



Project Lemonade: We believe every child has a gift.



What is Project Lemonade?

In 2022, an estimated 6,000 youth in Oregon will spend time in foster care, an experience that can affect their entire lives.

The statistics are stark: 32 percent will experience homelessness, only 35 percent will finish high school, and only 3 percent of

foster youth will graduate from college. **Project**

Lemonade believes every child has a gift, and their mission is to inspire self-esteem and confidence to help foster youth thrive. Project Lemonade wants to change the stats and help foster youth turn lemons into lemonade.

Foster youth come into care with few belongings, leaving their homes abruptly, and experiencing trauma before and during their time in care. Living as a foster youth can mean frequent home moves, school moves, loss of physical possessions and emotional support, and uncertainty.

Project Lemonade's mission is to help children navigate the trauma, providing a variety of resources that add up to make a big impact. Since 2012, the organization has grown to include three year-round programs and currently inspires self-esteem in 2,500 foster youth each year in Oregon and SW Washington.

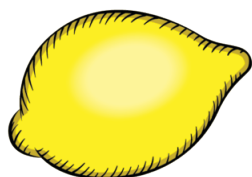
Celebrating 10 Years of Impact

Forty states, including Oregon, do not fully cover the costs of raising and outfitting a foster child. Project Lemonade was founded in 2012 by a foster parent who saw a community need. It began as a once-per-year back-to-school pop-up store where foster youth could enjoy a free shopping experience for clothes that would replace the items they left their homes without and boost their confidence at school. Project Lemonade has now become an established organization, providing a year-

round retail operation, a paid internship program, and a WISH granting program. Since 2012, Project Lemonade has served over 17,000 Oregon and SW Washington foster youth.

Project Lemonade Programs

The Project Lemonade Store: Foster youth, foster parents, and case-workers are able to visit Project Lemonade's Store year-round and shop for free for new clothing and supplies for each youth. Youth ages 5 and up are able to select a new wardrobe that will not only replace items they may have left behind; but items that will also inspire self-esteem and confidence.



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Inspiring self-esteem in foster youth

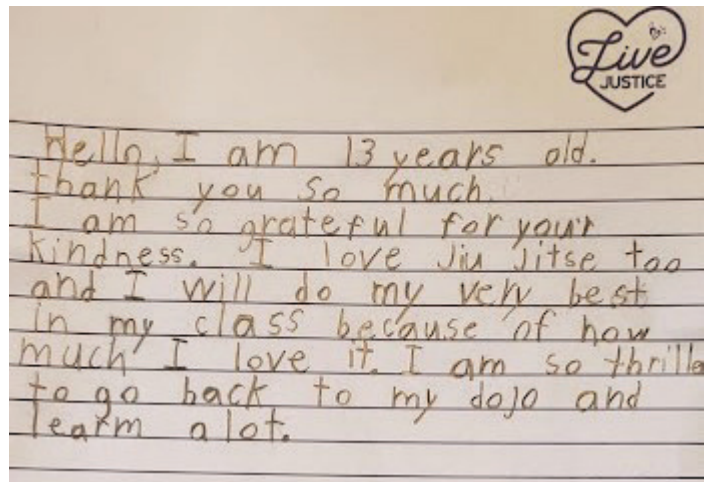


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Foster the Future Internship: Foster youth who are interested in gaining work experience and serving the community are able to build skills and resume experience with a paid internship at The Project Lemonade Store. For most youth, this internship serves as their first paid job. Corporate partners have signed on to hire graduates from the program, and several interns have been placed in companies such as Macy's, Marshall's, Royal Sonesta Hotel, and Ben & Jerry's.

*"Six years ago I stepped into Project Lemonade. I met wonderful individuals who not only helped me to shop but also gave me an opportunity as an intern. To this day the staff still reach out to me and ask if I am in need of anything. Thank you Project Lemonade for still walking alongside me on my journey into adulthood."
- Sage, Former Intern*

WISH (What Inspires Students' Hearts): It may be a laptop to help a youth in school or piano lessons that will set a student on a journey toward fulfilling their dream. For Carlos, it was a set of electronic repair tools to help him start his own business during the pandemic. Project Lemonade helps fulfill youth wishes for education services or enrichment opportunities that can bring a youth closer to reaching their potential. In total, Project Lemonade has granted 350 foster youth WISHes.



PHILANTHROPY FOCUS: Project Lemonade: We believe every child has a gift.



Get involved

Visit Us. Schedule a personal tour of the The Project Lemonade headquarters and store, which is just down the street from Arnerich Massena! Contact Development Director, Allison Specter at allison@projectlemonadepdx.org to schedule.

Donate Funds. Project Lemonade is currently accepting donations to support their April Superheros shopping event for over 200 youth; to fund 100 foster youth WISHes; and to help "Paint the Town Yellow" to raise awareness during Foster Care Awareness Month in May. Tax-deductible donations can be made at www.projectlemonadepdx.org/donate; mailed to Project Lemonade at P.O. Box 96144, Portland, OR 97296; or recommended through a donor-advised fund.

Donate Items. Project Lemonade is currently accepting new clothing donations only. To learn more about the items currently needed, to host a community donation drive, or to see our Amazon Wishlist, visit projectlemonadepdx.org/donate-items.

Volunteer. Project Lemonade hosts more than 750 volunteers from the community each year in the Project Lemonade Store, helping with collection drives, and participating with at-home projects. To learn more about volunteering, contact Gail Andersen, Community Engagement Coordinator at volunteer@projectlemonadepdx.org.

Stay Connected. Visit online at projectlemonadepdx.org. Sign up for Project Lemonade's once-per-month e-newsletter or follow on Facebook, Instagram, or LinkedIn.

*"If you want to help inspire self-esteem in foster youth, please be in touch. I would love to hear from you and learn more about the impact you want to make."
– Allison Specter, Development Director.*

You can reach Allison at allison@projectlemonadepdx.org or at 503-395-3976.

