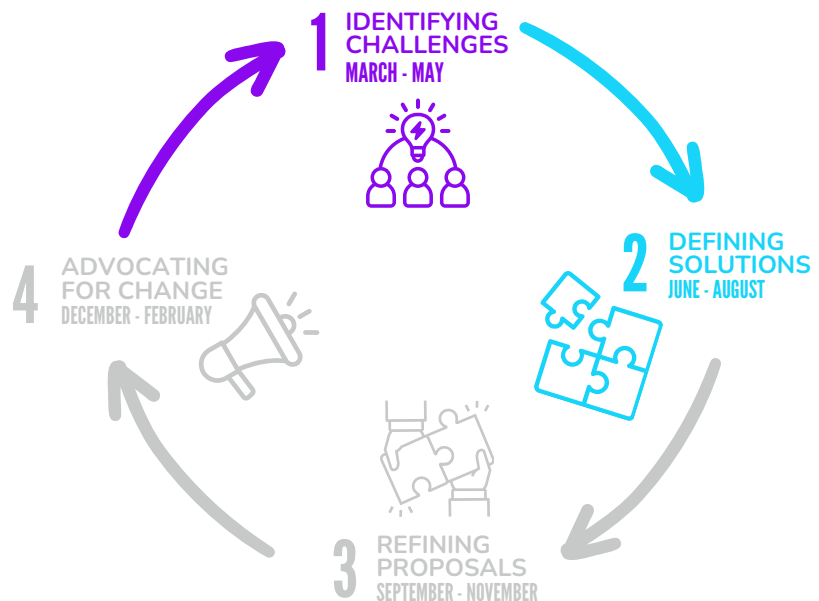
The 2023 Summit provided an opportunity for the community to hear our young advocates' policy proposals and to celebrate their incredible dedication to systems change work. The preparations for Summit began during **the first phase of Mockingbird's advocacy cycle, "Identifying Challenges,"** when Youth and Young Adults across the state met in their regional chapters to discuss the current challenges and issues with the greatest impact on their wellbeing. Once young advocates prioritized and refined the problem statements, they moved to **phase two. During this phase, chapters began determining the best solutions for the identified challenges.** To ensure tangible solutions, chapters met with lived experience and policy experts during systems reform workshops to polish presentations for the Annual Summit.

Youth and young adults and Mockingbird staff arrived at 2023 Summit Day One filled with excitement, joy, anxiety, and lots of caffeine. The first day of the Summit was designed to build a sense of community among our young advocates from across the state. There were workshops on script and presentation writing, a resource fair with over X community partners, and a picnic-- complete with an ice cream truck and fry bread!

Participants presented their policy and system change proposals on the second day to the Washington State Office of Homeless Youth (OHY) and the Supreme Court Commission on Children, Youth, and Families. As this was the first in-person Summit since COVID-19, the in-person audience was limited to maintain an environment of well-being and belonging. The youth and young adults took the stage and presented a total of seven topics, each centered on the essential work, resources, and coordination needed to transform, foster, and end youth homelessness. After each presentation, OHY and the Commission asked questions, provided feedback, and expressed interest in partnering with chapters to build connections and advance each chapters' proposals.

## ADVOCACY CYCLE

PHASE 1 - PHASE 2



ADVOCACY CYCLE PHASE

2



DEFINING SOLUTIONS  
JUNE-AUGUST

# YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

JULY 31 - AUGUST 1, 2023

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL SEATTLE AIRPORT

*The following issues & proposals were presented to the WA State Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care & Office of Homeless Youth...*

## YOUTH ADVOCATES ENDING HOMELESSNESS (YAEH) CHAPTER

**The issue:** Here in King County, there is limited support for those under 18, and no places that specifically serve young adults (18-25). To adequately support young people who are system-involved, have experienced trauma, or are in crisis, mental healthcare and crisis centers equipped and tailored to serve young adults are needed.

**The proposal:** Increase state funding for mental healthcare, especially for young people.



## KING COUNTY CHAPTER

**The issue:** While there are checkpoints in place (bill of rights for young people, assigning lawyers, case manager support, the OMBUDS complaint portal, etc.), young people in foster care still are left with questions and an overwhelming feeling of isolation.

**The proposal:** Refine the complaint process available to young people in foster care, and propose quarterly connections with the Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF), Ombuds, and other key partners. Collaborate to ensure every young person has a community of support, including a peer advocate.





## TACOMA CHAPTER

**The issue:** Young people are confronted with daunting barriers when it comes to securing housing, as they have to deal with extra fees, no rental or credit history, and high minimum income requirements. These barriers become roadblocks, leaving them stranded and vulnerable, deprived of a stable home and at the mercy of an unforgiving housing system.

**The proposal:** Advocate for the creation of a workgroup dedicated to improving and expanding on Master Leases-- granting a blend of independence and rental experience, all while ensuring they receive the necessary supportive services and quality of care-- for young people in WA state.



## EASTERN CHAPTER

**The issue:** In Washington state, addressing the issues of underfunding and poor fund-allocation in school districts and Educational Service Districts (ESDs) is critical. These challenges lead to a lack of programming, particularly in low-income school districts-- disproportionately impacting BIPOC students and contributing to the achievement gap. Despite the profound impact on young people's education, youth voices are often overlooked in decision-making processes-- denying them the chance to advocate for their own needs and priorities.

**The proposal:** Focus on centering the voices of young people in educational policymaking and decision-making.



## OLYMPIA CHAPTER

**The issue:** Extended Foster Care (EFC) is a program designed to assist young people who turn 18 while dependents of the state and provide resources and support until the age of 21. However, many youth aging out of care remain unaware of EFC and are hindered by eligibility requirements.

**The proposal:** Pursue refinement and expansion of Extended Foster Care (EFC), a program that is designed to assist young adults who are dependents of the state.





## NORTHERN CHAPTER

**The issue:** Young people who have experienced homelessness apart from foster care face unique challenges that can be difficult to overcome by themselves. Despite available support for young people experiencing homelessness, there are ongoing issues with accessibility—especially in rural areas and/or tailored for BIPOC and LGBTQ+ individuals.

**The proposal:** Advocate to reinstate quarterly meetings with The Office of Homeless Youth (OHY) to explore ways to ensure that young people experiencing homelessness are appointed a caseworker helping identify and access resources, finding and maintaining stable housing, and connecting them with their community.

## CENTRAL CHAPTER

**The issue:** Autonomy over one's own future is important to gaining independence, having confidence in one's abilities, and setting attainable future aspirations. Currently, countless systems limit foster youth's autonomy-- especially BIPOC or LGBTQ+ youth, who may face barriers to acceptance and proper care in many foster homes.

**The proposal:** Present a 3-check system that would give young people in foster care the autonomy and confidence to choose a home for themselves, identify abuse in foster care settings, and elect to leave a foster care setting without repercussions if they feel unsafe.





## ADVOCACY CYCLE PHASE

# 3



REFINING PROPOSALS  
SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER



# FOLLOWING SUMMIT, REFINING PROPOSALS...

*By Charles Smith, Director of Public Policy & Advocacy*

Post Summit, our Public Policy and Advocacy team acted as a bridge to ensure the connections made at Summit would be maintained during our third phase of the advocacy cycle, "refining solutions". Chapters continued to refine their topics and determined whether these topics would evolve into a lead legislative agenda item or an administrative agenda item. **Lead items are topics co-created with young advocates, leading to either legislation or budgetary requests; Administrative items are topics advanced by young advocates in partnership with Mockingbird staff and involving coordination/exploration with policymakers, state agencies, and implementation partners.** These topics typically involve young advocates' participation in critical implementation work groups in partnership with agencies like the WA Health Care Authority, Office of Civil Legal Aid, and the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

Additionally, young advocates identify issues elevated by youth-serving coalition partners to support, which are incorporated into support agenda items. Finally, legacy topics may be elevated to refine passed legislation, improve implementation, or resurface topics which failed to pass in previous years. Once Mockingbird's list of items takes shape, young advocates from the Mockingbird State Leadership Council (including youth leadership of each regional chapter) vote to endorse the agenda.

Given the scope of some of the new chapter proposals, these topics evolved into Administrative Agenda items poised for advancement via ongoing workgroups, the identification of additional strategic and implementation partners, and additional research. Meanwhile, two legacy items—Extended Foster Care and Legislative Capabilities—became the focus of Mockingbird's Lead Agenda.

Through this process, we endeavor to highlight the remarkable, months-long efforts of our chapters in shaping critical topics relevant to our mission. As The Mockingbird Society continues to evolve, we remain attentive to our guiding principles and the imperative of continuity, while recognizing that meaningful systemic change demands perseverance across multiple advocacy cycles. Our steadfast commitment to this approach underscores the significance of our past legislative endeavors, notably in extended foster care and financial capabilities, which continue to be central to our mission and relevance today. Our young advocates are unwavering in their pursuit of systemic change, building upon the groundwork laid by their predecessors.

Moving forward, The Mockingbird Society will continue to assess and analyze the most pressing issues at every step of our advocacy, ensuring that we advance the most relevant and sustainable legislative agenda items... while coordinating with our community partners and exploring complementary efforts in critical implementation spaces.



ADVOCACY CYCLE PHASE

4

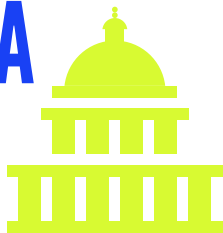


ADVOCATING FOR  
CHANGE  
DECEMBER-FEBRUARY

# 2024 FORMAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

*These topics were co-created with young advocates, leading to either legislation or budgetary requests*

## LEAD LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



### EXTENDED FOSTER CARE (EFC)

**SB 5908**

Extended Foster Care, or EFC, is a program to support young people who are dependents of the state when they turn 18.

**WE'RE ADVOCATING TO:**  
AMEND ELEMENTS OF THE PROGRAM, PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUBSIDIES, STREAMLINE STIPENDS, ADDRESS DELAYS, AND PREVENT INVOLUNTARY EXITS FOR ENHANCED PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS.

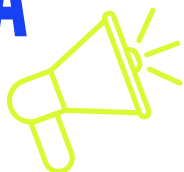
### FINANCIAL CAPABILITIES (FC)

**SB 5591**

Young people in Washington state who are in foster care need access to financial literacy skills and a bank account at a young age. This would help them be successful when they leave care, and without these resources, they can become trapped in a cycle of poverty.

**WE'RE ADVOCATING TO:**  
PASS LEGISLATION DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES (DCYF) TO ESTABLISH BANK ACCOUNTS FOR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE AGES 14+ WITH A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE DEPOSITED, PAIRED WITH FINANCIAL EDUCATION BEGINNING AT 12 YEARS OF AGE.

## SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



### DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

**SB 5800**

We are supporting the Department of Licensing (DOL) as they advocate to increase accessibility to apply for a driver's license.

**WE'RE ADVOCATING WITH THE DOL TO:**  
EXPAND THE ELIGIBILITY ON THE REQUIRED ADULT SIGNATURE FOR A DRIVER'S LICENSE APPLICATION TO INCLUDE A "RESPONSIBLE ADULT".

### THE BRIDGE

**HB 1929**

The Bridge Residential is a proposal to align with The Bridge Coalition designed to ensure young people facing unaccompanied homelessness and exiting inpatient behavioral health treatment have safe housing and services to avoid being discharged into homelessness or emergency based services.

**WE'RE ADVOCATING WITH THE BRIDGE COALITION & NORTHSTAR ADVOCATES TO:**  
CREATE TWO 6-10 BED COMMUNITY-BASED HOUSING PROGRAMS THAT YOUNG PEOPLE CAN STAY IN FOR 1-90 DAYS AS THEY IDENTIFY LONG-TERM HOUSING. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES, CONSULTATION, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE PROVIDED. THE BUDGET REQUEST IS \$3 MILLION ANNUALLY.

# 2024 ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

*These topics are advanced by young advocates in partnership with Mockingbird staff and involving coordination/exploration with policymakers, state agencies, and implementation partners.*

ADVOCACY CYCLE PHASE

4



ADVOCATING FOR  
CHANGE  
DECEMBER-FEBRUARY

## NORTHERN CHAPTER

### ENSURING CASEWORKERS ARE ASSIGNED TO YOUNG PEOPLE

#### Overview

The Northern Chapter aims to start a multiyear plan to ensure that young people experiencing homelessness are appointed a caseworker.

#### Solution

The chapter meets regularly with the Office of Homeless Youth (OHY). The chapter has also proposed surveying young people and service providers to determine what practical casework would look like and what resources would be needed to make that possible.

## YAEH\* CHAPTER

### EXPANDING CRISIS CARE AND MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

#### Overview

In King County, the inadequacy of mental healthcare, particularly for young people, has reached a critical limit. Currently, those under 18 are left with limited support and no designated facilities catering specifically to young adults aged 18-25. This pressing issue, exacerbated by experiences of trauma, such as homelessness and mistreatment, demands a targeted solution.

#### The Solution

In collaboration with the Office of Homeless Youth (OHY) and The Bridge, the chapter has established a workgroup to advocate for and address the implementation and amendments of SB 5120. This strategy aims to create and structure crisis relief centers across Washington State.

**\*YOUTH ADVOCATES ENDING HOMELESSNESS**

## TACOMA CHAPTER

### SUPPORTIVE LEASING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

#### Overview

The Tacoma Chapter is dedicated to enhancing awareness among service providers about what the chapter has termed as Supportive Leasing. Supportive Leasing empowers a lessee, like a service provider, to sublease to clients, enhancing housing access and eliminating conventional lease barriers for Young People.

#### The Solution

A workgroup has been assembled to increase awareness around Supportive Leasing, gather the most up to date tools, and create recommendations for how service providers can best support Young People using this model.



## KING COUNTY PEER 2 PEER PROGRAM

### Overview

The Seattle Chapter identified a lack of support and guidance for young people in the foster care system.

### The Solution

The chapter proposes creating a Peer 2 Peer program that gives job opportunities to people who have lived experience in foster care while providing mentorship from lived experience experts for youth and young adults navigating the system. The chapter is developing a model based on an existing and successful Parent 4 Parent program. They are doing this with the support of the Office of Public Defense (OPD), Children's Home Society of WA, and other community partners.

## CENTRAL CHAPTER THE 3-CHECK SYSTEM

### Overview

Recognizing the need to address the relationship between the right to autonomy and abuse facing foster youth, The Central Chapter proposes a 3-check system to address youth that slip through the cracks to give them a sense of choice and safety:

- 1) Allow foster youth to define and select their ideal home
- 2) Identifying abuse: provide training for young people to identify abuse and unsafe behaviors in their foster homes.
- 3) Being able to leave their home with no repercussions.

### The Solution

In collaboration with Office of Civil Legal Aid (OCLA), the chapter is working to improve the current Know Your Rights pamphlet, making it more accessible for all youth and young adults. The pamphlet is essential for young folks to know their rights around the 3 check system.

## EASTERN CHAPTER INCLUDING YOUTH VOICES IN CREATION OF SCHOOL POLICIES

### Overview

In Washington's school districts and Educational Service Districts (ESD's), insufficient funding creates disparities, particularly in low-income areas. This financial challenge hinders resources and programs, deepening educational inequalities for BIPOC students and marginalized communities.

### The Solution

- The chapter is advocating for youth inclusion in funding and school policy decisions. They seek to support students and help ensure their voices are heard, especially within school boards and other student advisory groups.
- The chapter also is following, supporting, and bringing attention to current education bills in legislative session addressing these issues.



# ANNUAL YOUTH ADVOCACY DAY

*Advocacy In Action*

**FEBRUARY 2, 2024**

ADVOCACY CYCLE PHASE

**4**



ADVOCATING FOR  
CHANGE  
DECEMBER-FEBRUARY

During the final phase of the advocacy cycle, youth and young adult advocates deepen their understanding of the issues, barriers to solutions, key decision-makers, and advocacy strategy. This culminates in the annual **Youth Advocacy Day** (YAD), when young advocates join with partner agencies and community stakeholders in Olympia to meet with legislators, advocate for their policy proposals, and provide critical testimony around the issues and their experiences.

This year's YAD included a morning program, a march to the Capitol, meetings with elected officials, a rally on the steps of the Capitol, a closing program with special entertainment by The Bridge Music Project, and a celebratory lunch.



**181 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED,  
INCLUDING YOUNG PEOPLE,  
PARTNERING AGENCIES, AND  
CONCERNED CITIZENS**

**28 UNIQUE PARTNER  
ORGANIZATIONS WERE  
REPRESENTED**



**59 YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS  
ATTENDED AND CONNECTED  
WITH LEGISLATORS**



**ATTENDEES MET WITH 38  
LEGISLATORS AND THEIR STAFF**



**4 LEGISLATORS JOINED AND  
SPOKE TO OUR YOUNG PEOPLE  
AT THE RALLY**



# 2024 LEGISLATIVE WINS

*These policy wins are the culmination of a year's worth of young peoples' advocacy efforts. These are THEIR wins, and we celebrate these achievements with them.*

## SB 5908: EXTENDED FOSTER CARE

**LEAD AGENDA ITEM**

On March 19, 2024, Senate Bill 5908 Extended Foster Care (EFC) was officially signed into law. Beginning on June 6, 2024, the following elements of the bill will go into effect: Any young person who is dependent at age 18 will be eligible for Extended Foster Care; Young people can sign a voluntary placement agreement or an agreement to participate in EFC anytime within six months of their 18th birthday (even before they turn 18), and they can sign those forms electronically; and young people who enroll in EFC must receive their first subsidy within one month.

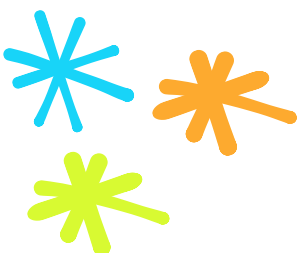
**This marks The Mockingbird Society's 70th major legislative win since its inception in 2000.**



## THE BRIDGE RESIDENTIAL

**SUPPORT AGENDA ITEM**

This support agenda item was carried to the finish line by Northstar Advocates and The Bridge Coalition. The Bridge will create two 6-10 bed community-based housing programs that young people can stay in for 1-90 days as they identify long-term housing. Behavioral health services, consultation, and technical assistance will be provided.





# FISCAL YEAR 2023 FINANCIALS

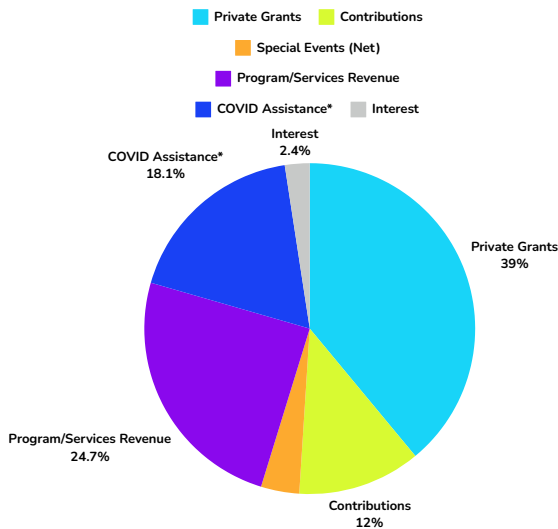
## ASSETS

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cash and Cash Equivalents..... | \$2,516,483        |
| Accounts Receivable.....       | \$765,072          |
| Other Current Assets.....      | \$27,017           |
| Fixed Assets.....              | \$114,197          |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS.....</b>       | <b>\$3,422,769</b> |

## LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

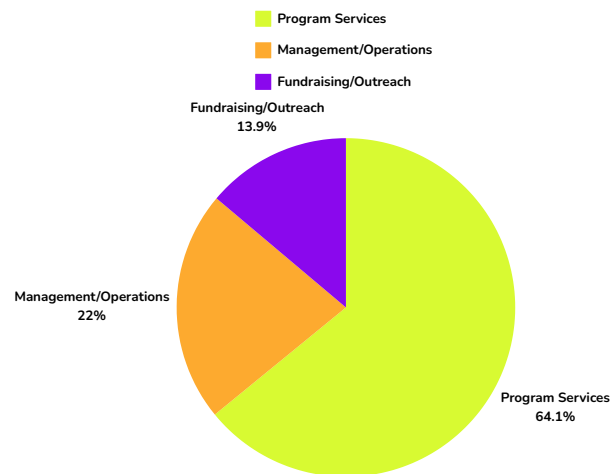
|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Donor Restricted Net Assets.....           | \$1,215,500        |
| Unrestricted Net Assets.....               | \$2,236,843        |
| Net Income.....                            | (\$315,803)        |
| <b>EQUITY.....</b>                         | <b>\$3,136,540</b> |
| Liabilities.....                           | \$286,229          |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY.....</b> | <b>\$3,422,769</b> |

## REVENUE SOURCE BREAKDOWN



\* COVID Assistance in 2023 only.

## EXPENSE BREAKDOWN



To enhance Mockingbird's sustainability and long-term impact, Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 have been dedicated to significant investments in the agency's infrastructure and capacity: right-sizing the staff, ramping programming back up to pre-pandemic levels, building out appropriate support and training for staff, and more intentional support of grassroots, BIPOC and LGBTQ-centered partners.

Additionally, Mockingbird is undergoing a reassessment of our personnel expense allocations to better reflect cross-departmental collaboration and involvement in our advocacy and programming efforts. That said, we are also trying to intentionally combat the detrimental impacts of the "overhead myth" in our sector and are working to approach these shifts (and external communications about them) in a thoughtful way. If you have questions about this, please don't hesitate to contact us.



# OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO ALL MOCKINGBIRD'S SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS!

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN FISCAL YEAR 2023 FROM THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES:

|                             |                          |                                   |                          |                              |                            |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Shawn Aebi                  | Andrea Dahlke            | Makeba & Aaron Greene             | Jaimie Lee               | Joanna Power                 | Alfred & Lucy Sullivan     |
| Kunal Aggarwal              | Dr. Benjamin Danielson   | Naveen Gupta                      | Sandia Lell              | Dawn Rains                   | Jerriann Sullivan          |
| Steve & Mimi Akerman        | Eileen Davidson          | Rich Gustav                       | Natalie & Michelle Lente | Akshat Rajvanshi             | Alexandra & Dan Swanson    |
| Shirley Allen               | Daniel Davis             | Dr. Wanda Hackett                 | Dr. Dan Lessler          | Mike Ramey                   | Emiko Tajima               |
| Stephanie Allen &           | Angella Derington        | Valerie Hagger                    | Jess Lewis               | Sharndee Kaur-Shoker &       | Rebecca Tanghe             |
| Dr. Neil Nathanson          | Ankur Doda               | Gina Hall                         | Jiayu Liang              | Gurshan Randhawa             | Amy Tanner                 |
| Sheila Anderson             | Beth Hamilton &          | Lynda Hall                        | Susan Lichtenberg &      | Farid Rasuli                 | Cat Tarvin                 |
| Robert Angus                | Adam Dodge               | Lauren Halpern                    | Stephen Kovnat           | Jerry Reeves                 | Brian Teagle               |
| Ileana Areiza               | Jennifer Dovey           | Bridger Hamilton                  | Judy Lightfoot           | Dolores Reis                 | Jenn Tennent               |
| Tyler Arnold                | Carolyn Downs            | Mark Hancock                      | Jimmy Lin                | Scott & Katie Renschler      | Gayle Teramura &           |
| Niharika Arora              | Emily Doyle              | Julia Hart                        | Jeff Lindstrom           | Curt Richardson              | Roger Terriere             |
| Jennie Ash                  | Leslie Dozono &          | Travis Harth                      | Laurie Lippold           | Sonia Richardson             | Barbara Thacker            |
| Kathryn Ashe                | Jason Thibedeau          | Gerrie Hashiaki                   | Angela Lofgren           | Cindy Richmond               | Jim & Marcia Theofelis     |
| Janis Avery                 | Diana Dundore            | Shawli Hathaway                   | Erin Lovell              | Kesha Rodgers                | Mary Anne Thorbeck         |
| Miho Awazu                  | Niall Dunne              | Patricia Taylor Helgren           | Daniel Lugo              | Sierra Rogers                | Mark Thorrington           |
| Kate Baber                  | Marcia Durgin            | Erin Hatheway & William Hyman     | Patricia Lynch           | Christine Romeo              | Terence Tombari            |
| Linda & Thomas Baker        | Judy Finlay Eaton &      | Tessa Heady                       | Mary Heather MacMaster   | Jessica Ross & Allison Kent  | Liz Trautman               |
| Jim Bamberger &             | Marshall Eaton           | Alicia Healey                     | Amisha Madani            | Dr. Alan Rothblatt           | Sonja Ulrich               |
| Nancy Eastham               | Melissa Ecker            | Hussam Hebbo                      | James Marshall           | Ruth Ann & Michael Rouse     | Rep. Javier Valdez         |
| Kay & Joe Beavo             | Alison Eckes             | Wendy Heipt                       | Rebekah Marshall         | Evelyn Rozner & Matt Griffin | Allison & Brian Vance      |
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| Christina Bernard           | Natalie Ellington        | Al Hillel & Sue Wiedenfeld-Hillel | Karen Matson             | Eve Rumpf-Sternberg          | Lindsay Vickerman          |
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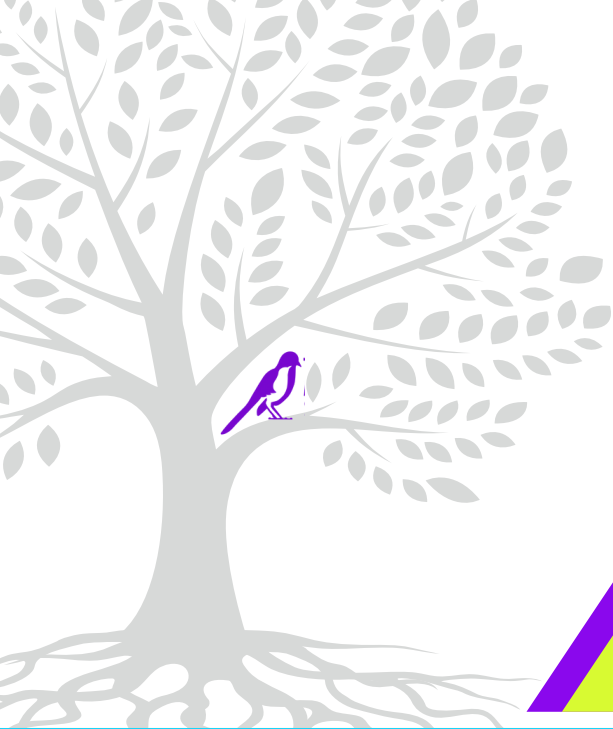
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THIS WAS ONLY POSSIBLE WITH OUR  
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WE THANK YOU!



WHAT'S NEXT IN 2024...

# CULTIVATING COMMUNITY

BY STAYING ROOTED IN OUR MISSION.

ENHANCING EXPLORATION OF UPSTREAM AND PREVENTATIVE SOLUTIONS SO THAT FEWER YOUNG PEOPLE FACE HOMELESSNESS AND CHALLENGES IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM.

BUILDING AND GROWING INTENTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH PARTNERS IN OUR COMMUNITIES TO EXPLORE OUR INTERCONNECTED ISSUES TOGETHER AND SEEK HOLISTIC APPROACHES AND EQUITABLE SOLUTIONS.



EQUIPPING OUR TEAM WITH THE INFRASTRUCTURE, TRAINING, AND RESOURCES TO CREATE THE SUPPORTS OUR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS DESERVE AND HOLDING OURSELVES AND KEY LEADERS ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE COMMITMENTS WE MAKE.

BOLSTERING OUR APPROACH TO POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-ADVOCACY—ENCOURAGING YOUNG ADVOCATES TO BE VISIBLE AND VOCAL WHILE STRENGTHENING CONFIDENCE IN THEIR ABILITIES, VALUES, AND VOICE—WHICH IS A “PROTECTIVE FACTOR” FOR AT-RISK YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS.



CENTERING RACIAL EQUITY IN EVERY ASPECT OF OUR WORK, BECAUSE RACIAL INEQUITIES PERSIST IN EVERY SYSTEM ACROSS THE COUNTRY, WITHOUT EXCEPTION.



# TRANSFORMING FOSTER CARE.



## ENDING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS.

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