

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION:

To walk with families along their parenting journey by providing support for their internal and external needs. We enable parents to show up their best for themselves, and their children.



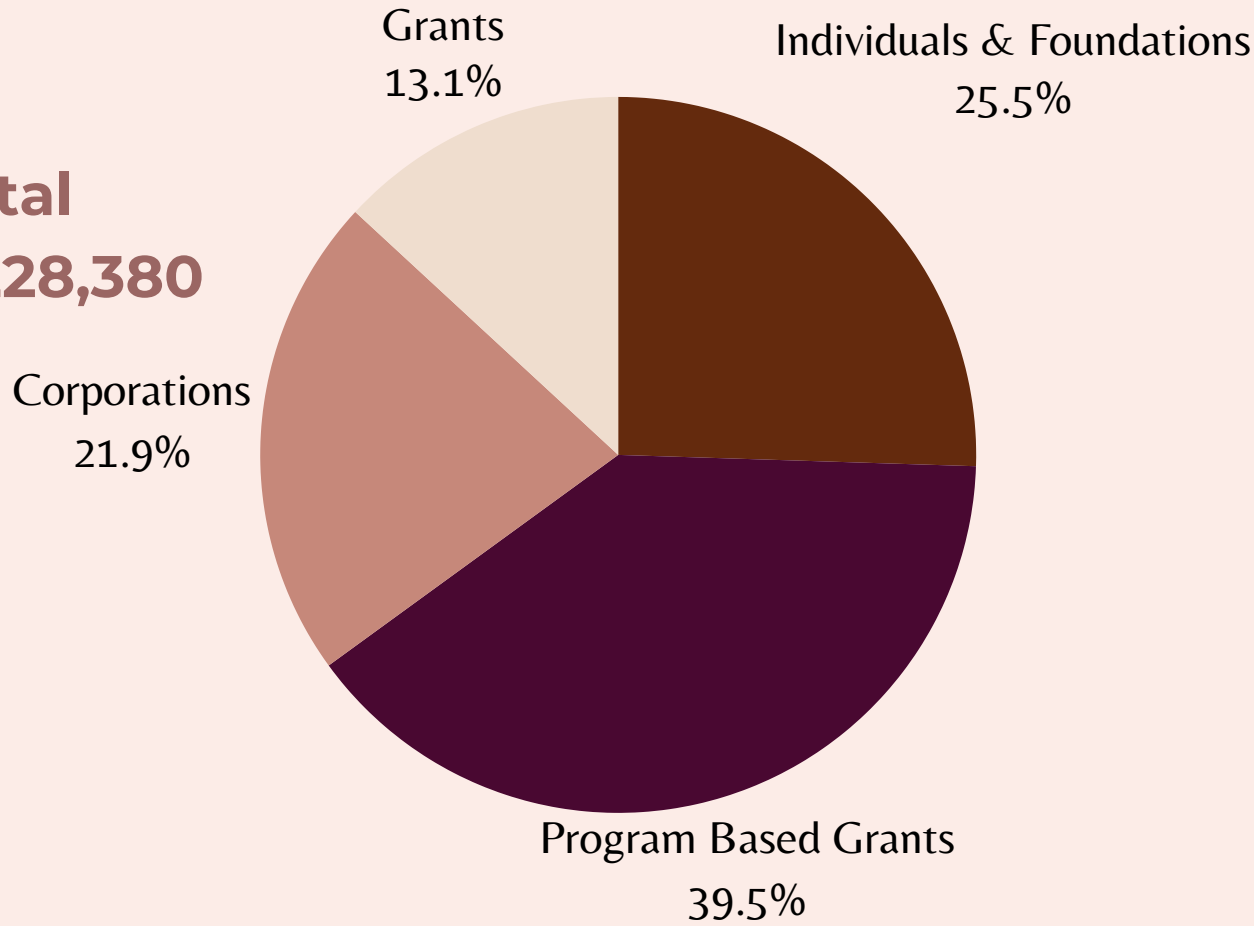
ABOUT US:

Founded in 2016, Mom Starts Here is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization serving Albany, Rensselaer, and Schenectady counties. We exist to support parents. We know that parenting is hard, especially when under-resourced. Caring for and raising children presents unique challenges for every parent, and our mission is to address those challenges so that our members can have the best parent-child relationships possible. We want to see intergenerational growth, and believe it is possible when parents are well supported in reaching their goals.

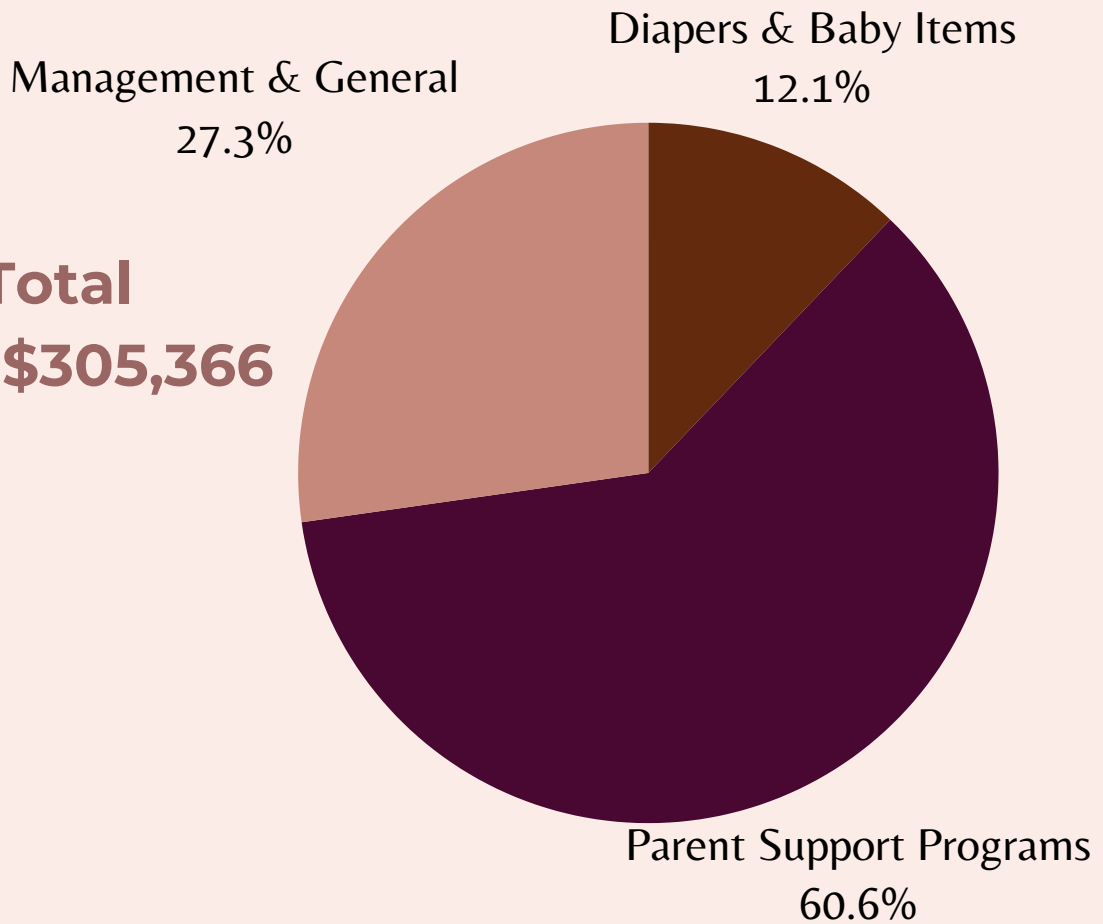
Through the provision of essential items like diapers, pack n play cribs, car seats, and clothing, we ensure material needs are met. We help meet the internal needs of parents through maternal support, case management, coaching, resource navigation, and peer groups.

FINANCIALS

**2023 Total
Revenue: \$228,380**



**2023 Total
Expenses: \$305,366**



MEET THE

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Kyla Schmidt, Executive Director



Paige Convis, Director of Operations



Damaris Daniels, Maternal Care CHW



Desireé Williams, Maternal Care CHW

MEET THE BOARD



Laurie Ballard, Board Chair



Victoria Hostig, Vice Chair



Maureen Nicholson, Treasurer



Angii De La Cruz



Annie Finn



Yolanda Kirby



Alissa Ballard



Jennifer Massey



A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We are committed to investing in families facing economic challenges, and ensuring they can parent with dignity and access help when they need it. Sometimes that looks like a pack of diapers, and other times, a postpartum home visit when a mama feels exhausted and alone.

2023 felt like a year with relatively little change for the first time in Mom Starts Here's eight years of working with local families. Change is exciting, but stability in a small organization like ours is valued. Of course, there were big events like our inaugural Honoring Mothers Brunch and the debut of our podcast, *A Mother Like No Other*. Excitingly, we also added two amazing CHWs for maternal care and two bright MSW interns to our team. With a brand-new Board of Directors, we have entered 2024 with a steady year under our belts and a lot of optimism.

We served just under 700 families in 2023. As our community of mothers and caregivers grows, I am ever more grateful that more parents have discovered their village at Mom Starts Here. Our vision is to become a hub for all parents looking for support. I know that I need a village to help me grow as a mom. I also realize that many do not have such a village.

As we move forward, we will continue to focus on sustainability and scale, and expand our programs to better serve marginalized populations including immigrant and refugee families. In addition to growing our case management program, we will be seeking opportunities to open additional Emergency Diaper Closets throughout the Capital Region in order to better serve the needs of families.

I am grateful that I get to be a part of this important work. I learn so much from the parents we partner with, and I thank our board, volunteers, donors, and partners for their commitment to our mission. I look to the future with excitement about all we can accomplish, together.

With love,
Kyla Schmidt
Founder & Executive Director
Mom Starts Here

2023 HILIGHTS



MSH Podcast launch:

A Mother Like No Other

Check out our new parenting podcast.
New season coming soon!



Maternal Care CHW Program

This pilot program provides on-site support at prenatal appointments.



MSW Interns

We are hosting Rachel and Victoria, two amazing interns in social work, for their academic year.



Honoring Mothers Brunch

We celebrated motherhood and honored members and community partners at our first fundraising event!

THANK YOU!

Because of your support, our members have **peace of mind & and a community of care.**

“Thank you so much. This is an amazing program. **I feel a lot less stressed now. Now I can focus on producing a healthy baby.** “

-Kara, MSH Member

“Therapy is great and all, but the coaching at Mom Starts Here **really helps me to put things back into perspective to move forward.**”

-Tanisha, MSH Member

CONTACT US

info@momstartshere.org

www.momstartshere.org

518-900-5657

@momstartshere

