

2024

ANNUAL REPORT



www.empoweringkidsorganization.org



**FROM OUR
PRESIDENT**



Dear Community,

I would like to begin this letter with a heartfelt expression of gratitude. Over the years, EKO has grown steadily, expanding its reach, deepening its purpose, and increasing its impact. Each year, we bring more support, more joy, and more hope for a brighter future for our children.

At the core of our shared humanity is a powerful desire: to secure a better future for the next generation. But to truly fulfill that vision, we must extend our care and commitment beyond our own families. The well-being of our children is deeply interconnected with the well-being of all children, those who will become their classmates, colleagues, neighbors, and friends. There is no lasting joy in isolation. This belief lies at the heart of EKO's mission and continues to guide our work, uniting all who support us in building a more inclusive, compassionate, and equitable community.

This year, we are focusing on intentional organizational growth: enriching our programs, strengthening our partnerships, and laying the foundation for long-term sustainability. We have deepened our collaborations with local organizations, broadened our network, and amplified our collective impact. As a result, in 2024, we expanded our number of programs by 60% and increased our income by 89%.

These milestones were made possible by the unwavering dedication of our community. To our donors, thank you for your generous investment in the future. To our partner organizations, thank you for walking beside us. To our students, thank you for showing up with motivation and a desire to learn. And to our families, thank you for your trust, your resilience, and your belief in what we can achieve together. With your continued support, we look forward to another year of growth, connection, and collective impact as we empower the next generation.

With gratitude,

Patricia Fontán
EKO President



ABOUT EKO

Our Mission

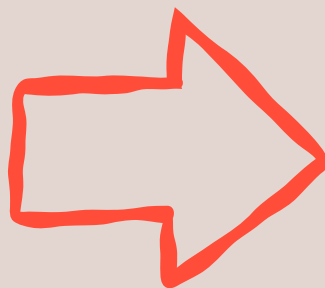
Our mission is to facilitate equal access to resources and opportunities for students and their families facing underprivileged circumstances by creating programs and strategies to empower them to thrive throughout their educational journey.



Education is the great equalizer. It gives every mind, no matter its origin, the power to rise, dream, and shape the world.

Our strength

Knowing our students by their story



Designing our programs around the student's needs





2025 HIGHLIGHTS

The James W. Northrop Program: which has successfully supported high school students since 2019, is now being extended to middle schoolers, offering after-school support in Math and English Language Arts.

The Roadmap College Series: a series of workshops designed to help families navigate the college application process, from understanding what students should begin doing in high school to participating in guided campus tours.

Annual fundraiser event: Our second annual fundraiser featured an enchanting evening of Argentine tango and wine tasting, bringing the community together to raise vital funds in support of our programs.

A College Guide for Hispanic Students Conference: Hosted at Fairleigh Dickinson University and organized by EKO and The Alliance for Latino Empowerment. This event featured tailored workshops designed specifically for students from Summit High School.

The Girls-4-Girls: A mentoring program for girls in grades 4 through 6, focused on social-emotional learning and empowerment. This initiative is offered in partnership with The Central Presbyterian Church and provides a supportive space for young girls to build confidence, develop communication skills, and foster positive relationships.

Grief Management Training: EKO staff and 2 Summit High School teachers participated in a training focused on helping students to process grief and loss. The training aimed to equip educators with strategies to support students facing emotional challenges.

Summer Booster Program: An eight-day program for high school students that combines academic review and literary discussion. Each session begins with an hour of math concept review, followed by a guided discussion of the assigned summer reading book.



THE YEAR IN NUMBERS



16

Programs



180

Participants



13

Institutional Partners

WE ARE GROWING

60%

INCREASE IN PROGRAMS



89%

INCREASE IN REVENUE



WE ARE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE

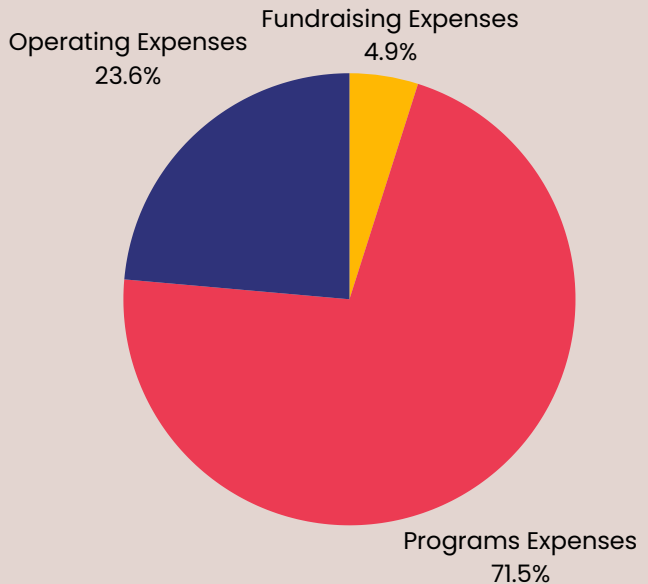
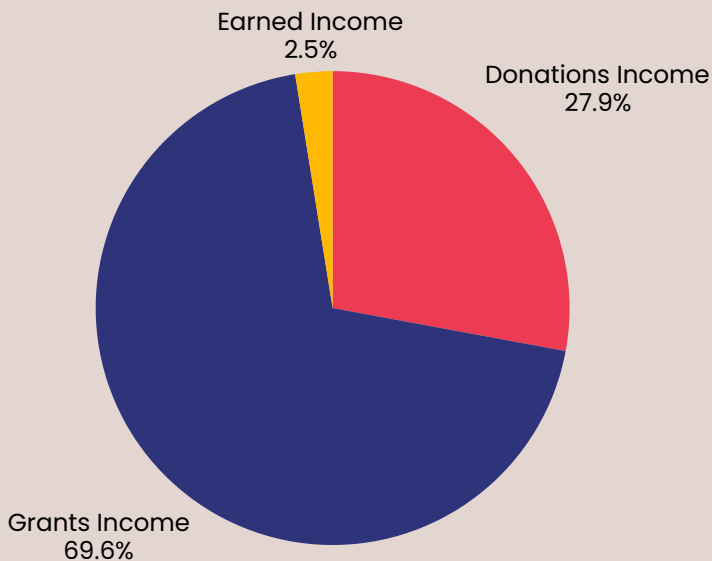
4.6

FUNDRAISING EFFICIENCY RATIO



0.7

PROGRAM EXPENSE RATIO





THE YEAR IN PICTURES

