



Families



Resilience



Joy





OUR vision

Uniquely situated at the intersection of LGBTQ+ and family justice work, OFC is powered by community and inspired by a love of children and families, and a vision of a just society where we all belong and thrive.

We seek to create an inclusive and just world where all LGBTQ families and children have visibility and opportunities to thrive as valued participants in our schools, institutions, and communities.

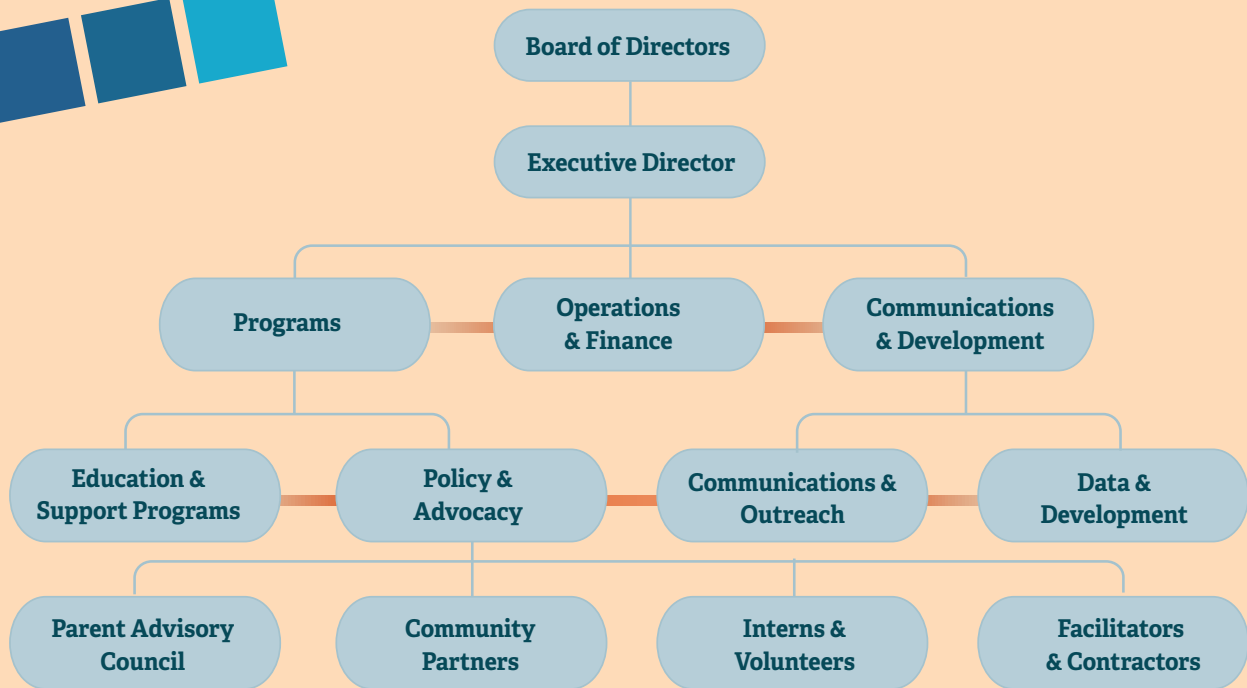
OUR mission

Our Family Coalition advances equity for the full and expanding spectrum of LGBTQ families and children through support, education, and advocacy.

OUR THEORY OF change

Our Family Coalition brings a unique and progressive voice of families to the LGBTQ movement. We cultivate community-based leadership among LGBTQ families and strong partnerships with our allies in California, to advance social justice and make our nation a more respectful and inclusive place for all.

OUR ORGANIZATIONAL structure



OUR people

Board of Directors

Lisa Fujie Parks Board Chair
Ginna Brelsford Board Chair
Nick Resnick Secretary
Naomi Goldberg Treasurer
Laura Valdez Member
Monna Wong Member
Alexis Petra Member

Staff

Mimi Demissew Executive Director
Ayah Wilson Programs Director
Edee Moore Operations Director
Shane Kennedy Communications & Development Director
Sophia Constanza Programs Coordinator
Rey Simon-Igra Operations Programs Coordinator
Q Wilson Communications & Development Programs Specialist
Rose DeLeon-Foote Grant Writer & Development & Data Specialist

2023 YEAR in review

Dear Community,

If I had to sum up 2023 for Our Family Coalition, it would be with the words “Families, Resilience, and Joy.” While we “ripped off the band-aid” to resume in-person programming in 2022, we kept our masks close by for the various ebbs and flows that living with an endemic brings.



This past year, we continued providing in-person programming and also retained some online programs to offer our families the option of communing from the comfort of their homes. We continued to provide essential services and bolstered those by expanding our mental health offerings and rental and utility bill assistance programs.

Our policy and advocacy work also expanded, partly due to the increased attacks on LGBTQ communities, and more importantly, to advance equality for our families in California. Over 500 anti-LGBTQ bills were introduced across the United States in 2023. We sponsored and supported 14 California bills last year, in addition to being part of statewide advocacy initiatives to increase the safety of LGBTQ students. Additionally, in partnership with the LGBTQ caucus, we submitted a spot bill to have health insurance cover fertility services and to change the definition of infertility from its currently bigoted form to a more inclusive definition that includes LGBTQ families. Senate Bill 729, should it pass, will make California more aligned with the WHO definition of infertility and make us the 16th state in the United States to offer health insurance to cover infertility.

There are many challenges to being a parent, and for LGBTQ parents, those challenges are even greater. That is why I feel honored to be part of an organization that allows us to come together in community to work through these obstacles. Such as last year's return of the How to Talk to Your Kids About Race series with internationally renowned researcher Dr. Joy DeGruy, who gave a talk on how to speak to our Black children about race. We also had an amazing second-parent adoption workshop that resulted in 35 families walking away from that session with full adoption papers in hand.

Of course, no year is complete without a few family events. Last year, we turned Night Out inside out. We invited over 100 community members to get dressed up and celebrate the night away at the gorgeous AIDS Memorial Grove. We also brought back the Family Garden to San Francisco Pride, and what fun that was. Hundreds of families came to the Family Garden to celebrate Pride with our small children in hand.

Even with the pandemic fading to the back of our minds, 2023 still had so many global challenges that we faced with our families. Another reminder that our world is a difficult place to navigate, and while OFC may not have all of the answers, we do hold our community close so that we can meet these problems together. Thank you for being part of the OFC community, and I hope to see you soon at our next event.

Mimi Demissew



Executive Director



DIRECT PROGRAMMING & SERVICES

highlights

Family Garden at SF Pride

After a long three years, OFC brought back the Family Garden to San Francisco Pride. Hundreds of families and small children attended the family garden space within the Civic Center North Playground. What a joy it was to celebrate after marching in the parade.

Learn It, Do It Yourself!

California Domestic Partner & Second Parent Adoption

As part of our family formation series, we curated a pro-tip-packed session with Emily Doskow and Deborah Wald, two attorneys with decades of experience working with LGBTQ families. During this session, there was a description of current adoption rules and procedures in the state of California, with question and answer sections in addition to a step-by-step, page-by-page adoption paperwork filing session.

Parent Lead Climate Justice Workshop

OFC parent leaders met in Guerneville on the Russian River in July to dream about what a world with Climate Justice could look like. The parents identified climate issues that they currently face living in the Bay Area and what actions we can take with our children to become good stewards of our environment.



Trick-Or-Treating with Openhouse

We brought back trick-or-treating with our elders at Open House. Our families had a chance to take our children to Open House, where we were able to grab lots of yummy candies from our LGBTQ Seniors.

California Adoption Conference

OFC joins PACT and a host of other agencies in supporting the annual California Adoption Conference, a two-day event featuring talks and workshops for adoptive and foster families, adult adoptees and foster alums, birth parents, and adoption professionals.

OFC & Afro Play – Parent Child Interactives

Afro-Play is a thematic family playgroup based on Afrocentrism for families of the African Diaspora. The partnership with OFC allows us to connect with our Black queer families in the Bay Area, centering a sacred, supportive intergenerational gathering space for healing, growth, and the socialization of both Black children and Black parents/caregivers.

OFC Family Cookout & Townhall

We held our third annual cookout and town hall this year at San Leandro Marina Park. We played cornhole, ate catered food, and enjoyed many fun games on the grass.

Parent Power: Skills for Difficult Conversations Workshop with Kidpower

Fear of upsetting people, getting it wrong, and waiting too long often stops us from having difficult conversations that can help to prevent trouble, solve problems, and improve relationships. Our Family Coalition and KidPower brought a workshop for adults as well as for older teens that provides participants with strategies for speaking up with respect, integrity, and clarity.

Family Navigation

We continued to provide essential services to our LGBTQ families. One highlight from this work last year is our partnership with the LGBTQ Leather Cultural District in San Francisco's SOMA district, where we distributed food vouchers valued at \$2,520 to 13 households.



POLICY & ADVOCACY highlights

2023 was a significant year for policy and advocacy for OFC. We sponsored, supported, and opposed over 13 California State Bills. While the nation saw more than 500 anti-LGBTQ laws go into effect, we worked diligently in California with our partners to protect our families and children from similar types of laws.

Sponsored SB 729 which covers the right to fertility coverage through medical and health insurance and to redefine infertility so that it does not exclude queer and single families. Currently, the law clearly discriminates against LGBTQ families. The bill passed both houses and committees and has been continued into the 2024 legislative session.

SFUSD Advocacy: OFC mobilized families to speak at SFUSD board meetings to push for the creation and funding of the QTPAC SFUSD. We also sent a letter to Superintendent Wayne urging funding for positions to staff the SFUSD QTPAC.

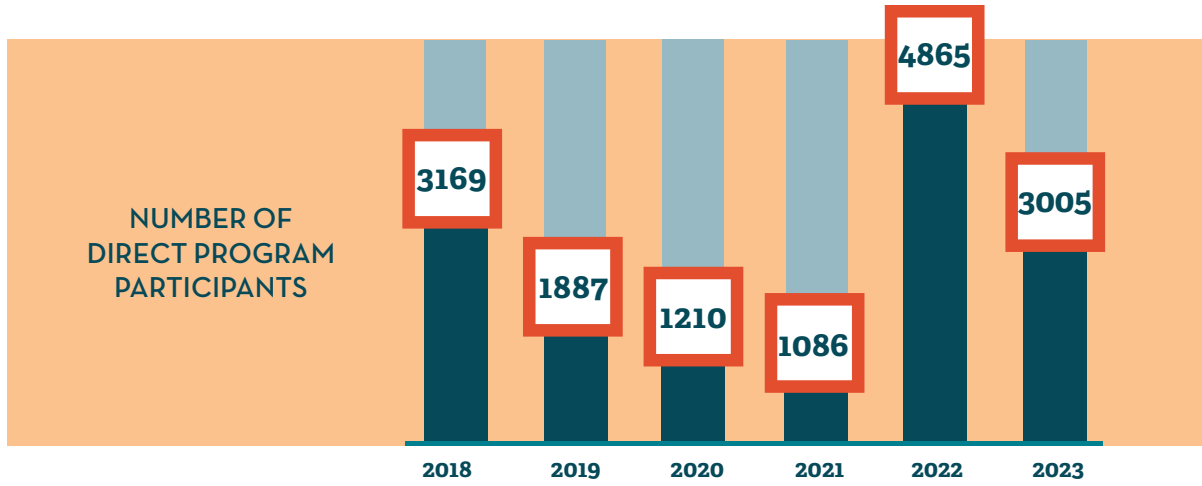
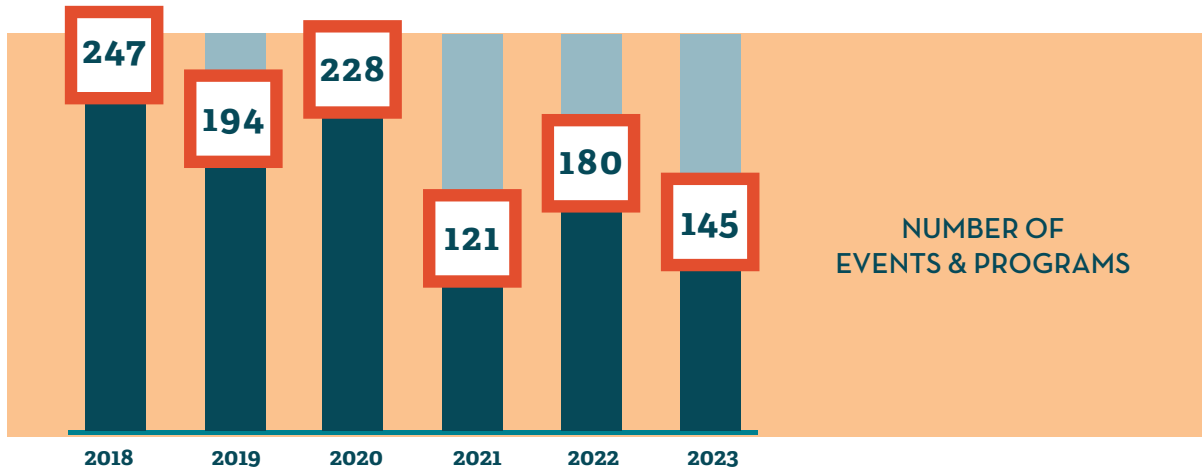
Co-Sponsored AB783 which requires all single-user toilet facilities in any business establishment, place of public accommodation, or government agency to be identified as all-gender toilet facilities, as specified.

OFC signed on to an ACLU letter requesting State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond, to ensure that the California Department of Education's actions ensure that local education agencies are not censoring accurate and inclusive education.

OFC continued to support the Chosen Family Bill (AB 1041) in partnership with the California Work & Family Coalition. This bill would expand caregiving leave to a designated person. This bill was finally signed in 2022 after a long two-year battle, along with our partners.

OFC released a Title 9 Regulations Document to provide a way for people to make public comments on the new Title 9 regulation.



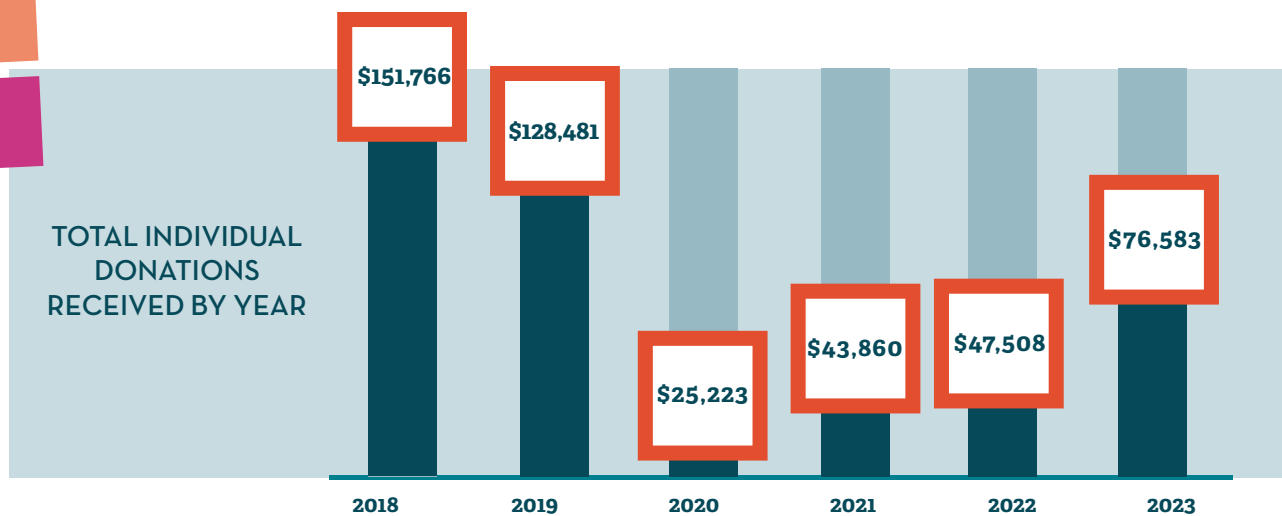


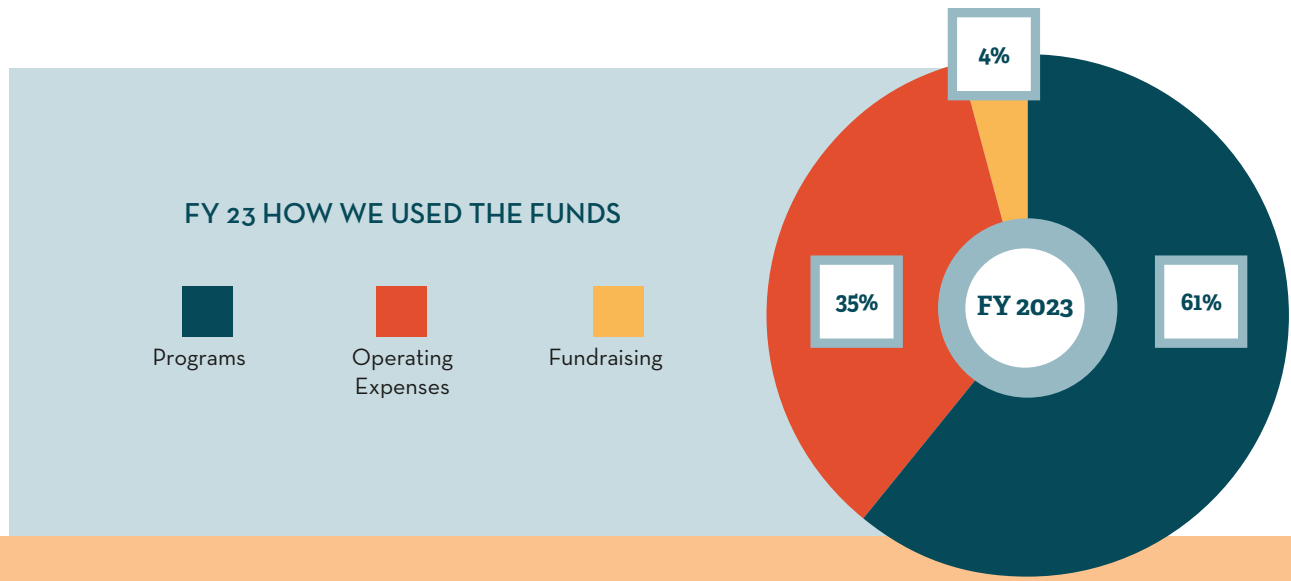
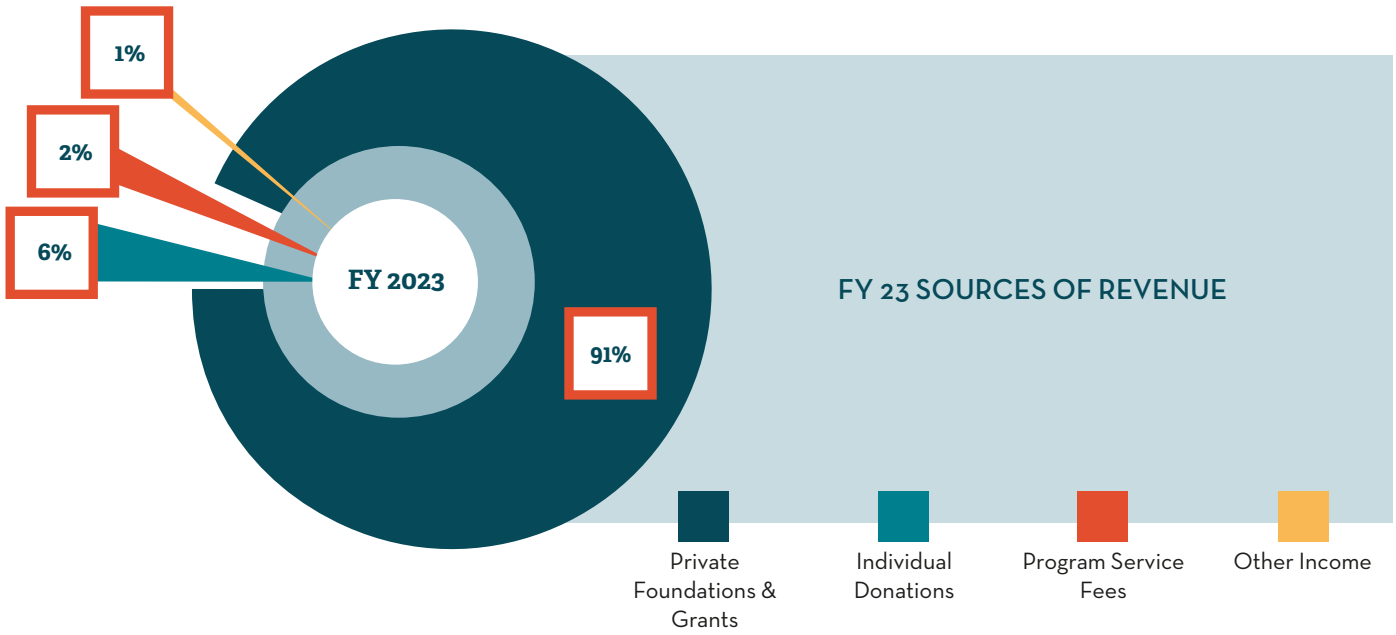
FINANCES & development

We surpassed our end-of-year financial targets again in 2023.

The austerity measures in place continue to allow us to provide quality programming while ensuring we do not overextend ourselves as an organization. While we continue to make modest gains in our individual giving, we have not yet reached the levels enjoyed prior to the pandemic. Despite these challenges, we proceeded with our annual Night Out Gala, which returned to the National AIDS Memorial Grove in the beautiful Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. Last year's event had a little twist as we invited our community members to attend for free, thanks to the support of our generous donors.

In addition to providing quality programming, we used our success in meeting our financial goals as an opportunity to continue providing all staff members with an end-of-year bonus.







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