



West Side  
Family Place

# 2024-2025 Annual Report

Supporting families to raise happy and healthy children since 1973.

*West Side Family Place is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musquem, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.*

## A special message from our Board Chair and Executive Director:

Dear Friends of West Side Family Place,

This year has been one of both celebration and reflection for West Side Family Place. As we continue to walk alongside families in our community, we are reminded daily of the power of connection, belonging, and support. Whether it is a parent finding encouragement in our programs, a child building confidence through play, or a caregiver discovering new friendships, the ripple effects of our work reach far beyond our doors.

Our strength comes from the people who make this community vibrant: the families who trust us, the volunteers who give their time, the staff who dedicate their talents, and the donors and partners whose generosity sustains our mission. Family Place could not do its work without the dedication of our remarkable team.

To our staff, thank you for your creativity, compassion, and unwavering commitment to children and families. Every day, you bring our mission to life through your hard work and care. We want to take a moment to recognize our incredible team — **Eva Svensson, Maria Cheung, Sue Ellen Elman, Salena Wong, Melinda Callaway and Radwa Moustafa** — whose passion, creativity, and commitment make programs like **family drop-ins, parenting education, parent–infant groups, and community outreach** possible. Their work is at the heart of everything we do.

We also extend our deepest gratitude to our Board of Directors, whose vision, guidance, and steadfast support ensure that Family Place remains a welcoming and sustainable resource for our community. Your leadership strengthens our foundation and inspires our growth. Together, staff and board embody the heart of West Side Family Place—we are so grateful for your contributions.

Looking forward, we remain deeply committed to our strategic priorities: strengthening family supports, expanding outreach, and ensuring long-term sustainability. We know that as our city grows and changes, the need for spaces like West Side Family Place grows too. With your continued partnership, we are confident that we can meet these challenges with creativity, compassion, and resilience.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and our dedicated team, thank you for believing in the importance of strong families and connected communities. We are excited for what the future holds and grateful to be on this journey together.

With gratitude,

**Paro Ray**, *Board Chair*

**Diane Elliot-Buckley**, *Executive Director*

# Thank you, Ellen



A special thank you to Vice-Chair Ellen Allard, who has provided thoughtful leadership and steadfast support over the past two years. Her commitment and contributions have been invaluable in helping us move forward with confidence and purpose.



*We extend our heartfelt thanks to Ellen for her dedicated service on the Board. As Vice Chair, she has been an invaluable leader, offering thoughtful insight and sound judgment that guided many important decisions. Ellen played a key role in organizing fundraising events, bringing energy, creativity, and a steady hand to ensure their success. She also contributed meaningfully through her work with the Communications team, always bringing a clear, logical perspective and a collaborative spirit. -Paro*



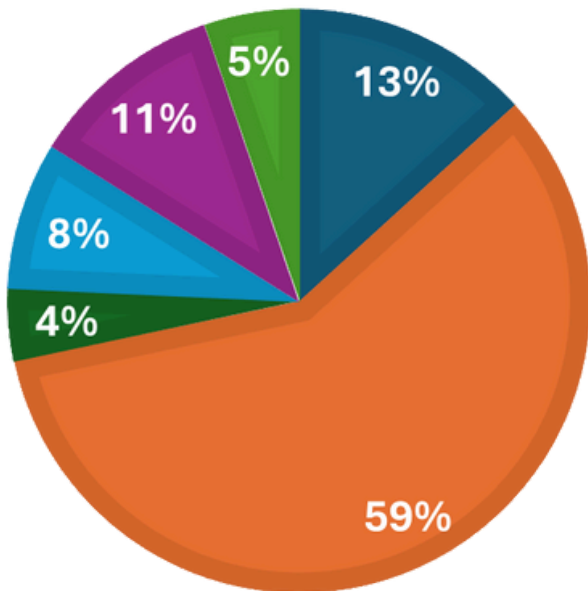
*Ellen joined WSFP as a new parent and being the amazing multi-tasker she is, she volunteered to join our board in addition to her full time role as an engineer while also being pregnant with her second little one. Attending board meetings with a newborn, Ellen never skipped a beat as a major contributor in our strategic planning sessions and Communication committee meetings. Her sound judgement and willingness to pitch in to get things done were so appreciated especially in launching our fundraising events. Ellen, we'll miss your wisdom, warmth and friendship. Thank you for being a community builder and a dedicated volunteer, WSFP is better for it. -Liz*



# A message on our Financial Landscape:

This past year has presented both challenges and opportunities for West Side Family Place. Rising costs and evolving community needs have placed pressure on our resources, while the demand for our programs continues to grow. Thanks to the steadfast support of our donors, volunteers, and partners, we have been able to sustain essential services and continue delivering meaningful impact to the families who rely on us.

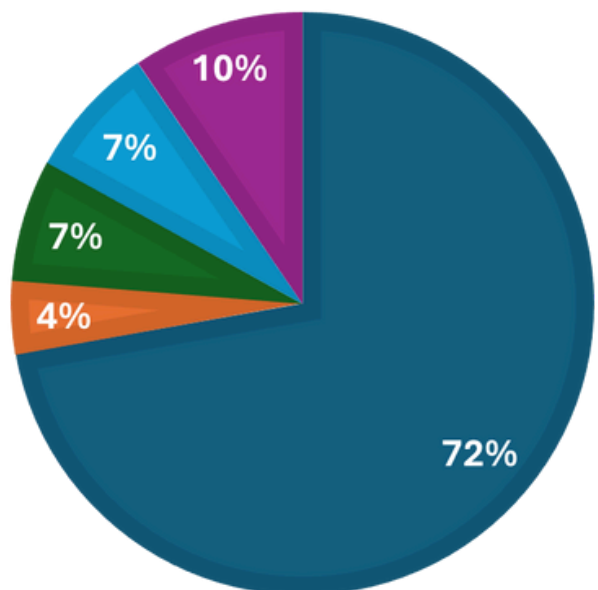
As we look forward, we remain dedicated to transparency, accountability, and the continued strengthening of our financial foundation, ensuring that West Side Family Place can meet the needs of our families today and in the years to come.



**2024/25 REVENUES (\$376,937)**

- BC Gaming
- Grants
- Foundations
- Donations and Fundraising
- User Fees and Memberships
- Rentals

## 2024/25 EXPENSES (\$396,679)



- Salary and Benefits
- Program Costs
- Administration
- Facility
- Professional Fees

## WSFP Statement of Operations:

Year ended March 31

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Grants <i>[note 8]</i>	282,862	232,385
User and workshop fees	27,781	26,056
Rental	19,850	14,799
Fundraising	18,355	70,614
Membership <i>[note 8]</i>	13,071	8,950
Donations	12,457	29,436
Amortization of deferred contributions related to capital assets <i>[note 9]</i>	2,477	1,640
Interest and other	84	677
	<b>376,937</b>	<b>384,557</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries and benefits	286,497	269,353
Professional fees	37,905	22,684
Repairs and maintenance	16,960	17,240
Office and administration	12,704	11,644
Program supplies	11,555	9,911
Amortization	8,280	6,843
Insurance	7,669	5,602
Fundraising	6,484	16,187
Property taxes and utilities	4,163	4,327
Workshop and volunteer	2,553	861
Advertising and promotion	1,909	1,948
Special projects	—	12,512
	<b>396,679</b>	<b>379,112</b>
<b>Revenue over (under) expenses for the year</b>	<b>(19,742)</b>	<b>5,445</b>

# Highlights from 2024/25

Together, we can create a stronger, more resilient community where families have the support they need to thrive.

Programs and Services: We served over 325 unique families through programs such as Play and Learn, Mama Papa Goose, Neurodiverse-City, Papa's Playgroup, Little Chefs, Family Dinners, Nobody's Perfect Parenting, Making Sense of Preschoolers and Circles of Security, helping children and parents thrive. In total we hosted over 15,000 individual participant visits. Over 1,100 hours of service delivery. We also provided space for 84 Birthday party rentals for community members.



This year, our Neurodiverse-City Program created welcoming spaces where children of all abilities can play, learn, and connect. We continue to make deliberate efforts to ensure that all our programs are accessible, inclusive, and responsive to the diverse needs of the families we serve. From tailored activities to thoughtful staff training, our commitment is to break down barriers and ensure every child and caregiver feels valued, supported, and fully able to participate in our community.



Our Papa's Playgroup Program is a participant-driven space where fathers and father figures connect, play, and learn alongside their children. Activities and discussions are guided by the interests and needs of participants, strengthening parent-child relationships and fostering a supportive community.



# Highlights from 2024/25



Community Engagement: We participated in community events such as the Diwali Celebration at Kitsilano Neighbourhood House, Music and Movie Nights put on by Kits on Broadway Business Improvement Area and Community Literacy Fair organized by the Westside Literacy Hub. These events brought community together and raised awareness for our work.

Community Partnerships: We are grateful for our ongoing collaboration with Pacific Spirit Community Health Centre, whose community health nurse provided families with accessible health information. We would also like to thank The Dental Public Health Program, Rosa Kassen from Plume Sleep Solutions, the Vancouver Academy of Music, whose talented instructors bring the joy of music and creative learning to our program.



Thank you to our Volunteers: We are deeply grateful to our dedicated volunteers who give their time, energy, and kindness to West Side Family Place. This year over 41 individual volunteers contributed more than 1,000 volunteer hours. Thank you for helping us make our community stronger.



This year, West Side Family Place partnered with BabyGoRound, which distributes clothing, toys, and equipment to families in need. As a community drop-off hub, WSFP makes it easier for local families to donate gently used baby items and support others in giving their children a strong start in life.



# What Our Members Say

“

*Nobody's perfect program changed my perspective in parenting. And therefore, changed my life. I think i also met a lot of new friends as a newcomer from another country I feel very happy and safe in the environment*



“

*Your kindness has made a big difference to me as I've adjusted to my new role of being a mum. I think the work you do is important and valuable and the center is such an asset to families in this area*



“

*I learned so much. Especially regarding giving a child space to feel emotions but also about giving space for self-care without feeling selfish. I absolutely feel the benefit of this program in my parenting and confidence*

“

*Providing a welcoming, cozy space for my family that is within our neighborhood has been very beneficial to preventing post partum isolation*



“

*Feeling overwhelmed during maternity leave with an infant felt more manageable and successful each time I was able to get to Westside Family Place for the Tuesday afternoon under 18 months program. I met some lovely parents that I could chat easily with*



“

*It's a chance for me to connect with other parents and a chance for my son to play alongside other kids. It's a great space where we feel welcome and my son is free to be himself without any judgment. This group has been extremely accommodating and welcoming*

“

*Nobody's Perfect was such a generous, vulnerable and heart-filled group of parents. I felt we could talk with authenticity and compassion*

# Our Funders



# Our Caring Community

West Side Family Place gratefully acknowledges the support of:



## Board of Directors

**Paro Ray**  
Chair

**Kevin Kao**  
Secretary

**Hanna DeJong**  
Director

**Ellen Allard**  
Vice-Chair

**Elizabeth Vander Hoeven**  
Director

**Joe Shrestha**  
Director

**Angela Lam**  
Treasurer

**Caileen Romanov**  
Director



## Staff

**Diane Elliott-Buckley**  
Executive Director

**Maria Cheung**  
Playroom Coordinator

**Eva Svensson**  
Family Support Coordinator

**Radwa Moustafa**  
Neurodiverse-City  
Coordinator

**Sue Ellen Elman**  
Playroom Coordinator

**Melinda Callaway**  
Office Administrator

**Salena Wong**  
Playroom Coordinator



# West Side Family Place

2819 West 11th Avenue  
Vancouver BC, V6K 2M2  
604-738-2819  
info@westsidefamilyplace.com  
www.westsidefamilyplace.com

Your donation can help keep West Side Family Place affordable and accessible for all. Thank you for your support!

  @westsidefamilyplace

