

The Nicholas Center

Innovate, Inspire & Include



2024 / 25
IMPACT
REPORT



A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As I reflect on the past year, I am inspired by how The Nicholas Center is thriving programmatically, reaching a level of impact that proves what is possible. Our participants continue to reach new heights of achievement, and the quality, creativity, and consistency of our programs remain a constant source of pride and hope.

The stories and outcomes highlighted in this Impact Report reflect a community that believes in inclusion, invests in potential, and shows every day what is possible when people are given meaningful opportunities to belong.

At the same time, this report arrives during a period of real challenge. The funding landscape continues to shift, and pressures on families and service providers have intensified. What remains constant is the resilience of our participants and the unwavering dedication of our staff, families, and partners.

Beneath every milestone lies the profound humanity behind our mission to include an historically marginalized population in all facets of community and work life. This is not just important work—it is vital to our communities and our world. When we embrace every individual's potential, we make our **TNC community strong, vibrant, and well.**

Our “Vocational Revolution” is personified by the TNC Chocolate Lab, named Best Startup 2025, where participants learn culinary art and retail management skills, proving that inclusion is a brilliant investment. Likewise, our TNC Musical and Art Showcase prove that talent flourishes when barriers are dismantled and replaced by opportunity.

Transparency with our stakeholders is essential: while Medicaid remains vital, it covers only part of our annual operational costs. To sustain high-quality, individualized supports, we must bridge a significant funding gap through private philanthropy, memberships, and strategic grants.

I invite you to consider a monthly membership donation or increased commitment this year to help safeguard the programs so many rely on.

Thank you for remaining the keystone that makes this work possible.

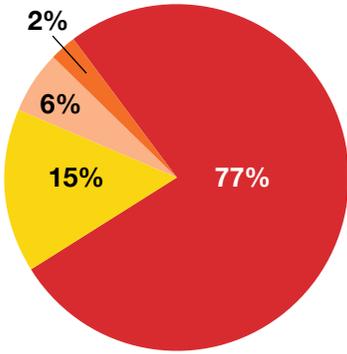
With heartfelt gratitude, and vision,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole Ferrara".

Nicole Ferrara
Co-Founder & Executive Director,
The Nicholas Center

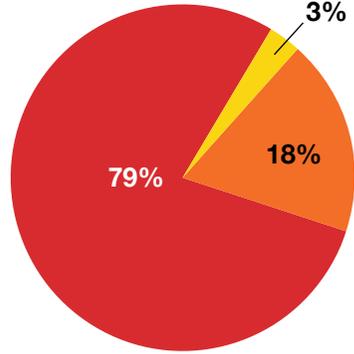


Revenue & Expenses | 2024/25



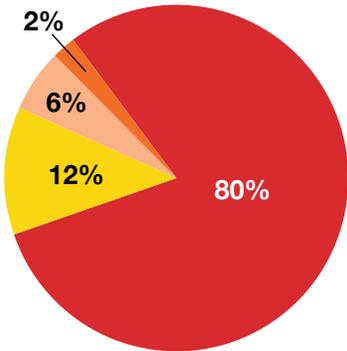
FY 2024 Revenue

● Program Service	\$4.30M
● Contributions and Grants	\$865K
● Special Events	\$337K
● Other	\$127K



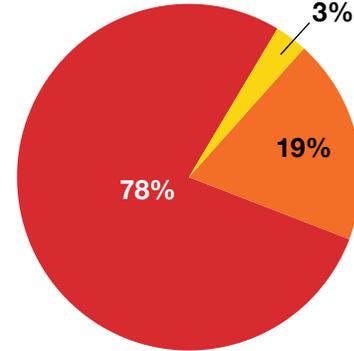
FY 2024 Expenses

● Program	\$4.2M
● Management and General	\$974K
● Fundraising	\$155K



FY 2025 Revenue

● Program Service	\$4.92M
● Contributions and Grants	\$738K
● Special Events	\$374K
● Other	\$125K



FY 2025 Expenses

● Program	\$4.9M
● Management and General	\$1.2M
● Fundraising	\$185K

GRANTS – Thank you for funding our mission!



By The Numbers

Revolutionizing the way
Autistic adults learn,
live and work.

- 1** TNC Chocolate Lab Storefront - Culinary Training & sweet treats
- 2** New York State locations - Long Island & Westchester
- 12** School Districts partner with TNC to serve **38** Students
- 82** Individuals participate in TNC's Community Inclusion Program
- 131** Community Partners on Long Island and Westchester
- 175** Autistic individuals supported by TNC
- 185** Episodes of the Nicholas Center News online news program
- 3,100** TNC Newsletters written, produced & delivered in the community by TNC participants
- 3,500** Individuals served by The Nicholas Center Provides Pantry Program
- 4,257** TNC followers on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn
- 22,950** Hours of On-the-Job Support by TNC Staff provided to TNC participants
- 50,000** TNC Chocolate Lab treats produced by TNC Participants

* Numbers as of February 2026.

THE NICHOLAS CENTER – COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Community Stewardship

Cultivating meaningful partnerships that open doors for our participants.

Using the community as our "university," TNC participants and staff take our mission into the neighborhood every day. Through daily service to local nonprofits and businesses, our individuals gain professional experience while helping local organizations achieve their goals.



Vocational Skills & Training

Building marketable skills and real-world experience for long-term vocational success.

TNC's vocational programs and inclusive partnerships empower hundreds of Autistic individuals annually. Our credentialed staff provide expert support, helping participants master new skills and reach their personal milestones.

- **Work Readiness and Soft-Skills** – Hands-on, staff-supported training that builds confidence and independence through personalized vocational cues.
- **Supported Employment** – Through tailored internships and hands-on support, we've connected **53 vocational candidates** to high-impact roles at partners like **MSG, Northwell Health, and Spectrum Designs**. TNC provides the essential training and guidance to turn placement into long-term workplace success.
- **Micro-Businesses** – Real-world skill application through participant-led ventures, including our fulfillment center, mobile Cantina Cart, and TNC Candle Lab.



Expanding Reach

Fostering new opportunities and marketable skills through creativity, service, and fun.

- **TNC Media Lab** – Participants master digital communication by writing, producing, and anchoring our online news program, podcast, and newsletters.
- **Pantry Program** – A vital community link where participants - purchase, sort and deliver essential supplies to over **3,500** neighbors across Long Island and Westchester.
- **TNC Chocolate Lab** – An immersive culinary arts experience where participants learn professional decorative techniques and retail management in our neighborhood chocolate and gift shop.



Empowering Autistic individuals to learn, live, and work in their communities through innovative programs and services.

The Nicholas Center creates a future of belonging by fostering independence through strengthened life skills and daily communication abilities. We build inclusive pathways to employment through professional training and individualized on-the-job support, turning potential into practice through meaningful community engagement. Our mission is to ensure every individual has the support they need to lead a full, integrated, and productive life.



"TNC has been a powerful advocate for our son, offering unwavering support that has empowered him to grow and thrive. We are profoundly grateful!" -TNC Family

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