

ABOUT

Southwest Youth & Family Services (SWYFS) is a leading resource for low-income families and at-risk youth in Southwest King County. Our core purpose is to advocate for equity and increase knowledge so families in our community can thrive. For nearly 40 years, SWYFS has adapted to the changing landscape of Seattle while remaining dedicated to offering education, counseling, youth and family development services, all within a secure, stable environment. In 2016 we faced many challenges of injustice and found strength in our community of supporters.

SWYFS is doing the work that matters right now. Our experienced and passionate staff continues to build meaningful relationships with our participants so they have an ally at their side as they work toward their own personal success.

Southwest Youth & Family Services partners with youth and families to transform their futures.

3396

The number of people SWYFS partnered with in 2016.

BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR KNOWLEDGE: TY'MEKA'S STORY

Our King County Youth Violence Prevention (KCYVP) staff first met Ty'meka when she was 16 years old. She had a reputation for fighting, using drugs and had essentially no credits as an incoming high school junior. Her counselor at Highline High School referred her to the program, but it was her friend's relationship with our staff that made her open working with us. Our dedicated staff took the time to understand that Ty'meka didn't have a strong support network at home and needed a sense of accountability to get her back on track. Thanks to their consistent check-ins, extra class time and open conversations, Ty'meka's grades steadily improved as did her respect for herself. She skyrocketed through the credits she needed and graduated on time with her peers. She is currently a Freshman at South Seattle Community College hoping to pursue a degree in early childhood development.



The percentage of clients who identify as immigrants or refugees.

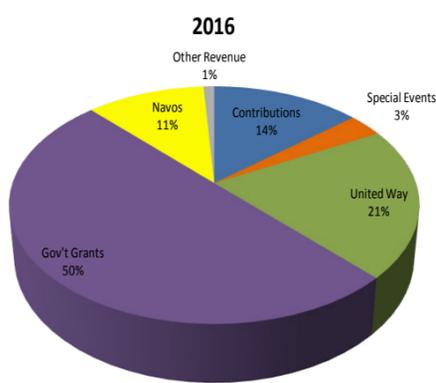
50%

COMMITTED TO CONNECTION: ONE FAMILY'S STORY

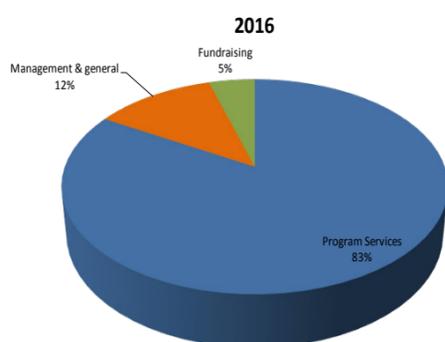
Our East African Family Advocate, Farhiya Mohamed, has worked with countless clients over the years, but one stands out in particular for the lasting connection and continued success within the family. Farhiya met the client seven years ago when she travelled alone with her seven children to the United States. Farhiya was able to find them housing and even offered to help her do grocery shopping on the weekends. Farhiya also set up all of the client's children within the Seattle Public School system and enrolled the client in a driving program to further her independence. Today, the whole family has settled into life as American citizens. The client is working while finishing up her Associates degree and four of her children are now old enough to continue their education at the University of Washington, Evergreen College, and South Seattle Community College.

2016 FINANCIALS

Revenue



Expenses



We are supported by amazing donors who make an incredible impact in their own community.

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Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Charitable Foundation
City of Burien
City of SeaTac
City of Seattle
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Department of Early Learning
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International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration
King County
King County Housing Authority
Microsoft Matching Gift Program
Molina Healthcare of Washington
NAVOS
Nucor Seattle
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
OneFamily Foundation
Pacific Continental Bank
Pfizer Foundation
Potter Construction Inc.
Providence Health International
Safeco Insurance Foundation
School's Out Washington
Seattle Metropolitan Credit Union
Social Venture Partners
Sound Credit Union
State of Washington
Stolte Family Foundation
The Beer Junction
The Norcliffe Foundation
The Seattle Foundation
United Way of King County
West Seattle Nursery, Inc.
Youth Development Executives of King County
Zumiez

REDEFINING SUCCESS

We work to make our institutions, systems and procedures fit the needs of people, rather than make people fit the institution. In the current political climate, we need your support to advocate for fair systems at every level of our communities.

Board of Directors

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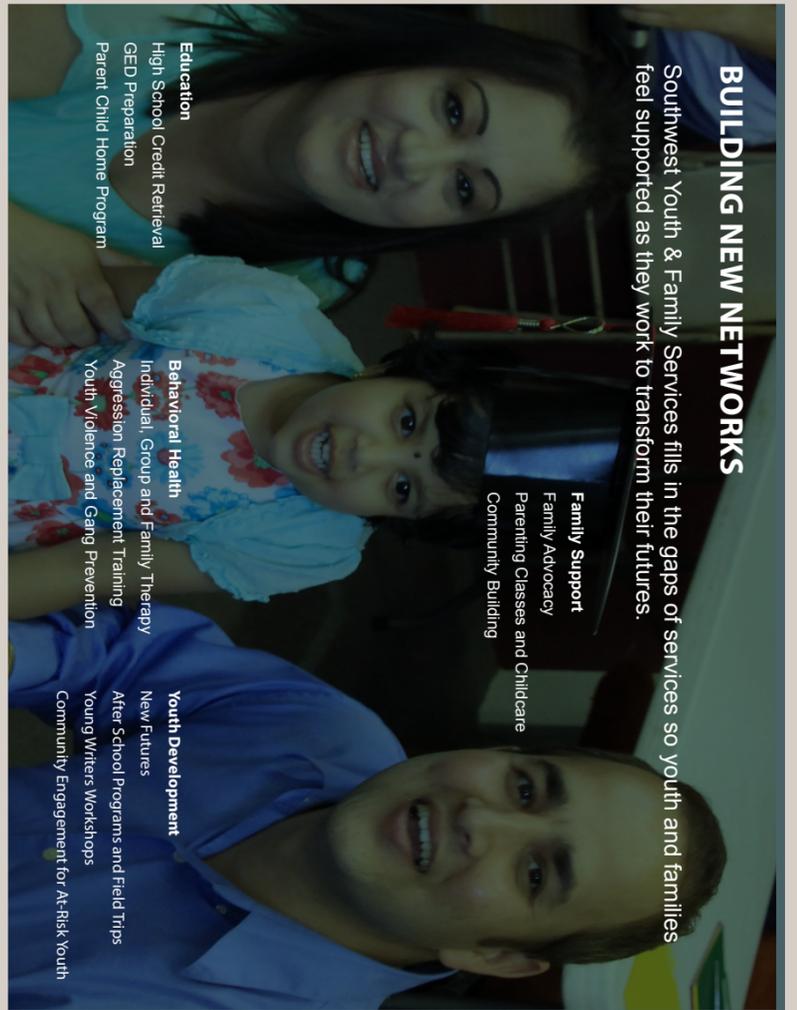
Ranesto Angeles - Eileen Cody - Sean Heron - Patrick Jablonski - Albert Khandzhayan - Aimee Khuu - Susan Lantz-Dey - Kirk Mead - Kayla Epting - Patrick Pavey - Andrea Shreni - Merl Simpson - Mark Wirschem

We believe

Only when we all commit to equity and expanding knowledge can we build a community of acceptance, belonging and hope, where all families thrive.

BUILDING NEW NETWORKS

Southwest Youth & Family Services fills in the gaps of services so youth and families feel supported as they work to transform their futures.



Education
High School Credit Retrieval
GED Preparation
Parent Child Home Program

Behavioral Health
Individual, Group and Family Therapy
Aggression Replacement Training
Youth Violence and Gang Prevention

Youth Development
New Futures
After School Programs and Field Trips
Young Writers Workshops
Community Engagement for At-Risk Youth

Family Support
Family Advocacy
Parenting Classes and Childcare
Community Building

DID YOU KNOW?

146 students, including 32 young parents, were able to make up high school credits and take GED classes through our Education Center. By the end of the year, 79% of those students committed to coming to class and significantly improved their overall academic performance.

ONE PARTICIPANT SAID...

"Connecting to the community helped me learn more about my culture and improve my life."



2016 Annual Report

Southwest Youth & Family Services
4555 Delridge Way SW
Seattle, WA 98106

INNER STAR BY LISA GASCON

When I grow up, I have you to look up to
Words so fierce it stings and leaves a buzz in your ears
Holding your own, knockout punch between their eyes
Courageous and stoic, spittin' poetry and rhymes with
No Fear

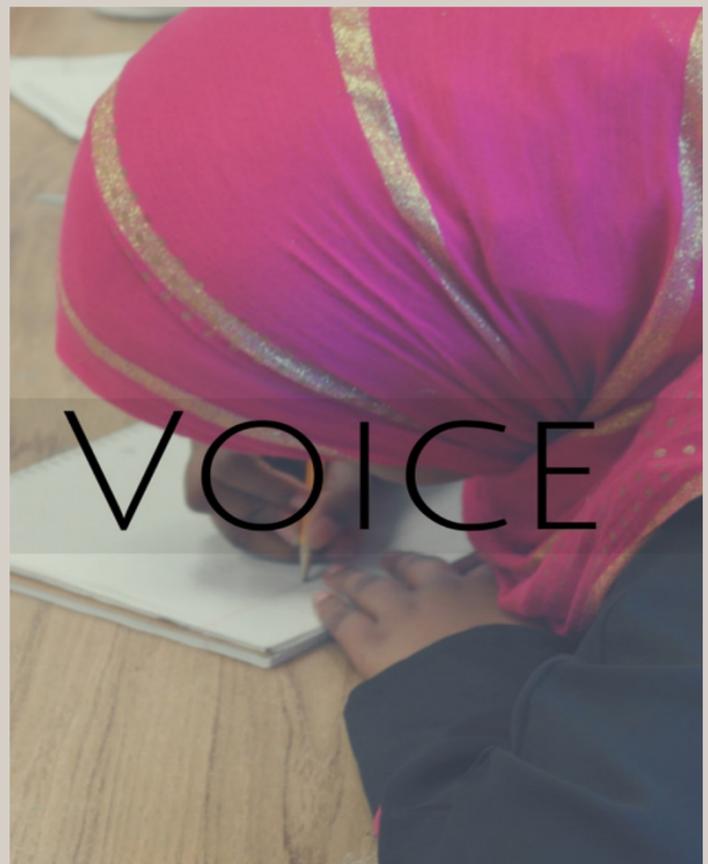
When I grow up, I have you to look up to
Speaking in foreign tongues only understood by those with open minds
Moving mountains with your innovation and creativity
Letting go of the insecurities to let your inner star shine

Survivors of depression
You keep it real
Survivors of abuse
You keep it real
Survivors of abandonment
You keep it real
Survivors of violence
You keep it real
Survivors of inner turmoil
You keep it real
Survivors of life
Keep on writing and keep on shining



PERMANENT BY DANNY FENTON

I am permanent ink staining the hands of writers and every loose page of lined paper stuffed and folded into binders and backpacks, and I will always exist in the margins of errors and corrections and finally perfected metaphors and similes that get caught in the back of your mind.



KNOW MY ROOTS BY LISIA LEIATO

I am from the deep blue Pacific Ocean
The island of palm trees, coconuts and bananas
Most people think of it as a beautiful island that is believed to be incredible
Yet my people are suffering day and night just to afford food
We come to American shore in search of a better future
Just to be called FOBs,
Fresh Off the Boat,
for speaking broken English
Can't really afford the American lifestyle
Well, blame that on the \$4.52 minimum wage given by the American government that colonized Samoa
Never once felt accepted because
my thighs were thicker than average
Never had my people succeed in life
They turn their backs and resort to the military,
become high school drop outs and gang bangers
But never once did I give up on my people
I keep my head up and embrace what my ancestors created.