

20
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INCLUSION Connections

IMPACT REPORT

♥ Thank you for making our work possible



lckc.org
PawsKC.org
BelongKC.org

(913) 839-8735
2073 E. Santa Fe St. Olathe, KS 66062

PawsAbilities

“Let us realize that: the privilege to work is a gift, the power to work is a blessing, the love of work is success!” - David O. McKay

In seven short years, PawsAbilities employment program continues to provide a pathway to meaningful, competitively-paying jobs for the young adults we serve. We know that employment is one of the keys to successful independent living, so PawsAbilities remains a key element of fulfilling the mission of Inclusion Connections.

Many ingredients are combined to create a successful program - following are some of them:

- **156** Paws students served
- **Supported** employed individuals with job coaching and transportation
- **138** Mobile booth events
- **330** unique volunteers
- **Improved** Blue Valley and Olathe Schools partnerships



With your help, PawsAbilities has become well-known in Kansas City as THE place for individuals with disabilities to follow a pathway to paid employment, a critical component for successful independent living. Our young adults are thriving and striving to be their best!

A Gratitude Report

FashionAbility *Gala*

With the amazing generosity of our supporters, we were able to raise almost a half a million dollars at Gala FashionAbility 2022!

Inclusion Connections created a new online Top Model Fundraising competition. During our inaugural year, we had 20 students and community supporters participate, raising a whopping **\$80,000** as an additional revenue stream for FashionAbility! We couldn't be more grateful to each and every one of you who championed our fundraising efforts!



TOP MODEL WINNERS

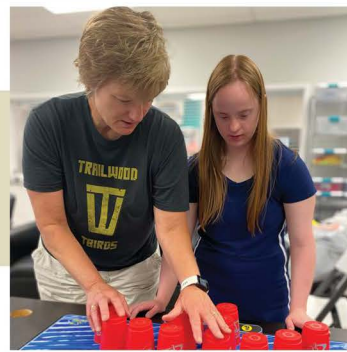
Scott and Melinda Kincaid with IC student Caroline McVay

Sometimes Bigger IS Better!

Educating our young people remains a focus of Inclusion Connections, **servicing 226 amazing students** from age 13 to 40 in an array of evening classes, camps, and the daytime PawsAbilities training program. This is where students learn how to cook, explore their artistic and theatrical skills, bake treats and learn job readiness skills, form lasting friendships, and prepare for greater independence.

At the end of 2022 we began gearing up for an expansion of our programming which required our Learning Center to grow! We have built out a new Transition Academy in this space which will allow us to provide much-needed classes preparing our young adults for the next step in their lives: **independent living**.

In addition to these classes, we are also creating a new art studio to encourage entrepreneurship as a means of helping support oneself. We invite you to see our expanded space next time you are at Inclusion Connections!



"Kindness in giving creates love." - Lao Tzu



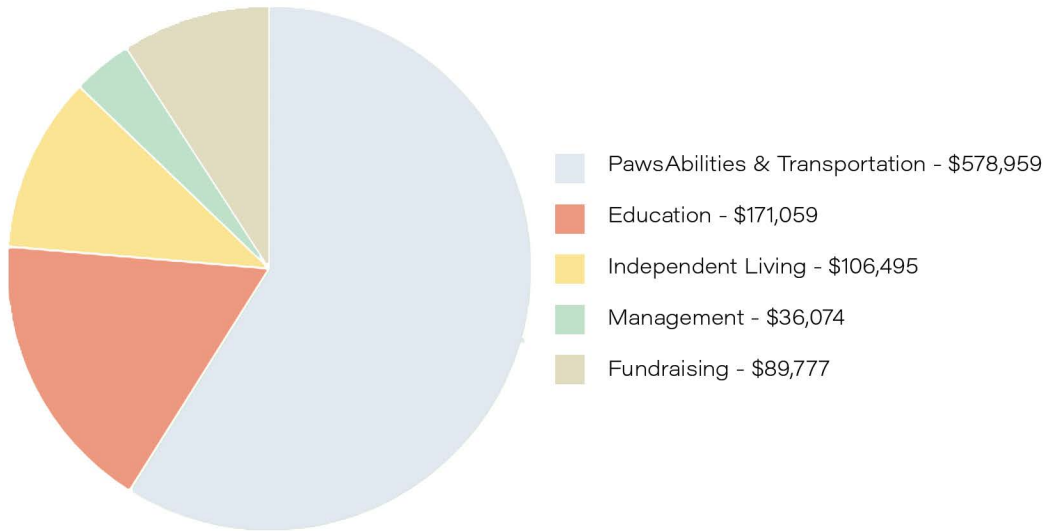
Inclusion Connections is investing in building a supportive community, "BelongKC" where adults with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) can thrive.

Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) deserve to live a life with purpose. We, at Inclusion Connections, believe individuals with I/DD deserve to be members of our Kansas City community where they are treated with dignity and respect. Just like everyone else, individuals with I/DD want to live a life with autonomy and simply need the appropriate safety, security and supports to do so.

To that end, Inclusion Connections continues to invest in building a community in Kansas City where young adults with I/DD can thrive work, play and live. This community, called BelongKC, will be a destination for inclusion, integrating housing, employment and training as well as provide services like transportation, job coaching, wrap around services, etc. that help individuals succeed. In 2023, Inclusion Connections will announce the future site of BelongKC in the Olathe Community. There are many ways to get involved with our organization, committee and effort.

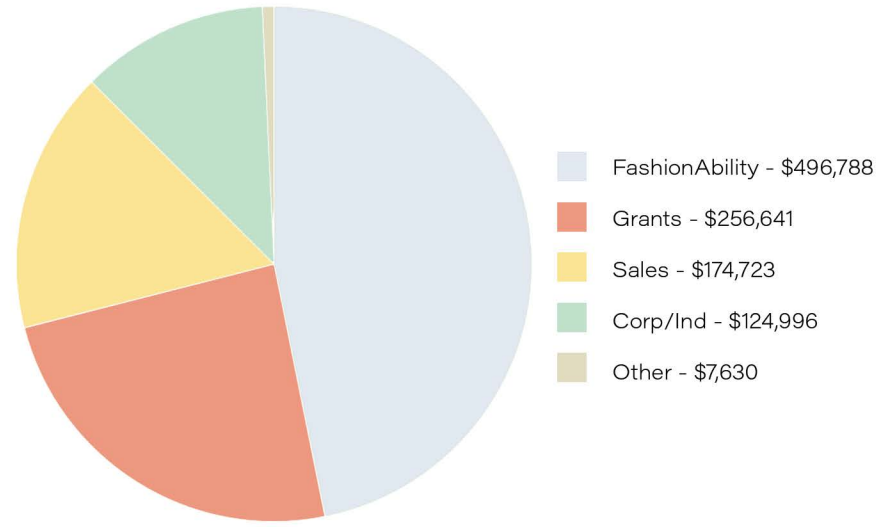
You can learn more by visiting www.BelongKC.org.

Expenses



Total: \$982,364

Revenues



Total: \$1,164,672

Inclusion Connections is grateful to have received support from the Human Service Fund: Johnson County Government, and the cities of De Soto, Edgerton, Gardner, Leawood, Lenexa, Merriam, Mission, Olathe, Overland Park, Prairie Village, Roeland Park, Shawnee, Spring Hill, Westwood.