

2013 ANNUAL REPORT SUPPORT SOCIAL CONNECTIONS DEVELOPMENT PARENTAL RESILIENCE ATTACHMENT

Dear PEPS families,

2013 was a landmark year for PEPS as we celebrated 30 years of providing neighborhood-based parent support and education. Throughout the year, we reconnected with PEPS alumni who shared their stories and we reflected on our early days. Traveling back in time over three decades, we were reminded that although much has changed since PEPS was founded, a new parent's critical need for support remains the same, and that much about parenting is more true than ever before:

- The birth of a child is still life changing
- Parenthood still is one of the hardest jobs
- It still takes a village to raise a child
- Babies still don't come with a manual
- And, social isolation is still the #1 complaint of new parents.

30 years later, PEPS has served over 30,000 parents, and we still continue to provide a simple, efficient and effective model that nurtures confident parenting, grows parent resilience and builds long-lasting community.

Our hands-on approach to providing programs and services allows us to be nimble and adapt to the needs of today's parents. In 1983, PEPS served moms in daytime groups; today, 60% of PEPS Groups meet in the evenings with two parents or single parents. Today, PEPS offers groups for dads who care for their babies during the day. Further demand for our programs has helped us grow groups for parents of two children and groups for parents of older babies. Additionally, through investments in time, resources and infrastructure, the PEPS reach on the Eastside, South Snohomish County and South King County is growing rapidly.

Over the next 30 years and beyond, PEPS looks forward to scaling our impact so that we can realize our vision of creating communities in which:

- No new parent feels isolated, ill-equipped or unsupported
- All parents feel confident in building a strong, healthy family, and
- All children thrive.

Thank you to everyone who celebrated this incredible year with us! At PEPS, we know it takes a village and you are our village! We are grateful for the generous financial support and for the dedication of your volunteer time.

Laurell. Kussick

LB Kussick Executive Director

Colin Brissev Board President, 2013

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In 1982 a group of early childhood educators and social services professionals saw a need for a program that would bring new parents together, in their communities, during the critical first few months of parenting when feelings of isolation and inadequacy mix with the joy of welcoming a new baby. These visionaries used their knowledge, expertise and research to design a preventative model of parent support and education.

Though it was an exciting time for childbirth with Lamaze classes sweeping the country and parents taking a more active role in the birth process, there was little support for new families after the baby was born. Lisa Allen vividly remembers preparing for the birth of her first daughter 33 years ago in Seattle. Her childbirth class met only once after the babies were born, and then parents were on their own. She remembers thinking, "It's not supposed to be like this." A few years later, Lisa became one of the first group leaders at PEPS.

PEPS launched three neighborhood groups in 1983 with leaders like Lisa. 30 years later, PEPS continues to be embraced by the community as a unique and invaluable family resource.

During our $30^{\rm th}$ Celebration we asked PEPS families from over the years to share their PEPS stories. The results were incredible. Here are a few highlights:

"Our group has been the rock in our lives. We have celebrated our children's accomplishments (from first steps to recent college graduations), commiserated about parenting challenges (from picky eaters to empty-nest syndrome) and stood by each other as our families have gone through the changes that time brings to us all (the loss of parents, illnesses, marital stresses, career changes, retirement)."

-Laura M., 1991 PEPS parent

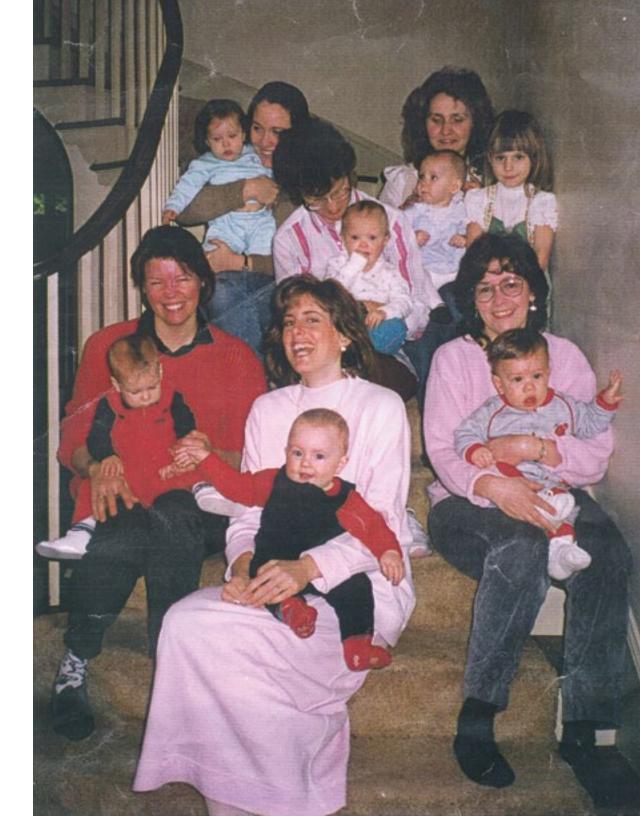
"I walked in to my first meeting, which happened to be right in my neighborhood, with my fourweek old daughter and felt an immediate connection. Although it took a few weeks for everyone to feel comfortable, the group then began sharing EVERYTHING! We laughed, we cried, we realized the importance of knowing that we were not in this alone."

-Christine L., 2000 PEPS parent

"These other mothers were women I would not have met any other way, and we were all so different from each other, we likely wouldn't have naturally come together. But in this situation, with all of us struggling through the tornado that is new motherhood, we understood each other. Being together every week, we had time to grow into strong friendships. Our group still meets every week on Wednesdays, and even though we don't all come every time, I know all of us are there for each other."

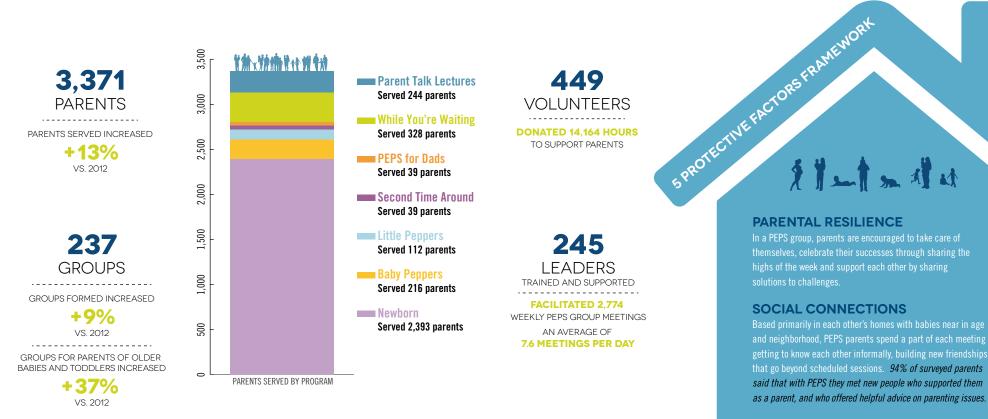
-Lexie T., 2005 PEPS parent

More 30th Anniversary stories: www.peps.org/about/celebrating-30-years



PEPS PROGRAMMING

Mission: Enable parents of infants and young children to build communities that empower them to meet the challenges of parenting through mutual support and sharing of information.



HEALTHY FAMILIES – Measuring our Impact

PEPS was founded in 1983 to support new parents during the critical first year of having a baby. **Our programming is based on the five protective factors framework of the Strengthening Families™ approach.*** We continually look at the responses of PEPS families to these factors, striving to measure and improve our impact.

PEPS parents overwhelmingly demonstrate that they receive emotional, social, informational and practical support after participating in PEPS. Overall, parents gain confidence in their parenting, including managing challenges, sharing their joys and finding a community while making the transition to parenthood. For 30 years, PEPS has supported families and their wellness in our community.

*For more information, see www.strengtheningfamilies.net

CONCRETE SUPPORT

PEPS shares information about local resources and ways to get additional support outside of PEPS, including fun activities, community and social services.

PARENTING & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

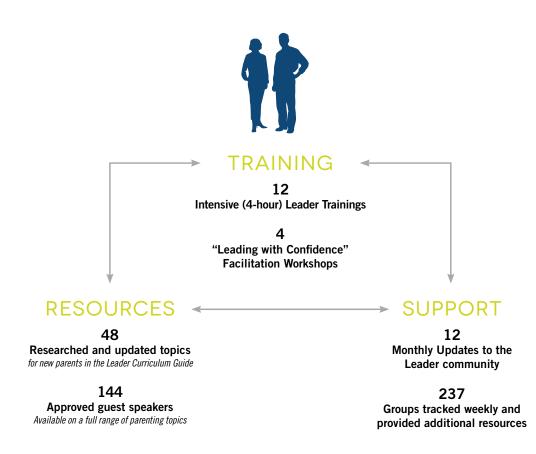
PEPS continually develops a curriculum that informs and supports knowledge of parenting and child development. Groups cover a wide variety of topics, including language development, temperament, parenting styles, screen time and more, as well as learning songs and ways to play with the babies. *96% of surveyed parents said that watching other babies at PEPS helped them understand that different children develop differently, reaching developmental milestones at different times.*

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE

PEPS promotes secure attachment between parents and their babies, along with a positive nurturing relationship.

PREPARING AND SUPPORTING VOLUNTEER GROUP LEADERS

As each group nears a start date, PEPS readies a leader.



"I am so passionate about PEPS that I've now led two Newborn Groups myself and feel honored to be a part of an organization that truly gets the wonderful, but overwhelming early stages of parenthood." —Jessica S., PEPS Group Leader



Free bi-weekly drop-in professional support sessions, ADJUSTING TO PARENTHOOD, in partnership with Postpartum Support International of WA 4 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS with articles & calendar reached a community of 10,000+ parents PEPS was tremendously valuable to us personally as new parents, but the long-term impact the program has on families and communities is what sustains our interest and desire to continue our financial support of this program.

—Amy Daly-Donovan & Jim Donovan

Financial Assistance Brings PEPS to Families Stretched by the Program Fee

Generous donors support the PEPS Scholarship Fund, so that any family – no matter their circumstances – can participate and get support.

In 2013, PEPS gave 122 scholarships.

New in 2013, we reached more families in south Snohomish County with a grant from the Verdant Health Commission, providing 67 subsidized program fees for families in their service area.

> Thank you so much for your consideration and quick response, we truly appreciate it. We will be sure to contribute back to PEPS when we are both employed :)

> > -----a PEPS parent in Seattle

DONORS

\$10,000+

Laurie Alexander & Erik Cullen* Anonymous (2) Apex Foundation Carena Inc Jim and Mary Hirshfield* Microsoft Jennifer and David Risher Smith Brothers Farms + Verdant Health Commission

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* PEPS SUSTAINER CIRCLE MEMBERS AS OF 12/31/2013 + PEPS CORPORATE SUSTAINERS AS OF 12/31/2013 Visit peps.org for a complete list of over 1,200 individuals, companies, and community, private and family foundations who contributed to PEPS in 2013.

SMART STEPS TO GROWING OUR IMPACT

Our successful parent support model brings PEPS national attention. We frequently hear from individuals and organizations, locally and around the country, who want to launch a parent peer support program like PEPS in their own community, and they want our help.

"I am a grateful PEPS graduate – PEPS taught me more than I can say – it provided exactly what I needed when I needed it, in offering support & information. Now I live in Bellingham and feel a little heartbroken ... it is hard to find a "cohort" of parents, despite a small geographic region and a consistent birth rate. Every single time I see a new mother in town here I think that she doesn't even know what she is missing."

—a PEPS parent in Bellingham

In 2013 PEPS launched pilot projects to test how we can effectively grow our impact and bring the PEPS experience to more families. We collaborated with partners to adapt the PEPS model to the specific needs of their city or organization.

Four pilot PEPS-based groups are underway, and we will take what we learn from them to create formal pathways for organizations and individuals to partner with us.

We are excited to extend our work into more areas in the years to come.

To keep in the loop on our expansion efforts, visit: www.peps.org/about/history-and-future/expansion-pilot-program



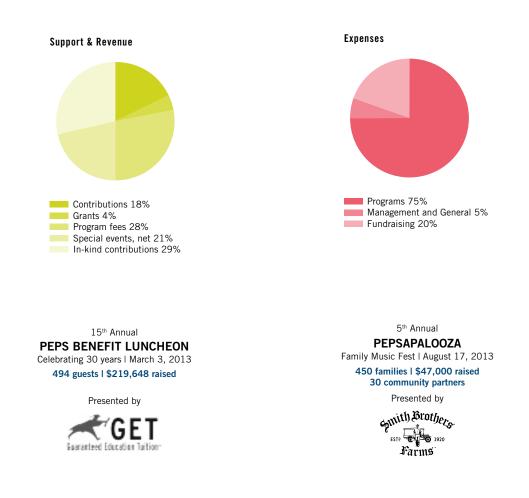
PEPS is taking its valuable experience of 30 years of delivering peer-based parent support and bringing those benefits to more families and to more communities.

INVESTMENT AND IMPACT

PEPS uses a model of donations, program fees and in-kind gifts to keep fees affordable, to offer financial assistance and to increase our impact.

SUPPORT & REVENUE

| Contributions | \$ | 216,242 |
|--|----------|------------------------------|
| Grants | \$ | 52,000 |
| Program fees | \$ | 337,106 |
| Special events, net of direct costs | \$ | 259,704 |
| In-kind contributions | \$ | 344,620 |
| Investment income | \$ | 4,668 |
| Realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments | \$ | (772) |
| Total Support & Revenue | \$ | 1,213,568 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Programs (including in-kind) | \$ | 856,164 |
| Management and general | \$ | 61,922 |
| Fundraising | \$ | 223,947 |
| Total Expenses | \$ | 1,142,033 |
| Net Increase in net assets | \$ | 71,535 |
| ASSETS AND LIABILITIES | | |
| Current Assets | \$ | 633,292 |
| Non-current Assets | \$ | 124,652 |
| Total Assets | \$ | 757,944 |
| Current Liabilities | \$ | 39,871 |
| Total Liabilities | \$ | 39,871 |
| | | , |
| Unrestricted assets | \$ | 537,364 |
| Unrestricted assets Temporarily restricted assets | \$ \$ | |
| | | 537,364 |
| Temporarily restricted assets | \$ | 537,364 130,617 |
| Temporarily restricted assets Permanently restricted assets | \$ \$ | 537,364 130,617 50,092 |



PEPS keeps it lean with 6.16 FTE staff, board leadership and 449 volunteers who worked together to serve 3,371 parents in 2013.

PEPS gets the word out to new and expecting parents through doctors, midwives, doulas and many others in healthcare and community organizations. Your message to friends, neighbors and family about PEPS accounts for 76% of our referrals to PEPS!

Almost every day I talk to people making the lifechanging transition from couple to family. Doing so without support is challenging and PEPS is one of the first things I mention to expecting parents.

PEPS is a great organization and the work they do really makes a difference in new parents' lives. I experienced this in my own journey and want every other new parent to benefit from this as well."

—James Drage, PEPS Board Member

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!