

20 KIDSVOICE 25 IMPACT REPORT



Counting the ways your support helped
shape brighter futures for foster youth in
Allegheny County.


Protecting Children's Rights

Securing Taylor and Tyler's Future

We advocate for abused and neglected children in foster care—both in the courtroom and beyond—to secure stable, protective placements that support every aspect of children's lives. This includes helping caregivers access educational resources, arrange necessary medical care, and obtain any additional services the child needs.



Taylor* (2) and Tyler* (3) were found wandering near a local park after their mother overdosed on a nearby bench. The boys were placed with their closest relative, their grandmother. However, Taylor and Tyler's grandmother struggled to find affordable childcare. Without stable daycare, her absences led to her losing her job and falling behind on rent and bills.

KidsVoice stepped in to ensure Taylor and Tyler could remain with their grandmother. **We secured subsidized daycare to provide consistent care so their grandmother could return to work, obtained reimbursement for past childcare expenses, and connected the family to rental assistance.** We also connected the boys' grandmother with resources for an early childhood assessment to evaluate Taylor for potential developmental delays following concerns related to his speech and learning.

The consistent routine and socialization provided through daycare has helped support Taylor's speech development and given Tyler the opportunity to play and interact with children his age. With their grandmother now employed and supported, **Taylor and Tyler have a safe, stable home and the continuity of care they need to thrive.**

Advocating for Rylan

Our advocacy removes barriers and allows our clients to focus on being kids. As legal decision-makers, we help foster youth access activities, healthcare, and the everyday moments of childhood they might otherwise miss.



Rylan* (age 6) struggled behaviorally in kindergarten, and his foster parents received daily calls to pick him up early. Despite clear signs he needed support, his school refused to evaluate him for an individualized education program (IEP). By the end of the year, Rylan could identify only 11 letters of the alphabet.

Determined to get Rylan the supports he needed, his foster parents moved to a new school district and contacted KidsVoice for help enrolling him and securing services. **KidsVoice ensured he was evaluated early in the school year, leading to a diagnosis of autism and an IEP that included special education services and a 1:1 aide.**

KidsVoice also pursued and obtained compensatory funds from Rylan's former school district for the services he was denied. Rylan's foster parents used the funds to enroll him in a specialized summer camp with additional speech therapy. **Today, Rylan is learning to read, building friendships, and participating fully in class with consistent supports in place.** He even invited his classmates to his birthday party, and they all attended.

Growing with Tess

Our commitment to foster youth doesn't end when they turn 18. KidsVoice remains a steady partner as former foster youth navigate early adulthood and work to build safe, stable lives for themselves and their families.



Tess*, a 26-year-old former foster youth, is a single mother of two young children. Earlier this year, **KidsVoice learned that Tess had been experiencing intimate partner violence from the father of her children.** When criminal charges were filed against the father, KidsVoice worked with the district attorney's office to help ensure Tess's safety before, during, and after her testimony at a preliminary hearing.

We partnered with the Allegheny County Housing Authority to **help Tess secure new housing so she and her children could begin again in a safer environment.** After severe storms left her home without power for several days, we helped her obtain a supplemental SNAP benefit to replace the food she had to discard. We also connected Tess with a community support organization that provides counseling and other services for those who have experienced intimate partner violence.

As part of our two-generation advocacy program, we worked with Tess to have her oldest child assessed and treated for a developmental delay so he will be ready to begin kindergarten on time. **KidsVoice is proud to stand beside Tess as she builds the kind of stable, nurturing home for her children that she didn't have growing up.**

Securing



8,200+ Hearings

KidsVoice advocated for youth across a broad age range, in court and beyond, ensuring that every child received developmentally appropriate supports tailored to their specific needs.

Advocating



860 Clients

Whose education rights were protected by KidsVoice attorneys across 261 different schools throughout Allegheny County and beyond.

Growing



1,348 Legal Matters

Handled by our Expansion Team, supporting older youth aging out of foster care in areas like health, housing, disability benefits, and social justice.



Magistrate

Provided representation for 579 summary offense hearings, preventing records and fines that can become roadblocks to employment and housing.

Health

Advocated for medical services and insurance coverage, including appealing denials. Improved access to health and mental health resources through partnerships with Children's Hospital and Western Psych.

Disability and SSI

Helped clients apply for social security disability benefits and state-funded waivers that provide lifetime benefits.

Two - Gen

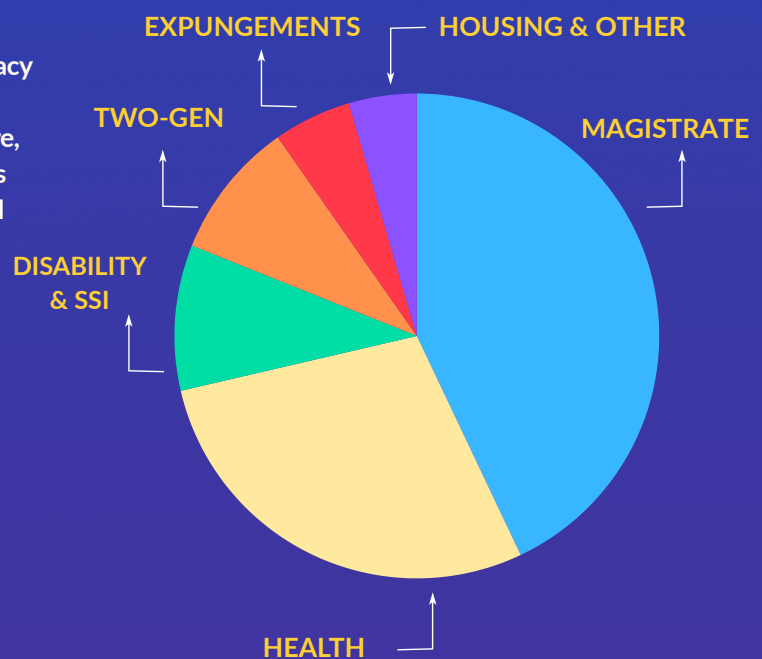
Achieved better outcomes for foster youth who are parents through two-generation advocacy that 1) connects them with job training and subsidized childcare, and 2) addresses their children's needs, including developmental delays and school-readiness.

Expungements

Expunged eligible delinquency records, which can help clients pass background checks for employment and housing.

Housing and Other

Helped clients attain safe, stable housing. Addressed issues like credit problems and driver's license issues.





Taste of Sewickley Fundraiser Surpasses \$1M for KidsVoice

For the past ten years, two devoted KidsVoice board members, Greg Kaminski and Chuck Moser, their spouses, and a team of volunteer chefs and staff have hosted an annual dinner party in support of our mission. What began as an intimate gathering of friends has grown into a cherished tradition, bringing together community members committed to standing up for children and youth in foster care.

This year, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the event—a milestone made even more meaningful by the more than \$1 million raised over the decade to fund KidsVoice programs and advocacy. Each detail, from carefully prepared meals to the warm, welcoming atmosphere, reflects the generosity and dedication of the hosts, volunteers, and supporters who make the evening possible. We are grateful to everyone who helped turn a simple idea into a decade of lasting impact—and counting.



Each year, our signature Kites for Kids event gives the children and youth we serve in Allegheny County’s foster care system a day to explore, discover, and just be kids—enjoying hands-on exhibits and new experiences at the Kamin Science Center (formerly Carnegie Science Center).

Our 20th Annual Kites for Kids takes flight on May 30, 2026—click [HERE](#) to see how you can help create moments like these.



Kites for Kids

Pictured: KidsVoice clients catching giant bubbles in front of the science center.



Resource Fair

Pictured: KidsVoice client speaking with Floral Designer

At our “Not Your Average Career Fair,” youth currently and formerly in foster care meet professionals who open doors to new possibilities—from floral arrangements to animal care at the zoo and careers with Allegheny County Government.

This year, a former client returned to the event to share their own path to working in courthouse security—showing what’s possible after foster care. We appreciate the support of our sponsors, Highmark and the Lipman Youth Fund!

Interested in inspiring the next generation?
Share your career journey with our youth!
Click [HERE](#) to send us an email and learn how you can get involved!

Each year on Giving Tuesday, Pittsburgh comes together for Give Big Pittsburgh, a citywide online day of generosity supporting local nonprofits. Through the power of community giving, supporters rally to help expand opportunities and resources for the children and youth we serve in foster care.

In 2025, our community helped raise more than \$56,000 to support children and youth in foster care.

Interested in supporting our work? Click [HERE](#) to make an impact today.



Give Big Pittsburgh



Holiday Gift Giving

Pictured: KidsVoice gifting partner
Clearview Federal Credit Union

Each year, KidsVoice partners with generous organizations and community supporters to make the holiday season brighter for the children and families we serve. Through this effort, kids not only receive gifts of their own—they also have the chance to choose presents for their siblings and caregivers, making the season meaningful for the whole family.

Our partners helped provide 750 gifts to children and families in need. Thanks to Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, Clearview FCU, Discovery Church, and KidsVoice board member Joanne La Rose for joining in! Help make a foster child's holiday wishes come true—click [HERE](#) to send us an email and learn how your organization can get involved!

Abused and neglected children face significant challenges that range from the trauma of abuse or neglect, to unmet medical, dental, or mental health needs, and falling behind in school.

Recent funding cuts and the resulting shortage of services and placements makes addressing the needs of these vulnerable children even more challenging and urgent.



As this report highlights, KidsVoice is responding to these challenges with innovative efforts that do even more to support and provide stability and better opportunities for our clients. This starts with the way our staff deeply cares and zealously advocates to ensure that each child has services and supports in place including a safe home, appropriate education resources, access to medical and mental health care, and other needs as those arise.

We also continue to work with our clients for years after they leave foster care—through age 24 (and through age 29 for those with children of their own). When you have no family safety net, small obstacles like an unexpected medical expense or unpaid fine can quickly snowball into something far worse, including homelessness or criminal justice system involvement.

We also address systemic issues that our clients face. In 2025, as part of our strategic plan, we launched initiatives related to education, housing, and mental health that will continue to grow in the year ahead.

Along with guidance from our Board of Directors and insight from our Youth Advisory Board, KidsVoice and our clients are fortunate to have strong support and partnerships from the foundation community, corporate partners, and individual donors. Together, we build brighter futures for vulnerable children and young adults who really need someone in their corner.

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YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD



KidsVoice believes informed solutions can come from the youth who have experienced foster care firsthand. **In 2025, we launched a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) of eight former foster youth to ensure their voices directly shape our work.** Meeting five times during the year, board members shared honest insight into the challenges young people face transitioning out of care—from employment to accessing public benefits. One issue rose above the rest: housing.

With limited affordable housing in Allegheny County, many former foster youth struggle to secure and maintain stable housing. **In response, KidsVoice is expanding our legal and educational resources to help young people navigate housing applications, understand leases, work with housing authorities, and address issues such as discrimination, evictions, and security deposits.** This work is led by a dedicated KidsVoice attorney focused on housing stability for former foster youth.



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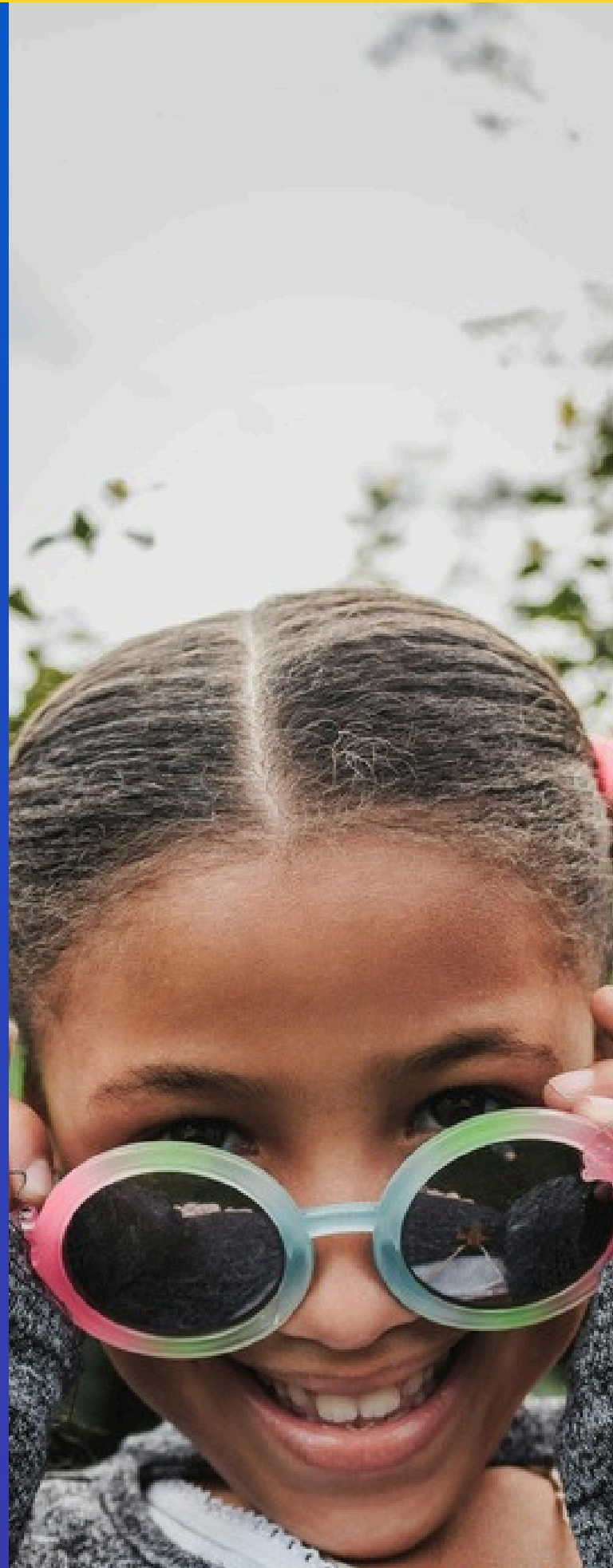
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