



**2024**

# **Annual Report**

IYG serves young people ages 12-24 who self-identify as LGBTQ+ and their allies. All programs and services are offered to young people free of charge. IYG creates safer spaces to foster community and provides programs that empowers LGBTQ+ young people and magnifies their voices.



# Letter from the CEO

To our community,

Reflecting on 2024, it is impossible to ignore the mounting challenges faced by LGBTQ+ youth and young adults across Indiana. Last year, our young people endured an especially harsh climate—one marked by a surge in anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, increased social stigmatization, and limited access to affirming healthcare and support systems. These barriers didn't just threaten their identities, they struck at the heart of their mental health, safety, and future.

At IYG, we met this moment not with despair, but with resolve.

We expanded and deepened our commitment to the mental well-being of LGBTQ+ youth and young adults. Our free mental health services, now offered across all five of our locations statewide, have become a vital lifeline. Through trauma-informed therapy, crisis intervention, peer support, and inclusive programs, we provided over 1,300 young people with the resources they needed to navigate an increasingly complex world. These services were delivered without cost, without judgment, and with the unwavering belief that every young person deserves to feel safe, seen, and valued.

2024 also brought unprecedented demand for affirming spaces. In response, IYG extended our geographic reach to the far ends of the state, launched new support initiatives, and strengthened partnerships with schools and community providers. Whether a young person walked through our doors in Indianapolis, Columbus, Crawfordsville, or any of our growing locations, they found more than just services—they found community.

Despite the societal and political turbulence, our young people remained resilient. Their stories of courage fuel everything we do. And thanks to the support of our donors, volunteers, and partners, IYG remains a beacon of hope and affirmation during an otherwise difficult time.

As we look ahead, we know the path won't get easier anytime soon. But with your continued support, we will keep expanding access to life-saving services, advocating for justice, and standing alongside Indiana's LGBTQ+ youth and young adults—loudly, proudly, and without exception.

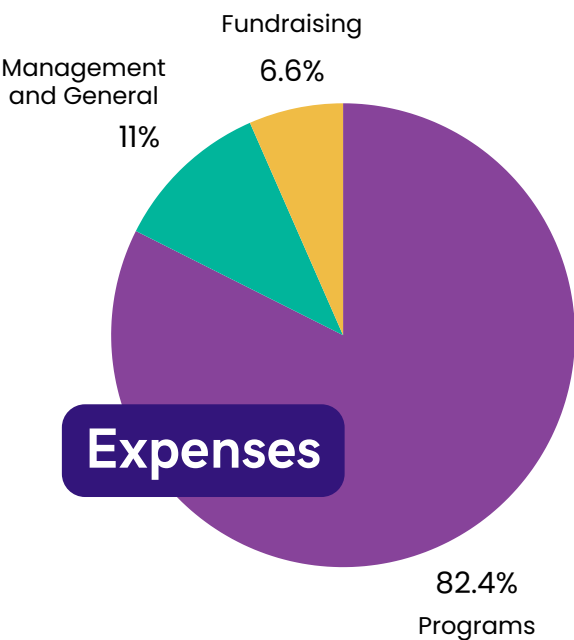
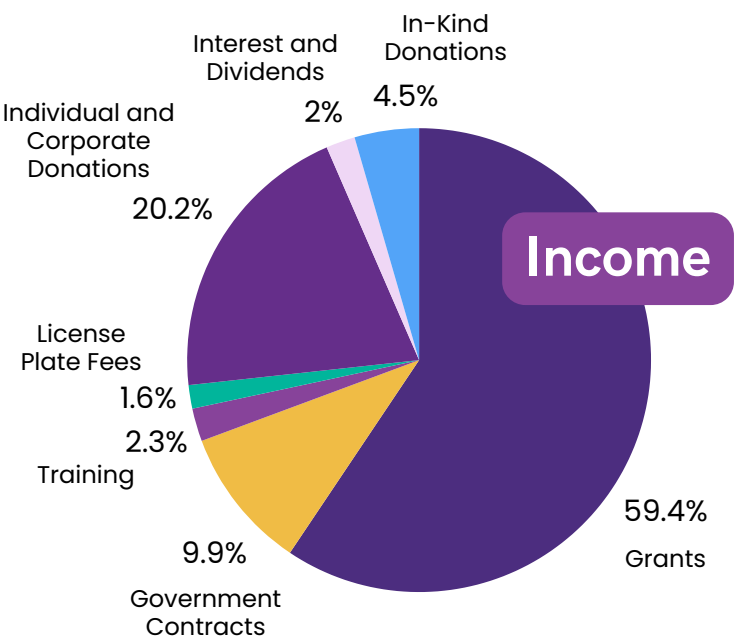
With gratitude and determination,



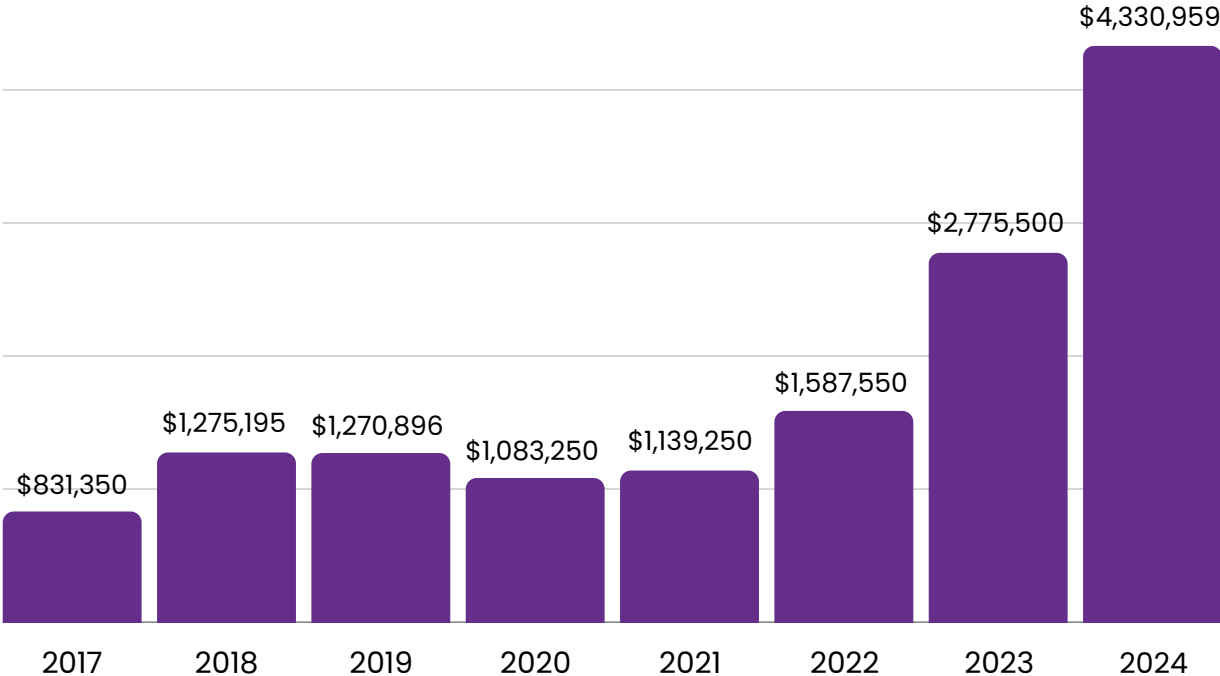
**Chris Paulsen**

Chief Executive Officer, IYG

# Financials



## Annual Budget Growth



# How We Serve: 2024



**In 2024, we served LGBTQ+ young people in 4 regions.**

IYG centers in Indianapolis, Crawfordsville, Columbus, and Evansville (est. in September) each offered clients evening drop-in hours, programs, basic needs, and safer spaces to access peer community and social opportunities— all at no cost to them.

**88%**

**From 2023 to 2024, total IYG center visits saw an 88% increase.**

## IYG in the Community

This year, we increased our advocacy and community efforts, both in our local communities and statewide.

Launched in 2024, IYG's dedicated **Advocacy Department** has mobilized voters through non-partisan mail campaigns, organized the TRANSform the Polls initiative to support gender-diverse voters, and collaboration across state and national coalitions to protect LGBTQ+ young people.

As we expanded, IYG engaged in more **community partnerships** across Indiana. Our **outreach** at 55 events this year brought resources and information about our mission and services to over 7,414 people. We facilitated almost triple the number of **LGBTQ+ cultural competency and professional development trainings** and workshops than in 2023, with over 1,092 participants from various organizations.

# How We Serve: 2024

## Each IYG center provides essential, life-saving services.

In 2024, IYG staff worked hard to expand capacity across the state.

### Basic Needs

- Hot meals during center nights
- Laundry facility
- Showers
- Food pantry
- Cleaning products
- Hygiene products
- Authenticity products
- Inclusive and diverse clothing boutique
- Transportation assistance

### Mental Health

Licensed staff therapists offered short and long term counseling to around **120** clients across IYG in 2024. Monthly support groups during drop-in hours facilitated community support for our youth and young adults.

### Support Advocacy

ITYG Support Advocates work with young clients on a case-by-case basis to help them navigate systems, access support, and manage risks in their life situations.

### Programs

Programs at IYG revolve around building community, developing leadership qualities, and increasing self-esteem and self-efficacy. In addition to fun activities and games or special events like Prom, IYG center programs included:

- Interest clubs, arts and crafts
- Educational support
- Affinity & discussion groups
- Independent living skills
- Sexual health education, STI/HIV testing
- Risk prevention programs
- Workforce development

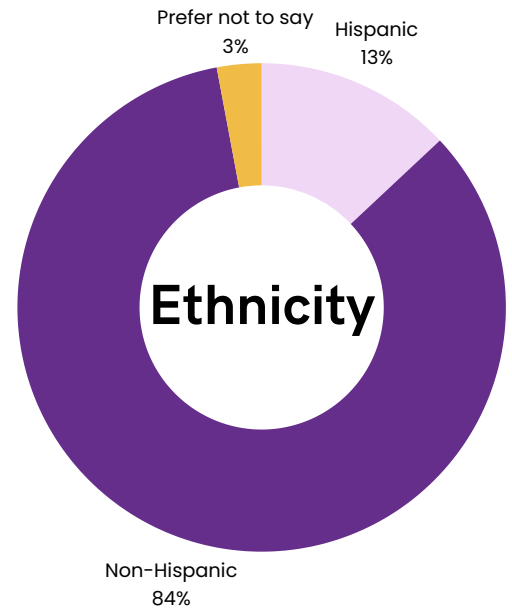
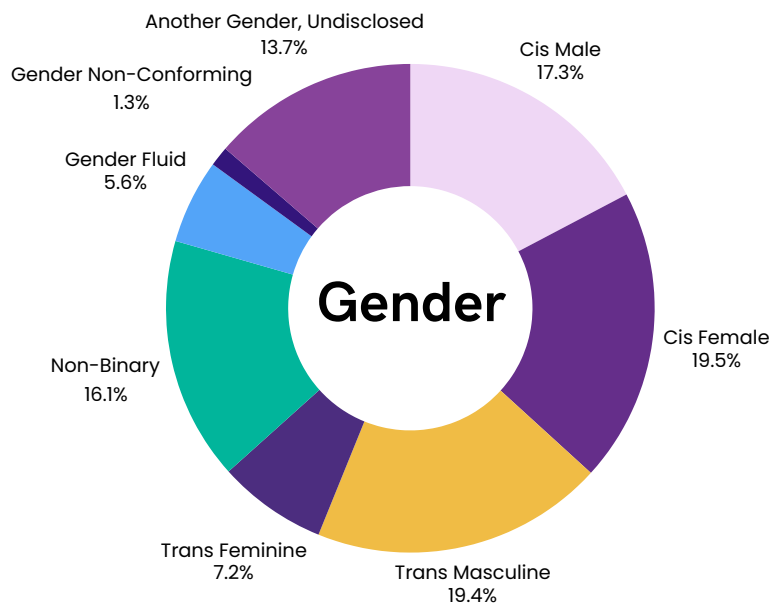
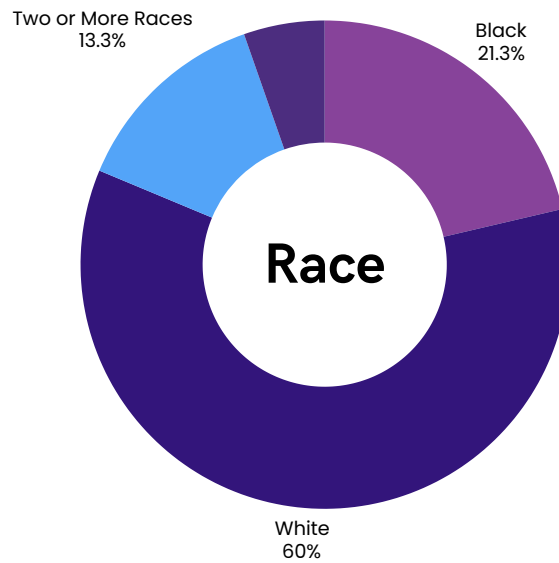
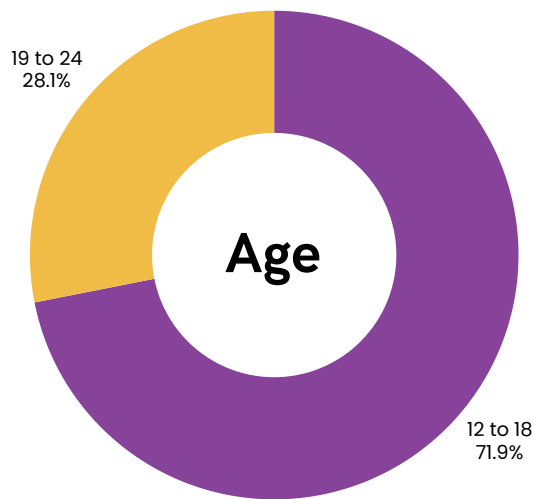
### Rehousing Assistance

In August, IYG's rehousing assistance transitioned from Project Prism to our IYG Impact and IYG Ignite housing programs:

- **ITYG Impact** utilizes Housing of People with AIDS (HOPWA) to help young people living with HIV and AIDS find and maintain housing.
- Our **ITYG Ignite** program employs Direct Cash Transfer (DCT) as a proven intervention that empowers our young people in building financial responsibility, management skills, and security.

In total, IYG helped house **54** clients this year during this program transition.

# Client Demographics



**1360**

IYG provided services for 1360 clients this year in total.

# IYG Expansion

446

446 new clients accessed our services across Indiana.

## Introducing



In September 2024, IYG proudly joined forces with Greater Evansville Youth **to form Greater Evansville Youth Powered by IYG**—a transformative collaboration that expanded IYG’s reach into the tri-state area. **By combining IYG’s proven programs and resources with the deep local roots and passion of Greater Evansville Youth, this partnership strengthened support for LGBTQ+ young people and allies in southwest Indiana.** Together, we are uplifting a shared mission of empowerment, inclusion, and community, ensuring that more young people have access to the safer spaces, support, and social opportunities they deserve.

## Announcing



In December 2024, IYG proudly expanded its statewide reach with the opening of **IYG Northwest Indiana** in Crown Point. This new center marks an important step in bringing identity-affirming support to LGBTQ+ young people in the Region. Stay tuned for more details about this exciting development in our 2025 Annual Report.



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