Definition of LOVE
Kids Co.’s mission is to provide and advocate for quality childcare that enriches and nurtures all children, supporting their success in school and in life.

Love: unselfish, loyal, & benevolent concern for the good of another ~Merriam-Webster

“I like that the teachers do what they can to stop kids from doing something mean and that, when a kid does something mean again, they have to sit out.” -Keegan

“I like our friends are here and the teachers are here. I like that we play games and have teachers and lunch boxes.” -Lorelai

“I like that the other kids play with me and that the teachers do fun activities with us.” -Nathan

“I like the art cart because I really like art and I’m a good artist.” -Ash
DEAR FRIENDS,

Love—a word that comes to mind when we think about Kids Co. and the services we’ve provided to our extended community—our family—since 1989. Love is the underlying factor that motivates us to build our community to encompass more friends, more families, and more kids. Love is what we present when we open our child care doors every morning to greet excited young faces and help them navigate their day. Love is about communication, compassion, and sharing. That’s the Kids Co. way.

Our families, volunteers, donors, staff, and friends are passionate individuals whose combined purpose is to make each day special for the kids in our care.

Here are some of the ways you helped spread the love in Fiscal Year 2016:

- In January, families were rallied to share their voices with Seattle Public Schools about their plan to eliminate designated child care centers onsite at 19 elementary schools. In the end, SPS only repurposed seven.
- Our donor list grew to 396 individuals, businesses, and foundations to help strengthen our programs and keep our doors open to all families.
- Most dear to our heart, due to the generosity of our community, we continued our promise that we made the very day we opened. Kids Co. never turns a child away from child care due to their family’s inability to pay. In FY’16 we helped 249 kids with the support of the Kids Co. Scholarship Fund!

We are continually hopeful and constantly energized by the wonderful work and love in our community, but circumstance tells us there’s still a ways to go. There are more families than ever moving here and our schools are bursting at the seams. All kids need a safe space for care. Kids Co. is determined to make sure there is room!

We are thankful for your love and are inspired by your commitment to improving outcomes for every child, every step of the way, from cradle to career.

With a heart full of love,

Susan R. Brown
President and CEO
1989–present

John Hoverson
Board Chair
2016–2017

“...A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove. But the world may be different, because I was important in the life of a child.”

- Dr. Forest E. Witcraft, scholar, teacher, and Boy Scout administrator

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Erin Overbey, Vice-Chair
Jonathan Siegel, Treasurer
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Susan R. Brown, Ex-Officio
Henry Chou
Tinamarie Feil
Joe Jornadal
Shawn Larsen-Bright
Ray Luiggi

FISCAL YEAR 2017
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Shawn Larsen-Bright
Bart Wilson
Challenges of the working poor

Hurray for our community. The job outlook indicates that the Seattle-metropolitan area is a hot, HOT, market. So hot that people are moving here by the thousands (GeekWire estimated 86,320 became locals in 2016). We can largely attribute this to our continued tech boom. But the boom of tech only benefits a select few. What about the working poor?

It’s hard to make ends meet—especially when kids are in the picture.

Many local working families fall far below the federal poverty level. At the end of 2016 the poverty income level for a family of four was $20,420—note, this is a household with at least one full-time or part-time worker. Now, imagine, for one second, the struggles of housing and feeding the kids in Seattle on those wages. Now, go one step further and consider what to do if this family:

❤ has a sick kid (but doesn’t have paid sick leave to care for the child);
❤ incurs a late fee for a past due payment (and that $30 is dinner for a week);
❤ has a car that breaks down or not enough money for gas (and they can’t go to work);
❤ wants to get a higher education or vocational training in order to secure a better paying job (but it’s unattainable because many of our institutional systems don’t give financial support to students—this often includes child care).

This is where Kids Co. shares the love.

Since opening our doors in June of 1989 we set-out to run a quality child care center that catered to working families, yet the heart and soul of our organization desired never to turn a child away from Kids Co. due to a family’s inability to pay. Our answer, since day-one, is the Kids Co. Scholarship Fund.

Over the past 27 years we have allocated millions of dollars in tuition assistance to low-income families—giving all our kids safe spaces that inspire wonder, curiosity, and play!
A cool thing about Kids Co. is our doors are open from 7 a.m.–6 p.m. weekdays. This is paramount to the working parent. Still, there’s a sad truth—tuition is a challenge for many families, even if they work two or more jobs!

We’ve never hesitated, not for a second, to keep our doors open to all families, no matter what their financial status.

Kids Co., Where Kids Grow was designed for exactly that purpose. The 5-day online giving event raised $30,316.69 from foundations, businesses, and individuals! That meant 130 kids got a week of summer camp.

And that’s something to smile about.
Lucca the waiter loves to go on field trips over the summer. The world is his buffet and he’d like all children to eat at his table. That’s why he brought in coins every day for our Get on the Bus fundraiser. He used his character and charm to inspire others to give as well.
WE LOVE FIELD TRIPS

We love field trips—excursions to museums, zoos, ball parks, or fancy playgrounds. Unfortunately, the cost of getting there is tough on child care—$500 a bus! Get On The Bus, our summer-time online giving event, had one single goal: Get kids on chartered buses.

That we did! In 5-days we raised $21,365.04 (the equivalent of 43 bus rentals) so Kids Co. kids could explore sought-after destinations, experience hands-on learning, and most important, have fun.

Special thanks to our sponsors:

GOLD SPONSORS

SILVER SPONSORS

BRONZE SPONSORS

And a special mention to the Kids Co. Staff whose combined gifts helped match all our field trip-loving individual donors

DAILY INCENTIVE PRIZE DONORS

ACT Theatre
Anthony’s Seafood Grill
Chihuly Garden and Glass

EMP Museum
Ivar’s
Janet Graham

KuKuRuZa Gourmet Popcorn
Pacific Office Automation
Seattle Bouldering Project

Seattle Shakespeare Company
Woodland Park Zoo

Jonathan Siegel
The Bryant Family—What are they up to now?

In Kids Co.’s 2010 annual report we featured a story about the Bryant Family—Lyra and her two daughters, KyLécia and NaDia.

Lyra is a mom, a veteran, and at the time we shared her story, a student earning her undergraduate degree in psychology. Because she was pursuing an undergraduate degree rather than a vocational certificate, Lyra was ineligible to receive child care subsidies from DSHS. A college degree was Lyra’s path to securing a brighter financial future for her and her girls. Without child care subsidies, Lyra would not be able to go to college because she didn’t have care for her daughters.

Lyra asked and received!

Lyra got in touch with Kids Co. regarding our scholarship program. The heart of our organization is to care for our families, ensuring that all have access to quality child care. Therefore she was given the tuition support she needed to keep her girls safe and sound attending Kids Co. at South Shore while she went to college.

We are thrilled to share the happy next chapter to Lyra’s story: Lyra completed her degree; she has a good job at the Seattle VA as an advanced medical support assistant; KyLécia is a junior in high school; NaDia is in the 7th grade; both girls are in the Seattle Jazz Education program; AND recently, Lyra purchased her first home!

It was our hearts desire to help Lyra get her degree and give her girls the gift of safe, fun, and nurturing care.

Congratulations to Lyra, KyLécia, and NaDia! We are so proud of you.

The Fields Family

The Fields are a family of seven—two working parents and five growing boys! At the end of the 2014-15 school-year, one of the youngest nearly drowned, and the family spent the rest of that year at the hospital. Now all of the Fields boys—all five of them—are doing well.

During that trying time, the parents received a much needed raise. Unfortunately, at their greatest time of financial need, the pay increase disqualified them for a DSHS child care subsidy. Kids Co. was able to help! Their Kids Co. scholarship ensured the boys were receiving care while mom and dad went to work.

As educators (both parents work at South Shore K-8), the family appreciated the fact that Kids Co. gave their sons a safe place to spend their time before and after school, with staff that they trust. In fact, here’s what mom has to say:

“Kids Co. is an extended family for my boys. Kids Co. is a place that allows my boys to be themselves and to strive to be even better. Our family has been challenged with many medical issues these past recent years, and having a place for our boys to be stress-free has been valuable. We are so appreciative of all the support we have received from Kids Co. My family has been a part of the Kids Co. family for almost 10 years collectively between my four boys.”

(The Fields’ oldest son never attended Kids Co.)

Kids Co. scholarships really do change lives

Malik, Mekhi, and Malcolm

(The Fields’ three youngest boys who still attend Kids Co.)
We certainly felt your love throughout FY’16 (September 1, 2015–August 31, 2016). Just short of 400 people, businesses, foundations, and organizations joined us helping Kids Co. create safe spaces that inspire wonder, curiosity, and play for kids.

When DONATING = LOVING, we feel pretty blessed!

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IN KIND GIFTS

ACT Theatre
Anthony’s Seafood Grill - Lynnwood
Amanda Bakke
Cash & Carry - Corporate Office
Chihuly Studio
Costco Wholesale - Lynnwood
Costco Wholesale - Aurora
Costco Wholesale - Kirkland
Dimitrious’s Jazz Alley
EMP Museum
Janet Graham
Home Depot - West Seattle
Home Depot - Kent
Ivar’s
Jet City Improv
Kukunuz Gourmet Popcorn
Lowe’s Hardware - Bellevue
McMenamins
Museum of Flight
Pacific Office Automation
PCC Natural Markets
QFC - North Seattle
QFC – University Village
Seattle Bouldering Project
Seattle Shakespeare Company
Seattle Storm
Silverwood Theme Park
Target - Northgate
Target - West Seattle
Touch Worldwide
Whole Foods Market
Woodland Park Zoo
### ASSETS

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

**August 31, 2016**

**Current Assets:**
- Cash and Cash Equivalents: $1,003,524
- Accounts Receivable, Net: $124,623
- Prepaid Expenses: $41,062

**Total Current Assets:** $1,169,209

- Property and Equipment, Net: $108,299
- Contributions Receivable LT: $10,000

**Total Current Assets:** $1,287,508

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

**Current Liabilities:**
- Accounts Payable: $256,077
- Refundable Deposits: $59,250
- Unearned Program Fees: $52,543

**Total Current Liabilities:** $367,870

- Capital Lease Obligations: $9,826

**Total Liabilities:** $377,696

- Unrestricted Net Assets: $909,812

**Total Liability & Net Assets:** $1,287,508

### STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

**August 31, 2016**

**Revenue and Support:**
- Program Service Fees: $3,718,007
- Grants and Contributions: $278,260
- Miscellaneous Revenue: $10,164
- Investment Income: $1,503

**Total Revenue and Support:** $4,007,934

**Expenses:**
- Program Services: $3,333,073
- Management and General: $590,340
- Fundraising: $68,383

**Total Expenses:** $3,991,796

**Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets:** $16,138

**Unrestricted Net Assets, Beginning of Year:** $893,674

**Unrestricted Net Assets, End of Year:** $909,812
KIDS CO. CENTER LOCATIONS

Kids Co. at Adams, Ballard (incorporated 1989)
Kids Co. at Cascadia, Wallingford (incorporated 2012)
Kids Co. at Graham Hill, Seward Park (incorporated 1991)
Kids Co. at Island Park, Mercer Island (incorporated 1995)
Kids Co. at John Hay, Queen Anne (incorporated 1990)
Kids Co. at John Muir, Mount Baker (incorporated 2011)
Kids Co. at Lakeridge, Mercer Island (incorporated 1995)
Kids Co. at McDonald, Greenlake (incorporated 2010)
Kids Co. at Queen Anne, Queen Anne (incorporated 2011)
Kids Co. at South Shore, Rainier Beach (incorporated 2002)
Kids Co. at TOPS, Capitol Hill/Eastlake (incorporated 1991)
Kids Co. at West Mercer, Mercer Island (incorporated 2014)

KIDS CO.
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www.kidscompany.org

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The Independent Charities Seal of Excellence is awarded to the members of Independent Charities of America and Local Independent Charities of America that have, upon rigorous independent review, been able to certify, document, and demonstrate on an annual basis that they meet the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness. These standards include those required by the US Government for inclusion in the Combined Federal Campaign, probably the most exclusive fund drive in the world. Of the 1,000,000 charities operating in the United States today, it is estimated that fewer than 50,000, or 5 percent, meet or exceed these standards, and, of those, fewer than 2,000 have been awarded this Seal. Kids Co. is one.

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