# Embracing Youth, Family and Community Wellness ANNUAL 2023 REPORT

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**Jim Jack Jones** 



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### Letter from the President

Since we began operations in February of 2023, Sunny Boy Foundation (formerly Verve Coach Gordon Social Action Advocates), has reached its first major goal in getting our youth empowerment/enrichment programs into public school systems. Because of our intense schedule of Spring and Summer live performances, promotion, and tabling, we have been brought in to work in Denver Public and Estes Park school districts. We have also begun to secure funding from a variety of sources and sponsors, and are planning to ramp up our grant application process. For 2024, we will be seeking infrastructure funding so that we may secure our organization's future growth.

> Sunny Boy Foundation is true to the ongoing mission of youth empowerment, youth violence intervention, breaking the school to prison pipeline, community service, and partnering with other nonprofits to ensure greater, more positive social outcomes for youth, family, and community.

Sincere thanks for your support and I hope you enjoy reading this annual report.

There is surely much work yet to be done!

Sincerely

Gordon B. Hamby President, Founder



"Greater harmony within ourselves - in our own lives - will certainly bring about greater harmony in our groups, organizations, and institutions, and vice versa."

## Impact

During 2023 we have reached very wide diversity demographics along the front range from Littleton to Estes Park and continue to work this wide range. For 2024, we will expand our important work into many communities and school districts at a super foundational level with a super focus on youth and child wellness. Sunny Boy Foundation is true to the ongoing mission of youth empowerment, youth violence intervention, breaking the school to prison pipeline, community service, and partnering with other nonprofits to ensure greater, more positive social outcomes for youth, family, and community.

### **Dollars Invested**

Including events, programs & services, scholarship awards, and promotions, Sunny Boy Foundation, to date, has invested over **\$4,600.00**.

### Leadership Programming

During 2023, Sunny Boy Foundation leadership has engaged in over twenty-four hours of specialized training in leadership, social emotional learning, violence intervention, and student mentoring from outside sources.

For 2024, we will pursue more leadership programming and specialized training from outside sources, at the same time increasing our volume of internal training sessions and events for all organization members.

### **Regional reach** (The red overlay indicates the regions Sunny Boy Foundation is working throughout.)



## Impact (cont'd)

### **Community, Networking and Promotional Activities**

(These are a few higher profile events for 2023)

#### **Duck Race Festival - Estes Park Rotary Club**

This event is a huge nonprofit community fundraiser sponsored by Rotary Club of Estes Park. The event draws thousands of people from across the front range and raises a lot of funding for Rotary Club's work. For us, the event put the Sunny Boy program in front of thousands of people, including children and families. It was a great promotional vehicle and served to bring us to work within the Estes Park School District.

#### Unicorn Festival - Littleton, Colorado

This is a huge public, commercial event that draws a super diverse crowd, including a large LGBTQ presence. Our booth space was donated by the generous organizer at a value of \$465.00 for 2 days. Their generosity allowed us to debut our nonprofit and the Sunny Boy youth enrichment program in front of 10,000 people

#### Struggle of Love, Reach For Peace/Stop the Violence Father's Day Picnic

This nonprofit event allowed us to table for free and perform the Sunny Boy program in front of hundreds of people - through the great mission of helping put a stop to youth violence and to "Reach for Peace". This event helped pave the path to bring the Sunny Boy program into Denver Public Schools.



## Impact (cont'd)

### **Community, Networking and Promotional Activities**

(These are a few higher profile events for 2023)

#### **Legacy Car Show**

The nonprofit Legacy Car show was a super large and diverse event featuring hundreds of classic hot rods, low riders, and motorcycles. Invited by the organizers, we were able to get our brand, mission, and program in front of thousands of people. Sunny Boy took the stage to deliver a message of love, diversity and inclusion. This event also opened the door for Sunny Boy to begin working regularly, with cognitively challenged adults.

#### Brains Over Bullets, School Supply & Back Pack Giveaway Event

The nonprofit event Brains Over Bullets is another Struggle of Love sponsored event. Thousands of backpacks and school supplies are given away. We had a very high-profile presence at this event, and it helped put the final touches on brining the Sunny Boy program into Denver Public Schools.



### **Community Connections FOR 2024**

Sunny Kids Club - A very special club involving rewards for kid's great civic behavior. Children's Gala - A gala celebration of Sunny Boy Foundation, especially geared for kids.

# **School Programs**

#### **Denver Public Schools**

Sunny Boy has been invited into Denver Public Schools (DPS), through our community partner Struggle of Love Foundation, in order to provide high quality enrichment programs for elementary school aged youth. DPS requires a high quality of enrichment programs based in Social Emotional Learning (SEL - an important youth empowerment foundation in educational systems across the country). Sunny Boy programs were designed with a basis in SEL, so we dovetail nicely with DPS. DPS providers also receive lots of specialized training, including ongoing SEL training, as well as violence intervention, and continuing education in empathy building, team work, and youth leadership. These trainings will benefit in any and every school district Sunny Boy programs come to work in.

#### **Estes Park School District**

The Sunny Boy program was invited to the Estes Park School District by the Superintendent of schools after seeing the program at the Rotary Club Duck Race Festival and loving the messaging and fun of the songs and related lessons. The event was for primary, middle, and high school students and has paved the way for Sunny Boy to return to the district in the near future.

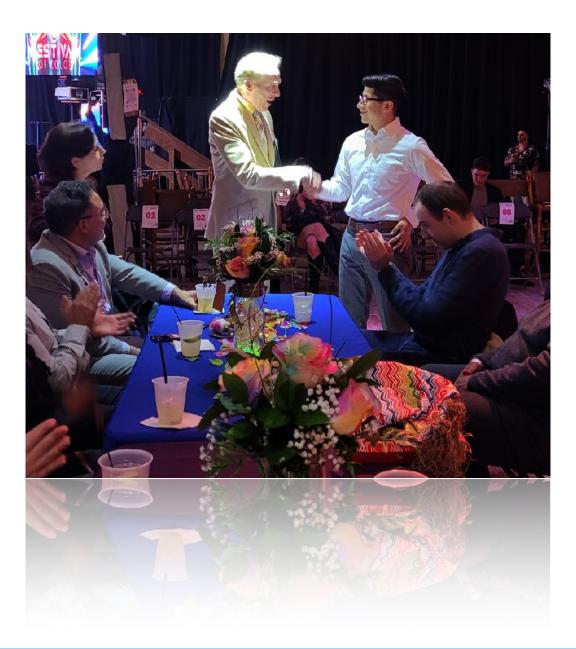


#### **Special Programs**

These programs involve working in environments with cognitively challenged adults from age 18 up. The Sunny Boy program is a perfect fit for this oft' times forgotten part of our communities. They are also a community within themselves so the unity and community wellness angle of Sunny Boy is very effective. In addition to providing a wonderful enriching experience, these venues affords us an opportunity to broaden our message of unity, diversity and inclusion.

## Grantees

- For 2023, one achievement based text book award was provided to a deserving first generation college student in their Senior year at CU Denver.
- For 2024 Sunny Boy Foundation will be seeking opportunities to work with and even provide small funding for community wellness based nonprofits with a focus on youth and children.



### Team

Our Board



#### Gordon Hamby - President, Founder

After nine years of operating the training and coaching practice Verve Coach Gordon, Gordon has now engineered the startup of the non-profit: Sunny Boy Foundation, formerly Verve Coach Gordon Social Action Advocates. Gordon holds a Summa Cum Laude B.A. in Communication and Ethnic Studies, a professional coaching certification, and a mentoring certification, as well as a super strong background in the performing arts. Gordon boasts a long line of experience in corporate and governmental sectors, holding a number of leadership and management positions. Additionally, he has a very strong technology background, having been an IT manager for many years in corporate, governmental, and legal environments. It is with great pride that Gordon assumes the leadership position of President, in culmination of his vast experience, strong work ethic, and care for humanity.

#### Nit Hamby - Vice President, Treasurer

As Vice President and Treasurer, Nit brings a long and varied level of experience to the organization and officer's team. Retired from a double career in the Air National Guard and Colorado State Liquor Enforcement Division, she brings a special expertise in logistics, administration, and customer service. Her dedication to kindness and empathy is exemplary, as well. Having grown up in poverty, she immigrated from Thailand after high school and has never eased up in her accomplishments and service to humanity.



#### **Biftu Hassan - Secretary**

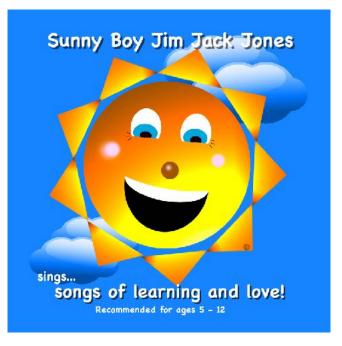
Biftu is a seasoned healthcare professional with a passion for teaching and helping others achieve their goals. After completing her bachelor's degree in biology, she spent a decade in the medical field, including seven years as an educator and mentor to aspiring healthcare professionals. As the Director of Pharmakeia's Pharmacy Technician Training Program, Biftu continues to inspire and guide students on their path to success. Biftu is dedicated to empowering others to pursue their dreams and make a positive impact in the world.

## **Programs & Initiatives**

**Sunny Boy** - our flagship initiative is a wonderful and creative music based child and youth wellness and enrichment program. The program teaches and reinforces lessons and concepts of self-value, love, unity, kindness, empathy, diversity, inclusion, empathy, and membership, through children's workshops, trainings, and Educoncerts.

**Book scholarships/awards** for college students. Two awards will be provided to help recipient students offset the cost of their text books. These award are merit based.

## **Future Vision**



- Training other Sunny performers to facilitate workshops and Educoncerts so we can expand into more school districts and venues in 2024.
- Sunny Boy podcast featuring fun and educational content specifically designed for children and their wellness and well being.
- Developing Sunny Boy Foundation branded swag to assist in promotion and fund raising.
- Developing a full length theatrical musical geared for children and performed by children.

## **Promotions & Social Media**

Sunny Boy Foundation and its work are promoted with daily and weekly posts across LinkedIn, Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter), and Instagram. Additionally, we table and perform at numerous spring and summer events, promoting our work and organization. Regardless of the season our board members also do a lot of networking - both formal and casual.

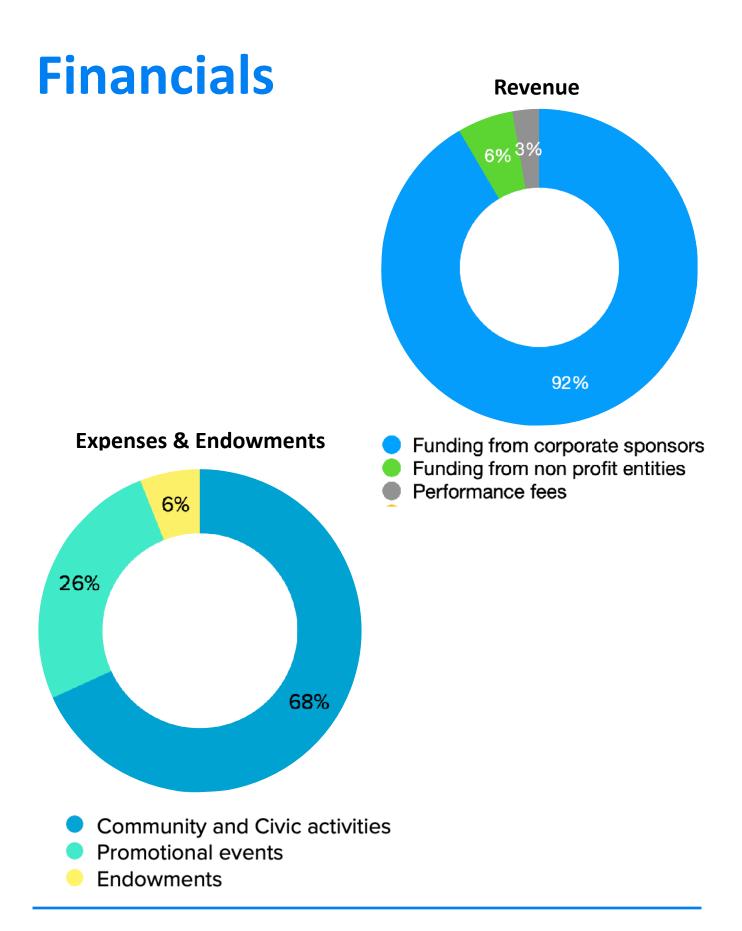
### **Funders & Donors**





## **Community Partners**







### Sunny Boy Foundation

### Formerly



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