

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION

Cookie Cart teaches life, leadership, and employment skills to teens of color through on-the-job and classroom experiences in nonprofit bakeries.

VISION

We envision equitable communities where Cookie Cart alumni thrive and lead.

The potential of every young person

We believe in the innate strength of and possibilities for every young person we engage. We lift up their talents and support their future as tomorrow's leaders.

Equity and opportunity

We advocate for a world that is just and fair, where all people have opportunity and a strong sense of value and belonging. We believe our presence and the benefits youth gain are essential contributors to equitable communities. We support sustained action to dismantle systemic racism.

The power of relationships

We believe trusting relationships make it possible for youth to prosper and for communities to be places of connection and support. We seek to be a trustworthy employer and neighborhood partner.

Compassionate accountability

We seek excellence in all we do, holding ourselves accountable with compassion and care. We treat mistakes and questions as opportunities for learning and growth.

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YOUTH IMPACT

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PARTNERS

Spanning an incredibly diverse range of industries, our partners make us shine

Youth Impact



CART CAPTAINS

Advanced leadership
positions for youth



OUTSIDE COOKIE SALES

Sharing the work of
Cookie Cart with
the community



WORKPLACE VISITS

Exploring career
options and
opportunities

Cookie Cart programming supports youth ages 14 to 18 in gaining or strengthening resources, skills, and knowledge in the following areas: interpersonal skills, critical thinking skills, goal orientation, and connectedness to new communities. Youth reported significant growth in the following areas:

100%

PROBLEM SOLVING

youth were able to do something
different when things weren't working

98%

CONFIDENCE

youth believe young people can make a
difference in the community

85%

PUBLIC SPEAKING

youth felt comfortable and confident
speaking in front of people

84%

FINANCIAL LITERACY

youth know how to use a bank, budget and
save money

1,000,000

**COOKIES
BAKED**

178

**YOUTH
SERVED**

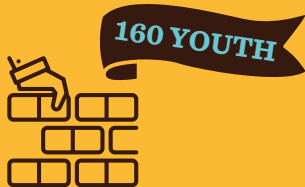
26,604

**HOURS
WORKED**

Youth Impact

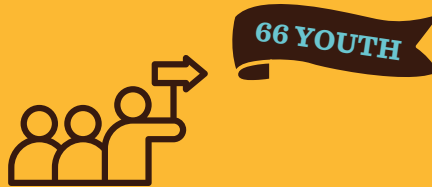
“Cookie Cart has impacted my life because it helped me be part of community by being a teenager, by being myself. Telling me that I, a 16-year-old, could change and do something within my community because I have a voice and an idea.”

– Ashaar, Youth Employee



FOUNDATIONS TRAINING

workplace culture,
employee rights
and responsibilities



**LEADERSHIP
TRAINING**
critical thinking,
communication, and
conflict resolution



BRIGHT FUTURES CLASSES

career readiness
and exploration



CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINING

using the CART model:
Connect, Ask, Respond,
Thank

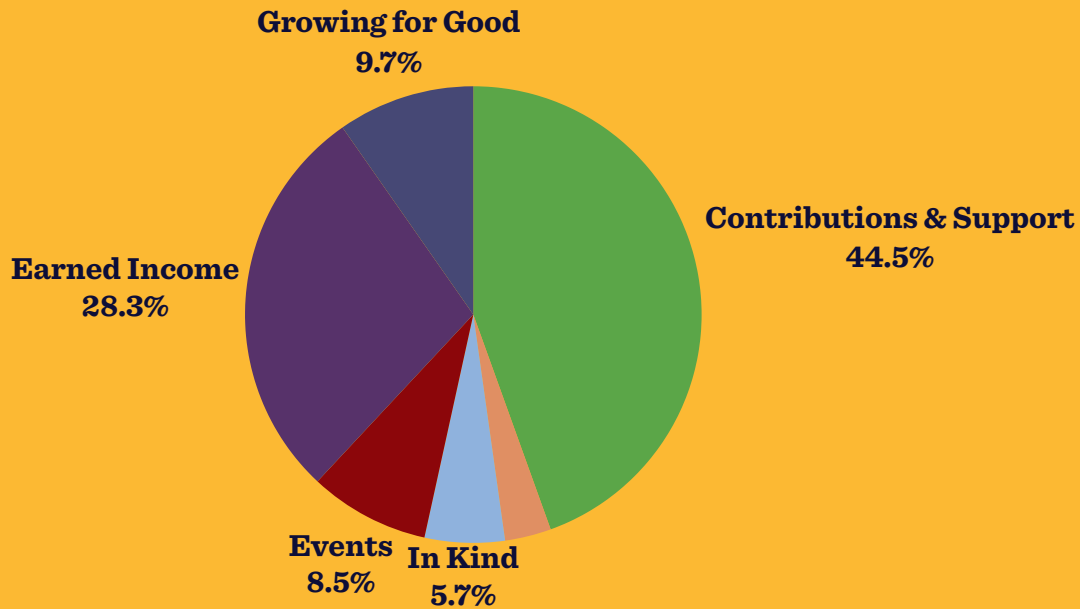


**FINANCIAL
LITERACY**
budgeting, saving,
credit, and
checking accounts



**SKILLS
CERTIFICATION**
food handling, digital
literacy, and career
readiness

2023 Financials



Support & Revenue

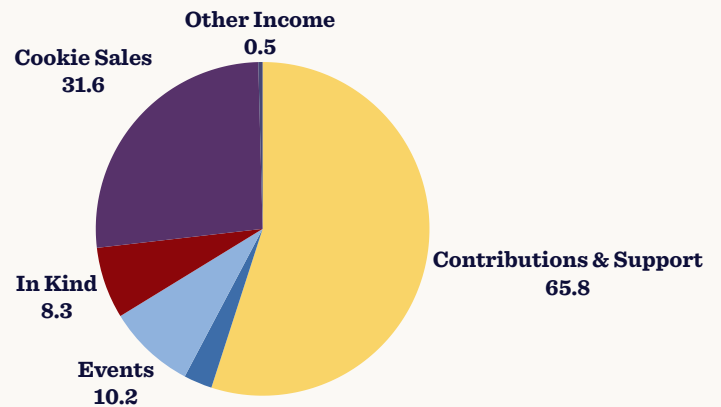
Expenses

Contributions/Support	1,374,000	Adult Wages& Benefits	1,393,949
Government Grants	101,088	Youth Wages	505,472
In-Kind Gifts	175,000	Professional Services	252,650
Events Net	263,000	Program Expenses	27,200
Earned Income	874,733	Production	76,658
Growing for Good	300,000	Facilities/Equipment	262,829
Other Income	2,500	Operations	56,550
Total Support/Revenue	3,090,321	Travel & Meetings	10,000
Cost of Goods Sold	315,700	Marketing & Fundraising	54,700
Support/Net Revenue	2,774,621	Other	60,000
		Business	74,613
		Total Expenses	2,774,621

2024 Budget

Support & Revenue

Contributions & Support	1,660,000
Government Grants	83,000
In Kind Gifts	211,400
Fundraising Events, net	259,100
Earned Income	800,000
Other Income	13,600
Total Support & Revenue	3,027,100
Cost of Goods Sold	494,000
Support & Net Revenue	2,533,100



Activity Goals

- 160 youth will be engaged in 24,000 hours of job experience and classroom job readiness training
- 130 youth will participate in Foundations soft skills training, customer service, and financial literacy
- 30 youth will engage in Leadership training and attend Bright Futures career advancement training
- 20 youth will obtain an industry-recognized credential
- 20 youth will work in leadership positions through Cart Advancement Pathways
- Long-term youth involvement outcomes
- Connectedness to new communities
- Strengthened future goal orientation
- Improved interpersonal skills
- Enhanced critical thinking skills
- Increased employment readiness skills



Leading The Way

OUR HISTORY

The idea was simple.

Sister Jean Thuerauf invited neighborhood youth into her kitchen for help with schoolwork and to bake cookies. It didn't take long for there to be more young people than there was room in her kitchen!

In 1988, with help from the community, Sister Jean's vision for a creative and engaging space for North Minneapolis' youth was registered as Cookie Cart, a 501(c)3 nonprofit.

What began as a cart rolling up and down the streets of North Minneapolis, has grown into two neighborhood bakeries on West Broadway in North Minneapolis and on Payne Avenue in Saint Paul. Along the way, Sister Jean's vision and legacy has remained our guide: to use cookies as a tool to provide hundreds of neighborhood teens with the job experience and leadership skills they need to have successful futures.

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Supporters

While every donation is important in helping us to serve the youth to the best of our ability, the following is a recognition of gratitude for grants received between June 30, 2022, and July 1, 2023.

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**COOKIE
CART**
Baking Bright Futures.