



2023 IMPACT REPORT

# INCLUSION Connections

THANK YOU FOR MAKING  
OUR WORK POSSIBLE



ICKC.ORG | PAMSKC.ORG | BELONGKC.ORG

913.839.8735

2073 E. SANTA FE ST. OLATHE, KS 66062

# INCLUSION CONNECTIONS **MEANS** EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, SUPPORTIVE LIVING

As our model and strategies have evolved, Inclusion Connections' programs are efficiently and effectively meeting the otherwise unmet needs of our students. Our employment program PawsAbilities, and now BelongKC, are specially designed to advance the social equity for our students by providing CHOICES leading to paying jobs, a better option for independent living, and a pathway to greater independence.

# 252

**INDIVIDUALS SERVED**  
HIGHEST ANNUAL NUMBER  
SERVED SINCE IC WAS FOUNDED

## OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS



**EDUCATION:** providing opportunities to explore creativity, stay active and engaged with peers and the community, school break camps, and Transition Academy prep classes for living independently



**EMPLOYMENT:** geared to preparing individuals for jobs aligning with skills and interests, providing ongoing support for jobholders including transportation and job coaching, keeping jobs more sustainable



**SUPPORTIVE LIVING:** with BelongKC, our young adults will finally have a choice of where to live, relieving the burden from aging parents and addressing the housing crisis for individuals with developmental disabilities in our community



## PRODUCTS WITH PURPOSE

When you walk into our PawsAbilities store in Olathe, you'll realize we aren't just making dog treats and other pet products. We are far, far more than that! You'll be greeted by students who radiate confidence and pride in their accomplishments. The skills they're learning at PawsAbilities are preparing them for meaningful, community-based employment. As we match students with employers, we provide ongoing job coaching and transportation to ensure that these jobs are sustainable. Employment is critical to improved health and well-being, and key to successful independent living.

IN 2023 WE IMPLEMENTED A NEW TRANSITION ACADEMY WHICH PROVIDES AN ARRAY OF CLASSES TO PREPARE OUR YOUNG ADULTS TO LIVE AT BELONGKC.

## PROGRAM IMPACT FROM 2023 INCLUDES:

### 185 INDIVIDUALS

received training and jobs through PawsAbilities program

### 121 MOBILE POP-UPS

these events provide student training and program revenue

### PROVIDED TRANSPORTATION

to and from workplaces  
*(none of our students are able to drive)*

### 446 UNIQUE VOLUNTEERS

and 63 corporate volunteer groups helped us fulfill our goal of helping further a more inclusive community



**2023 TOP MODEL WINNERS** Meg Dieter and Lauren Thompson



## AN EVENING OF FUN, FASHION & FUNDRAISING

2023 Gala FashionAbility took a huge leap forward, raising \$700,017! The second annual TOP MODEL competition contributed \$155,576 to that amount, with 28 teams competing for TOP MODEL. Meg Dieter and Lauren Thompson raised the most money and were awarded on stage. UnitedHealthcare continued as our Presenting Sponsor, and the event was sold out at 610 attendees.

We are grateful to each and every sponsor, attendee, live and silent auction donor, who make FashionAbility one of the very best Kansas City events year after year!



## INDEPENDENT AND SUPPORTIVE LIVING

Housing availability for individuals with developmental disabilities is at a crisis level in our community! Other states such as Colorado and Nebraska have multiple projects in the works, while Kansas has zero. Inclusion Connections is putting the needs of individuals with I/DD at the forefront as more and more individuals are living with caregivers aged 60+, setting up forced placements in the future. We are developing an innovative (first of its kind in Kansas!) campus called BelongKC and have purchased land at 11501 S. Ridgeview in Olathe! The Capital Campaign to fund this project raised a cumulative \$901,333 with fundraising continuing.

**HAVING A CHOICE OF WHERE TO LIVE IS ESSENTIAL TO FULFILLED, INDEPENDENT LIVES. INCLUSION CONNECTIONS IS PROUD TO ONCE AGAIN LEAD THE WAY IN KANSAS CITY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES!**



11501 S. RIDGEVIEW RD.  
OLATHE, KS 66061



BelongKC 

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



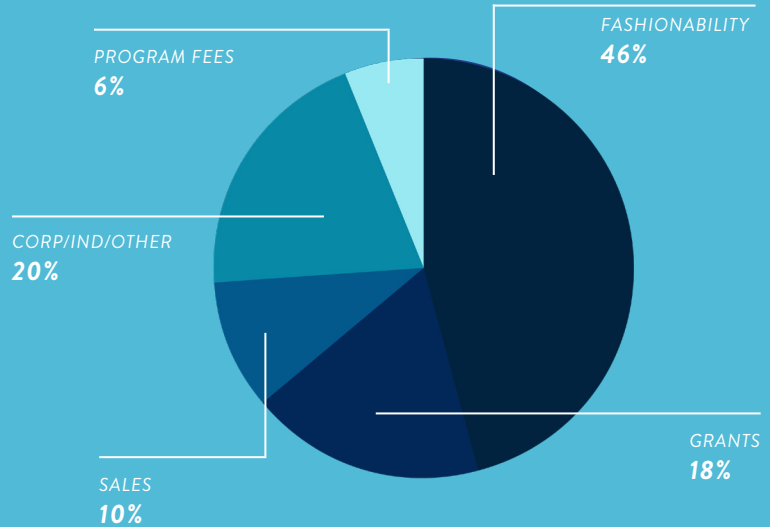
**Back Row:** Jonathan Twidwell, Mike Burton, Phil Mason, Audrey Masoner, Kathy Winegar, Buddy Mason  
**Front Row:** Matthew Simmons, Debbie Horn, Michelle Pfister, Celeste Sparks

“ LIFE’S MOST PERSISTENT AND URGENT QUESTION IS: WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR OTHERS? - MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ”

# OUR REVENUES

FASHIONABILITY	700,017
GRANTS	268,000
SALES	156,234
CORP/IND/OTHER	300,547
PROGRAM FEES	100,732

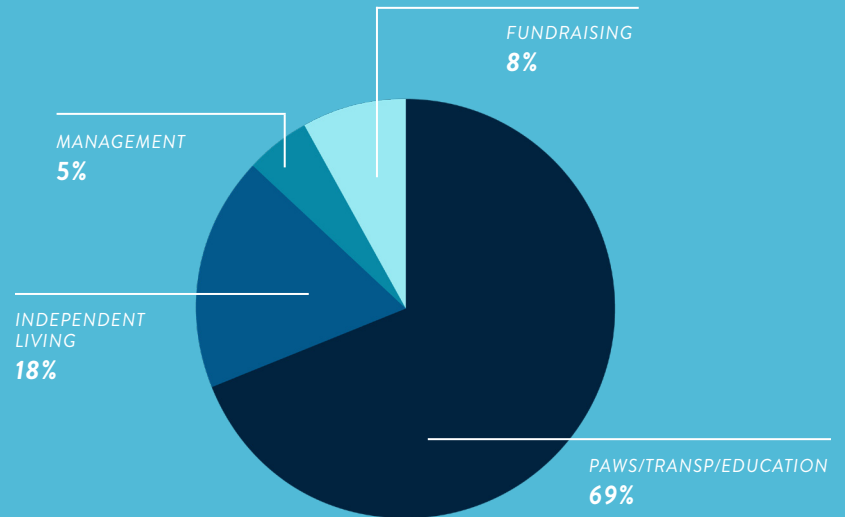
**TOTAL REVENUES**      **\$1,525,530**



# OUR EXPENSES

PAWS/TRANSP/EDUCATION	774,009
INDEPENDENT LIVING	204,022
MANAGEMENT	51,373
FUNDRAISING	87,685

**TOTAL EXPENSES**      **\$1,117,089**



# INCLUSION Connections

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