

# 2024 Annual Report

Scaling Walls A Note At A Time



**Give Music  
Empower Dreams**

**Our Mission:** To be dedicated advocates for children affected by parental incarceration by providing life-changing intervention through music.

**Our Vision:** To give America's most vulnerable children hope and a life-changing experience thus improving their lives, our communities, economy, and culture.



## The NUMBERS:

### **115** Children Served

**48** Given Additional Private Lessons

**31** Attended Summer Camp

**31** Given Private Lessons at Camp

From **21** Schools in **5** Districts

**+10-12** Weekly at Youth Intervention Center

### **1770** Music Lessons\*

**1090** Given in Spring & Fall

**680** Given in Summer Camp

At **9** Schools and **6** Music Studios

**+10** Given at Youth Intervention Center

### **16** Performances

**Music is transforming children's lives placing them on a course toward success.**

#### Program Highlights

Through our partnership with the School District of Lancaster and five private music studios, we provided 1,770 music lessons to 115 students. Among them, 48 students received additional private lessons in spring and fall. Our 12 Rising Stars students participated in art, Bible, and social-emotional classes during the spring and fall, with access to mental health counselors for additional support. During the summer, 31 students attended our 4-day, 5-week music camp, where they received daily private lessons, seven group lessons per day, and access to mental health counseling. Students showcased their progress through 16 community performances throughout the year. Additionally, our collaboration with the Youth Intervention Center enabled us to conduct 10 classes, with 10–12 students participating each week.

\*group, private, and virtual

“It makes me feel happy to have my viola lesson. I get to have alone time with someone I like.” **Sio, Student**



“I found a best friend by coming to SWAN. We would not have met if it weren't for the Rising Stars after-school program.” **Josie, Student**

“When I meet with my counselor, it makes me feel good about myself.”  
**Anthony, Student**

“It feels good to be a part of a team. You get to express yourself. We get to have fun, learn more, and work harder on our music. It's helpful to talk with the counselor when I have a bad day. I feel like I am in a safe environment.” **Julaniee, Student**



“I love SWAN because I get to make new friends. I get to sing, learn about God, and play the piano.” **Iris, Student**

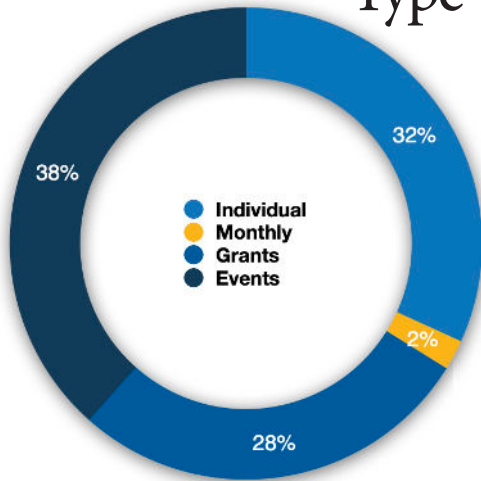
“It has been a tremendous experience working with SWAN. Watching the investment of time, resources, and meaningful mentoring is really making a difference! The team of teachers, counselors, and other staff were wonderful to work with. Seeing the students grow socially, emotionally, and musically was really special.”

**Matt, Music Teacher**



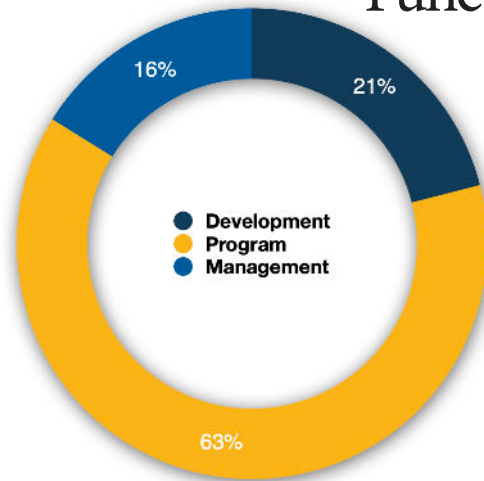
## More NUMBERS:

### Income by Type



Total \$313,143.77

### Expenses by Function



Total \$342,673.36

\*Our complete financial statement and independent report can be found at <http://www.swan4kids.org/about/financial-reports/>

## EVENT Highlights:

### Summer Celebration

In late July, we gathered with 170 SWAN community members at the Farm at Eagles Ridge to celebrate our camp students' accomplishments. Our children's choir sang delightful songs accompanied by talented student instrumentalists who added dance and sign language, making each performance meaningful. The program featured drums, clarinets, saxophones, violins, and violas, showcasing diverse musical styles. We also proudly displayed our students' artwork. The uplifting atmosphere boosted our students' confidence and excitement while deepening our supporters' commitment to SWAN's mission. With donations, sponsors, and the new addition of our silent auction, we raised over **\$24,000!**



# FaithfulGive

Thanks to our supporters, we raised over **\$6,000** during the three-day online FaithfulGive event supporting causes that align with Christian values like ours.



# ExtraGive

Thanks to our supporters, SWAN raised over **\$39,000** in just 24 hours. We are immensely grateful for every donation and wish to acknowledge our “Matching Gift” donors who together contributed \$18,250: Anonymous (\$15k+); Brubaker, Inc., Dan & Sandy Brooks (\$1k+); Don & Ginnie Good (\$500+);



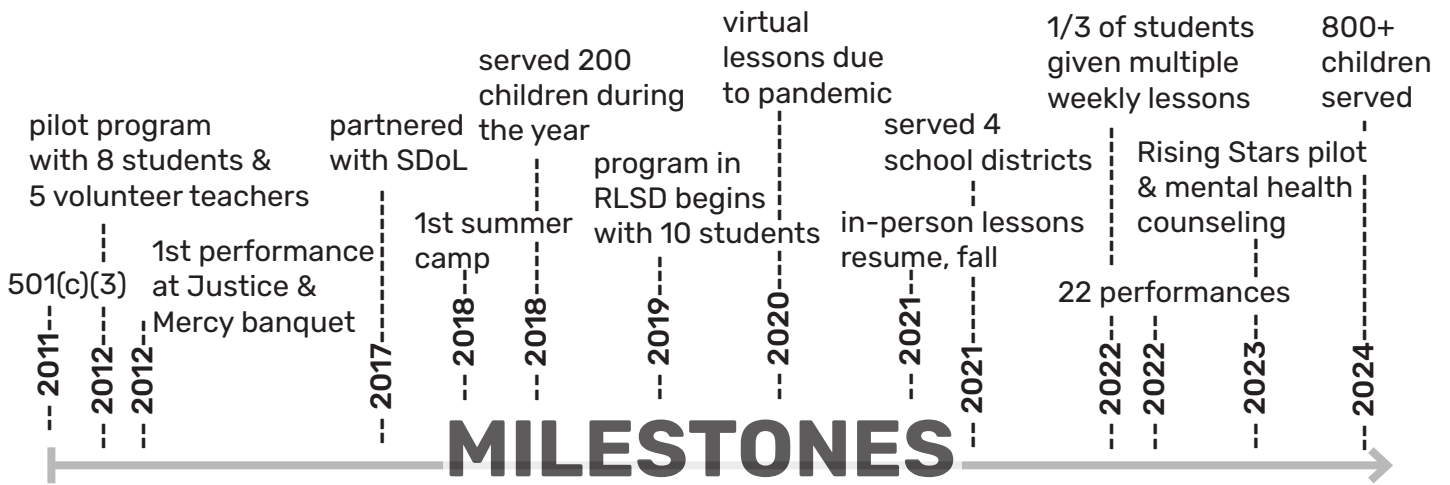
## Performance Highlight

In April, our Rising Stars students were invited as guests on Kid’s Cookie Break, WJTL 90.3 radio. They enjoyed sharing songs with the listeners, discussing their favorite things at SWAN, and naming their favorite cookies. During the show, some students said that music lessons were their favorite part of SWAN, while others mentioned that spending time with adults was what they enjoyed the most.



## Award Highlight

SWAN received the Central Penn Business Journal Innovation Award for its “Rising Stars” program. There is no program like it in the country, and at a time when there is a mental health crisis among youth, this innovative program is receiving accolades.



## Board of Directors

Executive Director: Diana Vuolo  
 Chairman of the Board: Deanna Riccardelli  
 Secretary: Robert McBride  
 Treasurer: Sean Riccardelli  
 Director: Steven Wolgemuth

## Major Donors (\$15k+)

Howard & Connie Livingston  
 Gregg & Courtney Raymundo  
 Green Acres Outdoor Living

## Community Sponsors

Aimee Weaver Designs  
 CCS Building Group LLC  
 Community Fellowship Church  
 Clarck Co. Meats  
 Decades  
 Dutch Wonderland  
 Emma's Popcorn  
 Esh Lawncare LLC  
 Evergreen Estates  
 Fulton Theatre  
 Functional Freedom LLC  
 Go N Bannanas  
 Great Wolf Lodge in Perryville, MD  
 Green Acres Outdoor Living  
 Hershey Gardens  
 InJoy Golf  
 Lancaster Central Market  
 Lancaster Rotary Club  
 Legacy Origins, LLC  
 Longwood Gardens  
 Perfect Pots  
 Pollinate+Pop  
 Redcay Carpentry LLC

## Grants

D'Addario Foundation  
 Eden Bridge Foundation  
 Irene Weidman Charitable Foundation  
 Lancaster County Women For Good  
 LCBC Church  
 National Christian Foundation  
 PNC Charitable Trusts  
 The Foundation for Enhancing Communities  
 The High Foundation  
 United Way Lancaster  
 Willis & Elsie Shenk Foundation

Riverside Camping Association  
 Refreshing Mountain Retreat  
 Robin Ardingher CPA  
 Made with Love Not Gluten Bakery  
 Middle Creek Church  
 Music For Everyone  
 Neffsville Mennonite Church  
 School District Of Lancaster  
 S Clyde Weaver  
 September Farms  
 Sight & Sound Ministries, Inc.  
 Smith Elliott Kearns & Company, LLC  
 Stumptown Mennonite Church  
 Superior Walls of America, LTD  
 The Brooks Group, Inc.  
 The Claire Chivington Team  
 The Life Financial Group, Inc.  
 The Trust Performing Art Center  
 Wegmans  
 Windy Hill Lavender Farm  
 WTM Digital  
 WJTL Kids Cookie Break



## — What's NEXT:

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As SWAN's executive director, I am deeply grateful to you for being part of our compassionate community of supporters. Your generosity enables us to serve children affected by parental incarceration and the resulting trauma. Our 3-hour afterschool classes and summer camp have proven to be life-changing experiences for our students. (The classes include music lessons, performance opportunities, Bible and Trauma Management courses, and immediate Mental Health assistance.)

### The Impact You've Made

Your support continues to transform lives:

- **Breaking Isolation:** An 8-year-old boy shared his story of trauma with a SWAN mental health counselor, finally breaking free from the anxiety that had isolated him.
- **Finding Stability:** A 12-year-old orphan, encouraged by her SWAN teachers and assured that she could attend SWAN's summer camp, gained the courage to enroll in The Milton Hershey School, where she will receive the care and stability she deserves.
- **Building Connections:** A child who once found it challenging to speak with others began singing and connecting joyfully with classmates.
- **Developing Confidence:** A once-timid student, terrified of performing, stepped into the spotlight and embraced her newfound confidence on stage.
- **Growing in Faith:** Our students chose Bible class as one of their favorites and cherish the prayers of their teachers.

These powerful stories are a testament to the healing and growth your support makes possible.

### What's Next?

In Lancaster County, more than 3,000 children have a parent in prison on any given day. SWAN is determined to expand its reach and serve more of these children in 2025. To do this, we're growing our network of advocates and supporters.

### How Can You Help?

Would you introduce your friends, business associates, or churches to SWAN?

Here are some ways to get involved:

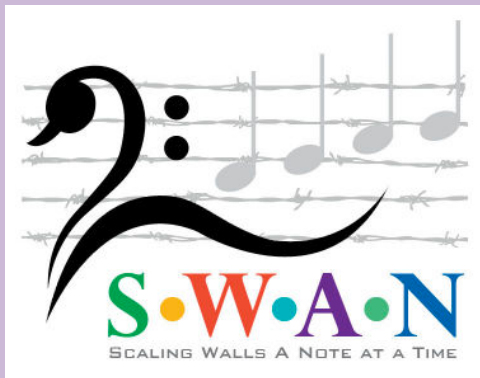
- **Host a Gathering:** Invite your friends to a small event at your home or workplace where I can share SWAN's mission and stories.
- **Invite SWAN to Speak:** Arrange for a presentation at your church, business, or community event.
- **Spread the Word:** Share our story on social media.

When your friends hear about SWAN's impact, we're confident they'll want to join you in supporting these children. Together, we can be the advocates these young lives desperately need to heal, learn, succeed, and dream.

With heartfelt gratitude,

**Diana Vuolo**

Founder, Executive Director



SWAN: Scaling Walls A Note At A Time

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