

Annual Report
2021-2022

Rise and Shine



**WILD
PLUM
CENTER**
FOR YOUNG
CHILDREN &
FAMILIES

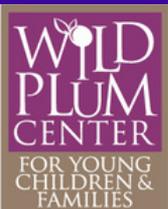
Nourishing Minds.
GROWING FUTURES.

WWW.WILDPLUMCENTER.ORG

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A message from the Executive Director:



This past school year has been filled with gratitude as we returned to full services in person once again, and the world reopened with a hopeful disposition. Despite the hardships we faced due to the pandemic, Wild Plum has focused on brighter horizons and has shown great determination to meet our community where they are while creating opportunities of equity in our outreach and impact.

In order to continue on the path of equity through education and providing high quality services, we recognize that we cannot do it alone. We are grateful for the support of our donors and the diverse grant funding sources that support our efforts in improving access to affordable education. We received an increase in one time financial supports from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) as part of the COVID relief funding, as well as Stabilization grants from the State of Colorado Childcare. Even in the face of the negative economic impacts, we appreciate our partners and donors that included Wild Plum Center in their various response efforts.

We were encouraged by the results of a Community Needs Assessment, which identified areas of growth for our programming that could better meet the needs and wants of our families, and allowed us to explore our options for increasing the community's access to childcare. For the second year running, our 6-week summer program has supported preschool age children in their transition to Kindergarten using a STEAM focused curriculum. With two successful years under our belt, this has become an annual opportunity for our families to count on. Other identified areas showed a desire for longer hours of child care and a Friday care option for our preschool students. These are all feasible changes for future implementation.

The outcome of each review and assessment we take part in allows us to identify areas we can focus our efforts to create a more equitable and effective plan for our programming. In addition to the internal assessment of our program and those we serve, Wild Plum Center completed a federal review in which no areas of concern were identified. We also decentralized enrollment, which has been key in responding to local needs. Diversity does not start or end in the classroom. Having a variety of approaches and implementation strategies benefits our community as well as our families, students, and staff.

We were pleased to welcome many new faces on staff this year, each of whom found Wild Plum Center at a time of uncertainty and have seen the importance of what we do. In addition to the financial hardships and upheaval the pandemic brought on, there was a large disruption to the labor force nationwide. We were able to quickly bounce back into action post-closures and find our footing to welcome in new children, families and staff members to our programs. This also gave us an opportunity to focus on our staff training, coaching, and support efforts. While some of us returned to work in person this year, some entered into a new environment and we all need to recognize that there is room for grace and growth in this new and ever-changing world of early childhood education.

Amy Ogilvie
AMY OGILVIE



Services

Quality early childhood education is one of the most effective ways to influence the path of a child and their family. We partner with families so that parents are empowered to participate in their child's education and wellness. In addition to classroom programs, our Family Specialists conduct in-home visits where they can get to know a child's individual needs and address strengths and weaknesses within the family. This kind of attention to detail and a caring approach is what drives our success.



Infant/Toddler Programs- 0-3 years

Developmental services are provided to 0-3 year old children from low-income families, including prenatal and post-partum support for pregnant women and children with disabilities. Parents/guardians may select from either a home-based or center-based service model, each provided at 100% scholarship. All services are offered in both English and Spanish.

- Home-based services involve Family Mentors working with parents one-on-one in a home setting for 1.5 hours each week. This option is supplemented by group-delivered parent education and parent/child socialization activities with Family Mentors.
- Center-based services provide a curriculum-based setting for children while parents work or go to school. Service elements are intended to address any and all aspects of need within a child's life, allowing for significant developmental experiences.

Preschool Programs- 3-5 years

A comprehensive preschool program is available to low-income 3-5 year olds including children with disabilities. Preschool service elements mirror those of the Infant/Toddler Program, addressing all aspects of need and allowing for meaningful and impactful educational experiences.

Curriculum

Research-based Creative Curriculum, Frog Street, and Growing Great Kids are used in all 15 Wild Plum classrooms and the home visiting program. Each of these curricula focus on all areas of children's growth:

- Physical
- Cognitive
- Social/emotional
- Language and Literacy
- Approaches to Learning

By utilizing each of the three curricula, every teacher or Family Mentor is able to incorporate and address the specific interests, characteristics, and needs of the children and families in their class. Teachers and Family Mentors integrate a study that immerses students in that topic through materials, books, and activities- all sparked by student interests.

Family Engagement

Wild Plum Center regards parents as the first, the best, and most important teachers of their children. Wild Plum Center offers numerous opportunities to foster the health and well-being of program children and families, including:

- Mental health services
- Family support and case management
- Parent education and socialization



Health and Nutrition

Wild Plum Center knows that children need proper nutrition throughout the day so that their brains and bodies can function properly and are able to engage.

Using the USDA MyPlate in addition to working with the Child and Adult Care Food Program, cooks prepare meals each day for all of the classrooms.

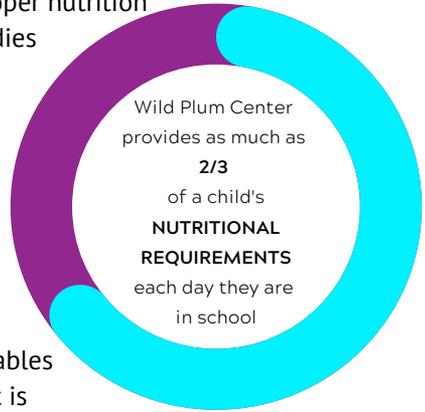
Breakfast includes milk, fruit and whole grains. Lunch consists of milk, protein, fruit and vegetables and all snacks include fruit and whole grains. It is important that our students receive the nourishment they need in order to grow, learn and be successful which is why we are glad to provide 2/3 of their nutritional needs every day that they are in the classroom at no-cost to the family.

Wild Plum Center works with parents and caregivers to access healthcare screenings and services for their children. Our health services include:

- Hearing and vision screenings
- Well-child support, including care and vaccines
- Prenatal, postpartum, and breastfeeding support and education
- Home safety education
- Nutrition information for the entire family, such as helping families access supplemental food items
- Prenatal and postpartum mental health screenings

We also provide referrals to health providers and other community resources as appropriate and help families understand and navigate complicated medical situations to ensure they get proper treatment.

Additionally, all Wild Plum parents can participate in First Aid and CPR classes at no cost to them.



Preschool Outcomes

Wild Plum Center uses the Teaching Strategies Gold assessment system for all children. In the fall, winter, and spring the teachers use checkpoints to compare each child's skills and behaviors to research-based indicators of learning and development. These comparisons indicate, for each domain, whether a child's skills and behaviors are below, at, or above expectations for their age.

The graph shows the percentage of children meeting or exceeding expectation in areas of targeted skills when they started at Wild Plum Center in the Fall of 2021 and where they were at the final Spring checkpoint in 2022.

Children in all categories showed improvement from the Fall to Spring checkpoints, and there was significant growth in children meeting expectations overall.

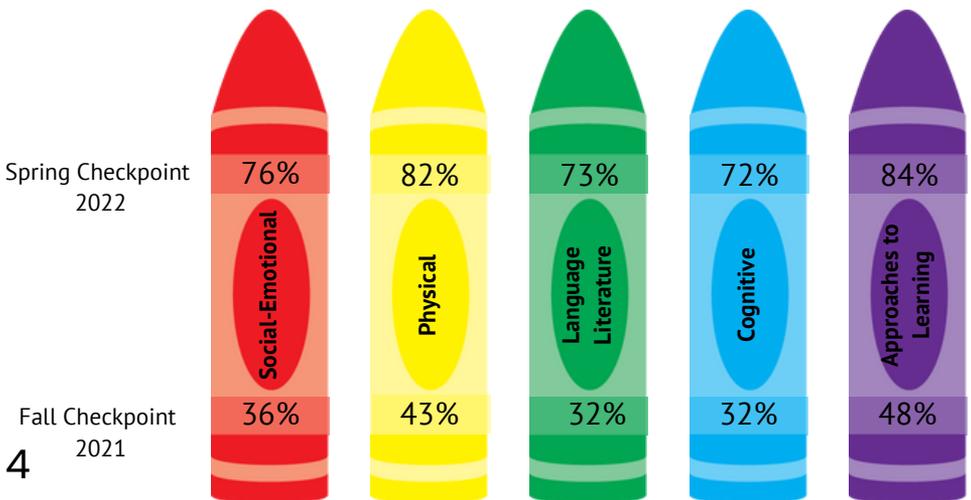
Numbers of children meeting and exceeding expectations on average were greater than 72% in all domains: social/emotional, physical, language and literacy, cognitive and approaches to learning.

The significant growth, nearly 40% in all areas, proves the effectiveness of Wild Plum Center's positive impact on children's development and kindergarten readiness.

Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding Expectations at Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 Checkpoint

English/Spanish Speaking

Ages 3-5 years

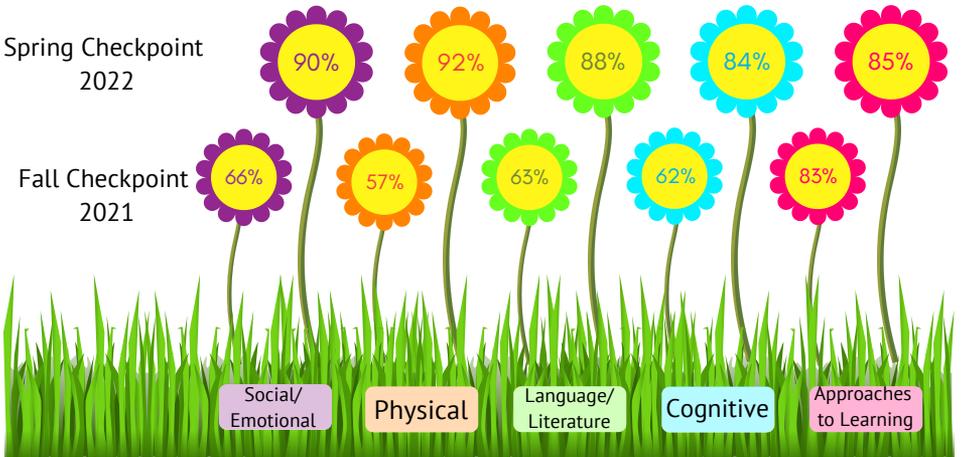


Infant/Toddler Outcomes

Young children engage in learning in individually unique ways, which is why Wild Plum individualizes care and nurturing, intentionally teaching to a child's strengths and preferences. Through this approach, Infant/Toddler teachers and home visitors expose children to an array of learning opportunities designed to improve growth in each of the five developmental domains.

Wild Plum uses data to inform instruction allowing us to understand how our efforts are working and the developmental areas in which Wild Plum children may need more support. Data is gathered in the areas of social-emotional, physical, language, literacy, and cognitive with a subset of data related to approaches to learning.

Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding Expectations at Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 Checkpoints
English/Spanish Speaking
Ages 0-3 years



The chart above shows the percentage of Wild Plum children ages 0-3 meeting and exceeding expectations of the targeted skills when they started at Wild Plum Center in the Fall of 2021 and where they were at the final Spring checkpoint in 2022. At the last available checkpoint, the Wild Plum Early Head Start children are shown to be on track developmentally and showed up to 35% improvement across all areas.

Family Outcomes

Wild Plum believes that strong family engagement leads to strong child outcomes.

In addition to monitoring children's progress, Wild Plum Center assesses self-sufficiency, connections to peers and community, and parent/child relationships. The 21 areas of measure include:

- Reading Daily
- Positive Discipline
- Child Care
- Having Routines
- Employment
- Housing
- Life Skills
- Volunteering
- Language Rich Experiences
- Health Care Access
- Child Safety
- Food
- Transportation
- Money Management
- Criminal Justice System
- Substance Use
- Support System
- Physical Health
- Relationship Safety
- Mental Health
- Adult Education

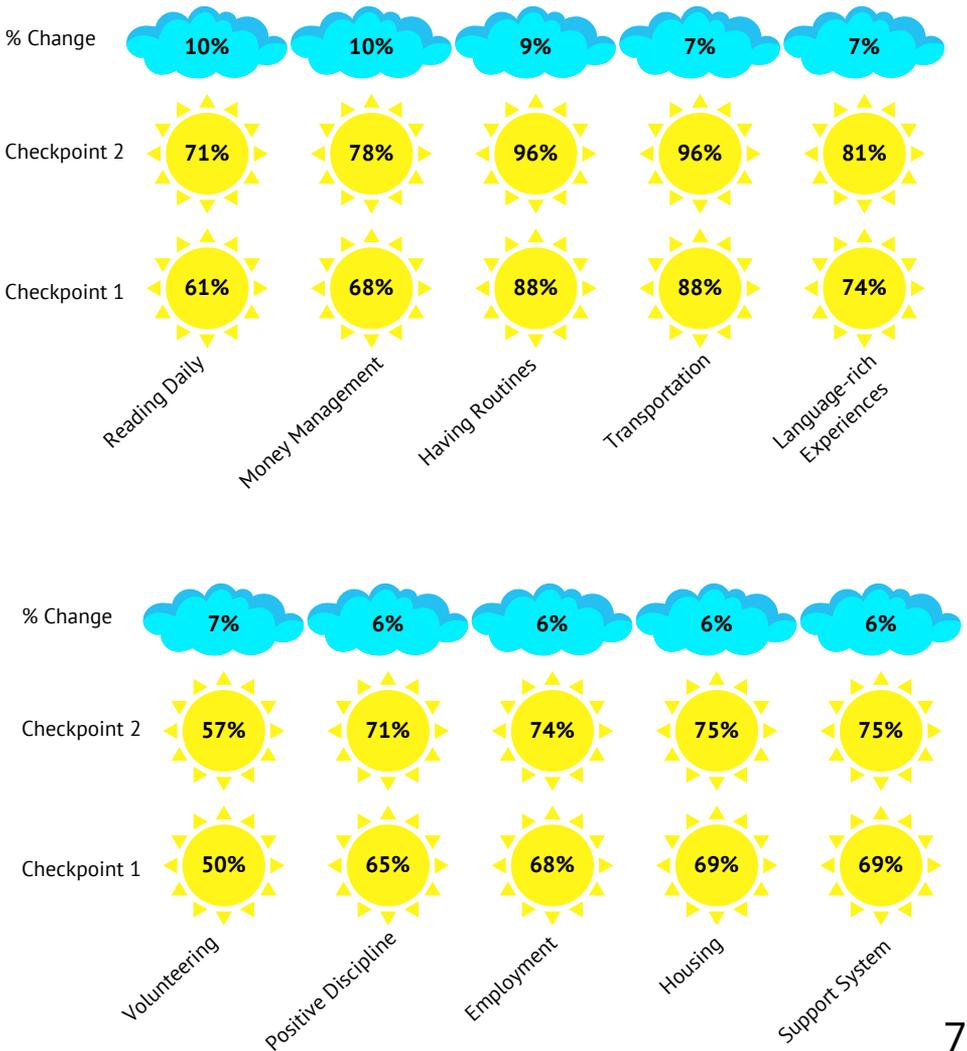


Family Outcomes

Every Wild Plum Center family participates in a Self-Sufficiency Analysis, as well as a review of progress made toward goals as outlined in an individualized Family Partnership Agreement.

The graph below displays outcomes from the analysis, showing increases in several areas of self-sufficiency for program families.

Family Outcomes 2021-2022 School Year



Transitions

All transitions are opportunities for children's growth, as they lay the foundation on which to develop the skills that are necessary for weathering change throughout life. Transitions into Early Head Start, from Early Head Start to Head Start, and Head Start to kindergarten are crucial times for decision-making about children's services. The transition process ensures service continuity, reduces family disruptions, prepares children for their program placements, and meets legal requirements (IDEA and ADA).

Our Transition Plan is designed to help children who are transitioning from one setting to the next. In order to make these transitions as seamless as possible, Wild Plum Center staff maintains close and consistent contact with the child and family through every step of the process. The transition process is individualized for each child and family.

Transition plan for Infant/Toddler:

For children transitioning from the home-based model into center-based infant/toddler care, the Family Mentor works closely with the parents and the center-based staff to share strengths and supports for the child and family. The family is an integral part of the process and is involved regularly with both home and center-based staff for a two month transition period.

For children transitioning from the home-based and center-based programs into preschool, there are several conversations that take place between Wild Plum Center staff and parents that begin six months in advance of the actual transition.

First, the family is educated on the community preschool options available to them, including Wild Plum. If the family selects and qualifies for preschool, staff begins to prepare the child for school by utilizing a "transition kit" that includes materials and supplies to help familiarize them to the preschool classroom. Infant/toddler staff, together with parents, meet in the classroom for an orientation and exchange of necessary paperwork.



Transitions

Transition plan for 4 and 5 year olds going to kindergarten:

Throughout the school year, on-going discussions about kindergarten occur with children and their parents. Wild Plum Center staff talk with student's families about the registration process, support them through enrollment, fill out scholarship requests, help with translations, and encourage parents to continue to advocate for their child's education. Transition meetings with the school district are scheduled as needed and families are encouraged to visit the new school. Transition meetings for children with Individual Education Programs (IEP) that are moving on to Kindergarten take place at the end of the school year. Special Education service providers, WPC staff, parents and staff from the transitioning school meet to discuss services for the next year so parents are aware of the continuing plan.

In 2022, Wild Plum Center offered their summer program for the second year to further assist children transitioning to Kindergarten. This program is focused on STEAM learning-science, technology, engineering, art and math.



Demographics

Infant/Toddler

Enrollment year: September 2021 - August 2022

**TOTAL CUMULATIVE ENROLLMENT:
106 CHILDREN FROM 85 FAMILIES**

NUMBER OF CHILDREN

Under one year old:	26	EHS funded enrollment:	68
1 year old:	29	Center-based, 5 days a week:	32
2 years old:	37	Home-based:	36
3 years old:	0		
Pregnant Women:	14		

Preschool

Enrollment year: September 2021 - August 2022

**TOTAL CUMULATIVE ENROLLMENT:
151 CHILDREN FROM 137 FAMILIES**

NUMBER OF CHILDREN

2 years old:	6	Head Start funded enrollment:	155
3 years old:	66		
4 years old:	79		



Federal Reports

Total amount of Public and Private funds received and amount from each source:

Head Start Grant Revenue	2,766,131
Foundations	293,789
City of Longmont	138,990
Boulder County	66,188
St. Vrain Valley School District	259,200
State Funds	248,777
Individuals	76,576
In Kind	357,237
Corporations	1,843
USDA	146,372
CCAP	595,242
TOTAL Public and Private Funds Received	4,950,345

PERCENTAGE OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN SERVED:

	Infant/Toddler	Preschool
Below Income	51%	45%
Receiving Public Assistance	7%	6%
Homeless	34%	25%
Over-Income	8%	19%
Foster Care	0%	5%

PERCENTAGE OF ENROLLED CHILDREN RECEIVING MEDICAL AND DENTAL EXAMS:

	Infant/Toddler	Preschool
Medical Exams	80%	97%
Dental Exams	73%	97%

AVERAGE MONTHLY ENROLLMENT FOR BOTH HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START:
80%

Parent involvement

Wild Plum Center makes every effort to support parents through their own journeys in parenthood and paths to self-sufficiency and lifelong learning. We create many opportunities for all parents and caregivers of children who are enrolled in our programs to become more engaged with their children and involved with their education.

These include:

- Participation in Parent Policy Council. This is one of Wild Plum Center's two governing bodies.
- Participation on the Health Advisory Committee. This is a group of medical and healthcare professionals and parents who work to ensure that all Wild Plum Center children receive the health care they need.
- Parent/Child activities. These events include parent educational activities and workshops, gatherings in the local parks, dance performances, visits to museums and children's fun centers, recreation centers, and other community events.
- Parenting Classes teach skills and strategies to raise children who are happy, well-behaved, have good relationships, and are successful in school and in life.
- Infant/Toddler and Adult CPR/First Aid Classes.
- Kindergarten transition support.
- In-home learning opportunities.
- Summer school kit provisions.
- Conscious Discipline Parent Nights.



Community Partnerships

Wild Plum Center has a long history of effective collaborative relationships with a variety of local non-profits, Boulder County/Colorado organizations, and foundations.

Non-Profits and Organizations

AMD
Bridge Center for Play Therapy
Kiwanis Club of Longmont
Knit & Purl Group
Longmont Museum
Medtronic
Precious Child
Rotary Club of Longmont Twin Peaks
Silver Creek Cheer Team
Silver Creek Leadership Academy
Southwest Research Institute
The Inn Between of Longmont, Inc.
WOW Museum

Businesses

Ace Hardware
Amazon
Burg Simpson
Independent Financial
King Soopers
Salud Family Health

Funders and Foundations

Alchemy Fund
Anschutz Family Fund
Boulder Community Foundation
Boulder County
Bright Funds Foundation
Centura Health Equity and Advancement Fund
Christine and David Ross Charitable Fund
Cielo Foundation
City of Longmont
Crawford Family Fund
Dodge Family Fund
Fidelity Charitable Donor Advised- Fund
Kingsberry Friends and Family Fund
Left Hand Giving Circle
Longmont Community Foundation
Medtronic Fund
Mile High United Way
Nading Family Fund
Nelsen Family Fund
Norris Family Foundation
Ray Lanyon Fund
Schnabel Family Fund
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
State of Colorado
Temple Honey Buell Foundation
Thomas P and Betty Lou Brock Fund
William & Nancy Berry Family Charitable Fund



Statement of Financial Position

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION August 31, 2022 and 2021

	ASSETS	2022	2021
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash		1,423,953	1,260,842
Grants receivable		90,082	174,868
Prepaid insurance and refunds		40,236	25,628
Lease deposit		2,800	2,800
Total current assets		<u>1,557,071</u>	<u>1,464,138</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT			
Buildings		1,446,197	1,441,365
Furniture and equipment		341,240	321,149
Computer equipment		113,001	105,092
		<u>1,900,438</u>	<u>1,867,606</u>
Less accumulated depreciation		<u>(900,373)</u>	<u>(855,128)</u>
Net property and equipment		<u>1,000,065</u>	<u>1,012,478</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>\$ 2,557,136</u>	<u>\$ 2,476,616</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable		30,080	23,224
Deferred revenue		100,830	93,733
Payroll liabilities		111,781	83,311
Accrued vacation		111,162	102,902
Current portion of long-term debt		12,169	9,060
Total current liabilities		<u>366,022</u>	<u>312,230</u>
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES			
Mortgage payable less current portion		101,808	166,502
Total long-term liabilities		<u>101,808</u>	<u>166,502</u>
Total liabilities		<u>467,830</u>	<u>478,732</u>
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Notes 3 and 5)			
NET ASSETS			
Without donor restrictions		1,496,801	1,567,884
With donor restrictions (Note 8)			
Worthy Cause Awards		430,000	430,000
Bus Purchase		162,505	
Total net assets with donor restrictions		<u>592,505</u>	<u>430,000</u>
Total net assets		<u>2,089,306</u>	<u>1,997,884</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		<u>\$ 2,557,136</u>	<u>\$ 2,476,616</u>



Statement of Activities

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

Years Ended August 31, 2022 and 2021

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	Years Ended August 31, 2022 and 2021	
	2022	2021
Head Start grant proceeds received	\$ 1,529,439	\$ 1,511,234
Early Head Start grant proceeds received	1,088,484	1,075,644
One Time Federal Awards	148,207	251,050
Use of contributed facilities	316,739	319,109
In-Kind Full Day	215,667	240,326
Non-Head Start income	1,468,570	1,046,588
USDA reimbursements	146,372	108,899
Colorado preschool income	259,200	384,929
Contributed professional services and materials	117,652	76,854
Total revenue and support	\$ 5,290,330	\$ 5,014,633
EXPENSES		
Head Start program	\$ 2,053,869	\$ 1,909,313
Early Head Start program	\$ 1,247,170	1,108,799
Non-Head Start program	\$ 879,373	610,280
Head Start general and administrative expenses	\$ 392,742	311,743
Early Head Start general and administrative expenses	\$ 197,995	153,689
USDA School Lunch program	\$ 155,049	108,898
Head Start training and technical program	\$ 20,145	25,195
Early Head Start training and technical program	\$ 26,206	26,261
Non-Head Start general and administrative expenses	\$ 32,903	7,874
One Time Federal Awards	\$ 148,208	222,163
Total expenses	\$ 5,153,662	\$ 4,484,215
Depreciation expense	45,245	58,362
Loss on disposition of fixed assets	-	1,102
Total expenses and losses	\$ 5,198,907	\$ 4,543,679
Total changes in net assets without donor restrictions	(71,082)	470,954
Total changes in net assets with donor restrictions	162,505	
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 91,423	\$ 470,954



Budget Information

SCHEDULE OF FEDERAL BUDGET VS. ACTUAL REVENUES AND EXPENSES Year Ended August 31, 2022

	Approved Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUE:			
OHHS funds-			
Amount awarded	\$ 2,766,130	\$ 2,766,130	\$ -
Grantee's non-federal share-			
In-kind contributions	654,481	654,481	
Reimbursement-			
USDA (School Lunch Program)	146,372	146,372	
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 3,566,983</u>	<u>\$ 3,566,983</u>	
EXPENSES:			
OHHS share-			
Head Start program & Early Head Start program			
Direct Costs:			
Personnel	\$ 1,906,563	\$ 2,809,630	\$ (903,067)
Fringe benefits	341,485	95,892	245,593
Supplies	60,681	31,364	29,316
Contractual	-	107,366	(107,366)
Other direct costs	235,953	351,431	(115,478)
Less non-federal expenditures contributed to Head Start program		(398,725)	398,725
	<u>2,544,682</u>	<u>2,996,958</u>	<u>452,276</u>
Training and technical assistance			
Other direct costs	42,196	46,351	(4,155)
	<u>42,196</u>	<u>46,351</u>	<u>(4,155)</u>
Total OHHS share	<u>\$ 2,766,130</u>	<u>\$ 3,043,309</u>	<u>\$ (277,179)</u>
Grantee's non-federal share-			
Head Start program			
In-kind contributions-			
Facilities, professional services, supplies		\$ 644,303	
Volunteer services		10,178	
Total in-kind contributions		<u>654,481</u>	
Total grantee's non-federal share		<u>654,481</u>	
Reimbursable expense-		-	
USDA reimbursement for meals		146,372	
Total reimbursable expense		<u>146,372</u>	
Total expenses		<u>3,844,162</u>	
Excess of revenue over expenses		<u>\$ (277,179)</u>	



2022-2023 Budget

REVENUES

Grant revenue	2,759,119
Colorado Preschool Program	283,500
In-kind Income	654,481
USDA Income	132,100
Other Income	1,225,947
Total Income	5,055,146

EXPENSES

Personnel	3,200,839
Fringe benefits	540,705
Supplies	189,285
Contractual	159,346
Other direct costs	918,275
Training and Technical Assistance	46,696
Total Expense	5,055,146

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of Wild Plum Center is an active, engaged group of people that meets with key staff annually for an in-depth strategic planning session and monthly to set policies and maintain the overall direction of Wild Plum Center. The board defines the mission, establishes priorities, crafts strategies, and ensures that plans and programs are implemented.

PRESIDENT: Kenda Vaughan, Therapist, Private Practice

VICE PRESIDENT: Don Horton, Retired Boulder County Public Health

TREASURER: Michelle Burns, Financial Analyst

SECRETARY: Judy Davis, Therapist, Private Practice

MEMBERS: Stephen Hoel, Principal, SVVSD

Holly Krammer, Lawyer, Burg Simpson

Olga Bermudez, M.A., L.P.C.

Amy Homann, Parent Representative



Show Your Support

INVEST IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Please consider contributing to the Wild Plum Center with a monetary donation. Without these gifts of financial support we would not be able to provide essential services to Longmont's low income families and their children. If you want to contribute to equity through education, visit www.wildplumcenter.org/donate



BECOME A COMMUNITY ADVOCATE

There are countless ways to support the hundreds of families we are honored to serve. Whether you are looking for a home for your gently used toys, clothes and books or you are looking for a group volunteer project, we would love to work together!

To find out more about becoming a donor, volunteer or community advocate contact us today!

info@wildplumcenter.org

Call: 303-776-8523

Mailing address: 82 21st Avenue, Longmont, CO 80501

www.wildplumcenter.org

303-776-8523

www.wildplumcenter.org



At Wild Plum Center, we partner with families so children can thrive. We are supporting low-income families in Longmont through individualized early childhood education by addressing any and all aspects of need within a family. We work to ensure children enter school prepared to learn and families are provided with services that equip them to be successful.

Our early childhood education programs are provided at no cost to qualifying families.