



## LPF WESTERN NY



### 2024 Annual Report

79 Benbro Drive  
Buffalo, NY 14225

[www.levelingtheplyingfield.org](http://www.levelingtheplyingfield.org)

# LPF | LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD

**Mission:** Leveling the Playing Field redistributes equipment to expand access and equity within youth sports and recreation programs in under-resourced communities.

**Vision:** A world with no sidelines



## Taylor Ciccoria, LPF Western NY Program Director

Growing up in Western New York, Taylor played soccer, lacrosse, and ran track. Taylor completed her undergraduate and graduate Student/Public Administration degrees at Binghamton University. In July of 2023, LPF welcomed Taylor aboard as the Program Director for the WNY region. Taylor's background, particularly her expertise in managing a food pantry, seamlessly transitioned into this position, equipping her with invaluable skills in volunteer coordination, community engagement, and efficient warehouse management. Since its establishment in July of 2023, WNY has collected over \$450,000 worth of equipment and engaged over 500 volunteers, and now is excited to start distributing gear to underresourced communities in WNY.

## WHAT WE DO: A food bank...but for sports equipment

### Collection



We primarily collect sports equipment through community drives and strategically placed metal donation bins that bring in equipment from local families. We also accept donations of discontinued or overstock goods from sporting goods companies. Staff run collection drives at youth sports tournaments, school events, and neighborhood recycling days to fill our van with donated sports gear for our warehouse.

### Volunteer Engagement



We rely heavily on volunteers to sort and pack equipment in our warehouses. In addition to warehouse volunteering, individuals and groups often run collection drives within their community.

### Distribution Program



Schools and community-based organizations apply for an equipment grant online. Then, we schedule either a site visit or interview at our warehouse. Approved programs are invited to shop the warehouse as often as they want without reapplying! Some programs come once a year and others come on a monthly basis.

## 2024 BY THE NUMBERS

**\$514,771.80**

worth of sports equipment **collected**

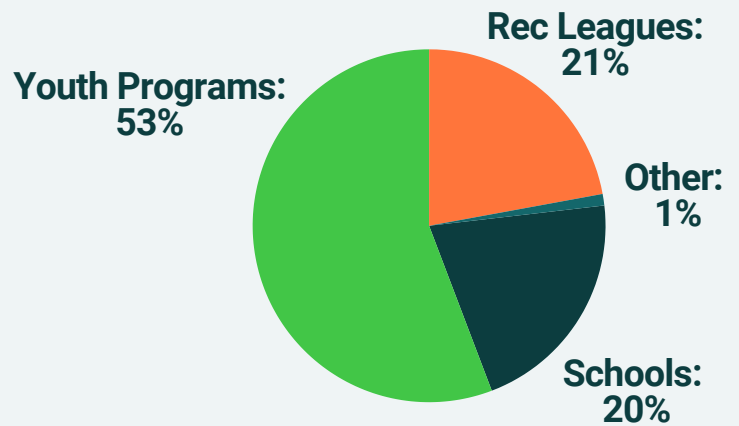
**\$152,600.00**

worth of sports equipment **distributed**



### Programs Served

**61** total programs impacted





## OPEN FOR DISTRIBUTION!

In August, LPF Western NY Program Director Taylor Cicoria, Executive Director Max Levitt and COO Kaitlin Brennan gathered at our Buffalo warehouse with 30+ members of the local community from different companies and organizations to officially launch our distribution efforts.

Since extending the invitation for local Title I schools and youth programs to access our resources in August, LPF Western NY continues to receive more and more equipment grant applications online.



70+

equipment grant applications received

## HEAR WHAT OUR BENEFICIARIES HAVE TO SAY:

*"The soccer cleats went directly to players who were playing in either crocks, running shoes, or soccer shoes that were falling apart. This greatly helped their safety and enjoyment of the game."*

**-Amateur Athletic Foundation DBA:  
Buffalo United**



# PROGRAMS SERVED IN 2024

AltarN8V Youth Group (Tree of Life)  
Amateur Athletic Foundation DBA: Buffalo United  
Amlima Football Club  
Azeem Family Foundation  
Boys & Girls Club of East Aurora  
Boys and Girls Club of Boston  
Boys and Girls Club of Orchard Park  
Breaking Barriers Buffalo  
Buffalo Urban League, Inc.  
Buffalo Vets  
Cheektowaga Boys Basketball  
Cheektowaga Soccer Club  
Depew-Lancaster Boys & Girls Club Inc.  
East Community High School  
Encompass Resources for Learning  
Erie Regional Housing Development Corporation dba The Belle Center  
FlowerCity Panthers Youth Athletics  
Frederick Law Olmsted  
Galeton Youth Soccer  
Hasek's Heroes  
Hilbert College Women's Lacrosse  
Hot Corner Athletics  
Independent Health- YMCABN  
Lackawanna Yemen Soccer Club  
Lewiston-Porter Youth Football and Cheer  
Lockport- YMCABN  
McKinley High School  
Middle Early College HS  
Niagara Falls Boys & Girls Club  
Niagara Falls Cataract Youth Football & Cheerleading

Norman Howard School  
North Cheektowaga Amateur Athletic Association  
Olean Family YMCA  
Persistence Preparatory Academy Charter School  
Pioneer Jr. Panthers Youth Football and Cheerleading Organization  
Police Activities League of Massena  
Queen City Performing Arts Co-op  
Resource Council of WNY  
Rise Nutrition  
Rochester Accessible Adventures  
SB Lacrosse, Inc.  
Section VI Athletics  
Seneca Street CDC  
Somali Bantu Community Organization of Buffalo  
South City Lacrosse  
Southtowns- YMCABN  
Springville Youth, Inc.  
The Zone  
United Athletic Services  
United Somali Alliance of Buffalo  
Urban Christian Ministries  
Western New York Association of Blind Athletes  
Westside Baseball/ Softball and Tball  
WNY Bandits  
WNY Lax Fest  
WNY Purge  
WNYMBL Inc  
YMCA GLOW  
YWCA WNY - LA ESD





## SUPPORTERS



### Volunteers

LPF relies heavily on volunteers in order to keep our warehouses organized and easy to navigate. Our help comes from local families, middle-schoolers, high-schoolers, college groups, and corporate groups alike. LPF Western NY was excited to work with groups such as [names, names, names] – all of whom volunteered their time at our warehouse in 2024.

We could not carry out our mission without this steady flow of volunteers in our warehouse. Thank you for sustaining our work!

**1,080**

hours volunteered

**540**

volunteers

**57**

collection drives

**6**

metal collection bins



### Collection Drives

Kids, families, teams, and companies in our community run collection drives throughout the year, helping LPF collect thousands of dollars worth of sports equipment. These collection efforts truly fuel our work and keep our warehouse stocked so that we can keep up with the high demand of gear from local schools and youth programs.

We want to thank everyone who collected gear for us in 2024 and hope to see you again soon!



## 2024 Major Funders

**BENDERSON**  
DEVELOPMENT



  
**Community Foundation**  
for Greater Buffalo



**RALPH C. WILSON, JR.**  
FOUNDATION

**USTA**   
**EASTERN**

## 2024 Major In-Kind Donors

AltarN8V Youth Group (Tree of Life)  
Amateur Athletic Foundation DBA:  
Buffalo United  
Amlima Football Club  
Azeem Family Foundation  
Boys & Girls Club of East Aurora  
Boys and Girls Club of Boston  
Boys and Girls Club of Orchard Park  
Breaking Barriers Buffalo  
Buffalo Urban League, Inc.  
Buffalo Vets  
Cheektowaga Boys Basketball  
Cheektowaga Soccer Club  
Depew-Lancaster Boys & Girls Club  
East Community High School  
Encompass Resources for Learning  
Erie Regional Housing Development  
Corporation dba The Belle Center  
FlowerCity Panthers Youth Athletics  
Frederick Law Olmsted  
Galeton Youth Soccer  
Hasek's Heroes  
Hilbert College Women's Lacrosse

Hot Corner Athletics  
Independent Health- YMCABN  
Lackawanna Yemen Soccer Club  
Lewiston-Porter Youth Football & Cheer  
Lockport- YMCABN  
McKinley High School  
Middle Early College HS  
Niagara Falls Boys & Girls Club  
Niagara Falls Cataract Youth Football &  
Cheerleading  
Norman Howard School  
North Cheektowaga Amateur Athletic  
Association  
Olean Family YMCA  
Persistence Preparatory Academy  
Charter School  
Pioneer Jr. Panthers Youth Football and  
Cheerleading Organization  
Police Activities League of Massena  
Queen City Performing Arts Co-op  
Resource Council of WNY  
Rise Nutrition  
Rochester Accessible Adventures

SB Lacrosse, Inc.  
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Seneca Street CDC  
Somali Bantu Community  
Organization of Buffalo  
South City Lacrosse  
Southtowns- YMCABN  
Springville Youth, Inc.  
The Zone  
United Athletic Services  
United Somali Alliance of Buffalo  
Urban Christian Ministries  
Western New York Association of  
Blind Athletes  
Westside Baseball/ Softball and  
Tball  
WNY Bandits  
WNY Lax Fest  
WNY Purge  
WNYMBL Inc  
YMCA GLOW  
YWCA WNY - LA ESD

## WE'VE GOT BINS!

### Metal Collection Bins

Thanks to the help of local partners, LPF Western NY is thrilled to share the placement of 6 bins across the Greater Buffalo area! Metal collection bins are an easy way for individuals to donate their gently used sports gear without having to make a trip to the warehouse. Using LPF's Donation Bin locator tool on our website, you can find the bin closest to you. In 2024 alone, these bins helped bring in **\$115K+** worth of gear to our warehouse!



### 2024 Bin Partners

Hot Corner Athletics  
Williamsville Jr. Football & Cheer  
The R.O.C.K.

Flash Fields  
South Towns Tennis Club

Tennis Club of Rochester  
Total Sports Experience



## FY24 LPF Western NY Financials

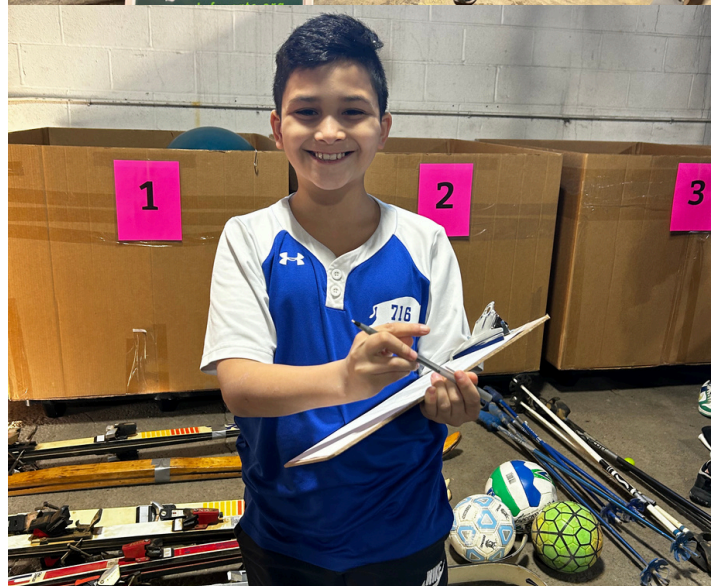
### REVENUE

Corporate Contributions	\$9,526
Foundation Contributions	\$206,500
Individual Contributions	\$5,703
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$221,729</b>

### EXPENSES

Personnel	\$85,393
Facilities & Equipment	\$83,511
Program Supplies	\$4,993
Travel and Meetings	\$6,031
Miscellaneous	\$4,774
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$184,702</b>

<b>Net Revenue</b>	<b>\$37,027</b>
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## LPF WESTERN NEW YORK

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### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL



@LPFwny



@Leveling the Playing Field, Inc



@LPFsports



@Leveling the Playing Field, Inc



@LPFsports

### GET INVOLVED

[Volunteer](#) / [Give Gear](#) / [Donate](#) / [Partner](#)