



# Annual Report

2024

## Building Brighter Futures For Our Youth

LAYC Impact Report

Fiscal Year 2024

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024



# A word from our President & CEO

At Latin American Youth Center, we believe in investing in our youth and their futures. Like many community organizations, we are currently facing significant budget cuts, which are affecting our ability to meet the growing needs of the young people we serve.

Our young people continue to face complex challenges, including mental health struggles, housing instability, and safety concerns within their communities. We hear them, and we are here to help.

Recently, I had an opportunity to listen to the stories of two young women, both 19 years old, one is a single mother. The young mother expressed wholeheartedly her gratitude for the support she was receiving to work towards her high school equivalency (GED). She shared how challenged she felt by her decision to leave school as she was encouraged by her twin sister to attend classes at LAYC. She wants to become a lawyer to help individuals and families needing legal support.

The other young lady was referred to LAYC by her high school counselor because the program accommodates her work schedule.

Both young ladies shared the need to work and to help to financially support their families and the difficulties that they face with having basic needs met such as food at home.

I was struck by their courage and determination to seek a better future for themselves. I was encouraged that they felt a sense of belonging to LAYC and that the commitment of our staff is making a difference in their lives.

I truly believe it takes a village. Caring for our youth takes collective effort, and together, we can create a community where they can dream freely without the weight of worries. By supporting them, we are building a brighter, more hopeful future.

With gratitude,  
Mirna (Lupi) Quinteros-Grady



President & CEO



## Spotlight: ShoutMouse Youth Authors

In collaboration with ShoutMouse Press, our youth released the second installment of the "Beyond Borders" series, featuring three new children's books authored by nine young writers. These stories explore themes of overcoming fear, honoring lost loved ones, and advocating for change.

“

I hope it inspires kids who read it and adults as well. Especially for kids. I think one of the big messages that we wanted to give in my specific group with my book was that they're not alone. Like they're not the only ones that are going through these experiences.

”

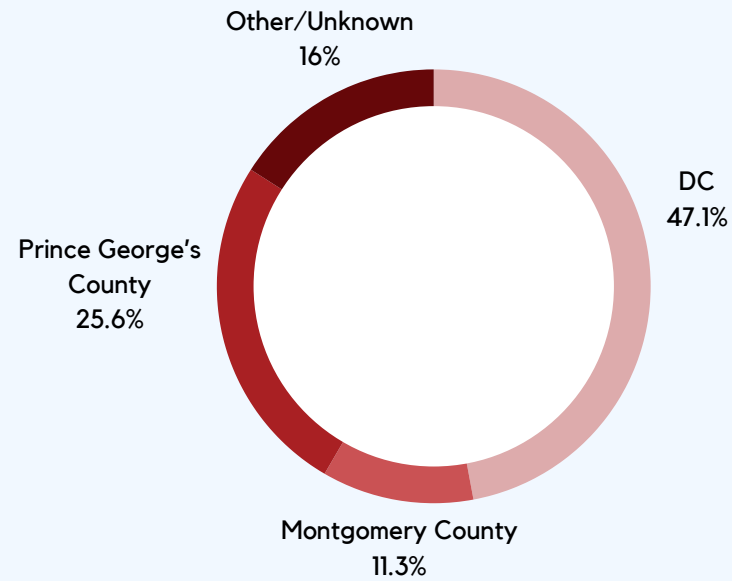
# Our Impact

In FY 2024 we served **4,247** youth across our six sites:

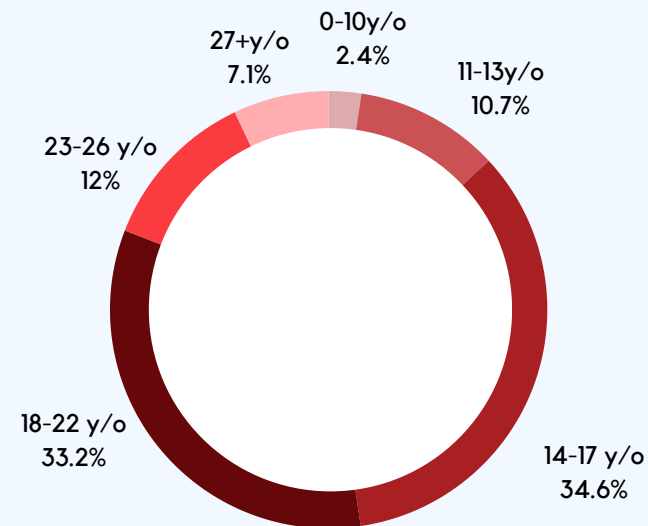
- **Kaplan Center** and **Rita Bright Family and Youth Center** in Washington, DC
- Our sites in **Montgomery County** and **Prince George's County**, Maryland
- **Housing Sites** and **Drop-in Centers** in DC and Montgomery County

Take a look at who we served:

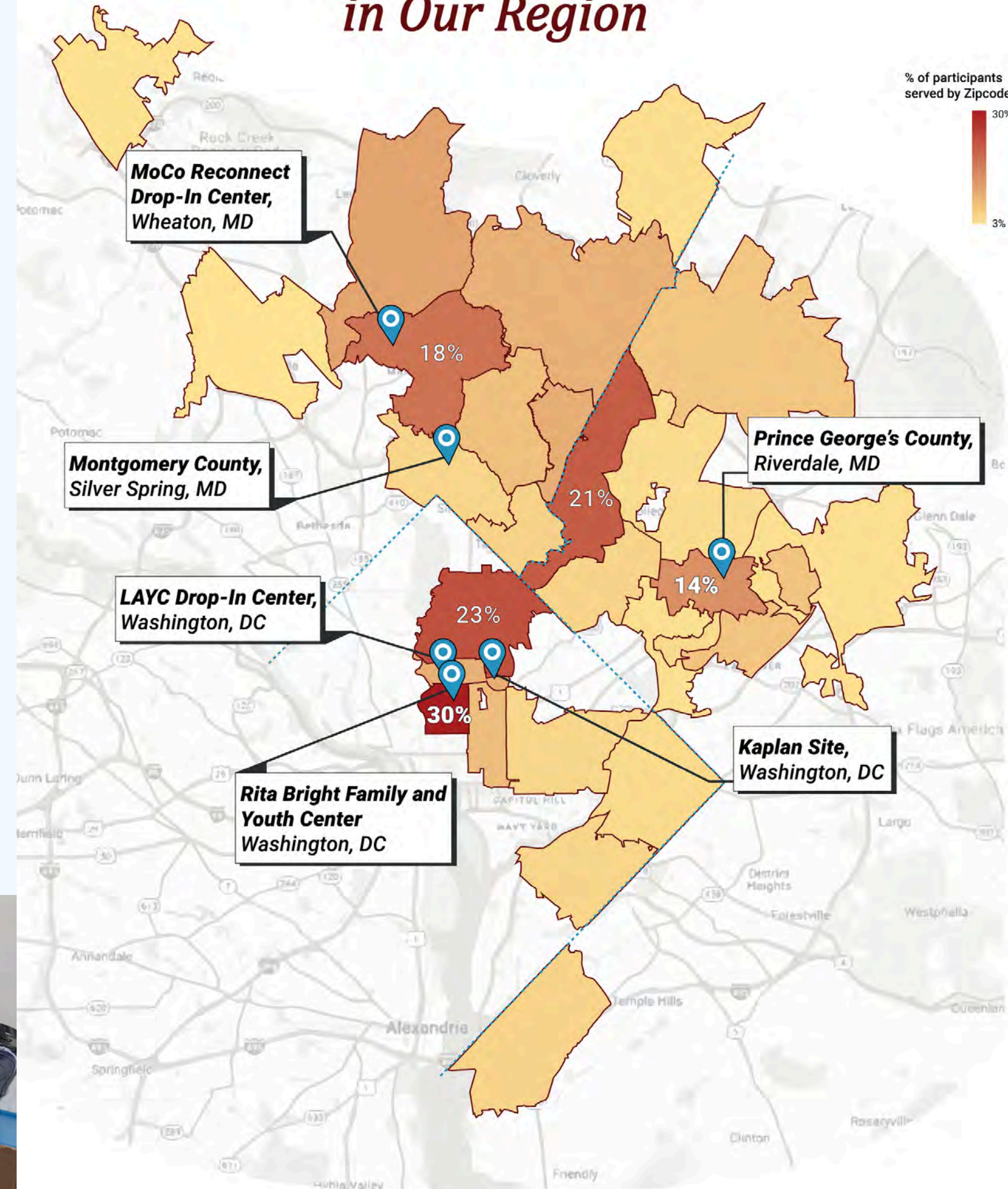
## Area of Residence



## Age



## Youth Distribution in Our Region



# Housing

**741** runaway or homeless youth served by drop-in centers

**90%** of youth who exited residential housing programs departed to safe and stable destinations

We connect youth facing homelessness, unstable housing, or emergency situations with safe, supportive Host Homes, access to community resources, and build academic, job readiness, and life skills necessary for long-term independence.



**Community Wellness Spotlight:** In August, Community Wellness hosted Back to School event where youth received free backpacks and school supplies to kick off the school year.

# Community Wellness

**541** youth received counseling and testing

**8,000** bags of food distributed to youth and community members



This year, LAYC's Teen Center flourished as a safe space for all youth, hosting 32 memorable events. From fun baking and crafting workshops, the center became a vibrant hub for creativity, celebration, and connection.

## Teen Center

**144** youth engaged in programs promoting art and positive youth relationships

**90%** of youth in arts & media cohorts demonstrated artistic literacy and technical skills through a capstone project or showcase

## Social Services

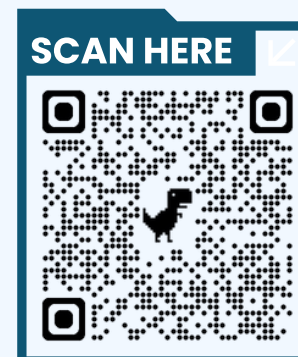
**11,000+**

youth reached by school-based prevention and early intervention mental health services in nine partner schools

**355**

youth received individual or family counseling

Our staff went beyond individual therapy to promote mental well-being through impactful Tier 1 (prevention) and Tier 2 (early intervention) programming.



Scan to read about our work during Social work Month 2024!

# Promotor Pathway

**526** youth served through intensive, long-term case management and mentorship

**97%** of in-school youth demonstrated good or improved school attendance



Pathway youth work with their Promotor to focus on personalized growth areas, all driving toward three key goals: academic success, career readiness, and improved health and well-being.



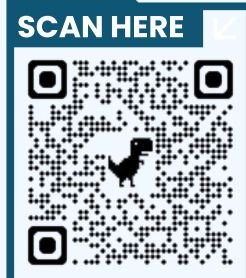
In Montgomery County, 285 youth gained workforce readiness skills, including 70 in infrastructure programs who removed 790 pounds of trash and planted over 1,500 native plants to help improve the DC region.

# Workforce and Job Training

**461** youth served by workforce development programs

**30** youth obtained GED credential

Scan to watch a video highlighting Joselyn, a youth in the Pathway!





**Big dreams in the making!**  
At Gala 2024, Gilson proudly received the Sueños Scholarship, bringing him one step closer to his educational goals.

# Education

**1,129** youth received academic and college-readiness support services

**87%** of youth in afterschool programs improved or maintained a passing grade in English/Language Arts by the end of the school year



*Lieutenant Governor of Maryland, Aruna Miller from the Moore-Miller Administration, visited our Riverdale site at Prince George's County to talk about the impact of the ENOUGH Act in February 2024.*

# School Partners

## LAYC's public and public charter school partners in DC:

- Ballou High School
- Bancroft Elementary School
- Benjamin Banneker Academic High School
- Brightwood Education Campus
- Calvin Coolidge High School
- Cardozo Education Campus
- Columbia Heights Educational Campus
- Jackson-Reed High School
- LAYC Career Academy Public Charter School
- MacFarland Middle School
- Marie Reed Elementary School
- Paul Public Charter School
- Takoma Education Campus
- Theodore Roosevelt High School
- Ida B. Wells Middle School

## LAYC's public school partners in Prince George's County:

- Bladensburg High School
- Buck Lodge Middle School
- Duval High School
- High Point High School
- Nicholas Orem Middle School
- Northwestern High School
- Oxon Hill High School
- Oxon Hill Middle School
- Parkdale High School
- Potomac High School
- William Wirt Middle School



Students as part of the College Access Summer Program show off their newly earned certificates!



# Donor Highlights

Thank you to:



Host Hotels & Resorts employees came to our Prince George's site in Riverdale to help beautify the garden and donated funds to LAYC.



Giant Food chose LAYC for its Community Bag Program and donated all profits from reusable bags sales throughout September 2024.



Coca Cola Consolidated gave us the opportunity to create snack packs for our youth and their families.



DoorDash's partnership provides essential food access and resources to our youth and families, helping to combat food insecurity in our communities.



Noble Reach Foundation donated funds to LAYC and employees helped clean up our neighborhood in Columbia Heights.



# Board of Directors For Fiscal Year 2024

Yvonna Stevens – *Chair*  
Jennifer Mauskapf Smalls – *Vice Chair*  
Adam Spiegel – *Treasurer*  
Shari Thomas – *Secretary*  
Jaliel Amador  
Betsy Brand  
Elizabeth Burrell  
Simon Fairclough  
Alfonso Guzman  
Lena Hernandez  
Esperanza Lugo  
Carrie E. Markovitz  
Nancy Miranda  
Carlos Oliva  
Kimberly Salameh  
Christian Rhodes  
Samuel Williams  
Candice Wilmore  
Amanda Wood  
Wei Zhang



**Smile!**  
LAYC Board Members pose for a photo while enjoying the night at LAYC's annual Gala

# Financials

## SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Municipal Grants	\$8,991,863
Federal Grants	\$6,766,925
Contract Income	\$2,025,565
Foundation Grants	\$1,450,571
Contributions	\$584,813
Events	\$541,891
Net Investment Return	\$273,749
Other Revenue	\$136,565
Management Fees	\$72,745
Net Assets Released from Donor Restrictions	\$1,332,348
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$20,844,687</b>

## EXPENSES

### Program Services:

Social Services	\$1,282,363
Housing	\$4,865,035
Community Wellness	\$2,302,073
Education, Workforce Investment & Social Enterprise	\$1,832,191
Maryland Multicultural Youth Center	\$5,454,140
Promotores & Others	\$2,574,145
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$18,309,947</b>

### Supporting Services:

General and Administrative	\$2,948,439
Fundraising	\$464,811
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$3,413,250</b>

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**Total Expenses** **\$21,723,197**

Changes in Net Assets (\$878,510)

Net Assets at Beginning of Year \$2,272,679

**Net Assets at End of Year** **\$1,394,169**



Make a [donation](#) today to support our youth and families!



***Our mission is to empower youth to achieve a successful transition to adulthood through comprehensive and innovative programs that address youths' social, academic, and career needs.***

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[www.layc-dc.org](http://www.layc-dc.org)