



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



*Take charge, make CHANGE*

# ABOUT SAFE STREETS

At Safe Streets, we believe that communities have the power to reach their full potential by uniting for the common good.

## MISSION & VISION

Our mission is to unite and inspire youth, neighbors, and businesses to build safe, healthy, and thriving communities. We do this by organizing neighborhoods and communities for action – through forming block organizations and planting seeds of grassroots community leadership.

We are confident that neighbors gathering together and youth collaborating with their peers motivates people to take charge and make change in their community. It's through working together that we can ensure the wellbeing of the place where you live, work, and play is fulfilled.

## WHAT WE DO

Above all else, Safe Streets is a responsive program. We listen closely to community members and walk alongside them as, together, we work toward goals and solutions.

- **Neighborhood Organizing**
- **Graffiti Mitigation**
- **Health is Wealth Youth Program**
- **Youth Leading Change**
- **Community Mobilization & Outreach**
- **Community Safety Trainings**



# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

## FACILITATING COMMUNITY-LED SOLUTIONS

*The strength of Safe Streets has always been its grounding in the community and its grassroots-focused work. Our mobilization model is 100% community-led and responsive to the needs of the people of Pierce County and the neighborhoods where they live.*

“

This past year has been an exciting and busy one for Safe Streets.

In our mobilization work, we engaged with thousands of community members at monthly neighborhood meetings, workshops, town halls, and educational events focused on promoting safety and building community cohesion.

Our youth programs saw the advent of the community-based Health is Wealth program. This program complements the school-based Youth Leading Change and provides youth opportunities to build local positive peer and adult support networks in their own neighborhoods.

Safe Streets also supported graffiti mitigation efforts in Tacoma, distributed free gun locks throughout the county, and supported dozens of community-led change initiatives.

None of these achievements would have been possible without your generous support. Your donations, volunteer hours, and advocacy have made a tangible difference in the lives of countless individuals and families.

**Nora Flemming de Sandoval, Ed.D.**  
Executive Director





# IMPACT: YOUTH PROGRAMS

YOUTH LEADING CHANGE & HEALTH IS WEALTH



Our two youth programs, **Youth Leading Change** and **Health is Wealth** offer fun & engaging activities that develop **leadership skills, supportive peer and adult connections, and positive habits that last a lifetime.**

61

Students attended **Youth Leading Change** meetings

53

Youth engaged with **Health is Wealth** programs in Salishan & Central Tacoma

1951

Hours of youth programming provided

940

Gun locks distributed for free throughout Pierce County

## YOUTH VOICE YOUTH-LED

Safe Streets knows that **youth are ready to make change** in their communities when they have the opportunity & tools to make it happen. Our youth programs are youth-led, with **youth voice at the center of all decisions!**



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## Health is Wealth

This program is grounded in the social-ecological model of action in which the complexities and interactions of a child's context are intentionally centered. Youth are recruited from and work with volunteers and staff members **from within their own neighborhoods and communities**. The program is **intentionally situated in third spaces**—community centers and other neighborhood locations that are not schools. By co-creating an additional safe and supportive space, **youth strengthen their perceptions of and engagement with their community.**

### GOALS OF THE PROGRAM

- Develop **positive and consistent micro-local peer and adult networks** for young people
- Develop knowledge, skills, and interest in the four pillars: **wellness & nutrition, financial literacy, emotional well-being, and civic engagement**
- **Amplify youth voice and choice**



# IMPACT: COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

## NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZING & OUTREACH



**Mobilizing communities for action and change** is what Safe Streets is all about. Every month, our mobilizers attend over 35 neighborhood and coalition meetings. We also **partner with organizations** such as the Urban Sustainability Directors Network and the Parkland Youth Wellness Zone to activate our networks and **strengthen the fabric of our community** through **listening sessions, outreach activities, and connection-making.**

"I appreciate all that you're doing and the team (Community Liaison Officers, Code Enforcement, and Safe Streets) that's come together to rectify this problem."  
- Safe Streets Group member

- 230** Neighborhood group meetings throughout Pierce County in 2023
- 8** Number of conferences, summits & townhalls Safe Streets facilitated
- 262** Cases of graffiti mitigated in collaboration with the City of Tacoma
- 61** National Night Out celebrations supported by Safe Streets





# Free Gun Lock Distribution

In the first months of 2023, Tacoma and Pierce County experienced a sharp increase in gun violence among young people. Concerned, Safe Streets staff gathered to discuss the issue and strategize how we could mobilize. Operations Director, RoxAnne Simon, who serves as president of the local National African American Gun Association, the Rainier Redtails, was critical in establishing a partnership with the organization. They have donated 1000 gunlocks to Safe Streets over the past year and we have distributed them free of charge and without question at community events across Pierce County.



## FUNDERS

Amazon Smile  
 The Bamford Foundation  
 Ben B Cheney Foundation  
 Carelon Health  
 City of Faith Christian Center  
 City of Tacoma  
 Commencement Bank  
 Community Counseling Institute  
 Davita  
 Department of Commerce  
 Elevate Health  
 Florence B. Kilworth Foundation  
 Gordon, Thomas, Honeywell, Malanca, Peterson  
 and Daheim  
 Gottfried and Mary Fuchs Foundation  
 Graham-Kapowsin Community Council  
 Marco Heidner Charitable Trust  
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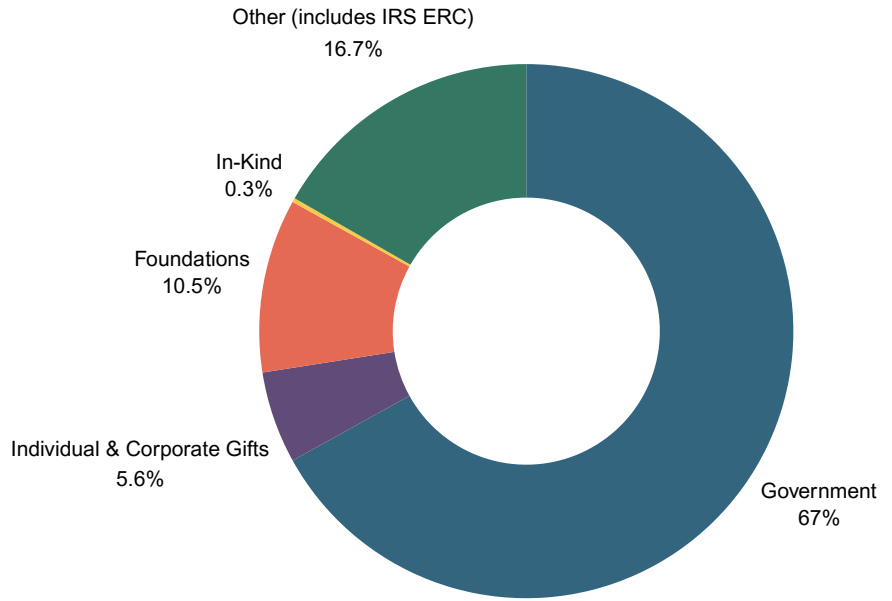
Key Peninsula Business Association  
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 Oscar T. and Olivann Hokold Foundation  
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 Titus-Will  
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 University of Washington-Tacoma  
 Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN)  
 Virginia Mason Franciscan Health  
 Woodworth Family Foundation



# 2023 FINANCES

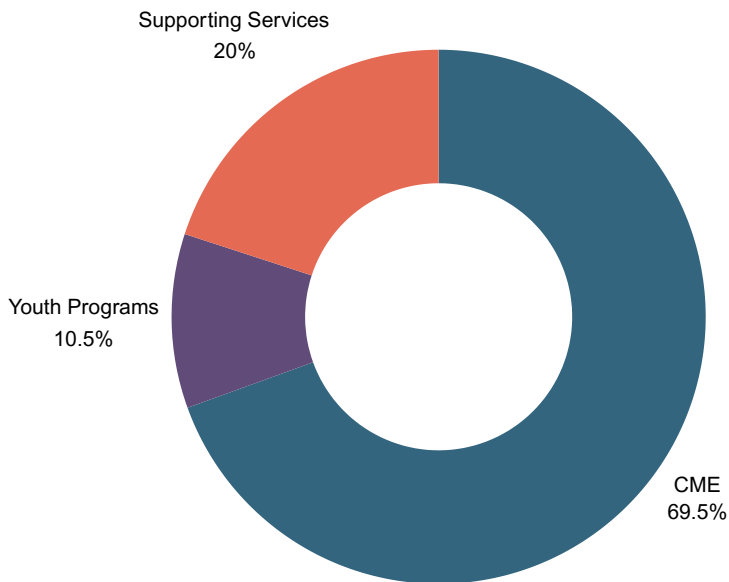
## Revenue 2023

<b>Government</b>	\$797,376
<b>Individual &amp; Corporate Gifts</b>	\$66,301
<b>Foundations</b>	\$125,237
<b>In-Kind</b>	\$3,000
<b>Other*</b>	\$199,015
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$1,190,929



\*Includes IRS ERC

## Expenses 2023



<b>Community Mobilization</b>	\$797,376
<b>Youth Programs</b>	\$66,301
<b>Supporting Services</b>	\$230,575
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$1,153,741







# SAFE STREETS SUPPORTERS

THANK YOU TO THE MANY INDIVIDUAL DONORS WHO  
MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE!

Alex Wilsie  
Alicia Zumwalt  
Alyssa Vanderstaay  
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Steve M Hale  
Kristen Wynne  
Toryono Green  
Trina Tan  
William Lynn  
Deborah & Edward Winskill

  
**Champions  
for Change**

*Safe Streets supporters  
with gifts of greater than  
\$1000*



# SAFEST<sup>®</sup>

Take charge, make *CHANGE*



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