



# 2026 - 2027 ANNUAL REPORT



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# Meet the CEO

## Marie Pizano

President & CEO of  
MVP3 Foundation



Marie Pizano is an example of how you can overcome challenges to live with passion and purpose and realize your ambitions. Her story can help empower and motivate others to find their "Yes!" From her experience as an actor and model, she advanced her skills behind the camera to coproduce several local TV shows in Memphis, to then create and produce pilots and programming with award-winning film director, Steven Boyle. Followed by over 15 years of producing and directing award winning films. She is the president of MVP3 Foundation; A nonprofit mission to heal communities through the arts. She is currently in development with a documentary, "A Society In Crisis: A Family In Divide", in addition to working with legislators to pass mandated laws to help heal children and families. She is currently in production of The Walter Bailey Story, a documentary about the civil rights icon from Memphis, TN

In November 2023, MVP3 Foundation and MVP3 Records launched its first music project "Simple Song of Freedom" by the Memphis Freedom Band, produced by Mario Monterosso consisting of several internationally known musicians from Memphis and special appearance with Priscilla Presley (former wife of Elvis Presley) and the "House That Love Built" written by Rice Drewry and performed by the late legendary Jimi Jamison. She has been recognized for her charitable work with various awards and served as a board member for organizations such as the International Children's Foundation and Women's Foundation for Greater Memphis. She is a recipient of this year's 2024 HOT Buttered Soul Awards, given for dedication to supporting society academically, culturally, domestically, and spiritually for the benefit of all humanity. Recently, Pizano was appointed as the Memphis Steering Committee Lead for the Road to Memphis project, an initiative of T.U.F.F. that started in Liverpool and aims to bring global attention to Memphis and Nashville over the next five years, positioning the city as a leading music industry hub and boosting the local economy by introducing multi-national companies to Tennessee. Her previous efforts also included creating the 'Rock for Hope' concert to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and co-founding the Tiara Tea Society. She advocates for those affected by domestic violence and serves as a spokesperson for the cause.

She is the Most importantly, her biggest job and joy is being the proud mom of two, who are now young adults. She hopes to set the example for her children and continue her mother's legacy of helping other children and families.

# Company Overview



## Vision

is to provide the following in the Memphis community but not limited to statewide collaboration for:

Educational Film/TV programs for High School students  
Job Training Skills for Culinary and film,  
Literacy in the areas of Reading and Finances,  
Social Justice films and Mental Health Forums,  
Film & Music Fest/Celebrity Tournament Match,  
Artistic Theatrical performance workshops and events.

## Mission

- The MVP3 Foundation is all about films, music and community.
- The MVP3 Foundation is a 501(c)(3) member-supported nonprofit educational and entertainment organization that creates opportunities for communities to experience film, theater, artworks, culinary, and music to inspire, educate, challenge, and entertain.

# Program Highlights

## 1. Organization and Grant Purpose

MVP3 Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that uses media, film, music, and storytelling to educate, empower, and connect youth and communities in Shelby County. This grant supported media education, youth development, cultural programming, health and wellness education, internships, job readiness efforts, public art promotion, and related operating and program costs. MVP3 programming primarily serves youth and families in Shelby County, including Westwood and other under-resourced communities, court-involved youth, and diverse cultural communities such as the Latin community. MVP3 also used a portion of the grant to purchase essential media equipment and supplies, and secured approximately 10 gallons of green screen paint, related props, and set materials to support film production and live-stream programs.

### Collaborative Role and Approach

MVP3 Foundation works to fill critical gaps in youth, arts, and wellness services by connecting partners and resources that often operate in silos. The organization facilitates meetings, builds partnerships, and brings siloed groups together—including schools, courts, hospitals, artists, and community organizations—to coordinate efforts, share resources, and create more effective, unified programs for Shelby County youth and families.

## 2. Youth Media Education – Westwood High School

### Program: Westwood High School Media & Film Program

Students Served (This Year): 50 Westwood High School students

Participation Growth: This represents a 400% increase in student participation compared to the previous year.

### Narrative:

MVP3 delivered a 36-week, in-school media and film program at Westwood High School. Students received hands-on training in screenwriting, storytelling, camera operation, lighting, sound, interviewing, on-camera performance, and basic video editing. Working in small teams, students produced short films and video segments about their school and community. The year concluded with a showcase where their work was presented to peers, teachers, and families, building confidence, communication skills, and digital literacy.

## 3. Summer Film & Acting Camp – Mount Vernon

### Program: Summer Film & Acting Camp – Mount Vernon

Campers Served (Grant Period 2025-2026): 30 students total

### Narrative:

MVP3 hosted a summer film and acting camp where campers learned acting, film production, camera operation, sound, teamwork, and basic editing. The camp included a music and film contest in which youth developed creative projects that were evaluated and recognized for creativity, effort, and collaboration. Campers received certificates for their participation and skills, along with information on additional learning resources and opportunities to continue their development after camp.

# Program Highlights part 2

## 4. Cultural & Arts Programming

### 4.1 Let's Come Together Music Series

#### Program: Let's Come Together Music Series

MVP3 produces a monthly Let's Come Together music series that showcases three performers each month. The series provides ongoing performance opportunities and paid work for local musicians while bringing residents together in positive, family-friendly settings. It serves as a platform for artists to share their stories, build their audiences, and contribute to recognition of Memphis as a hub for music and culture.

### 4.2 Latin Film & Culture Series at Malco Theatre

#### Program: Latin Film & Culture Series

MVP3, in partnership with La Prensa, Casa Teatro, the Memphis Latin Chamber, and other community partners, supported a Latin-focused film and culture event at Malco Theatre. The event drew approximately 52 attendees and featured a Latin-themed film along with cultural discussion and engagement. It created a welcoming space for Spanish-speaking and bilingual families and helped expand cultural understanding among all attendees.

## 5. Health, Wellness & Safety Education

### 5.1 Finding Your Yes – Mind, Body & Soul Series

#### Program: Finding Your Yes – Mind, Body & Soul

MVP3 held three Finding Your Yes events focused on mental, physical, and emotional wellness: Two events in partnership with Baptist Hospital  
One event in partnership with Saint Francis

Each event featured approximately six panel speakers, including professionals in health, education, medical care, and mental health. Attendance was approximately 80 at one event and 65 at another, with similar turnout at the third event. Panels addressed mental health, stress, physical wellness, prevention, resilience, and access to care, and attendees received resource information and opportunities to connect directly with providers.

# Program Highlights

## part 3

### 5.2 Domestic Violence Awareness & Support – YWCA Partnership

#### Program: Domestic Violence Awareness & Support Activities

In partnership with the YWCA and other community organizations, MVP3 supported domestic violence awareness and resource connection efforts. MVP3 directly assisted three survivors of domestic violence, helping them connect to services such as shelter, safety planning, and basic needs support through partner agencies. Educational materials and brief conversations also promoted understanding of healthy relationships, respect, and emotional safety among community members.

### 6. Youth Voice & Community Storytelling – MVP3 News: Local Stories

#### Program: MVP3 News – Local Stories (Pilot Phase)

MVP3 developed and piloted a youth-led community news initiative. Youth participants learned basic journalism skills, including research, interviewing, filming, and editing, and produced positive “good news” segments that highlighted local people, artists, small community events, and youth achievements. Selected segments were shared on MVP3’s digital platforms, giving youth a real-world outlet for their work and providing the community with uplifting, locally focused content.

### 7. Internships & Work-Based Learning

#### Program: Internship & Work-Based Learning Program

##### Paid Student Internships: 5

2 students from Collerville

2 students from East STEM

1 student from White Station

##### College Internships: 2

2 college interns in social media, marketing, and live stream production

##### Narrative:

Interns worked under staff supervision and assisted with social media, marketing, media production, and live stream production for MVP3 programs and events. They also supported event preparation and on-site logistics. Through these internships, students and college participants gained hands-on technical and communication skills, professional mentorship, and documented experience to support resumes, school credit where applicable, and future education or employment opportunities.

# Program Highlights

## part 4

### 8. Job & Career Assessments and Guidance

Program: Job & Career Readiness Support

Total Youth Job Assessments Provided (Donated): 300

Distribution:

100 assessments donated to Juvenile Court for court-involved youth

200 assessments donated to Shelby County schools, including Westwood High School, Collierville High School, and other partner schools

Partnership:

MVP3 partnered with Morris & Associates, who deliver the training and facilitate the job assessments. MVP3's role is to coordinate with schools and agencies, connect youth to the assessments, and support follow-up guidance and opportunities based on assessment results.

Narrative:

Through this partnership, youth gain insight into their strengths, interests, and potential career paths. Assessment results are used to guide conversations about education, training, and employment options, helping young people—including court-involved youth—make more informed decisions about their futures and better understand possible career pathways.

### 9. Public Art, Film & Major Promotions

#### 9.1 The Road to Memphis – Film Project

Project: The Road to Memphis

Status: Completed

MVP3 completed The Road to Memphis, a film project that highlights Memphis music, culture, and history. The project engaged local talent and storytellers and serves both as an artistic work and as a tool to promote Memphis and its creative community to broader audiences.

#### 9.2 "Three Generations" Mural – Public Art & Global Promotion

Project: "Three Generations" Mural

Status: Completed and Promoted

MVP3 supported and promoted the "Three Generations" mural as a significant community public art project that celebrates legacy and connection across generations and enhances the visual landscape and pride of the area. To amplify its impact, MVP3:

Promoted the mural and related artists on a Times Square digital billboard in New York, providing national visibility; and partnered with TUFF to issue a global press release, bringing international attention to the mural, the artists, and Memphis' broader community arts efforts

# Program Highlights part 5

## 9.3 Mic of Unity – Music City Recognition & Museum Display

Project: Mic of Unity

Status: Displayed at the Withers Museum

MVP3 did not create the Mic of Unity, but played a key supporting role in helping the City of Memphis gain recognition as a “Music City” and in promoting the display of the Mic of Unity at the Withers Museum. Through outreach and promotion, MVP3 helped highlight Memphis’ music legacy and draw attention to this symbolic piece within a historic civil rights and cultural venue.

## 9.4 National Exposure for Music Artists

Through the Let’s Come Together Music Series and related media and promotional efforts, MVP3 provided national and global exposure for participating music artists and projects. Artists were highlighted through the Times Square campaign, inclusion in the global press release with TUFF, and digital content shared on MVP3’s platforms. These efforts helped local artists reach wider audiences and positioned Memphis’ creative community on a larger stage.

## 10. Summary of Outcomes (for Final Numbers)

The following outcomes summarize the impact of MVP3 Foundation’s work during the 2025–2026 grant period (to be finalized with confirmed counts):

Students in Westwood Media & Film Program: 50 (400% increase from prior year)

Campers in Summer Film & Acting Camp (2025–2026): 30

Paid student internships: 5

College interns (social media/marketing/live stream): 2

Youth job assessments donated and made available in partnership with Morris & Associates: 300

Survivors of domestic violence directly assisted in partnership with YWCA and others: 3

Public art and film projects completed and promoted: 3 major projects (The Road to Memphis, “Three Generations” mural, Mic of Unity display support)

### Overall Impact:

During the 2025–2026 grant period, MVP3 Foundation significantly expanded youth participation—especially at Westwood High School—and provided high-quality media, arts, cultural, and wellness programming to youth and community members across Shelby County. The organization supported internships, job readiness, and career exploration; elevated public art and film projects; and provided national and global promotion for Memphis artists and community initiatives, strengthening individual opportunities and the community’s cultural identity.

# Challenges that we're facing



## Memphis Issues

- Memphis is a city brimming full of talent and potential without outlets to release it. As a direct result of this we've had artists move to other cities. We've seen a rise in youth crime due to lack of hubs to develop future film makers, camera persons, singers, dancers, directors, producers, and etc.
- We're a city with a history of musical and film stars without a supporting system to develop more. We also noticed the lack of resources available for the current entertainment industry not to mention a void in the area of Mental health management. A lack of Mental health management is the main reason most of our industries most talented people commit suicide or turn to drugs.
- The lack of a formal Financial education is a major contributor to the livelihood of the residents of this city and its pool of talent that make money but are underinsured, have limited investments, and no wills or trusts for their loved ones.
- Our program overlaps so many issues in this city and the nation. We're tired of watching the problem and so we're focusing on offering the solution through our various programs and partnerships.

Enough of watching the problem

Let's offer the solutions and make an impact!

# Success Stories

## Beth

Provided support and resources for her and her daughter going through high-conflict and unethical family court procedures

## Zomina

We helped this young mother receive assistance and resources through our Esther Fund and Esther Plan. We helped her to receive legal services and the resources as well to obtain an apartment and furnishings while making sure that she has her legal rights of custody of her child.

We partnered with YWCA for Greater Memphis to make sure her and her child are safe and thriving.

Zomina now has a job and going to college in the medical field. We helped her get the resources to learn how to drive with driving lessons and to complete her Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) training and receive her certificate. We're so proud of her growth!

[Finalization of legal assistance for child custody and job creation and providing resources and support.](#)

## Joe

Assist in resources for granddaughter facing racism and unethical family law proceedings against Caucasian family.

## Joanna

Provided the resources needed to gain custody and mental healthcare assistance for her child.

# Success Stories - part 2

## Kara

Helped provide clothes, donated items, and resources to transition from a domestic violence shelter to living in her own apartment.

## David

Provided resources and assistance to gain support in a child alienation crisis case.

## Wanted to be anonymous

Provided the assistance and support needed while experiencing overwhelming sibling and elderly abuse, and wrongful swatting and false media allegations.



# Partner Spotlights



We have joined forces with organizations specializing in various areas, allowing us to better serve the city of Memphis and its residents. Our partnership exemplifies the power of collaboration and the great things we can achieve together. We have also partnered with TN Labor and Workforce (TYEP)

Our endeavors since June 2024 have culminated in successful collaborations with three students, and 15 paid internships with the objective of assisting 25 more by year-end for 2025.

Our team possesses a clear and ambitious vision, and we are just commencing to make a more profound impact for Shelby County.

# Community Impact



State Rep Jesse Chism (L) and John DeBerry - Sr Advisor to the Governor (R)

# Community Engagement



Mvp3 Foundation working with the youth in arts through our mural collaboration program in downtown Memphis



Mvp3 Foundation working with the youth at Westwood High School in our filmmaking classes in the Westwood district of Memphis



MVP3 Foundation giving our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual award for student excellence in filmmaking with our collaboration with the East High School Stem Filmmaking program

The student received a \$500 grant and this also was the first grant under the John Amos award, this award was created to honor, John Amos and his contribution to film and the arts

# Financial Statements

## Income Statements

An income statement is a financial statement that shows you the company's income and expenditures. It also shows whether a company is making profit or loss for a given period. The income statement, along with balance sheet and cash flow statement, helps you understand the financial health of your business.

## Balance Sheet

A balance sheet is a financial statement that shows a company's net worth at a specific time. It's one of three financial statements used to evaluate a company's financial position. Balance sheets usually include the same categories of information, so they can be used to compare different businesses of the same type.

## Cash Flow Statement

A cash flow statement, also known as a statement of cash flows (CFS), is a financial statement that tracks how money flows in and out of a business during an accounting period. It's one of the three most important financial statements for managing a small business, along with balance sheets and income statements.

### Revenue

**\$536,177**



### Expenses

**\$534,011**



### Profit

**\$2,166**



### Assets

**\$4,500,000**



### Liabilities

**\$0**



### Net Worth

**\$4,500,000**



### Operating

**\$267,000**



### Investing

**\$3,000,000**



### Financing

**\$0**



# Future Outlook

To further assist the Native American Indian Association in providing resources for Native Americans seeking to enhance skills and showcase their art, and to help provide media and marketing assistance to gain funding for the buildout of the State Museum for Native Americans, State Capitol and NAIA partnerships.

State Capitol events produced by MVP3 Foundation to recognize prominent figures in history and music to take place Jan - April 2026

To further assist Latin-American job creation in partnership with Staff Connect, LLC, with a goal of 100 jobs.

Global Forum to host visionary leaders for 'Discussions for Change' event, driving transformative conversations for a brighter future.

Financial Literacy and Resilience-Building Programs for Adverse Childhood Experiences

Project Trinity - TV show and programs to educate on horticulture and sustainability and build community gardens.

Three Beans Farmers Market - in collaboration with Dwelling International Church

Open hubs in LA, IL, MS, and NYC.

## More Future Plans

Continue our fundraising efforts. Our future plans include securing \$5 million in funding to acquire and restore three properties on Front Street and two other properties in downtown Memphis for our headquarters, film school, partner housing, rental production offices, and community projects.

Seek \$1.8 million to provide film production showcasing Tennessee and give back to foster care organizations

Work with Mt. Vernon Church in Westwood to build out a film, TV, and podcast hub and provide more resources and opportunities for the youth in the Westwood-Southeast community.

Building an AI division in our programs and creating three TV shows with East Stem Academy, Collierville High School, and Westwood for news, sports, and good stories that will stream on MVP3 Network.

Provide 15 more students with paid internships; Award 6 John Amos Grants; Award an additional \$2500 to UAF for autobody and collision certification for the student.

Help assist the Memphis Black Arts Alliance (MBAA) to bring more resources and collaboration to help them sustain.

Divorce Support Network to partner on annual golf tournament and raise up to \$250,000 for the Esther Fund that helps women and/or men and their children going through issues in family court matters.

# Contact Us

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