



IMPACT REPORT 2024

COMMUNITY AND UNITY



MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear friends,

Last year, Lady Ballers Centre, like so many charitable organizations, faced overwhelming demand for our programs. As we strived to meet the growing needs of our community, we have struggled to keep pace with increased expenses amid inflation and stagnant revenue. It was tough and continues to be, but despite the challenges, we have not had to scale back; instead, we continue to grow and thrive year after year. What best reflects this was the changes we made to our organization's name, from Lady Ballers Camp to Lady Ballers Centre, conveying that we are much more than just our camps, which so many have come to love year after year since 2012.

Last year, you made all the difference. Your dedicated support, along with others in our community, has helped keep us going strong, supporting hundreds of children, youth, and their families by providing enriching and meaningful opportunities they would not have otherwise had access to. Community brings a powerful sense of belonging and unity. It is where people with similar values collide and amplify the impact of their collective action for the greater good. Collectively, as a united front, so much more is made possible. It is this unity in our growing community that underpins Lady Ballers Centre's continued success. I hope you enjoy reading about all the positive achievements of 2024.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Togo Ajibolade" followed by a stylized flourish.

LBC Founder and Executive Director

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations, including the Anishinabek, the Haudenosaunee, the Ojibway/Chippewa and the Huron-Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Metis peoples. We acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 14 with the Mississaugas of the Credit. Lady Ballers Camp stands in solidarity with Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQ+ folx affected by the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada.



OUR MISSION

Lady Ballers Centre is a not-for-profit charitable organization that develops girl-centred programs which encourage non-competitive physical, emotional, and educational development. In our commitment to social change, our mandate is to create equitable access to recreational and sporting programs to all, regardless of their socioeconomic background. We are actively engaged in removing gender, social and economic barriers so that every girl can rise above stereotypes and reach their full potential. We foster leadership qualities, encouraging girls and young women to advocate for themselves and their communities to promote far-reaching positive change.



OUR VISION

We envision a socially just world where every girl is provided with an opportunity to grow and thrive, in a supportive environment where she is encouraged, mentored and inspired towards a brighter future with limitless possibilities.

CORE VALUES

COLLABORATION - TEAMWORK - ACCESSIBILITY -
DIVERSITY - INCLUSION - OPPORTUNITY - RESILIENCY





10
**Trained in Basketball
Coaching and
Refereeing**

12
**Electrical
Apprentices
Graduated**

165
**Camp
Participants**



168
**Supported
with
Homework**



32
**Volunteers
Recruited**



LADY BALLERS
CENTRE
2024
HIGHLIGHTS

6
**Youth Basketball
Coaches
Recruited**



6
**Camp Counsellors
Recruited**



Her Time to Play

Women's basketball has been soaring to new heights, and our team at Lady Ballers Centre is ecstatic to be part of it. Since 2012, we have been at the forefront of changing the game for girls and young women, so we are beyond thrilled about the WNBA's expansion and the announcement of the Toronto Tempo team. Never before have a generation of girls felt like they belong on the courts and are so motivated that they can have a future in basketball.

Last year, we were honoured to welcome former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, former Minister of Sport and Physical Activity Carla Qualtrough, and Mississauga-Malton MP Iqwinder Gaheer to celebrate the exciting news of the WNBA team coming to Toronto in 2026. It was an incredibly memorable day!



It Takes a Village

Lady Ballers Centre has achieved so much over the past year, thanks to the generous support of our incredible donors and sponsors, who continue to be our champions. We couldn't have done all that we do without their support. Here are some highlights of the incredible support we received in 2024.



When values align, so much more is possible. Sharing our mission to make sport accessible to *all* children, our partnerships with **Canadian Tire Jumpstart** and **ParticipACTION** are matches made in heaven. Our first summer camp, which was exclusively focused on basketball, was made possible thanks to both foundations.

Canada Basketball and **Canadian Women in Sports** are taking the lead in ensuring that more girls get on the courts so they can take their ball-handling skills to the next level. Their tremendous support has enabled us to reach more girls than ever. Also, **Canadian Tire Jumpstart** is playing an instrumental role in changing the face of sports leadership by helping us provide our youth with National Coaching Certifications in professional basketball coaches and referee training.



Our aspirational young coaches were thrilled to be invited to **Nike Toronto Coaches Summit**. Coaching is far more than just teaching skills. It is about mentorship, shaping young girls and women's experiences in sports, modelling what is possible and creating an inclusive space. Together, we are championing representation on and off the court!





Our *Eco Power Electrical Apprenticeship Training* is creating pathways to well-paying and in-demand careers in the skilled trades for our youth. With the support of **Toronto Foundation** and **United Way Greater Toronto**, we are breaking down racial and gender barriers in the construction industry. Also, thanks to **Ontario Trillium Foundation**, our centre was renovated to incorporate simulation-based training, enriching our trainees experience.

Last summer, our team was thrilled to have some talented musicians from **Create X Connect Club** come and teach our campers learn to play the electric keyboard, guitar, and songwriting. Our community partner sure livened it up with lots of fun melodies and rhythms!



Our friends at **All Day Fit** treated our girls to an energizing day of working up a sweat to unleash their creativity. Led by motivating personal trainers, the day was full of fitness workouts and artistic expression, leaving everyone feeling reinvigorated and inspired.



Tangerine Bank continues to be a great supporter of LBC, and we are privileged to be an official Project Forward partner. Over the past year, they helped us bring so much alive, including Black History Month celebrations, March break and summer camps, homework help and tutoring program, and they generously volunteer their time. Also, as the official bank of the Toronto Raptors, WNBA, and NBA, they are always providing us with amazing opportunities!



Making our Youth Future Ready

LBC believes that education and job readiness are the cornerstones to empowering disadvantaged youth. We instill these values through a range of initiatives, providing youth with opportunities to discover and develop their innate strengths and abilities so that they can reach their full potential.

Education Can Be Life-Changing

Students who receive support through our **Homework Help and Academic Tutoring** program experience a significant shift not only in their grades but also in their confidence. Educational support is provided in a safe, supportive, and motivating learning environment, where students develop better study habits, including time management and focus techniques.

"My tutor, Ashley, helped me apply myself better in my studies. I'm heading into my final year of high school next fall, and my goal is to get in Nursing School."

Monique, 16year old participant



Youth Job Readiness

Getting your first job has never been easy. However, it has recently become a lot harder. According to Toronto Foundation, youth (15-24) unemployment in the Greater Toronto Area rose steeply from 13.2% to 19.8% between January & July 2024. Our programs focus on equipping youth with the professional skills, hands-on experience and tailor-made support they need to step into the labour force.

Our **Eco Power Electrical Apprenticeship Training** program has been heading in an exciting direction, upgrading from a pre-apprenticeship to an intensive apprenticeship program. The paid training and internships set our youth up for success from the outset, giving them a greater competitive edge once they graduate and continue in their skilled trade apprenticeships.

When I came to Canada as a refugee from Kenya, I wasn't sure where to begin. Joining ECO Power was a turning point for me, helping me build by confidence and skills in a new country.

I worked hard every day, and I'm proud to say that after graduating, I was offered a job with Van Edward Electrical, the company run by our lead instructor. This program didn't just teach me a trade, it gave me a chance to start over and succeed.

2024 Graduate Joash Wanjala

Unbelievably, we received over 500 applications for this year's intake. This colossal volume of interest indicates we've tapped into what appeals to our youth and the level of need for youth employment initiatives like ours.



SLEG - Sports Leadership & Empowerment offers Black female youth the opportunity to develop marketable skills, earn professional certifications, and gain valuable hands-on experience through paid internships in basketball coaching and refereeing, fostering youth job readiness while diversifying basketball leadership to pave the way for a more equitable, inclusive, and safer sports industry.

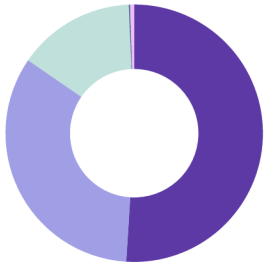
LADY BALLERS CENTRE

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

REVENUES	2024	2023
FOUNDATION & SPECIAL GRANTS	\$262,804.00	\$413,447.49
PRIVATE GIVING (INDIVIDUALS & CORPORATE)	115,292.00	119,839.59
PUBLIC SECTOR REVENUES	398,734.00	124,258.00
AMORTIZATION OF DEFERRED CAPITAL ASSET CONTRIBUTIONS	1,250.00	1,250.00
OTHER	3,963.00	1,913.00
	<u>\$ 782,043.00</u>	<u>\$ 660,708.08</u>
EXPENSES		
PROGRAM EXPENSES:		
SALARIES AND WAGES	\$ 252,684.00	\$256,555.00
PROGRAMS	272,089.00	147,684.00
TRAVEL AND VEHICLE	40,706.00	49,384.00
OCCUPANCY AND VENUE RENTALS	131,911.00	93,203.00
FUNDRAISING	13,163.00	38,800.00
PROFESSIONAL FEES	31,015.00	32,271.00
ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL	16,011.00	13,910.00
AMORTIZATION OF CAPITAL ASSETS	1,250.00	1,250.00
	<u>\$ 758,829.00</u>	<u>\$ 633,057.00</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	23,214.00	27,651
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>113,683.00</u>	<u>86,032</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 136,897.00</u>	<u>\$ 113,683</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

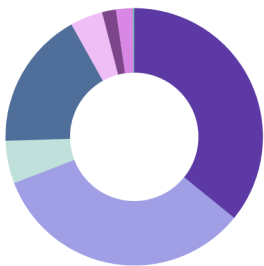
JAN 01 - DEC 31 2024



TOTAL REVENUE \$782,043

REVENUE

- PUBLIC SECTOR REVENUES - 51%
- FOUNDATIONS AND SPECIAL GRANTS - 33.6%
- PRIVATE GIVING - INDIVIDUALS & CORPORATE - 14.7%
- AMORTIZATION OF DEFERRED CAPITAL ASSET CONTRIBUTIONS - 0.2%
- OTHER - 0.5%



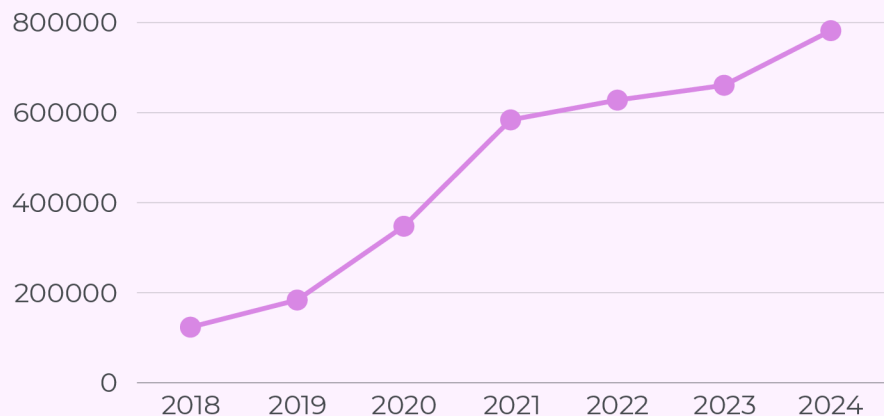
TOTAL EXPENSES \$758,829

EXPENSES

- PROGRAMS - 35.9%
- SALARIES AND WAGES - 33.3%
- TRAVEL AND VEHICLE - 5.4%
- OCCUPANCY & VENUE RENTALS - 17.4%
- PROFESSIONAL FEES - 4.1%
- FUNDRAISING - 1.7%
- ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL - 2.1%
- AMORTIZATION OF CAPITAL ASSETS - 0.2%

REVENUE OVER THE YEARS

YEAR OVER YEAR
GROWTH



THANK YOU

Lady Ballers Centre is made possible by the tremendous support, kindness, and generosity from all of our incredible donors, funders, and community supporters. We are grateful to all of you who believe in our mission and invest in our work with their time, energy and financial support.

Thank you to our Board Members for their commitment and leadership.

Joanna Williams

Abi Ajibolade

Esinnah Ebube

Lisa Marie Yang

Annie Maik

Nogie Eghobamien

Oyin Kehinde-Okitika

Maeve Kern

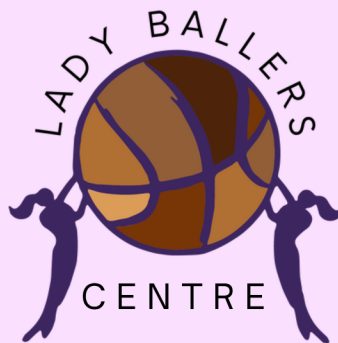
THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

- ABI AJIBOLADE
- AKINWOLE JAMES
- ALASTAIR SAMELS
- AMANDA THOMSON
- ANN ROSE
- CARLOS BARRIENTOS
- CATHERINE MAY
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- CHRIS HOLT
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- ROBYN SELVAM
- SACH BHUTANI
- SURABHI SIVARATNAM
- THE CLAYTON GYOTOKU FUND
- THE GEOFFREY AND MARY SCOTT MEMORIAL FUND
- THE SJN DISCRETIONARY FUND
- THE WOOD HART FUND
- TOFI AJIBOLADE
- TOYO AJIBOLADE
- TRISTAN JOHNSTON
- VICTOR GOEBEL









a safe place for girls to make friends,
keep fit and have fun

www.ladyballerscamp.org
647-236-8696

