



ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2022

YOUR SUPPORT  
YOUR IMPACT

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## Leaving a legacy of supporting kinship families with **Y**OUR help

**When I became the director of HALOS in 2005**, something surprised me. So many child welfare caseworkers requested items to help place children with grandparents. **I discovered children were overwhelmingly placed with relatives instead of foster care.**

I also determined that there were **no services for these families**. The children were placed outside the system, so the state did not help them. Nobody did.

I learned about Joyce, who was raising Amy and Leo. Amy, a 13-year-old, was sexually abused by her mother's boyfriend. When her mother was unwilling to protect Amy and her brother Leo, they were removed from their mother's care. The children grew up thinking of Joyce as their granny, even though they were not related. Joyce got the call to take them in.

Joyce was disabled, living below the poverty line, and already raising her great-nieces. But she welcomed Amy and Leo into her home. She went to therapy with Amy. She advocated for them at their schools. I learned about the family when Joyce needed \$10 to enroll Amy in an after-school dance program. Her caseworker **asked if HALOS could help. We could and we did.** And then we kept on helping. *Cont'd on p. 2*



*Kim Clifton has served as HALOS' Executive Director since 2005. After more than 17 years, she is stepping down and leaving a legacy of support for kinship families.*

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At the time, I didn't know what else HALOS could do, but **I knew we had to do something**. The board agreed to focus on these special families. We learned that this is called kinship care and at the time, it wasn't recognized in South Carolina. **Even though many more children were placed with relatives than foster care, no one knew about it**. Our mission of supporting maltreated children demanded we help children in kinship care. For every child placed in formal foster care, more than 10 are placed in the care of a relative.

In 2007, we secured our first grant of \$30,000 to provide kinship services. We started with one staff member. We connected kinship families to needed resources and offered caregiver support groups.

**I was so moved by the stories I heard from these families. It became my passion to serve them and educate the community about their needs.** Since 2007, our program has grown exponentially. We were the first to address kinship care (or even use that term) in South Carolina. HALOS has been on the forefront of services for kinship families. We are seen as thought leaders in meeting their needs. HALOS has brought attention to the plight of kinship families in the state. Those efforts are starting to yield results. More people now recognize how kinship caregivers relieve the overburdened child welfare system. But at what cost? **By sacrificing their own needs to put the children first.**

**Most importantly, HALOS has served thousands of kinship families over the years.** We've seen children grow up and go onto college, jobs and successful adulthood. **I am proud that HALOS developed programs with a lasting impact** on children's development.

I am confident HALOS will continue to be kin-first, proactive and meet caregivers where they are. **Thank you for your support, confidence and compassion for kinship families. Together, you and HALOS will continue to rise to meet the needs of children in kinship care.**

With gratitude,



# What YOU Made Possible in 2022



**\$268,503**

**Total Value of Applications for Benefits**



**391**

**Support Group Attendants**

**1428**  
**Children**  
**Served**



**737**  
**Caregivers**  
**Served**

**4965**  
**Community**  
**Referrals**



**BASIC NEEDS**



**LEGAL**



**EDUCATION/  
EARLY CHILDHOOD**

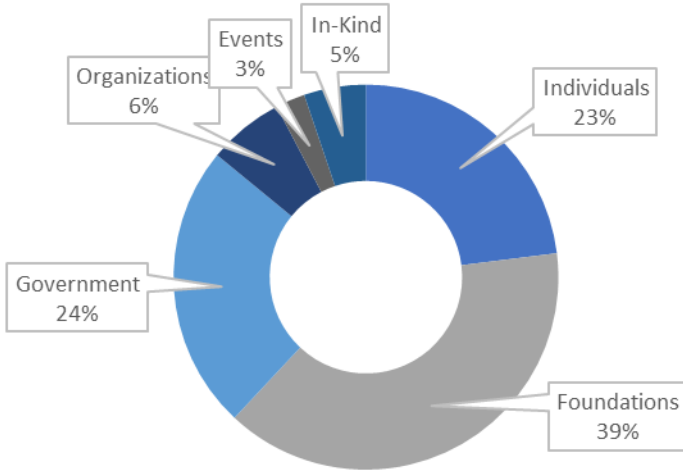


**MEDICAL/MENTAL  
HEALTH**

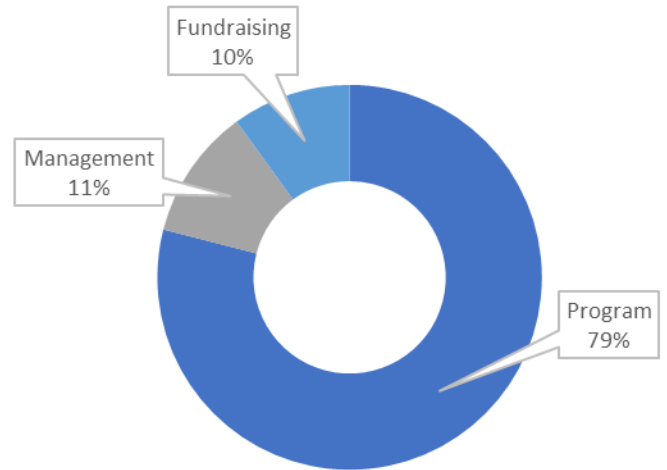


## Financials for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

### REVENUE \$2,820,771



### EXPENSES \$1,899,891



Thank you to all donors who supported HALOS' mission in 2022.

## YOUR support makes a lasting impact

11/25/22

Dear Sir or Madam;

Please except this small donation as a token of my appreciation. I wanted to thank you and your agency for the help you gave to me when I was raising my grandchildren. I really appreciated the help. My grandsons are now in college. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Betty C.

Years ago, Betty took in her grandchildren and turned to HALOS. **Because of gifts from donors like you**, they were able to get **back on their feet** and start a new chapter in their life.

Betty's grandchildren are now in college, and she felt it was **her turn to pay it forward**.

We want to take this opportunity to thank all supporters like you who have donated over the years. **Your generosity ensures kinship families like Betty's receive vital services.**

We hope Betty's note brought a smile to your face. Maybe it inspired you to continue to support these special families. **Thank you for being a part of our community. You are making a difference in so many lives!**