



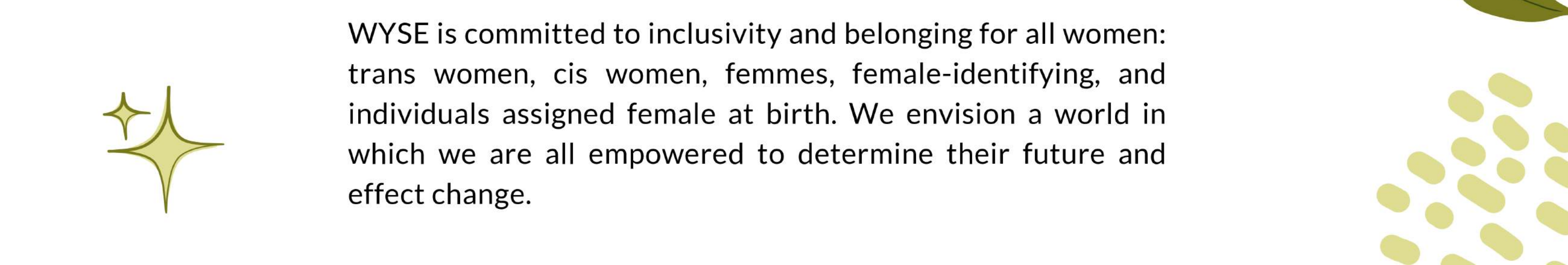
WYSE ANNUAL REPORT 2023

**WOMEN AND YOUTH SUPPORTING
EACH OTHER**



What is WYSE?

Women and Youth Supporting Each Other (WYSE) is a national mentorship organization that provides adolescent girls in underserved communities with the information, resources, and support to make healthy decisions and create community change. With branches at eleven universities nationwide, WYSE focuses on empowering women and girls through group-based and one-on-one mentorship offered by college women volunteers, and employs a national curriculum to address critical issues from building self-awareness to exploring future options.



WYSE is committed to inclusivity and belonging for all women: trans women, cis women, femmes, female-identifying, and individuals assigned female at birth. We envision a world in which we are all empowered to determine their future and effect change.





Mission

To empower young women by providing the resources and support necessary to make positive life choices and create community change

Vision

To create a world in which all women are empowered to determine their future and effect change



Pillars of WYSE

Critical Thinking and Decision Making

WYSE women explore fully and think deeply about significant issues in order to make informed, deliberate decisions.

Personal Identity and Self Esteem

WYSE women strive to recognize, explore, and proudly express who they are as individuals.

Strong Relationships

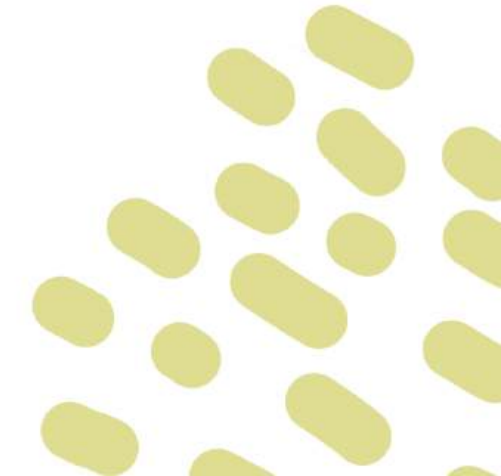
WYSE women believe in the power of positive relationships to change lives. WYSE women dedicate themselves to being a positive influence and role model for those around them.

Safe Community and Exploration

WYSE women express their ideas, ask questions, and learn in a safe, open, and accepting community. WYSE women encourage others to speak up and help each other discover new ideas.

Community Change

WYSE women strive to make a better society by gathering information, spreading awareness and taking action on issues that are meaningful to them.





Our Branches

George Washington University
Marquette University
Occidental College
Stanford University
Tulane University
University of Chicago
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Southern California



Our Middle Schools

Langston Hughes Academy	New Orleans, LA
Scholarship Prep	Santa Ana, CA
John B. Drake Elementary	Chicago, IL
Jefferson Middle School Academy	Washington, DC
Eliot-Hine Middle School	Washington, DC
Garland Middle School	Milwaukee, WI
Vista Charter Middle School	Los Angeles, CA
Camino Nuevo Charter Academy	Los Angeles, CA
Francisco Sepulveda Middle School	North Hills, CA
Mark Twain Middle School	Los Angeles, CA
PUC CALS	Los Angeles, CA

Letter from our Board Chair



As we reflect on another remarkable year, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible journey we have shared during WYSE's 30th Anniversary Campaign. This milestone is not just a celebration of our organization's achievements; it is a tribute to the countless women and girls who have been empowered through our programs over the last three decades.

Our anniversary events brought together our diverse community in ways that were both meaningful and inspiring. From the engaging branch events to the memorable gathering at our national leadership training conference, we honored the rich herstory of WYSE and the women who have shaped it. It was a time for us to celebrate our past and envision a future filled with hope and possibility.



Letter from our Board Chair

I am also excited to share that our board has expanded, welcoming two new members who are proud alumni of WYSE branches. Their experiences and insights will undoubtedly enrich our efforts as we continue to advocate for and support women and girls. With their addition, we are amplifying our womanpower and deepening our impact within the communities we serve.

As I enter my second year as Board Chair and celebrate my tenth year on the WYSE board, I am reminded of the profound changes we have facilitated together. Our commitment to empowering young women is more vibrant than ever, and I am eager to see how our collective efforts will shape the next chapter of WYSE.

Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to our mission. Together, we are building a legacy of empowerment and solidarity that will inspire future generations.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Anna Shaw-Amoah



Welcome New Board Member! Evelyn Rodriguez Estrada



Evelyn Rodriguez Estrada brings her passion and love for WYSE as a new board member this year. This is a full circle moment for her as she participated as a **WYSE** mentee in Chicago, Illinois in the late 90s and is the **founding Executive Director of the WYSE Marquette branch** in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Evelyn is a lifelong Chicagoan and currently serves as the director of Corporate Community Impact at ComEd, an Exelon company, where she oversees ComEd's corporate philanthropy, including charitable contributions, competitive grants, educational initiatives, signature events, employee engagement and volunteerism, and executives' civic involvement.

Welcome New Board Member!

Evelyn Rodriguez Estrada



Before joining ComEd, Evelyn was senior advisor for neighborhood economic development and community engagement for Mayor Rahm Emanuel. In this role, she managed strategic partnerships and advised on public policy initiatives. Prior to her job in the mayor's office, Evelyn worked in governmental affairs for the Chicago City Council and the U.S. House of Representatives, and with Erie Neighborhood House.

Evelyn is an alumna of Chicago Public Schools. She earned her bachelor's degree from Marquette University and a master's degree from Northwestern University. She is a proud daughter of Mexican immigrant parents from Durango, and she was raised in the Little Village neighborhood by her mother and two sisters. Evelyn and her husband welcomed their first child last year.

Welcome New Board Member!

Joëlle Jackson



Joëlle Jackson joins WYSE as a new board member this year.

Her journey with WYSE began in 2015 at The George Washington University, where she was a college student looking to foster a sense of community. Serving as a School Site Coordinator and eventually **Co-Executive of the WYSE GWU branch**, Joëlle's love for WYSE blossomed. After graduating, she sought to maintain her connection with WYSE by serving on the **Alumni Committee**.

Welcome New Board Member!

Joelle Jackson




During the day, Joëlle is a Senior Business Operations Analyst for SAIC, a Fortune 500 technology innovator primarily serving government clients. In her role, she manages various dashboards and utilizes workflow automation tools that facilitate the rapid growth of her organization and its sales opportunities. Additionally, Joëlle works part-time as a companion to the elderly, sparking joy and helping seniors maintain their independence through a company called Naborforce.

In 2020, Joëlle earned her Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) from The George Washington University, with a concentration in International Business and a minor in Economics. She aspires to earn her MBA and PMP certification in the near future. Currently, Joëlle resides in Richmond, VA, with her beloved dog and cat, Harvey and Roxi. In her free time, you can find her spiking it up on the volleyball court or settling into a novel.



Program Year 2022 - 2023 Milestones

- 204** 6th-8th grade mentees
(average 20 per branch)
 - 212** Mentors
(average 21 per branch)
 - 65** College women in branch leadership
(average 7 per branch)

 - 146** Total WYSE sessions
 - 65** Total hours of mentor training
- 

Note: Total number of mentees and mentors are taken from point-in-time counts and likely represent an undercount of the number of program participants.

Mentor & Mentee Survey Responses

100% of Mentors and Mentees would recommend WYSE to others.

100% of Mentors and **92%** of Mentees reported feeling like WYSE was a safe space for all participants.

77% of Mentees reported that participating in WYSE helped them to better understand and accept their personal identity.

92% of Mentees reported that their WYSE Mentor is someone they trust.

97% of Mentors and **92%** of Mentees agreed that “WYSE helped me to know that I have the power to make a difference in my community.”

Methodology:

Start-of-year surveys were administered at all WYSE branches. Questions were asked on a four-point scale from 1 (“Strongly Disagree”) to 4 (“Strongly Agree”). Percentages reflect the proportion of respondents who answered 3 or 4 on the scale.



**National Leadership Training Conference
June 23 - June 25, 2023
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA**



In June 2023, WYSE held our annual National Leadership Training Conference (aka National Leadership Retreat in 2024) at the University of Southern California, where college directors from across the nation came together to reflect on the previous year and prepare for a new year of new challenges, triumphs, and support from their sister branches.

The weekend was rich with knowledge-sharing, featuring creative ideas to strengthen our collective impact. We had director-led presentations from UC Berkeley and UC Irvine, as well as WYSE Alumni and guest speaker Ann Nguyen discussed the unique challenges adolescent students face in the post-pandemic era, sparking deep conversations. The event included a special celebration of WYSE's 30-year anniversary, connecting with alumni at Rock & Reilly's USC Village.

It was an inspiring start to the program year ahead!

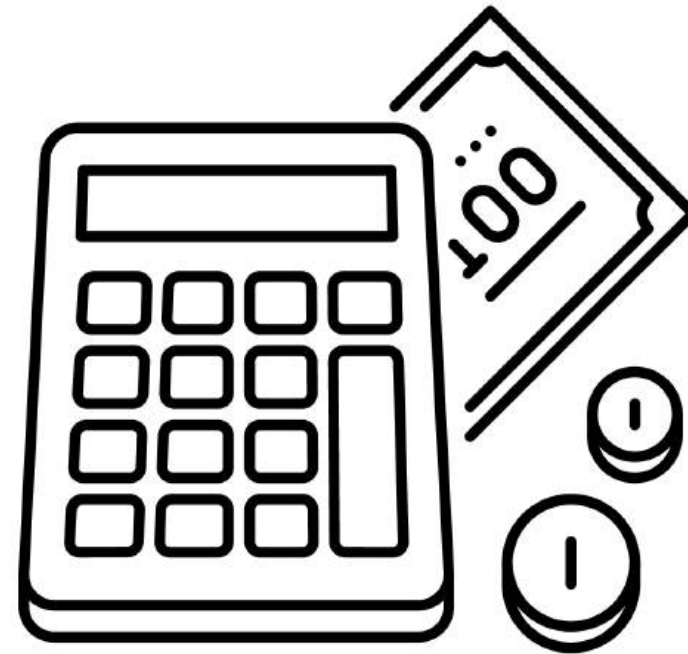


Financial Overview



What did our finances look like in 2022? Here is an overview of the expenses and revenue for WYSE, with comparison to years past, from **January 2023 through December 2023**.

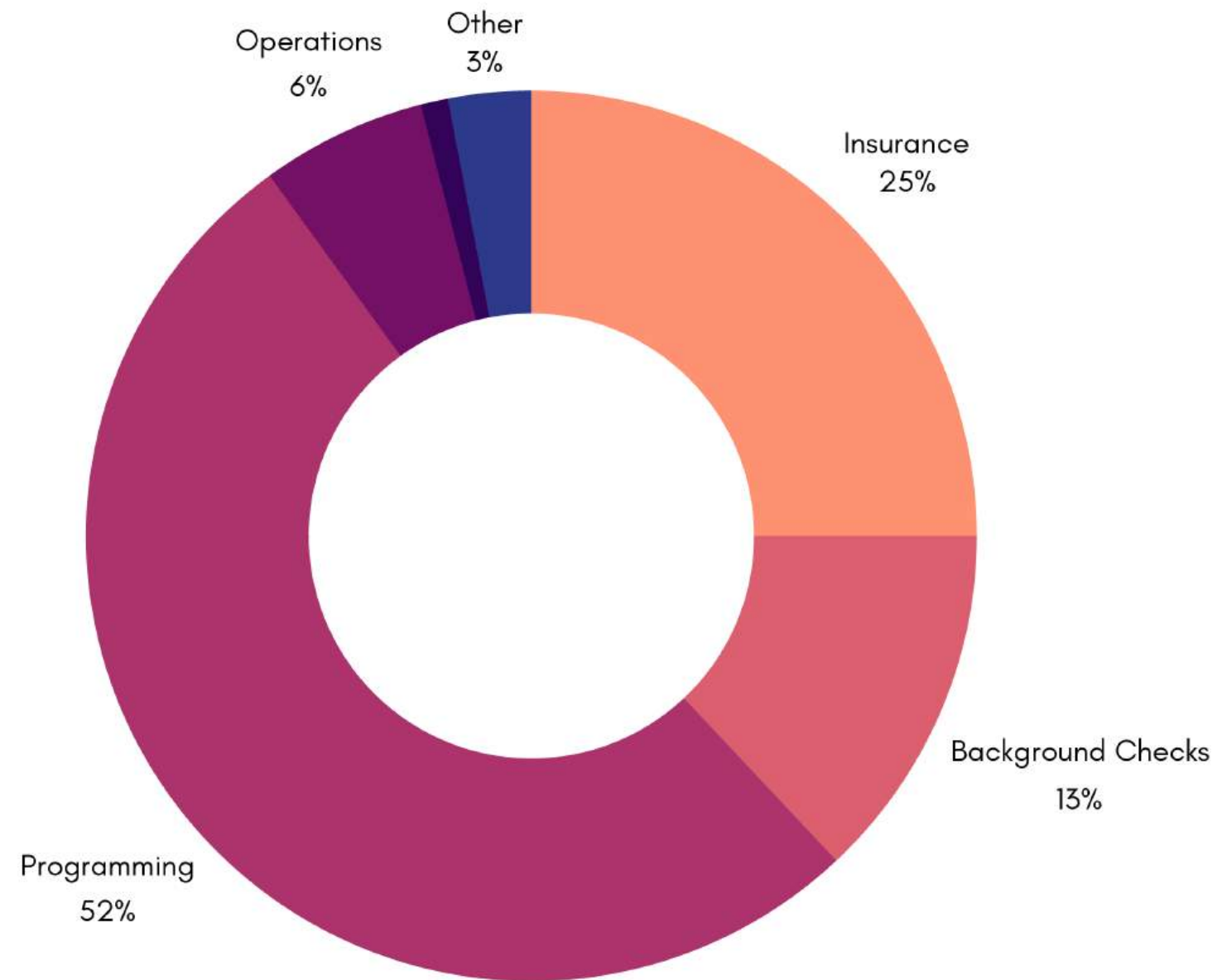
WYSE is a 100% volunteer-run organization, with nominal overhead expenses and all revenue channeled directly to programming, operations, and fundraising support.



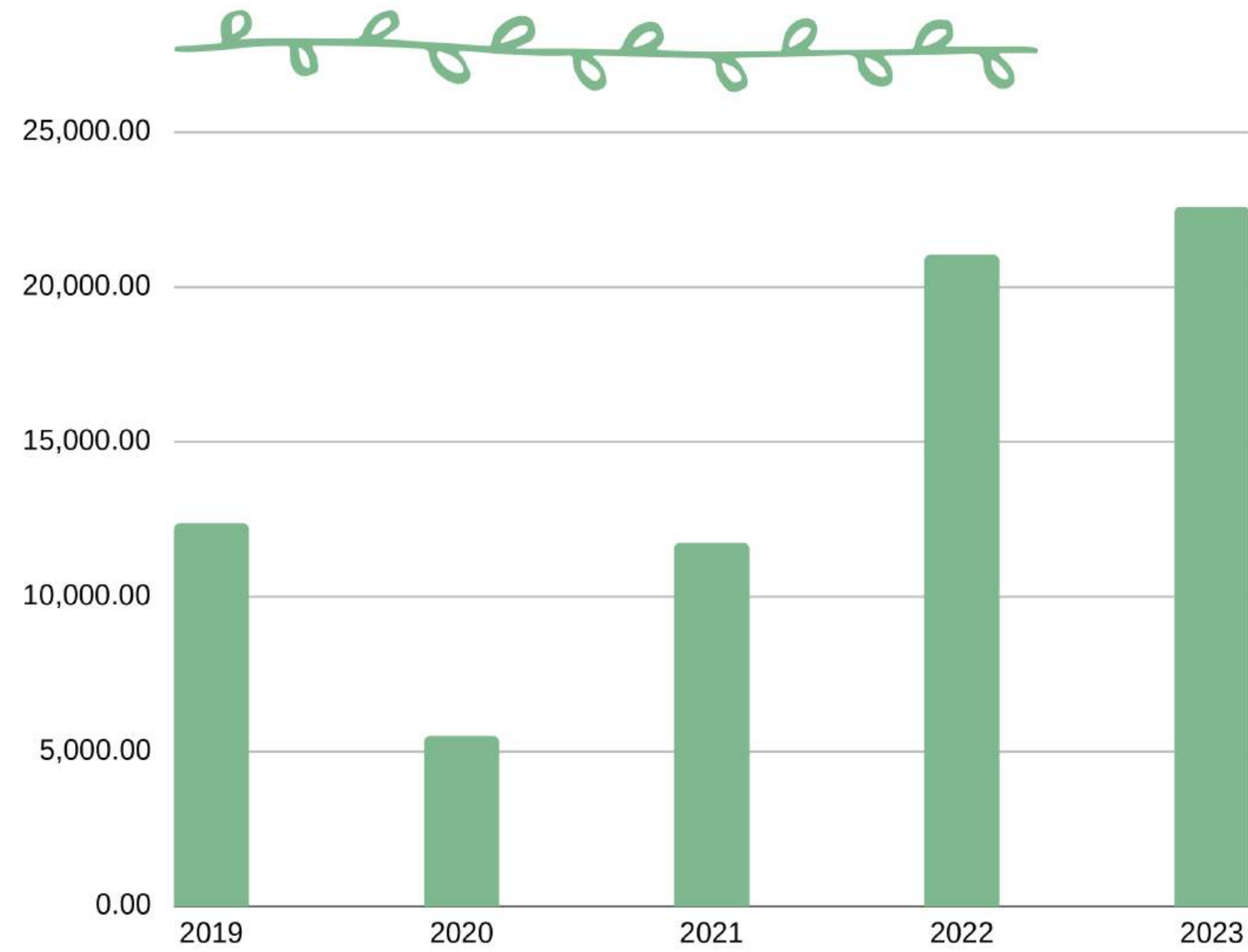
Expenses



Total expenses in 2023: \$22,592.51



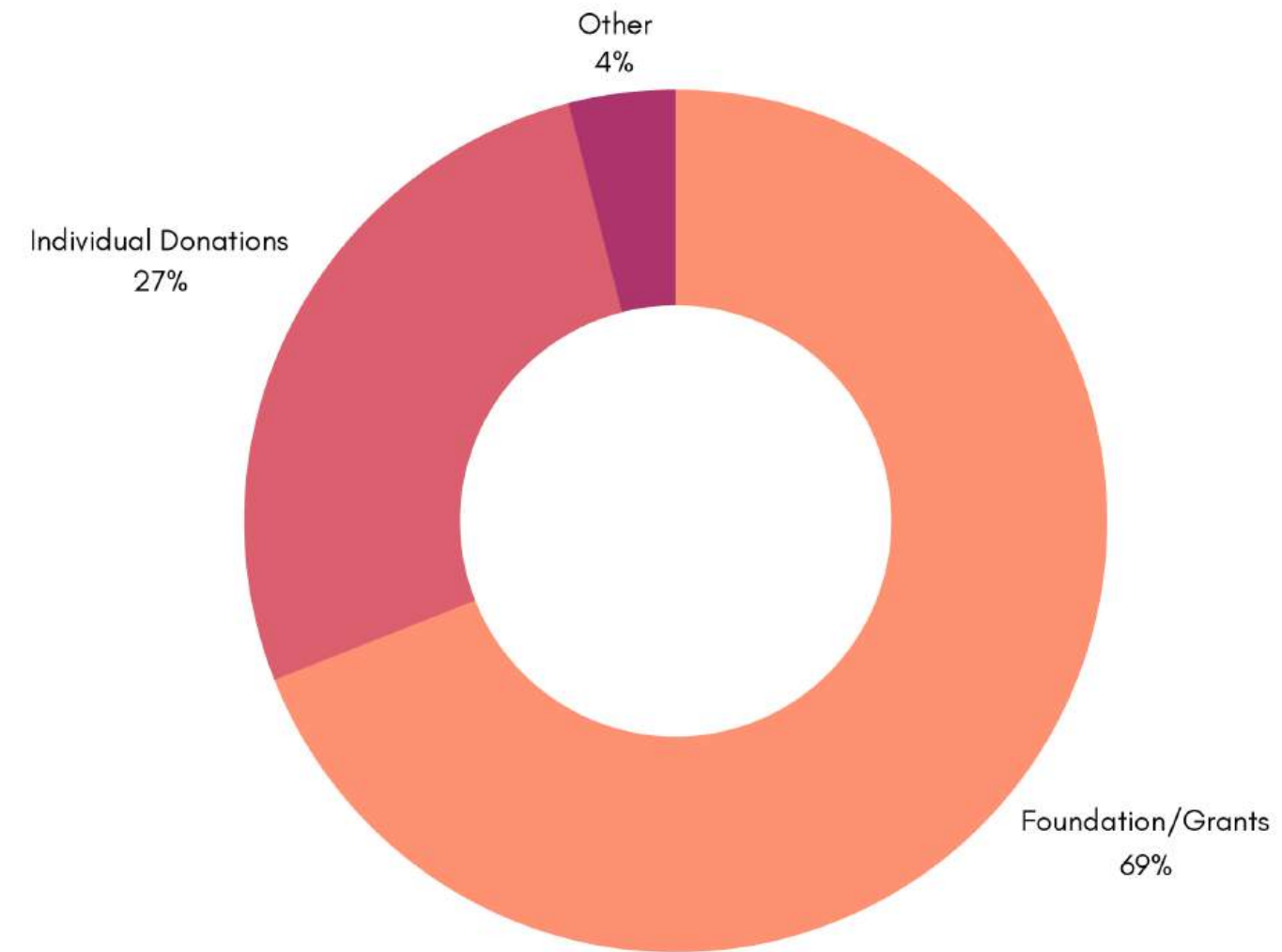
Expenses



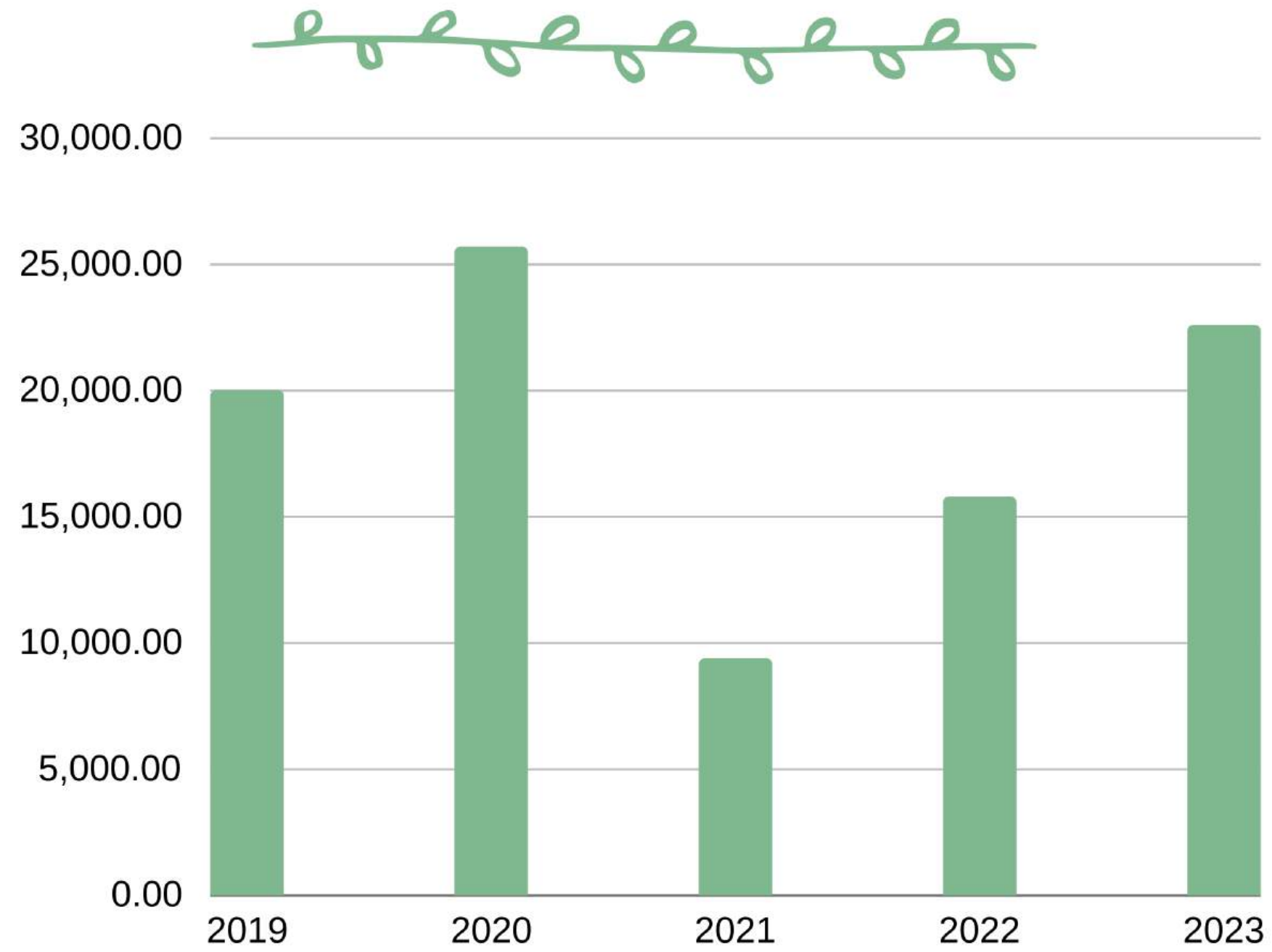
Revenue



Total revenue in 2023: \$22,604.92



Revenue



Thank You, Donors!

Thank you to our generous WYSE family of donors in 2023* that supported our programs nationwide.

Impact Partners

Thank you to our recurring donors, who give to WYSE every month.

Melissa Beek

Remi Beek

Leah Ghoston

Nancy Jean Ghoston

Melinda Goedeke

Nathalie Jaikissoon

Leah Jones

BJ Serviss

Visionary Foundations

Thank you to the following foundations and companies for their meaningful gift to WYSE this year.

African Delights

Pierce Family Charitable Fund

Marilyn S. Broad Foundation

**These donations span January 1, 2023- December 31, 2023 /*

Individual Giving

Thank you to our generous WYSE family of donors in 2023* that supported our programs nationwide.

Lisa Tannebaum
Lauren Gorski Allen
Taara Sultaana
Alex Baraban
Aton Abril
Sarah Fitzpatrick
Pamela Sterling
Melissa Faber
The Warner's
M Yvonne Chao
Katrina Logan
Kimberly Corash (Eggert)
Seamus McCracken
Jacki Black
Annlee Ellingson

Laura Shaw
Melissa Vogel
Anna Shaw-Amoah
Alexis Raftery
Sophia Sidhu
Alex Salzberg
Felicia Gilbert
Linda Leung
Ana Rocca
John Pierce
William Bone
Jaclyn Bryant
Douglas Hendrickson
Natalie McIlhenny
Audrey Lewis

Ruth Shere
Gwen Amie
Alicia Anderson
Hanh Dao
Melissa Pierce
Joëlle Jackson
Evelyn Rodriguez Estrada

**These donations span January 1, 2023- December 31, 2023*

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THANK
YOU

