



Serendipity  
served  
**19**  
school districts  
during  
2021-2022

NUMBER OF  
STUDENTS

2	Battle Ground
4	Beaverton
1	Camas
8	Canby
8	Centennial
1	Corbett
7	David Douglas
2	Gladstone
7	Gresham-Barlow
1	Hillsboro
2	Lake Oswego
4	North Clackamas
5	Oregon City
3	Oregon Trail
8	Parkrose
11	Portland Public Schools
17	Reynolds
3	Washougal
1	Woodland

Dear Friends,

**We are excited to celebrate Serendipity's 42nd year serving students and their families from Northwest Oregon to Southwest Washington!** This report shares our accomplishments from the 2021-2022 school year. Our students and staff faced a variety of challenges and successes as we fully returned to in-person learning. It was evident that we were able to keep students engaged with learning and growing during the pandemic so that when we returned to in-person learning, students continued to maintain and improve both their academic and social skills. Nine of our students successfully transitioned back to their home districts last year compared to 3 the previous year. We also had 10 senior students graduate or move on to other transition programs. It will always be our goal as a therapeutic school to focus on mental health and behavioral growth. Our program prioritizes academic learning, progress on individual treatment goals, preparing for future success, and the development of life-long health practices.

**So many of our students suffered during the pandemic. They needed our wrap-around services to heal from the mass trauma that was COVID-19.**

So many of our students suffered during the pandemic. They needed our wrap-around services to heal from the mass trauma that was COVID-19. That's why we are proud to support and collaborate with so many schools and community organizations that are looking

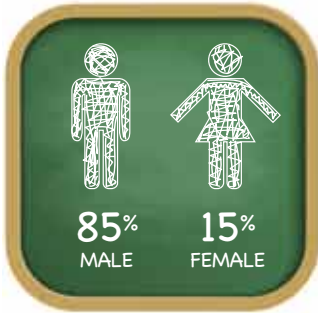
to ensure Serendipity is a place where all students are valued and afforded the opportunity to reach their full potential. Thank you for taking the time to read this annual report. We could not continue to do this vital work in the community if it was not for your support.

All the Best,



Mark Takehara  
Executive Director

# Student and Staff Demographics



SERENDIPITY STUDENTS BY IDENTIFIED GENDER



SERENDIPITY STUDENTS BY IDENTIFIED RACE/ETHNICITY



SERENDIPITY STAFF BY IDENTIFIED RACE/ETHNICITY

## School Districts Refer Students to Serendipity because:

85%  
Show Physical Aggression

63%  
Show Verbal Aggression

39%  
Have Multiple Failed School Placements

25%  
Have Histories of Multiple Suspensions

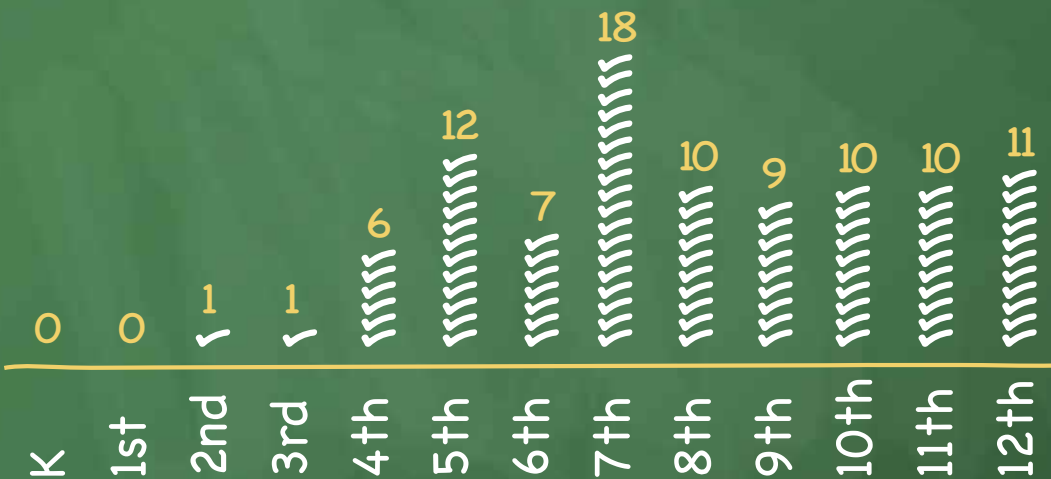
43%  
Show Self-Endangering Behaviors

20%  
Suicidal Talk/Attempts

31%  
Home or Family Challenges

100%  
Eligible for Special Ed Services

## Serendipity Students by Grade Level



# Education



*Positive relationships and one-on-one support create the foundation for our therapeutic school. Here, student Lilly-Anah works on a project with Instructional Assistant Mae Mae.*

Classroom staff and students work closely together at Serendipity. Projects and assignments are tailored to each student's needs, abilities, and interests. Our class sizes are small with around 6 students on average. Our student to staff ratio in each classroom is high.

## How are students engaged at Serendipity?

**Engagement** is showing up and completing academic tasks, especially in areas they may have fallen behind their peers. We are proud of our students for showing up every day and giving their best work.

- **84% of our students attended school every day last year** (14 points above state average).
- **Maintaining placement:** 80% of students that were referred to Serendipity because they couldn't be served elsewhere, either maintained their placement at Serendipity or successfully transitioned back to their home district.

Many students struggle with test taking, so it is remarkable that **79% of our students completed 2 or more reading test diagnostics and 91% completed 2 or more math diagnostic tests.** 60% of those students showed improvement in reading and 73% showed math improvements.

- **10 of 11 seniors graduated** with standard or modified diplomas, or transferred back to their home districts to local transition readiness programs.

### We offered wholistic academic support to all students, including:

- communication classroom for students needing extra help communicating (autism spectrum, developmental disability, etc.)
- In-house speech and language pathology team
- extracurricular activities and clubs focused on student interests



*Principal Kevin Thompson poses with graduating senior Isaiah during a proud moment.*

# Mental Health



*Program Manager La'Verne shares a hug with student Chase.*

We reinforce social and self-regulation skills through one-on-one coaching, classroom consultations, in therapeutic recreation classes, therapeutic garden classes, structured play, and wellness and self-expression classes. No part of our school day is left untouched by mental health interventions.

- **70%** of students who were referred following a hospitalization either maintained their placement at Serendipity, graduated, or transitioned back to their home district.
- **Comprehensive training:** All program staff members are now certified in Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS) as part of our ongoing work addressing mental health needs. CPS uses evidence-based approaches to understand and help children and adolescents with a wide range of social, emotional, and behavioral challenges.
- Our efforts are overseen by graduate-level **clinical case managers** who coordinate care for students and families.
- **Art Therapy:** Self-expression through art is critically important for students with language deficits. Our clinically trained art therapist works both with individual students and in classrooms on group projects. She completed 646 instructional hours during the 21-22 year, aided by interns from Lewis & Clark College. 45 students enjoyed art therapy sessions last year.



*Art Therapist Jolie works with student Andrew on an embroidery project.*

### **Student behavioral progress:**

- We experienced a **47% reduction in incidents** of aggression in our students overall. Each quarter we experienced less incidents of aggression than the previous quarter.
- **52%** of students who were receiving our most intensive behavioral support and coaching, responded positively to interventions and were able to move to a less intensive coaching model.

# Transition & Life Skills

Transition skills training is a priority for Serendipity students of all grade levels and ages. Last year, younger students practiced nutrition



science and domestic care. Older students received job training through in-classroom work and on-campus apprenticeships. 8 upper school students participated in our Growing Minds Garden club, where they learned how to grow plants, harvest food, and maintain a garden. The Gender & Sexuality Alliance Club (GSA) remained active and well-attended, culminating with our first-ever pride parade in June.

We invested in facility upgrades including new energy-efficient appliances in our life skills room, needed garden equipment and technology.

- **More students successfully transitioned back to their public school this year!**
  - 2020-2021: 3 students transitioned back to public school.
  - **2021-2022: Nine students transitioned back to public school.**
- **Stephen Carter Scholarships** were awarded to all graduates in the form of gifts and tools to aid them with the next steps of their educational journeys. Laptops, tablets, and bicycles were among the gifts.



*Tier 1 Coach Brian teaches students how to bake brownies as a reward for good behavior.*





*Wellness Director Nicolas harvests carrots with a group of eager students.*

Serendipity's Wellness programs develop lifelong health awareness and habits, which are important to all young people and even more critical to students already at risk for health challenges resulting from traumatic or adverse experiences. 64% of our students have experienced one or more traumatic events during their short lives. Children and teenagers function more successfully in all areas when they are healthy and feel good.

***Our wellness work yielded the following:***

- Over 4,000 pounds of produce harvested from our Growing Minds Garden, all of which went directly into school meals or was sent home with our students and families
- We served over 32,000 organic student meals made from scratch in our kitchen
- All students received free breakfast, lunch, and snacks every day
- We gave \$3,200 to student families to help with living expenses, through gift card assistance and food shares

Students regularly visited the Growing Minds Garden. They helped to grow plants, harvest produce, and learn about sustainable living and ecology in our half-acre working organic garden and farm. Time in the garden helps students self-regulate and stay ready to learn. Students also engaged in regular daily therapeutic recreation, including playtime on our Nike Playground as well as guided efforts in class, including yoga and dance.

# Wellness

# Other News

## Serendipity successfully completed our 5-year reaccreditation process

*“It was evident . . . that there is superior leadership and support to ensure the mission is attained.”*

— Cognia

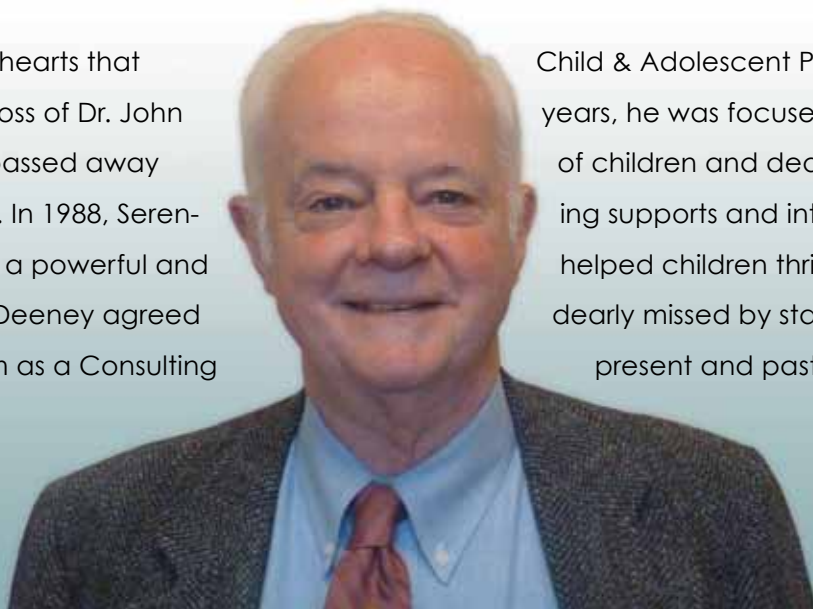
Serendipity has been an accredited nonprofit school since 1980. In May, we completed our 5-year reaccreditation engagement review process with Cognia. This process ensures that we can continue educating students through the high school level. **We passed our reaccreditation at 90%, while the average score for schools is 70%.**

*“Serendipity’s learning culture promotes creativity, innovation, and collaborative problem solving through implementing operational processes and procedures to ensure organizational effectiveness in support of teaching and learning.”*

— Cognia

## In loving memory

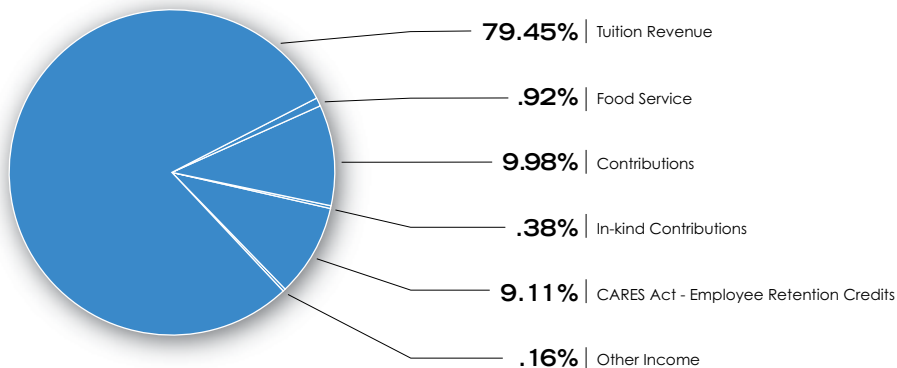
It is with heavy hearts that we mourn the loss of Dr. John Deeney, who passed away earlier this year. In 1988, Serendipity received a powerful and lasting gift: Dr. Deeney agreed to join our team as a Consulting



Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist. For 35 years, he was focused on the welfare of children and dedicated to finding supports and interventions that helped children thrive. He will be dearly missed by staff and students, present and past.

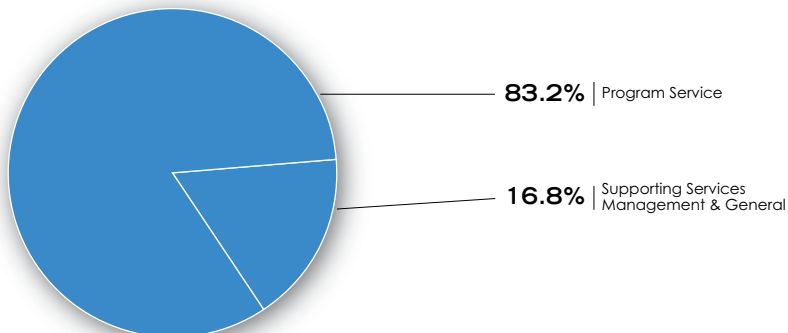
## Consolidated Statement of Activities

### Revenue and Support



Revenue and Support	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Tuition Revenue	\$4,695,188		\$4,695,188
Food Service	\$54,688		\$54,688
Contributions	\$444,047	\$145,941	\$589,988
In-kind Contributions	\$20,886		\$22,886
Special Events (net income)	—		—
Miscellaneous and other Income	\$9,802		\$9,802
CARES Act Employee Retention Credits	\$538,760		\$538,760
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$5,763,371</b>	<b>\$145,941</b>	<b>\$5,909,312</b>

### Expenditures



Expenditures	Total
Program Services	\$5,458,820
Supporting Services - Management & General	\$1,104,853
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$6,563,673</b>

## Statement of Financial Position (Snapshot of June 30, 2022)

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash and Equivalents	\$1,881,958	Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$67,841
Accounts Receivable	\$588,716	Accrued payroll, Taxes & Benefits Payable	\$394,957
Contributions Receivable	\$749,251	Grant advances - Deferred Revenue	\$22,000
Prepaid Expenses	\$216,464	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$484,798</b>
Property Equipment - Net	\$2,702,802	<b>Net Assets</b>	
		Without donor restrictions:	
		Available for Programs & General Operations	\$2,605,573
		Net Investment in capital assets	\$2,702,802
		Total without donor restrictions	\$5,308,375
		Total with donor restrictions	\$346,018
		Total net assets	\$5,654,393
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$6,139,191</b>	<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$6,139,191</b>

Serendipity's mission is to provide the best environment for students to heal and become educated, productive community members.



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