

Inclusive Youth

Financial Report for the 2023-24 Year

Inclusive Youth began as a single person seeking to create a space for queer youth. There was no financial support for this venture, even being under the banner of Pride Gig Harbor for a short time.

The first event was funded by Aria Messer, with snack donations from Cristy Wahala, and the volunteered time of Cristy, Doug Urner, and Elise Paget. During the first hangout (November 2023), Mark Sension visited the location at his leisure, but popped in and gave \$40 out of his wallet on the spot, having a background in supporting queer youth in previous years.

The items donated by Aria were: name tag stickers (with a space for pronouns), rainbow stickers, stress balls, and drinks/snacks. The art supplies used were materials Aria already had on hand (paper, mandala coloring books, colored pencils, and markers).

The Amazon receipt for the supplies purchased totaled \$41.05. Mark's donation covered that purchase! Snacks cost estimated around \$30 (receipt not available).

The December event included purchasing popcorn tins, candy, sparkling water, ginger ale, plates, bowls, and spoons. The Walmart receipt totaled \$60.31. Also donated, by Mezz Schrade, were filled gift bags and large snowflake decorations. Kathryn Crabtree donated \$25 toward snacks.

In January (2024), everyone (all ages) was invited to bring their own materials for vision boards. However, glue sticks, poster board, craft paper, and other accouterments were purchased for those needing supplies. Magazines were also donated, in large part, by Edith Carvajal.

In February, everyone (all ages) was invited to bring their own snacks to share at the park. Everyone was generous with sharing the snacks brought as well. This was also the month we formally separated from Pride Gig Harbor to be an independent group. As they discontinued using the site we built and donated to them, we were able to re-purpose it for Inclusive Youth. The cost for the Wix website was/will be \$317.55 per year, renewing in October. The URL was/will be \$27.06, renewing in February. The time and content creation that went/goes into building/updating the website is donated by Aria Messer. She also manages social media profiles as a time donation.

In March, there was no event, however, a special announcement was made: Aria had secured a partnership with Middle Fork Roasters in Seattle to fundraise with Coffee for a Cause. Every bag of coffee beans purchased would yield an amount that could go into Inclusive Youth. (We set up a Shopify account which was recommended by Middle Fork.) To help promote the visibility of this, Inclusive Youth agreed to divide the proceeds with Moms for P.E.A.C.E. and Social Justice Kids. Our April proceeds totaled \$146.53. Inclusive Youth's share was \$48.44. (The breakdown of how that worked out is included at the end of this document.)

In April, PRIDE flags and stickers were purchased, as well as more name tags. This Amazon purchase totaled \$33.61. The snacks purchased from Walmart totaled \$31.32. Aria also purchased clipboards from The Dollar Store that totaled approximately \$14.00 (the receipt is unavailable). Melissa Toronto also donated a box of fish crackers!

In May, our Coffee for A Cause proceeds totaled \$46.40, and Inclusive Youth's share was \$15.53. *(After May, we didn't have any further sales - we put the fundraiser on hold, and stopped paying for Shopify. We decided, should we continue in the future, not to divide the proceeds three ways, to better focus and accommodate the kids and teens we serve during our hangouts and use the funds just for Inclusive Youth. We will also not utilize Shopify, and just do bulk orders, to save on costs and add more to the proceeds.)*

Our May event included the purchase of snacks totaling \$55.65 from Amazon and we gave \$30 to Heidi Steele for paper supplies. We were gifted \$50 by Dina DeBerry which helped cover the cost of these items. We also gifted the participants of the kids' group inclusion-topic books from the dollar store.

Our June event included the purchase of snacks, beads, candy, and saran wrap totaling \$76.06 from Amazon and an approximate amount of \$25-30 for chips, juice boxes, and granola bars (receipt unavailable - Safeway) and \$10 for the pride pins (receipt unavailable - Michaels). We gifted the remaining beads to two high school students from the Peninsula School District.

The books purchased from the dollar store (as mentioned from the May event) totaled \$89.38 and the remaining books are being used to be placed in "Free Little Library" locations in Gig Harbor with information about Inclusive Youth monthly hangouts within. We also purchased stickers for this project totaling \$33.49 from Vista Print.

Flyers were purchased to promote the August 10th Virtual Talent Show and Fundraiser. It was unfortunately canceled due to an auto accident Aria was in. The cost of those items was donated by Aria totaling \$21 from Canva.

In August, \$60 was paid to the Washington Secretary of State to file as a non-profit. An updated report was filed later in August to specify Ari-Amber (Aria) Messer as “governer” to open a checking account, which was \$10.

There is currently no cost involved in utilizing the meeting space, as it is a free public facility. We just have to reserve the room in advance of no more than 56 days at a time, so the hope is to catch the 2nd Sunday as soon as the 56 advanced day window is open.

Should we wish to expand hangouts to other local places (Ocean 5 bowling/arcade/laser tag, for example), our incoming donations, if obtained, would need to be significantly increased. Otherwise, we can continue as we have been and find affordable activities to do in the space available to us.

****See also Inclusive Youth 2023-24 Financial Report Sheets***