



Annual Report

2024-2025

Unlocking Potential

Strong Skills

Strong Support

Strong Futures



Unlocking Youth Potential

Building Strong Skills

Tutoring Programs

The Barton Reading Program offers 1-1 tutoring for youth in the bottom 25th percentile for their age in reading skills. In FY 24-25, The Legacy Center served **73 students** and program **graduates averaged 2.0 grade levels** of skill gain.



3,612
hours of
tutoring



86%
increase # words
read and spelled



96.4%
increase
decoding skills

In addition to Barton, The Legacy Center offers JUMP Math, a tutoring program for students in the bottom 25th percentile for their age in math skills. Students in the program **grew an average of 26 percentile points** for their age between their intake testing and year-1 progress testing. One parent reported that their student's growth rate on a school assessment was higher than 71% of her peers after one year of tutoring!

Too Good

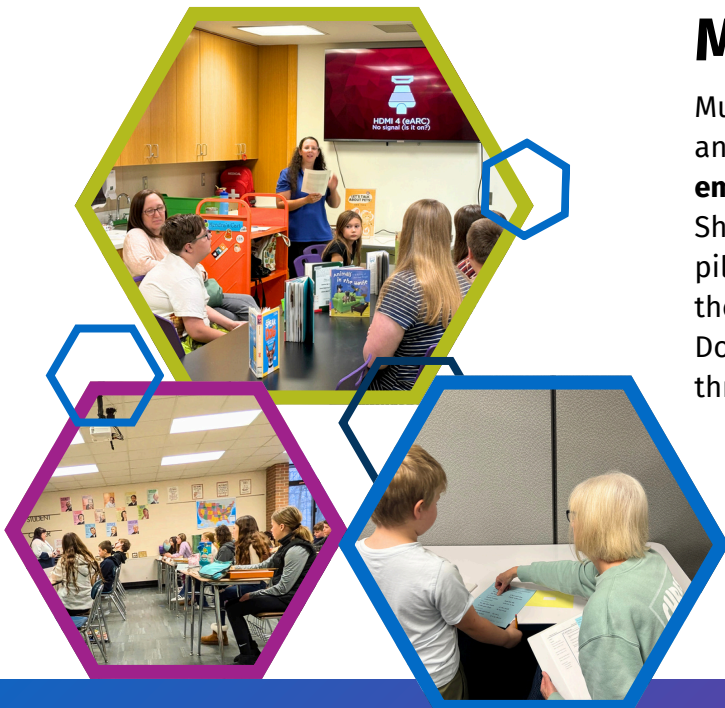
Too Good is a classroom-based social-emotional learning program for middle school students. Sixth & seventh grade students demonstrated **growth in 8 of 11 topics**, and sixth grade students showed **growth in 10 topics, with significant growth in six!**

Significant gains - 6th grade

Goal-setting & Decision-making	8.6%
Effective Communication	12.5%
Social & Peer Influence	7.4%
Conflict Resolution	6.7%
Anger Management	6.1%
Bullying Awareness	6.3%

Mutt-i-grees

Mutt-i-grees is a unique program that uses shelter animals to teach kids **empathy, leadership, and social-emotional skills**. The curriculum, designed by North Shore Animal League America and Yale University, was piloted by The Legacy Center in FY 24-25 in collaboration the Humane Society of Midland County and Grace A. Dow Memorial Library. Students practiced their skills through service and advocacy projects.



Unlocking Youth Potential

Providing Strong Support

Volunteer Tutors

The Legacy Center's volunteers provide a consistent, caring experience for learners. Their support and patient instruction help young learners improve skills, catch up with their peers, and build confidence.

In the summer of 2025, The Legacy Center surveyed our tutors to understand their experiences and opportunities for improvement. The results confirmed that tutoring with TLC is a great experience!

"I enjoy the kids. I really do. And of course I love to see them improve and graduate from the program."

-Volunteer Tutor



"I enjoy working with the students and seeing them finally understand something in math that they were struggling with."

-Volunteer Tutor



The Legacy Center's volunteers rate tutoring as 4.6 out of 5 Stars!

Supportive Intervention for Teens who Vape

The INDEPTH intervention program is for teens who have been caught vaping at school. Students participate in a structured curriculum that incorporates education and discussions with a Certified Prevention Specialist. Through multiple sessions, they examine what drives their habit, imagine the benefits of quitting, and learn coping strategies to cut back on their use. In program year 2024-25, TLC's prevention staff worked with **13 students through 43 sessions of INDEPTH.**

Empowering Youth-Serving Professionals

The Legacy Center's prevention staff work directly with youth-serving professionals to **strengthen their skills in supporting youth.** Through an annual conference, group trainings, and agency-level sessions, our expertise in youth development ripples throughout the community. **95%** of conference attendees reported that they were **likely or very likely to use the content** from the conference in their work with youth.

Being a consistent adult and modeling the assets can help all students. Building one asset helps build many assets and the more assets a youth has, the more positive their future outcomes. Positive peer relationships are something I want to work to develop more in my work."

-Conference Attendee



Unlocking Youth Potential

Creating Strong Futures

Maria,* Former Barton Learner

During program year 2024-25, Maria graduated from the Barton program after about 2 years. Students graduate from the program when they reach the 30th percentile for their age and demonstrate 90% accuracy for all skills taught. Recently, a staff member ran into Maria's grandmother, who shared that Maria is thriving and loves reading. They have a new problem now - what to do with all the books she is collecting! Maria's grandmother thanked The Legacy Center for her incredible transformation.



Testimonial from a Current Barton Tutor

"I started working with my student when he was in fourth grade. At that time, he did not know his alphabet. He was not reading and didn't want to try to read. When he spoke, it was very hard to understand his words . . .

Last year, in seventh grade, he read all of John Grisham's teen novels about Theodore Boone, kid lawyer. He enjoyed those books so much that we wrote John Grisham, and after many months, my student received a personal letter of response with praise for his hard work.

My student still struggles with spelling, but he is doing well in his school classes. He has become confident and is looking forward to finding a job and a career in his future." - Joe, Volunteer Tutor

INDEPTH, Planting Seeds of Change

Change takes time. Students in the INDEPTH program are usually not ready to quit vaping. The program is designed to get them thinking about their habit. Certified Prevention Specialist, Marianne Murawski, reports that students who complete the program are actually often sad when it is over. "When it is our last session, they often tell me they liked talking to me, they'll miss it." Students leave with the tools they need to begin their cessation journey.



* names changed to protect identities

Unlocking Adult Potential

Building Strong Skills

132

Adult learners

75

Learners achieved at least one outcome

4,202

Hours in tutoring, classes, & online lessons

Adult Basic Education

2025 was an exciting year for our Adult Basic Education. Thanks to two grants, from the Midland Area Community Foundation and the State of Michigan, we were able to launch digital and financial literacy programs. Using a hybrid format, our staff partnered with local nonprofits to provide programming directly to clients. The program was piloted with Midland's Open Door Women's Shelter, working with 15 women. The program quickly gained momentum and our staff expanded to working with Ten16 Recovery Network and Shelterhouse.

English as a Second Language (ESL)

The Legacy Center continues to support immigrants who live in our community. Our English language learners are immigrants and refugees from a wide range of backgrounds and immigration pathways. With expanded ESL staffing, The Legacy Center offers 1-1 tutoring, small group classes (in-person and online), and remote tutoring. We launched a new partnership with Central Michigan University to expand tutoring options, while also helping college students earn course credits.

Adult Education Outcomes	# Achieved*
Improved Test Scores	22
Measurable Skill Gain (equivalent of 2 grade levels)	19
Completed a consumer or personal finance class	2
Earned a Professional Microcredential	2
Digital Literacy Certificates Earned (max 15 per learner)	106

*Some adult learners achieved multiple outcomes.



Unlocking Adult Potential

Providing Strong Support

Harm Reduction

The Coalition for Substance Free Resiliency, a group coordinated by our prevention staff, placed **7 harm reduction stations** throughout the county in 2025. Stations are stocked with NARCAN, which reverse opioid overdoses, recovery resources, and supplies that protect individuals with substance use disorder. These stations empower bystanders, friends, and loved ones to act quickly and prevent loss of life. Beyond emergency response, harm reduction stations reduce stigma by acknowledging substance use as a public health issue. Our coalition's harm reduction stations are helping people take steps toward safety, stability, and long-term recovery.

2025 Harm Reduction Station Distribution Stats:



1,905
boxes of NARCAN



248
medication lock bags

Recovery-Friendly Workplace Conference

The Legacy Center's Coalition for Substance Free Resiliency hosted a Recovery conference in May. Approximately 35 professionals from local businesses and nonprofits gathered to learn about Recovery Capital and building Recovery-Friendly Workplaces. Attendees heard a keynote about the critical role that supportive employment played in one individual's early recovery, learned about Ten16's Recovery Friendly Workplace initiative, and about the Great Lakes Bay Region Mental Health Partnership's Workplace Mental Health program. Participants also participated in NARCAN training and were invited to take a NARCAN safety kit back to their offices.



"Community support and support in general is key to helping people get out of the disorder to a healthier place in life!"

-Conference Participant

Unlocking Adult Potential

Creating Strong Futures

Empowering ESL Learners

Beyond language instruction, our program emphasizes community and empowerment. We strive to create a family-like environment where learners feel seen, supported, and encouraged to pursue long-term stability. This approach has produced tangible economic outcomes. In the last two years, we have supported:

- Three learners in **opening their own bakeries**
- One learner in securing employment as a **dental assistant**
- One learner in **opening a nail salon**
- One learner become a **school paraprofessional**
- One couple in **securing employment in home health care** while also working side jobs at real estate agencies and **going to college**



From Unhoused to Employed

Jessica enrolled in digital literacy last January while living at Midland's Open Door Women's Shelter and trying to get back on her feet. As a learner in the program, Jessica received a loaner laptop, giving her access to a computer to complete her work. She quickly built her computer skills, and began helping others in the program. Earning all 15 micro-credentials in digital skills enhanced Jessica's resume, and earned her the laptop to keep. As Jessica became more skilled at the computer, she reported that she was applying for more than 30 jobs per week. Within a month, Jessica got an interview with a nearby school district as a bus paraprofessional, and was hired! A few months later, she also received a pay raise! Jessica continues to work for the same employer and is now in a more stable housing situation.



Unlocking Agency Potential

Fundraising Luncheon

The Legacy Center hosted a successful fundraising luncheon at the Midland Country Club, welcoming 250 community members and raising nearly \$48,000 to support youth and family well-being in Midland County. The event highlighted the power of collective action and shared commitment to strengthening our community.

The program highlighted the impact of conducting the Midland County Youth Study four times over the past 20 years. We hosted a panel to share how this long-term research has shaped youth-serving initiatives across the community and strengthened our collective focus on Developmental Assets. Guest speakers Sarah Owens, Majerle Nielsen, and Dr. Tara Mager, longtime partners of The Legacy Center, described how the study's data has informed programs, partnerships, and strategies that help young people build supportive relationships, develop a positive identity, and access opportunities to thrive. We are grateful to these individuals for sharing their expertise and experiences working with The Legacy Center to advance Developmental Assets in our community.



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Unlocking Agency Potential

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Unlocking Agency Potential

2024-25 Grantors

Thank you to the funders whose support enabled the continued growth and expansion of our programs.



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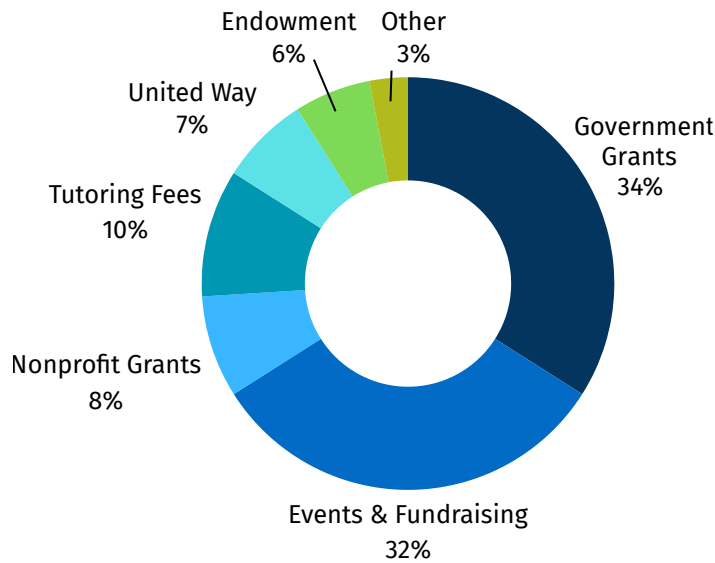


Children's Choice Initiative

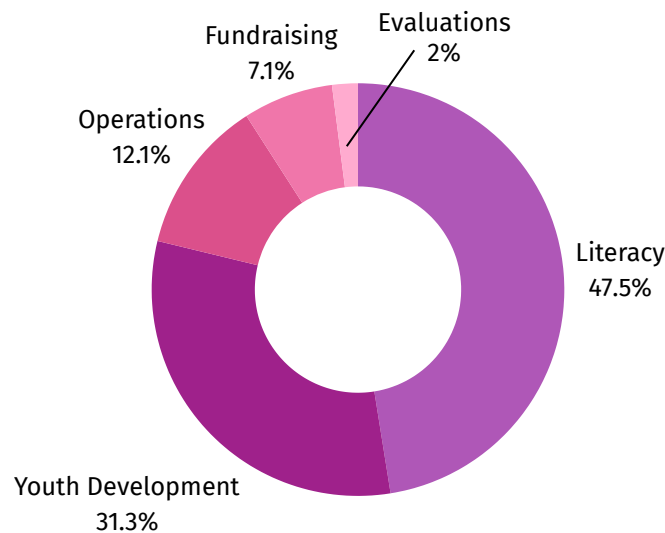


Financial Report

Total Income: \$866,653



Total Expenses: \$829,721



Vision

Strong communities where individuals, youth, and families thrive

Mission

To enhance well-being, strengthen families, and give individuals tools for success using proven strategies in literacy, youth development, and substance use prevention.

Values

Community

We embrace relationships and collaboration to offer services that meet diverse needs.

Inclusion

Our caring and passionate volunteers and staff welcome every person with kindness, and respect each person's unique story.

Empowerment

Small steps lead to big changes. Our volunteers and staff provide tools that help people improve their own lives.

Perseverance

We celebrate those who keep working toward goals. Our passion grows with each success

