Fostering Further ANNUAL REPORT

Foster care can be hard. We're here to help.

2023

Fostering Further is a 50I(c)3 non-profit dedicated to meeting the needs of the kids, teens, families and social workers in central Ohio foster care.

A word from our Executive Director



Yvonne Williams
Executive Director

2023 marked another significant year of fulfilling our mission to support the foster community of Licking County. We were able to provide fun and formative experiences for kids in care, encourage foster families as they do the noble work of caring for children in their homes, support our excellent social work community and walk alongside young adults who have aged out of care. It was also an exciting year as we grew our donor base, increased our financial reserves, and looked forward to additional staffing in 2024.

We are often humbled, not only by the work we do, but by the way the community partners with us to make our work possible. We are proud to share our numbers and statistics with you, but more importantly, we are proud to share that <u>together</u> we are impacting lives.

Highlights from 2023

- 42 Wishes granted for foster youth
- 62 Welcome Kits provided to young adults in their first apartments
- 10 Youth housed at Hope Landing
- 5 Licking County agencies and caseworkers supported
- 29 Young adults attended Adulting 101 classes
- 6 Young adults learned to drive
- 25 Bikes delivered to children and young adults
- Dozens of children served through the clothing closet





New in 2023!

Fostering Further helped launch a new support group for foster and adoptive families! Families meet monthly to eat together, learn, and support each other through their foster care journey.



Mid-year, we had an urgent need for a new practice car for the Learn To Drive program.

Our FaceBook community, churches and individuals quickly raised the needed funds to get our young adults back on the road!



Our Volunteers

Fostering Further has the best volunteers! On any given day, you can find them:

- Teaching youth to drive
- Helping with maintenance at Hope Landing
- Organizing clothing for kids in foster care
- Fixing bikes for kids and teens
- Cooking a meal at Hope Landing
- Leading an Adulting 101 class
- Raising money for our Grant a Wish program
- Planning special events
- Giving young adults rides to work and school
- Raising awareness about foster care
- Collecting Welcome Kit supplies

We couldn't do this without our volunteers. We are grateful for the many hundreds of hours they have given to our local youth in foster care!







Fostering Further Board

- Marcee Richardson
- Tiffany Davis
- Dana Decker
- Melanie Fling
- Michael O'Brien



- Anna Schott
- Will Smith
- Natalie Sutyak
- Patty Werner
- David Wigginton

Finances

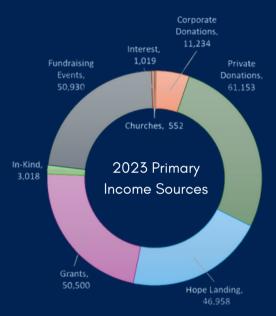
Net Income (Loss)

Statement of Activity for the Period Ended 12/31/2023 & 12/31/2022

	2023	2022
Revenue		
Donations Received	75,956.36	67,849.71
Grants Received	50,500.00	30,045.00
Other Income	98,907.28	53,292,90
Total Revenue	225,363.64	151,187.61
Expenses		
Program Expenses	100,374.14	95,515.21
Other Operating Exp.	49,588.28	54,277.19
Total Expenses	149,962.42	149.792.4

75,401.22

1.395.21





We are fortunate to have the financial support to be able to fund multiple programs that benefit both children in foster care as well as the young adults who have aged out of care.

Our transitional housing building, Hope Landing, is one of our major services. The use of the building is provided through the generosity of the TJ Evans Foundation. However, the operation and maintenance of the building, as well as programming for the residents, continues to be our largest expense.

Our Impact



A Chance to Graduate

Graduation is a big deal for any youth, but especially for those in foster care. Many youth turn 18 before or during their senior year and often emancipate or "age out". Finishing high school and receiving a diploma can become a challenge. This year, we have been able to provide housing for a young lady who turned 18 before her senior year but wanted to finish her schooling at a local high school. During this school year, she has lived on her own at Hope Landing, been responsible for waking up and getting herself to school, and also maintained a job. She is expected to walk with her class this spring!

A Chance to Learn

Many kids in foster care have never had the opportunity to try a new sport, learn a new skill, or visit a new place. Our Grant a Wish program was designed to help them get these experiences, which can be life-changing. One young lady was already struggling with drugs and alcohol use when she went into foster care. The Grant a Wish program enabled her to try cheerleading, where she made good friends and found coaches who held her accountable. Her behavior and grades improved dramatically, and she is now taking college classes in the medical field. We call that a win!





A Chance to Drive

In foster care, youth often are not allowed to obtain their drivers license, which is a roadblock on their way to independence. This young man participated in our Learn to Drive, Learn to Thrive program. Our volunteers helped him get comfortable behind the wheel of a car. We paid for him to have auto insurance and professional driving instruction while he was learning. We provided Fostering Further's car for practice with our volunteers, and he used this vehicle to take his test and get his license. He now has the skills (and license) to move forward into his future!

Friends of Fostering Further

Individual Donors

**2023 Hope Partners

**2023 Grant Donors

George & Rhoda Antrim Gerald Arnott Steph Athan Jeff & Josie Bailey Steven Barickman Kavleigh Barton

Carol Basile Alan Basting Judy A. Baughman

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Jeremy and Kristi Nestor

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Shane Shipley
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Mark & Patty Werner

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Vivian Williams

Rob & Yvonne Williams Wayne & Joanie Wirth

Robin Wood Ryan Ziolkowski Lily Zoeckler

Friends of Fostering Further

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CareSource**

CAF America

Chuckles Pizza LLC

Coldwell Banker Realty Cares Foundation

Committee for Olivia Parkinson

Dandurand Financial Partners LLC

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First Federal Savings & Loan

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Knock Out Products

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Licking County Foundation**

Licking County United Way Women United**

Licking Memorial Hospital

Licking Rural Electrification Inc.

The Energy Cooperative

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Ohio Credit Union New Beginnings**

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Phi Gamma Delta

Raymond James

Rotary Club of Newark-Heath Ohio

Smittys Collision LLC

Sparky Pinyan Photography

Steve's Towing Inc

Stifel Nicolaus

TJ Evans Foundation

TrueCore Federal Credit Union

United Way of Licking County

Wells for Prosecutor

Wilson, Shannon & Snow Inc.

Wonderlight Productions Inc.

Churches

**2023 Hope Partners

**2023 Grant Donors

Amazing Grace Christian Church
Community Wesleyan Church**

First Baptist Church of Heath

First Presbyterian Church of Granville**

First Presbyterian Church of Newark

First Presbyterian Church of Pataskala

Heath Church of Christ

Kirkersville United Methodist Church

Living Hope Church**

Narrow Road Community Church

Newark Church of the Nazarene

Pataskala United Methodist**

Shepherd Church of the Nazarene

St. Johns United Church of Christ Tri-Village Christian Church**

United Church of Granville

There are dozens of individuals who remain unnamed, but they have donated through our social media, email, and other requests. We truly appreciate your help in filling these specific needs!



**2023 Hope Partners - Hope Partners are churches and individuals in our community that sponsor an apartment, providing support of \$300/month for the overhead and operation of that unit.

**2023 Grant Donors - In 2023, we received over \$50,000 in grant funds to support our new and existing programs.