

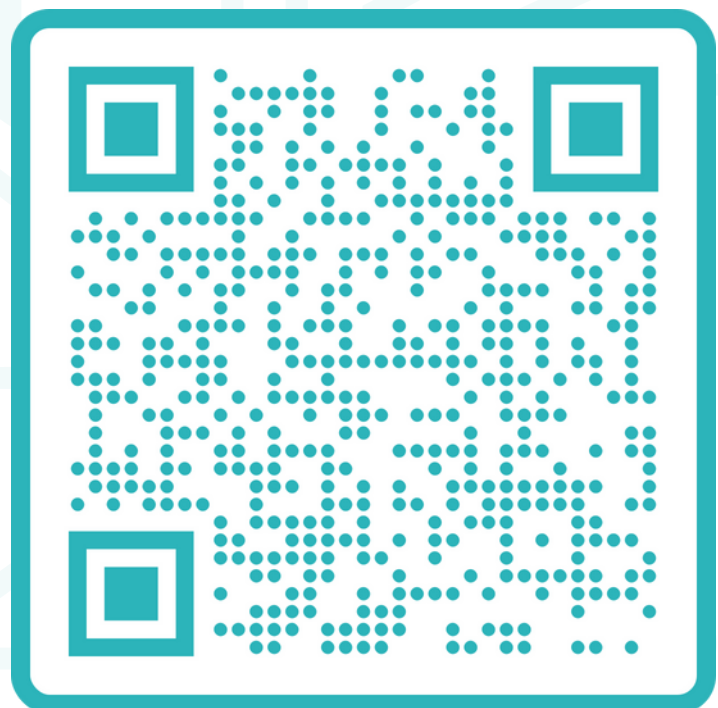
PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US



WINGS  
NURTURING  
INDEPENDENCE

IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR INDIVIDUALS  
WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

Scan or click to learn more  
about Wings





WINGS LEARNING CENTER (WINGS), a non-public school certified by the California Department of Education, is actively seeking dedicated individuals to join our Board of Directors and committees. Our organization has been a steadfast advocate for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) for over two decades. Our unwavering mission is to enhance the quality of life for individuals with ASD across their entire lifespan, particularly focusing on those with moderate to severe autism and similar intellectual disabilities stemming from various genetic or neurological diagnoses.

WINGS boasts a world-class interdisciplinary team committed to addressing the unique needs of our students and their families. We offer individualized educational curricula and therapeutic programs that encompass speech pathology, occupational therapy, behavior management, and sensory integration. This personalized approach ensures that each student's developmental needs are met, targeting crucial skill areas to promote more independence.

The age range for students admitted at WINGS spans from five to 22 years old, offering both elementary and secondary educational programs. Importantly, we provide essential speech therapy and occupational therapy services to facilitate a comprehensive educational experience. It's essential to note that our primary focus is to provide a functional-based educational program leading to a certificate of completion, different from the traditional high school diploma.

WINGS recently relocated to a new home in San Bruno at Rollingwood Elementary School, becoming a part of the vibrant San Bruno Park School District community. We are excited about actively engaging with this dynamic community and the surrounding area. Additionally, we place significant emphasis on attracting, preparing, and retaining special education professionals, aiming to serve a growing number of students. Our comprehensive approach includes innovative staff education, competitive compensation and benefits, and stimulating, inviting, and inspiring conditions. Initiatives range from recruitment incentives to college loan repayments, all designed to foster a culturally responsive and diverse educator workforce.

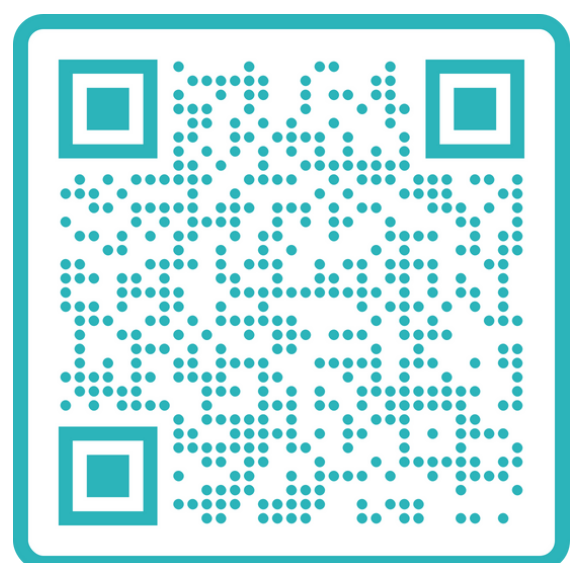
Looking ahead, WINGS has ambitious plans, including increasing annual fundraising through various channels, expanding our educational offerings to include a preschool program for ages 2-5 and an Adult program for those aged 22 and older, developing revenue-generating programs and services, and launching a Capital Campaign to secure a permanent home in the Bay Area in the near future. Our overarching goal is to support individuals and families, exceed educational outcomes, provide options and opportunities, and improve the overall quality of life for those impacted by ASD. By joining the WINGS community, individuals can make a significant impact on the lives of those affected by autism.

With warm wishes,

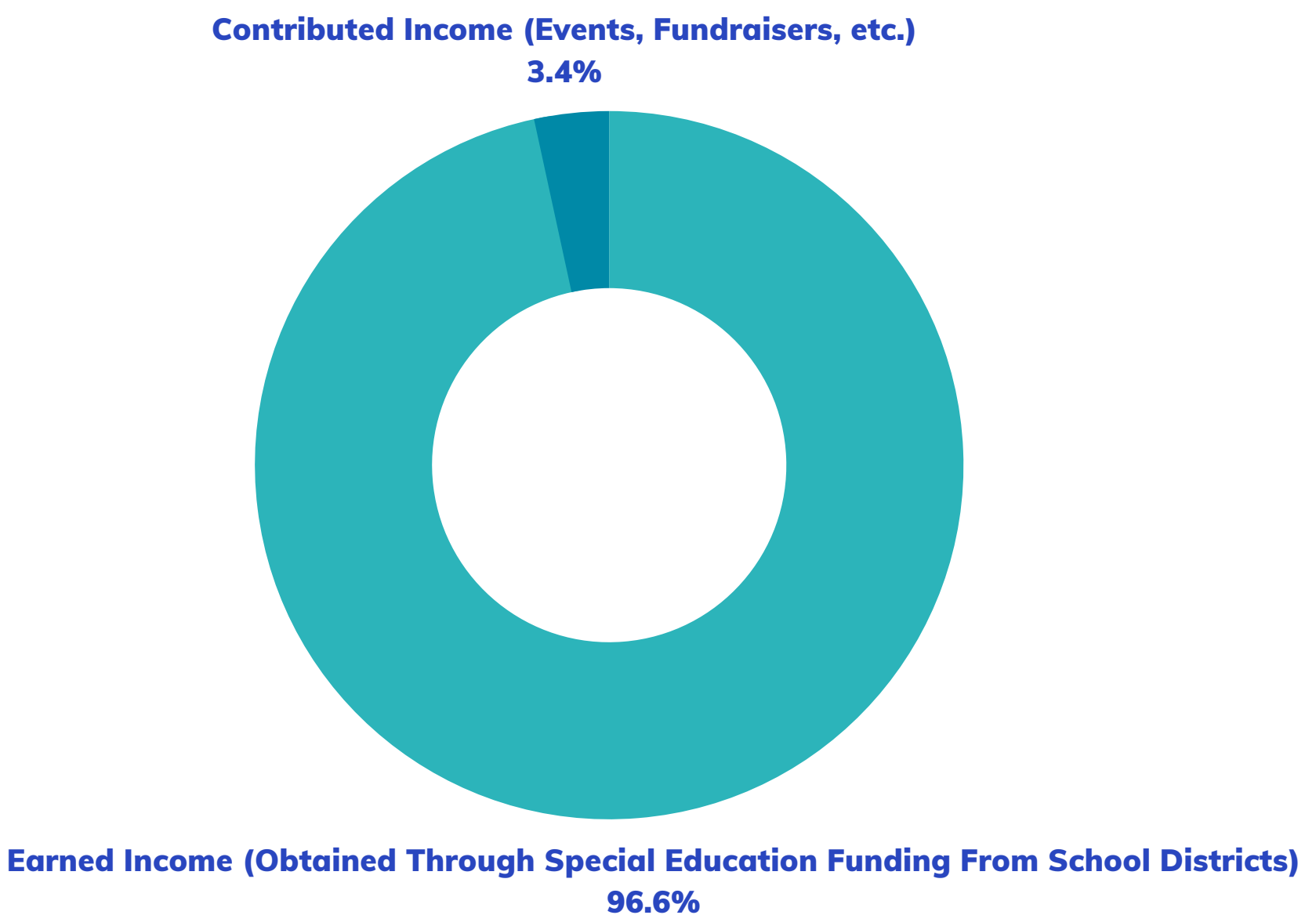
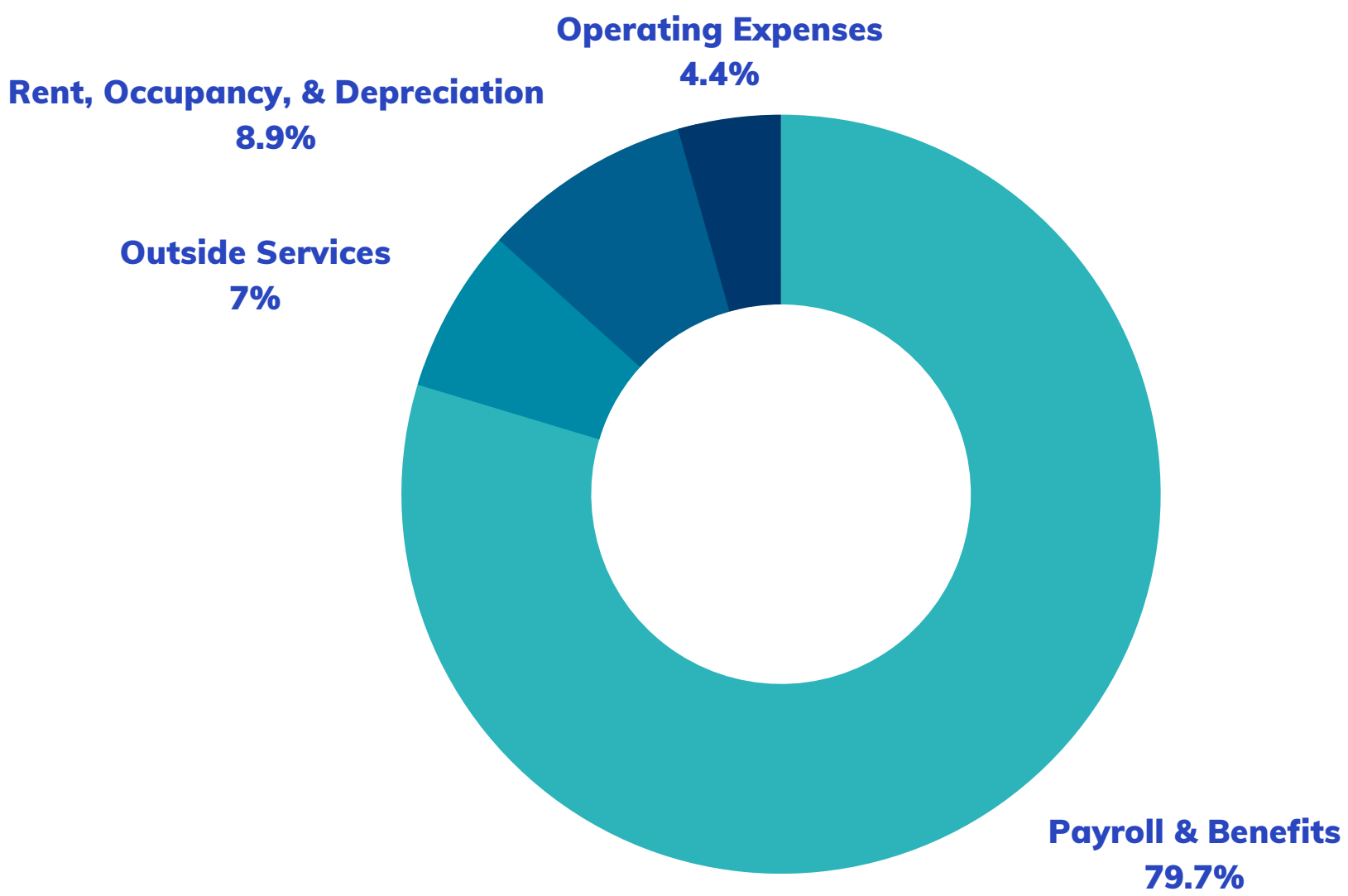
*Executive Advisor*

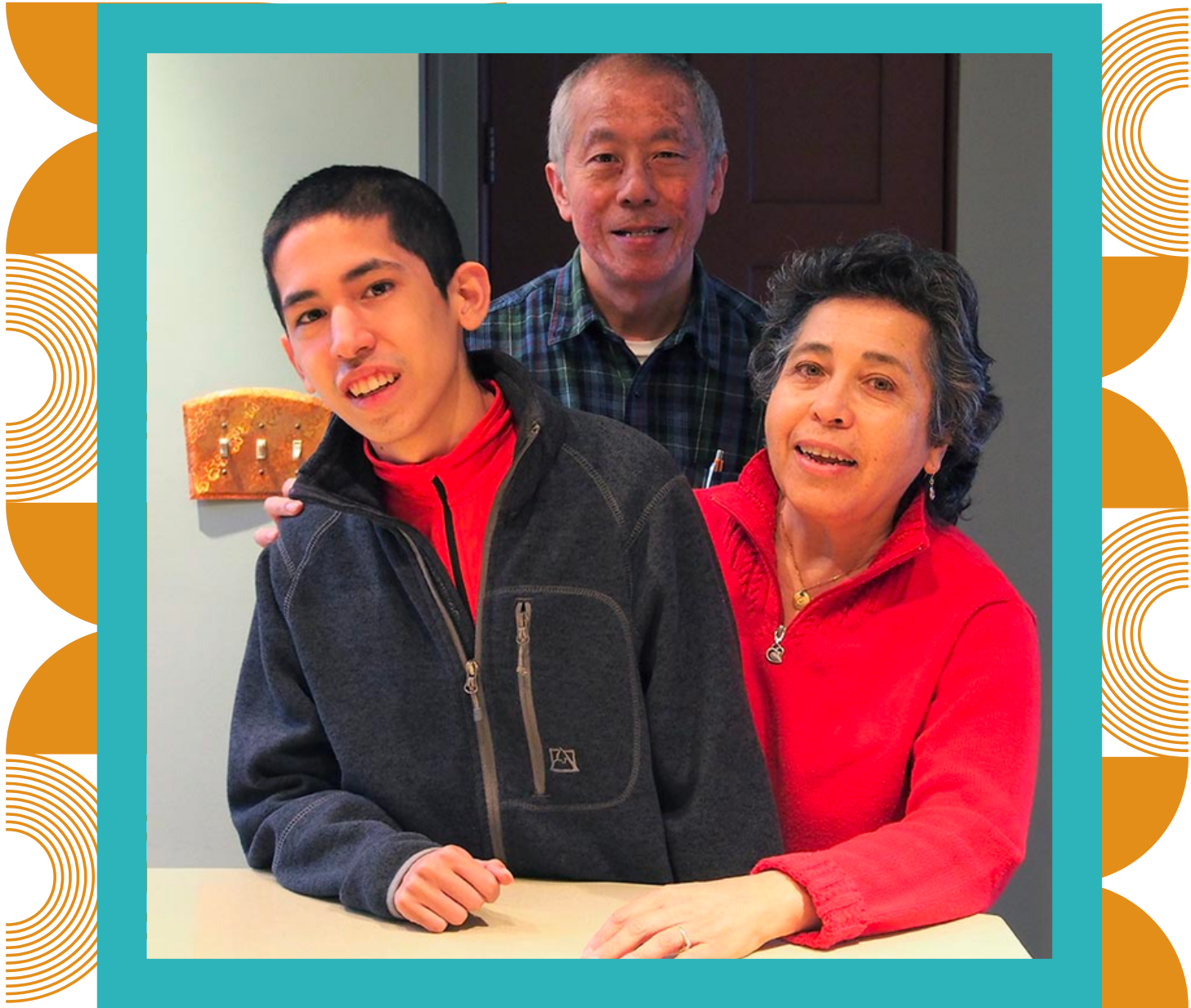
[toren@wingslearningcenter.org](mailto:toren@wingslearningcenter.org)  
<https://wingslearningcenter.org/>

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more about WINGS**



# FY24 Budgeted Expenses & Income





## Our History

When their son, Aaron, was diagnosed with autism in 1997, Sherman Chan and Irma Velasquez formed a multi-disciplinary team to provide an intensive educational and therapeutic program for him. Aaron's team realized that he needed an effective communication system. After trying different methods and approaches, Aaron began learning to communicate his needs and wants and make his requests known. However, it was clear to the team and to his parents that in order for him to learn social skills and expand his communication skills, he needed to be immersed in a social environment.

After years of visiting numerous educational settings in the San Francisco Bay Area, the team realized there was an unmet need for an environment where children with autism could learn social communication, academics, and independent living skills to function and grow.

In September of 2001, WINGS was created with the mission of creating a learning environment where students with autism could learn at their own pace and be inspired to take steps towards their own personal growth.



# Our Team

## Board of Directors

Irma Velasquez

LaDonna Ford

Anita Carey

Josh Johnson

Dahlia Uchihara

## Administrative Staff

Ken Toren, *Executive Advisor*

Laxmi Ghale, *Program Director*

Bethany Rios, *Business Coordinator*

Emily Carambat, *Family Liaison*

Jose Garrido, *Operations Coordinator*

# Sponsors



# Our Values



## **STUDENT-CENTEREDNESS**

Our programs are individualized and take into consideration student interests.



## **RESPECT DIFFERENCES**

We respect each individual's learning ability, needs, and choices.



## **QUALITY OF LIFE**

We focus on functionality and meaningfulness in order to improve student quality of life.



## **BEST PRACTICES**

We invest resources in providing the most effective therapies, pedagogical advances, and technologies to deliver services.

# Our Programs

## WHO DO WE SERVE?

- Our program supports students with moderate to severe autism and similar needs with varying diagnoses.
- Students join us with learning, communication, self-regulation, social interaction, and preference challenges.
- We enroll students aged 5 to 22, offering elementary and secondary education.
- We support students needing speech and occupational therapy to access education and their community.
- We provide a functional-based program for students working towards a certificate of completion, not a high school diploma.

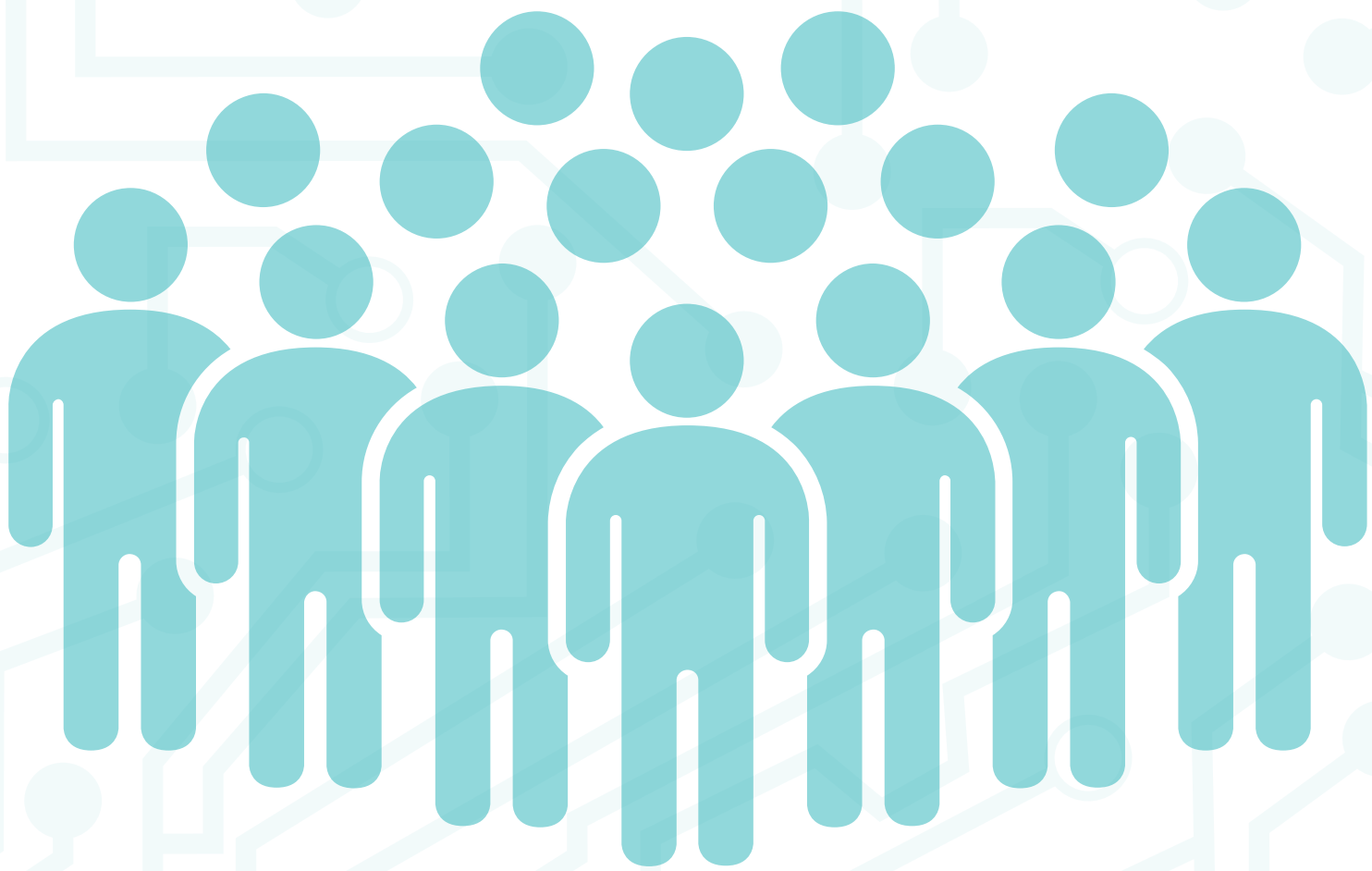
## WHAT IS OUR APPROACH?

- Our interdisciplinary team of experts addresses student needs.
- We promote collaboration across disciplines (Education, Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Behavior Management & Sensory Integration).
- Our students benefit from an individualized educational curriculum and therapeutic program.
- We customize each student's program to support their emotional development, independence, social awareness, and communication.
- We partner with families to highlight the talents and strengths of our students.
- Our program design incorporates TEACCH, SCERTS, and a Sensory Processing approach.

# Why We Need You

At WINGS, our commitment to providing exceptional education and support to our students is unwavering. We recognize that this mission cannot be achieved in isolation; it requires a dedicated and diverse team to guide us. This is where our board leaders and sub-committee members play a pivotal role.

We are looking for Board members who bring a wealth of expertise, fresh perspectives, and a shared passion for our cause. Special people like you will be instrumental in shaping the strategic direction of WINGS, ensuring financial stability, and fostering a culture of innovation.



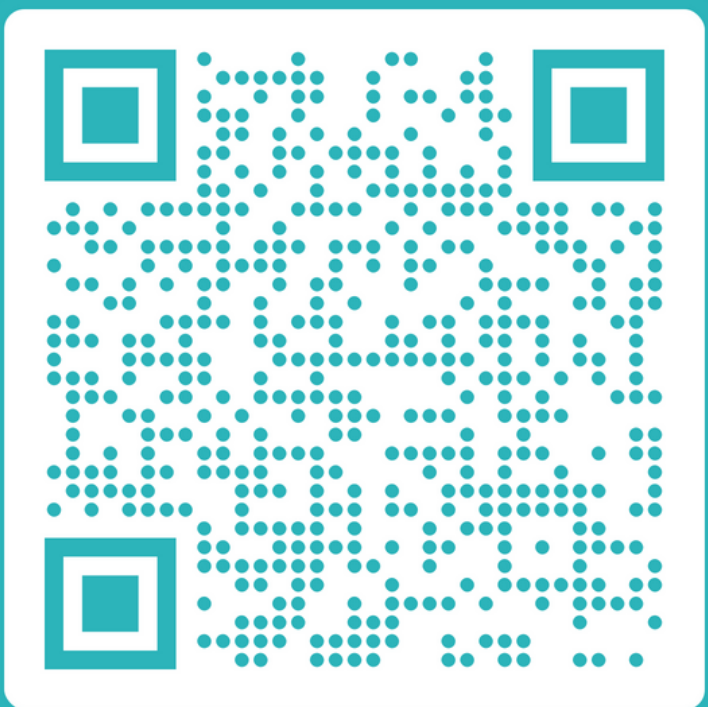
Your involvement as a board member is not just a commitment to our institution; it is an investment in the future of those who rely on our educational and developmental programs.





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WINGS is an impactful, fiscally responsible, and transparent 501(c)(3) non-profit school. We always appreciate and value generous financial support.

WINGS Tax ID Number: 94-3385745

<https://wingslearningcenter.org/>