

# 2 0 2 1 A N N U A L R E P O R T



# Dear Friends,

We have been forced to live differently and adjust to a changed world. Problems that existed for children before the pandemic remain now, some new problems have been exposed, and many more have been magnified.

Rather than being daunted, we are energized to take advantage of lessons learned from the pandemic and to seize the opportunity for change.

Children's Champions Since 1914



Through these challenging times, WCA has remained committed to seeking improvements for children... Through these challenging times, WCA has remained committed to seeking improvements for children in the following key areas:

# Education

advocating for the **equitable digital access** required to learn in today's world and for **social and emotional supports** to address the mental health crisis of our children.

# Housing and Homelessness

gathering data so we can understand the scale of the problem and fighting for the services needed to get families out of homelessness into **permanent, safe, and affordable housing.** 

# Youth Justice

supporting young people who have gotten in trouble so they can return to productive paths in their schools and communities through **age-appropriate, restorative measures.** 

# Investments

promoting **governmental funding** that supports and benefits childrenincluding tax credits for families, expanding home visiting and providing mental health services.

WCA tackles these issues head-on because we know our advocacy can improve the lives of Westchester's children. We all need to be bolder in our actions. When we help children, we help all of us.

WCA is ever grateful to our many supporters, donors and volunteers. We will continue to work on behalf of the children of our county, so they remain healthy, safe and prepared for life's challenges regardless of race or zip code.

In partnership,

Allison Lako

Allison Lake

ann Umemoto

Ann Umemoto

# WESTCHESTER CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION Children's Champions Since 1914



Sign our petition & read more at wca4kids.org/remotelearning

# **Our Work**

Y: Visit our website for more...

- Hosted the WCA Advocacy Breakfast 2021 -
- A Teachable Moment to bring together Dr. Lester Young Jr., Chancellor of Board of Regents, and Jamaal Bowman, United States Representative to discuss equity for all children in remote learning and general education as a virtual event with hundreds in attendance.
- Created the **Digital Access Survey** for distribution throughout Westchester County in partnership with Pace University and the Digital Access Workgroup of local partner organizations to get post-lockdown feedback from Westchester parents and students about access to the internet, adequate devices, and needed training.
- Quoted by Lohud newspaper online and in print on September 23, for our work advocating for remote learning resources and addressing the digital divide that has been widened by the pandemic.
- Produced a **Remote Learning Fact Sheet** that highlighted key indicators of digital access including access to devices and internet connections and launched a Remote Learning Agenda and Petition to increase community awareness and activism.

# Our Impact

WCA 2021 Advocacy Breakfast

**Teachable Moment:** 

nnual Kathryn Wasserman Davis Child Advocacy Lecture

Ensuring Education Equity

During the Pandemic & Beyond

March 31, 2021

CHILDREN'S

Register for Zoom Details at

Highlighted the needs for digital equity, training, and technical support to decision-makers at state and county levels through public events, targeted research, and fact sheet distribution.

# Child & Youth Homelessness

Since 1914

Children's Champions

# **Our Work**

Visit our website for more...

• Front cover feature story in Lohud Newspaper on December 15, showing WCA's data dashboard on child homelessness with online videos and a multi-page article. WCA's advocacy for a universal definition of homelessness and for more affordable housing options was highlighted in detail.

Advocates for homeless children and families on how to help avoid cycle of poverty

Iohud

At least 2,357 students in the county experienced homelessness during the 2019-

Updated 9:10 a.m. ET Dec.

'Couch surfing' children are Westchester's invisible homeless, lacking services, advocates say

20 school year — about 1.5% of all public school students.

nd/Westchester Journal News

vs] Sports Rockland Westchester

FOR SUBSCRIBERS EDUCATION

- Created the Westchester County Child and Youth Homelessness Data Dashboard (WCCYD) and presented it to key county decision-makers. The WCCYD tells the full story about child homelessness in our county by school district, age, race, and more using data that was previously not available or was decentralized.
- Launched a call to action for kids living in overcrowded housing, catalyzing conversations with key elected officials. Overcrowding does not allow for effective guarantine and staying safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Westchester Children's Association Child & Youth Homelessness Data Dashboard - 2021



Help Homeless Doubled-up Children 8 **Families** in Westcheste vs COVID-19



# Our Impact

The public voice speaking up for children living in overcrowded situations in Westchester County that is able to connect decision-makers and corporate partners to develop concrete strategies for change.



# Child Poverty

Visit our website for more...

6

# **Our Work**

 Invited to join the Child Poverty Reduction Advocacy **Group** in February by Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy (SCAANY). WCA joined this model group, establishing a state-wide agenda and goal to cut child poverty rates in New York in half by 2030. The State Child Poverty Reduction Act was signed into law on December 2.

LET'S FIGHT

50% CUT

**BY 2030** 

**CHILD POVERTY** 

- Encouraged Westchester residents to participate in advocacy on a federal level to extend the federal Child Tax Credit expansion that was implemented during the height of the pandemic which reduced child poverty rates by one third.
- Focused state budget advocacy on items which would impact child poverty rates such as the **Empire State** Child Tax Credit, health insurance programs, and child care subsidies.

# Our Impact

Advocacy Alert

CHILDREN'S

Pass the Child Poverty Reduction Act and prioritize children for 2021!

SINCE THE PANDEMIC, AN ADDITIONAL

HAVE BEEN PUSHED CLOSE TO OR BELOW THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE

Source: United Hospital Fund

325.000

children across New York State

4.000

children in

Westchester

Leading advocacy about child poverty reduction goals and educating the public to support key legislation and budget initiatives.

Children's Champions Since 1914

# Youth Justice Visit our website for more...



IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR EMERGING ADULTS IN WESTCHESTER'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM mannan

EXPERT PANEL DISCUSSION HON. EDWINA MENDELSON NUN. CUNINA MENULIUN NYS OEPUTY CHIEF AOMINISTRATIVE JUDGE HEAD OF NYS OFFICE FOR JUSTICE INITIATIVES

HON. JARED RICE ILUM. JANEU KILL JUDGE, NEW ROCHELLE CITY COURT FOUNDER OF OPPORTUNITY YOUTH PART OF CITY COURT HON. MIRIAM "MIMI" ROCAH Westchester County District Attorney

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF WESTCHESTER

ADVOCACY OVERVIEW NEW KAIE KUBIN DIRECTOR OF POLICY & STRATEGICI NITIATIVES. YOUTH REPRESENT -MOVING OUR ADVOCACY FORWARD" OVERVIEW OF YOUTH JUSTICE & OPPORTUNITY ACT

OCTOBER 19TH FROM 3-5 PM LIMITED CAPACITY TO ATTEND IN-PERSON AT MANHATTANVILLE COLLEGE FOLLOWING CDC GUIDELINES OR ATTEND VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED AT WCA4KIDS.ORG STORSORED DI WESTCHESTER WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION, INC SPONSORED BY



Initiatives

First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Judge, New Rochelle City Court and Founder of Opportunity Youth Part of the New Rochelle City Court



Westchester County

District Attorney



DEI, Officer/Senior Trial Counsel at The Legal Aid Society of Westchester County

Emerging adults, age 18 – 25 account for roughly 10% of state population BUT REPRESENT NEARLY 25% OF ARRESTS IN NYS.

# **Our Work**

- Hosted a Youth Justice Panel on Emerging Adults in October 2021 composed of four expert panelists, each with state, county, or city-level experience. More than 85 guests participated online and in person for this discussion on how best to help emerging adults (ages 18 to 25) involved in the justice system.
- Joined the stakeholder group for the new **Opportunity** Youth Part of the New Rochelle City Court for young adults in New Rochelle, which aims to tailor court procedures to the needs of emerging adults on a case-by-case basis in partnership with service providers.
- Collaborated with the Youth Shelter Program of Westchester and held a youth feedback session regarding the Raise the Age Coalition's decision to restructure and include a broader youth justice agenda.

# Our Impact

Maintained momentum in vouth justice advocacy in Westchester County by hosting strategic meetings to persuade elected officials to implement key initiatives of Raise the Age legislation and expand programs that use ageappropriate responses to offenses by those under age 25.

# WESTCHESTER CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION Children's Champions Since 1914



WCA is the only organization in Westchester County, NY with the expertise, agility, and track record to lead our communities to the transformational changes our children need.

- Our reputation expertise, credibility, and more than a century of victories on behalf of children and youth inspires others to join us in our causes with confidence and enthusiasm.
- Our knowledge in research, programs, policies, and data allows us to serve as a valued resource for anyone concerned about children.
- Our impartiality improves our effectiveness, since the only criterion that influences our decision is what is in the best interest of children and youth of Westchester and greater New York state.

#### WCA – and our children and youth – depend heavily on gifts from individuals. We are able to pivot and respond to changing trends in issues that affect children and stay the course until needed changes are implemented due to this financial independence.

In 2021, our work on child homelessness was lifted to a new level of public awareness with the creation of the Westchester County Child and Youth Homeless Data Dashboard. Our digital access survey elevated what's necessary to bridge the digital divide. WCA continued to fight for all our children, from early childhood supports to broader youth justice reform.

# We would not be able to do this work without the financial commitment of you, our supporters.

When we invest in kids, we invest in the future. When THEY do better, WE do better.

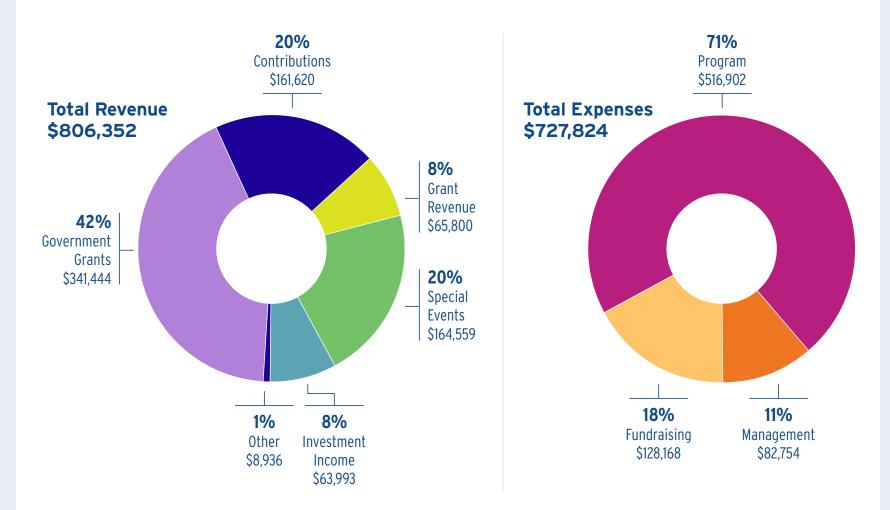
Thank you for helping to make Westchester a better place to be a child.

To make a gift to WCA, go to wca4kids.org/donate 🐁

# WESTCHESTER CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION Children's Champions Since 1914

# **Financial Profile for 2021**

In 2021, WCA experienced a surplus in the amount of \$78,528. This can be attributed to the forgiveness granted to two Payback Protection Program (PPP) loans administered by the United States Small Business Administration. The Payback Protection Program was designed to lessen the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This forgiveness is reflected in "Government Grants." As of December 31, 2021, WCA has net assets (assets minus liabilities) of \$2,416,906 and unrestricted assets of \$608,276.



Note: A copy of the complete audited financial statement is available on the WCA website wca4kids.org. It may also be requested from WCA or the New York State Attorney General, Office of Charities Registration, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. Go to <a href="https://wca4kids.org/about-wca/financials/">https://wca4kids.org/about-wca/financials/</a>

Children's Champions Since 1914

# Thank you to our generous donors!

We are deeply grateful to all our donors who make our work possible.

Special thanks to those who are enrolled in our monthly giving program: O Defenders for Children.

If you would like to learn more about how you can become a defender for children, contact us at wca@wca4kids.org or 914.946.7676.

> Peter Acker Dana Adnopoz Ellen Adnopoz Jean and Bob Adnopoz S Kara Adnopoz Steve Adnopoz Dr. and Mr. Alderman Fran and David Alexander Stephen and Catherine Alexander Lisa Allen Elizabeth Almonte Alvs Sinclair Carreau Memorial Fund Mitzi Ambrose America's Charities Joanne Amorosi Kathleen Andersen Julia and Robert Anello Farrin Anello and Dr. Robert Kopp

Ellen Anthonisen Sydney and Evon Antonio Chervl Archbald Ramie and Merri Arian Gwendolyn Armstrong Erica Ayala Bobbi Leis Baker Joan Barrett Andrew Bell Roberta Bell-Kligler Susan Berenzweig Robert J. Berlin Sandy Bernabei Sheila Bernson **Daniel Bernstein** Judy Bernstein and Stuart Barish **Bob Berson** Peter Bertine Valerie Best Caroline Birenbaum The Blackbaud Giving Fund Elizabeth Block Karen Blumenthal Susan Blumenthal Dorothy P. Bond Adrianne Bonio Jacqueline Boucher Jane Boutet Anne Bradner Mary Jo Bramson Cheryl Brannan **Rachel and Bart Breinin** Jean Marie Brescia Amy Bridges Fiona Bruder Larry Budish Theodore Buerger **Glen Bunnell** Donna Burr Limarie V. Cabrera **Deborah Campbell** Cantor Fitzgerald Relief Fund Jean Carleton Julie Carran Wendy Carrus William G. Cavanagh and Ricki Gardner Sharon Cecere Ann Chase Lorraine Chun

WCA 2021 Spring Benefit Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton Honored with the Edith C. Macy Award for Distinguished Service

> Joanna Clancy Eloise Clark Christina Clavton Andrea H. Cohen Susie Cohen Chavonne Collins **Donvil Collins** Patti Colombo Computershare/KCC Sara Cook Janice Cook Roberts **Betty Cotton** Astara Crews Constance Curran Lila d'Adolf Kathleen Dalzell Alan and Roberta Daskin David A. Schuricht and Susan M. Kishi Family Trust Alice K. Dean Deerfield Resources, LLC Constantin Delivanis **Barbara Doctor** Catherine Draper **Denise Williams** Edith Carpenter Macy Memorial Trust Lisa Edmiston Eileen Fisher, Inc. Mera Eisen Susan Eisman The Elias Foundation Margot T. Elkin Linda Ellis Curtis Evans Events by Chereese, Inc. Tara Fappiano Lindsay Farrell Karen Faust Baer Icilma Fergusrowe

WCA 2021 Spring Benefit Mr.X.

Eden Feuer

Robin Williams, Chapter President Greater Hudson Valley (NY) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated Honored with the Children's Champion Award

Jan Fisher Hillary Fleming Susan Fleming Christine Florez Jennifer Flowers Renee Fogarty Monica Foreman-Hyacinthe Mvrna Fornev and Michael Boatman Tara Framer Ina Franck Evelvn Frankford Lori Freedman Kenneth D. Freeman The Frog Rock Foundation **Rosalie Frost** Austin and Cheryl Ganz Luther Garrison Cynthia Gay Michael Gewitz Vincent Gianatasio Elisabeth Gilbert Laurie Girsky Carol Goldberg Geraldine Goldberg The Goldie-Anna Charitable Trust Amy Goldman Anthony Goldsmith Donald Goldsmith Steven Goldstein Good for Girls. Inc. Thelma Gordon Douglas Gould Felita Granby Joan Grangenois-Thomas Shelley Gray Jody and Allen Greenbaum

Children's Champions Since 1914

Cora Greenberg Sue Greene Fuirst Brad Grimes Andrew Jay Gross Carev E. Gross. MD Janet J. Gutterman Esg. Anitra Hadlev Sue Hahm Kathleen Halas Vernex Harding Harding Foundation Lottie Harris Mark Harrison Harrison Edwards Cindi Hartz, MD Arielle Hawkins **Tenley-Ann Hawkins** Louise Hayes Harriet G. Heineman Elinor Heller Her Honor, Inc. Herman Goldman Foundation Elliott Hershman Andrew Herz Peter Hess Jenny Higgons Jackie Hilly Patrick and Deloris Hogan Barbara Holland Theresa Horvath Sarah Howard **Rita Annette Howard-Walker** Hudson Road Foundation, Inc. Hudson Valley Credit Union Chervl Hunter-Grant Pat Hurlock Hurlock Marketing Enterprises, Inc. **Phyllis Hyacinthe** Maria Imperial Westchester Residential **Opportunities**, Inc. Alexander Ingram

#### Jay Izes

Laura Jaffe Jamie Jensen Luke Jervis Chereese Jervis-Hill Jewish Communal Fund Penelope Johnson Allison Jones Karla Jones Penn Clarissa Jones-Edwards Joseph and Sophia Abeles Foundation Terry Joyner Emily and Paul Kandel Mary Jane Karger Judy Katz Eugene Kava Carolyn Kay Iris H. Kazin Yolanda Kelley-Cannick Leona Kern Alisa Kesten Anika Khan Valerie Kibrick Ryan Kids Club of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow Sharon Kiley Heck Kerry King Basia Kinglake Rebecca Kinoshita Flaine Kirsch Frazierita Klasen Karen Klein Michele Klina Daniel Korin Miranda Kozak Joel and Dana Kramer Kate Kramer Mark L. Kramer Fallvn Krasnow Freva Krasnow Helen Krasnow Maris Krasnow, EdD and Jesse Krasnow C Thomas Kyle Sara-Jo E. LaForge Sahara Lake Allison and Terence Lake Lucila Lancaster Cady Landa Michele Landry Michael Lattari



The Laura B. Vogler Foundation, Inc. Karvn Lee Susan Leon Amv Levere Janet Levy Romina Levy Greater Hudson Valley (NY) Chapter of The Links Inc. Daniel Lipka Littman Krooks, LLP Susan Liu Livingston Family Foundation Katherine S. Lobach, MD Martha Lowery Corine Lurry-Mabin Laura Lustbader **Douglas Maass** Joan Madison Katie Magee Damon Maher Janet Malone Benita Marks Karen Martin Karen Martins-Mandel Wanda Matthews Shelley Mayer Maria McGinty Fraser McKee **Ginger McKnight-Chavers** Jennifer Mebes Flagg Raina Mehlman Dawn Meyerski Alison Miller Mark H. Minter Doretta Miraglia Tatiana Miranda **Dorothy Moore** Linda Morey Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, LLC WCA 2021 Spring Benefit **Terry Jo** Westchester our

For the set of the set o

Candace Morris Lisa Morris Louise D. Muller Alison Munsch Daniel Naccarella Marcia Nackenson, MD Beth and Ira Nash Maureen Natkin Network for Good Carrie and Barney Newman Margaret O'Sullivam Shannon O'Brien Barbara and Jeffrey Orell Margery Orell Catharine W. O'Rourke Michael Orth **Diane Oshin** and Sidney Mandelbaum Carole Oshinsky Ellen Oster Steve Otis Polly Parker Paige Parks Alison Paul **PCSB** Community Foundation **Dorothy Peacock Dominick Petramale** Katie Pfeifer Elizabeth S. Pforzheimer Pilzer Foundation, Inc. Blondel Pinnock Rosemarie Pinotti Vito Pinto Jacqueline Plumez Virginia Pope Andrea Potash Linda Potash Prevent Child Abuse New York Marilyn Price

Children's Champions Since 1914

Josh Prvwes Public Voice, Inc. Deborah Quarless Jeanne and David Radvany John Ramsdell Reader's Digest Foundation Gwynne Reiley Mitchell A. Reuben, MD Carol Richards June Richev Jessica Rieder, MD Merritt Ringer Rosalthea M. Judd Charitable Trust Joan and Seth Rosen Sandi Rosenbaum Julia Rosenblum Diane Rosenthal Elizabeth Rostermundt Anne and Marty Rotberg Rob and Amy Rothman Mathilde Rothwell Karina Rousou Christine Rubin Lutonva Russell-Humes The Ruth and Seymour Klein Foundation, Inc. Jennifer Sabella Stefano Safaei Becky Samberg **Rav Sanchez** Harriet H. Savage

Scott Schecter Robin Schlaff Frank Schnecker David S. Schwartz Barbara Schwarz Sarah Scott Joan Seipel Susan Sekulow Mary Lou Sgro Stefanie Shabman Michael and Helene Shapiro Nicole Sheindlin David Sherwin **Cindy Shmerler** Shmerler Foundation, Inc. Francine Shorts Gail Sider Michael Siegel Jeffrev and Sharon Silver Ann Rose Simon, LCSW Norma Simon Terri Simon Diane and Bart Sinclair Stuart Sinclair Sister To Sister International, Inc. Susie Smidinger Brown Suzanne J. Smith Lvnn Sobel Merril and Hope Sobie Donna D. Soldwedel **Richard Sperber** John Spilsbury St. Faith's House Foundation Starbucks Foundation: Neighborhood Grants Fund Nancy Steiner Lisa Stenson Desamours Lori Stephens Sarah Stern Betsv Steward Evelvn Stock

Strypemonde Foundation Maria Suchy-Kozak The Sud Foundation Diane Tabakman Stewart and Emily Tabin Lisa Tannenbaum Marilyn Tawfik Kim Taylor **Oren Teicher** Gail Telerico Alice J. Tenney Judy Tenney Ann Marie Terrone Tambria Terry Janet Thompson Mariorie Thrope Wendy Topper Williams Anne Torell Marie Tracv Patricia Trainor Denise Turner-Gootzeit Ann Umemoto and Richard Younger, MD Keith Umemoto Steve Umemoto Tara Umemoto The V. & L. Marx Foundation Drusilla Van Hengel Samantha Veksler Alexis Ventre Harry Waizer **Diana Walker Steers** Allaire Warner Elizabeth A. Warner

Kalifa Waugh Felecia Webb Brown Char Weigel Kate and Seymour Weingarten Sarah Weingarten Jay Weissbrot, MD Adrienne Weiss-Harrison, MD and Andrew M. Harrison Greg Werlinich Lucille Werlinich The Westchester Bank Westchester Women's Bar Association Foundation, Inc. Sonia Whelan Kerry Whelan-Megley Pat White White Plains Hospital Sharon Wiggins Annette Wilcox Bernella Wilcox Cora S. Wilder Alfreda A. Williams Gavle Williams Helen Williams Robin H. Williams Suzanne Willis Vanessa Wilson Norbert Wolloch Germaine Wong Martha Yergeau Sarah Yergeau Jackguelyn H. Young Laurette Young Lawrence and Carol Zicklin Philanthropic Fund Connie and Art Zuckerman

We made every effort to ensure this list accurately reflects all 2021 donors. If your name has been omitted or misprinted, please accept our sincere apologies and notify us at wca@wca4kids.org or 914.946.7676.

WESTCHESTER CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION

CHILDREN

Let's work together to help Westchester's children thrive! Give monthly and become a WCA Defender for Children wca4kids.org/monthly-donor

Janet Warwick

**Gloriana Waters** 



470 Mamaroneck Avenue, Suite 304 White Plains, NY 10605

#### wca4kids.org

#### 2021 Board of Directors

Maris H. Krasnow, EdD, Chair Ann Umemoto, President Jody Greenbaum, 1st Vice President Myrna Forney, Vice President Lutonya Russell-Humes, Vice President Thomas Kyle (2020-2021) and Harry Waizer (2021-2022), Treasurer Margie Orell, Secretary

Ellen Adnopoz Joanne Amorosi, CFP Chavonne Collins Stephen Godin **Tenley-Ann Hawkins** Karen Herrero Kerry King Romina Levy Daniel Naccarella Dominick Petramale Martha Sud Alice Tennev Adrienne Weiss-Harrison, MD **Robin Williams** 

#### 2021 Staff

Allison Lake, Executive Director Rebekah Raz, Director of Development Limarie V. Cabrera, Director of Data, Operations & Finance Onya West, Communications Manager Josh Prywes, Program & Policy Manager Debbie Campbell, Outreach Manager

OUR VISION Every child healthy, safe, and prepared for life's challenges regardless of race or zip code

To identify children's needs, make those needs OUR MISSION known, and see that they are met

I

廿

We turn data into knowledge, build a shared OUR WORK agenda, and mobilize for change

> Stay up to date on critical issues affecting Westchester's children and youth!

SAFEPREPARE VISATE

**Subscribe** wca4kids.org/subscribe Email wca@wca4kids.org Follow us @wca4kids

Ғ 🗾 🚻 🖸 📊

Designed by Tara Framer Design