



meta

2025

Annual Report



A Message from Meta Centre's Board President & CEO



Warren Harvey
Board President
Meta Centre

As we look back on this past year, we are filled with deep gratitude and pride—for the more than 400 people we support, the 485 staff who make our mission possible every day, and the countless families and community partners who walk beside us. 2024/2025 was a year of reflection, resilience, and renewal. It reminded us of Meta's main objective: to ensure that every person we support can live a life of dignity, belonging, and choice.

The past year challenged us to listen more closely, to adapt more boldly, and to stay grounded in what matters most—people. At Meta, we know that true impact begins when supports are person-directed and flexible. When people have more say in how their supports are designed, they gain more than services—they gain confidence, independence, and control over their own lives.

We also recognize that people's needs and circumstances evolve throughout their lives. That's why we've worked to make our services more proactive and responsive, ensuring they grow and adapt alongside the individuals and families we support. Whether through early interventions, transitions in care, or aging in place, our focus remains on being present and prepared, so that no one faces life's transitions and changes alone.

Our progress this year has also been shaped by a deep commitment to evidence, outcomes, and continuous improvement. At Meta, we learn by listening to the people we support, their families, our staff, and our community partners. Their insights drive how we evolve, ensuring that every improvement we make reflects real needs and delivers meaningful outcomes. Excellence for us is not a static goal - it's a living practice of reflection, feedback, and growth.

At the core of our work lies a steadfast dedication to health, well-being, and safety. These are more than program goals—they are the foundation of inclusion. Promoting well-being means ensuring that everyone feels safe, valued, and respected. It also means confronting systemic barriers such as discrimination, racism, and ableism, so that every person has a fair and equitable opportunity to live their best lives.

Looking ahead, our 2023–2026 Strategic Plan marks an important step forward. Developed through engagement with the people we support, their families, our staff, and our partners, the plan reflects a shared vision for the future—one that deepens inclusion, strengthens our capacity to meet complex needs, and invests in the people who make our mission possible. As we begin work on the next version of our strategic plan, this invaluable engagement will continue to be at the forefront of this work.

As we reflect on all that's been accomplished over the past year, we are inspired by what lies ahead. Meta's future is built on a foundation of compassion, collaboration, and courage. We are moving forward with purpose—guided by the people we serve, committed to continuous learning, and united by our belief that everyone deserves to live a life of meaning and connection.



Joe Passaretti
Chief Executive
Officer
Meta Centre

To our dedicated staff, volunteers, Board of Directors, families — thank you for your unwavering commitment. Together, we are shaping a stronger, more inclusive future.



We are also deeply grateful for the ongoing support of the Government of Ontario, the City of Toronto, the City of Vaughan, the Government of Canada, and our many donors and community partners. Your continued partnership ensures that essential services remain strong and accessible, empowering individuals and families to live, grow, and belong.

Our Mission

Meta Centre offers a wide spectrum of services & personalized supports to help people live in inclusive, engaged & enriched lives in the community.

Our Vision

A community where all persons thrive as valued, respected citizens leading dignified, fulfilling lives.



Meet Our New Chief Executive Officer : Joe Passaretti



After 36 remarkable years of service, we bid a warm farewell to Antonet Orlando, who retired as Executive Director of Meta Centre on June 20th, 2025. Her legacy of leadership and compassion will always be cherished.

On July 14th, we proudly welcomed Joe Passaretti as Meta's new Chief Executive Officer. We're excited for the future under his guidance and leadership. He brings a wealth of expertise in finance, operations, program delivery, and project and change management. With more than 20 years of progressive leadership experience, Joe has held senior roles within the Ontario Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, and most recently served as Chief Operating Officer at Community Living Toronto.

As CEO, Joe is responsible for guiding Meta Centre's strategic direction and ensuring the organization continues to modernize and strengthen its operations and services. His leadership is focused on enhancing program delivery, driving organizational excellence, and fostering a culture of innovation and inclusion in support of individuals and families served by Meta Centre.



Expanding Horizons: Creating Opportunities for Growth, Belonging, and Inclusion

Throughout the 2024–2025 fiscal year, our agency has proudly continued to focus on providing programming that is inclusive and builds independence while connecting to community. Our programs represent more than just activities - they are carefully designed opportunities that promote empowerment, inclusion and choice.

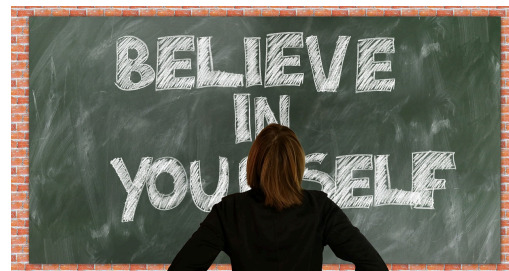
This work aligns with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services' (MCCSS) long-term vision, 'Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion'. We are proud to play an active role in advancing this vision by creating programs that support individuals to live meaningful lives as valued, contributing members of their communities.

Healthy Relationships & Positive Self-Awareness Workshops

In 2024/2025 Meta Centre delivered two highly successful sessions of our Healthy Relationships and Positive Self-Awareness workshops. Each six-week session was led by certified sexuality educators from Meta Centre and designed to promote understanding, confidence, and communication in relationships.

Participants explored a wide range of topics, including:

- The different types of relationships in life
- How to navigate romantic interest and partnerships
- Online safety and social media awareness
- Building a positive sense of self and understanding boundaries

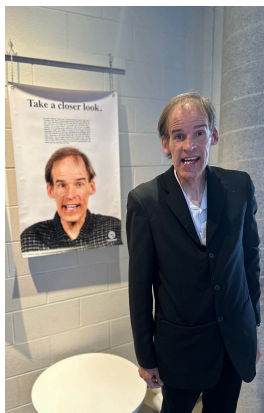


With small group sizes to ensure engagement, these sessions were open to both individuals we support and members of the broader community—creating a diverse and inclusive learning environment.

Inclusive & Creative Programming: Creative Expression Through Film

Our 12-week Frame by Frame filmmaking program, in partnership with Renergy Media House, brought together 19 participants to explore the foundations of film creation—covering pre-production, filming, editing, and storytelling.

The program culminated in the Frame by Frame Film Festival on May 12th, 2025, held at City Playhouse Theatre. The event drew a full audience and featured support from Mayor Steven Del Duca of Vaughan, highlighting the community's growing interest in inclusive, creative programming.



Self-Expression & Story Telling: Capturing Stories Through the Lens

This year we also launched Feelings of Photography—a 12-week program that gave 18 individuals the opportunity to explore photography as a tool for self-expression and storytelling. Participants learned to capture emotion and perspective through the lens, resulting in a body of work that is both powerful and deeply personal.

We were thrilled to have our first-ever public photography exhibition that took place on September 19th, 2025, where the incredible work of participants was showcased.



Looking Ahead: Expanding Inclusive Programming

As we look to the future, we are exploring opportunities to enhance our offerings, including the potential for new fee-for-service programs that could serve both the individuals we support and the broader community, which will include a focus on:

- Creative and recreational workshops like our film and photography programs
- Personal development opportunities, like our healthy relationship workshops
- And new programming focused on employment skills, workplace readiness, and vocational exploration

These initiatives will be designed to respond to the evolving needs and interests of the people we serve, while also reaching a broader audience seeking inclusive, enriching, and practical opportunities for growth.

By continuing to diversify our programs, we aim to empower more individuals to discover new passions, develop meaningful life skills, and feel a true sense of belonging.

Together, we're not only expanding services, we're expanding opportunities for belonging and inclusion.



Message from Meta Foundation's Board President



Lu Galasso
President
Meta Foundation

It is my honour to present Meta Foundation's contributions and financials as part of Meta's 2024/25 Annual Report. This past year, the Foundation continued to make meaningful progress in advancing its mission to support the essential programs and services of the Meta Centre.

Through the dedication of our donors, partners, and volunteers, Meta Centre has continued to enrich the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities by providing clinical supports, day programs for social and personal enrichment, and individualized, person-centred care.

Together, we are helping each person we serve reach their fullest potential in a safe, compassionate, and empowering environment.

I wish to express my deepest gratitude to our donors for your ongoing trust and generosity. Your belief in our work enables us to deliver programs and supports that make a lasting difference in our community. I would also extend heartfelt thanks to my fellow Foundation Board members and to the dedicated volunteers whose tireless efforts drive the success of our fundraising events. It truly takes a team to deliver the dream.

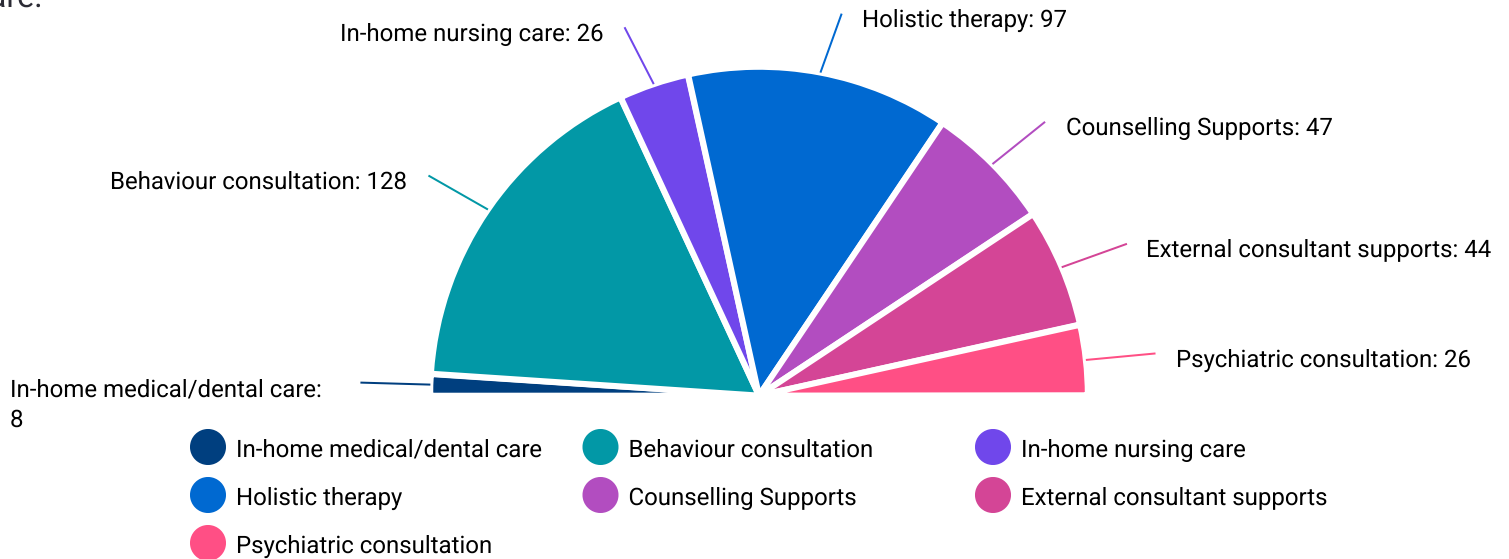
As we look toward the future, I am confident that the Meta Foundation will continue to build on this strong foundation of compassion and commitment. Together, we will ensure that every individual served by Meta Centre has the opportunity to live a life of dignity, inclusion, and purpose.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.



Meta's Clinical Team Impact Overview 2024-2025

The Meta Foundation supports Meta's Clinical Team, which provides essential services that support mental health, physical well-being, and overall quality of life for the individuals we serve. The team includes a range of professionals, and we also engage third-party clinicians when needed to ensure responsive, high-quality care.

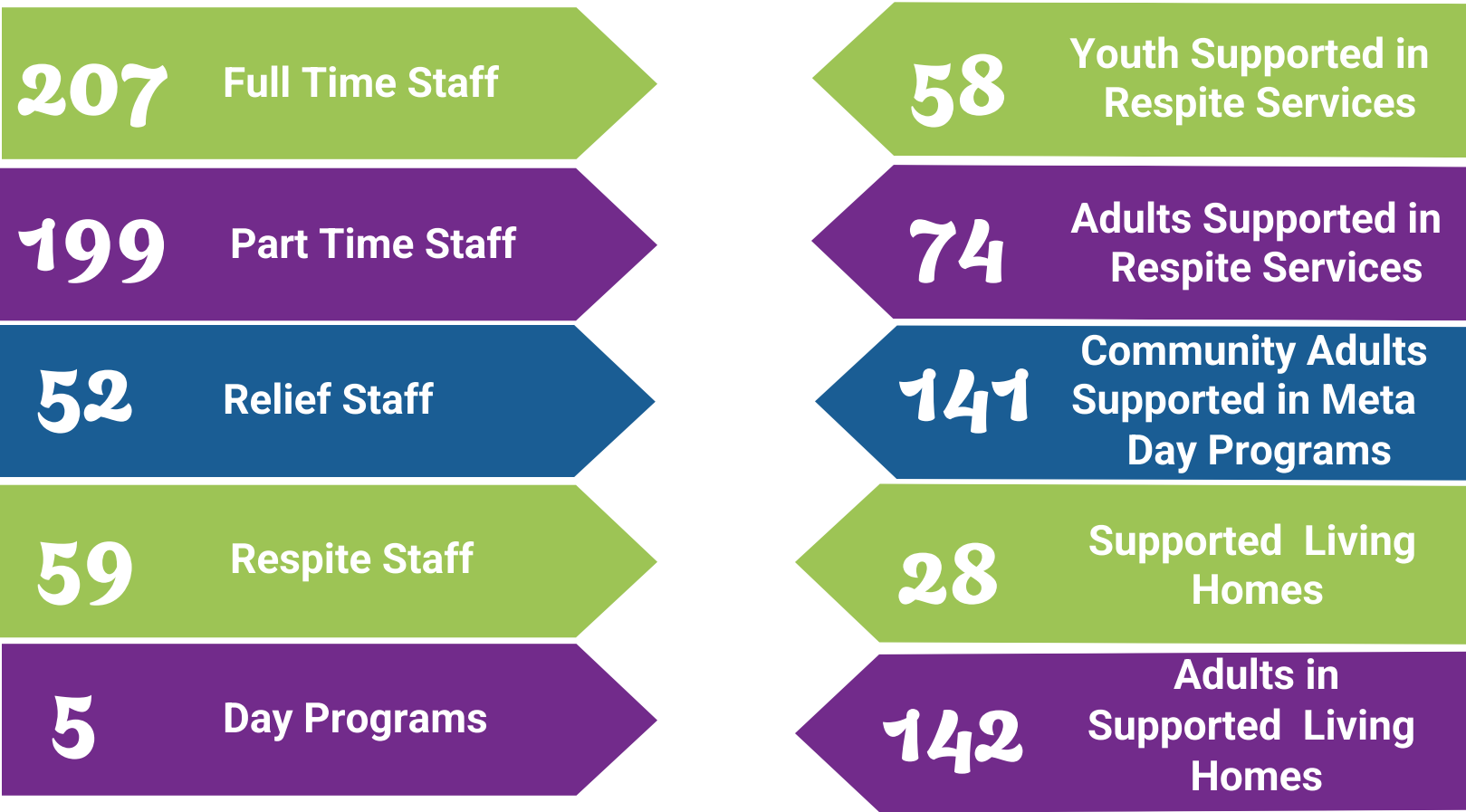


Thank you to our Donors for making DREAMS come true...here are but a few

It's thanks to the annual fundraising events supported by our Meta Foundation that we're able to bring the Dreams Campaign to life. Through this inspiring initiative, donors sponsor the dreams and aspirations of the individuals we support and Meta Centre ensures those dreams come true.



Meta By Numbers



Meta Centre & Meta Foundation Financials 2024/25

META CENTRE				
	2025		2024	
Activity	Revenue	Expenses	Revenue	Expenses
MCCSS - TORONTO	\$ 24,018,946	\$24,046,501	\$23,290,083	\$23,358,491
MCCSS - CENTRAL EAST	\$2,703,085	\$2,738,530	\$2,674,711	\$2,799,726
OTHER	\$3,802,441	\$3,754,836	\$3,303,658	\$3,663,579
	\$30,524,472	\$30,539,867	\$29,268,512	\$29,821,796

META FOUNDATION				
	2025		2024	
ACTIVITY	Revenue	Expenses	Revenue	Expenses
FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES	\$421,557	\$273,959	\$421,100	\$264,154
GENERAL DONATIONS	\$237,277		\$174,109	
INVESTMENT INCOME/OTHER	\$16,615		\$20,768	
META PROGRAM COSTS		\$349,540		\$352,752
	\$675,448	\$623,499	\$615,977	\$616,906

Guiding Meta's Mission Together

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Ewa Downarowicz
Vice President

Michael Cheng
Treasurer

Manu Sud
Secretary

Jim Johnston

Chenai Kadungure

Mithulan Peripanayagam

Andrew Whiteman

Joe Passaretti
Meta Chief Executive Officer

Meta Executive Team

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Joe Passaretti
Meta Chief Executive Officer

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