

## Mariposa 2023 Kids ANNUAL REPORT



SAFE SPACE ● FREE PLAY ● COMMUNITY



### **MISSION**

To support and inspire children's natural curiosity and independence through free play during their out-of-school time.

### VISION

Vibrant communities that support the social emotional growth of all children through friendship and play.

### VALUES

FUN COMMUNITY COMMUNITY EVELL-BEING ELONGING ELONGING

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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

When our clubhouse opened for the 2022-23 school year, we could feel that the tide of the pandemic had shifted. We picked up the kids at Leonard Flynn Elementary with a full staff, which had been a challenge with workforce hiring in the field. After returning to in-person learning the year before, children had acclimated to being together and we felt the difference with a much smoother year in our After-School Program.

Mariposa Kids continues to see all of our programming fully enrolled and families excited to partake in our opportunities for children to PLAY! The resilience of children and families continues to inspire each day.

Over the last year, Mariposa Kids has seen exciting new developments as we kicked off the first 18-months of our strategic P.L.A.Y. Initiative. With it, we released our

new Theory of Change, our Leaders of the Future Program, and kicked off important work to strengthen the foundation of our organization.

As transitional kindergarten (TK) expands in our state, increasing the amount of children in public elementary schools, and as more public funds get released to expand access to out-of-school time (OST) programs, Mariposa Kids is focused on supporting our children, families, and community to meet the increased need of quality free play based OST programming in SF.

We are grateful for everyone's role in our continued success in serving our community and are proud to present highlights from 2022 and the '22-'23 school year with you in this year's Annual Report.

- Juan Hazelton

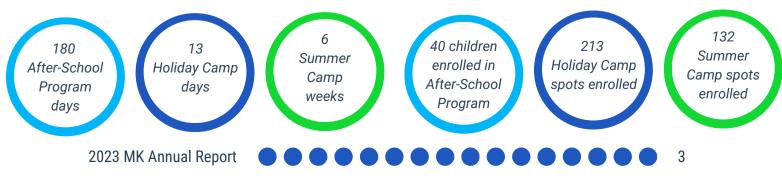
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## FREE PLAY AT MK



Free play, also known as unstructured playtime, is an important piece of healthy child development. The United States has seen a 25% decline in the amount of time children have access to for free play over the last 50 years. So while we often share exciting updates that include activities like Read-A-Thons, lessons in civics, and gardening activities, Mariposa Kids continues to center indoor and outdoor unstructured playtime throughout our programs. On average, children in our After-School Program have **access to 3.5 hours a day** and our **camps provide for 7 hours a day of free play**.

The American Academy of Pediatrics reports that "play allows children to use their creativity while developing their imagination, dexterity, and physical, cognitive, and emotional strength." Taking free play outdoors adds **additional health benefits including increased vitamin D levels, reduced stress, and improved impulse control.** 



## A YEAR OF CIVICS

#### Learning How to Vote

Showing children how democracy works wasn't in our original curriculum, but when the debate began on going to Precita Park or Garfield Park after school, we knew it was time to wrap a lesson in civics into a decision making process for the kids. The kids participated in our first official Voting Day, complete with ballots, voter rolls, stickers, and voter booths. A majority vote made the decision, and all the kids accepted the result - Garfield Park in 2023!



#### **The Value of Free Public Libraries**

San Francisco City Librarian Michael Lambert visited our clubhouse (see cover photo) to share more about our city's award winning library system and all it provides to residents. Kids were fascinated by the stories he told and the facts he shared, with many of them sharing a thing or two they had learned themselves.

#### **Visiting San Francisco City Hall**

Our 2nd-5th graders toured SF City Hall with our district supervisor, Supervisor Hillary Ronen. They sat in a committee hearing with some courageous kids standing before the supervisors to provide testimony about why they believe the government should work towards ending homelessness in our city. Kids walked away understanding how they can use their voice to create change.

80% of kids say they learn new things at MK 907 books read in biannual Read-A-Thons 92.5% of kids report having "A LOT" of fun at MK

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## HEALTH & NUTRITION PROGRAM

#### **Gardening Kale - From Seed to Salad**

When children plant seeds and watch produce grow, they develop an appreciation for natural foods and often pick up habits of selecting healthy foods over processed and packaged foods. A parent volunteer came in throughout the school year to teach kids how to create natural compost soil, plant seeds, and grow kale. Each visit included kids trying different delicious kale dishes.



#### **Outdoor Time is Important**

After a successful launch of our Health & Nutrition Program in 2021-22, we began incorporating outdoor time and physical activity into the program. As part of this effort, we focused on maximizing outdoor time throughout our programming to keep kids moving. Our goal is to have children outside at least 30% of the time they are with us. Our **After-School Program averages 52% and our camps average 44%** of children's time outdoors.

#### **Learning About Food & Culture**

We bring families in our After-School Program together during select evenings in the school year to share in dinner, community, and park fun. To celebrate the cultures of families in our program, we hosted a Holiday Potluck where food was brought to showcase family traditions and cultures to one another. Sharing how we all use food in different ways to celebrate our holidays provided a sense of belonging and community in our clubhouse.









### **LEADERS OF THE FUTURE**

#### Junior Rec Leaders

Now in its second year, our Junior Rec Leader Program continues its incredible success in our After-School Program. This year, we expanded the program to include a returning Junior Rec Leader to act as the "Lead." Our 2022-23 cohort set monthly goals for themselves and created their own snack distribution schedule and process. We work to let this group guide their own experience throughout the year. They continue to enjoy the responsibility and leadership roles they hold in our clubhouse with rising 4th graders anxious to apply next year.

#### **Community Volunteers**

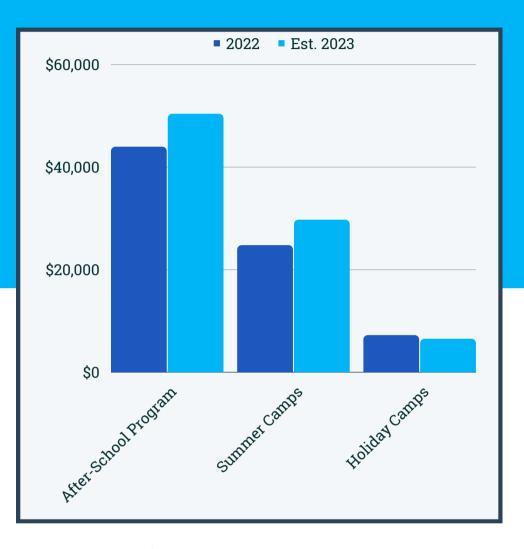
Our 2022-23 school year saw our second year partnering with local high schools to bring volunteers into our After-School Program. Our kids love having teenagers visit our space on a weekly basis. Our high school volunteers lead sports on the field, games on the playground, and activities in the clubhouse. We hope some of these teenagers decide to join the field of education in their

future endeavors.

As a reward for service, Junior Rec Leaders had special outings including ice skating and going to the movies.



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



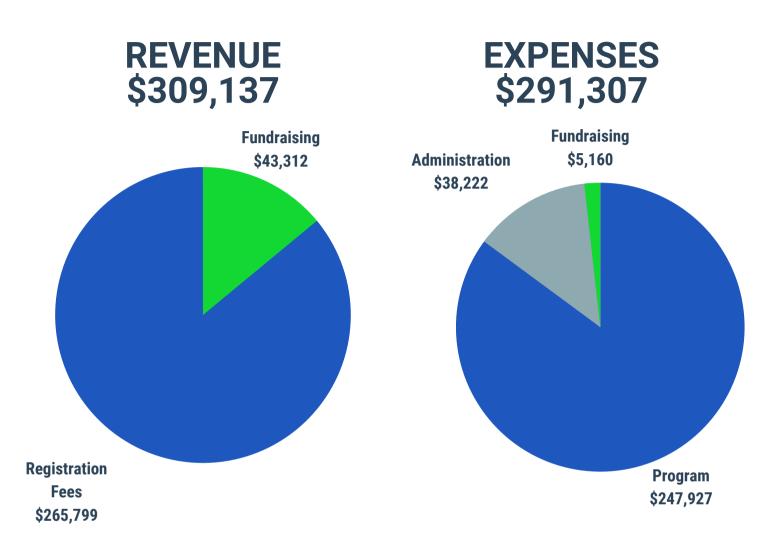
In 2022, Mariposa Kids provided \$75,887 in financial assistance to income qualifying families in our community. Families receiving financial assistance earn annual income determined by the state of California to be "Low" to "Acutely Low" for San Francisco. We provided nearly 20% of children in our After-School Program, 30% of Summer Camp spots, and 20% of Holiday Camp spots with assistance. We expect to increase the amount of financial assistance in 2023 to \$83,850, a 10.5% increase year over year, to support more families with quality out-of-school time programming for their children.

Our Board of Directors approved our Financial Assistance Policy in January 2022 outlining our organization's commitment to provide at least 10% of our annual budget to our Financial Assistance Program. We strive for 20% or more of our annual budget to be distributed. In 2022, 26% of our operating budget was distributed.

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## 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT



**FINANCIAL NOTES:** These are unaudited financials as we are not required to conduct internal audits. Our finance partners, Nonprofit Intelligence Partners and Wegner CPAs, help Mariposa Kids maintain and report our finances. Our 2022 990 is filed and available for review on our website.

In 2022, our board approved our P.L.A.Y. Initiative which established our Leaders of the Future Program which sets aside funds in our reserves for education fringe benefits for employees pursuing degrees in child development, education, health, and non-profit management. This initiative also set aside additional funds for program analysis, administrative reviews, and technology investments.

We do not publish lists of donors. In 2022, we received \$20,500 in grants from foundations and \$22,812 from individual donor contributions. If you would like a list of our financial supporters, please email our Executive Director, Ryan Hazelton, at ryan@sfmariposakids.com for more info.



# Kids



Thank you to all the children & families we serve, our talented & dedicated staff, our board & community partners, and our donors that support our mission each year.

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#### **Board of Directors**

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