

2002-2003 Annual Report



Childpeace
MONTESSORI
SCHOOL



"I didn't realize what we were missing, in terms of community, until our family returned to Childpeace."

returning elementary parent



*Sue Pritzker, Administrator, with daughter, Robyn
Janet Williamson, Board Chair, with sons, Cole and John*



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Childpeace Montessori School

1516 NW Thurman Street
Portland, OR 97209

503.222.1197
Fax 503.222.1053

www.childpeace.org

A LETTER FROM THE BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION

Childpeace Montessori has always held a grand vision of being a fully realized Montessori School. Growth for growth sake has never been the goal of the school. Rather, the plan has been to offer children of all ages a complete Montessori educational opportunity and to adapt it for an urban environment. Looking outward into the community for resources and focus, Childpeace has always attempted to offer the children more than what can be found inside the classroom and school walls. Growing to a full program was the vision of the board of directors and faculty years ago and thoughtful steps were taken along the way to assure that growth continued to meet the needs of our school community. Parental desire to see children "love to learn" moved the vision toward reality.

As the 2002-03 annual report is prepared, we reflect back to the first months of 2000 when our Strategic Plan was created for three years of growth. That plan outlined the goals and objectives for the school in the areas of facility enhancement, financial stability, program development, staff retention, and community relations. In all areas, the past school year saw many of those goals being achieved. In many ways, our goals were surpassed. The accomplishments included:

FACILITIES

Goal: *Bring Childpeace's downtown locations together in one permanent facility. In the year 2000, we projected the completion of any necessary construction and moving into a new facility for the 2003-04 school year.*

✓ Goal accomplished

At the start of last year, a location had not been confirmed; the search committee subsequently experienced many bends and turns in the road. However, by the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2003 we had secured a new home and begun the construction phase of our move. A short-term lease renewal on our NW Park Avenue building was signed as a back up, should construction delays occur.

FINANCIAL

Goal: *Financial stability that would support the move to a new facility and continue the stability of the Childpeace program.*

✓ Goal Accomplished

During the 2002-2003 school year, Childpeace succeeded in building and adopting a four-year financial prospectus that would allow for the school's relocation and growth. A Capital Campaign was planned and inaugurated to assure that income projections would balance expenditures related to growth through 2007.

PROGRAM

Goal: *To improve all aspects of the Childpeace program and accommodate an advantageous rate of growth.*

✓ Goal Primarily Accomplished

By the end of the school year, an outline of the program components under consideration was complete. Elementary growth to three lower elementary and one or two upper elementary classes was confirmed. Although the Strategic Plan called for only one new elementary class in 2003, the acquisition of a larger physical space and a tremendous request for enrollment, justified the initiation of two new classes. Guidelines for a new all-day Children's House program, with a more open physical environment and fewer transitions during the day, were adopted. An elective summer program for Children's House began during the summer of 2003. A commitment to a bilingual (Spanish) component was made and resources were allocated. All of this was accomplished while maintaining the highest Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) standards.

PERSONNEL

Goal: *The goal of the board in 2000 was to make positive adjustments to assure a quality working environment thus retaining an experienced and congruous teaching staff.*

✓ Goal Accomplished

With the intent of offering the best possible parent communication and faculty support, Childpeace hired an experienced Montessori trained admissions coordinator in the 2002-2003 school year. As in years past, Childpeace also retained 95% of its staff as we moved into the new school year. The average number of years of Childpeace employment by teaching staff: 6.5. The average number of years in Montessori education: 10.

"It's hard to put it in to words, but It's really awesome working with the toddlers. I really like reading them stories and going on walks with them."

4th year elementary student



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Goal: *To strengthen and build relationships between Childpeace and the local neighborhoods, with an emphasis on engaging students in meaningful community service.*

✓ Goal In Progress

Childpeace demonstrated a continuing commitment to community outreach. Contact with other planning organizations was maintained throughout the year. Our intergenerational program at McAuley Terrace, visits with the physically and mentally disabled at the McDonald Residence, North Park Block clean up, and numerous other outreach programs were evidence of the school's commitment to community involvement for staff, parents and students. As the year came to an end, faculty and administration envisioned new opportunities in the Northwest Neighborhood.

Despite the stress of planning and transition, Childpeace Montessori succeeded in meeting and surpassing most of the goals that were set out in the Strategic Plan of 2000. The resources, energy, and vision of the board, staff and parents were evident. Confidence in the Childpeace program is the foundation for change. The year 2002-2003 saw new ideas, innovative plans and financial steadiness as the school opened its doors to more than 60 new families.

This is an incredibly exciting time for Childpeace Montessori School as we begin a new chapter. After 15 years in the Pearl District, we begin a new life in the Northwest District.

Sue Pritzker
Administrator

Janet Williamson
Board Chair

BACKGROUND

ABOUT CHILDPEACE MONTESSORI

Childpeace provides an all-day learning environment for children 16 months through 12 years old while balancing the needs of our families and staff.

Childpeace has always been dedicated to providing quality education and care in a comfortable classroom setting where the focus on meaningful activities is designed to compliment the child's family life.

Childpeace is a non-profit corporation, certified day care center, a member of the Oregon Independent Schools, and an Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) recognized school. AMI is headquartered in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and is directed by Renilde Montessori who is the granddaughter of founder Maria Montessori. AMI schools are located worldwide and all maintain the same standards and educational materials.

A full-time administrative staff operates Childpeace with oversight by a Board of Directors. Board members are elected from the parent body and community at large. Board committee work concentrates on all major projects including fundraising.

\$\$\$ TO MAKE IT WORK

The **Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)** was able to finance completely or partially 6 families through our special endowment fund for scholarship purposes. This assistance program is the only one of its kind among Montessori schools in the Portland area. Approximately 9% of Childpeace families received some form of tuition assistance, including short-term assistance and staff tuition benefits.

CHILDPEACE HISTORY

Childpeace Montessori School was established in 1976 in the YWCA in downtown Portland. In 1988, the school moved to the Pearl District on the historic tree lined North Park Blocks. This location offered four Children's House classrooms and two Toddler Community classrooms. In 1999, a fifth Children's House classroom was opened in the McAuley Terrace Care Facility in Southeast Portland. This program includes an intergenerational component. The Childpeace Elementary opened for the 2000-2001 school year in the Hanna Andersson building in the Pearl District. The classroom grew from a small group of first and second graders to a group of 36 first through fifth graders in the 02-03 school year. Childpeace opened at the new location at 1516 NW Thurman Street in September 2003, with the TC, CH, and EL under one roof for the first time.



Fundraising efforts yielded approximately \$120,000, or 9% of the yearly operating budget. The annual Childpeace auction was held in the new space before construction began; it was a great celebration and an auspicious beginning. Fundraising bridges the gap between tuition income and the cost of operating the program. Childpeace families, friends and alumni have contributed generously each year through annual giving, holiday wrapping paper sales and the auction. In addition, a group of Distinguished Donors immediately stepped up to the plate and made donations to our Capital Campaign. This campaign was put on hold after financing was secured for our immediate needs, but will resume when the school considers the purchase of the building.

"Of all the gifts the Childpeace experience gave our child, the 'love of learning' is the greatest and most lasting."

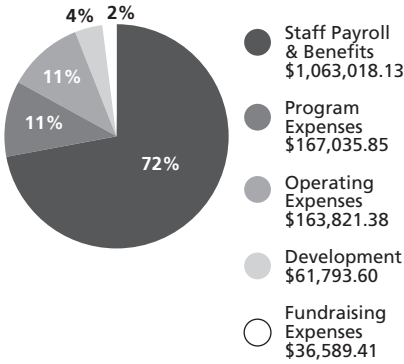
parent of a graduating kindergartner



Childpeace would like to thank An Vu for the photographs used in this publication. Childpeace would also like to thank Melissa Vu of Kauffman & Associates for contributing her time and talent toward the creation of this publication for the school.

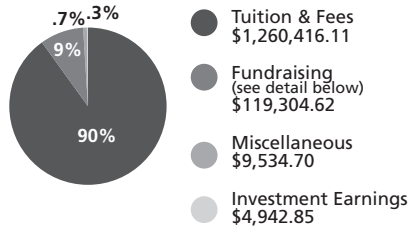
CHART OF ACCOUNTS

Childpeace 02-03 Expense Report

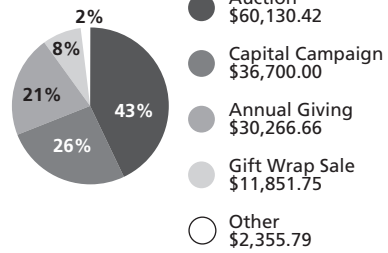


Total Expenses \$ 1,492,258.37

Childpeace 02-03 Income Report

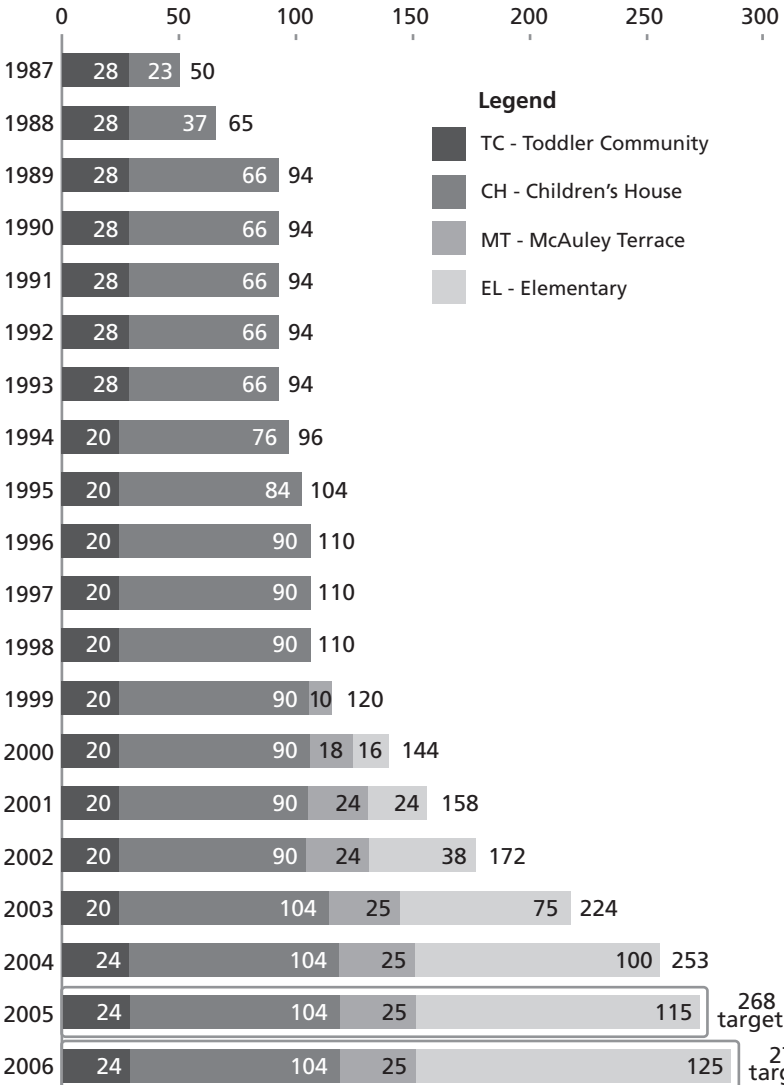


Fundraising Detail



Total Income \$ 1,394,198.28

Childpeace Enrollment



*target is an optimization of classroom size based on Montessori AMI certification criteria for an optimal educational environment.

DONORS

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Howard S. Wright Construction Company for their in-kind donation of pre-development services

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02-03 ANNUAL GIVING

UP TO \$250

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\$1001+

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 Riddle, Florence K.
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 Ripe
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 Seim, Holly
 Serratto
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 Sherman, Janet
 Sherman, Ulysses and Narda
 Slick Salon
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 Susan Kaeder's Truffles
 SW Classroom
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DISCLOSURE
 Childpeace Montessori has made every effort to check the accuracy of the information in this report. Acknowledgement lists include gifts received during the 2002-2003 school year and names appear as requested on donation materials or in official school materials. We sincerely regret any errors or omissions that have escaped our scrutiny. Childpeace values every contribution and greatly appreciates your support.



1516 NW Thurman Street
Portland, OR 97209