



# 2025

## ANNUAL REPORT



“ You make it possible for us to go to work and give our best, knowing that our children are in safe and loving hands. The fact that you do it all with smiles on your faces makes it truly extraordinary.”

—*CED Family at Eaton Centre*



# Building Belonging, Connection and Community



*As we reflect on 2025, we are so very proud of all that Mothercraft has accomplished alongside the children, families, students, staff, volunteers, partners and supporters who make our work possible.*

We provided welcoming spaces where children and families connected, learned and felt a sense of belonging. We offered workshops to parents on important topics like children's mental health and

# Greetings from the President & Executive Director (continued)

resilience. We developed and delivered new training programs for early learning professionals. Our research team continued to contribute to important conversations on maternal health, the impact of interpersonal violence and the importance of child well-being through conference presentations, speaking engagements and publications in academic journals.

Across the organization, we saw the power of these connections in action as children, families, students and professionals came together to learn, grow and support one another. These experiences reinforced the importance of community and why relationships are so critical to everything we do.

We also continued to advance Mothercraft's [Truth and Reconciliation](#), and [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#) Action Plans. This important work gave us the opportunity to engage with and learn from the wisdom of families, students and colleagues. It pushed us to do better and be better in addressing systemic barriers and we look forward to continuing this ongoing learning journey together.

Behind every highlight, photograph or data point in this report are stories of impact: children developing new skills and confidence; families finding support and connection; students achieving their professional goals; and communities working together. These stories reflect the dedication

of our staff, the strength of our service users and the commitment of our volunteers.

None of this amazing work happens without our funders, donors and community partners. To everyone who has made a donation, approved a funding proposal, agreed to be part of a new project or offered their services, thank you for your ongoing support of Mothercraft. Together, we are making a difference.

With deep appreciation and gratitude,

**Tanzeel Merchant**, Chair, Board of Directors  
**Michele Lupa**, Executive Director



“My kids started in the infant room and the teachers all showed them love, support, attention and structure. Thank you again for loving my children and being a guide in their lives.”

—*CED Family  
at Avondale*

# 2025 Highlights



EarlyON partnered with the **Bob Rumball Canadian Centre of Excellence for the Deaf** to host weekly sessions for Deaf and hard-of-hearing children and their families.

EarlyON partnered with **Strong Minds Strong Kids** to deliver workshops that provided parents and caregivers with practical strategies to support children's mental health and resilience.

Brookfield Place Centre for Early Development (CED) hosted an **Inclusion Conversation Circle** that encouraged staff to share experiences, explore equity concepts and strengthen a sense of belonging across the organization.

Robertson House CED hosted **Anishinaabe Seasonal Pedagogy sessions** that explored Indigenous ways of knowing and land-based approaches to learning.



Midtown CED's **annual family gathering** brought families, children and staff together to celebrate community, strengthen relationships and foster connection.

# 2025 Highlights (continued)

Eaton Centre CED hosted a **Transition to School workshop** that provided families with practical strategies to support a positive start to kindergarten.

Avondale CED hosted a **summer family gathering** that brought together children, families and staff for a day of connection, outdoor activities and community building.



Retired Canadian astronaut **Chris Hadfield** visited **Magic Castle** and led a music performance for children and families, creating a memorable experience filled with creativity, curiosity and joy. He is pictured here with two Mothercraft staff members.

Breaking the Cycle staff presented at several **national conferences**, sharing expertise on trauma-informed, relationship-based approaches to supporting families facing complex challenges. Topics included ending the cycle of violence for mothers and children and Circle of Security Parenting within early intervention programs.



# 2025 Highlights (continued)

**Breaking the Cycle** strengthened its capacity to support pregnant people and their partners experiencing homelessness in Toronto thanks to a significant, multi-year commitment from a private family foundation.

With support from the **Toronto Star's Santa Claus Fund**, Breaking the Cycle families received gifts of clothes and toys.



With funding from Toronto Children's Services, Mothercraft College of Early Childhood Education and Native Child and Family Services of Toronto partnered to **recruit and support Indigenous students** in the ECE Diploma program.

In partnership with the City of Toronto and four other post-secondary institutions, the College launched a series of **workshops focused on mentoring** to strengthen the capacity of early learning professionals across the city.

Through a series of consultations, service users shared their ideas about how Mothercraft can strengthen relationships and advance Mothercraft's commitment to **Truth and Reconciliation**.



# In Their Own Words: 2025 Testimonials



“You are not just someone who has helped our family, you have become part of our story.”

—*Magic Castle*

“I love this EarlyON so much! My son and I try to come every day. He loves it! The staff is so knowledgeable, welcoming and friendly. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful resource in the neighbourhood.”

—*EarlyON & Family Centres*

“Both our girls have been exceptionally cared for, loved and supported by you. We will always remember our family’s time at Mothercraft and are grateful to you for giving our babies the most wonderful environment to grow and develop.”

—*CED Family at Brookfield Place*

“The children are doing so well academically and socially. I continue to volunteer at the youth shelter and am looking into school. We couldn’t have done it without the program.”

—*Early Intervention*

“Thank you for making every day a loving adventure for our child and teaching him fundamentals he uses at home.”

—*CED Family at Robertson House*

“Thank you so much for all your support throughout the year in helping me reach this achievement. Your advice and kind words always encouraged me. I am glad I chose Mothercraft College to do my ECE diploma.”

—*ECE Diploma Student*



“Knowing that both of my children were supported in their earliest years by such dedicated and caring staff means more to me than I can put into words. You all have left a huge imprint on our hearts and in our core memories!”

—*CED Family at  
Midtown*



# The Year in Numbers

**2,612**

Children served

**2,715**

Parents/caregivers served

**20,003**

Visits by children  
& parents/caregivers

**2,454**

Professionals trained

**1,762**

Individuals referred to Mothercraft

**1,094**

Individuals referred  
from Mothercraft

**115**

ECE graduates

**163**

Students enrolled

**8**

Service locations

**287**

Child care spaces

**448**

Student placements

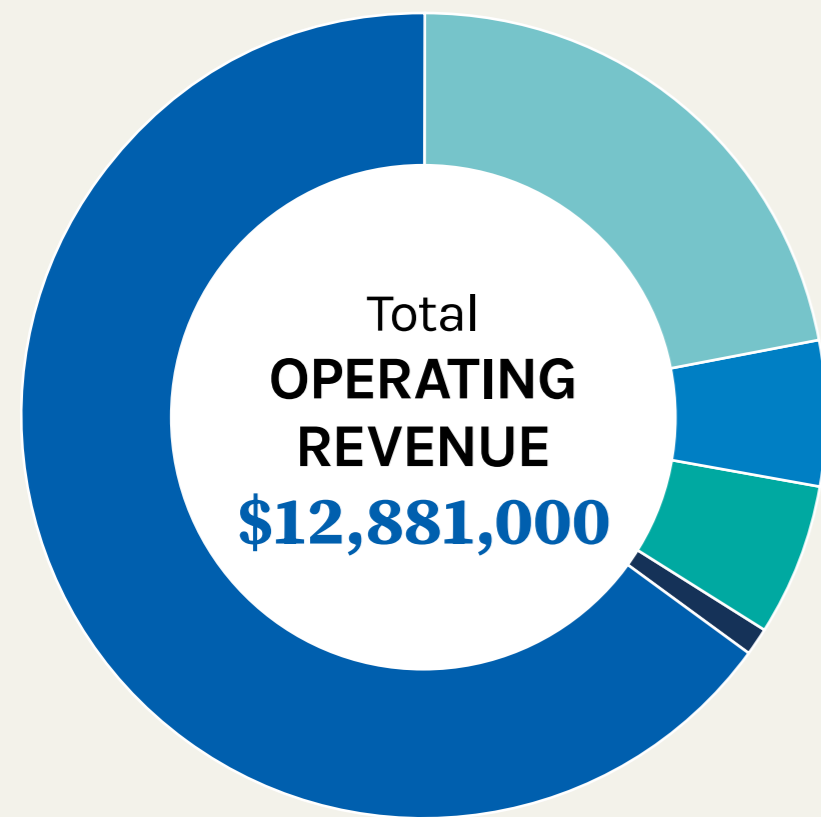
**143**

Staff

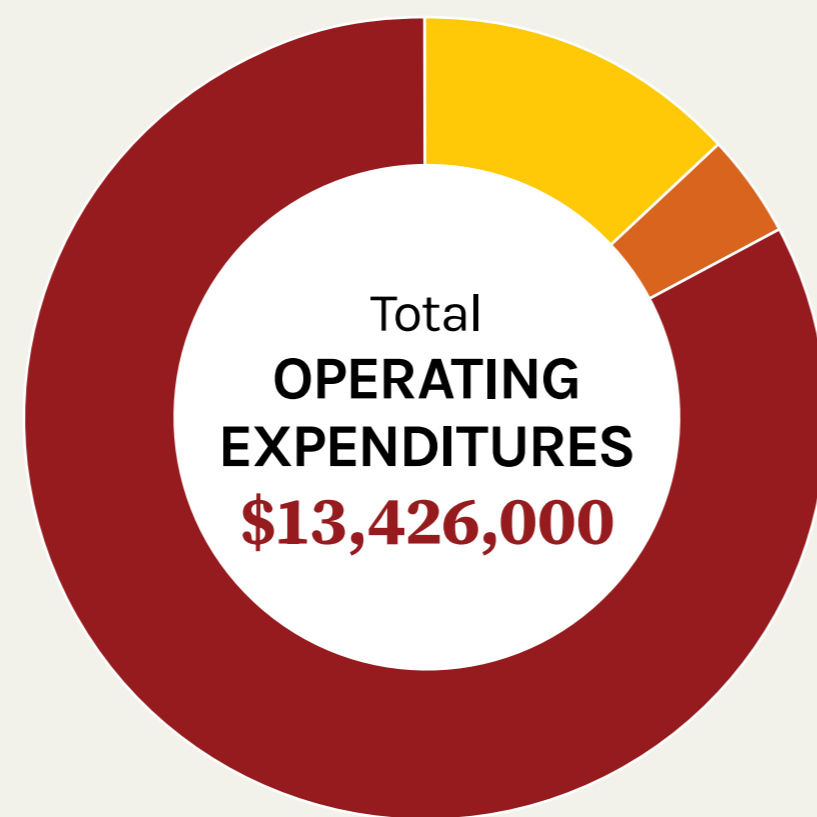
# Financial Statements

## Statement of Operating Revenue & Expenditure

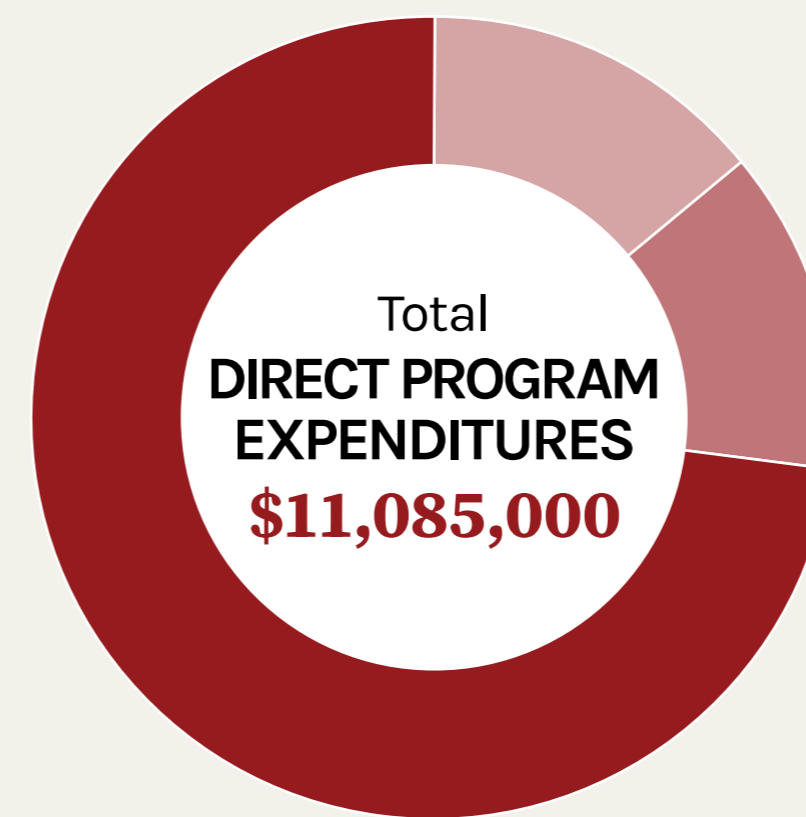
For the year ending December 31, 2025



- 65%** Municipal Funding
- 22%** Child Care, Tuition & Training Fees
- 6%** Federal Funding
- 6%** Provincial Funding
- 1%** Other Revenue



- 83%** Direct Expenditures
- 13%** Administration
- 4%** Amortization



- 74%** Early Childhood Development
- 14%** Education, Training & Data
- 13%** Early Intervention

## Thank You to Our Donors

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Royal Bank of Canada       | Oana Damian                               |
| Debra Pepler               | Wendy Gauthier                            |
| Seungheon Lee              | Paul Motz                                 |
| Nicole Racine              | Jessie Harrison                           |
| Suzanne Kiraly             | Kyla Robertson                            |
| Julia Vander Wal           | Cecilia Racine                            |
| Dolores Anderson           | Esther James Anderson                     |
| Keely McSpurren            | Other (anonymous and individually <\$200) |
| CHUM Charitable Foundation |   |

## Thank You to Our Funders

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Anonymous   | Public Health Agency of Canada                        |
| City of Toronto                                   | University Health Network, Princess Margaret Hospital |
| Immigration, Refugees & Citizenship Canada        |   |
| Ministry of Children, Community & Social Services |   |

# Thank You to Our Staff & Board

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Rebecca Yang

**Board of Directors who retired in June 2025**  
Elisabeth Marks  
Sharon Filger

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Adrienne Ahrens  
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Irina Sverdlova  
Lalaine Tan  
Iris Tang  
Yoshie Tate  
Kusum Thakuri  
Elizabeth Thavamalar Jacob  
Indiradevy Thiruchchelvarajah  
Atiya Thomas  
Maria Torres  
Stacy Turner  
Anna Tyzler

LaTisha Walford  
Navajit Walia  
Reyes Werner  
Julia Wheelihan  
Judy White  
Claudette Wilson  
Kimberly Wint  
Amal Yousuf  
Sanam Zaidi

# Where to Find Us

## 10 Front St W

Toronto, ON, M5J 2S1  
416-367-1758

*Brookfield Place Centre for  
Early Development*

## 14 Trinity Square

Toronto, ON, M5G 1B1  
416-340-9651

*Eaton Centre Centre for  
Early Development*

## 610 University Ave

*Inside Princess Margaret Hospital*

Toronto, ON, M5G 2M9  
416-946-4501

*Magic Castle*

## 171 Avondale Ave

Toronto, ON, M2N 2V4  
416-941-2121

*Avondale Centre for  
Early Development*

## 32 Heath St W

Toronto, ON, M4V 1T3  
416-920-3515

*Robertson House Centre  
for Early Development*

*EarlyON Child & Family  
Centre (main site)*

*Executive Office*

## 646 St. Clair Ave W

Toronto, ON, M6C 1A9  
416-483-0511

*Mothercraft College of Early  
Childhood Education*

*EarlyON Child & Family  
Centre (satellite site)*

*Corporate Services*

## 393 King St E

Toronto, ON, M5A 1L3  
416-364-7373

*Breaking the Cycle*

*BTC Pregnancy Outreach Program*

*Parent-Infant Program*

*Connections for Breaking  
the Cycle of Violence*

*Connections*

## 44 Lillian St, Unit 101

Toronto, ON, M4S 2H4  
416-362-0333

*Midtown Centre for Early  
Development*

