

A Child's



**FAMILY CHILD CARE SERVICES
OF NIAGARA**

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

A Child's World
344 Avon Street Welland Ontario L3B 6E5
Phone: 905-735-1162 Website: www.acw.on.ca



Mission:

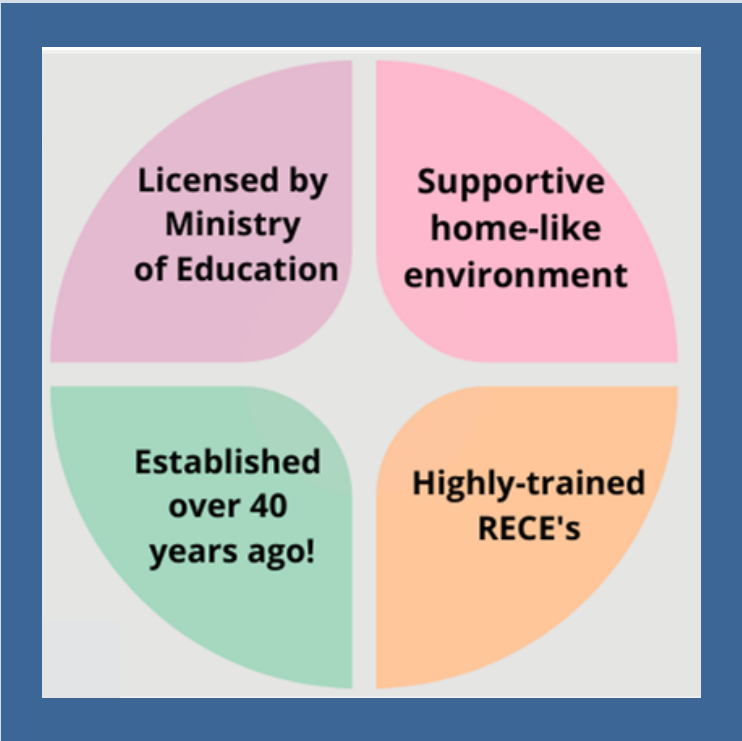
To provide quality early learning and child care.

Mandate:

- To provide a respectful, nurturing, intellectually stimulating, pro social atmosphere.
- To assist children in school readiness through the enhancement of the child's physical health and well being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development, communication skills and general knowledge.
- To provide programs and services to the community to implement and foster the mission of the corporation and the objectives of its members.
- To provide leadership within the early learning and child care community in Niagara.
- To advocate for support and recognition of the value of early learning.
- To raise awareness and support for the fundraising efforts of the Foundation for Quality Child Care.
- To ensure ongoing staff development.
- To ensure compliance with all relevant legislation.
- To support parents and families with information, resources and referrals.

Vision:

Creating an enriched foundation for children and families.





MESSAGE FROM KIM COLE — ACW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & SHANNON SUTHERLAND — ACW BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR

As we reflect on 2023, we continue to be so proud of the dedication and passion that drives our organization; our Educators. They understand the early years build a foundation for future learning, health and success. They are the heart of everything A Child's World does as demonstrated in our commitment to our values and a shared vision for the future of early learning and child care.

Through ongoing education and reflection our Educators who work each day in the playrooms, and the leadership our Management Educators, and Administration Educators show each and every day, we strive to reduce barriers and foster a sense of belonging for all families. A Child's World employs a team of dedicated, knowledgeable, and caring Educators. They strive to create a loving, and stimulating learning environment with the focus on belonging, engagement, expression, and well-being, the four Foundations of "How Does Learning Happen?", Ontario's Pedagogy.

This year ACW was fortunate to have Educators enroll in a "Modified ECE Diploma Program for Niagara". The program was funded through the Ministry of Labor, Training and Skills Development to design and deliver an accelerated Early Childhood Education diploma program for Educators currently employed within Niagara's early learning program. ACW was very proud of the 7 Educators that enrolled and completed the program. This was no easy task as the 2-year program was delivered in 46 weeks! On top of their full time positions they completed all of the requirements of the program. Congratulations to: Joanna Fleming, Kenzie Leitch, Amy Klingbeil, Melissa Murdoch, Danielle Letourneau, Amy Taylor, and Ashley Cardy.

The A Child's World Board of Directors also play a crucial role in our organization by actively sharing in the organization's mission and objectives. They are a dedicated group who commit their time and expertise to support the goals of A Child's World. They include parents of children in our programs as well as community members with varied backgrounds.

Some 2023 Key Achievements for A Child's World:

- We engaged our Educators in an Employee Engagement Survey which yielded favourable results. Information and suggestions obtained in the survey have been, and continues to be, a part of our planning sessions.
- We continue to work extremely hard to recruit and retain Educators in order to maintain ratios at our centres and to keep the doors open.
- We started the process and implementation for our responsibilities to comply with ONCA (The Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act)
- For the very first time Educators participated in the Niagara Cares 2023 Early Learning and Child Care Conference.

As we move forward A Child's World will remain focused on its vision, "to provide quality early learning and child care" and continue to offer quality child care for families in Niagara.

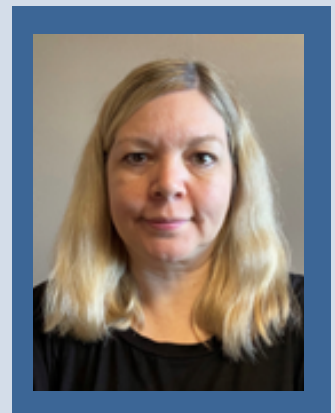
We thank you and appreciate that you have chosen A Child's World
for your family's child care needs.

With Appreciation!



Kim Cole

RECE, AECEO.C, Executive Director



Shannon Sutherland

Board Chair



2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

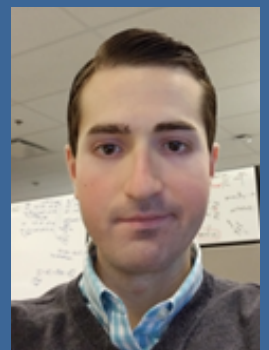
BOARD MEMBERS



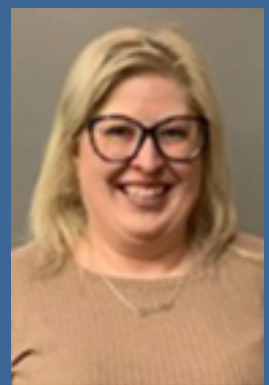
Shannon Sutherland, Chair



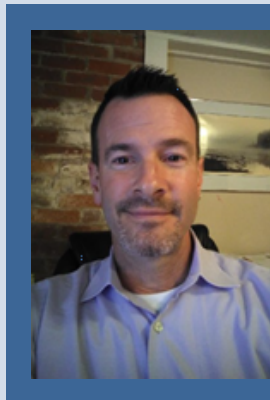
Jodi Noble, Vice Chair



Matt Greenfield, Treasurer



Kristie Mucciante, Secretary



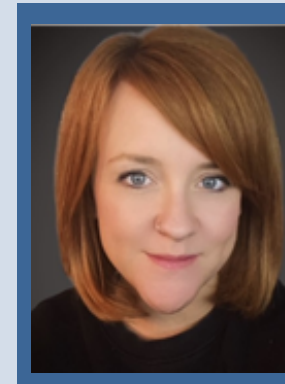
Chris Steele



Andrea Wheaton



Sherrie Vittie



Stephanie Piniak

19 CHILD
CARE
CENTRES



1,345
CHILDREN
CARED FOR



222
DEDICATED
EDUCATORS



948
FAMILIES
SERVED





19 CHILD
CARE
CENTRES





2023 A CHILD'S WORLD CENTRES

WELLAND

ACW Kids World
150 Plymouth Road L3B 3C7
(905-735-8312) Ages Infant-12 years

ACW Ross
358 Niagara Street L3C 1K9
(905-732-0888) Ages 18 months -12 years

ACW St. Andrew
16 St. Andrew Street L3B 1E1
(905-380-6394) Ages 3.8 -12 years

ACW Woodlawn
300 Woodlawn Road L3C 7L3
(905-714-7849) Ages Infant -12 years

PORT COLBORNE

ACW McKay
320 Fielden Avenue L3K 4T7
(905-380-5306) Ages 3.8 -12 years

ACW St. John Bosco
(formerly ACW Oakwood)
191 Highland Avenue L3K 3S7
(905-414-6791) Ages 3.8 -12 years

ACW First Friends
211 Elgin Street L3K 3K4
(905-835-5666) Ages Infant - 12 years

NIAGARA FALLS

ACW Cherrywood Acres
4635 Pettit Avenue L2E 6L4
(289-697-5678) Ages 3.8 -12 years

ACW Sacred Heart
8450 Oliver Street L2G 6Z2
(905-359-7686) Ages 3.8 -12 years

ACW Princess Margaret
6624 Culp Street L2G 2C4
(905-357-5244) Ages 18 months-12 years

ACW Forestview
8406 Forestview Blvd. L2H 0B9
(905-354-4010) Ages Infant -12 years

ST. CATHARINES

ACW Tiny Travellers
301 St. Paul Street L2R 3M8
Entrance - 150 King Street)
(905-704-2323) Ages Infant - 5 years

ACW Ferndale
35 Ferndale Avenue L2P 1V8
(905-964-8512) Ages 3.8 -12 years

ACW North Court
111 Church Street L2R 3C9
(905-684-8735) Ages 18 months—3.8 years

ACW Fairview
184 Scott Street L2N 1J1
(905-228-1080) Ages Infant - 3.8 years

RIDGEWAY

ACW John Brant
143 Ridge Road North L0S 1N0
(905-894-1999) Ages 18 months-12 years

WAINFLEET

ACW Country Kids
31950 Sugarloaf Street L0S 1V0
(905-714-5381) Ages 3.8 -12 years

VINELAND

ACW Twenty Valley
4057 Victoria Ave. North L0R 2C0
(905-933-8558) Ages 3.8-12 years

FONTVILLE

ACW Lookout Ridge
1505 Lookout Street L0S 1E5
(905-228-3644) Ages Infants - 12 years



2023 ACW Human Resources Update

ACW's Annual Organizational Educator Meeting was held on May 17, 2023 at the Welland Legion. Our Educators enjoyed an evening of recognition, networking, draws, a delicious meal and laughs with comedian David Green. A Child's World's Strategic Plan was also shared by ACW's Executive Director, Kim Cole. Years of service pins were presented to Educators celebrating their 5, 10, 15, 20, 30 & 35 years with ACW. The Barb Sockovie Award of Excellence was presented to Rachel Radford & The Steve Noyes Award was presented to Katherine Martin. ACW also presented certificates to the Graduates of the accelerated Early Childhood Diploma Program that was funded through the Ministry of Labor, Training and Skills Development. Congratulations to all of these outstanding ACW Educators!



The Canada Student Summer Jobs program funded ACW for 3 temporary Non RECE Assistant summer positions. These students assisted our Educators at the centres during the months of July and August 2023.



2023 Barb Sockovie
Award of Excellence recipient
Rachel Radford



ACW Graduates of the accelerated Early Childhood Education
Diploma Program
Pictured Above: Melissa Murdoch, Kenzie Leitch, Danielle Letourneau, Amy Klingbeil
Absent from photo: Ashley Cardy, Joanna Fleming, Amy Taylor



2023 Steve Noyes
Award recipient
Katherine Martin

2023 ACW PROGRAM UPDATES



As part of the QCCN Initiative Educators complete a Speech and Language Checklist yearly on each child enrolled in our centres. Last year the checklists were updated and so the ECCDC offered a virtual training session for all centre Educators to participate in. ACW Educators participated as a team at one of their staff meetings. It was a great opportunity to become familiar with the changes made to the Speech and Language Checklists.

In June we were notified that the room we utilized at Oakwood Elementary School for our before and after school program was being reclaimed by the school. Fortunately we had an opportunity to move the program to St. John Bosco Elementary School where we have one exclusive room and one shared space room. This allowed the centre to increase its enrollment.

ACW qualified for a one-time funding grant from Niagara Region Children's Services and the Early Childhood Development Centre to support the purchase of new play-based materials and equipment. The purpose of the grant was to support pedagogy and curriculum development in the centres consistent with How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years. The Educators were very excited to receive new toys and equipment in order to enhance the programming being offered to the children.

It is A Child's World's privilege to recognize and honour the staff who have dedicated their career to A Child's World. We are so fortunate to have so many long term employees in our organization.



5 YEARS OF SERVICE

Maria Caro
Stephanie Camp
Leah Kamphuis
Tammy Rowell
Emma McCrae

10 YEARS OF SERVICE

Krystal Bateman
Cassandra Poitras

15 YEARS OF SERVICE

Tammy Horton
Emily Rosinski
Brandi Hicks
Wendy Moran

35 YEARS OF SERVICE

Kim Cole
Katherine Martin

30 YEARS OF SERVICE

Katie Jamieson
Cathy Edkins
Amy Shute

20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Sandra Johnston
Terri Stroomer
Tracy Biggar

2023 ACW YEARS OF SERVICE



ACW HEALTH & SAFETY UPDATE

In 2023, A Child's World was part of the WSIB Excellence Program once again. The Excellence program is a WSIB program in Ontario which helps companies manage a system for health and safety in the workplace. This is accomplished through mentoring, pooling of resources and sharing of best practices between members and the WSIB. Excellence program members can reduce their workplace injuries and illnesses and be rewarded with rebates on WSIB premiums. The two topics that A Child's World covered were Management Review and Health and Safety Objectives. By participating in this program, A Child's World will receive recognition from WSIB.

In 2023, A Child's World had no lost time cases from WSIB and Incidents, as well Medical Leaves decreased from 2022 within the organization.

Centre monthly inspections have been successfully completed with little to no corrective actions. Compliance packages were available on our staff portal for all Educators and Management to complete.

ACW's 11th Annual Health and Wellness Day was Thursday May 25, 2023.

A Child's World gave each centre an assortment of tea along with a note about the benefits of tea as a gift in recognition of Wellness.

The centres planned special activities for the Educators and children to celebrate Health & Wellness!



THE FOUNDATION FOR QUALITY CHILD CARE



The Foundation for Quality Child Care acts as the fundraising arm of A Child's World. It develops and implements fundraising activities to support the Mission of A Child's World.

Through The Foundation, money is raised to invest in our children and our Early Learning Environments. We continually strive to improve our services and recognize the need for upgrades to our programs. Dollars raised through The Foundation are put directly into our child care centres.

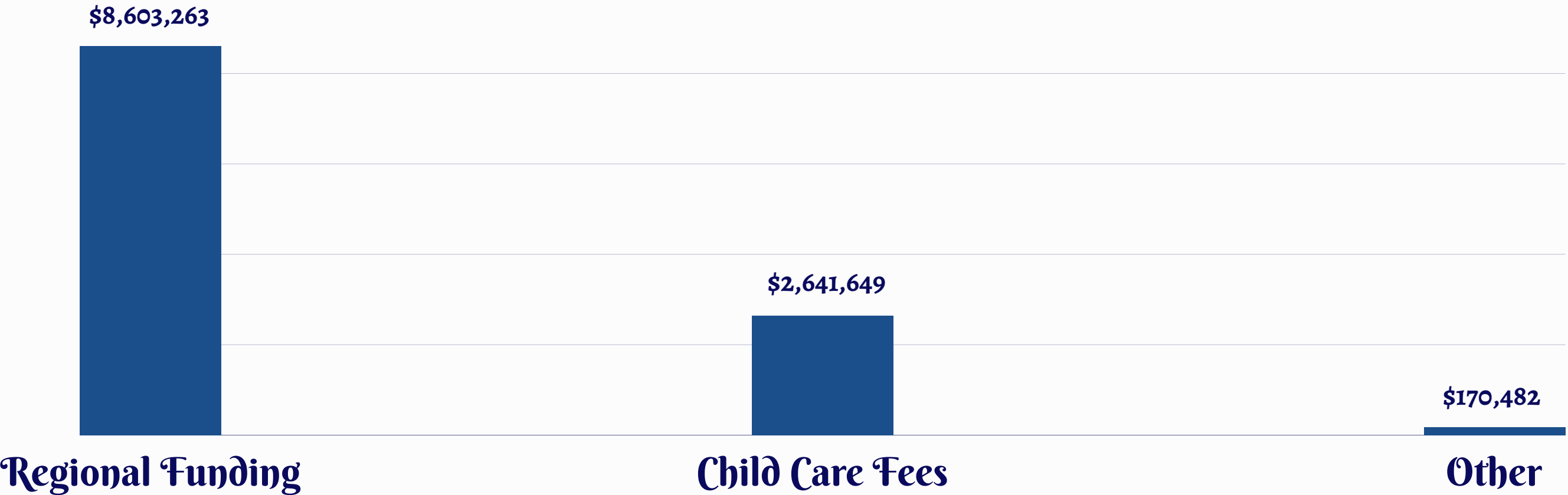
For the year ended August 31, 2023 The Foundation for Quality Child Care raised \$9,432 through Community donations and Family events.



FINANCIAL OPERATING RESULTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

REVENUE



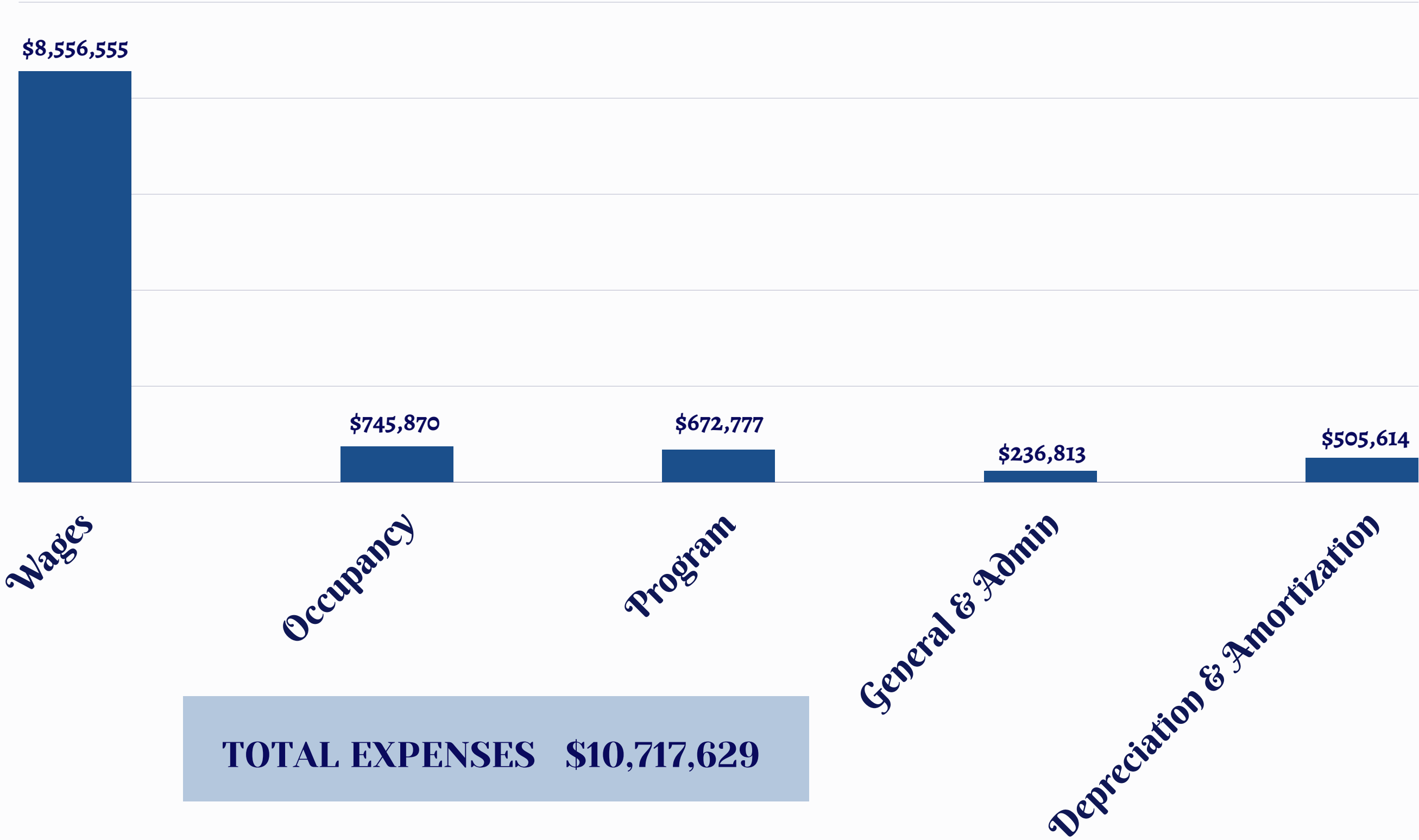
TOTAL REVENUE \$11,415,394



FINANCIAL OPERATING RESULTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

EXPENSES





2023 ACW PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



ACW Country Kids Kinders and Schoolage children are very excited watching the construction of the new ACW Country Kids and Wainfleet Elementary School. ACW Country Kids is expanding to Infant, Toddler, Preschool care starting September 2024. We will remain providing Kinder and Schoolage care before and after school throughout 2023 and on.



23rd Annual Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day October 17, 2023



Thank you for your dedication & commitment
to the children, their families and to
A Child's World!
You are the key to quality in
Early Learning & Child Care Programs!



A Child's World
has grown and flourished during
the past four decades.
The secret to our success is our Educators.
ACW has dedicated, professional,
caring Educators, who provide quality
early learning and child care by
creating an enriched foundation for
children and their families.

We look forward to the future
and new opportunities for
Niagara's Premier Child Care Organization!

