

FISHERS

youth

Assistance

PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT | 2024



A message from our President

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, I am humbled by the commitment of our friends, donors and partners to helping Fishers Youth Assistance Program (FYAP) support families in crisis. Together, we continue to provide critical resources and services to those in need, ensuring that our community remains a place of hope and opportunity.

This year, our meals programs have made a profound impact. Over the nine weeks of summer, our Summer Meals Program served an average of 465 children each week, providing them with nutritious meals to fuel their growth and learning. Additionally, our Weekend Snack Attack program is currently serving up to 600 children every week, ensuring that no child goes hungry when school meal programs are unavailable. These initiatives reflect our deep commitment to addressing food insecurity in our community.

Thanks to the addition of a part-time program coordinator, our Anchor Tutoring program has been able to expand our reach and provide even more students with the academic support they need to succeed. This investment in education demonstrates our belief in the potential of every child.

Our early intervention advocates have also continued their vital work by connecting families with resources, support, and guidance. We appreciate their daily, on-the-ground activities that are addressing challenges early and helping families find stability and success.

As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in our mission to uplift and empower the families of Fishers. In 2025, we are excited for new opportunities to support the youth of the HSE Schools community even better. Thank you to our dedicated staff, volunteers, donors, and partners who make our work possible. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient community for all.

In partnership and service,

Sneha Shah



Our Team

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sneha Shah, President
Kevin Umberger, Treasurer
Maggie Sadler, Secretary
Anderson Schoenrock Past President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Betsy Binkholder	Becky Lee
Jessica Billingsley	Nicole McClanahan
Andrea Burow	Dr. Arman Siddiqui
Michelle Fullhart	Kate Smith
Ty Gerig	Kevin Umberger
Kim Goss	Cathy Worrall

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Hon. Michael Casati, Superior Court Judge
Megan Baumgartner, City of Fishers
Molly Kirwan, HSE Schools
Tricia Akers, Executive Director, HCYP

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Anchor Tutoring	Andrea Burow Cathy Worrall
-----------------	-------------------------------

Development	Kate Smith
-------------	------------

Marketing & PR	Ty Gerig
----------------	----------

Meal Programs	Betsy Binkholder Kim Goss
---------------	------------------------------

MEAL PROGRAMS COORDINATOR

Kristie Bradford

TUTORING COORDINATOR

Gretchen Stullken

EARLY INTERVENTION ADVOCATES

Dee Chandler
Trisha Straus

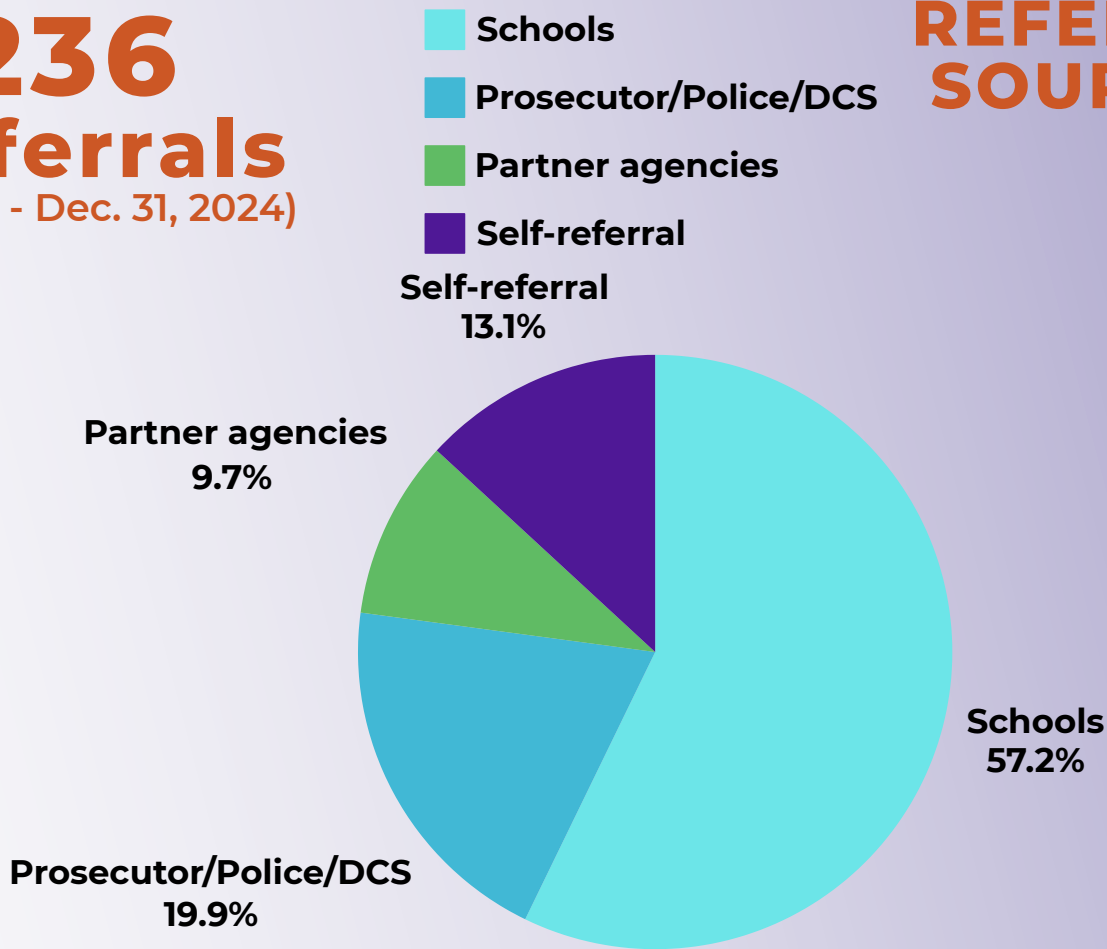
Thank
you!

Linda Carlino
Bryn Cieciora
Paul Count
Denise Huston
Susan Knight
Mekey McAllen
Leah McGrath

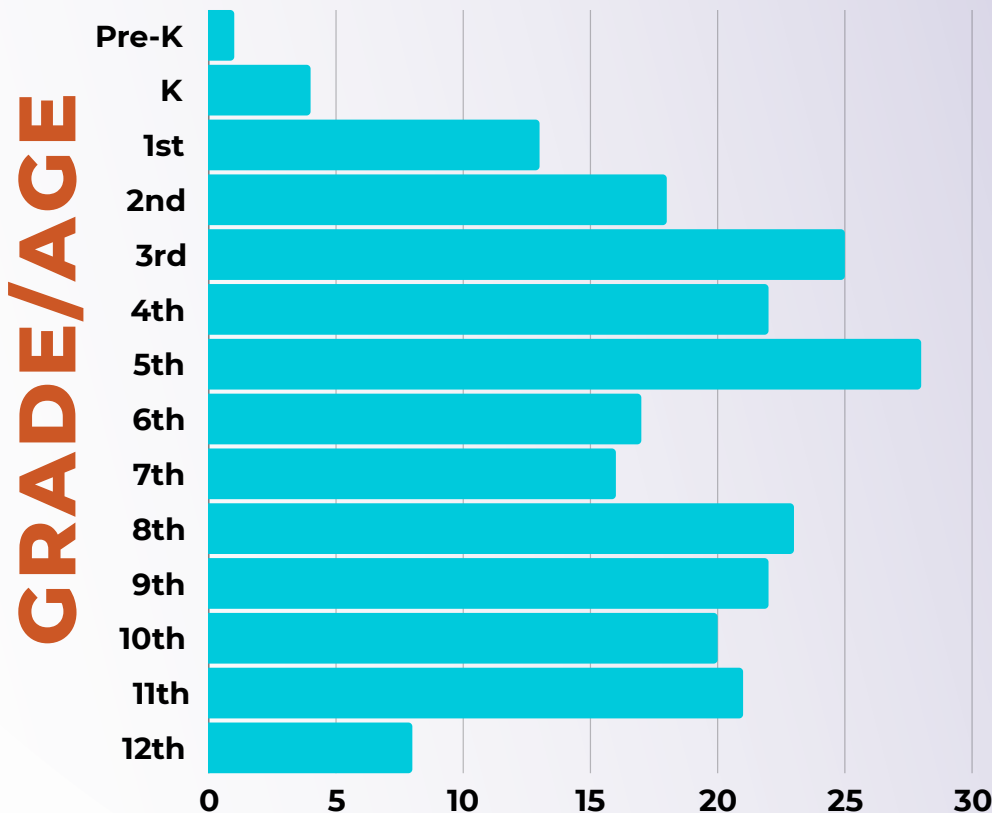
After many years of dedication to the mission of FYAP, we say thank you to the above board members for their selfless service!

236
referrals
(Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2024)

REFERRAL SOURCES

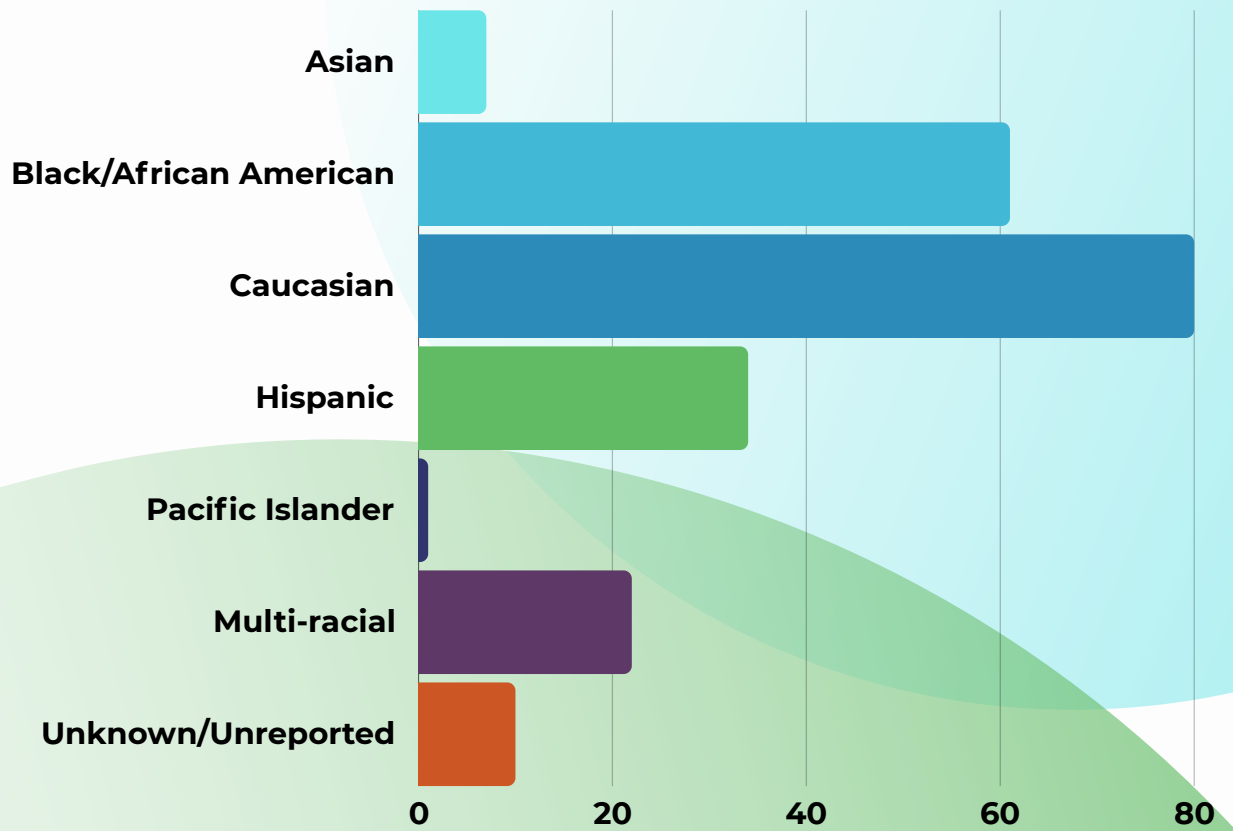


FYAP Staff Services & Supports

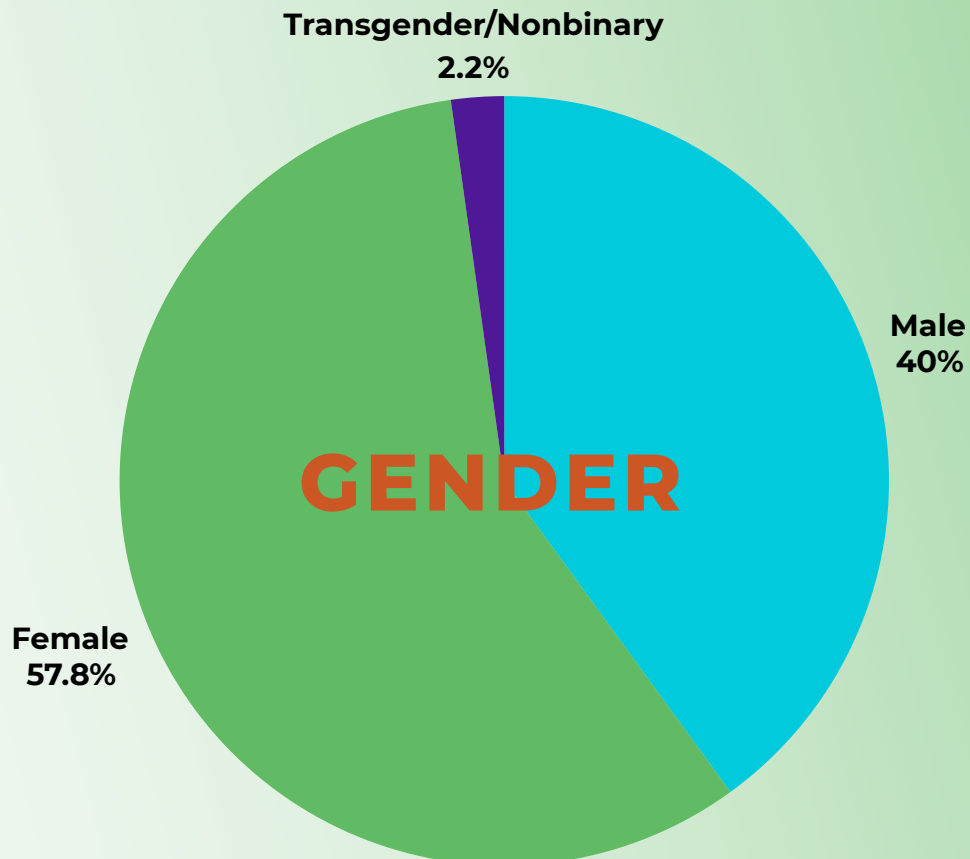


263
youth served
(Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2024)

FYAP Staff Services & Supports (con't)



RACE/ETHNICITY





The mission of the Summer Meals Program is to provide breakfast and lunch during the summer months to HSE school district students that qualify as being food insecure to ensure no child goes hungry.

Since inception in 2017, the program has grown over the years allowing us to provide meals to even more students throughout the summer months. Distribution for 2024 continued out of our permanent location on 96th Street and once again passed out utilizing a drive through system. Families and volunteers prefer this method so we will continue using it in the future.

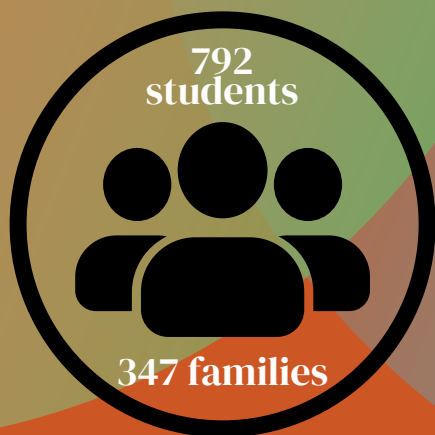
Offering additional layers of support beyond food, each week of distribution featured a local organization where information and resources were distributed to our families.

- Basket of Books provided books for youth
- HamCo Love provided monthly feminine hygiene products
- Fishers Parks and Hamilton East Public Library provided items like memberships and sport-related activities
- Fishers Health Department administered vaccinations

Finally, based on past survey results, we continued to provide family meals in addition to individual student food 5 of the weeks during the summer. A great deal of this food was provided through food drives and other food collections held during the summer. Key 2024 partners include:

Care Institute
HSE Foundation/Food for Thought
HSE National Honor Society
Good Samaritan Network
Holy Spirit at Geist Catholic Church
St Louis de Montfort Catholic Church
Fishers TriKappa
St George Orthodox Church
Northview Church
Fishers Police/Pack the Cruiser

Hamilton Hills Church
Meijer Store #154
Geist Christian Church
City of Fishers Leadership Team & First Responders
Eastern Star Church
Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank
Knights of Columbus
Thrivent Action Team
Project Hope NY

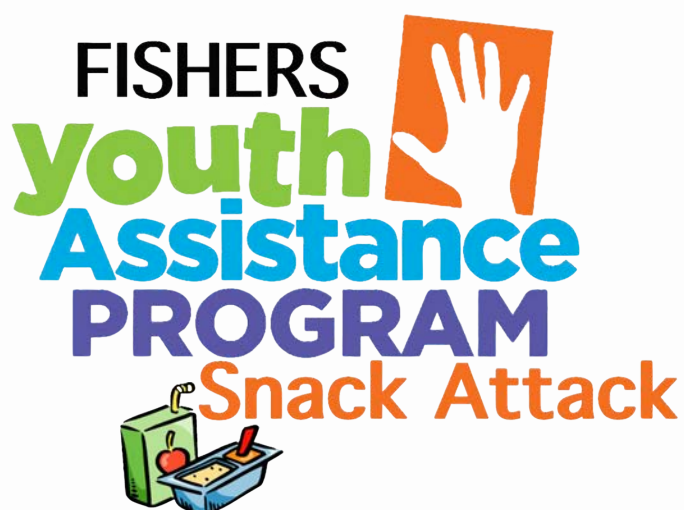


For the FYAP Snack Attack program, 2024 was a year of record numbers. Snack Attack operates with the basic goal of providing nutritious, non-perishable items to youth to ensure they get enough food on weekends when they can't depend on school meals. With steady growth realized year-to-year, 2024 saw a huge jump in student and family participation. At the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year, Snack Attack served an average of 497 students weekly. All schools in the HSE school district including the Academy, FOCUS, and preschool programs were supported. A total of 32 weekly distributions from September through May netted a total of 15,903 snack bags and 120,620 individual snack items. This number includes 243 large snack bags which were available for pick up by families at the HSE Central Office over the various school breaks. While the 2024-25 school year started with an initial registration of 437 students, at the conclusion of the fall semester a total of 616 snack bags were delivered weekly. With nearly 200 more students registered FYAP is working hard to meet this need.

To respond to this increase, FYAP is reliant on the greater community in many ways. Snack Attack could not survive without the many groups and individual **volunteers who donated over 1000 hours of time** throughout 2024. Additional hours were donated by the teams who delivered the bags to the schools weekly, which included students from HSE's Exceptional Learners program. Volunteer tasks included bagging snack items, implementing food drives, counting inventory, and organizing our distribution center. With food prices remaining at historic highs, FYAP food programs continued to be the beneficiary of the Food for Thought community fund, a collaboration with the HSE Foundation. The fall "Turnover Hunger" food drive resulted in a collection of over **21,000 individual snack items**. In-kind donations from all groups **totaled nearly \$24,000**. Financial and in-kind donations coming from community or individual donors serve as the backbone for Snack Attack.

We would like to thank and highlight the below groups for their impact and partnership in 2024 with the FYAP Snack Attack Program:

Come to Me Food Pantry
Crosspoint Church
DeVeau's School of Gymnastics
FHS Exceptional Learners Class
Fishers PD Pack the Cruiser
Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County
Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank
HSEF Food for Thought
HSEF's Turnover Hunger Food Drive
Knights of Columbus
Lantern Road Elementary 4th grade Honor Society
Lantern Road Elementary School Student Council
Second Helpings
Woods of Britton Apartment Homes

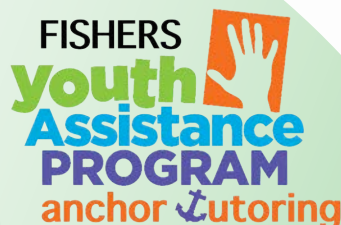


Welcome to our new Tutoring Coordinator!

In February 2024, Gretchen Stullken joined the team as the Tutoring Coordinator for the Fishers Youth Assistance Program!

Gretchen has worked in education for over 25 years as a teacher, tutor, and teacher leadership coach. She is inspired by work that supports youth with their education journey.

In her free time Gretchen enjoys being active outdoors, baking, reading, and gardening.



Paws to Read

We continue to offer the Paws to Read Program in two HSE elementary schools in partnership with non-profit Paws & Think

This reading program focuses on building skills in a fun, kind, and supportive environment. Students read with a therapy dog for up to 20 minutes/week for the entire school year.



32
students

87+
reading
hours

7
volunteers
help weekly

Summer Bridge

The 2024 Summer Bridge Program gave rising 1st & 2nd grade students an opportunity to engage in enriching literacy based activities focused on STEM topics from farm life to flight. Students ended the week with a field trip at Hoosier Heritage Farm or the Ignite Studio at Hamilton East Public Library.

- 100 HSE students served
- All 13 elementary schools represented
- 52,080 minutes of student engagement
- 15 teen volunteers
- Volunteer hours = 600 hours

The program was a great success and planning is underway for an even bigger, better 2025!



100% of families would register again for Summer Bridge programming!

1:1 Tutoring

Utilizing dollars from the Strengthen Youth Programs in Indiana grant, 1:1 tutoring services for FYAP clients has expanded in numbers as well as systems put in place.

Students in the program receive weekly 60-minute sessions of remediation from a teacher who matches the grade level/content area need of the student.

Teachers, families and FYAP staff communicate about the growth and opportunities around: grades/academics, assignment completion, attendance, discipline, and confidence/self-esteem.

Teachers apply to be a tutor through FYAP and receive an onboarding information session where Tutoring Coordinator and teacher review policy, procedures and documentation systems.



9
HSE teachers
tutoring weekly



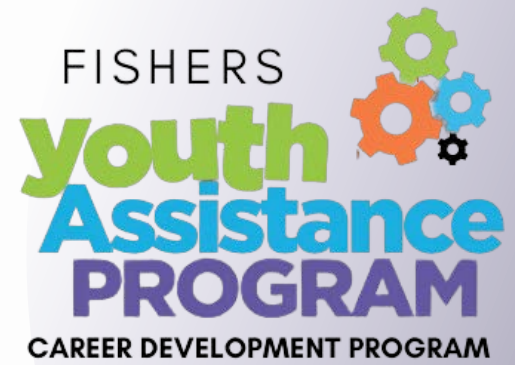
16
students
receiving 1:1
services



200+
hours of
remediation

Funded through generous grant dollars from the Arthur Dean Family Foundation, the FYAP Career Development served 19 high school aged students in 2024.

Over the course of two separate weeks, the program connected students to resume building, career and vocational education as well as community service projects. Our 2024 partners included the below local businesses, non-profits, and government agencies:



Film Producer, Howard Burd



FISHERS
EST. 1872



The majority of students who participated in the program had little to no job experience. After the program completed, the students reported feeling more confident in finding a career.

“I can find more career opportunities because I didn't even know some of them were open to my age range.”

“[Career Development] helps with showing that we have a lot of opportunities to expand and learn while also getting money.”

“It got me out there and aware of the different job and career opportunities.”



Request for holiday assistance reached program-high numbers in 2024. To meet this need, FYAP coordinated with numerous community members. From individuals to businesses, we were able to meet 100% of the requests for assistance.

Of special note, the **Fishers Kiwanis Club** invited 43 FYAP youth to their Holiday Hopes event. Each youth was given \$100 to spend on themselves and \$20 on a gift for their parent or guardian.

Additional groups we would like say a special thank you for the support:

Fisher's Tri Kappa
Southeastern Swim Club
Hamilton Southeastern Schools
The Bristol's Neighborhood
Fishers Hype 10U Baseball Team
Christ's Community Church
St. George Orthodox Christian Church

March on Mission
Hamilton County Sheriff's Foundation
Ice All Stars Golden Girls
Fishers HS varsity nationals team
HSE Food Service Department
Savvy Decor
Hype Softball

Recognizing that family needs are not limited to holiday times, FYAP partnered with **St. George Greek Orthodox Church** to provide for two additional needs in 2024.

76

meal kits
were provided
to families



feeding a
minimum of
228
individuals

385

hygiene bags
were distributed
to families



realizing a
cost-savings of
\$19250

Thank you so very much for the generous support, **St. George**



Operating as Indiana's only open admission, truly no-kill shelter, the Humane Society of Hamilton County finds itself serving as home to countless dogs and cats who are in need of a second chance. In 2024, the amazing staff have cared for hundreds of animals often sharing office spaces when kennels are full.

With census numbers at record highs, the Hamilton County Youth Canine Program was only able to operate one program in January 2024. Teaching skills from basic to advance obedience, youth enjoyed sharing their time and hearts to the effort!



For those looking to add a four-legged family member please consider adopting
<https://www.hamiltonhumane.com/adopt>

Thanks to generous grant dollars from the Arthur Dean Family Foundation, FYAP was able to provide targeted and personalized mental health supports to youth and families like never before!

Partnering with local providers who offered unique approaches and holistic supports, youth and parents were able to participate in everything from art therapy and parent-training programs to specialized summer camp experiences.

In total 29 youth were able to expand their current mental health supports to learn new coping skills and techniques to deal with anxiety, depression, ADHD, and social interactions.

The summer of 2024 concluded with a new, unique opportunity for youth to spend a week focusing on mental wellness.

The week started with **Anxiety 101** presented by local provider Carlabeth Mathias of Mathias Counseling. Youth were provided education, coping skills and a bag of tools to use when struggling with stress and anxiety. The day ended with a visit from a **dog team** provided by Paws & Think.

Alpaca Therapy was the focus of day two heading out to the grounds of the Chris Center in Westfield.

Art Therapy lead by Chris Center staff was a peaceful day where youth explored their inner artist.

The week ended with a visit to Conner Prairie for a session of **nature therapy**.

All youth left the program with newfound skills to find peace and calm when trying to navigate challenges in their lives.



Thank you to all of our partners!

**CONNER
PRAIRIE**



Carlabeth E. Mathias | Mathias Counseling and Consulting

Marketing & PR

Fishers Youth Assistance Program public relations efforts centered on expanded social media outreach by sharing stories about the impact of our programs on the community. We also worked with key partners to highlight their involvement in activities, such as Summer Meals, Anchor Tutoring and Holiday Helpers.

Additionally, we participated with other Youth Assistance Programs in Hamilton County to produce an updated website that will launch in January 2025.

Women, ages 35-54, continue to be the majority of the followers of the organization's social media channels.



1270 Followers
*17,300 views



343 Followers



609 Followers
*160 posts

Financial Highlights

Fishers Youth Assistance, Inc. (FYA) is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to raising money to support the efforts of Advocates working alongside the organization as they support families who may be in crisis or at-risk. FYAP also supports summer meal and weekend snack programs to help secure these families. All fundraising is designed to maximize the support of FYAP programs. Below are some specific financial highlights from 2024:

- In 2024, FYA received two significant grants:
 - \$15,000 grant received from CICF
 - \$40,000 grant from the Arthur Dean Family Foundation
- Operating Leverage was at nearly 8 to 1, meaning for every dollar raised, \$8 went directly to the needs of a youth or family
- FYA continued to support the needs of youth and families by spending over \$210,000 on food, family assistance, camps, activities, tutoring, and other educational activities.
- FYA continued to meet the community need for a summer food program by spending over \$80,000 for the distribution of meals to the families of at-risk children.

Programs supported by FYA are financially well positioned for 2025, with a Fund Balance of over \$275,000.

For more information, the organization's Federal 990 report is available on the GuideStar website at www.guidestar.org.

AN EVENING OF GRATITUDE



FISHERS

TEST KITCHEN

AT THE YARD AT FISHERS DISTRICT

Hosted once again at the corporate headquarters of Knowledge Services, on Tuesday, December 3rd, FYAP enjoyed an evening spent together with the greater Fishers community.

Designed with the goal to say **THANK YOU** to those in our community who have given so much in the way of time, talent and treasures throughout the year, the evening was a great success. It began with a short video highlighting FYAP programs and was followed by presentations from the Board. After presentations, the evening was spent enjoying amazing cuisine from several local restaurants.

Thank you to all those who not only joined us for the Evening of Gratitude, but also to those who support our programs throughout the year!

We are truly GRATEFUL!

To our business and community donors,

Care Institute
DMC Insurance
Envoy, Inc.
Fishers Junior High PTO
The Committee to Elect Victoria Garcia Wilburn
Holy Spirit Geist
HSE Foundation - Food for Thought
INCOG Biopharma
Indy Floor Coating
Kiwanis Club of Fishers
Kroger
March on Mission, Inc.
Mark Heirbrandt Campaign
Meijer - 96th Street
Newcomers Club of Fishers
Prairie View Christian Church
St George Orthodox Church
St Louis de Montfort Catholic Church
St. George Orthodox Church
St. Mark's United Methodist Church
Structure Point
Sun King Brewing Company LLC
SVB Custodial Account for Melio's Customer
The Blackbaud Giving fund
Tri Kappa
United Women in Faith



as well as to our individual donors,

THANK YOU!

Lauren Abriani
Dawn Bennett
Dr. Michael and Lori Beresford
Joseph Bielawski
Betsy and Charles Binkholder
David Braden
Mike and Kim Broughton
Jack and Pam Burks
Andrea and Alex Burow
Cheryl Carothers
Craig and Bryn Cieciura
David and Melissa Compton
Willis Conner
Erin and Paul Count

Roger Drayer
Gregory and Michelle Fullhart
JT Gerig
Kim & Rick Goss
Mark Heirbrandt
Peggy-ann Hoy
Shaun Irwin
Molly Kirwan
Bradley Koselke
Jennifer Kraus
Kelly Leonard
Jacob Limbach
Nicole McClanahan
Brian and Leah McGrath

Tara Rager
Leigh Rudicel
Sundesh and Sneha Shah
Todd Taber
Jill Troha
Kevin Umberger
Kimberly Walsh
Megan Ward
Tracy Watson
Amanda Welu
Barbara
Whitlow
Kelly Wolfe
Cathy and Phil Worrall
Lauren Zimmerman

Thank you to our partners who share in our work!

Aspire Indiana, Inc.

Behavior Analysis Center for Autism

Bethel Lutheran Church Food & Baby Pantry

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana

Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre

Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville

Brooke's Place

Camp Tecumseh

Camptown

Center for Hope

Cherish Center

City of Fishers

Collaborative Change

Community Behavioral Health

Conner Prairie

Delaware Township Trustee

Early Childhood Alliance Network

Englishton Park Camp

Fall Creek Township Trustee

Family Promise of Hamilton County

Firefly

Fishers Eye Care

Fishers Fire Department

Fishers Optimist Club

Fishers Parks & Recreation

Fishers Police Department

Fishers UMC and Food Pantry

Good Samaritan Network

Grace Care Center

Grace Community Church

Hamilton County Community Foundation

Hamilton Co Harvest Food Bank

Hamilton County 4H County Fairgrounds

Hamilton County Health Department

Hamilton County Humane Society

Hamilton County Juvenile Probation

Hamilton County Sheriff Department

Hamilton County Systems of Care

Hamilton Southeastern Schools

Heart and Soul Clinic

Holy of Spirit of Geist Catholic Church

HSE Schools Foundation

IN SOURCE

Indiana Troopers Youth Services

Indy Premier Soccer Club

IPMG

Ivy Tech

Janus Developmental Services

Kids Psych, Inc.

Kiwanis Club of Fishers

Life Solutions Counseling Associates

Mathias Counseling & Consulting

Medical Mutts

Meijer - 96th Street

Merciful Help Center

Mudsock Youth Athletics

Mustard Seed

Newcomers of Fishers

Nickle Plate Arts

Options School

Paws & Think

Prevail Inc.

Rural Urban Access to Health

Safe Families for Children

Salvation Army of Central Indiana

St. George Orthodox Church

St. Louis de Montfort

St. Vincent de Paul Noblesville

St. Vincent Stress Center

Shepherd's Center of Hamilton County

Strada Education Network

Trinity Free Clinic

United Way of Central Indiana

Walker Dixon Orthodontics

Walmart Neighborhood Market - Fishers

Wayne Township Trustee

White River Church and Food Pantry

Work One

YMCA

Youth Mentoring Initiative

**WE APPRECIATE
YOUR SUPPORT!**

**Building a healthy community for tomorrow
by investing in the youth of today.**



9090 E. 131st Street - Fishers, IN 46038 | 317-567-5115
www.youthassistance.org/fishers