

w nders



Annual Report 2024-2025

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Wonders Community,

We are pleased to share highlights from the 2024-2025 program year. We had an impactful FY25, celebrating many joyful moments of learning and connection even as we continued to rebuild after the pandemic and advocate for the child care sector. Wonders received its final federal COVID-19 response funding through the Employee Retention Credit program. Like other federal and local relief programs, this public investment enabled Wonders to meet the needs of the community while navigating financial challenges.

In many ways, the 2024-2025 program year feels like the distant past, but reflecting on where we have been reaffirms our plans for the future.

With much appreciation for the Wonders community,

Joanne Hurt
Executive Director





2024-2025 In Review

Our organizational goal for 2024–2025—**Sustain, Build, Thrive**—provided both a framework and a guiding vision for the year. These three words shaped our planning, informed our decision-making, and reflected our commitment to meeting the evolving needs of children, families, educators, and the broader early childhood sector.

In a year marked by ongoing challenges across the field, Wonders remained focused on sustaining the strong foundation that supports our mission. Financial sustainability continued to be a priority, supported by stable enrollment, high-quality programming, and the retention of talented and dedicated educators. Maintaining a strong workforce remained essential to ensuring consistency, quality, and meaningful relationships within our community.

At the same time, we invested in building on our strengths and expanding our impact. We continued to enhance our Professional Development Consortium, creating opportunities for learning and collaboration across the sector. We strengthened pathways for staff growth and career advancement, explored and developed new sources of non-tuition revenue, and elevated our advocacy efforts to support policies and investments that benefit young children, families, and educators.

These efforts are interconnected and contribute to our ultimate goal: creating the conditions for children, staff, and families to thrive. By sustaining our foundation, building our capacity, and investing in our future, Wonders is well positioned to continue serving our community with excellence and purpose.

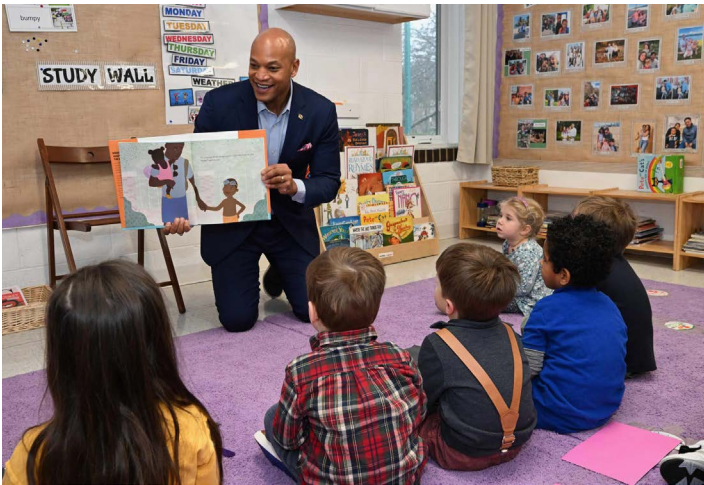


Elevating the Field and Sharing Our Voices

On January 31, 2025, Wonders hosted Maryland Governor Wes Moore and several state leaders for a roundtable discussion on child care policy, with a focus on Maryland's Child Care Scholarship program, Pre-K expansion, and strategies to strengthen the state's early childhood education system.

The roundtable convened state and local leaders, including Maryland State Department of Education Superintendent Dr. Carey Wright, State Board of Education President Josh Michael, Delegate Jared Solomon, Governor's Office of Children Special Secretary Carmel Martin, and County Executive Marc Elrich, alongside Wonders educators, staff, and parent representatives.

Following the discussion, Governor Moore visited the Butterfly classroom at Wonders at Leland and read *Jabari Jumps* to students, highlighting the importance of early literacy and engagement in early learning environments.



To Wonders,
Keep leading,
We will follow!
Gov. Wes Moore

Advancement Highlights

Andrew and Julie Klingenstein Family Fund

The Andrew and Julie Klingenstein Family Fund donated \$30,000 in support of our early care and education programs. This investment strengthens our ability to deliver high-quality services and provide essential resources that directly benefit children and families throughout the school year.

Gratitude Spotlight

We received a generous anonymous donation of \$20,000 from a former Wonders family. They shared, **“We are still learning about all of the benefits we’ve received from being a part of Wonders.”** It is deeply gratifying to hear how our programs have a lasting impact. This gift is a powerful reminder that our work today shapes the future.

Town of Chevy Chase Contribution

Wonders at Leland received a \$10,000 contribution from the Town of Chevy Chase to support enhancements to its learning environment. The investment improved classroom and program spaces that serve children and families.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to recognize this partnership and celebrate the completed upgrades with community members and local leaders. We are grateful for the Town of Chevy Chase’s support of high-quality early learning in our community. A special thank you to Mayor Irene Lane for joining us for this event.



RBC Wealth Management Grant

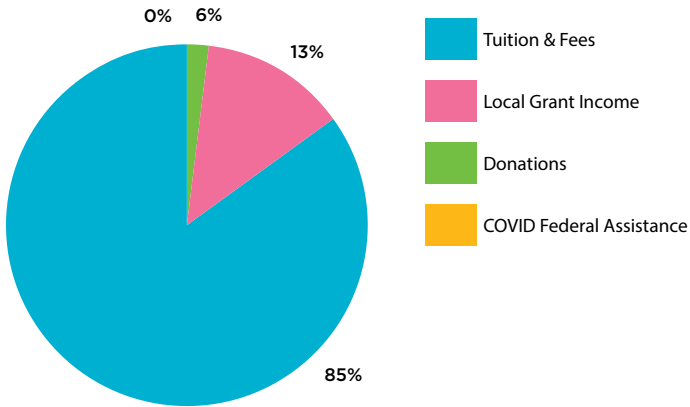
Investing in our educators remains a key priority at Wonders. We received a \$3,000 grant from RBC Wealth Management to support the development of an anti-bias education training series for educators. The training strengthened our educators’ ability to design and facilitate learning experiences for children that reflect the diverse identities, cultures, and experiences of the children and families we serve.

Women for Good Grant Award

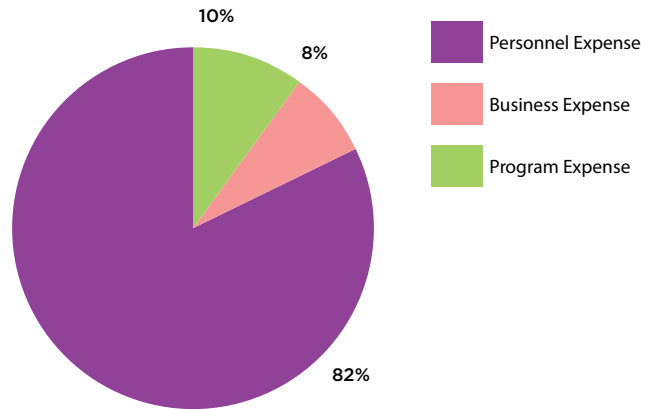
Wonders Early Learning + Extended Day was honored to receive a \$3,375 grant from Montgomery County Women for Good. The award reflects a shared commitment to ensuring that high-quality early learning and school-age programs remain accessible to families in our community. Grant funding was directed to the Wonders Circle Fund, which provides tuition assistance to families enrolled in our Montgomery County programs.

Financial Highlights

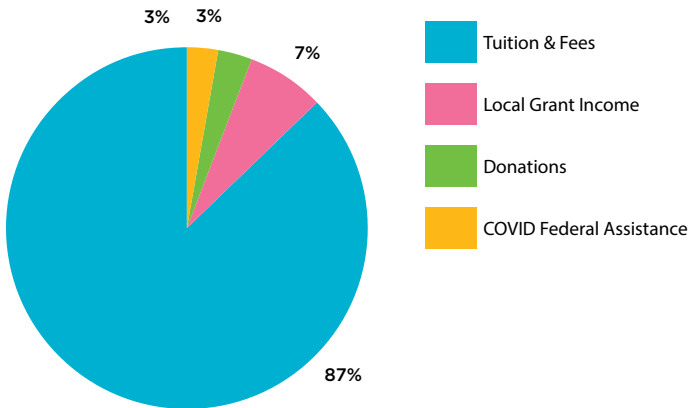
Fiscal Year 2025 Sources of Revenue



Fiscal Year 2025 Categories of Expense



2021-2025 Sources of Revenue



Tuition and fees drive financial stability and sustainability at Wonders. After a decade of operating with limited reserves, FY25’s strong financial results combined with the 50th Anniversary Campaign have helped strengthen Wonders’ financial position for a sustainable future. As one-time federal COVID-19 funds have ended, philanthropic contributions continue to play a vital role in ensuring that Wonders can maintain high-quality programs, invest in its families and staff, and remain accessible to the communities it serves.



Board of Directors

Anne Blakely Patterson

Colin Jones

Courtney Cason

Farrell Rodd

Franca Brilliant

Ivy Landro

Kristen Darling, President

Jenn Gordon

Jennifer Dill

Jennifer Serenyi

Joanne Hurt

Kara Stein, Vice President

Kristin Pfeiffer

Manish Singla

Michelle Groman

Richard Callaghan, Treasurer

Dr. Sarah Schaffer DeRoo,
Secretary

Shana Bartley

Shinta Hernandez

Simon Han

Programs & Locations

Wonders Administrative Office

5272 River Road, Suite 530 | Bethesda, MD 20816 | (301) 654-5339 | Fax (301) 652-9533

Wonders Extended Day at Bethesda

Before and After School Care

Bethesda Elementary School

7600 Arlington Road Bethesda, MD 20814

(301) 654-6003

Wonders Extended Day at Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School

*After School Care and Enrichment After
Care Program*

Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School

1901 East Jefferson Street Rockville, MD 20852

(301)- 366- 9064

Wonders Extended Day at Chevy Chase

Before and After School Care

Chevy Chase Elementary School

4015 Rosemary Street Chevy Chase, MD 20815

(301) 654-7914

Wonders Early Learning at Edgemoor

Full Day Infants, Preschool, Pre-Kindergarten

4805 Edgemoor Lane Bethesda, MD 20814

(301) 907-4080

Wonders Extended Day at Horace Mann

Before and After School Care

Horace Mann Elementary School

4430 Newark Street NW Washington, DC 20016

(240) 994-9429

Wonders Extended Day at John Francis Education Campus

*Before and After School Care, and
Enrichment After Care*

John Francis Education Campus

2425 N St. NW Washington, DC 20037

(240)-274-0508

Wonders Early Learning at Leland

Full Day Preschool, Pre-Kindergarten

4301 Willow Lane Chevy Chase, MD 20815

(301) 654-8143

Wonders Extended Day at Milton Gottesman Jewish Day School

After School Care, and Enrichment After Care

Milton Gottesman Jewish Day School

6045 16th Street NW Washington, DC 20011

(202)- 709-1309

Wonders Extended Day at Murch Elementary School

Before and After School Care

Murch Elementary School

4810 36th Street NW Washington, DC 20008

Wonders Summer Camp

Bethesda Elementary School

7600 Arlington Road Bethesda, MD 20814



w  nders

www.wonderslearning.org