



Your Report Card

Annual Report for donors and friends of Children Rising

2024-2025



One-on-one Tutoring,
Carried Home.

Tutoring at School. Follow-through at Home. Lasting Progress.

Oakland children make their fastest gains when tutoring is consistent—and learning continues at home. At the heart is a trusted one-on-one relationship where tutors learn each child's strengths and gaps. Children Rising delivers in-school reading and math tutoring, then links caregivers, tutors, and teachers through FamilyBridge so lessons carry into everyday learning. This year's report shows how the school-home link helps steady tutoring become durable progress.

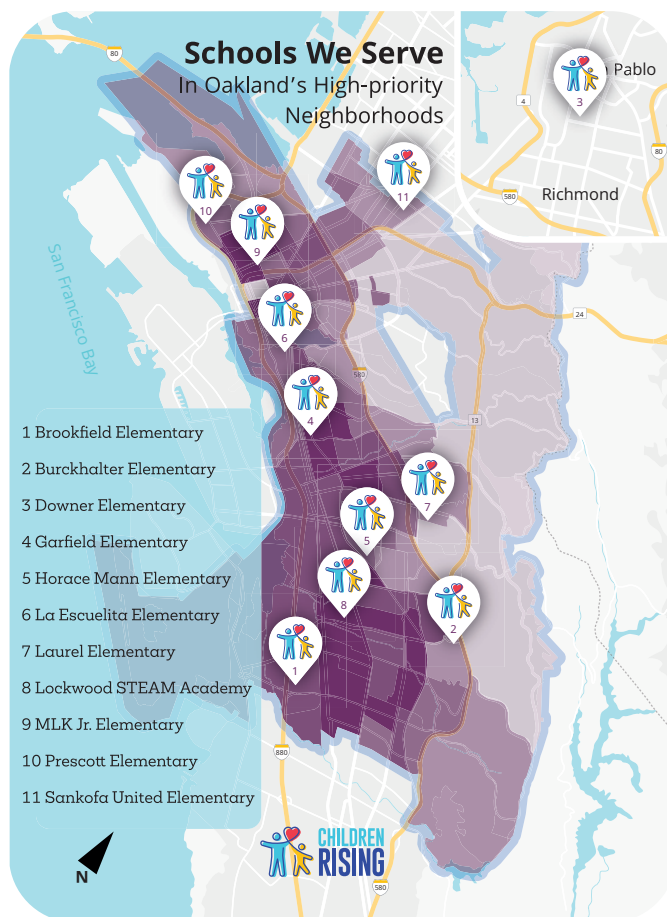
310 students **6,400** tutoring hours



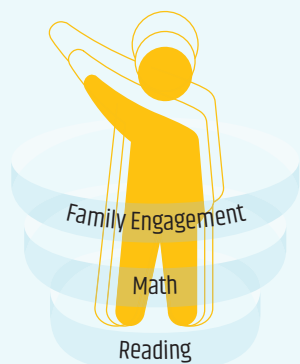
Because of donors like you, tutoring carries home: encouraging updates, doable tasks, and a confident parent taking the lead.

Who We Serve

Elementary school children and families in Oakland's highest-priority neighborhoods, with one-on-one reading and math tutoring connected to home through FamilyBridge.

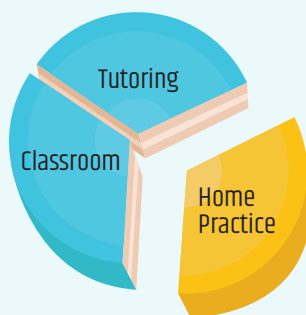


Three Ways Children Rising Strengthens the School-Home Link.



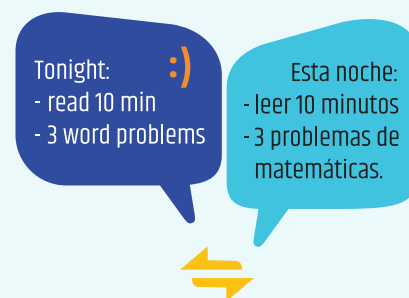
Reading + Math + Family Engagement = Student growth

Programs work together with the student at the center.



Aligned with classroom learning — foundations first, so class learning sticks

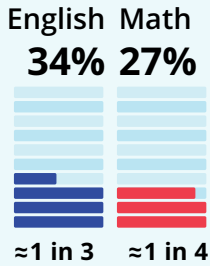
Tutoring and home practice prepare students for what's being taught in class.



Multilingual, two-way updates — simple steps families can use tonight

Encouraging, usable nudges families can use to increase learning.

The Challenge Families Face—and You Help Correct



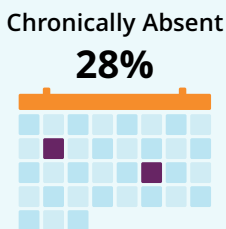
Long-standing achievement gaps

One in three OUSD students met reading (ELA) standards, and one in four met math standards. These stubborn gaps predate the pandemic and require consistent practice and strong home-school coordination to overcome. [1]



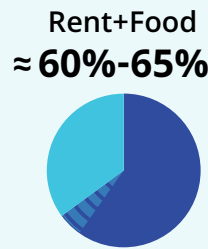
Home-school disconnect for multilingual families

40% of students Children Rising serves are English Learners; without simple, bilingual ways to reinforce each lesson at home, carryover practice lags. That's what FamilyBridge is built to fix. [4]



Attendance breaks momentum

About one in three OUSD students are chronically absent (≈28%). Missing roughly two days a month stalls progress. Two-way, multilingual updates help: an independent district evaluation of TalkingPoints reported a 24% drop in absences with timely, translated outreach. [2][3]



Basic needs crowd out learning at home

Rent and groceries come first. For extremely low-income Oakland renters, rent + food can consume ≈60–65% of income—leaving little bandwidth for nightly practice. [5][6]

Where Class Meets Home: Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School

When families hear directly from the classroom and get simple tools to practice, learning is reinforced where it matters most—at home. At MLK, Children Rising tutors coordinate with Gleoria Bradley-Sapp through FamilyBridge, sharing easy at-home activities in families' home languages. "Parents appreciated the extra help as much as the kids. They wanted the resources to help their kids read and learn," says Principal Roma Groves-Waters. The result: more consistent practice, stronger confidence, and measurable growth toward grade-level reading and math.

"I'm reassured that I'm doing the right things, and other people are helping me. It takes a lot to raise a child." —Caregiver of a FamilyBridge student

In partnership: MLK + Children Rising + ResOak

At MLK, Children Rising and Resurrection Oakland Church work side by side with the school to support students. ResOak strengthens MLK with tutors, FamilyBridge funding, and direct school support—teacher appreciation, classroom needs, annual Book Fair and Spring Carnival, and school beautification projects.

"Serving Oakland is part of loving the town. Side by side with MLK and Children Rising, we're turning care into action—and action into progress for Oakland kids." —Amanda Collison, ResOak



Together for MLK students—ResOak volunteers tutor in class, while Children Rising links learning to home.

When Home Powers Every Lesson

Jordyn, a third-grader, used to hesitate reading longer passages when she began with Children Rising last year. Her mom, Dashanay, is a single mother who works full-time. She worried that two unstable school years without a steady teacher would leave Jordyn behind. Dashanay was relieved to see steady one-on-one reading and math tutoring, paired with FamilyBridge, linking school to home and building momentum.

“It’s hard to follow up when you’re working and balancing life,” Dashanay says. “Good news” messages—twice a month—helped her match home practice to what tutors were teaching. “I used to buy workbooks at the store, but now I use your take-home work, and she’s familiar with it, she’ll knock it out.”

Reading Progress

20 2

Reading Tutoring Sessions

Grade-level Gain in one year

The one-on-one tutoring mattered, too. “Every child learns differently. She needs that individual attention—the relationship, the security—to speak up about what’s hard.”



We are so proud of Jordyn in Path2Math! Jordyn’s math skills are getting better every day. Jordyn worked hard on multiplication word problems. Thank you for being so supportive at home!



Jordyn Lewis is in the purple zone! She is practicing her rhyming words, and making good progress with her reading! Her book is about tic tac toe, and she plays the game with her tutor!

October 2024

Jordyn enrolled in reading and math tutoring; FamilyBridge reached out to Dashanay.



November 2024

Dashanay connected with FamilyBridge at the school’s all-parent meeting.

Home routines started: reading in the car on the way home from school; three math problems nightly.



December 2024

Dashanay visited a reading tutoring session—observed 1:1 tutoring in action.

Winter-break packet (reading + math) sent home.



January 2025

Jordyn returned her holiday packet and earned a reward.

Dashanay was provided with at-home math tools.

Family Engagement

At home, small routines took root—reading on car rides and after school, quick write-ups about a book, and math practice. Confidence followed. “Definitely her confidence in reading,” Dashanay says. “It’s been very impactful—she’s choosing chapter books and bringing that confidence back to class.”

With school and home pulling together, practice keeps happening, and progress sticks.

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Families Enrolled in FamilyBridge

78

Families Responded to Bi-weekly, Multilingual “good news” updates

46%

Engagement of Families in Schools Participating in FamilyBridge

“When the “good news” texts hit my phone, we’re on the same page.” —Dashanay Lewis, Jordyn’s mom



Jordyn is doing great with 3-digit addition! Nice work! If you'd like more math resources to help at home, I can provide them. A "fact family" card and example were sent home for practice. Thank you for your support!



Jordyn is becoming a fluent reader! Let's boost this over summer. Please help by reading 20 mins, 2-5 days a week. Visit the library for free books. Practicing sight words helps too. Thank you for your support. Enjoy summer learning!

February 2025

Jordyn finished her first chapter book; tutor Sylvia noted a “confidence lift.”

Dashanay replied to the update with pride and enthusiasm.

April 2025

Jordan reached the Purple Zone, the highest level in Succeeding by Reading.

May 2025

Year complete: FamilyBridge shares summer steps to keep momentum going.

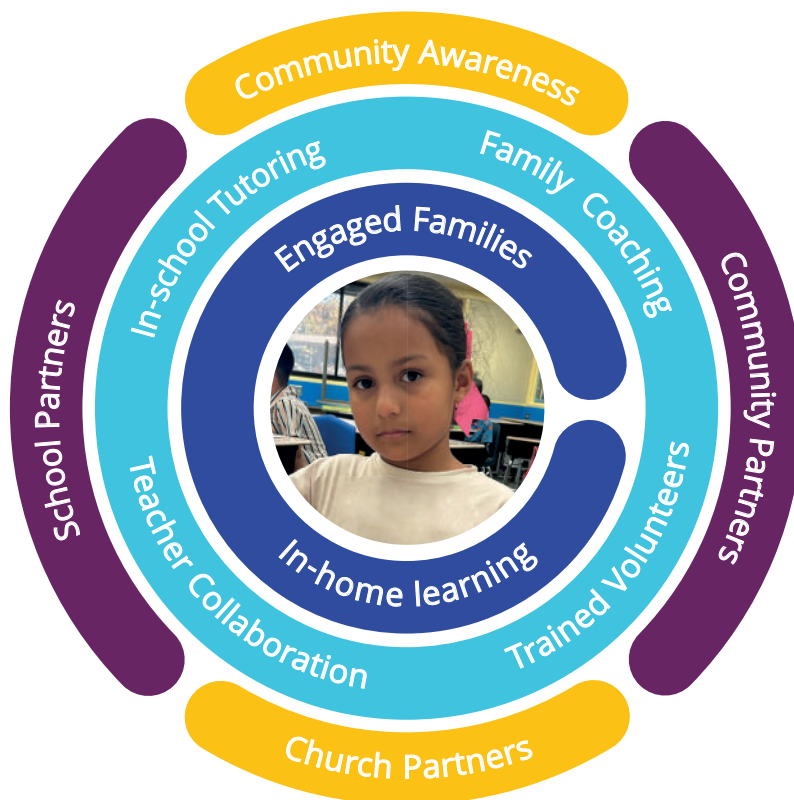
Nurturing Children in a Circle of Care

Family engagement links home and school, so learning continues between sessions. It completes Children Rising's Circle of Care—bringing families, teachers, and one-on-one tutors around each child. When updates are clear and tools are simple, learning is reinforced at home, and progress is easier to sustain.

As families lean in, children practice the right skills at home and grow in confidence on the path toward grade-level reading and math.

How FamilyBridge puts children at the center

- **Keep caregivers in the loop:** let families know tutoring is happening.
- **Invite the conversation:** two-way, bilingual communication to solve small problems early.
- **Send simple tools home:** quick activities that match what's taught.
- **Celebrate the wins:** regular updates that motivate practice and persistence.



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Families engaged through FamilyBridge—stepping into their role as first teachers with bilingual messages, practical resources, and coaching.

Looking Forward - Offering the Circle of Care for More Children

Children Rising believes that pairing one-on-one tutoring with family coaching and strong school-community partnerships creates a unique “Circle of Care” around each child. We know of no other service model that combines all of these key, foundational support elements.

Looking forward, tutoring remains at the center, while FamilyBridge extends learning to the home through quick, two-way updates families can use at home. This approach will expand monthly family reach and engagement, and lift tutoring attendance.

We will also expand the school-home link after tutoring concludes. Coordination with educators, brief parental check-ins, learning materials, and community referrals will help families sustain gains beyond the tutoring program.

Together, we aim to accelerate gains in foundational reading and math and grow the confidence struggling students need to learn what they need to learn while in elementary school.

What we'll do next...

1

Sharpen instruction with OUSD.

Strengthen Succeeding by Reading and Path2Math so tutoring zeroes in on unfinished learning and positions students for what's taught in class.

2

Equip families during—and after—tutoring.

Reach more households each month with simple, at-home tools, coaching, and brief post-program check-ins so progress continues.

3

Remove barriers with partners.

With schools and community allies, make it easier for families to access resources that support attendance, time, and learning materials.

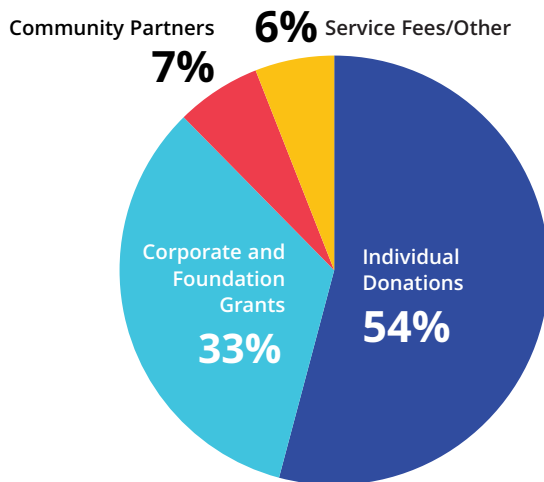
To accomplish this, we will diversify our revenue streams, deepen corporate, nonprofit, and faith partnerships, and strengthen our board's representation and strategic capacity.

Financial Snapshot \$

For year ending June 30, 2025

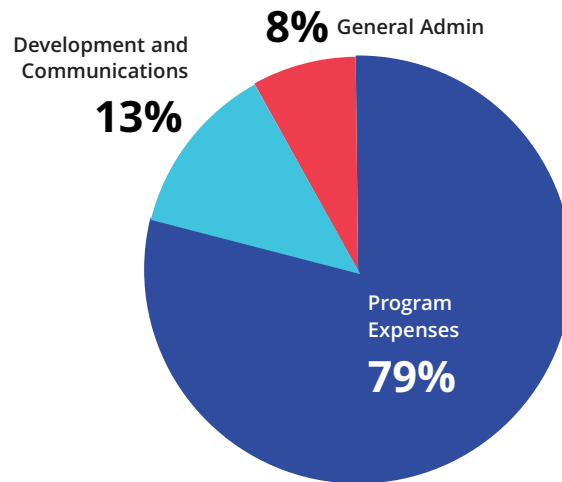
Children Rising is able to serve more and more children each year thanks to a foundation of financial stability and fiscal responsibility. Our income is based on a strong ratio of individual contributions, foundation grants, and corporate partnerships. We take great pride in our efficient stewardship of those investments.

Income



Individual Donations	● \$616,822
Corporate and Foundation Grants	● \$380,075
Community Partners	● \$72,058
Service Fees/Other	● \$68,400
Total Income	\$1,137,355

Expenses



Program Expenses	● \$786,631
Development and Communications	● \$155,324
General Admin	● \$47,174
Total Expenses	\$989,129



CHILDREN RISING
**LEGACY
CIRCLE**



Your legacy can power every lesson—at school and at home. Please consider making a gift in your will or trust.

Your Legacy Can Power Every Lesson

Every child deserves a fair chance at school—and in life. When families, schools, and tutors work together, progress sticks, and children thrive.

Join the Children Rising Legacy Circle.

By including Children Rising in your will or trust, you'll fuel this work for future generations. *Hope that lasts. Practice that sticks.*

Legacy Circle Members:

- Carl Anderson
- Chris & Chelsea Boniak
- Ryan and Ginger Dole
- Charles & Pam Konigsberg
- Arlene Makita-Acuña
- Jeff and Linda McClain
- Mark & Joanne Perra
- Richard & Janet Sheehy
- Bill and Lynn Simpson
- Donna Thayer
- Kit Vanbuskirk
- Jim and Sophia Wambach

If you have made a gift to Children Rising in your will, you are part of the Legacy Circle and we want to include you! Please contact Chelsea Boniak, director of development, at **(510) 836-5100** or email at chelsea@children-rising.org.

Thank You to all of our donors, volunteers, faith communities, and corporate and community partners.
Ensuring Success for Generations to Come

2024-2025 Champions for the Children

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Methods and Sources

[1] CAASPP (2024–25), OUSD districtwide: ELA 33.66% and Math 26.92% meeting/exceeding standard.

<https://caaspp-elpac.ets.org/caaspp/DashViewReportSB?ps=true&lstTestYear=2025&lstTestType=B&lstGroup=1&lstSubGroup=1&lstGrade=13&lstSchoolType=A&lstCounty=01&lstDistrict=61259-000&lstSchool=000000>

[2] OUSD chronic absenteeism (2024-2025): share of students missing $\geq 10\%$ of school days (\approx two days/month). **California School Dashboard — OUSD (2025), Chronic Absenteeism**

<https://www.caschooldashboard.org/reports/0161259000000/2025#chronic-absenteeism-card>

[3] **Independent district evaluation of TalkingPoints (large urban district, quasi-experimental):** statistically significant attendance gains ($\approx 24\%$ reduction in absences) via timely, translated, two-way family outreach. Study summary (24% reduction):

<https://talkingpts.org/news/causal-study-shows-talkingpoints-universal-family-engagement-platform-drove-24-decrease-in-absence-rates/>

Third-party spotlight:

<https://overdeck.org/portfolios/spotlight/talkingpoints-effective-family-school-partnerships-lead-to-improved-student-attendance-how-the-talkingpoints-universal-family-engagement-platform-decreased-absence-in-tulsa-public-schools/>

[4] CDE DataQuest (2024–25), OUSD: English Learner enrollment (district total and percent).

<https://www.ed-data.org/district/Alameda/Oakland-Unified>

[5] **Housing burden (Oakland ELI renters):** City of Oakland **Housing Element, Appendix B – Housing Needs Assessment**. ELI ($\leq 30\%$ AMI) renter households **severely cost-burdened ($>50\%$ of income) = 61.1%**. (See Table B-33a / B-9c.)

https://www.oaklandca.gov/files/assets/city/v/1/planning-amp-building/documents/sp/gp/housing-element/2023-2031-update/public-hearing-draft/appendix-b-housing-needs-assessment_jan-2023.pdf

[6] **Food share proxy (local, basic budget):** MIT Living Wage Calculator, SF–Oakland–Berkeley MSA, Typical Expenses, 1 adult + 1 child > Food typically $\sim 10\text{--}15\%$ of a modest household budget.

<https://livingwage.mit.edu/metros/41860>

Approximation note: With **rent often $>50\%$** for ELI renters [5] and **food $\sim 10\text{--}15\%$** of a basic budget [6], a conservative blended estimate is **rent + food $\approx 60\text{--}65\%$** of income. Figures vary by household.