

# Annual Report

2024-2025



Changing Perspectives



A man with dark hair, wearing a blue suit jacket over a light-colored checkered shirt and a blue lanyard, is smiling and speaking into a black microphone. He is standing on a stage with a dark background.

## A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This past year, Changing Perspectives has not only continued its work in schools across the world but has also stood firm in the face of political and cultural forces attempting to erase the language and frameworks that affirm students' identities and lived experiences. Efforts to remove the word "disability" from educational spaces are not just about semantics—they are an attack on visibility, inclusion, and justice.

At Changing Perspectives, we believe that every child deserves to feel seen, valued, and supported in their learning community. Inclusive education is not a trend or a buzzword—it is a right.

Looking ahead, we will continue to champion this vision. We are expanding our footprint by welcoming new program specialists and are more committed than ever to increasing knowledge and awareness about the importance of social-emotional learning and inclusion. Through collective commitment, we are not just responding to the moment—we are shaping the future.

With gratitude and determination,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sam Drazin".

*Sam Drazin*

**SAM DRAZIN**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

***Inclusion is not just  
an educational  
value—it is a  
societal imperative.  
~Sam Drazin***



# Our Mission

The mission of Changing Perspectives is to promote social-emotional learning to cultivate inclusive and equitable learning communities for all students. We accomplish our mission by working with individual schools, school districts, and other nonprofit organizations to educate, empower, and inspire all members of their community to advance thinking and practice around social-emotional learning and inclusion. Our replicable and scalable Pre-K through grade 12 programming is designed to benefit learners of all abilities, backgrounds, and settings (urban, suburban, and rural).

Changing Perspectives serves as a comprehensive support system for educators, school leaders, educational communities, and families throughout the United States and beyond. Through an à la carte menu of five services—curriculum resources, family workshops, professional development, site visits, and virtual coaching— we support schools and districts in achieving their goals around social-emotional learning and inclusion. We work closely with school leaders to design customized, integrated programming to address their learning communities' goals and needs. Our holistic, customizable approach enables us to work successfully with schools of any size to provide the greatest outcomes for students of all ages.

## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Statement

At Changing Perspectives, we believe diversity is strength.

A culture of inclusion and belonging is cultivated within our board members and staff and is further advanced through our organizational partners. Together, we succeed at Changing Perspectives. By honoring every individual and group's unique strengths, we are able to witness the success of equitable practices. Our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion ensures that everyone feels a sense of belonging and is able to participate in our work fully.

We make every effort to create an equitable space where society's myriad differences are merged and viewed as a benefit for all. Through our own example, we are...Changing Perspectives.



# Our Staff



**Sam Drazin**  
Founder & Executive  
Director



**Suzanne Butler**  
Program  
Specialist



**Hannah Christensen**  
Administrative  
Manager



**Angela Hebert**  
Marketing  
Officer



**Teecee Hutcherson**  
Development  
Consultant



**Holly Lane**  
Program  
Coordinator



**David Levine**  
Program  
Specialist



**Kristen Sperling**  
Program  
Specialist

## Acknowledging Our Extended Team

In addition to our core staff, Changing Perspectives is proud to work alongside a talented group of contractors and collaborators whose expertise strengthens every aspect of our work.

Special thanks to James Lang (Accountant), Downs Rachlin Martin PLLC (Legal Services), Jean and Neil Alexander (Web Team), Sydney Loew (Graphic Design), Cindy Char (Educational Evaluator), Christina Birdsell (Videography), Donna Marie King (Writing), Lizann Peyton (Strategic Planning), and Daryl Seitchik (Illustration).

Curriculum support from Maria-Clara De Greiff and Edgar Morales for translation support. New curriculum development: Faith Beaudin, George Lane, Megean Martin, Chanda Murphy, Lomond Richardson, Mary Rizos, and Susan Trencansky.

## MEET OUR BOARD

**Deirdre Azzopardi, OTD**  
*President*  
Wyckoff, New Jersey

**John Freer, PhD**  
*Vice President*  
Ontario, Canada

**Edward Avinger, EdD**  
*Treasurer*  
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Ridgewood, New Jersey

**Jeannie Harris, JD**  
Ridgewood, New Jersey

**Sangeeta Malik, PhD**  
Saratoga, California

**Lisa St. Germain**  
Pittsford, Vermont

**Leon Wilson, EdD**  
New Castle, Delaware



# Our Programs

We work with individual schools, school districts, and other nonprofit organizations to educate, empower, and inspire all members of their community to advance thinking and practice around social-emotional learning and inclusion. We support schools through the following:



**Curriculum resources** provide educators with customizable grade-level, standards-aligned resources on our online Educator Portal.



**Family workshops** support student learning beyond school by providing parents and caregivers with strategies they can use at home.



**Professional development** engages a school's entire school faculty in the process of transforming school culture.



**Site visits** bring Changing Perspectives into learning communities to facilitate activities such as student focus groups, observations, & more.



**Virtual coaching** offers educators one-on-one access to a Changing Perspectives expert for advice, feedback, and ongoing support.

— — — — — ” — — — — —

Our work with Changing Perspectives helped staff to reflect on school climate and to take steps towards aligning their efforts, creating a common language and consistency across spaces, and considering the unique needs of all learners.

— — — — — ” — — — — —

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
LIPMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Professional Development, George Hall Elementary School*





# Our Reach

In 2024–2025, Changing Perspectives expanded its reach, engaging 39.7% more students, partnering with 11.1% more schools, and growing our international presence by 42.9%, now serving educators across 47 U.S. states and 10 countries.

An infographic featuring a stylized world map in white against a blue background. Five green circles are overlaid on the map, each containing a statistic. The circles are positioned over North America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia. In the bottom right corner, there is a decorative graphic of stylized human figures in white and blue.

**208,365**  
**STUDENTS**

**6,709**  
**EDUCATORS**

**409**  
**SCHOOLS**

**47**  
**STATES**

**10**  
**COUNTRIES**



# Our Impact

Changing Perspectives provides meaningful, system-level support for schools by advancing inclusive practices and social-emotional learning. Here's what administrators and educators told us this year:

## Administrator-Level Impact

*Supporting Schoolwide Change*

Most Used Services (of those surveyed): Site Visits (85%), Professional Development (80%), Virtual Coaching (70%)

**100%**

**OF ADMINISTRATORS**

rated our communication, professionalism, and responsiveness as *very good*.

**95%**

**OF ADMINISTRATORS**

reported increased staff capacity and increased alignment and shared understanding.

**90%**

**OF ADMINISTRATORS**

observed a positive impact on their school's climate and practices.

**100%**

**OF ADMINISTRATORS**

would recommend Changing Perspectives to other administrators.

## Educator-Level Impact

*Driving Student Engagement Through the Changing Perspectives Curricula*

Educator findings are based on responses from 298 educators across 96 schools in 31 U.S. states and one international site.

**96%**

**OF EDUCATORS**

said their students were engaged during lessons and activities.

**93%**

**OF EDUCATORS**

gained new strategies to better support their students.

**89%**

**OF EDUCATORS**

observed students making connections between the curriculum and their lives.

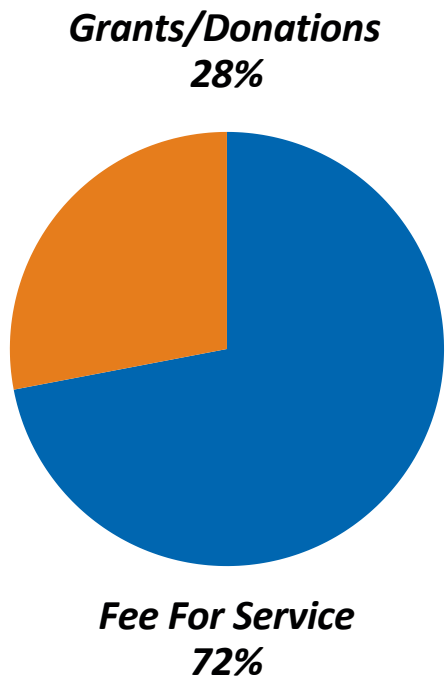
**97%**

**OF EDUCATORS**

would recommend Changing Perspectives to other educators.

# Our Financials

Changing Perspectives uses a mixed-funding source model that includes revenue from private grants, individual donors, and program fees.



## Funding Partners

- Bella Charitable Foundation
- Clifton Foundation
- Couch Family Foundation
- Emily Landecker Foundation
- George Mergens Foundation
- Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation
- Marilyn & Mike Grossman Foundation
- Mid-Shore Community Foundation
- Morris and Bessie Altman Foundation
- Peninsula Health Care District
- Salmon Foundation
- Anonymous

*Board and staff members gather at our inaugural Champions for Change fundraising event, Menlo Park, California.*

It's a very appropriately named organization. Staff are changing their perspective about how we support our students, how we see them as human beings, as individuals, as learners, and as members of our larger community. Our teachers have continued to provide positive feedback that they are seeing their mind shifts and they're seeing these changes in their practice, improving outcomes for our students.

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION  
REED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT





# Our Partners

Changing Perspectives actively cultivates a broad range of partnerships to further our reach, exchange expertise, and strengthen our capacity and programs. We are grateful to our active FY25 program partners for their collaboration.



SEL Exchange, Chicago, November 14, 2024  
Administrative Manager, Hannah Christensen







Changing Perspectives



[www.ChangingPerspectivesNow.org](http://www.ChangingPerspectivesNow.org)