



LPF | LEVELING THE
PLAYING FIELD

ORGANIZATION-WIDE

Annual Report 2025



2025: INSIDE THE GAME

As we look back on this past year at LPF, one thing stands out clearly: the need for access to quality sports gear continues to grow, and so does our ability to meet it. Thanks to the commitment of our community and the strength of our team, this season marked one of the most impactful years in LPF's history. We reached new watermarks across virtually every impact metric, reflecting both increased demand and our expanded capacity to serve.

We hit several major milestones, including the buildout and ribbon cutting of our Southeast Michigan warehouse and the launch of LPF Atlanta. These expansions increased our reach and opened the door to deeper community engagement. This was especially evident in the 2,994 visits to our warehouse by beneficiary programs, a powerful reminder that access to sport often starts with access to the right gear. We also welcomed new faces to the LPF team, adding key staff capacity to support continued growth.

Across all operations, LPF **collected \$5,919,588 worth of gear** and **distributed \$4,480,376 worth of gear** to schools and community organizations serving youth.

We served **1,307 unique programs**, supported by **2,321 volunteers** who contributed **4,577 hours** of their time to move our mission forward.

We were proud to expand in-kind support from partners including RIP-IT, Lacrosse Unlimited, Fanatics, JOOLA, and Under Armour. Their partnership helps ensure the gear we distribute is high-quality and ready for play.

With a bigger footprint comes the opportunity to make a bigger impact. LPF is firmly a leader in this space, and none of this would be possible without the support of our partners, volunteers, donors, and advocates. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve and excited to build on this momentum in the year ahead.

With gratitude,



Kaitlin Brennan
Chief Operating Officer

SEASON PREVIEW: BUILDING FOR WHAT'S NEXT

As we look ahead to 2026, I'm encouraged by where Leveling the Playing Field stands and excited about what's possible in the season ahead.

LPF was built on a strong foundation, thanks in large part to Max's vision and leadership. That early work created an organization with deep community roots and a clear sense of purpose. My role now is to help build on that foundation — strengthening how we operate so LPF is positioned for its next phase of growth.

Looking ahead to this year our focus is on sustainability. We will work to strengthen systems so that our programs can continue operating efficiently and effectively within our communities. Equipping kids with free sports equipment so they can enjoy all

that sports and recreation have to offer remains our bottom line. LPF surpassed new milestones in 2025 and we look forward to growing our impact once again in 2026 to reach more kids in need.

Thanks to your support, LPF is on solid footing and ready for what's next. I'm proud to be part of preparing this team for its next season — and for the leader who will carry it forward.

Sincerely,



Sean Bailey
Interim Executive Director

→ 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.

→ VALUES:

Community

As we work to increase access in youth sports, we aim to help build community in the process across schools, local nonprofits, professional sports teams, rec leagues, government entities, and more.

Teamwork

LPF does not carry out our work alone, but rather alongside many local and national partners who all help us do more for kids.

Equity

We center equity every day in our work as we strive to make youth sports more accessible and equitable for all kids.

Service

The LPF team is here to serve our communities to the best of our ability, eliminating barriers keeping kids off the sidelines.

Fun

Sports have many health and social benefits, but kids play them because they're fun! Through events, volunteer opportunities, and more, LPF aims to implement fun into our work whenever we can.

→ IMPACT:

In 2025, we hit
new records.

\$4.5
million

WORTH OF GEAR
DISTRIBUTED

1,266

PROGRAMS IMPACTED

2,994

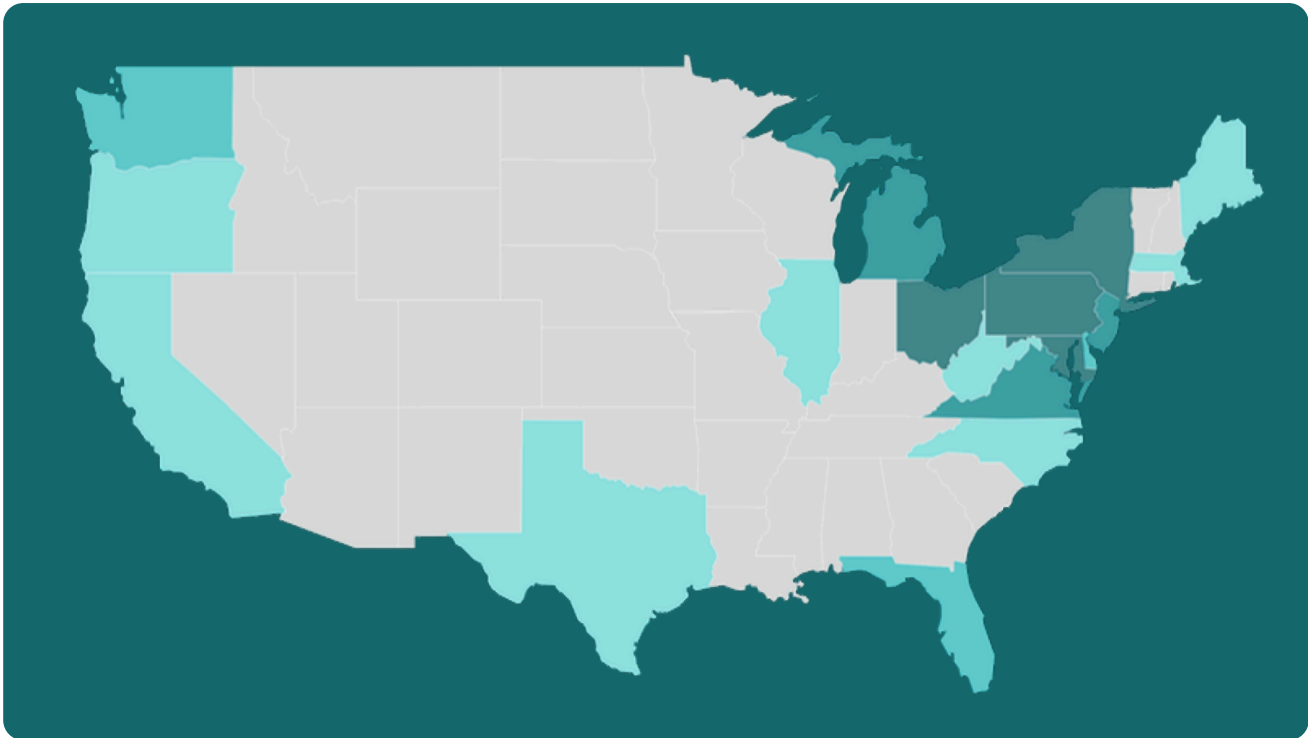
WAREHOUSE VISITS

602

NEW PROGRAMS

→ IMPACT:

1,266 unique programs came through our doors to get gear.



Out of all the programs we served in 2025, 50% were schools, 40% were youth programs, and 10% were youth leagues

- ★ **98%** of beneficiaries reported increased participation.
- ★ **97%** of beneficiaries reported the ability reallocate funds.
- ★ **61%** of beneficiaries reported the ability to introduce a new sport to their youth participants.

Beneficiary Visits by State:

1307	Maryland
491	Pennsylvania
268	Ohio
260	New York
165	District of Columbia
56	Michigan
55	Virginia
40	New Jersey
15	Delaware
27	Other States

→ SEASON HIGHLIGHTS:

Not to brag, but we had a lot of wins in 2025.

CSC Day: Equipping Kids to Succeed On and Off the Field

Community Schools provide wrap-around services for students which have proven to help close achievement gaps for kids in under-resourced areas. Community School Coordinators (CSCs) help ensure the whole child is receiving support, identifying barriers that may limit their success.

Every winter, LPF hosts CSCs at our warehouses to provide hoodies, t-shirts, shorts, hats, coats, and other apparel and sports equipment for their students in need.

Last year across Greater Washington, Baltimore, and Philadelphia we provided **\$178K** worth of gear to **70** schools, our most impactful year of CSC Days to date!



→ SEASON HIGHLIGHTS:

Metal Donation Bins: The Real MVPs

We want to make giving gear as easy as possible for our communities. So when the pandemic hit in 2020, LPF needed to adapt to ensure there were safe, efficient ways for local families, businesses, and organizations to continue donating gear.

LPF's first metal donation bin was placed in July 2021 at Coppermine 4 Seasons in partnership with the Baltimore Ravens. In just four years, we grew our metal bin network from 1 to 100 – with bin locations growing in tandem with its new warehouses across the country.

In 2025 alone, LPF collected over \$2,000,000 worth of sports equipment through metal bins, accounting for 34% of all collection efforts.



→ SEASON HIGHLIGHTS:



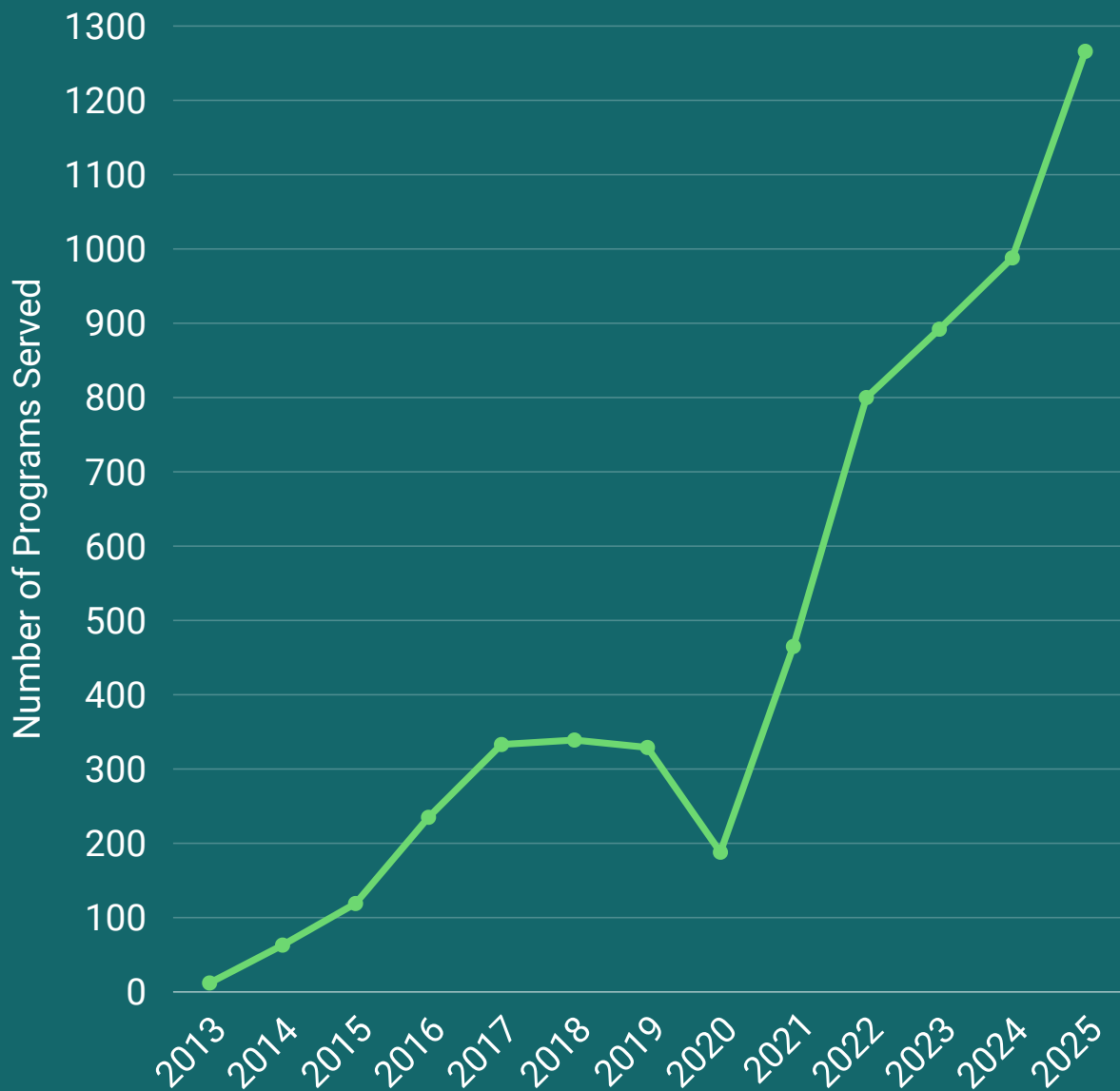
Leading in Assists: LPF Surpasses 1,000 Programs Served in a Year

The need for our resources continues to grow – requests for sports equipment from LPF increased by 60% from 2024 to 2025. The need we are witnessing makes it more important than ever that we continue growing our impact year over year. Just this fall we launched distribution efforts in Southeast MI and 2025 also marks the first full year of distribution for both LPF Ohio and Western NY. In just their first year of distribution, each of these markets has made a tremendous impact in their local communities.

Across our markets, LPF provided 1,266 unique schools and programs with free sports equipment last year. By removing the cost barrier of sports equipment for these programs LPF helped provide 125,000+ youth with the opportunity to enjoy all that sports have to offer.

→ SEASON HIGHLIGHTS:

And we've grown a *lot* since we started.



→ IMPACT STORY

Green Tech Baseball: Growing the Game

→ IMPACT STORY:

Greentech Baseball:

GROWING THE GAME

In Albany, NY, Green Tech High School's junior varsity baseball team was in need of a boost.

Following a steep participation decline after COVID, and a winless 2024 season, Stephen, the school's Athletic Director, was in search of new ways to increase momentum going into 2025.

"Our old athletic director was a very large baseball advocate and was able to get the program to grow," said Stephen. "With most of our students, it's more of a 'convincing' to play baseball than coming here and expecting to play. Most of our players are new to baseball."

Without enough players to field a varsity baseball team, all interested boys, from middle schoolers to high school seniors played on the same JV team, with two bats, and used equipment passed down from previous players for the team to share. Many players showed up with cleats, but Stephen needed additional bats, gloves, baseballs and other equipment for players to use for practice and extra exposure to the game.

While searching for ways to help teams on a budget online, Erik, a teacher at Green Tech, discovered LPF Western New York and was surprised to learn a program with free sports equipment even existed. Erik spoke with

program staff, and decided to take a chance on LPF. He made the 300 mile trip from Albany to Buffalo, and when he arrived, he was blown away by just how much equipment was there for the taking.

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"I wasn't sure what to expect," said Erik. "When you think of free stuff, you think about things that are barely held together, but then you see the rows of stuff in the warehouse. It was very eye-opening. It was just a lot to take in right away."

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With his car fully loaded with baseball equipment and items for other sports, Erik returned to Green Tech and presented equipment to Stephen. After practice one day, players received upgraded BBCOR certified bats, batting helmets, catcher's chest protectors, and more. Students even received long sleeve Nike t-shirts for colder practice and game days.

"It's a matter of the boys enjoying nice things. They don't need to be new. It just needs to be nice. It needs to be up-to-date, needs to be what other schools have, so they establish some pride in their program and confidence in themselves."



With an extra boost of morale and equipment from LPF, the Soaring Eagles caught fire at the plate, scoring 10 and 13 runs in their next two games. Previously, they'd scored a combined 16 runs in the first four games of the season. In their next game, Green Tech notched their first win in over two years by a score of 20-8. For the season, Green Tech tripled their offensive output, scoring 135 runs in 2025, compared to only 40 total the year prior.

Estiven, a sophomore infielder on the team, joined "to hang out and play baseball with friends after school." He remembers asking his dad for a bat when he first joined the team but unfortunately, it was too expensive. When the new bats arrived from LPF, he was excited to try them out in games.

"I feel like it was a benefit because some teams don't have that gear so I really appreciate it."

Receiving free equipment allows Stephen to move his budget around and prioritize items

such as new uniforms, facilities, officials, and more. Stephen hopes last season's success kicks off a snowball effect towards sustaining a successful baseball program in the long run. Better equipment will attract more players, which eventually leads to better competition and higher confidence, adding a Varsity baseball squad, and growing the game at Green Tech.

"[Receiving equipment] allows us to be able to add more games to our schedule. So instead of sending our boys to 14 JV games, now we can have up to 20. I can allocate funds to be able to send them to another location to get in an extra game. We're able to find the funds to pay officials."

Stephen, Erik, and the rest of the staff at Green Tech now know LPF is available as a resource for all of their sports equipment needs and visit whenever players make requests for additional gear. The best part? They can get the gear they need, for free.

"It's just nice to know LPF is there to help."

→ FAN APPRECIATION:

Thank you to our
supporters in 2025,
who helped us
collect over \$5M
worth of gear!

→ FAN APPRECIATION:

Last year, we worked with over 2,000 volunteers to sort and inventory gear.

\$5.9
million

WORTH OF GEAR COLLECTED

377

COLLECTION DRIVES

2,321

VOLUNTEERS MOBILIZED

4,577

VOLUNTEER HOURS LOGGED

→ FAN APPRECIATION:

Thank you to our game-changers for keeping our mission moving forward...

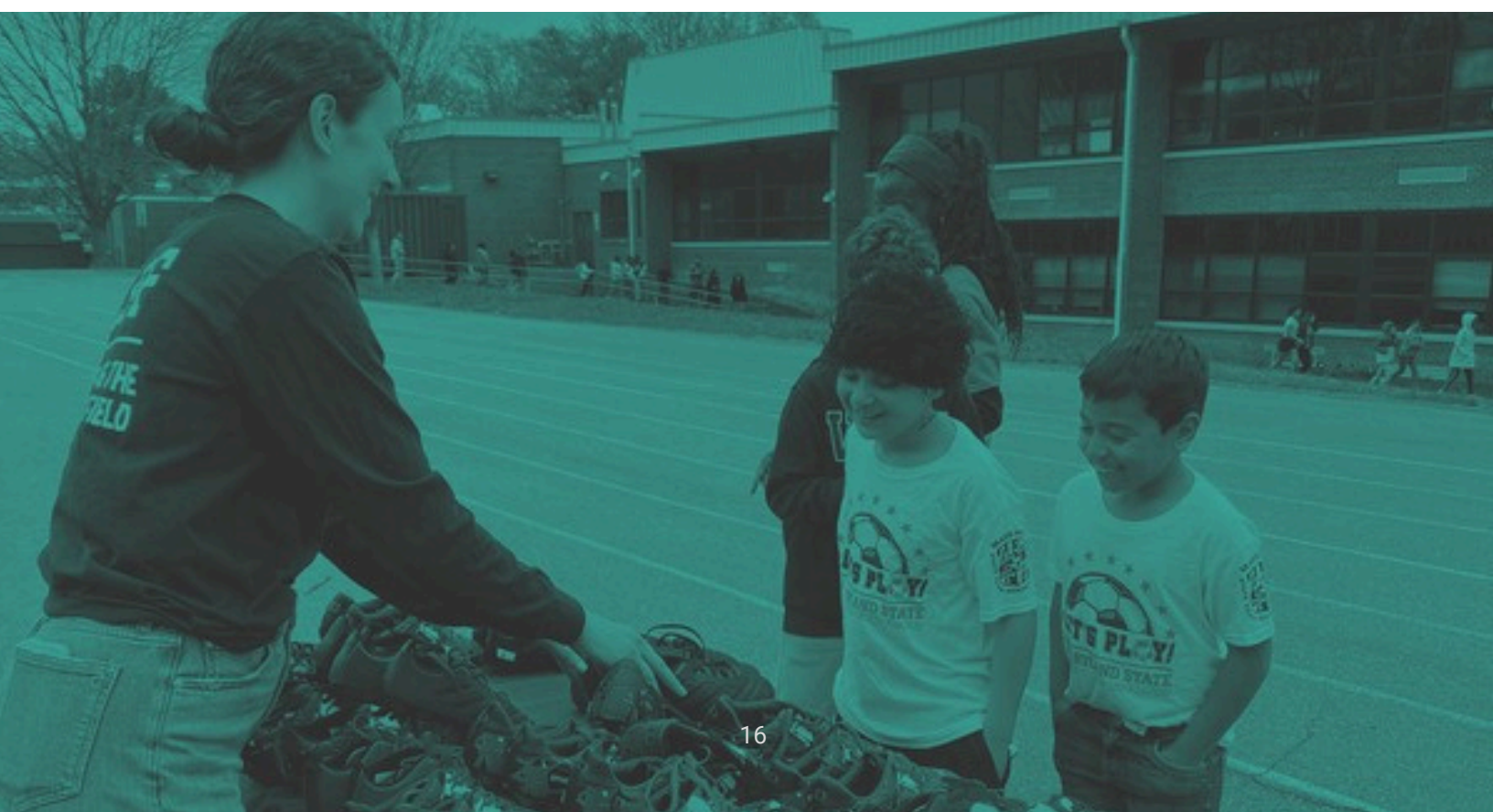
Major Funders

- Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation
- Bakers, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers & Grain Millers International Union
- Bank of America
- Baxt Family Foundation Inc.
- Bender Foundation
- Brook J. Lenfest Foundation
- Buffalo Bills
- Carl M Freeman Foundation
- Carol Lusigna Memorial Fund
- Caroline Alexander Buck Foundation
- Clearsulting
- Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation
- Columbus Foundation
- Columbus Kiwanis Foundation
- David, Helen and Marian Woodward Fund
- Detroit Pistons Foundation
- Dick's Sporting Goods Foundation
- Dimick Foundation
- DLA Piper
- DTE Energy Foundation
- Eagle Hill Consulting, LLC
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- Elyria Charities
- Enterprise Holdings Foundation
- Flyers Charities
- FST Logistics
- Gatorade
- Golden Arm Foundation
- Goldseker Foundation
- Gordon Charter Foundation
- Grigg Lewis Foundation
- Hamilton Family Charitable Trust
- Harry C. Moores Foundation
- Henry E. Niles Foundation
- Herschend Family Entertainment
- Highmark
- Hinson Family Foundation
- Ilitch Foundation
- Ingram-White Castle Foundation
- Izzo Legacy Family Fund
- Jack Wilen Foundation
- Jaws Youth Playbook
- JMI Equity
- John A. and Margaret Post Foundation
- John J. Leidy Foundation
- Just Giving
- Kettering Family Foundation
- Kids Connect Charitable Fund
- Lindy Infante Foundation
- LIV Golf
- Lockhart Vaughan Foundation
- Lucas Kaempfer Foundation
- M&T Bank
- Marietta Community Foundation
- Maryland State Youth Soccer Association
- McCormick & Company, Inc.
- Montgomery County Recreation
- Monumental Sports & Entertainment Foundation
- Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
- New Era Cap Foundation
- Northside Athletes Foundation
- O'Neil Family Foundation
- Patricia Kind Family Foundation
- Paul & Helen Ellis Charitable Trust
- Philadelphia Foundation
- Queen City Revival
- Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation
- Ray's Ball Shed
- Rich's Foundation
- Richman Family Foundation
- Risa Fund
- Riz Kids (Rizzo Family Foundation)
- Robert W. Deutsch Foundation
- Safelite AutoGlass Foundation
- Scattergood Foundation
- Scripps Howard Foundation
- Sixers Youth Foundation
- Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO)
- South Baltimore Gateway Partnership
- Subaru of America
- T. Rowe Price
- TCC Gives / Verizon
- Thomas Wilson Foundation
- TowerCares Foundation
- Univera Health Care
- US Soccer Federation
- Voorhees Basketball 4A
- Wawa Foundation
- Wilbur C. and Betty Lea Henderson Foundation
- Williams Family Foundation
- WSFS Bank

→ FAN APPRECIATION:

...and to our gear partners for helping us equip more kids for success on and off the field.

National Major Gear Donors



→ FINANCIALS:

FY25 Revenue & Expenses

Revenue

Corporate Contributions	\$518,829.21
Foundations	\$1,462,917.00
Individuals & Local Orgs	\$1,123,101.89
Government	\$42,306.70
Earned Income	\$201,452.51
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,348,607.31

Expenses

Personnel & Contracted Services	\$2,033,107.66
Facilities & Equipment	\$634,274.52
Program Supplies	\$204,612.61
Travel & Meetings	\$62,935.59
Technology	\$50,914.88
Shipping, Print & Copy	\$57,598.48
Insurance	\$62,657.62
Advertising & Marketing	\$49,145.71
Bank & Merchant Fees	\$3,689.67
Depreciation Expense	\$123,206.00
Subscriptions, Taxes & Licenses	\$11,697.54
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3,293,840.28
NET REVENUE	\$54,767.03

→ STARTING LINE-UP:

We couldn't have done it without our incredible team.

OUR STAFF

- Sean Bailey** Interim Executive Director
- Kaitlin Brennan** Chief Operating Officer
- Emily Rogers** Director of Finance & Administration
- Kira Venturini** Development & Partnerships Manager
- Monica Scharf** Regional Development & Partnerships Manager
- Thea Grillo** Regional Director of Operations
- Brandon Wright** Communications and Marketing Manager
- Will McBeath** Operations Manager
- Matt Ehrhart** E-Commerce Manager, Gear 4 Good
- Chris Burgess** Operations Associate, Gear 4 Good
- Phillip Williams** Program Director - LPF Greater Washington
- Cooper Walner** Program Associate - LPF Greater Washington
- Danielle Miller** Senior Program Director - LPF Philadelphia
- Josh Ridenhour** Program Associate - LPF Philadelphia
- Parker Bratton** Program Director - LPF Baltimore
- Jamie King** Program Associate - LPF Baltimore
- Eric Rutkowski** Program Director - LPF Ohio
- Cam Daugherty** Program Director - LPF Western New York
- Catie Meyers** Program Director - LPF Southeast Michigan
- Avery Floyd** Program Director - Atlanta

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Tracy Scarrow
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Rounding Third, LLC | Arden Phillips
Constellation Energy | Devin Compo
Merck |
| Jeffrey Krawczak
T. Rowe Price | Betsy O'Brien Anderson
O'Brien Anderson Consulting LLC | Dan Murphy
ESPN | Willie Tate
Merrill Lynch |
| | Melissa Murray Bailey
Vista Equity Partners | Douglas Boggs
DLA Piper, LLP | |

Get involved!

→ VOLUNTEER

We need you! Whether it's helping us sort out equipment or running a collection drive in your community, Leveling the Playing Field relies heavily on our volunteers. See all the ways you can volunteer your time here.

→ GIVE GEAR

Get kids off the sidelines by donating new and gently used sports equipment. We very much appreciate the generosity of the community. Check out where to donate and what items we graciously accept, and a few we just can't take. Don't hesitate to let us know if you have any questions by contacting us.

→ DONATE

When you make a contribution to Leveling the Playing Field (LPF), you are supporting our mission to help more kids access the physical and mental benefits of sports and recreation. Your donation sustains our work, allowing us to continue providing free sports equipment to kids in under-resourced communities. There are many ways you can support LPF, which we've outlined here.

→ PARTNER WITH US

Corporate groups help sustain our work through financial contributions, volunteering, running collection drives, donating equipment, and more. These partnerships support our mission to help more kids access sports and recreation. [View our sponsorship opportunities here.](#)

    **FOLLOW US @LPFSPORTS**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUT
WWW.LEVELINGTHEPLAYINGFIELD.ORG
EMAIL INFO@LEVEINGTHEPLAYINGFIELD.ORG
AND **JOIN OUR MAILING LIST**

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