

eliminating racism  
empowering women

**ywca**

missoula

# IMPACT REPORT

**FY 24**

A snapshot of our work together and our mission in action, July 2023- June 2024.





**YWCA Missoula is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.**

We carry out our mission in service to the community by working to end domestic and sexual violence, help unsheltered families obtain stable housing, and transform Missoula into a place where all people, regardless of their race or gender, have access to resources they need and opportunities for growth, leadership, and power. **Last year, YWCA Missoula served 2,703 people across all our programs.**



**119 children** enjoyed time with their non-custodial parent at Planet Kids, our supervised visitation and exchange center for families impacted by domestic violence.



**309 families**, including **449 children**, received emergency shelter or other services at the Family Housing Center—jointly operated by the YWCA and MIC’s Family Promise Program.



**10,760 nights of safe shelter** provided to adults and children fleeing violence (27% increase from prior year)



**545 therapy sessions** provided at no charge to individuals seeking mental health support

### Comprehensive Care for Human Trafficking Survivors

YWCA Missoula has seen a significant rise in human trafficking survivors seeking help through our Pathways Domestic and Sexual Violence program. In response, we’re exploring how to better identify and address the multifaceted needs of trafficking survivors. Additionally, we aim to forge stronger partnerships with local and statewide agencies to ensure survivors have access to necessary resources. Together, we are working to build a network of care that empowers survivors to heal and reclaim their futures.

“ I have been in shelters before, and I have always gone back [to my abuser]. **This place and the people make me feel like I have family and a support system.** ”

-Resident of Pathways shelter, January – March 2024



### Creating Opportunities for Children

In 2024, we reached a record high of 89 children staying with us at one time at The Meadowlark. This growth has driven an expansion of our youth services team and programs. From lively toddler time sessions that foster early development to teen groups that build leadership and resilience, we offer age-appropriate activities designed to inspire and support young residents. These efforts ensure that every child has access to opportunities for growth and joy, even in challenging circumstances.



## Adapting to Address Housing Challenges

As families in our community face prolonged stays in shelter and increasingly complex barriers to housing—such as mental health struggles and a lack of affordable rental options—YWCA Missoula has expanded our support systems. We provided enhanced case management at the Family Housing Center, enabling staff to offer frequent, tailored assistance to each resident. Collaborating with community partners, we continue to work to address the root causes of houselessness and provide stability for Missoula’s most vulnerable families.



## Building a Plan for the Future

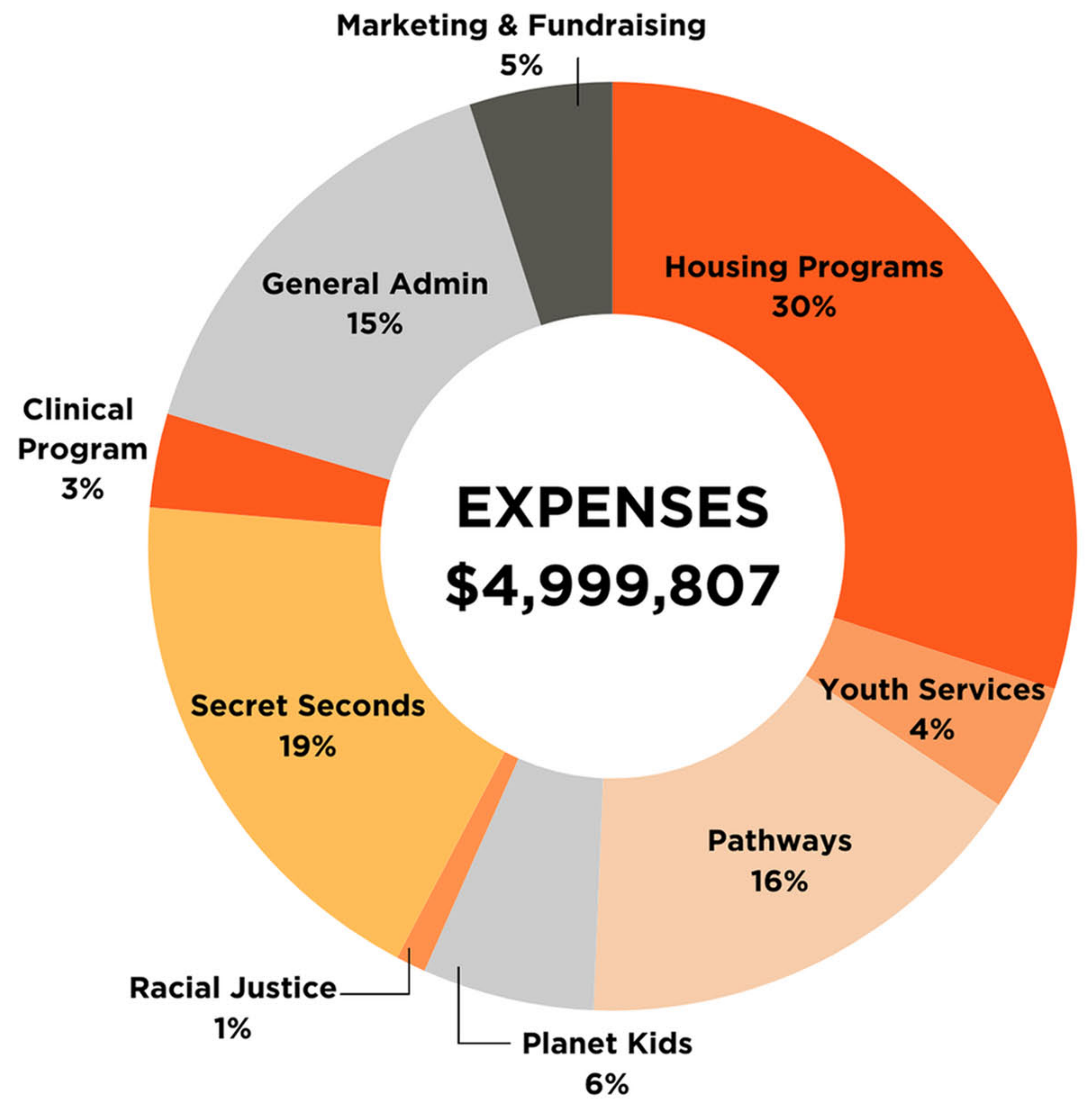
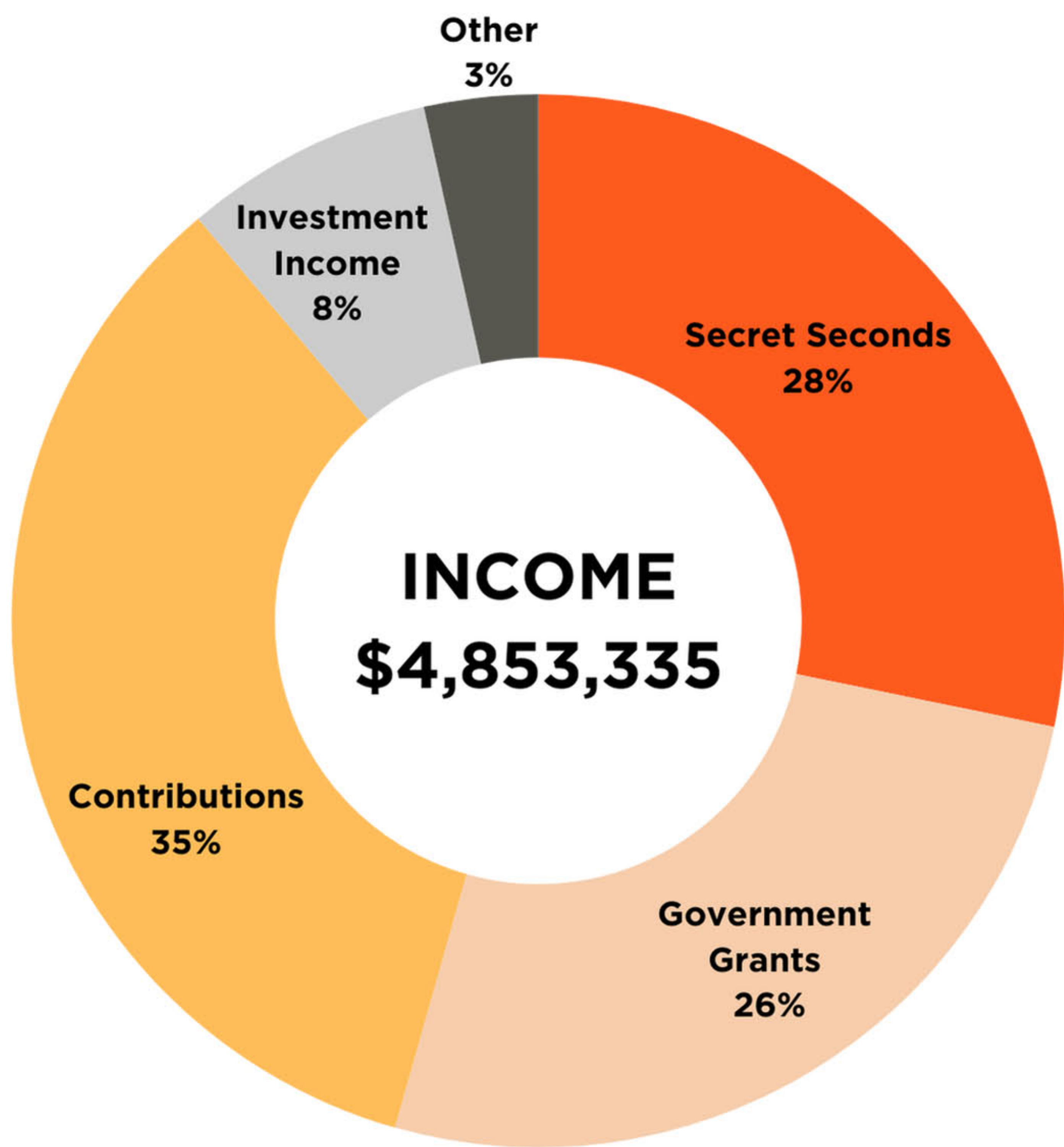
In late 2023, YWCA Missoula completed a racial justice audit that identified key areas for growth and challenges to address as an organization. Over the past year, we’ve taken steps to align our practices with our values, and began implementing many of the audit’s recommendations: expanding staff training, reviewing policies through a social justice lens, making services more culturally responsive, and hiring our first Director of Belonging to lead this work.

Now, we are developing a strategic plan to guide our efforts in the years ahead. Led by our staff-driven Strategic Planning Design Committee, we’re gathering insights from staff, community partners, and those we serve to help shape our priorities. With a finalized plan expected in late 2025, we will continue strengthening our impact and addressing community challenges—just as we have for more than 110 years—through collaboration and collective action.

# THANK YOU for making a difference

YWCA programs are supported by generous financial contributions from community members and foundations, grant funding, and proceeds from YWCA Missoula's Secret Seconds Thrift Stores. Our services are also provided in part by volunteers, who gave a total of 6,852 hours last year to our programs.

1,856 donors made a gift in FY 2024 | Average donation - \$478



YWCA Missoula staff members, December 2024