

2025 Impact Report



Life'sWork
of Western PA

Empower the Path Forward

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Life'sWork of Western PA is excited to share our annual Impact Report, which contains the data, outcomes, and personal stories that have made 2025 such a productive and rewarding year.

For more than 98 years, we have continued to grow and evolve, offering compassionate service programs that help individuals and families thrive—supporting individuals in recovery, strengthening families, empowering adults, and guiding youth as they transition into their futures. We are closer today than we were almost 100 years ago to realizing our vision of compassionate, inclusive, and equitable communities where all individuals have an opportunity to thrive.

In 2025, we continued to **learn, grow, and thrive** alongside our program participants and our communities. It was a remarkable year—one that brought us closer to celebrating nearly 100 years of delivering high-quality, innovative services for individuals with disabilities or other barriers to employment. It was also a year defined by forward thinking. As we prepare for the next century of Life'sWork, we've crafted a bold and inspiring vision for the future. Through our **Empower the Path Forward Campaign**, we believe we are positioning ourselves to achieve even greater mission impact—and we're excited to have you with us on this journey.

So, take a trip with us through the incredible successes of 2025 and on into the future. Our unwavering commitment to transparency and accountability is vividly reflected in both the information shared in this report and in the path forward. Together, that future looks bright indeed.



OUR MISSION

Life'sWork of Western PA is a nonprofit organization empowering people to live the lives they choose. We partner with individuals with disabilities, people with other barriers, young adults, children, and families to pursue their hopes and dreams through strengthening workplace abilities, building life skills, and developing meaningful relationships.

Since our founding in 1927, more than 100,000 individuals of all ages with disabilities, other employment barriers, children, and families in crisis have utilized the services of Life'sWork to achieve independence and self-sufficiency.

We serve over 2,000 individuals a year, ranging from youth as young as 14 to adults as well as people with other barriers to employment, including at-risk youth, single parents, people transitioning off public assistance, and families facing economic crises.

There are two characteristics shared by all the individuals we serve:

1. They seek meaningful employment. Work holds the same value and sense of purpose for them as it does for all of us.
2. They take great pride in their accomplishments, and we are equally proud to support and celebrate their success.

We remain steadfast in our commitment to advancing this mission each day. Our work is driven by a dedication to improving lives—both for the individuals we serve and, ultimately, for the broader Western Pennsylvania community.

OUR VISION

At Life'sWork, we believe everyone has a right to share in opportunities for meaningful employment.

Our vision is to be one of the foremost resources in Western Pennsylvania and recognized for our high-quality and innovative community rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities or other barriers to employment.

We envision compassionate, inclusive, and equitable communities where all individuals have an opportunity to thrive.

OUR CORE VALUES (CARE)

Compassion – We are a caring organization that recognizes the unique challenges faced by our community and provides support with kindness and empathy. We accept all people and listen carefully without judgment and with encouragement.

Awareness – We strive to raise awareness of the needs and challenges faced by the people we serve, of the mission of Life'sWork, and of all the programs we offer to the community.

Respect – We root ourselves in our shared humanity and treat each other with kindness and empathy. We honor the equal dignity and worth of all people—even in the face of conflict.

Engagement – We embrace engagement, reflection, and the development of competencies central to our work. As part of that growth process, we acknowledge our missteps and shortcomings with humility and lean into our responsibility to learn and evolve.





RECOVER

Our RECOVER program empowers individuals to triumph over addiction and embrace long-term recovery. Life'sWork of Western PA has been honored to walk alongside those who are on the recovery journey, helping them navigate the barriers to employment so many encounter.

In 2025, our RECOVER program successfully served **70 individuals** and worked with **200 referrals**. Participants benefited in significant ways:



TOGETHER
* in *
RECOVERY

Employment Sustenance


A significant percentage of participants found stability through recovery-friendly employers.

Sobriety Rates

Participants demonstrated robust success rates in maintaining sobriety and preventing relapse across various time frames.

Mental and Emotional Well-Being

Notable improvements in mental health and participant satisfaction highlight the transformative impact of our program.



FAMILY SERVICES

The Family Services division passionately focuses on preserving families and supporting children in crisis with comprehensive care. The Family Services team, serving individuals in Allegheny and Westmoreland counties, works with each family to identify their challenges and guides them to positive outcomes.

The Family Services team saw incredible impact in 2025:



Life'sWork **Family Services** assisted **160 families**, positively impacting **543 children**, with a remarkable **97% success rate** in preventing family separations.

The **Allegheny County Family Life Program** celebrated its success by helping **16 families** and **22 children**, achieving a **100% success rate** for school eligibility.




Westmoreland County Family Services successfully launched, receiving **41 referrals** since its inception in **December 2024**.

ADULT SERVICES

Did you know that the unemployment rate for people with disabilities is three times higher than that of individuals without disabilities?

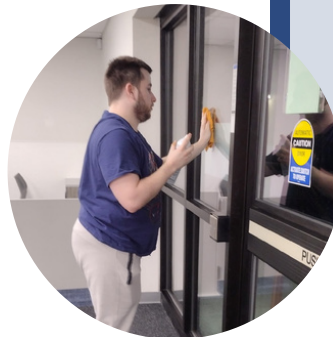
Our Adult Services team is dedicated to closing that gap and ensuring that all who want meaningful employment have the opportunity to realize that dream. The Life'sWork Adult Services team drives empowerment for a diverse adult demographic to enhance their life skills and employment opportunities.

In 2025, our Adult Services team crossed the finish line through a concerted effort to

-  Reach a broad adult population, focusing on employment rates and community participation.
-  Ensure individuals improved their life skills and increased income while transitioning to meaningful employment.
-  Complete career assessments through the Vocational Skills Development Lab for any new individual interested in our programs.



JR embodies the power of our Adult Services program. His journey from unemployment to securing a fulfilling position through training and support has transformed his life trajectory and put him in the driver's seat to achieve his employment goals.



ADULT SERVICES



MONESSEN

- Working in the facility - 44 individuals
- Working in the community
 - Small Group - 27 individuals
 - Supported Employment - 34 individuals

PITTSBURGH

- Working in the facility - 69 individuals
- Working in the community
 - Small Group - 49 individuals
 - Supported Employment - 27 individuals

VOCATIONAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT LAB (VSDL) ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 3 adult assessments completed
- 51 facility-based clients participated in training the VSDL last fiscal year





YOUTH & TRANSITION SERVICES

The Youth & Transition Services program guides high school students and young adults as they prepare for their future careers. We incorporate a person-centered approach to building the skills youth need to successfully become work-ready and career-focused. Participants learn important life skills like **self-advocacy, independent living skills, transportation skills, and workplace readiness.**

In 2025, our Youth & Transition Services program served **65 youth**, resulting in numerous successful job experiences and providing . . .



Expanded Pre-Employment Transition Services to engage more students through group instruction and personalized mentorship

5,567 hours of support provided to students from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025



YOUTH & TRANSITION SERVICES

One of our 2025 participants, Tom, a 19-year-old high school student, experienced inspiring growth, journeying from a timid high school senior to a confident young adult ready to enter the workforce, a perfect reflection of the success of our transformative services. His journey is a powerful reminder of the significance of support during crucial transitions.

Tom lives with anxiety and ADHD. During his senior year in high school, he watched other students have the opportunity to work at local businesses during school hours. His teachers thought Tom would also benefit from that type of work experience, but he needed support to identify his goals and guidance to become job ready.

Teachers agree that the high school transition years are the perfect time to cultivate long-term awareness of the value of work. Tom's teachers realized he needed to learn responsibility and independence as well as to increase his self-esteem. Life'sWork was asked to assist in locating and developing a task-oriented support system so Tom could thrive in a job.

Working with Tom, Life'sWork discovered his interest in working in a grocery store setting. We immediately knew the place to go.

Kuhn's Market is a well-established company with a diverse workforce and a welcoming culture that has given Life'sWork the privilege to teach important job-related skills to prior students. Partnering with Kuhn's provided Tom the opportunity for hands-on learning in a safe and supportive environment.

Understanding the specific market duties, our skill developer focused on ensuring Tom learned everything he needed to perform the job task accurately, efficiently, and safely while also educating Tom's coworkers on the support strategies needed once he graduated from Life'sWork services. Today, Tom is a proud member of Kuhn's Market. His integrity and devotion to his job is illuminating. He enjoys his work, and his enthusiasm is infectious to all who enter the store.

Finding the right employer to be successful can be challenging to anyone, especially job seekers with disabilities. Life'sWork, along with United Way funding, is able to devote time in bridging the gap between our students and employers as well as educating the public with the employable contributions students with employment barriers can bring to businesses. Nothing, though, speaks as loudly to the importance of our Youth & Transitions Services program as Tom's smile.





YOUTH & TRANSITION SERVICES

We would like to extend a special thank-you to the organizations that worked with our Youth & Transitions Services program in 2025. The following organizations partnered with Life'sWork to provide job placements, job shadowing, and work experiences for the individuals we serve in the Youth & Transition program.



Kuhn's
AEO
Eat'n Park
CVS
The Education Partnership
Studio Raw
North Boros Veterinary Hospital
Chuck E. Cheese
Empire Beauty School
Monte Cello's Restaurant
Home2 Suites
Panera (PWE)
All Phase Electric (PWE)





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Life'sWork of Western PA thanks our 2025–2026 Board of Directors for their generous support and work toward furthering our mission. Through their passionate belief, support, and leadership, Life'sWork and those we serve have the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.



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Kevin Meacham, Nelson Mullins

Patricee Thompson, Turner Construction Company

Michael T. Von Lehman, Meridian Management Partners, LLC

Matthew L. Wagle, CFP®, Wells Fargo Advisors

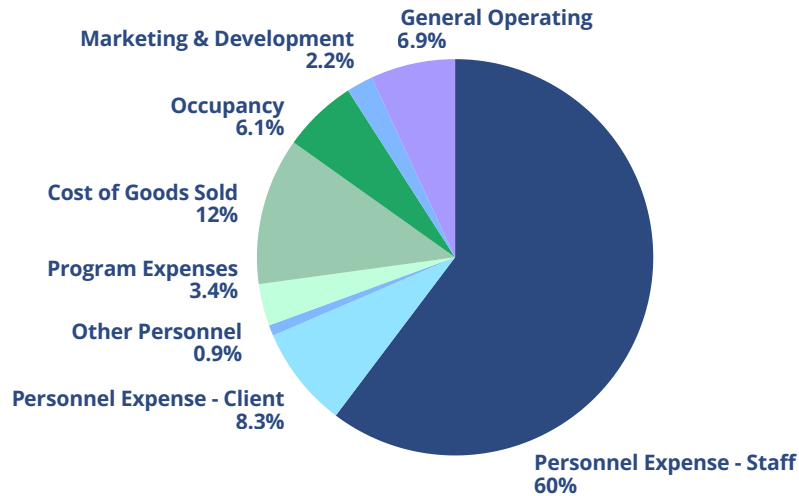
Shannon Prentiss, The Neighborhood Academy

Stephanie Winer-Schreiber

Vidya Surti, Duquesne University

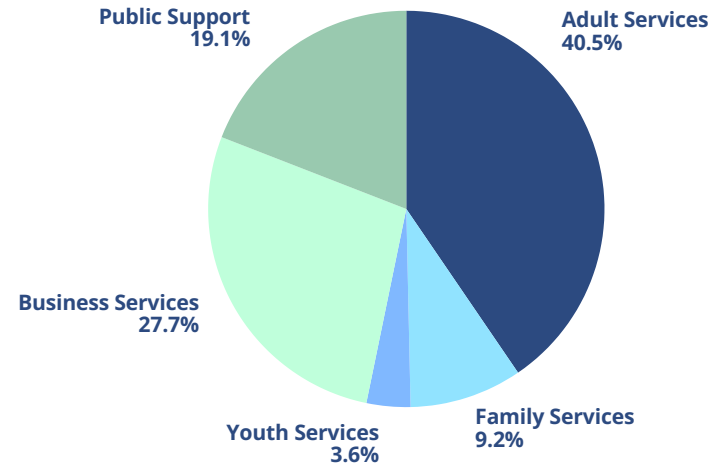
2025 FINANCIALS

Expenses by Category



Personnel Expense - Staff	\$5,052,714	60.3%
Personnel Expense - Client	\$692,161	8.3%
Other Personnel	\$73,188	0.9%
Program Expenses	\$286,409	3.4%
Cost of Goods Sold	\$1,006,669	12.0%
Occupancy	\$509,280	6.1%
Marketing & Development	\$181,181	2.2%
General Operating	\$580,060	6.9%
Total Expenses	\$8,381,663	100.0%

Revenue by Program



Adult Services	\$3,344,871	40.5%
Family Services	\$759,630	9.2%
Youth Services	\$295,663	3.6%
Business Services	\$2,287,191	27.7%
Public Support	\$1,578,422	19.1%
Total Revenue	\$8,265,777	100.0%

BECOME A LIFE'SWORK ROAD WARRIOR

At Life'sWork, we believe every individual deserves the opportunity to pursue their goals, contribute to their community, and live the life they choose, regardless of where they are on the pathway of life. This year, we unveiled our ambitious **Empower the Path Forward Campaign**, through which we are investing in innovation, access, and meaningful employment for people with disabilities and other barriers to success.

As we look toward our second century of serving Western Pennsylvania, we are focused on driving participant success, achieving long-term sustainability, and meeting those with barriers to employment at whatever crossroads they face.

We are asking you to join us on the path as road warriors dedicated to ensuring that the road is smooth and open for all. Beginning in 2026, Life'sWork is shifting its fundraising focus solely to program sponsorship. We have identified three pathways to road warriorship, all of which are equally important to our continued success.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS

As always, you can easily and at any time donate money to support Life'sWork programming. Did you know that **\$5,000** provides **8 individuals** with supported employment for **12 months**? Any donation amount goes directly toward providing the much-needed services that bring meaningful employment to those who experience barriers to employment. Donations may be made at any time through our [online giving portal](#), in person at one of our offices, or through direct mail.

In addition, consider leaving a lasting legacy through our FreeWill program. We know that planning your estate and legacy for future generations, including your charitable interests, takes careful consideration. Our FreeWill program allows you to set up your will and ensure your legacy to both your family and your charitable interests through planned giving is established. Should you wish to discuss your charitable intentions with us, or learn more about our FreeWill program, contact us today or visit our [website](#) for more information.

SPONSORSHIPS

In 2026, we invite you to sponsor one of our key initiatives. In doing so, you empower individuals to travel the next mile on the path toward independence and fulfillment. Areas of sponsorship include the following:

Vocational Skills Development Lab Sponsor – \$25,000

Your leadership investment supports the development and operation of the Vocational Skills Development Lab—a hands-on learning environment that equips participants with modern workplace skills and confidence.

Transportation Sponsor – \$15,000

Transportation is often the first barrier to employment. Your support ensures individuals can access training, job sites, and employment opportunities, bridging the gap between potential and success.

Supported Employment Sponsor – \$10,000

Your sponsorship provides job coaching, skills training, and placement services for individuals with disabilities, helping them achieve stability and self-sufficiency through meaningful employment.



For other levels, ways to get involved, or more information, please contact **Tim Parks** at (412) 471-2600 ext. 310 or tparks@lifesworkwpa.org.



IN-TIME/IN-KIND DONATIONS

At Life'sWork, we understand that sometimes the most impact is felt through the gift of time or in-kind donations. We are always eager to speak with those whose passion for our work is matched only by their willingness to assist with their time, talents, and/or items that assist our individuals in taking that next crucial step forward on their path to success. We encourage you to reach out and speak with us about how you can make in-time/in-kind donations that contribute to our vision of compassionate, inclusive, and equitable communities where all individuals have an opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

Together, we will [Empower the Path Forward](#), ensuring that everyone can take the next step toward independence, inclusion, and achievement for another century to come.

For more information on how you can become one of the Life'sWork road warriors, contact us.



CONCLUSION

Reflecting on the past year, we have a lot to celebrate. This report emphasizes our unwavering commitment to uplifting individuals and families through every challenge. We take immense pride in our achievements and the lives we have empowered through our dedicated programs. Our mission is far from complete; we are resolute in our pursuit of fostering lasting change within our community. No matter where you are on the road through life, Life'sWork is here to support and provide the skills and resources needed to overcome barriers to employment. We hope you are as excited as we are to see where **empowering the path** forward will lead.

SPONSORS

Life'sWork gratefully acknowledges support provided to the organization through individual, corporate, and foundation gifts as well as through essential contracts from public sources during the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. We are ever grateful for the belief and shared passion to empower the path forward for all.

Sustainers (\$50,000+)

- Allegheny County Department of Human Services
- Anonymous
- Commonwealth of PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP)
- Hillman Foundation
- Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust
- Jack Buncher Foundation
- Phillips Charitable Foundation
- Westmoreland County Department of Human Services

Allies (\$10,000 – \$49,000)

- Allegheny Health Network
- American Eagle Outfitters
- EQT Foundation
- Howard and Nell E. Miller Foundation
- Robert E. Kelly Jr.
- Massey Charitable Trust
- Milliman Solutions LLC
- PPG Industries Foundation
- UPMC Health Plan

Benefactors (\$5,000 – \$9,999)

- Brilex Industries
- Arnie & Laurie Fonseca
- Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.
- PNC Financial Services Group
- Robert & Mary Weisbrod Foundation

Champions (\$1,000 – \$4,999)

- A & L Precision Products
- Brooks Broadhurst
- Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC
- Central National Gottesman Foundation
- Jay Chapman
- John Ciora
- Curtis I. Kossman Charitable Foundation
- Dollar Bank
- Dave & Mary Donatelli
- Scott Dysert
- Fab-Tech Industries, Inc.
- Cordelia Glenn Grabiak
- Henderson Brothers, Inc.
- Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Joe Hudak
- Lehman-Epstine Philanthropic Fund
- Dave & Lori McMaster
- Meridian Management Partners, LLC
- Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation
- Monroeville Kia
- Timothy & Delia Parks
- Shirley Phillis
- Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium

SPONSORS

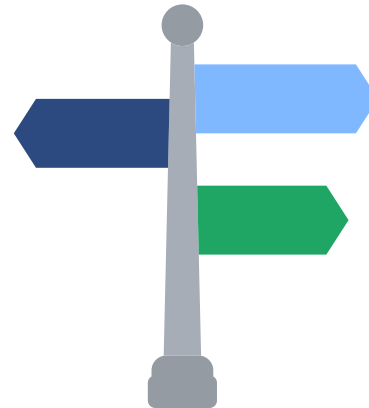
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Champions (cont'd) (\$1,000 – \$4,999)

- Robert Randall
- Cotly Rich
- Logan Rose
- Carsen Ruperto
- Anthony Smith
- Frances Smith-Rohrich
- John A. Staley IV
- The Pittsburgh Foundation
- Tippins Foundation
- UPMC
- Thomas M. Von Lehman

Advocates (\$500 – \$999)

- Adrilara Pool Management, LLC
- All-Clad Metalcrafters, LLC
- Bradley P. Boone
- Michael J. Brunner
- Ken Davison
- Douglas Education Center
- John Echement
- FBC Chemical Corp
- John Fowler
- David Gerson
- Alexander & Christina Hays
- Hyman Family Foundation Endowment Fund
- Jeff Kellick
- Roseann Kuhns
- Walter Limbach
- Evan Luellen
- Maher Duessel
- Kris Mikulan
- Mark Phillis
- Bradley Shear
- Signet Jewelers
- Kaia Sipple
- Wade Stephens
- Sterling Jewelers
- The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.
- Todd & Hannah Veltri
- Vintage & Vines
- Matt Wagle



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Supporters (\$100 – \$499)

- 4imprint
- Amanda Beamon
- Matt & Amy Bittner
- Blenko Glass Factory
- Bob's Furniture
- Gene Boyer
- Kenneth Byron
- Channel Craft
- Cinderlands
- Coach's Bottleshop & Grille
- Mark & Bonnie Cristallini
- Diann Donaldson
- Eat'n Park Hospitality Group
- Brian Eccher
- Echo Beauty
- Jonathon Erlen
- Andrew & Lis Fee
- Tamara Grosko
- Gus & Lorraine Just
- Lawrence Keenan
- Keystone Environmental Solutions
- Irvin Krueger
- Amanda Laichak
- Joseph A. & Judy A. Landolina
- Wes & Emily Lausch
- Michael Von Lehman
- Melissa Leoni
- Lesko Contracting
- MarBill Diamonds & Jewelry
- Jim Omara
- Timothy Palmer
- Jennifer Pannill
- Richard G. Phelps III
- Pittsburgh Steelers Community Relations
- Pittsburgh-Fayette Express
- Powerhouse Planning, LLC
- Cindy Pulley
- Carrie Quinn
- Krishnaswamy Ramesh
- George Robinson II
- Heidi Sadecky
- Stephanie Winer Schreiber & Les Schreiber
- Joe & Babs Sefiane
- Sheetz
- Siewiorek Walker Family Charitable Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation
- Sisterson
- Randi Starr
- Bill & Donna Stayduhar
- Studio West Salon
- Vidya Surti
- Erik & Kate Tomalis
- Trax Farm Market
- Dan P. Turkall
- Jane Volk
- Debra Watts
- West Penn Warehousing, Inc.
- XPREZ Transportation, LLC

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Friends (up to \$99)

- Gwen Acker Wood
- Heatherlynn Akins
- Kathryn Anderson
- ASCEND
- Bark Box
- Bedner's Farm & Greenhouse
- Anne Jeanene Bengoa
- Big Burrito Restaurant Group
- Julie Bubanovich
- Michael K. Burd
- Edward Catozella
- Kate Clark
- Deborah Comay
- Rosemary Dammond
- Fred Depriest
- Colin Dornish
- Barbara & Bob Fazio
- Fidelity Charitable
- Daniel & Haley Gbur
- Gordon Food Service, Inc.
- Justin Hernandez
- Holly Hicks-Opperman
- James J. Hurley
- Nicole Kaspari
- Steven Kelly
- Jennifer Kirkpatrick
- Kyle Knapp
- Mary Beth Kundrat
- Amy Lee
- Jessica Lynch
- Jennifer McKee
- Heather Osborne
- Pittsburgh Pirates
- Doris Precopio
- Ashley Lynn Priore
- Senator John Heinz History Center
- Leanna Spada
- Ami Steinmetz
- Target
- Meghan & Andy Traynor
- Jessica Yost
- Tara Zimmerman
- Stephanie Zindren
- Robin Zoufalik



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For sponsorship opportunities, ways to get involved, or more information about Life'sWork, please contact **Tim Parks** at (412) 471-2600 ext. 310 or tparks@lifesworkwpa.org.

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