

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on this past year, I'm filled with deep gratitude and renewed optimism for what we are building together. Thanks to the unwavering commitment of our supporters (you!), we supported 10 students this year—our second-highest year on record. Even more remarkably, we awarded nearly triple the amount of scholarship dollars compared to our prior 10-year average.

This year also challenged us to evolve. We supported students across a wide range of circumstances—non-traditional paths, unexpected financial gaps, and varying stages of their academic journeys, from those just starting out to those nearing graduation. While each story was different, one theme remained consistent: our scholarship support meaningfully changed how students viewed their future and what they believed was possible.

Coming out of the pandemic—and following our lowest number of applicants—we committed to expanding awareness among both potential students and our support community. We have exceeded those goals. With that success comes a new challenge: our focus is no longer awareness alone, but long-term sustainability.

I am grateful for the continued support of our key partners in the workers' compensation community, which gives me confidence we will meet this next chapter with the same energy and determination that brought us here.

It is an honor to serve this organization and the students we support. I am deeply grateful for the generosity and partnership that make this work possible. Together, we are shaping brighter futures—one scholarship, one student, and one opportunity at a time.

With deep appreciation,
Ann Klein
President, Kids' Chance of Oregon

As I reflect on the past year, my heart is full. What we accomplished together is nothing short of extraordinary, and it is entirely because of the generosity, compassion, and steadfast support of people like you.

Because of your commitment, we have experienced one of our strongest years ever providing nearly three times the amount of scholarship funding compared with our previous decade-long average. That kind of progress doesn't happen on its own. It happens when a community chooses to believe in students and invest in their dreams.

We've poured our energy into reaching more students and strengthening our connection with the community around us. And as we begin to see the impact of that effort, our attention turns to something even more important: ensuring that this life-changing support can continue for years to come.

I want to express my deep appreciation for every supporter and every partner who continues to stand with us. Your belief in our mission gives me immense hope for what we will accomplish next.

It is a privilege to be part of an organization that opens doors and lifts students up at moments when it matters most. Thank you—for your generosity, your support, and your conviction that every student deserves a chance to thrive.

Thank you,
Kathy Gehring
VP, Kids' Chance of Oregon

2025 Board Members

Ann Klein - President / Kathy Gehring - Vice President / Todd Graneto - Treasurer /
Barbara Anderson - Scholarship Chair / Bob Shiprack - Past President /
Charity Steffen - Secretary / Stephanie Roe / Krishna Balasubramani / Nelson Hall /
Lorne Bulling / Michael Combs / John Chriswell / Christina Mariathan

Scholarships Awarded

In 2025, Kids' Chance of Oregon awarded **\$105,433.00 in scholarships to nine students** pursuing post-secondary education, representing a significant increase in scholarship support compared to prior years.

These funds helped reduce financial barriers for students whose families have been impacted by serious workplace injuries or fatalities, allowing recipients to remain focused on their academic and career goals during critical stages of their education.

This milestone reflects the growing generosity of our donors and the continued commitment of our community to expanding educational opportunities for Oregon students.

Our Student Engagement Launch

This year marked an exciting new chapter for Kids' Chance of Oregon with the launch of our Student Engagement Team. While scholarships remain at the heart of our mission, we are beginning to build deeper, more meaningful connections with the students we serve.

During the holiday season, our team sent care packages to scholarship recipients as a simple but heartfelt reminder that they are supported, encouraged, and part of a larger Kids' Chance community. These small gestures have helped open the door to ongoing communication and relationship-building with our students beyond financial assistance alone.

As this program continues to grow, we look forward to creating more opportunities to support students in ways that foster connection, encouragement, and a sense of belonging. This evolving effort reflects our commitment to not only investing in education, but also in the students themselves.

Community Support & Fundraising Events

Our work is made possible through the generosity and commitment of our donors, sponsors, volunteers, and partners. Throughout the year, Kids' Chance of Oregon hosted and participated in fundraising events that brought our community together in support of Oregon students.

These events not only raised critical funds for scholarships but also increased awareness of our mission and strengthened relationships across the workers' compensation and legal communities. We are deeply grateful to everyone who attended, sponsored, donated, and volunteered their time to support Kids' Chance of Oregon.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue building these connections by once again participating in the **WCCA Golf Tournament** and hosting our **Annual Auction Night**, both of which remain important opportunities to engage our community and advance our mission.

Welcoming Our 2026 Board of Directors

As we look ahead to 2026, Kids' Chance of Oregon is grateful to be supported by an engaged and dedicated Board of Directors.

We are also excited to welcome new leaders joining our board this year. Their involvement strengthens our ability to expand awareness, build community partnerships, and continue growing the impact of Kids' Chance of Oregon.

2026 Board Members

Ann Klein (President, CSO Delegate) / Kathy Gehring (Vice President, CSO Delegate Alternate) / Todd Graneto (Treasurer) / Barbrea Anderson (Scholarship Coordinator) / Charity Steffen (Secretary, Student Outreach) / Christina Mariathan (Fundraising Chair) / Stephanie Roe / Krishna Balasubramani / Michael Combs / John Chriswell / Bob Shiprack / Randall Friesen / Matthew Fisher