

the legacy center 



2025-26 ANNUAL REPORT

LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

Dear Friends, Partners, Supporters, and Community,

As I reflect on another remarkable year at The Legacy Center, I am overwhelmed with gratitude—not simply for what we accomplished, but for what we accomplished together.

When The Legacy Center first opened its doors, we dreamed of creating more than an after-school program. We envisioned a place where young people would discover purpose, families would find support, educators would be renewed, and an entire community would experience hope.

Today, that vision continues to become reality.

During this past year, we expanded our reach, strengthened our financial foundation, diversified our funding, and invested more deeply than ever into the lives of children and families throughout North St. Louis County.

Our after-school program continues to grow because families trust us. Our summer camp continues to expand because young people know they belong here. Our educators continue to partner with us because they believe in our mission.

This year also marked a historic milestone for our organization. **The Legacy Center was awarded a \$5 million investment to start our endowment and a three-year, \$3 million investment from the St. Louis Children's Service Fund**—our first major public funding source outside of our founding partner,

Community Impact Network. This transformational investment represents confidence in our work and positions us for long-term sustainability as we continue our journey toward becoming a publicly supported charity.

But our greatest accomplishment cannot be measured in dollars.

It is measured in the confidence of a child who finally believes in themselves.

It is measured in the parent who receives support during a difficult season.

It is measured in the educator who rediscovers joy in serving children.

It is measured in a community that is beginning to imagine what is possible when every child has access to opportunity.

The Legacy Center exists because we believe every child deserves to be seen, valued, challenged, and loved.

As we look toward the future, we remain committed to innovation, excellence, accountability, and transformational impact.

Thank you for believing in our mission.

Thank you for investing in our children.

Together, we are not simply changing lives.

We are building a legacy.

With gratitude,

Terry Harris

The Legacy Center STL

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MISSION

The Legacy Center STL radically re-imagines the delivery of programs that inspire creativity and drive in young people, professional development that supports talented educators, and services that strengthen the community.

VISION

A community where every child has equitable access to opportunities that allow them to discover purpose, develop leadership, and create lasting change.

WHOLE-CHILD, WHOLE-COMMUNITY IMPACT

Afterschool & Academic Enrichment

TLC's afterschool programs provide safe, structured, and enriching environments where students receive academic support alongside creative exploration. Literacy, STEM, arts, and project-based learning are intentionally integrated into daily programming.

IMPACT:

Students demonstrate increased engagement, improved attendance, and growing confidence as learners.

Social Emotional Learning & Mental Health

TLC embeds trauma-informed, restorative, and culturally responsive practices across all programs. Through mentoring, group support, emotional skill-building, and relationship-centered care, students learn how to navigate challenges and regulate emotions.

IMPACT:

Students report feeling safer, more supported, and better equipped to manage stress and conflict.

Wellness & Holistic Development

Through yoga, mindfulness, movement, and nature-based activities, TLC promotes physical health, emotional balance, and self-awareness—especially critical in communities with limited access to wellness resources.

IMPACT:

Students demonstrate improved self-regulation, focus, and overall well-being.

Workforce & Career Pathways

In 2025, TLC advanced planning for early-college and workforce development pathways in partnership with Normandy Schools Collaborative, St. Louis Community College, and industry partners. These pathways are designed to connect students to credentials, careers, and economic mobility.

IMPACT:

Students are exposed to postsecondary and career possibilities earlier and more intentionally.

**EXPANDED WELLNESS PROGRAMMING FOR
YOGA AND MINDFULNESS, STEM, CREATIVE
ARTS, AND ACADEMIC EXPLORATION**



2025-26 YEAR IN REVIEW- IMPACT AT A GLANCE

500+

STUDENTS SERVED IN AFTERSCHOOL,
ENRICHMENT, SATURDAY, & SUMMER PROGRAMS

87.5%

ATTENDANCE RATE FOR YOUTH

5,000+

COMMUNITY MEMBERS SERVED

92.5%

DAILY AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH SCHOOLS NSC
AND THE LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

2,000

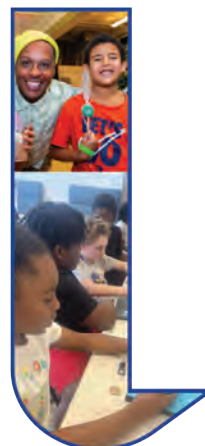
EDUCATORS SERVED

1

STUDENT AT A TIME. WORKFORCE AND
EARLY-COLLEGE PATHWAYS
IN DEVELOPMENT

CHADSCoalition
of Mental Health
COMMUNITIES HEALING ADOLESCENT DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING AND MENTAL
HEALTH SUPPORT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
CHADS COALITION FOR MENTAL HEALTH



BY THE NUMBERS

ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH

\$5M

COMMITTED TO THE LEGACY
CENTER ENDOWMENT

\$3M

CHILDREN'S SERVICE FUND
INVESTMENT FOR 3 YEARS

COMMUNITY IMPACT

5,000+

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ENGAGED

100+

FAMILIES CONNECTED THROUGH THE
LEGACY CENTER'S REFERRAL PROGRAM

2,000+

EDUCATORS PARTICIPATED IN WELLNESS
AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

131%

GROWTH SINCE LAUNCHING
THE SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM



2025-26 STRATEGIC PLANNING

FOCUS AREAS

- Deepen student academic and SEL outcomes
- Expand holistic wellness and mental health supports
- Strengthen educator professional development
- Advance workforce and early college pathways
- Build long-term financial and organizational sustainability

PROGRESS SNAPSHOT

- Programs aligned to CASEL, trauma-informed, and restorative frameworks
- Pilot initiatives launched for workforce pathways and youth leadership
- Continued investment in staff training, compliance, and systems infrastructure

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WE ARE THE LEGACY.

A YEAR OF INNOVATION

CHILDREN'S SERVICE FUND AWARD

The Legacy Center STL received a historic three-year investment of \$3M from the St. Louis Children's Service Fund to provide mentoring, prevention services, and youth development programming throughout St. Louis County.

This investment will allow TLC to:

- Expand mentoring services
- Increase mental health supports
- Improve family engagement
- Strengthen youth resilience
- Build long-term organizational sustainability

OUTDOOR EDUCATION INITIATIVE

This year, TLC launched its Outdoor Education initiative designed to reconnect youth with nature through:

- Hiking
- Camping
- Fishing
- Environmental education
- Horseback riding
- Conservation partnerships

Because every child deserves access to the outdoors.



Join us in building a stronger legacy for our community's future.



PROGRAMMING & INVESTMENT

Soul Fresh, Soul Clean

One of the year's signature events, SFSC provided holistic wellness experiences:

- Yoga
- Massage therapy
- Dance therapy
- Sound baths
- Nutrition education
- Health screenings
- Mental wellness activities

Supporting those who spend their lives supporting others.

Strategic Partnerships

Our work is only possible because of strong community partnerships.

Thank you to:

- Community Impact Network
- St. Louis Children's Service Fund
- Normandy Schools Collaborative
- St. Louis Community College
- Missouri Department of Conservation
- CHADS Coalition
- BJC Behavioral Health
- University of Missouri–St. Louis
- Local foundations
- Community volunteers
- Families and supporters

Together, we accomplish more.

Looking Ahead

During the coming year, TLC will focus on:

- Expanding youth mentoring
- Growing outdoor education programming
- Launching new workforce opportunities
- Strengthening family supports
- Increasing public and private partnerships
- Building long-term financial sustainability
- Expanding organizational capacity
- Continuing measurable impact in our region

Building Workforce Pathways

The Legacy Center STL continued investing in career exploration through:

- Skilled trades exposure
- Workforce certifications
- Entrepreneurship
- Legacy Labs
- College and career readiness
- Youth business initiatives

Preparing youth not only for graduation—but for life.

Financial Stewardship

Responsible stewardship remains one of our highest priorities.

Funding Highlights:

- New CSF Award: \$3 Million over 3 years
- Endowment Commitment: \$5 Million
- Continued investment into direct youth programming
- Increased organizational sustainability

Every dollar entrusted to The Legacy Center STL represents an investment in children.



ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Looking ahead to Fiscal Year 2026, The Legacy Center plans to strengthen its internal infrastructure by transitioning key functions in-house. The organization intends to hire in-house development staff to support long-term fundraising sustainability and deepen funder relationships. Additionally, TLC is exploring the transition to in-house accounting services to enhance financial oversight, responsiveness, and operational efficiency.

The Legacy Center has been actively working with Maurice Brown and the Community Impact Network to review scopes of work, candidate resumes, and job descriptions to ensure alignment with organizational needs and best practices.

A young boy with short, curly brown hair is smiling broadly at the camera. He is wearing a blue denim jacket over a green polo shirt and a purple collared shirt. He has a grey backpack with green straps and is holding a yellow book. In the background, another child is visible, slightly out of focus, wearing a striped shirt and carrying a backpack. A yellow wavy line is positioned above the boy's head.

LEGACY

STUDENT STORIES: LEGACY IN ACTION

Behind every TLC program is a young person discovering who they are and who they can become.

Finding Safety and Belonging

When Aaliyah, a middle school student, first joined TLC afterschool programming, she was quiet and withdrawn. Over time, through consistent routines and SEL-centered support, she began to lead mindfulness exercises and actively participate in group activities.

From Stress to Self-Regulation

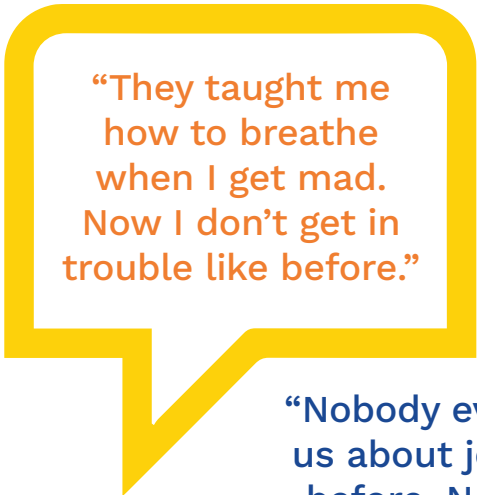
For Marcus, elementary school afternoons were often marked by frustration. With TLC's trauma-informed approach—movement breaks, restorative conversations, and consistent relationships—Marcus learned how to pause and ask for help.

Imagining a Bigger Future

High school students engaged in TLC's workforce exploration programming began to see new possibilities for themselves.

Families at the Center

Supporting students means supporting families. TLC serves as a trusted hub where caregivers connect to resources, relationships, and community. Family engagement continues to grow as TLC deepens its role as a neighborhood anchor.



**“They taught me
how to breathe
when I get mad.
Now I don’t get in
trouble like before.”**



**“Nobody ever talked to
us about jobs like this
before. Now I know I
have options.”**

SCHOOL PARTNER

**“TLC is not just an afterschool
program—it’s a lifeline for our
students and families.”**



**“When I come here,
I feel calm. I don’t
feel rushed or judged.
I can just be myself.”**

TLC PARENT

**“My child feels safe here.
That means everything to me.”**



LOOKING AHEAD: EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS

As The Legacy Center STL (TLC) enters the second half of the year, we are energized by several strategic developments that deepen our impact, strengthen our partnerships, and position the organization for long-term sustainability. These initiatives reflect our continued commitment to whole-child, whole-family, and whole-community support.

Partnership with St. Louis Community College (STLCC): Credit-Bearing Workforce Pathways



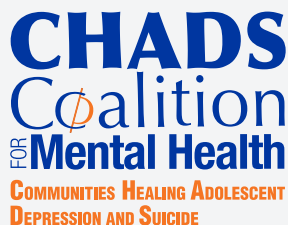
TLC is excited to announce a developing partnership with St. Louis Community College to offer credit-bearing opportunities for students engaged in workforce development and career exploration. This partnership will allow students to earn college credit while still in high school or participating in TLC programming—creating early exposure to postsecondary success, reducing barriers to college access, and strengthening career readiness. This initiative represents a critical step in building seamless pipelines from education to employment.

Launch of the TLC Outdoor Family Program



We are proud to introduce the TLC Outdoor Family Program, a new initiative designed to reconnect students and families with nature through activities such as hiking, camping, fishing, and outdoor exploration. Grounded in mental health and wellness, this program leverages the therapeutic benefits of outdoor experiences to reduce stress, strengthen family bonds, and promote physical and emotional well-being. We are especially excited about the intergenerational focus—ensuring families experience healing and joy together in outdoor spaces.

Strengthened Partnership with CHADS Coalition



TLC is deepening its collaboration with CHADS Coalition for Mental Health, expanding access to consistent, high-quality mental health supports for our students. Through this enhanced partnership, CHADS will provide more regular programming, prevention education, and direct supports—further strengthening TLC's comprehensive approach to social-emotional learning, suicide prevention, and overall student wellness.

THANK YOU

Our Work Is Possible Because of You

As we close another remarkable year at [The Legacy Center STL](#), we do so with tremendous gratitude.

To our students:

Thank you for bringing your energy, curiosity, creativity, and joy into the Legacy Center every day. You are the reason we exist, and you remain at the center of every decision we make.

To our parents and families:

Thank you for trusting us with your children and for believing in our mission. Your partnership, encouragement, and continued support have helped the Legacy Center grow into a place where young people can learn, explore, belong, and thrive.

To our funders, donors, partners, and supporters:

Thank you for investing in our young people and believing in what is possible when a community comes together around its children. Your generosity allows us to dream bigger, serve more families, expand opportunities, and build a stronger future.

With Special Gratitude

We extend a huge and heartfelt thank you to the Community Impact Network and the St. Louis County Children's Service Fund.

Your partnership represents far more than financial support. It represents a shared commitment to children, families, opportunity, and community. Your investment has strengthened our ability to expand programming, deepen our services, reach more young people, and ensure that the families we serve have access to the resources and support they need.

We are deeply grateful for your trust in The Legacy Center STL, our team, and—most importantly—our young people.

Together, we are building more than programs.

We are building opportunity.

We are building community.

We are building legacy.

THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN THE LEGACY.



the legacy center

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**Where Every Child Has an Opportunity
to Build Their Legacy.**