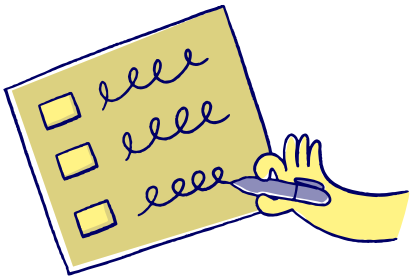
CARE JEUNESSE

2025-2026 Annual Report



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Mission, Vision and Values

The Quebec network of youth in care and alumni of care

About Us

Founded by former youth in care, Centre Amitié, Ressources et Entraide pour la Jeunesse (CARE Jeunesse) is the Quebec network of youth in care and alumni of care. We are a bilingual non-profit organization serving people in and from care aged 16+ across the province.

Our Mission

To improve the quality of life in care by providing a safe environment for members to connect and form supportive relationships as well as providing advocacy, education and empowerment opportunities. CARE Jeunesse connects youth to resources, examines policies related to youth in care and offers training and consultation to professionals on the issues relevant to youth in care. CARE Jeunesse offers support to youth and alumni from all systems of care.

Our Vision

To cultivate a community and voice in Quebec for youth in care and alumni of care



A message from our Board of Directors

Dear CARE Jeunesse members, sponsors, allies, and friends,

Every year in Quebec, approximately 2,000 young people leave the care of the Direction de la protection de la jeunesse (DPJ) upon reaching the age of 18. For many, this transition brings significant challenges, particularly when navigating adulthood without a stable family network, financial security, or reliable support systems. These challenges are often compounded by the lasting impacts of growing up in care, experiences of trauma, and the stigma that care-experienced youth may face in society. The path to independence can be difficult, and no young person should have to navigate it alone.

Founded in 2015, as a bilingual, grassroots, volunteer-driven organization, Le Centre Amitié, Ressources et Entraide pour la Jeunesse (CARE Jeunesse) was and remains dedicated to building community and providing support to care-experienced youth as they approach the end of their placement and transition into adulthood.

Now a registered charitable organization, CARE Jeunesse has experienced tremendous growth and transformation in recent years. We have strengthened our management capacity, streamlined operations through automation, and welcomed youth coordinators to expand our outreach, deepen member engagement, and enhance the services we provide. These developments reflect our continued commitment to responding to the evolving needs of our members and building a stronger foundation for the future.

This year marked a particularly significant milestone: the opening of CARE Jeunesse's first-ever office and community space in Westmount, Quebec, just steps from Vendôme metro station.

More than a permanent home for our organization, this new location brings the CARE Jeunesse Space to life: a welcoming and accessible hub where members can connect with peers, access essential supplies, and discover valuable resources offered by our partner organizations. It provides a place where young people can drop in, participate at their own pace, build friendships, and find connection and peer support. It is also a space where they can feel welcomed, respected, and part of a community. We hope that every member who walks through our doors leaves with a stronger sense of belonging, greater confidence, and increased autonomy.

While this year has brought meaningful progress, it has also presented challenges, particularly as the demand for our services continues to grow. As we look ahead, we recognize that our work is made possible through the collective commitment of our funders, partners, allies, youth-serving organizations, volunteers, and members. We are deeply grateful to everyone who contributes their time, resources, expertise, and trust to our mission.

Together, we remain committed to advocating for meaningful change in policies and programs, advancing the rights of young people in care and care alumni, and working toward a future in which every young person is seen, heard, respected, and empowered to shape their own path.

Thank you for standing alongside CARE Jeunesse. Your continued support makes our work possible and helps ensure that care-experienced youth do not have to face the transition to adulthood alone.

Warmly,

Anick Charland
Board President





Our Team

Michelle Raposo - Program Manager



Michelle has been with CARE Jeunesse for four years, holding different roles along the way. Now, as our Program Manager and an alumni of care, she brings both professional experience and personal insight to her work. Michelle holds two bachelor's degrees from Concordia University in Women's Studies and Sexuality Studies, and has a professional background in Human Resources. She is dedicated to creating safe spaces where youth from care feel seen, heard, and supported.



Shari Granillo - Finance & Admin Manager

Shari joined CARE Jeunesse in March 2025. Holding a university degree in Business & Administration and Project Management from McGill, Shari first built nearly a decade of experience in the corporate world before transitioning her career to the community sector. Deeply committed to social causes, Shari is honored to embrace this new challenge with CARE Jeunesse and to serve as a trusted resource and support for her colleagues.

Bianca Fabrizio - Services & Outreach Coordinator



Bianca began her journey with CARE Jeunesse as a board member and now, as a staff member, plays a key role in delivering our services and engaging youth who are preparing to age out of care. She is committed to ensuring that young people remain connected, have access to resources, and know they can rely on CARE Jeunesse for support when they need it most.



Janis Tailly-Dion - Special Projects Coordinator

Janis has been a long-time member of CARE Jeunesse and now, as a staff member, she brings her experience and insight to the team. In her role as Special Projects Coordinator, she works hard to develop creative initiatives and offer a strong perspective on what our youth need. Janis is dedicated to ensuring that every project reflects the voices of youth from care and creates meaningful opportunities for them to thrive.

Our Board of Directors

Anick Charland - President



Anick comes to CARE Jeunesse after a fulfilling career in cybersecurity. Herself an alumni of care, Anick now invests her time advocating for the rights and well-being of youth aging out of care. She is committed to ensuring that youth be provided with the services and support that they need to pursue their dreams as they prepare their transition to adulthood. An avid traveler, she has backpacked solo around the world. Her current passion is exploring Canada in her micro-camper

David Andrelli - Secretary



David is dedicated to supporting youth as they transition from care to independent adulthood. A graduate of Concordia University with a B.A. in Joint Specialization in English and History, David has long been engaged in community service, including volunteering with Le Club des petits déjeuners and the Fraser-Hickson Institute's minibiblioPLUS. After 14 years with Apple, David transitioned into the field of philanthropy in January 2022. Currently a consultant in major gifts and corporate partnerships with the Montreal Heart Institute Foundation, he is also a Member of AFP Quebec's membership committee. David brings expertise in operational excellence and strategic planning, combined with a deep passion for teamwork, inclusivity and empowering others.

Adella Rose - Treasurer



Having aged out of the system independently at eighteen, Adella is deeply committed to supporting youth facing similar experiences. After earning a diploma in 2013, Adella launched her own firm, AR TAX PREP, with a mission to help individuals and small businesses gain confidence and understanding in managing their finances. As a board member of CARE Jeunesse, she strives to make financial education accessible to everyone, drawing on her expertise in the tax and accounting industry. Outside of her work, Adella loves to travel, read, and spend time with her family and loved ones.

Our Board of Directors Cont.

Varda Mann-Feder - Board Member



Varda is a Professor in the Department of Applied Human Sciences at Concordia University where she teaches Youth Work and Counselling. She worked for more than 30 years as a psychologist in the care system in Montreal and her research documents the experiences of youth aging out Quebec. Varda started out as an “adult ally” to CARE when the organization first began, and served as our Board President for many years. Varda loves attending CARE events and sculpts and reads novels in her spare time.

Elaine Larivière - Board Member

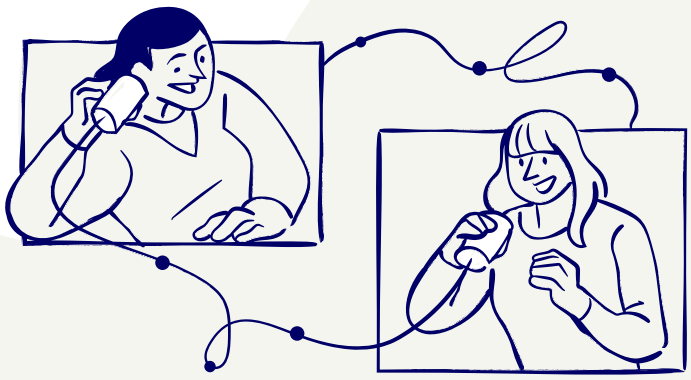


Elaine 's commitment to CARE Jeunesse's mandate stems from both personal and professional involvement in advocating for, and giving a voice to youth in care. Having worked in various capacities within the Protection system for over 25 years and having had the privilege to raise a foster child, Elaine is passionate about the need to walk alongside and assist youth transitioning into adulthood. Elaine enjoys spending time in nature and with family and friends.

Kerry-Ann Carty - Board Member



Proud to be an Educator for over 25 years, Kerry-Ann has spent the last 17 years working with young people transitioning out of care and with those who have transitioned out of care. Kerry-Ann Enjoys painting, travelling and spending time with family and friends and has a special love for musicals and comedy shows.



Our Work in Action

Our Membership at a Glance

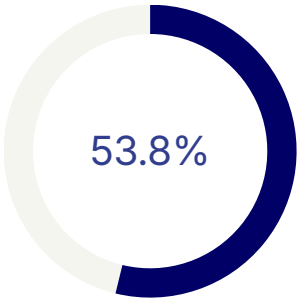
203 new members joined CARE Jeunesse between July 2025 to June 2026, strengthening our community of young people with lived experience of youth protection, as well as supportive allies. **This represents a 29% increase in new membership** compared to the previous fiscal year, where 157 new members joined.

Of the new members who joined:

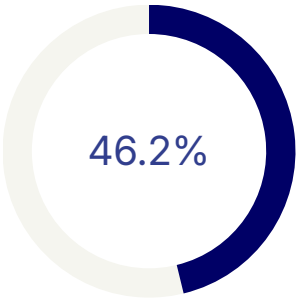
- 100 were former youth in care, ages 18–30
- 59 were youth currently in care, under the age of 18
- 17 were former youth in care, ages 31 and older
- 27 were allies

As of June 30th, 2026, CARE Jeunesse had **839 members across Quebec**. Our membership continues to reflect the bilingual nature of our organization, with approximately **451 members who primarily communicate in English, while the remaining 388 members primarily communicate in French.**

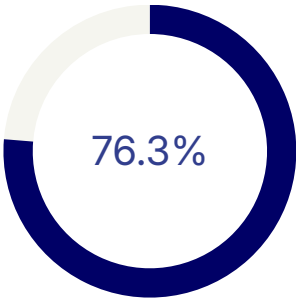
Our growing membership represents a diverse community of youth and former youth in care, as well as allies who support our mission. Through our programs, services, activities, and community initiatives, we continue to create opportunities for members to connect, access support, and have their voices heard.



English Speaking Members



French Speaking Members



Total Members with Care Experience

A New Chapter: The opening of our CARE J Space

In June 2026, CARE Jeunesse opened the doors to our very first CARE J Space, marking an exciting new chapter for our organization. Created with our members in mind, this space offers a welcoming environment where care-experienced youth can connect, access resources and build a sense of community.





With devoted drop-in hours, computers, a printer, social activities, snacks, educational workshops and so much more, the CARE J Space creates opportunities for young people to build connections, develop new skills and feel part of a community that understands and supports them.

Looking ahead to 2027, our goal is to offer a consistent programming schedule, with more opportunities to support members one-on-one and meet them where they are in their journeys. We look forward to continuing to grow this space around the needs of our community and ensuring every member feels welcome, supported and heard.

We invite our members to visit us at 4999 rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest, suite 102, in Westmount.

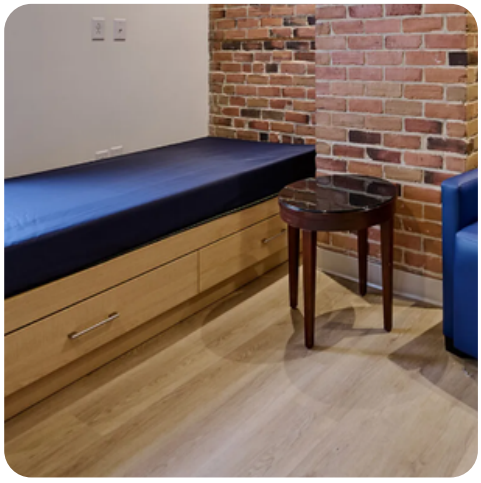
"It's always a pleasure to chat with you and spend quality time together. I truly appreciate the organization. It's a wonderful place that feels so welcoming, warm and inviting." - A CARE Jeunesse member

Partnerships & Collaborations

Partnerships are an important part of our work. This year, we continued to build and strengthen relationships with organizations and community partners to create more opportunities, resources, and support for youth and former youth in care.



A new partnership with **Opération Père Noël** gave members with young children the opportunity to receive personalized holiday gifts for their little ones. Members were able to share their children's holiday wishes and receive gifts selected especially for them. We are grateful to Opération Père Noël and everyone who contributed to making this initiative possible for our members and their families.



We also strengthened our partnership with **Chez Doris**, particularly as they expanded their long-term transitional housing options for women transitioning out of care. This collaboration has created an important opportunity to connect some of our members with more stable, affordable housing and additional support as they work toward greater independence.



In addition, we reestablished our partnership with **ERA**, which has allowed us to provide recycled laptops to members who need them. So far, we have distributed 12 laptops to members, helping support their education, employment, and everyday needs. We look forward to continuing this partnership and making more laptops available to members in the future.

Partnerships & Collaborations Cont.



Another new collaboration this year was with **La Tablée des Chefs,** who provided us with several culinary kits that we were able to redistribute to our members. Each kit includes a cookbook, basic cooking utensils, and a guide designed to support conversations around food autonomy and nutrition through cooking activities. This partnership has allowed us to provide our members with practical tools to build their cooking skills and support greater food autonomy.

Our members have also benefited from a new partnership with **Cirque du Soleil**, which has provided free tickets to shows in Montreal on occassion throughout the year. These opportunities allow members to experience live entertainment together, try something new, and enjoy memorable experiences at no cost.

On-Going Programs & Activities

Emergency Gift Card Program

A total of 131 emergency gift card requests were fulfilled, supporting **106 individual members.** This represents a **212% increase** compared to the previous year, when the program supported 34 individual members. The gift cards help members cover a range of essential expenses, including personal necessities, household essentials, groceries, and other urgent needs.

FJDPJ Individual Needs Fund Program

A total of 54 requests were processed through the FJDPJ Individual Needs Fund, **supporting 48 unique members**. The fund provides financial assistance to help members cover essential expenses, including living costs, school-related expenses, and other necessities that support their well-being and stability.

This program would not be possible without the generousity of the **Fondation des Jeunes de la DPJ.**

Here's what some of the members we supported had to say:

"I work full-time and I'm responsible with my finances, but it's been hard financially since I left an abusive relation a little over a year ago. I appreciate the support! Thank you so much!" - Anonymous

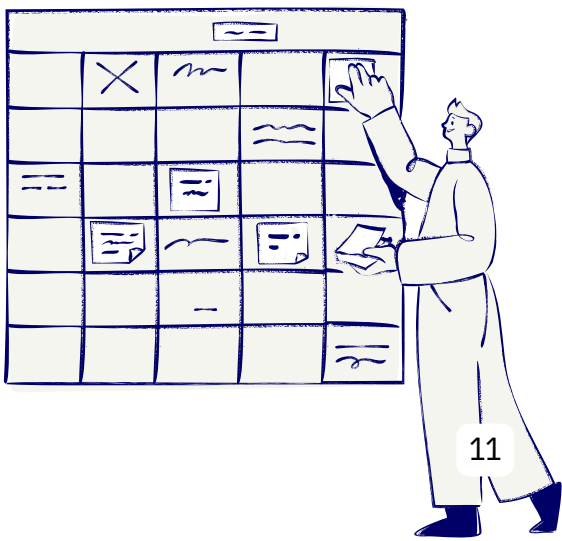
"Thank everyone for helping my family!" - Anonymous

"It'll let me breathe a little easier this month!" - Anonymous

Annual Free Tax Clinic

Our annual Free Tax Clinic continued to provide members with accessible, one-on-one support to complete and file their income taxes. This year, we expanded the clinic to offer both in-person appointments at our new space and virtual support, making the service more flexible and accessible to members across Quebec.

With the support of two dedicated volunteers, we assisted approximately **25 unique members** with preparing and processing their income tax returns. Beyond helping members meet their tax obligations, the clinic provides an important opportunity to ensure that youth and young adults with care experience are able to access the benefits, credits, and financial supports they may be entitled to.



Scholarship Program

This year, we expanded our Scholarship Program to provide even more educational support to members pursuing higher education. **We increased the number of scholarships available from 9 to 12**, with 4 scholarships of $2,000 for university-level studies, 4 scholarships of $1,000 for CEGEP-level studies, and 4 scholarships of $350 for high school or adult education.

These scholarships help reduce some of the financial barriers that can make continuing education more difficult, while recognizing the determination, commitment, and achievements of youth and young adults with care experience.

A very special thank you to **Wendy Clarke** for her incredible generosity and for fully funding this program. Her belief in our members and commitment to helping them reach their educational goals makes a meaningful difference in their lives. We are so grateful for her continued support and for the opportunities she helps make possible.

Here's what some of the members we supported had to say:

"With your help and support Ill be able to get back on my feet and finish school. Ill be forever Grateful, i wouldnt have made without you " - Igor

"Thank you so much for this wonderful news! I'm truly grateful to be selected as one of this year's CARE Jeunesse Scholarship recipients." - Faith

"I hope I can inspire others in that have similar hurdles to persevere despite everything. This truly encourages to finish my degree as I start my last year." - Anonymous

Advocacy Program

At the heart of the program is a **"for us, by us"** approach. We recognize that young people with lived experience are the experts in their own lives, and our role is to support them in identifying what they need and making informed decisions about how they want to move forward.

Our Advocacy Program supports members in navigating systems, understanding their rights, and addressing challenges related to youth protection, housing, education, employment, healthcare, and other services. We work alongside members to help them understand their options, connect with resources, and ensure their voices and concerns are heard.

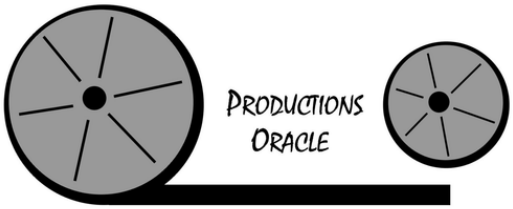
Some of the key engagements we participated in over the past year include:

Oracle Productions Filming Day

We welcomed **Oracle Productions** into our new space for a filming day, creating an opportunity to showcase our work and the environment we have built for our members. The day highlighted how our space can be used as a welcoming hub for connection, community, and engagement, while showcasing the programs, services, and sense of belonging we strive to create for young people with care experience.

We also had the opportunity to welcome several of our members who are already participating in Oracle Productions' upcoming documentary, *Imagine This World*, allowing them to connect, share their experiences, and be part of the filming in a space created for and with them.





*"**Imagine this World** is a feature-length documentary that offers an in-depth look into the lives of young people from the youth protection system as they age out of care and throughout different stages of their transition into adulthood.."*
-Source: Oracle Productions

Advocacy Program Cont.



Youth Consultation with Lesley Hill on Search & Seizure Policies in Youth Rehabilitation Centres

Five of our members participated in a 1.5-hour online consultation with **Lesley Hill, National Director of Youth Protection**, and her team to discuss search and seizure policies affecting youth in rehabilitation centres. The consultation provided an important opportunity for members to share their lived experiences, perspectives, and concerns directly with decision-makers.

Partnering with the Batshaw Youth Advisory Council

Over the past year, CARE Jeunesse served as a community partner on the **Batshaw Youth Advisory Council**, providing a direct link between our organization and youth currently in care. Our role was to participate in discussions, share our perspective as a "for us, by us" organization, and help connect youth to the resources available through CARE Jeunesse. This partnership provided us with a valuable opportunity to listen directly to youth in care and better understand their experiences, priorities, and needs.

Comité Noyau Youth Co-Creation Day

As part of our involvement with **Comité Noyau**, we brought together three CARE Jeunesse members and youth from other organizations involved in the committee for a dedicated co-creation day. This session provided an important opportunity for our members to directly review and reflect on the key messages being developed to share with government officials and as part of a broader media campaign.

Members helped identify key priorities, highlight topics that may have been overlooked, and strengthen the messages being developed. Their input ensured that our advocacy work remained grounded in the realities and perspectives of young people with lived experience.

Outreach Program

Our Outreach Program helps us connect directly with youth in care and young adults with care experience, both within youth protection settings and in the broader community. Through outreach activities, information sessions, events, and partnerships, we introduce young people to our organization, share information about our programs and services, and create opportunities for new members to connect with our community.

Throughout the year, we connected with youth and community partners through a number of outreach initiatives, including:

Partner Day at Mont Saint-Antoine Youth Rehabilitation Centre

We hosted an information booth for youth approaching the end of their time in care, giving us an opportunity to introduce young people to CARE Jeunesse, share information about the services and supports available to them after care, answer questions, and register new members on the spot.



CARE Jeunesse Webinar

In fall 2025, we hosted a webinar for French-speaking teams across **Montréal's CIUSSS network** to introduce who we are, who we serve, and the supports we offer to youth and young adults with care experience. The session also provided an opportunity to connect with professionals working directly with youth, build awareness of our services, and recruit new allies within the French-speaking sector who can help ensure young people are connected to our community and the resources available to them.

Outreach Program Cont.

Career Day & Indigenous Day at Batshaw Youth and Family Centres – Prévost Campus

We participated in two separate events with Batshaw this year: Career Day and Indigenous Day at their Prévost campus. Both events provided opportunities to connect directly with youth in care, introduce them to our organization, and share information about the services and supports available to them. We answered questions and encouraged interested youth to become members, helping them stay connected to our community and access support as they transition into the next stage of their lives.



Matinée Jeunesse 2025 – « Mon avenir en vue »

PROGRAMME
QUALIFICATION DES JEUNES

We also participated in Matinée Jeunesse 2025 – « Mon avenir en vue », organized by the **Programme Qualification des Jeunes (PQJ) of the CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal.** Our information booth gave us an opportunity to connect with youth, introduce them to our services, and welcome new members, while also building relationships with allies working in the French-speaking sector, including staff from Dominique-Savio Mainbourg group home.

On-Going Outreach

Our outreach work also included **several visits to English and French speaking group homes**, giving us the opportunity to meet youth where they are and build relationships before they age out. These visits help young people learn about our services and connect with a community they can turn to for support as they navigate the transition to adulthood.

Financial Highlights

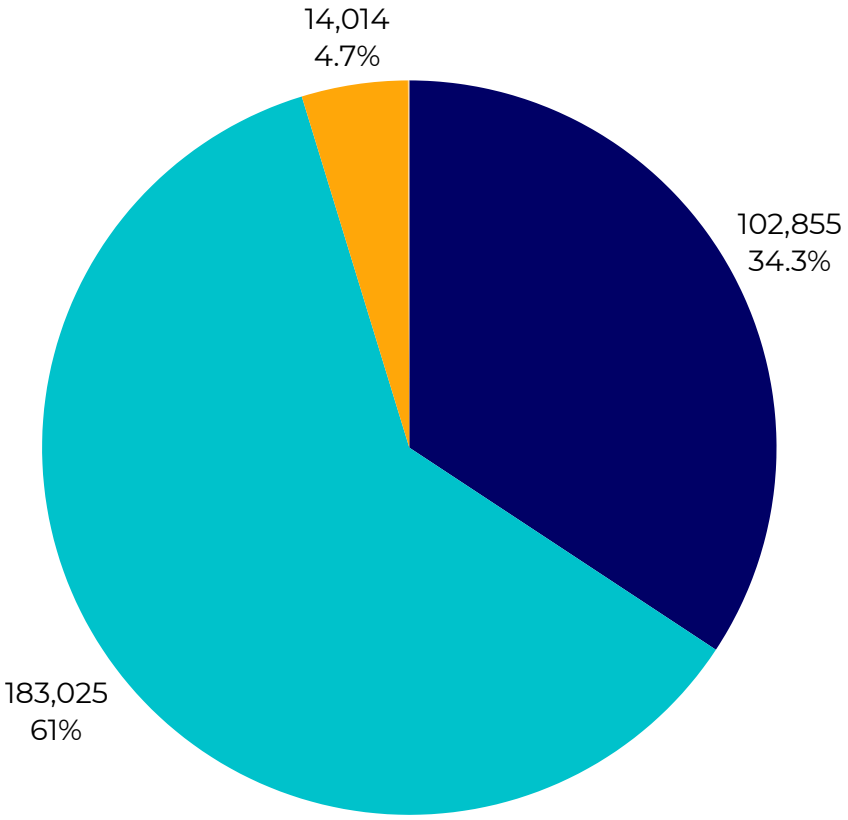
Over the past few years, CARE Jeunesse has made significant strides in strengthening its financial management. Key improvements have included hiring a bookkeeper, restructuring our accounting practices, implementing a payroll system, and consolidating our banking and financial services.

This year, we continued to build on this progress by transitioning to CanadaHelps as our donation platform. This new platform will allow us to diversify and better manage our fundraising activities, offer donors a wider range of payment options, and automate the issuance of charitable tax receipts. These enhancements will help streamline administrative processes while making it easier for our supporters to contribute to our mission.

None of these improvements would have been possible without the dedication and commitment of our Board of Directors and management team. We are equally grateful to our funders, donors, and supporters for their continued trust and generosity. Their support is essential to strengthening CARE Jeunesse's capacity, sustaining our programs and services, and empowering care-experienced youth as they build brighter, more independent futures.



Financial Highlights Cont.



Revenue (2025-2026)

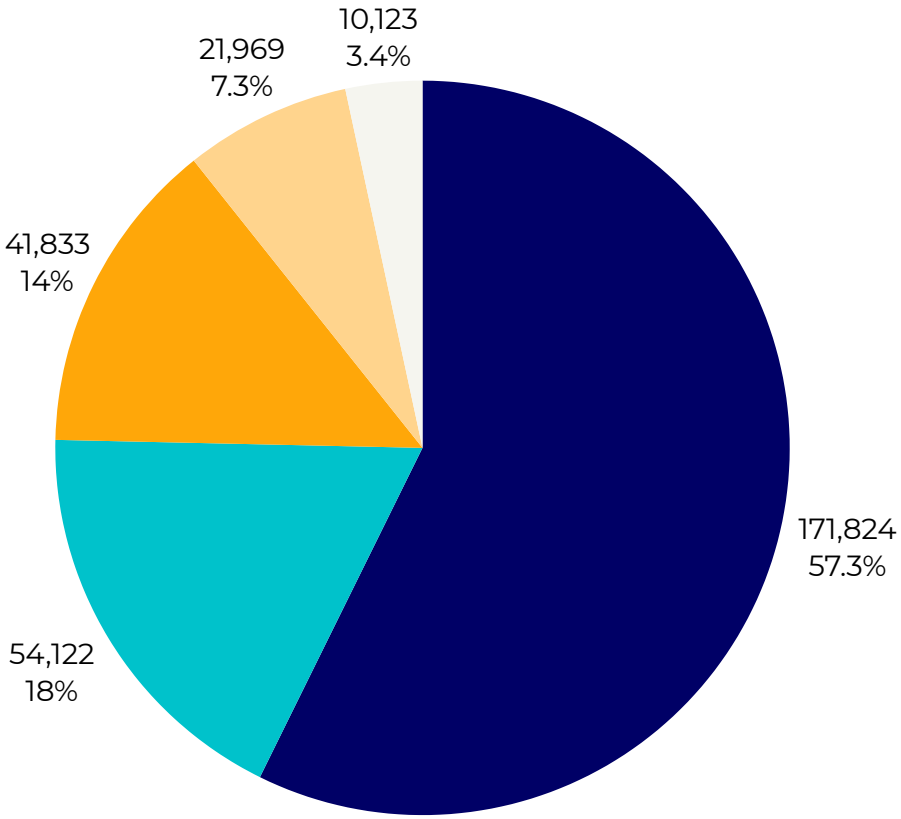
$102 855 - Donations
$183 025 - Grants
$14 014 - Investment Interest
$181 - Other

TOTAL: $300 075

Expenses (2025-2026)

$171 824 - Staff
$54 122 - Office Expenses
$41 833 - Member Services
$21 969 - Professional Services
$10 123 - Operations

TOTAL: $299 871



Looking Ahead



As the needs of our members continue to grow and evolve, so too must our capacity to respond. Homelessness and housing instability remain pressing concerns for our care-experienced members, underscoring the need for accessible services, meaningful support, and greater opportunities to build stable, independent futures.

The opening of our new CARE Jeunesse Space marks an important step toward meeting these needs. In the year ahead, we aim to strengthen our youth coordinator team and expand drop-in hours, creating more opportunities for members to connect, access resources, and receive support. We will continue working with community partners to offer bilingual workshops and training that equip our members with practical life skills, including financial literacy and employment readiness. We also aim to facilitate access to post-secondary education resources, mentorship opportunities, and mental health support, helping members navigate adulthood with greater confidence and autonomy.

Strengthening youth leadership and participation will also be a key priority. We plan to broaden the expertise and perspectives represented on our Board of Directors while completing the launch of the CARE Jeunesse Youth Council. This initiative is an important step in advancing our “For Us, By Us” approach, creating meaningful opportunities for care-experienced youth to influence the decisions that affect them. By bringing the voices of care alumni into organizational leadership, we aim to ensure that our members play an active role in shaping our programs, priorities, and advocacy efforts, particularly around the challenges of transitioning out of care.

Beyond our direct services, we will continue to collaborate with youth-serving organizations and care advocacy groups to call for meaningful government action. We will continue advocating for stronger provincial policies and programs to address critical gaps in housing, financial assistance, education, and mental health services for care-experienced youth. Their rights, voices, and futures must remain at the centre of these conversations

As CARE Jeunesse grows, strengthening our organizational foundation will be equally important. We will continue improving our financial oversight, operational efficiency, and long-term sustainability to ensure that we can respond to our members' needs and build on the progress we have made. With the continued guidance of our Board of Directors and the dedication of our staff and volunteers, we are ready to build on this momentum and take CARE Jeunesse into its next chapter.

Above all, we remain profoundly grateful to our volunteers, donors, funders, partners, and community allies. Your generosity, commitment, and trust make this work possible. Every contribution helps us create a stronger network of support and move closer to a future in which all young people with lived experience in care have the resources, opportunities, and sense of belonging they deserve.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Together, we are building a community where care-experienced youth are supported, empowered, and heard—and where no young person has to face the transition to adulthood alone.

Warmly,

The CARE Jeunesse Team

Acknowledgments

Thank you to our members, donors, volunteers, partners and sponsors for your commitment to youth and alumni from care.

We would like to acknowledge the support of the following community partners, volunteers and organizations below:

- Batshaw Foundation
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Child Welfare League of Canada
- CIUSSS ODIM
- Concordia University
- Fondation des jeunes de la DPJ
- Pathy Family Foundation
- Paré Foundation
- Revenu Québec
- Syndicat des employés de la Commission des droits de la personne et droits de la jeunesse.
- Wendy Clarke
- Huguette Dubé
- Bread & Beyond
- Carolyn Bouchard MacNeil
- Carolyn's Community
- Marian Pinsky
- Liz Pustai
- Luise Massari
- Varda Mann Feder
- Batshaw Youth Advisory Council
- Judy Martin
- John Abbott College
- Aire Ouverte
- McGill University
- Cirque du Soleil
- La Tablée des Chefs
- ERA
- ROCAJQ
- Julia Pare
- The Centre for Community Organizations (COCo)



Get Involved

Inspired? Donate to our mission today!

Want to stay informed? Sign up as a member on our website below or follow us on social media

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