





WESTCOTT COMMUNITY CENTER

2025-2026

ANNUAL REPORT

At Westcott Community Center we invest in our community by offering essential services and engaging programming to embrace the diverse needs of all.

Essential • *Engaging* • *Embracing*

821 & 826 Euclid Ave. Syracuse, NY 13210 315.478.8634 www.westcottcc.org



A message from our Executive Director

Joan Royle

Westcott Community Center has always been more than a place to receive services, it's a mindset rooted in connection, compassion, and the belief that community thrives when people are supported, empowered, and welcomed without hesitation. Since opening our doors, we have remained deeply committed to investing in our community through essential services, meaningful programs, and an organization that reflects the diverse voices and experiences of all.

This year, our growth continued in powerful ways. We expanded our program offerings, launched new initiatives, and strengthened our role in workforce development. The acquisition of Greater Syracuse Works marks a major step forward, allowing us to enhance our workforce programs, broaden our reach, and deepen our impact.

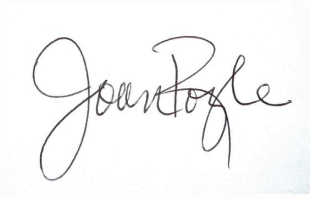
Our workforce initiatives assist in preparing our city and county residents for the opportunities ahead, including the large-scale job creation tied to Micron's arrival and the I-81 redevelopment, which ensures that local talent is ready to step into the region's next chapter of economic growth. These developments reflect not just organizational progress, but the collective momentum of a community that believes in opportunity, equity, and shared success. Every effort is grounded in the understanding that a stronger community is built through collaboration and care.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to fostering an inclusive, thriving environment that honors where we've been and embraces the promise of what's possible.

Thank you for being part of our story and for helping make Westcott Community Center a place where everyone feels seen, valued, and supported.

I am grateful to be part of this ongoing work and excited for all that lies ahead.

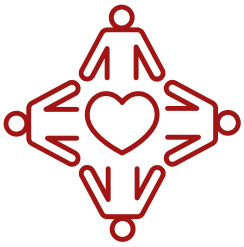
Sincerely,



Our Service Areas

From youth enrichment, to removing barriers to employment, to meeting essential community needs, and promoting healthy aging, our programs and services support individuals and families at every stage of life. We remain committed to strengthening our community through connection, support, and opportunity.

YOUTH PROGRAMS



- After School Enrichment Programs at SCSD schools
- HRSN Medicaid Services

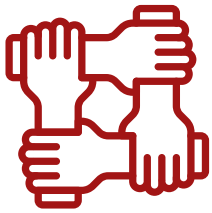
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



- Vehicles to Work
- Bridge Program
- Syracuse Build
- NYSERDA - Energy Smart CNY
- GSW Initative
- Supported Employment Services

COMMUNITY

- Basic Needs Pantry & Program
- Community Health Advocate
- High School Equivalency Classes
- Talk to a Lawyer Legal Clinic
- Digital Navigator Services
- HRSN Medicaid Services
- Community Garden
- Westcott Art Trail
- United Way FEC Credit Counseling Services



OLDER ADULTS



- Congregate Breakfast & Lunch
- Depends Briefs Bank
- Enrichment & Activity Program
- Exercise Program
- Food Farmacy Program
- Senior Companion Program
- Senior Neighborhood Advisor
- Senior Technology Program
- Senior Transportation Program

Westcott Community Center
Community Impact



59,345

Pantry Meals Provided



7,280

Individuals Served through Programs and Referrals



1,430

SCSD Students Served



8,889

Older Adult Breakfasts and Lunches Served



4,693

Rides Provided to Older Adults



593

Vehicles to Work Participants Secured Transportation



1,177

Workforce Development Participants Served



709

Older Adults Served

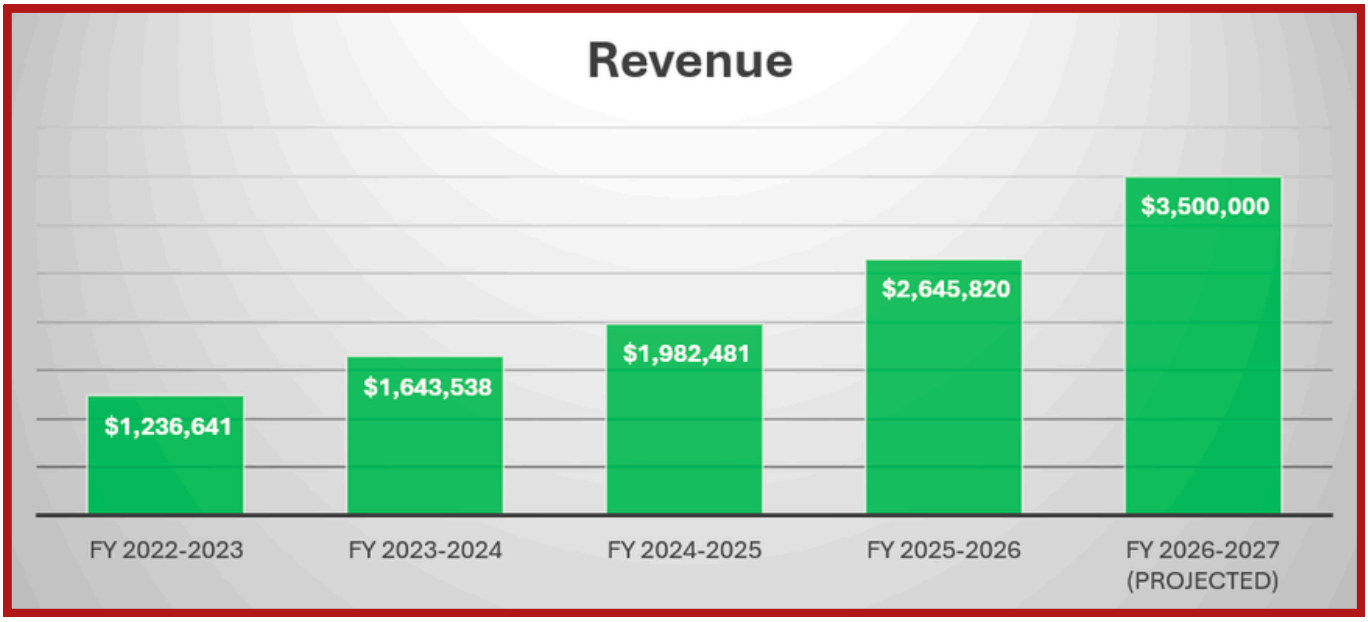


880

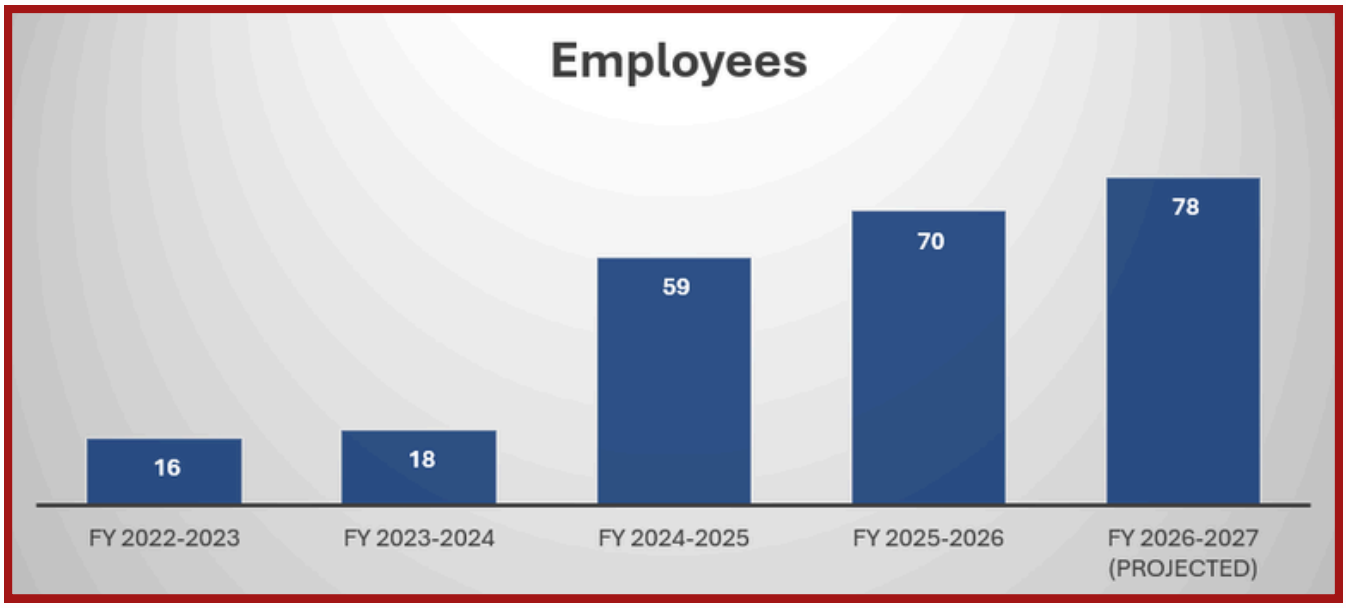
HRSN Services for Medicaid Members

Data collected from 7/1/25 - 6/30/26

Agency Gowth



Increasing our revenue streams enable us to further meet the evolving needs of the community.



In addition to the number of employees represented above, Westcott CC additionally employs 44 contracted teaching artists, employing a total of 122 individuals.

Program Highlights

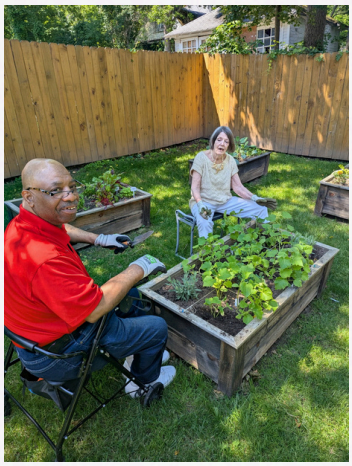
From youth enrichment, to removing barriers to employment, to meeting essential community needs, and promoting healthy aging, our programs and services support individuals and families at every stage of life. We remain committed to strengthening our community through connection, support, and opportunity.



HRSN Services

We provide Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) services to eligible New York State Medicaid members through the 1115 Waiver and Social Care Network, addressing needs such as food, housing, transportation, and other social supports that impact health and well-being.



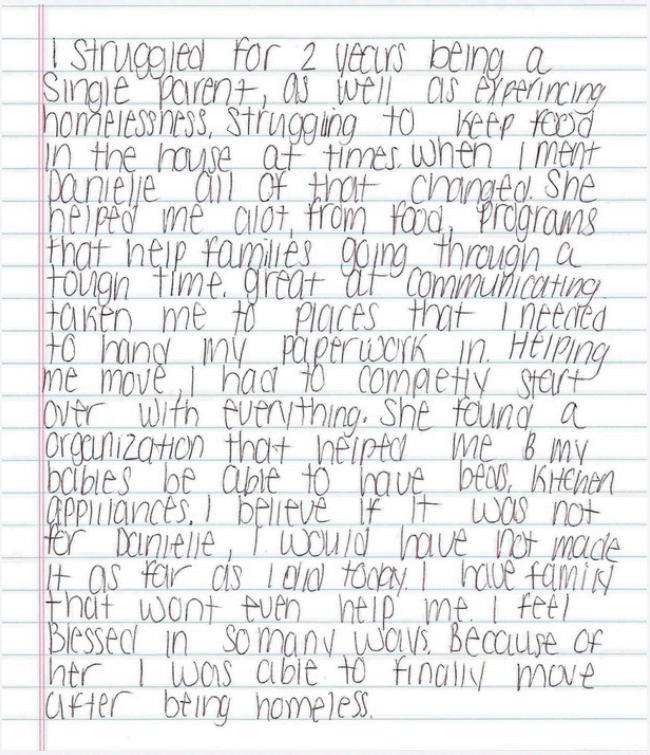




Community Services

Provides free and accessible community programming and support, including a free legal clinic, high school equivalency classes, community garden, digital literacy classes, community health advocacy, outreach events, vaccine clinics, and other programs that promote health, stability, education, and connection.

Impact Stories



I Struggled for 2 years being a Single parent, as well as experincing homelessness, Strugging to keep food in the house at times. When I ment Danielle all of that changed. She helped me alot, from food, programs that help families going through a tough time. great at communicating. taken me to places that I needed to hand my paperwork in. Helping me move, I had to completly start over with everything. She found a organization that helped me & my babies be able to have beds, kitchen appliances. I believe if it was not for Danielle, I would have not made it as far as I did today. I have family that wont even help me. I feel Blessed in so many ways. Because of her I was able to finally move after being homeless.

C.B.'s Story

HRSN SERVICES

A single mother of four began working with our HRSN Coordinator while experiencing homelessness, moving in and out of shelters, before eventually living in an abandoned house without plumbing or electricity. She worked closely with the family to help them secure stable housing, covering the security deposit and six months of rent. Because the family had lost all of their belongings, she also coordinated furniture for their entire home, helping them start fresh. Once housed, the family received pantry deliveries for a year, transportation support, and assistance reenrolling all four children in their new school. To promote long-term stability, our Coordinator also helped mom secure employment, providing the family with a stronger foundation for lasting independence and sustainability.



"For the past 12 years my children and I have been living in substandard housing causing me to be concerned about the health of my family. My landlord was doing nothing, but Danielle, from Westcott, advocated for my families' living conditions and called in the health department and code enforcement.

Cody's Story

HRSN SERVICES

In retaliation, I was served a notice to vacate my home the next day and just a few days after that I lost my income needed to support my family. Due to the condition of the home, we had to leave all of our belongings behind. She helped me get legal services to address the landlord's retaliation and even though the idea of moving was scary, she helped me with every step of the process. She helped me find a new job, and she found a beautiful home for my family to move into right away.

Thanks to this program, I was able to get assistance with my security deposit, my first 6 months of rent, furniture, utility assistance, 12 months of grocery deliveries, and other services. These supports have tremendously helped my family get out of a tough situation and without her my children could be living on the streets."

Program Highlights

A closer look at two programs making a meaningful impact in our community.





After School Program

Our After School Program provides a safe, supportive space where students build confidence, receive academic support, and explore new interests.

Through enrichment activities, mentoring, and homework help, we empower young people to learn, grow, and thrive.





Basic Needs Pantry

Our Basic Needs Pantry ensures that no one in our community goes hungry. We provide healthy food and essential items to individuals and families in need.
As the need continues to grow, our dedicated staff and volunteers help us keep our shelves stocked, our community members fed and supported with what they need.

Program Highlights

A closer look at two programs making a meaningful impact in our community.



Greater Syracuse Works

A newly acquired workforce initiative of the Westcott Community Center designed to build a collaborative network for workforce development, support direct service staff, and be a resource to workforce training providers in the area.





EnergySmart CNY

EnergySmart CNY helps Central New York residents, businesses, and building owners access clean-energy resources that can lower energy costs, improve comfort, and reduce environmental impact. Serving five counties, the initiative also supports clean-energy workforce and economic development while connecting communities with incentives, education, and trusted contractors.

Program Highlights

A closer look at two programs making a meaningful impact in our community.





Workforce Development

Vehicles to Work, Syracuse Build, Supported Employment, and Bridge to Manufacturing Programs are designed to help individuals pursue their career paths in construction trades, electromechanical technology, and other career paths while providing the support needed to turn their dreams into reality.





Older Adult Services

Our comprehensive Older Adult programs and services are designed to engage, meet individual needs, promote wellness, and enrich the lives of older adults in our community.

We offer a variety of opportunities and supports that encourage happy, healthy aging in place.

Impact Story



BRANDON ON MOVING IN DAY AT OCC WITH GAIL, OUR BRIDGE NAVIGATOR

Brandon first came to us through our partner, Road to Emmaus Ministries, feeding program. At that time, he was homeless, wrapping his feet in plastic bags to keep them dry and living in a condemned house with a collapsing roof. He told us he was ready to change his life. He was tired of just surviving and wanted something different.

From the moment he connected with his case manager, Gail, Brandon showed up. Every appointment. Every screening. Every requirement. He did the work.

Brandon's Story

BRIDGE TO MANUFACTURING

We kept him fed through our pantry, clothed through donations, and supported his transportation needs through our Vehicles to Work program and is working with our HRSN Service Coordinator to find long-term housing. Bit by bit, he built stability and confidence.

Brandon went on to complete our Bridge Learning Community and was accepted into Onondaga Community College.

In August, just before classes began, he moved into his dorm room. He told us he showers twice a day now simply because he can. He's attending classes, staying on top of his homework, reaching out to tutors, and getting support from classmates. His professors have taken notice of his commitment and determination, and because of that, he was nominated for a Micron internship.

This summer, Brandon will begin that internship, an opportunity he earned through grit, consistency, and an unwavering belief that his life could be different.

Brandon's journey is a reminder of what happens when someone is met with compassion, resources, and a community that supports them**. He is thriving, and we are incredibly proud of him!**

Impact Story



Sajad's Story

VEHICLES TO WORK

Sajad, a recent BOCES construction graduate, relied on his vehicle daily for work, getting to class, and earning extra income through Amazon deliveries. When major mechanical issues began affecting his car, he worried about breaking down, losing wages, getting to class, and facing increased financial issues. Purchasing another vehicle wasn't an option.

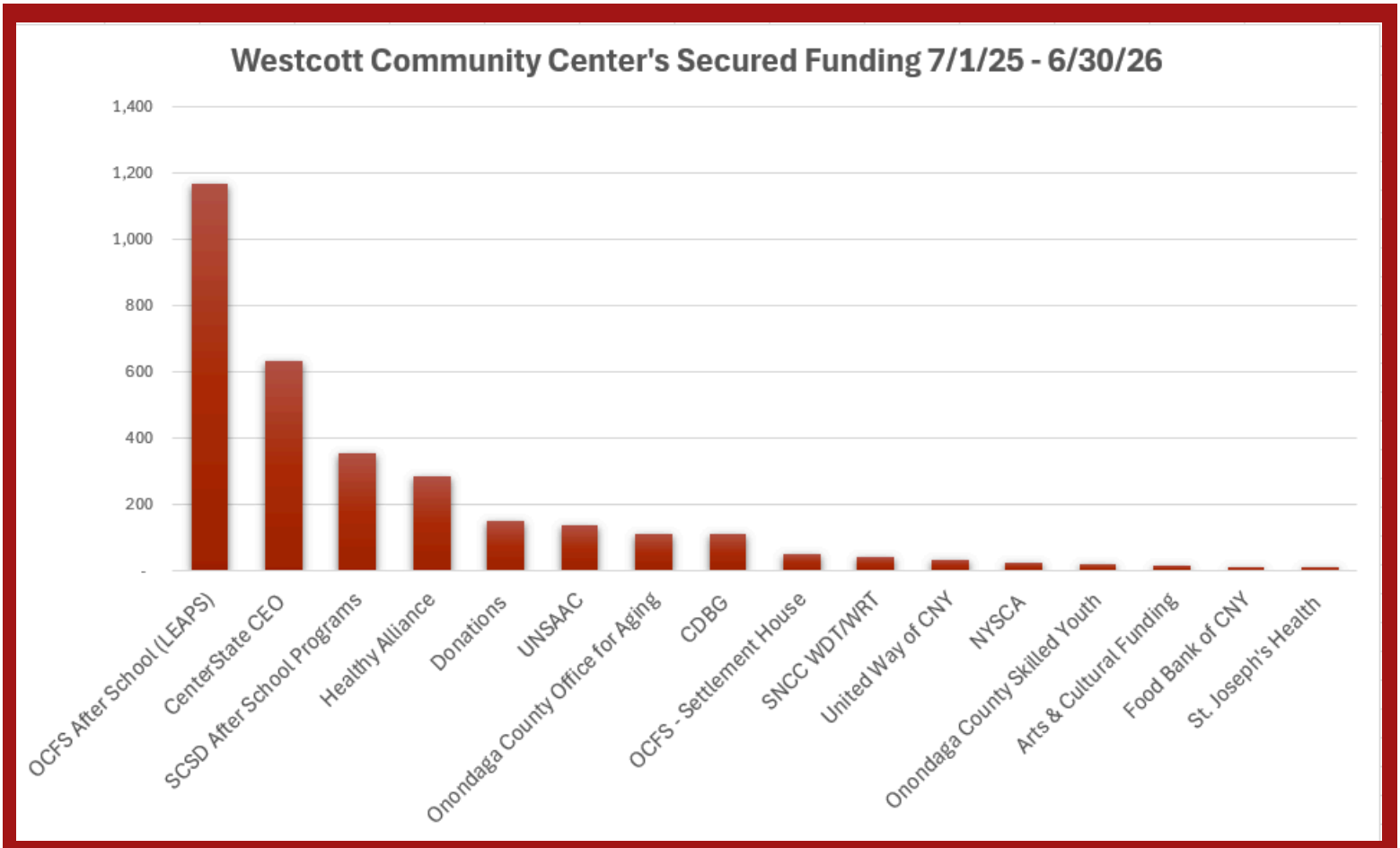
After connecting with the Vehicles to Work (VTW) program, Sajad also shared that he was dealing with a speeding violation, adding legal and financial pressure to transportation challenges. VTW stepped in to address both barriers.

The program connected him to a repair shop and paid the cost of these critical repairs which included new control arms, shocks/struts, and an intermediate shaft and axle assembly. They also provided financial assistance toward resolving the outstanding ticket.

With his vehicle now running safely and reliably, Sajad can get to work, school, and other necessary places without fear of breaking down.

He expressed deep appreciation for VTW's support, noting that the program helped him overcome immediate transportation and financial obstacles while continuing to build his stability and independence.

Our Funding



Funding in the 1,000s

Our Collaborations

Our collaborative partnerships enable us to expand our reach, and provide growth opportunities in order to achieve a greater impact in our community.

Board of Directors

Todd Goehle, Board Chair
Libby Murphy, Vice Chair
Jonathan Kalinowski, Treasurer
Eleanor Maine, Secretary
Jim Corbo
Jacqueline Pilon
Nathan Jerauld
Norman Paul
Greg Marcus
Cainaan Webb
Jason Scharf
Chuck Baracco
Ken Casara
Paula Freedman, Emerita

How We Stand Out

Collaborative

Collaboration is key to the work we do. We collaborate with philanthropic, government, and non-profit organizations to best meet the needs of those we serve.

Responsive to Need

Regardless of an individual's needs, when they walk through our doors, we either provide them with services or refer them to an agency that can help. Additionally, we evolve our programming to meet the changing needs of our community.

Data-Driven

We track program data in our Salesforce database and the Life Needs Assessment in order to be accountable for our work, look for trends in need, and ensure our impact makes a difference.

Fiscally Transparent

Our annual report is published on our website and the annual review of our finances by an external auditor has never uncovered a deficiency.

Our heartfelt gratitude to:

Our volunteers, who give selflessly to their community and our generous donors, who help us fulfill our mission and support their community with their contributions.

Please help us further our mission by:



Advocating to Support Our Causes

Making a Donation



Volunteering Your Time