LADY BALLERS CENTRE

2025 IMPACT REPORT

CREATIVITY THAT CHANGES LIVES



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

Thank you, truly, for your kindness, generosity, and unwavering commitment to the young people we serve at Lady Ballers Centre. Your continued support means more than ever, especially in a time of growing need. The past few years have been incredibly challenging. Families are struggling with the rising costs of housing and food, and with the mental-health pressures that come with instability. Young people are finding it difficult to imagine a hopeful future. Climate anxiety, AI-driven job disruption and record-high youth unemployment are shaping their daily realities, and school disengagement is becoming a big concern. In response, we are providing supports that help youth stay in school, while also creating meaningful pathways to employment through job-readiness programs and paid skills-training, opportunities that can truly change the trajectory of a young person's life.

As a charitable organization, we are also feeling the strain of intense economic pressures. We have had to stretch every dollar, innovate constantly, and find creative new ways to meet rising demand. What has carried us through is your belief in our mission. Your support is a source of strength and inspiration, reminding us that we are not doing this work alone.

I hope you enjoy this report, and I want you to know that none of our accomplishments in 2025 would have been possible without your phenomenal support.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart,

Toyo Ajibolade

LBC Founder and Executive Director



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND STATEMENT

Lady Ballers Centre 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. LBC stands in solidarity with Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQ+ folx affected by the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada. We acknowledge all Treaty Peoples, including those who came here as settlers, as migrants either in this generation or in generations past, and those of us who came here involuntarily, particularly those brought to these lands as a result of the transatlantic slave trade and slavery. We pay tribute to those ancestors of African origin and descent.

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



Snack Time



Toronto Zoo





LBC Carnival

CAMP MEMORIES!

March Break and
Summer Camp 2025 were a blast,
bursting with creativity, fun and community spirit!

Thanks to the amazing support from the **City of Brampton** and **Tangerine Bank**, LBC is able to provide girls with a safe place to play, socialize and engage in enriching camp every year at no cost.

Also, a huge thank you to **Second Harvest** and their **Feeding Our Future** program, for keeping our campers energized with free healthy lunches and snacks!



Celebrating Achievements



Learning ASL



Hair Styling



Playing Ball





Girls in STEM

FUTURE PROOFING **OUR YOUTH**



Navigating a fast-changing world with rapid technological disruptions, climate anxiety, and an increasingly competitive labour market can be overwhelming for youth. When the future feels uncertain, choosing a path forward can be overwhelming–especially for youth who already face significant systemic barriers.

Today's youth are experiencing the highest unemployment rates seen in decades outside of the pandemic. Overall youth unemployment has climbed to 14.3%, and for Black youth, the rate is even more alarming at 23.2%.* It reflects the growing demand we see each year for our skills-training and job-readiness programs, as youth actively try to break into the labour market.

LBC ECO POWER

READY TO POWER THE FUTURE

Our **LBC Eco Power Electrical Apprenticeship Training Program** offers a unique pathway into the skilled trades by blending traditional electrical training with energy-efficient, sustainable, and renewable technologies. From electrical rough-ins and conduit installations to hands-on experience with solar and wind systems, the program equips young apprentices with the technical skills and confidence needed to thrive in the green energy transition.

*Gellatly, G., & McCormack, C. (2026, April 22). *Recent developments in the Canadian economy: Spring 2026*. Statistics Canada.

Our program is powered by the steadfast support of **United Way Greater Toronto**, which has championed LBC Eco Power from the very beginning. We are also deeply grateful for the **Fund for Gender Equality** through the **Toronto Foundation**, delivered in partnership with Community Foundations of Canada and the Government of Canada, as well as the vital investment from **Peel Region's** Black-led, Black-focused, and Black-serving **(B3) Fund.** Together, our incredible partners make it possible for Black youth to access barrier-free, professional training that leads to meaningful, secure, and well-paid careers in the skilled trades.



WE ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD OF OUR 2025 GRADUATES!

SLEG: SPORTS LEADERSHIP & EMPOWERMENT FOR GIRLS

SLEG empowers teen girls with leadership and employability skills while strengthening our organization's capacity. Through a circular impact model, our program creates youth employment pathways by offering free, certified basketball coaching and referee training. Through investing in young people's skills development, we also expand our capacity to deliver high-quality, no-cost basketball programming for children and youth living in poverty.

SLEG removes one of the biggest barriers young people face when trying to land their first job - lack of experience. Upon graduation, participants move into four-week paid internships as sport and recreation workers, assistant coaches, or camp counsellors, gaining hands-on experience that makes them competitive in the job market. Our initiative also fosters essential life skills, including financial literacy, teamwork, emotional intelligence, mental wellness and self-care. Furthermore, SLEG motivates youth to remain engaged in school, which is critical when...



Only 40% of Ontario high school students regularly attended school in 2024–2025

The youth living in poverty we serve face significant barriers to graduating from high school and pursuing post-secondary education. Dropping out of school has lifelong negative consequences, and SLEG can help change that trajectory. Our team uses basketball as a platform to encourage exploration of post-secondary pathways.

> SLEG really helped me develop better problem solving skills, leadership skills and communications skills.
>
> It made me feel confident and ready to step into my role as a coach.

Peace, SLEG Graduate



With the many scholarships and bursaries available to student-athletes, youth feel more driven to achieve academic success. Programs like SLEG are so valuable in preventing school disengagement. By pairing high-quality basketball training with mentorship, life-skills development, and exposure to post-secondary pathways, the program inspires youth to stay in school and believe in their academic potential, enabling them to envision a brighter future.

Thank you **United Way Greater Toronto** for supporting us through the **Community Program Grants**, making SLEG a reality, a program that profoundly changes the course of so many teen girls' lives!

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY



LADY BALLERS CENTRE

Our team were thrilled to celebrate upgrades to our Lady Ballers Centre, including brand-new hardwood floors and an expanded mezzanine purpose-built to support our Eco Power Electrical Apprenticeship program. These extensive renovations were made possible through the incredible support from **Ontario Trillium Foundation**. We were honoured to have **Deepak Anand**, **MPP Mississauga-Malton**, join us and celebrate with the whole community.

Tangerine Bank and **Tangerine Hoops** also helped brighten our transformed space, painting a vibrant mural that celebrates girls' basketball and the power of community. A huge thank you to artist **@_monkyi** for the beautiful and inspiring design!



YOUNG CHANGEMAKERS



BROTHERS IN SISTERHOOD

We wanted to create a space where girls and boys could come together on the court to learn, play, and grow in an environment that is fun, inclusive, and grounded in safety. Thanks to **Canadian Tire Jumpstart**'s generous support, our Brothers in Sisterhood program became a reality .



YEA - YOUTH ENDING ABUSE

With support from the **Government of Ontario's Safer and Vital Communities Grant**, we launched *Youth Ending Abuse*, a youth-led initiative that brought together teen girls, boys, and the wider community to raise awareness about dating violence, sex trafficking and toxic masculinity. Through panel discussions, community town halls, educational resources, workshops and digital campaigns, LBC partnered with **Peel Regional Police**, **Tinu Ark of Mercy** and **Women's Health in Women's Hands** to ensure that the prevention of gender-based violence is everyone's responsibility.

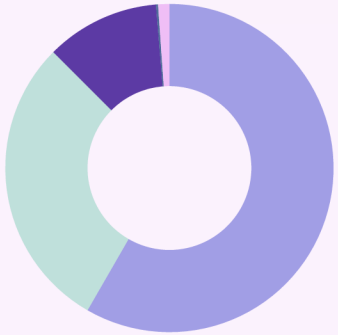




LADY BALLERS CENTRE

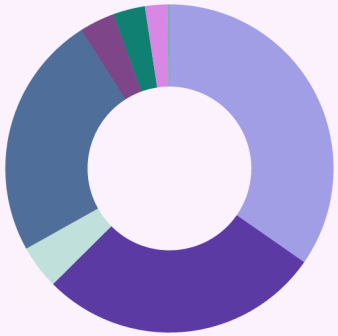
FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 01 - DECEMBER 31, 2025

REVENUE	2025
PUBLIC SECTOR REVENUES	$347,876
FOUNDATION & SPECIAL GRANTS	173,926
PRIVATE GIVING - INDIVIDUALS AND CORPORATIONS	66,821
AMORTIZATION OF DEFERRED CAPITAL ASSET CONTRIBUTIONS	1,250
OTHER	6,580
	$ 596,453



TOTAL REVENUE $596,453

EXPENSES	
PROGRAM EXPENSES:	
- SALARIES AND BENEFITS	$243,585
- PROGRAMS	195,764
- TRAVEL AND VEHICLE	30,405
OCCUPANCY AND VENUE RENTALS	169,195
PROFESSIONAL FEES	24,368
FUNDRAISING	22,127
ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL	15,612
AMORTIZATION OF CAPITAL ASSETS	1,250
	$ 702,306



TOTAL EXPENSES $702,306

(DEFICIENCY) EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	**105,853**
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	136,897
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	**$ 31,044**

Thank you!

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

Nogieru Eghobamien - Esinnah Ebube - Abimbola Ajibolade -
Oyin Kehinde-Okitika - Maeve Kern - Annie Maik -
Jimi King - Adesola Ologundudu

Lady Ballers Centre would not exist without our amazing supporters. Your generosity and compassion ensure that our children and youth are provided the chance to thrive and have opportunities to discover their true potential. Thank you for believing in our mission and standing alongside us in this journey!

Abi ajibolade
Alastair Samels
Carlos Barrientos
Casey Connor
Catherine May
Christina Harbak
Christina Le
Claire Chaisson
Clayton Gyotoku Fund at Toronto Foundation
Edvan Pirabakaran
Eva Letat
Fiona MacFarlane
Frederick Chagnon
Fund for Gender Equality Grants Fund at Toronto Foundation
Golshan Crewe
Julian Faid
Loris Mattiello
Lucy De Luca
Margaret & Gordon Fleming Fund at Toronto Foundation
Mark Ryan
Michelle Musindo
Nathalia Vasquez Serna
Nicole Danesi
Ren Honek
Sarah Mattiello
The Girlhood Project
Toyo Ajibolade
Victor Goebel


Jumpstart
Giving kids a sporting chance.


Tangerine
PROJECT FORWARD


BRAMPTON
brampton.ca
Flower City


Ontario


SECOND
HARVEST
FOOD RESCUE


Region of Peel
working with you


FEMMES ET SPORT CANADA
CANADIAN WOMEN & SPORT


TORONTO
FOUNDATION


PARTICIPACTION
Let's get moving.


PETL
Peel Elementary
Teachers' Local


United Way
Greater Toronto


BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH
CXC
ART, STYLE AND CULTURE


Ontario
Trillium
Foundation
Fondation
Trillium
de l'Ontario


Service
Canada


Greater
Toronto


Canadian
Heritage


Canada
Helps.org
giving made simple

LADY BALLERS CENTRE

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

www.ladyballerscamp.org
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