



MARCH 2008

2008 Annual Campaign For Kids - March 12th through April 4th
“Give Until It Feels Good!”

We Need You To Help Us Reach Our Goal

Still Need \$21,000 To Provide Programs For Second Half of Year



We have a big goal for community support this year and we need your help. The dissolution of our United Way last summer resulted in a difficult loss of funding. This Spring, Coalition for Kids needs to raise an additional \$21,000 in order to maintain programs and services for the rest of our operating year (July 1st - June 30th).

The generosity of Coalition for Kids friends - **like you** - makes our important mission possible. Like most non-profit organizations, we rely on community support for the funds necessary to meet the needs of children and families, especially those who are low-income.

This is where YOU can help...your support creates opportunities for children and families to flourish! Your tax-deductible gift is put to work every day in the Family Resource Center and in the community.

To learn more about Coalition for Kids programs and how YOU can support them, read the newsletter and **visit our website at www.cfk-gp.org**. For more information, or to ask specific questions about our Annual Campaign, please contact Gina Marie Agosta at 479-1929 or gina@cfk-gp.org.

Give By Shopping!

When you shop at Amazon.com through our website, they'll donate 4% of all your purchases to Coalition for Kids in referral fees. It's easy—just visit the Coalition for Kids website - www.cfk-gp.org - and click on the Amazon.com link on the bottom of the page. Shop as you normally would! You get the exact same prices and service as if you went directly to the store's website.

Bookmark the page and you can donate to Coalition for Kids every time you shop at Amazon without going through our page each time.

We've already raised \$125 and that's with just a few people shopping!

Mike Smith Shares His Joy of Living With a 2nd Grader
Profile of a Special Friend

Mike, an Oregon native, has just started volunteering as a Special Friend through Coalition for Kids. In addition to his involvement with the Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce, Concerts-In-The-Park, playing guitar and singing in the Dr. J Band and his busy career at Consolidated Financial, Mike looks forward to visiting with a 2nd grader at Allen Dale Elementary School each week .

“To be ‘driven’ by a 7 yr. old is a welcome break in a task-driven day at work” he commented. “Kids are so accepting of you, compared to adults’ expectations of each other.” Mike and his friend



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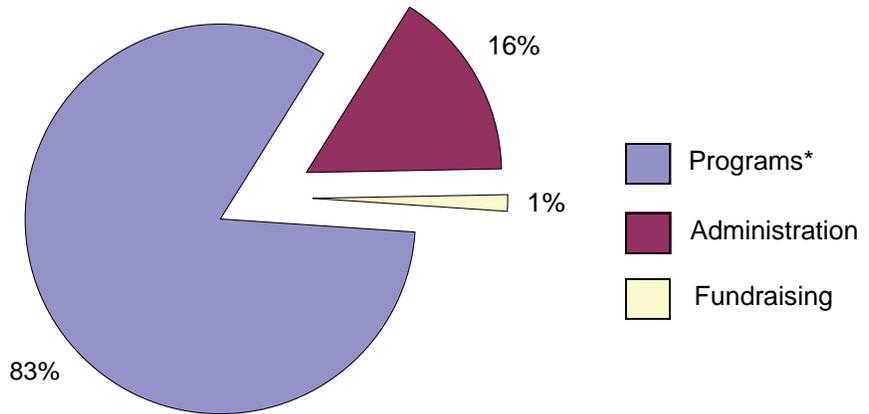
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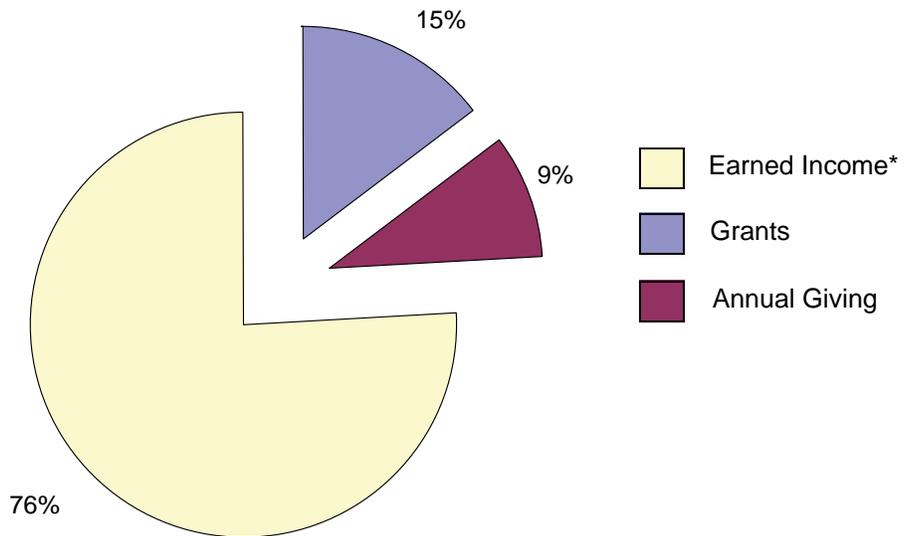
2006 - 2007 Breakdown of Expenses



*Programs include: Special Friends, Jobapalooza!, Family Connections, Kids Learn Through Discovery and operation of the Family Resource Center.

Coalition for Kids uses funds from grants and donations as efficiently as possible to provide a high level of quality programs and services to children and families in Josephine County.

2006 - 2007 Revenue Sources



*Earned income is from child care tuition/registration and rent from our partner agencies.

Every year, we must raise nearly \$400,000 in order to provide the programs and services we offer. Child care tuition and rent from our partner agencies cover about 74% of our costs. Coalition for Kids is supported by a constellation of funding sources, including businesses, foundation grants, government and hundreds of individuals. All of these are critical to our success, and we deeply appreciate our donors who make our work possible.



Kids Learn Through Discovery

Weekly Story Time For FRC And Community

Last fall, partly in response to the closure of the libraries, Coalition for Kids started a weekly preschool story time. The story time, part of our



Derek Kevra, from KDRV12, shares a book about weather with kids during the weekly story time.

broader Kids Learn Through Discovery program, is open to all children in the Family Resource Center and is also open to children (and their parents) from the community.

Volunteers have already read 51 books and nearly 300 children have participated (as of 1/23/08). If you would like to volunteer as a reader please contact Marla at 479-1929 or email her at marla@cfk-gp.org.

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SPECIAL FRIENDS from Page 1

play on the playground, compare rock collections and play games in the Special Friends room.

Mike, proud father of a 24 yr. old daughter, enjoys the opportunity to give back to the community and share his joy of living with someone just starting to live their own life.

If you are interested in spending 45 minutes each week to mentor a child in grades K-5, please call Marla at 479-1929.

Thanks To Those Who Make The Holidays A Time Of Joy For Families In Need

Every year we host the Holiday Caring Program to provide low-income families, mostly those served at the Family Resource Center, with gifts for the holidays. Without this program, many of the children in these families would not receive any presents at all.

This year we were able to provide gifts for 27 families and 165 children. In addition to the typical gifts of toys and clothing, one family was able to receive a much needed washer/dryer set!

Our deepest thanks go out to the following sponsors for their incredible generosity: Hach Ultra Analytics, Curves, Jaime Harmon, Grants Pass High School, Calvary Lutheran Church, One Step Up, St. Anne's School, and Debbie & Duane Jarrett.



Thank you to Todd Moore for being our Santa Claus. As you can see from Matthew's smile, the kids had a great time telling Santa what they wanted for Christmas.



Would Your Friends Like To Be Our Friends As Well?

You Are Our Best Advocate For Support of Coalition for Kids

There is a simple but important way you can help us grow support for Coalition for Kids—by suggesting names of your friends who would have an interest in our work.

As a supporter you are familiar with the mission of Coalition for Kids. We build partnerships and offer programs that “create opportunities for children and families to flourish.” And I’m sure you have acquaintances who, like you, identify with these goals—and who would appreciate receiving some information about Coalition for Kids and an opportunity to get involved.

We have found from experience that individuals who are referred by existing supporters—like yourself—are really the best source of long-term support.

On the right is a list of some easy ways you can introduce your friends to Coalition for Kids and help us build support for our mission!

6 Easy Ways to Tell A Friend and Build Support!

1. After you’ve finished reading the *Partners* newsletter, **pass it along to a friend.**
2. Talk to your friends about your involvement with Coalition for Kids and why you think it’s important.
3. Encourage your friends to visit our website—www.cfk-gp.org!
4. When you send in your donation for the annual campaign, include a list of friends who we could send information to.
5. If you have friends with young children, **recommend our affordable, quality child care** to them.
6. For those who like to work with children, suggest they become a Special Friend volunteer.



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“Creating opportunities for children and families to flourish.”



Coalition for Kids
Family Resource Center
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Grants Pass, OR 97526

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In order to reduce cost, please let us know if you are no longer interested in receiving this newsletter, or if you would like to receive it by email. 479-1929