



ANNUAL REPORT

20 24





A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible community that makes the D41 Kids Foundation possible. Our mission remains steadfast: to strengthen our schools through strategic investments and advocacy for initiatives that prepare our kids to thrive in an everchanging world.

Through this mission, we are committed to supporting high-impact initiatives, fostering community engagement, promoting equity, cultivating global citizenship, and ensuring long-term sustainability for educational opportunities. This year, we proudly:

- Mailed books to 492 beginning readers through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.
- Wrapped 277 children in winter outerwear.
- Equipped 552 children with backpacks and school supplies.
- Supported 4 families through difficult times.
- Gave 115 aspiring thespians an opportunity to shine.

In addition, the Foundation made two substantial contributions to the District:

- A \$20,000 donation to upgrade the Hadley sound system.
- A \$15,000 investment to support continued mental health resources for our families.

As our district continues to grow and the needs of our students evolve, we recognize the challenges ahead. We remain dedicated to working collaboratively to ensure every child has access to the resources and opportunities they deserve so they arrive to school each day ready to learn.

We cannot do this alone. Your support – whether through word of mouth, volunteering, donations, or board service – ensures that we can continue making a meaningful impact. If you haven't yet joined us in our efforts, we invite you to be part of this important work.

Thank you to our donors, volunteers, and community partners. Your generosity and belief in our mission fuels everything we do. Together, we are strengthening our schools and shaping a brighter future for all our children.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn Q. Bruno".

Dr. Lynn Q. Bruno
Chair

OUR MISSION, VISION, AND PURPOSE

Mission

To strengthen public education in D41 through adaptive partnerships, strategic investments, and advocacy for initiatives that prioritize equity and prepare students to be global citizens.

Vision

The D41 Kids Foundation envisions a district guided by evidence that fosters inclusivity, diversity, and equity to fully equip students for a dynamic world, fortified by unwavering community support.



Purpose: With students' experiences at the center, we...

Support and enhance high-impact initiatives that align with our mission.

Foster active community engagement through collaboration, thereby delivering community investments that address immediate needs and aspirational educational opportunities.

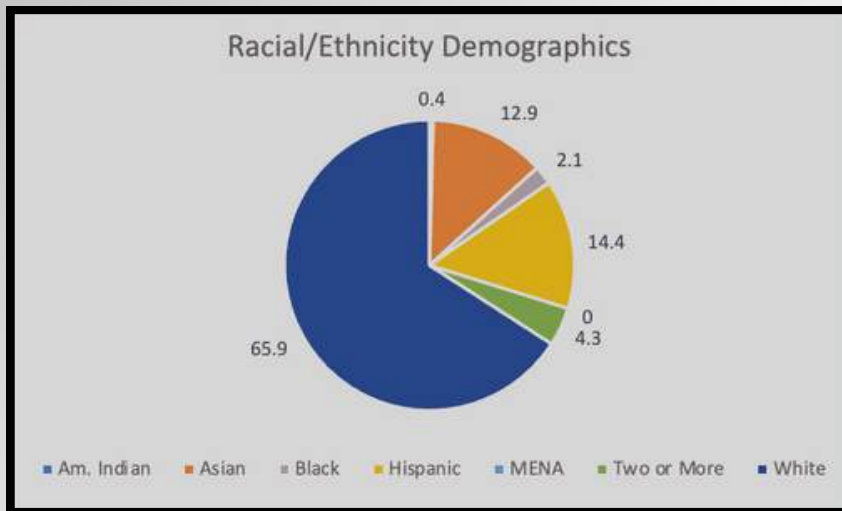
Strive for Long-Term Sustainability by emphasizing the importance of securing long-term financial sustainability to ensure continuous support for educational programs and initiatives.

Cultivate Global Citizenship by exposing students to the knowledge, skills, and experiences needed to be engaged, responsible, and adaptive global citizens.

Promote Equity and reduce disparities in educational outcomes by focusing on resources, opportunities, and support for underserved and marginalized student populations.

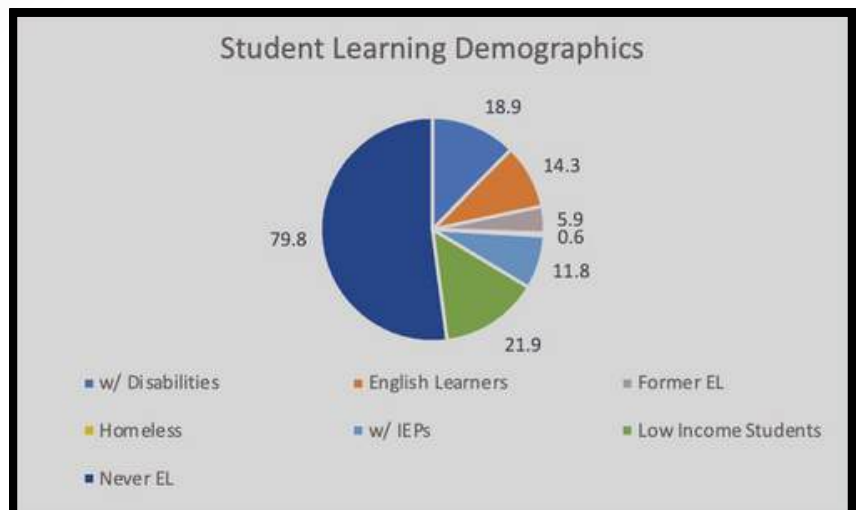
SNAPSHOT OF THE STUDENTS SERVED

Glen Ellyn District 41 serves approximately 3,500 students from pre-school through 8th grade, serving portions of 5 different communities.



With a mission to “educate the whole child by developing intellect and curiosity, engaging creativity, and fostering responsibility and citizenship while building positive and collaborative relationships,” District 41 is known for its innovation, cutting edge programs, and commitment to providing the best education to all the children they serve.

While median household income in Glen Ellyn is well above the national average, 22% of students attending District 41 schools live under the poverty line (approximately 760 children). This year enrollment trends have seen a 38% increase in newcomers to our district over the last three years, bringing to our community 14 languages from 22 different countries.



2024 HIGHLIGHTS



492 Beginning Readers

Through our **Dolly Parton Imagination Library** affiliate, the Foundation mailed **4,723** books to **492** children in 2024. Since its inception in June of 2021 we have provided **13,514** books to **730** children.

115 Aspiring Thespians

115 children from kindergarten through 8th grade performed *Beauty and the Beast* in front of **1,700 attendees** at our annual **Summer Theater Fundraiser**.



552 Children with Supplies

Provided **552 children** with school supplies, including 250 backpacks, so that all children began the school year with the necessary supplies for success.



4 Families

Provided 4 **families** with assistance during challenging times through our **D41 Families Assistance Program**.

85 Graduates

Provided our community the opportunity to celebrate **85 8th grade students** as they completed their tenure in District 41 and prepared to move on to high school through our **Freshman Bundle fundraiser**.

250 Free to Play Outdoors

250 children were provided coats, snowpants, hats, gloves, and boots through our **Winter Outerwear Program** keeping them warm and toasty as they play with their peers on the playground.



2024 HIGHLIGHTS

Investments in the District

\$20,000

Elevating Educational Spaces

The D41 Kids Foundation collaborated with the District to replace the aging PA system in the Hadley Junior High School auditorium resulting in a solution that goes beyond a mere upgrade – it is a tailored enhancement for the benefit of all stakeholders.

The new PA system empowers teachers, administration, and department heads to effortlessly utilize the technology, enhancing their communication and engagement within the space.

The Hadley auditorium serves as a hub for various activities, hosting not only Hadley school events but also being a vital performance space for all elementary schools. This means that the positive impact of this project extends to the entire district. The Foundation's commitment to supporting the school district is exemplified in this endeavor, enhancing the overall educational experience for students and faculty alike and is an example of the D41 Kids Foundation's dedication to creating positive change within our community.

\$15,000

Supporting Mental Health Resources

When the 2023 - 2024 federal grant that financed the District's Mental Health Resources program ended, the D41 Kids Foundation, in collaboration with the District, stepped up to help the District continue providing valuable services to our D41 families. One of those most valued services in that program was Parental Coaching. In partnership with Cook Center for Human Connection, Parental Coaching provides assistance to parents in navigating specific challenges that their family may be facing. The D41 Kids Foundation donated \$15,000 to continue funding this highly sought-after resource.

PROGRAMS FOR THE KIDS

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

"You can never get enough books into the hands of enough children." ~Dolly Parton

D41 Kids agrees!!! The Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL) is our affiliate program that puts books into the hands and hearts of registered children under the age of 5 who reside within the boundaries of Glen Ellyn School District 41. Specially-selected, age-appropriate, high-quality books are delivered to registered children each month. By surrounding children with books at an early age, the research shows that children develop a positive attitude about reading, expand emerging literacy skills, and are more equipped with literacy readiness when they enter kindergarten. In 2024 we mailed **4,723 books to 492 children**. Since our inception in April of 2021, the Foundation has mailed **13,514 books to 730 children**. While the state of Illinois joined a handful of states that sponsor a statewide DPIL, the D41 Kids Foundation Dolly Parton Imagination Library affiliate remains the only one in DuPage County.



Summer Theater Program

Providing all children an opportunity to spread their wings! Our Summer Theatre Program is our annual fundraiser and is open to all District 41 children in grades K thru 8th grades regardless of experience. As our largest fundraiser of each year, this no-cut theater program teaches acting, singing, dancing, and teamwork. But most of all, it provides our kids with the opportunity to tryout their chops and explore the world of theater in a non-judgemental and fun-filled way. In 2024 our two cast performances of Beauty and the Beast engaged **115 children** and raised \$30,700, monies later used to support our other programs and invest in our schools.



501(C)3

Established ourselves as an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit.

100%

funded through private donations and grants.

PROGRAMS FOR THE KIDS

District 41 Families Assistance Program

Responding to the immediate needs of our families.

This program responds to the immediate needs of our District 41 families. Through close communication with representatives in each school, D41 Kids Foundation is ready to provide financial support to families in crisis. Whether that takes the form of rental assistance, food resources, bridges from homelessness to safe, secure housing, or other financial challenges, D41 Kids Foundation is ready to assist so that all children can arrive to school feeling secure and ready to learn. In 2024, the Foundation assisted **4 families** through financial challenges.



Winter Outerwear

Keeping students healthy, safe and warm through chilly winters!

Winter Outerwear is dedicated to providing winter outerwear for children whose families may struggle to afford proper cold-weather gear. Every year, we witness numerous families in our community unable to purchase coats, snow pants, boots, gloves, and hats for their children. Winter Outerwear aims to keep hundreds of students healthy, safe, and warm throughout the challenging Midwestern winters by distributing essential winter attire. In 2024, the Foundation provided **225 students** from kindergarten through 8th grade with the necessary clothing to flourish in a Chicago winter.



Supplies for Success

Providing all students with the tools necessary to succeed.

The D41 Kids Foundation's program, Supplies 4 Success, provides school supply kits and backpacks to students attending Glen Ellyn School District 41 whose families may struggle with affording the cost of school supplies. Every donation provides qualified children with a school supply kit and backpack. This year the Foundation provided **552 kits and 250 backpacks** to children from kindergarten through 8th grade.



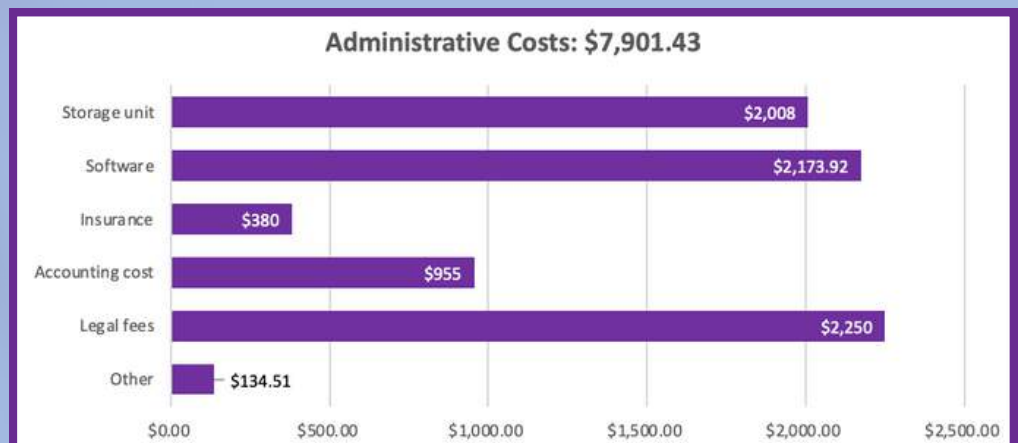
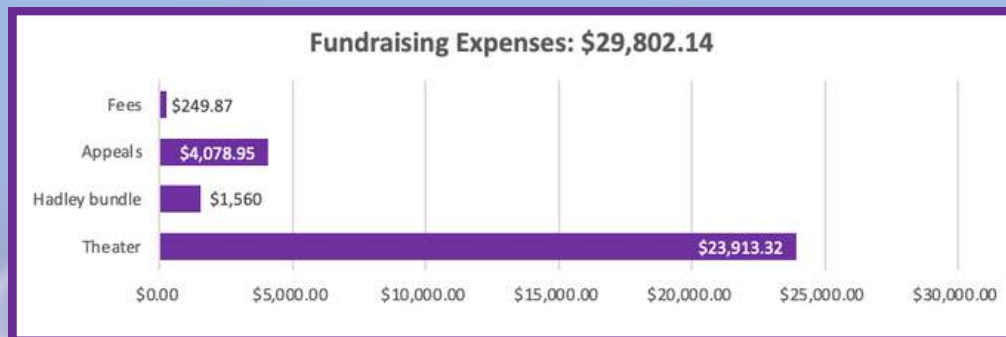
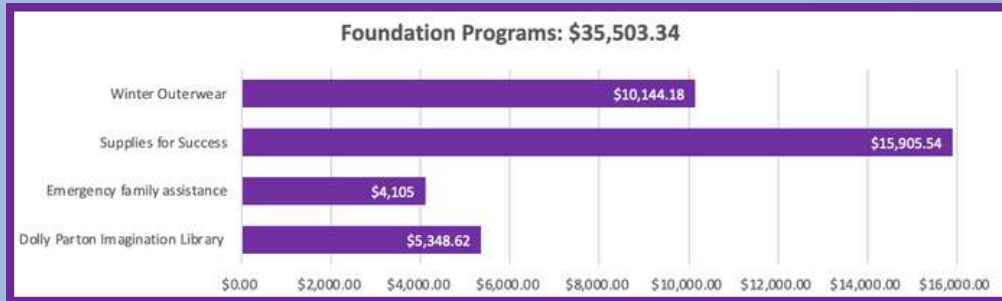
FINANCIAL REPORT

Income: \$103,032.672



FINANCIAL REPORT

Expenses: \$108,206.91



WAYS YOU CAN HELP!



VOLUNTEER

Your time and talents are invaluable to us. Join our dedicated team by becoming a board member or by volunteering and help us create transformative experiences for the children we serve. Share your passion for theater, literacy, or family support by contributing your unique skills. To embark on this rewarding journey, please email us at: info@d41kids.org

SPREAD THE WORD

Be an ambassador for our organization by sharing our story with your network. By talking about the impact our programs have had on the lives of children and families, you can help reach more people who share our vision. Invite your friends and neighbors to visit our website at www.D41kids.org and encourage them to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat. Every share, like, and conversation brings us closer to touching more lives.



DONATE

Your financial or in-kind contributions have a profound effect on our programs' sustainability and growth. By donating, you directly empower our initiatives and enable us to reach more children and families. To support our cause you can make a secure donation through our website using the QR code below or send a check to D41Kids Foundation, 793 N. Main Street, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137



PARTNER WITH US

We are looking for corporate sponsorships. Together we can do so much more. As a corporate sponsor you can empower our young people to recognize their potential and realize their dreams. To learn more, please email us at: info@d41kids.org



GOOD STEWARDS OF YOUR SUPPORT

- Registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization
- 93% of our donations directly support our programs and services



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEET THE TEAM



LYNN BRUNO
CHAIRPERSON



MARTA SCARLESKI
VICE CHAIRPERSON



SHAZDHE NOUMAN
SECRETARY



DAVID SMUD
TREASURER



AMY BECKER



LEE FRUIT



KELLY HANE



CHRISTINA KELLAM



GAIL CHANEY KALINICH



KATE MARSH



KAREN WINTER



ROB SWICK



ERIKA KREHBIEL
D41 CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER



JESS BUTTIMER
D41 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER