chess for success

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2023-JUNE 2024

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Thanks to our wonderful staff and board who make our programming possible



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Executive Director



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Director of Programs



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Development and Communications Specialist

Regional Corrdinators



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MISSION

To develop

COMMUNITY, CONNECTION, AND CONFIDENCE

by learning and playing chess, helping students build the academic, social, and emotional skills necessary for future success.

VISION

Helping kids develop the skills they need for a successful life through equitable and supportive programming.

We are for FOCUS
... on education and growth in the communities we serve.

We are for FRIENDSHIP
... through inclusivity, accessibility, and confidence building.

We are for FUN
... at the center of what we do!



By the Numbers

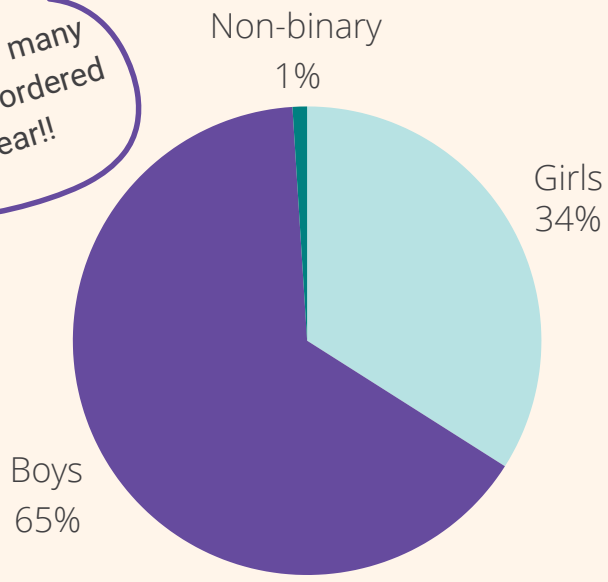
2023-2024 School Year

Below is a reflection of the data collected from a representative sample of our clubs.

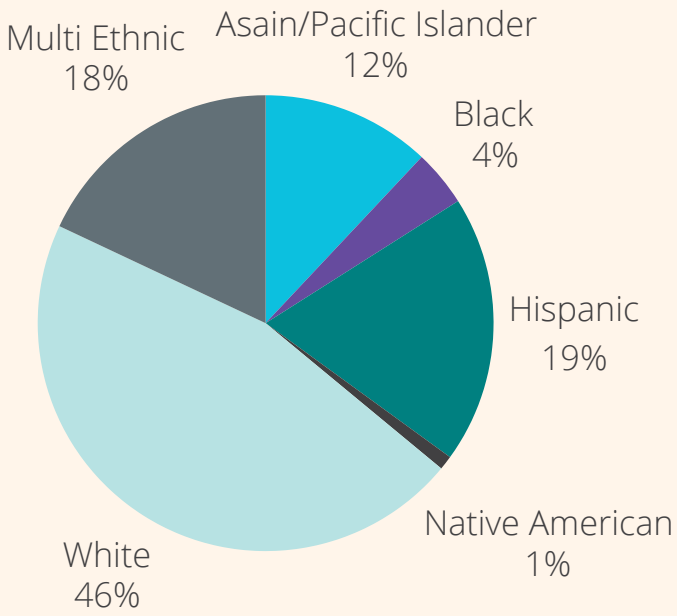


2,379+	11	3	93
participants	counties	states	chess clubs

This is how many t-shirts we ordered this year!!



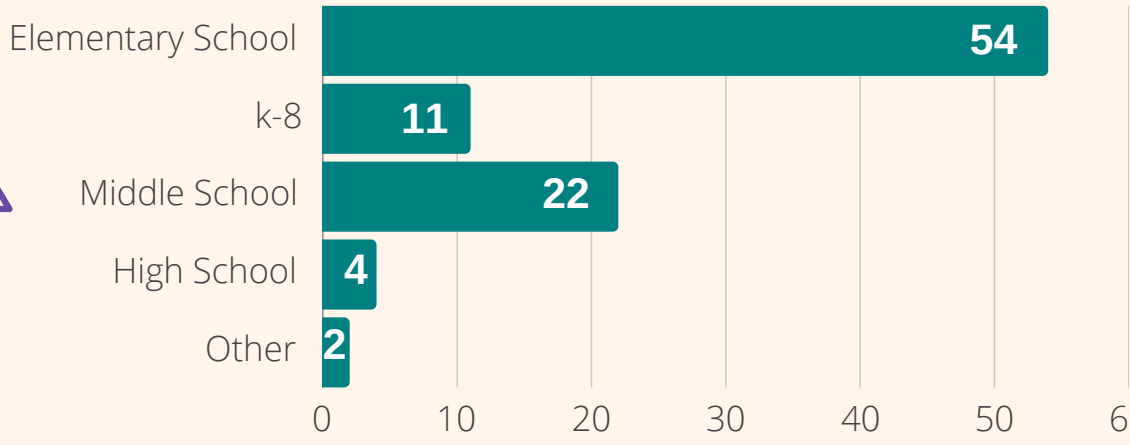
Gender Identity



Race/Ethnicity

77% of Programs were held at Title 1 or CEP eligible schools!

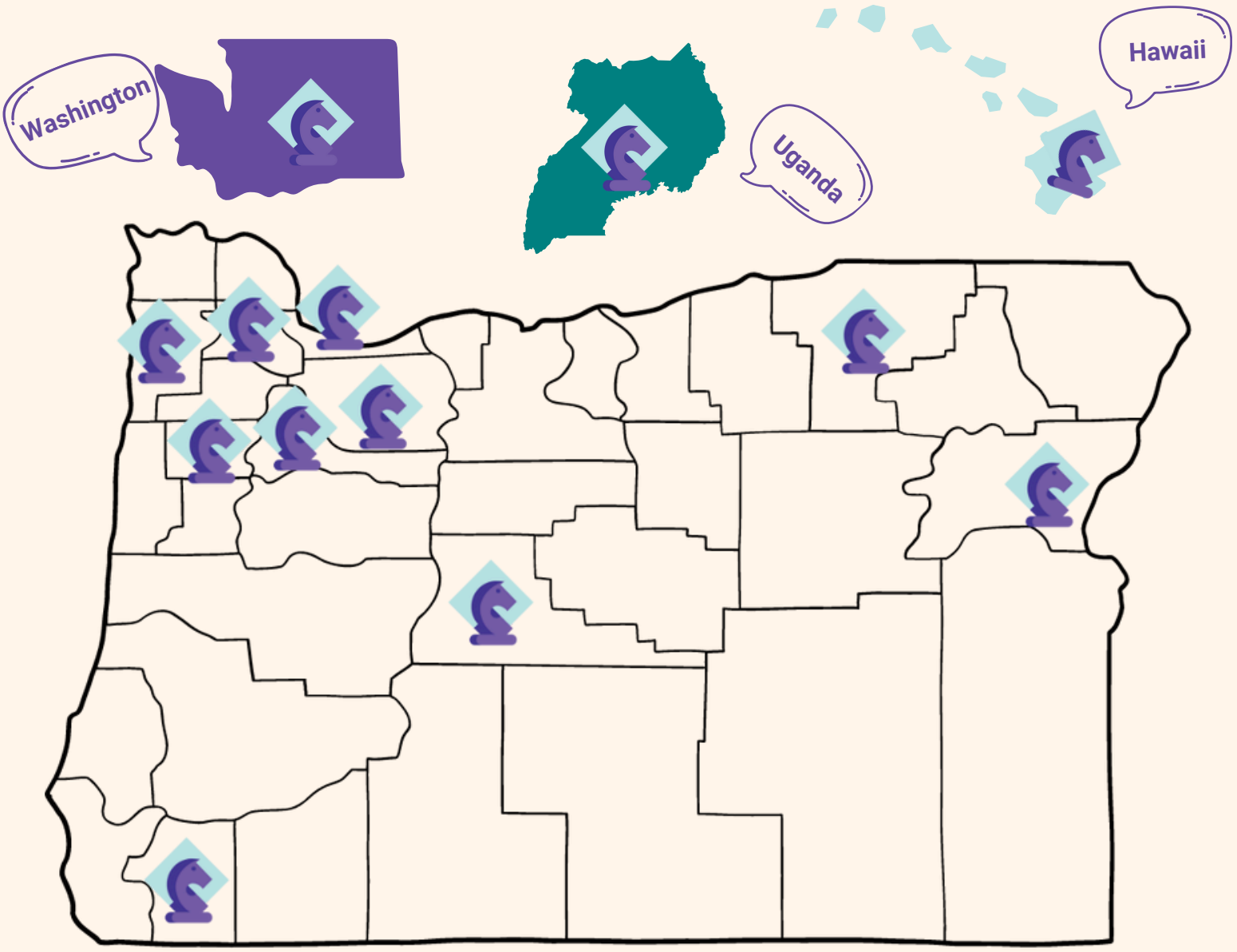




Number of Programs by type of school

Where in the World is CFS?

To get a better idea of where our impact was geographically here is the distribution of our programs in the 2023-24 year by location!



Baker County, OR (4)
Clackamas County, OR (1)
Clark County, WA (14)
Deschutes County, OR (6)
Josephine County, OR (2)
Multnomah County, OR (25)
Polk County, OR (3)
Marion County, OR (15)
Tillamook County, OR (4)
Umatilla County, OR (5)
Washington County, OR (18)
Hawaii (2)
Online, OR&WA (2)
Uganda (1)



THE REVIEWS ARE IN:



PARENTS

"In joining chess club he has connected more with peers, has seen success and it has supported his improvements in reading and went from being 2 grade levels behind to now being at grade level."

"Chess has helped bring my boys a little closer, as 2 of them played chess together as 4th & 5th graders. After starting to play for the school, they also wanted to start playing with me and their grandpa."

"Chess for Success has built such a confidence in my son who is neurodivergent, dealing with social and emotional anxieties. It has provided him an outlet for him to shine, an activity in which is quiet, and not a sensory overstimulation. He is able to show his strengths and skills of thinking mathematically and strategically. I couldn't be more proud of him. Chess for Success has really allowed him to thrive."

COACHES

"I see the wonderful impact learning to focus their minds on chess strategies has on their ability to use higher level thinking, the mindfulness itself needed to immerse themselves in the game and follow their instincts along with the learned strategies, and how they are continually learning to show respect toward their peers by learning and practicing chess etiquette."

"It's not just about chess; it's about watching them grow into thoughtful individuals who value teamwork and respect as much as a clever checkmate. I'm a full-time 4th grade teacher who stays after school for 2 hours to teach chess; even after a long day chess club is the best part of my day. The time is so intellectually and emotionally nourishing for our students."

"I have been coaching chess for about 15 years, and it is hard to stop after seeing the impact a chess program has on individual students. Having reports from teachers of individuals showing more focus in the classroom after joining is one of the great successes. Each student often learns something different from chess club such as patience, sportsmanship, dedication, or that each move matters in life."

What's New at CFS?

DBT

Chess for Success has undergone several exciting changes in recent years. In response to the evolving needs of our communities, we sought ways to ensure that our programs had a broader impact on children's lives, beyond just their academic performance. This led to the creation of our Learning and Wellness programs, which use chess as a foundation while also teaching children key principles of Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT). The feedback from our pilot programs was overwhelmingly positive, inspiring us to integrate these elements into all of our programming, rather than keeping them as separate initiatives. This school year we officially implemented these changes and added DBT principles to all curriculum!



Website

With all of our exciting changes, we felt it was the perfect time to revamp our website. Our newly redesigned site not only features our updated colors and logo but is also crafted to be more accessible for our participants and their families. We've made it easier to sign up for tournaments and find the schools where we currently run programming. We invite you to explore the new look and feel!

Logo

chess for success

After thoughtful discussion, our team has chosen to update our logo. We're keeping the iconic knight as our symbol, but we've removed the graduation cap. This change reflects our broader mission: while academic achievement remains important, our programs now also prioritize supporting children's social and emotional well-being. The graduation cap felt too limiting to encompass the full scope of what we do.

2024 State Tournament Individual Results



9-12

Matthew Hui

8th grade

Ezra Wise

7th grade

Neil Natarajan

6th grade

Max Reinert

5th grade

Liam Silwinski, Leo Kuhl

K-4

Sriram Badri, Yee Wo Al Liang, Bohan Li



9-12

Frank Morse

8th grade

Misha Von Dassow, Brogan Armstrong, Cassady Lynn

7th grade

Hayul Lim, Arin Jander, Laurel Scarborough

6th grade

Henry Vandiver

5th grade

Jerzy Golden, Aditya Sharma

K-4

Reyansh Khetan



9-12

Abraham Tebbe

8th grade

Adarsh Makina, Jonah Beanblossom

7th grade

Karthik Bimod, Luca Hurd, Oscar Baldivieso, Krish Chhibber, Preston Frias, Kingston Miller, Dallas Samson, Ishaan Shah, Jeremiah Thompson, Alejandro Villa

6th grade

Abel Franklin, Sam Loh-menendez, Henry Rodgers, William Seden, Jayden Yu

5th grade

Kaden Arenas, Ryan Bledsoe, Achyut Balaji, Lakota Miller, Ruhan Natarajan, Aarush Shah, Long Tran, Isaac Waldemer

K-4

Isaiah Fattal, Oscar Scharf, Tavish Ware, Peter Dufek, Arrow Girroir, Suhaan Kesevan, Prahlada Saripalli, Pranav Jibesh Nair, Jensen Yu



State Tournament Team results

1

6th-8th grade

Stoller Middle School

K-5th grade

Springville Elementary

2

6th-8th grade

Roosevelt Middle School
Sellwood MS

K-5th grade

Edison Elementary

3

6th-8th grade

Ashbrook Independent
Summit Leadership Academy

K-5th grade

Charlemagne Elementary
Rose City Park Elementary
Mary Woodward Elementary



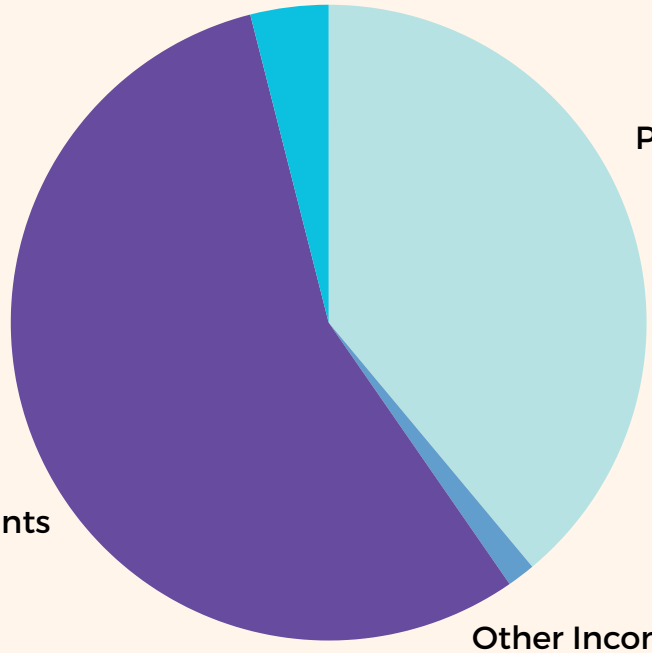


CFS wants to acknowledge all students who participated in our tournaments. We recognize the hard work and dedication they've shown, not only by attending their clubs and learning each week but also by stepping up to compete in the tournaments. While we celebrate the winners of our state tournament, we want every participant to know that Chess for Success is proud of their efforts and achievements!

Financial Summary

Chess for Success continues to balance sustainability, commitment to staff and growth. This year we spent from our reserves to increase the number of programs and give staff raises!

Revenue



Total Revenue $784,645

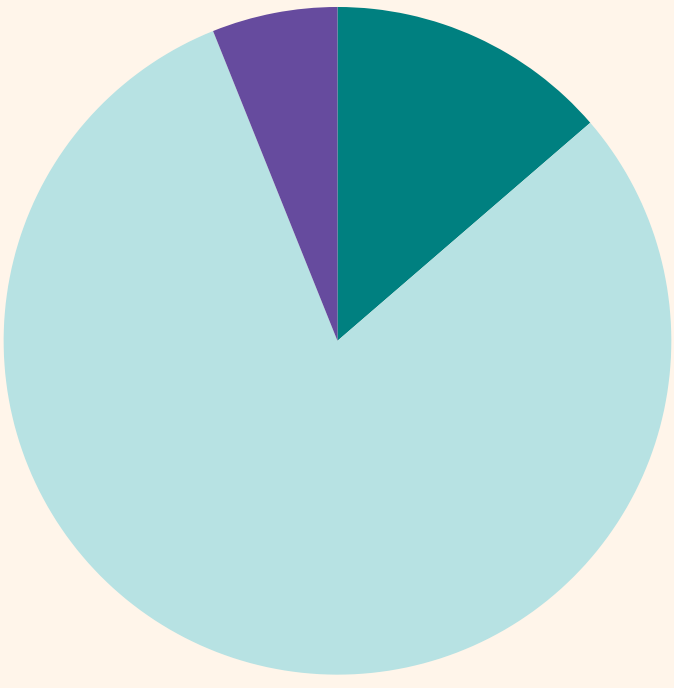
Total Expenditures $806,425

Net Revenue -$21,780

Net Assets $133,729



Expenditures



Acknowledgments

Chess for Success extends our heartfelt gratitude to the generous funders and dedicated partners who made our work possible this year. Your unwavering support allows us to continue empowering students through the game of chess, fostering critical thinking, resilience, and emotional well-being. Together, we are creating opportunities for growth and success in the lives of countless young people. Thank you for being a vital part of our mission!

Foundation and Corporate Support

The Roundhouse Foundation

Cowlitz Indian Tribe — The Forever People

The Ford Family Foundation

Applied Materials

Robert D. & Marcia H. Randall Charitable Trust

Wildhorse Foundation

Mountain West Investment Corporation

Joseph E. Weston Public Foundation — A Supporting Foundation of the Oregon Community Foundation

The Renaissance Foundation

Larry & Jeanette Epping Family Foundation

Beneficial State Bank

TheStandard

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Acknowledgments cont.





Partners

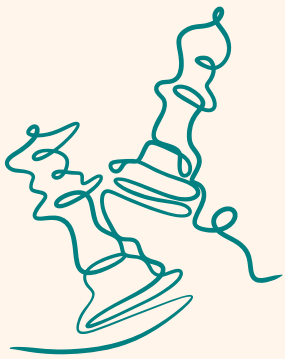
Portland Public Schools
Neah-Kah-Nie School District
Hillsboro School District
Boys and Girls Club of SW Washington
SUN (Schools Uniting Neighborhoods)
IRCO Immigrant and Refuge Community Organization
Latino Network
Metropolitan Family Services
SEI (Self Enhancement Inc)
Impact NW
Portland Parks and Rec.



Major Individual Donors

Phillip Margolin
Melanie Nelson
Truman Collins Jr. and Nancy Ives
John Dozier
Becky and Ron Eiseman
Barb Fisher
Fletcher Ray and Alyssa Aaby
Vivian Rappleyea
Charles and Shawn Engelberg

Thank you to our 2023/24 Board of Directors



Helping us make the right moves!

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