



# 2023

# BOLDER OPTIONS ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past year, it fills me with immense pride and gratitude to share the strides we've made at Bolder Options in fulfilling our goal of inspiring youth to realize their full potential. The year 2023 marked a significant milestone for us as we celebrated the 30th anniversary of our program, alongside the remarkable achievement of impacting 30,000 young lives.

Moreover, our dedication to diversity and inclusion remains unwavering. Last year I was particularly proud of our strides in BIPOC mentor recruitment, which saw a remarkable increase from 20% in 2021 to nearly 40% in 2022.

That pride continues, doubling again to 61% in 2023. This progress not only reflects our commitment to mirroring the communities we serve but also underscores the richness and depth of experiences that diverse mentors bring to our youth.

As we embark on another year of service and impact, I extend my deepest gratitude to our mentors, supporters, volunteers, and staff who continue to champion our cause and stand alongside us in nurturing the promise of youth in our community. Together, let's keep moving forward, dedicated in our commitment to teaching youth to succeed in all of life's races.

Peace,



Darrell Thompson  
President



## Over the last 30 years



Youth Served

**30,000**

Volunteer Hours

**420,000**

Miles Run

**70,000**

Dollars Saved

**\$82M**



# MISSION

Teaching youth to succeed in all of life's races.

## PROGRAMS

### One to One Mentoring Program



Bolder Options empowers middle school youth through transformative one to one mentorship. Our unique approach pairs youth with a trained volunteer mentor for a year, focused on four pillars of healthy living, social emotional development, lifelong learning, and community connections. Setting and achieving physical activity goals together helps young people develop confidence, resilience, and self-awareness that benefits them in all areas of life.

### Alumni Program



The goal of the alumni program is to keep young people connected with Bolder Options beyond the first year 1:1 mentoring program, providing ongoing support and resources to help them achieve their career and college goals. In 2023, 100% of youth participants chose to stay involved through the alumni program. Bolder Options offers a range of programs for alumni youth, including career and college exploration, leadership development, internships, and a scholarship program.

### Group Mentoring



In 2023, Bolder Options partnered with the Little Earth Boys & Girls Club (LEBGC) to pilot a group mentoring program for middle school youth. The program brought a dozen youth from LEBGC to Bolder Options once a week to share a meal, get physically active, receive academic support, and connect with their peers. After the pilot year, Bolder Options is working now to pair group mentoring participants with 1:1 mentors and keep them engaged in our community.

# IMPACT

## ON OUR MENTEES



**100%**

Youth accomplished at least one goal they set for themselves.



**75%**

Youth say they noticed their grades improved being in the program

“—  
When I think of Bolder Options I think kind, caring, helpful ,  
exciting: You can go and they will help you get a mentor  
that personally gets you.  
- Samairah, Mentee

**100%**

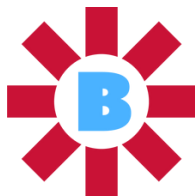
Youth report that they are more physically active than they were at the start

**83%**

Youth noticed improved behavior in school.

**100%**

Youth said they have a good to excellent relationship with their mentor.



**100%**

Mentor & mentee pairs plan to remain in contact beyond the one-year program.

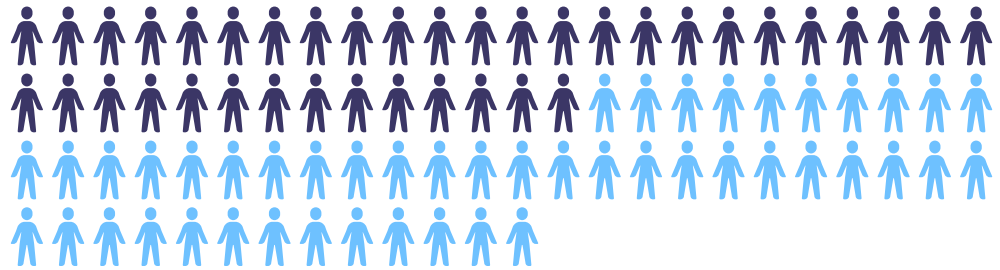


# STATISTICS

## OF OUR MENTEES

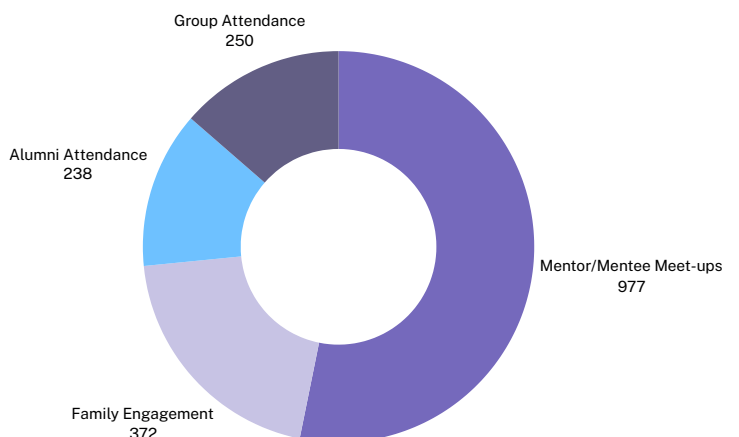
85 Total Pairs in 2023  
(38 Active from 2022 and 47 new pairs matched)

**85**  
Pairs



## Engagement

Youth have engaged with Bolder Options in a number of ways, including mentor/mentee meet-ups, group activities and outings, family engagement, and alumni programming.



# IMPACT

## ON OUR MENTORS



**100%**

Mentors would recommend  
Bolder Options to a friend

**92%**

Value the relationship with  
their mentee

**83%**

Mentors feel like their  
mentee has made a positive  
impact on their life

**45%**

Learned how to connect  
with a young person



“My mentee and I are very different ages and come from different cultures, but I think that makes our relationship even more interesting!”



# ALUMNI PROGRAM

## IMPACT AND STATISTICS

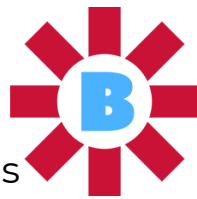


**16**

Participants completed  
I Believe & I Achieve career  
skill building programs

**244**

Alumni attended  
Bolder Options events and  
activities



In 2023, two Bolder Options  
alumnus were the first  
recipients of the new  
Bentdahl Scholarship for  
post-secondary education

Alumni mentors and  
mentees spent a week  
canoeing and camping in  
the BWCA.

“

I learned it's good to break out of your routine and  
try new things. I learned leadership skills.

- Alumni Youth, Abdiel, after trip to the BWCA

# A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 SUPPORTERS

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Youth Collaboratory



My name is Ryan Foss and I have been involved in Bolder Options as a mentor, committee member, board member and now as the Donor Relations Director. If you are interested in supporting or partnering with Bolder Options please reach out to me at [rfoss@BolderOptions.org](mailto:rfoss@BolderOptions.org)

INTERESTED IN  
OUR WORK?





# FINANCIALS

## STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 490,262	\$ 437,328
Cash Restricted for Roof Repairs	95,246	-
Contributions and Grants Receivable	93,628	102,348
Prepaid Expenses	<u>5,686</u>	<u>10,543</u>
Total Current Assets	684,822	550,219
Investments	131,656	117,697
Property and Equipment, Net of Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization of \$873,826 and \$814,346 in 2023 and 2022, Respectively	<u>975,507</u>	<u>1,034,987</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,791,985</u>	<u>\$ 1,702,903</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 31,980	\$ 22,434
Accrued Expenses	50,275	42,349
Deferred Revenue	100	10,000
Notes Payable, Current Portion	12,302	12,805
Lease Liability, Current Portion	<u>6,855</u>	<u>6,473</u>
Total Current Liabilities	101,512	94,061
Notes Payable, Long-Term Portion	684,838	696,946
Lease Liability, Long-Term Portion	<u>21,010</u>	<u>27,865</u>
Total Liabilities	807,360	818,872
Net Assets		
Without Donor Restrictions	703,574	647,321
With Donor Restrictions	<u>281,051</u>	<u>236,710</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>984,625</u>	<u>884,031</u>

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## 2023 STAFF

**Darrell Thompson**, President  
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**Sarah Schaller**, Rochester Program Director  
**Carla Anderson**, Activities Coordinator  
**Sarah Antinozzi**, Mentor Program Coordinator  
**Mandee Sorensen**, Mentor Program Coordinator

## BOLDER OPTIONS

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2100 Stevens Avenue South  
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Tel: 612.379.2653

Rochester Location:  
2830 18th Avenue NW  
Rochester, MN 55901  
Tel: 507.269.4799

[bolderoptions.org](http://bolderoptions.org)

