



ANNUAL REPORT

2025-2026

**Building Today
to Shape Tomorrow**

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ABOUT SUNYOUTH

Since 1954, Sun Youth has been improving the lives of individuals and families in need by providing food assistance, emergency services, and essential support, while promoting community safety and the physical, social, and intellectual development of young people.

This mission is made possible through the generosity of our donors and the exceptional commitment of our volunteers. Through your support, you provide far more than temporary assistance: you restore hope, dignity, and trust in the future.

You enable thousands of people to access concrete help while offering young people a caring environment where they feel respected, valued, and encouraged to believe in their potential.

« **Thank you for standing with us as we build a fairer and more compassionate future.** »

A Lifetime Dedicated to Helping Others



Throughout his life, Sid Stevens’ vision shaped Sun Youth: helping those most in need without judgment, with respect, dignity, and unwavering determination.

Through Sid’s leadership, Sun Youth became a vital pillar of Montreal’s social safety net and a source of hope for generations of young people and families. For Sid, providing youth with a healthy environment in which to grow and thrive was not only a mission; it was a social responsibility. His vision, generosity, and determination touched thousands of lives.

Although he passed away on August 17, 2025, his legacy lives on in every act of solidarity, every person supported, and every opportunity to restore hope.

This vision continues to come to life every day through our work with Montreal’s most vulnerable youth and families. Providing food, support, protection, and hope requires constant presence and a lasting commitment to solidarity.

Carrying Sid’s legacy forward depends on people like you.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Linda Melikian
Secretary

Alexandra Batelli
Treasurer

Dimitrios Manolopoulos
Director

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Director

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Director

Nathan Weinstein
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Manon Landry
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Director

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Director

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Director

Adele Gjoka
Director

Maria Mangiocavallo
Director

Nadia Orobello
Director

Peter Theocharis
Director



Message from the Presidents and the Executive Director

The 2025–2026 year marks a historic turning point for Sun Youth. Since the loss of our premises at the former Baron Byng High School in late 2018, our services had been spread across multiple sites throughout the city. The opening of our new community centre therefore represents the culmination of an essential project for the future of our organization. In January 2026, we began welcoming beneficiaries of our food bank and emergency services to the new building while work continued to complete and equip the remaining floors. The building will be fully operational during the next fiscal year.

This space will allow us to bring more services together under one roof and create a true community hub open to all Montrealers. Over the coming fiscal year, we plan to launch new programs and partnerships, including a shared community kitchen, activities for seniors, the expansion of our youth programs, and strengthened services for disaster relief. We will also undertake a rebranding initiative to better reflect the evolution of Sun Youth and increase its visibility.

« We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who helped bring this project to life and who continue to support our mission. Thanks to their generosity, we can look to the future with confidence and ensure the sustainability of Sun Youth for generations to come. »

Renzo Fraraccio,
President, Sun Youth
Board of Directors

Peter D. Thompson,
President, Sun Youth
Foundation Board
of Directors

Marina Boulos-Winton,
Executive Director

A Building at the Heart of the Community

Sun Youth's new centre was designed to provide, under one roof, welcoming and accessible spaces where individuals and families can find support, stability and practical resources to navigate everyday challenges. It also creates more opportunities for meaningful human connection, improves access to appropriate services and builds bridges between emergency assistance, prevention and personal development.

The ground floor houses the food bank, now located in a more spacious, welcoming, and efficient setting. On the upper floors, versatile spaces such as a community kitchen, reception and support rooms, and a gymnasium will further enhance Sun Youth's services.

Innovation

The building also stands as a remarkable example of Quebec expertise being applied to create lasting social impact. Designed to meet carbon-neutral certification standards and built in a dense urban environment where every square metre counts, the project required innovative solutions, including geothermal energy, solar panels, and a mass timber structure.

Much like Jarry Park brings fresh air to the city, Sun Youth's new centre breathes life into its mission and will be at the heart of a stronger community for generations to come.

Fundraising Campaign

In 2021, Sun Youth launched its first major fundraising campaign, **Building a Brighter Future**, to support the construction of a new carbon-neutral community hub. In 2026, we witnessed the culmination of years of dedication and hard work. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our Campaign Co-Chairs, Lucy Riddell and Claude Mongeau, as well as to the members of our Honorary Cabinet: the late Sid Stevens, Elizabeth Wirth, David Laidley, Ellen Wallace, Peter Letko, and Dr. Deborah Josephson.

We also wish to thank our Cabinet members: Marie Auger, Karl Gene Beauchamp, David Birnbaum, Hal Hannaford, Peter Kerr, Manon Landry, Renault Lortie, Dimitri Manolopoulos, and François Morin, as well as our campaign ambassadors Anthony Calvillo, Terry DiMonte, Meeker Guerrier, and Tania Kontoyanni.

The campaign's initial goal of \$14 million was far exceeded thanks to their efforts and the financial contributions of our donors.

André Desmarais • Caisse Desjardins du Cœur-de-l'Île • Cenovus Energy • CN •

Dr. Deborah Josephson and Peter Letko • Gift Funds Canada • JCB Construction Canada •

La Fondation Famille Mongeau • La Fondation J.A. DeSève • Moisson Montréal • National Bank of Canada •

Power Corporation of Canada • Québecor • TD Bank Group • The Albert and Florence Aziz Family Foundation •

The Birks Family Foundation • The David H. Laidley Foundation • The Hewitt Foundation •

The Hylcan Foundation • The J.W. McConnell Foundation • The Mirella and Lino Saputo Foundation •

The Philantra Foundation: Claude and Stanley D. K. Ma Family Fund • The R. Howard Webster Foundation •

The Velan Foundation

Thank you to all our donors 2025-2026

Donors who contributed \$10,000 or more between April 1, 2025 and March 31, 2026 and who have authorized the publication of their names.

Québec 

Montréal 

 Government of Canada  Gouvernement du Canada

Canada 

Altru Foundation Inc.
Amazon Web Services Inc.
André Desmarais
Andrew J. Lutfy Foundation
Aust & Hachmann (Canada) Ltd.
Burovision
Caisse Desjardins
Caldwell Foundation
Carmand Normand Foundation
Carol and Larry Katz Foundation
Charlotte and Leo Karassik Foundation
Choice Properties
CLV Group and InterRent REIT
Colin J. Adair Charitable Foundation
Consultants Legico-CHP Inc.
D'Amours Foundation
Dalfen Family Foundation
Damotec Inc
Dollarama L.P.
Dym Family Foundation
Elina & Giuseppe Borsellino Family Foundation
Énergir L.P.
Father Dowd Foundation
Fondation du Club de Hockey Canadien pour l'enfance

Fondation Guy Laliberté
Fonds de solidarité FTQ
GEO. A. Hall inc.
George Hogg Family Foundation
Gérald Nolet
Hydro-Québec (Head office)
JAB Trust
Jacques and Michel Auger Foundation
Jane Skoryna Foundation
Jean Gaulin Foundation
John Dobson Foundation
John R. McConnell Foundation
Judith & John Lechter Foundation
Laura's Shoppe (P.V.) Inc.
Laurent Ferreira and Leslie Silver Fund
Leclair Group
Leonard Sanders Family Foundation
Mar-Kin Foundation
Merle Wertheimer and Sam Hornstein Fund
Pomerantz Foundation
Power Corporation of Canada
Protech Foundation
R. Howard Webster Foundation
RBC Foundation (Montreal)

Regulvar inc.
Rio Tinto Alcan
Sandra and Alain Bouchard Foundation
The Adair Family Foundation
The Azrieli Foundation
The Ben and Mary Zukierman Family Legacy Fund
The Buttercup Foundation
The Dundi and Lyon Sachs Family Foundation
The Hay Foundation
The Lincolnshire Foundation
The MacDonald Stewart Foundation
The Mirella and Lino Saputo Foundation
The Rossy Foundation
The Tenaquip Foundation
The Trottier Family Foundation
The Velan Foundation
TMX Group
Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology Inc.
Zeller Family Foundation
Zenovij Pacholuk

We wish to thank all of our donors, including those who wish to remain anonymous.

Fundraising events

Once again this year, our **Annual Golf Tournament** was a great success, raising nearly \$120,000 and bringing together numerous participants and businesses committed to our mission. New this year, the **Slalom Wine Tasting**, held in support of our organization, raised \$25,000, bringing partners and donors together for an enjoyable evening marked by generosity.

Other events organized by valued partners also made a significant contribution to our programs and services. The Salsa family donated \$70,000 through the 11th edition of the **Matthew Salsa Memorial Golf Tournament**, while the CLV / InterRent group contributed \$75,000 following its annual golf tournament.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all organizers, sponsors, participants, and donors who make these events possible. Their generosity enables Sun Youth to continue supporting children, youth, and families throughout our community.



Our golf tournament brings together generations of alumni, including Ray Mischuk and Tristan Gilbert-Thibault, recipient of the Earl De La Perralle Scholarship.



The organizers of the Slalom Wine Tasting, Sacha Gucciardo, Lionel Pimpin, Aspasia Choremis and Dimitrios Manolopoulos, at this year's event held at the National Bank headquarters.

Food Security: Accessibility, Quality and Equity

Sun Youth’s food bank is often the first point of access for vulnerable individuals and families in need of support. The service allows beneficiaries to choose the foods that best meet their needs, helping preserve their dignity and autonomy while reducing food waste.

The range of produce offered has been broadened to better reflect cultural and nutritional needs, notably through the addition of plant-based proteins and improved access to fresh produce. In 2025–2026, Sun Youth’s food bank recorded 27,535 visits. The slight decrease of 233 food baskets compared with the previous year was primarily due to the STM strike, as well as a temporary service disruption associated with relocating our food bank to our new facilities.

To help remove barriers related to age, health, or mobility, Sun Youth also offers a home delivery service for individuals with reduced mobility. In 2025–2026, a total of 7,057 deliveries were made.

This program is made possible through the generous support of our donors and partners, including the Sandra and Alain Bouchard Foundation as well as Moisson Montréal, which provided 332,000 kilograms of food.



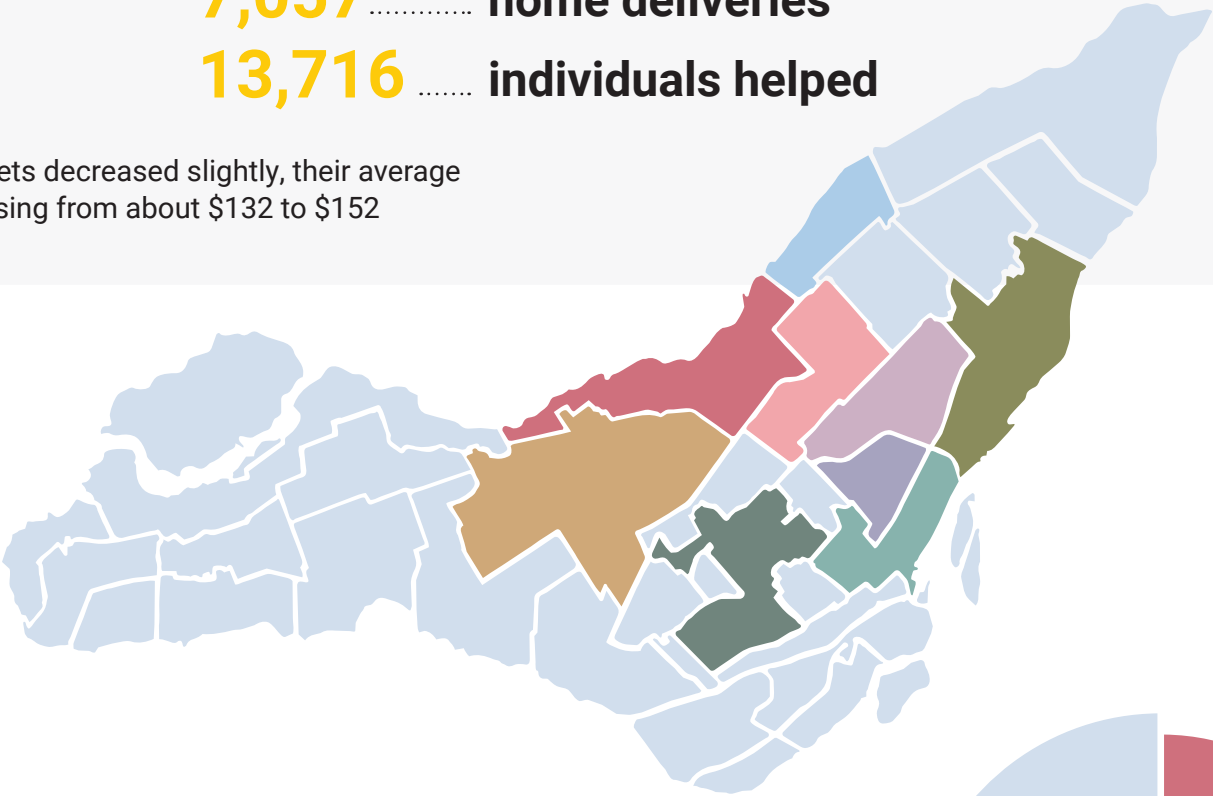
\$4,079,800

Total value
of food distributed

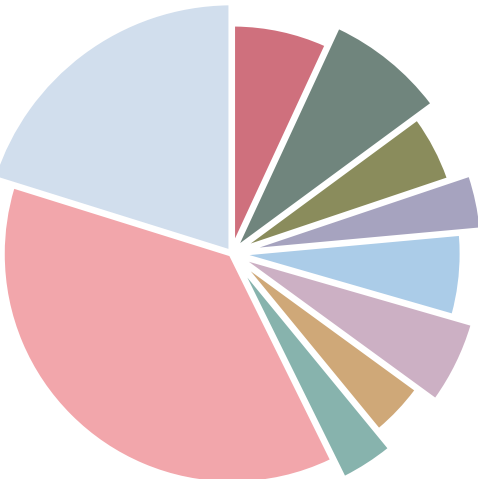
5,397 households supported
27,535 food bank visits
7,057 home deliveries
13,716 individuals helped

While the number of food baskets decreased slightly, their average value increased significantly, rising from about \$132 to \$152

FOOD BANK CLIENTS PER BOROUGH 2025-2026



- | | | |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| 7% Ahuntsic–Cartierville | 3% Plateau-Mont-Royal | 4% Ville-Marie |
| 8% Côte-des-Neiges–Notre-Dame-de-Grâce | 6% Montréal-Nord | 37% Villeray–Saint-Michel–Parc-Extension |
| 5% Mercier–Hochelaga-Maisonneuve | 6% Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie | 20% Autre |
| | 4% Saint-Laurent | |



Christmas Basket Distribution in Montreal: 5,000 Households Supported

In December, Sun Youth completed its annual Christmas Basket distribution, providing support to more than 5,000 Montreal households during a challenging economic period. This large-scale operation was made possible through the dedication of 1,000 volunteers, including numerous corporate volunteer groups, and the support of 250 businesses and partners, including the Azrieli Foundation.

The holiday season also provides an opportunity for our athletes to give back. This year, our girls' basketball players had the privilege of meeting newly elected Montreal, Mayor Soraya Martinez Ferrada, who visited to show her support to our organization and the Montrealers we serve.

The 25th edition of the Media Food Drive (la Guignolée des médias) took place in bitterly cold weather and raised \$148,000 for our organization.



Sun Youth Greenhouses and Gardens are Already Bearing Fruit!

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, three new greenhouses were installed to extend the growing season beginning in April, and a food forest has taken root with the planting of 24 fruit trees and numerous shrubs.

The gardens welcomed 26 volunteer groups, as well as children attending our summer day camp. These activities were made possible through the commitment and valuable support of our donors: RBC Foundation, Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities – Québec, GLOCO, and TD Friends of the Environment Foundation.

A Kitchen That Brings People Together

Thanks to an extraordinary donation from Metro Inc., made in collaboration with the Food Banks of Quebec, as well as a grant from Moisson Montréal, Sun Youth was able to bring its new shared community kitchen to life and acquire modern specialized equipment. This space was also designed to welcome and support various local community organizations.

Once operational, this community kitchen will provide a welcoming space where people can learn, connect, and support one another.

Preventing homelessness, Protecting Housing Stability

In Montreal, the housing crisis is reflected in steadily rising rents, a significant shortage of affordable housing, and an increase in evictions, affecting an expanding number of neighborhoods across the city. For many low-income households,

even a small, unexpected expense, whether resulting from illness, loss of income, or the consequences of a criminal incident can turn an already precarious situation into a real risk of homelessness.

Rent Assistance

In 2025–2026, 88 households received financial assistance to prevent eviction, compared with 75 households the previous year. The average amount granted was \$1,155, per household, following a thorough assessment of each case. In total, \$101,652 was distributed, compared with \$56,278 in 2024–2025, reflecting a significant increase in housing-related needs and financial insecurity. For many households, this one-time assistance serves as a critical safety net, helping them bridge the gap until they receive a paycheque or benefit payment and preventing a temporary hardship which can lead to homelessness.

Anyone who has received assistance from Sun Youth is likely to describe the experience with one word: relief. After moving to Canada from France about ten years ago, **Ophélie Delon** worked several low-paying jobs while trying to get her business off the ground. Eventually, her financial situation became critical. After paying for her medication and her public transit pass, she had just **\$40** left in her bank account.

« Sun Youth paid one month of rent directly to my landlord and gave me access to the food bank, where I was able to pick up a bag of groceries. It made a huge difference. »

– Ophélie Delon



Emergency Assistance

Beyond rent assistance, Sun Youth provides support to individuals and families facing a wide range of emergency situations that threaten their health, safety, or quality of life. Whether responding to a disaster, the aftermath of a criminal incident, heating-related emergencies, or the need for essential medications, these interventions address immediate needs and help prevent already precarious situations from becoming even more severe.

The organization has notably provided assistance to victims of crime, families with sick children, and individuals experiencing periods of acute vulnerability, often following referrals from social workers. We extend our sincere thanks to the FTQ, the Eulalie Rose Foundation, and TMX for their support of our emergency programs, particularly for women victims of domestic violence.

Disaster Relief

Thanks to the financial support of the City of Montreal and the John R. McConnell Foundation, as well as our partnership with the Red Cross, Sun Youth's teams assisted **nearly 800 disaster victims** in 2025–26. On site, we helped those affected secure temporary accommodations and provided clothing, food, transit passes, and gift cards to meet their immediate needs while they awaited assistance from their insurance providers.

Heating Assistance

Our heating assistance program helps reduce energy insecurity and improve tenants' quality of life. Through free home visits conducted in partnership with Expert Bâtiment and the Éconologis program, energy-efficiency improvements are made to homes. We also provide support in dealing with Hydro-Québec and, in emergency situations, offer one-time financial assistance. In total, **124 households** received support.

Medication Assistance

Over the course of the year, **773 individuals** received financial assistance to purchase essential medications. Funding dedicated to this program totalled \$47,123, compared to \$40,000 the previous year. By helping individuals access the medications they need, these interventions help prevent health conditions from worsening, reduce the risk of further hardship, and support people in maintaining their dignity, independence, and well-being.



Sport as a Pathway to Growth and Fulfillment

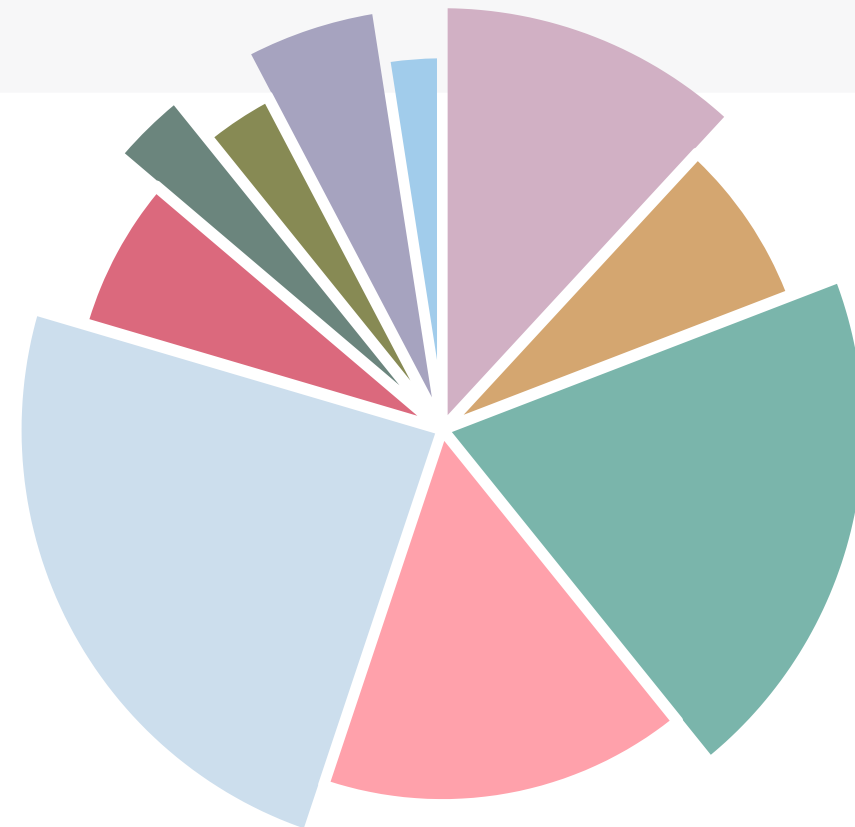
In 2025, Sun Youth reaffirmed its commitment to a comprehensive, consistent, and deeply human approach to youth development. Whether through sports, recreation, education, prevention, or recognition, each initiative reflects the same goal: to provide children and teenagers with safe, inclusive, and meaningful environments where they can learn, grow, and look to the future with confidence.

Representation



6,575
hours of activities
in our programs

7,234
volunteer
hours



For years, Sun Youth’s sports programs have helped young people develop far beyond the playing field. The story of Gina Mathurin and her family is a testament to this impact.

« **For Gina, the impact is clear:**
**Sun Youth gave my children
an invaluable opportunity
to grow in a safe environment** »

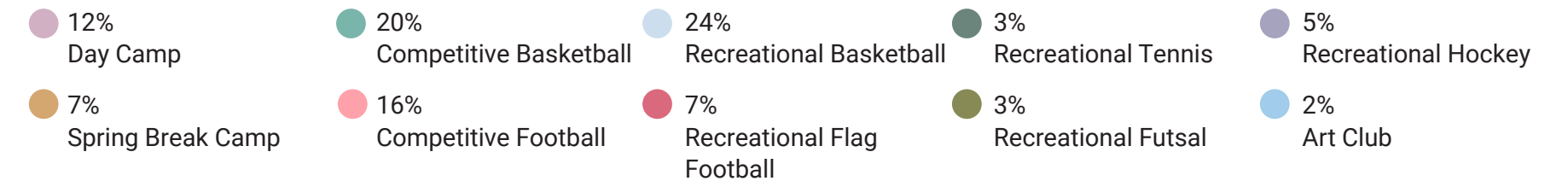
While raising four children in Anjou with limited resources, Gina wanted to provide them with a structured and safe environment after school. Thanks to financial support from Sun Youth, each of her children was able to join a sports team and benefit from guidance that fostered respect, discipline, and teamwork.

In 2025–26, Sun Youth’s sports programs continue to be essential drivers of inclusion, safety, and development, creating lasting positive change in young people’s lives.



Registration for our youth activities:

934 registrations across 10 programs



29% of youth received financial assistance.

A Healthy Mind in a Healthy Body

The midget team and representatives of the City of Montreal, including Luc Rabouin, at the reopening of the football field at Jeanne-Mance Park following renovations carried out by the city.

In 2025–26, Sun Youth’s competitive sports programs continued to play a key role in young people’s journeys. They provided opportunities for youth to challenge themselves, get actively involved, and build a strong sense of belonging. Thanks to generous donors such as the Fiducie Fournier-Éthier and the Guy Laliberté Foundation, our young athletes were able to take part in nutrition workshops and tutoring sessions.

A Game-Changing Pass

The beginning of 2026 was marked by a major national recognition. Sun Youth’s Hornets program was one of three programs selected by NFL Canada as part of its Forward Pass initiative, from among more than 500 applications received nationwide. This recognition came with a \$25,000 donation. This true “game-changing pass” represents much more than financial support: it highlights the quality of the guidance provided, the strength of the practices implemented, and the social impact of our work.



Our U10 and U12 girls’ teams during the halftime game at the NCAA Northern Classic, held at Place Bell.

Basketball

Our basketball program continues to thrive, thanks to the strong performance of its teams. The Mini AAA boys’ team won the league championship, while the Novice AAA boys’ team earned a silver medal in its category. These results reflect both the quality of coaching and the athletes’ dedication.

These achievements reflect the continued growth of basketball at Sun Youth. The organization remains committed to providing

young people with meaningful sports experiences that contribute to their overall development, both personally and as engaged members of their community, well beyond the court.

We would also like to recognize the essential contribution of the coaches and parents, whose support and involvement play a key role in the young athletes’ development and success.



Spaces to Grow, Learn and Thrive

Day camp, hockey, flag football, tennis, and art club make up Sun Youth's recreational offerings, which aim to provide young people with accessible, inclusive, and enriching activities that promote both enjoyment and overall development.

During the summer of 2025, between 50 and 60 children attended our day camp each week, taking part in a safe, stimulating, and inclusive environment. They enjoyed a wide range of experiences, including cooking workshops, cultural outings to museums, aquatic activities, creative crafts, and group games. These meaningful moments allowed them to have fun, develop new skills, build friendships, and strengthen their self-confidence.

As part of the *Petits cœurs à nourrir* program, funded by Desjardins and the Eliane and Giuseppe Borsellino Foundation, day camp participants took part in educational workshops focused on nutrition and urban agriculture. Held at Sun Youth, in our urban garden, and at the Montreal Botanical Garden, these activities helped young people better understand where their food comes from and teach them the importance of making healthy, informed choices. These lessons contribute to their health, well-being, and independence, far beyond the summer months.



Highlighting the Actions That Help Young People Grow

On May 24, 2025, Sun Youth celebrated the 41st edition of its annual bike giveaway, now known as **Heroes on Bikes**, at the Michel Normandin Arena.

One hundred young people were recognized for their acts of courage, resilience, solidarity, and leadership. Each recipient went home with a new bike, a helmet, a t-shirt, a lock, and a certificate of merit: symbols of recognition and encouragement to continue making a positive contribution to the community.

In addition to Heroes on Bikes, Sun Youth's **Bike Patrol** provides another opportunity for young people to make an important impact on the community. Made up of seven young people employed through the Canda Summer Job program, the patrol helps strengthen the organization's presence in neighbourhoods while promoting prevention, safer public spaces, and stronger connections with residents.

Through their presence and dedication, members of the Bike Patrol actively contribute to a safer, more inclusive, and more supportive community.



Academic success

In line with its mission to promote equal opportunities and the overall development of young people, Sun Youth once again stepped up as the 2025 school year approached.

In a festive atmosphere, youth were able to choose their own school supplies, including notebooks, pens, calculators, and backpacks: an experience that helps strengthen their sense of dignity and motivation as they begin the school year.

In 2025, thanks to the D'Amours Foundation, **more than 800 backpacks** filled with new school supplies were provided directly to families, while an additional 200 were distributed in collaboration with schools to address needs identified by teachers and school administrators.

Thanks to the donations received, Sun Youth was able to purchase all new supplies based on the official lists provided by schools and teachers.

Tutoring and Scholarships at Sun Youth

Through our tutoring program, 22 students received personalized academic support, representing a total of 75 hours of assistance. These sessions helped support young people throughout their educational journeys, strengthen their learning, and build their confidence and perseverance.



Johanne Saltarelli's Retirement

The 2025–26 year was a pivotal one for Sun Youth. As the organization reached a major milestone with the opening of its new community centre, a significant leadership transition also took place. After 50 years of service at Sun Youth, Johanne Saltarelli retired on January 5, 2026. Since joining the organization in 1975, she played a key role in its evolution, dedicating her energy and expertise to serving the community for five decades.

Following the passing of co-founder Earl De La Perralé in 2018, Johanne was appointed Executive Director in 2019. Through her leadership, Sun Youth embarked on one of the most ambitious projects in its history:

the acquisition and development of its new community centre. During her final months as Executive Director, she also supported Marina Boulos-Winton in her transition into the role.

Throughout her career, Johanne benefited from the support of a dedicated team of employees and volunteers whose commitment, compassion, and professionalism helped advance Sun Youth's mission. Close to 2,500 volunteers contributed nearly 30,000 hours of volunteer service in 2025–2026, representing the work of 15 full-time employees. The organization's achievements over the years are the result of a collective effort driven by individuals deeply committed to their community. As we mark this transition, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all employees, volunteers, board members, and partners who, through their work and generosity, have enabled Sun Youth to continue its mission and respond to the growing needs of the individuals and families we serve.

The entire Sun Youth community also extends its deepest gratitude to Johanne for her exceptional commitment, vision, and unwavering dedication over the past five decades, and wishes her a happy and well-deserved retirement.



Johanne Saltarelli received a citation from the SPVM Chief Fady Dagher, who presented it to her personally. She is pictured above alongside Chief Dagher and Chief Inspector Pascal Richard.

Summary of Financial Statements

RESULTS

(Years ended March 31st)

REVENUES

Contributions

Government grants

Donations

Emergency services

Fundraising events

Community services

Interest income

Miscellaneous income

EXPENSES

Emergency services

Community services

Commercial activities

Administrative expenses

Fundraising events

Interest expense

Excess of revenues over expenses before other expenses (revenues)

Other expenses (revenues)

Amortization of tangible capital assets

Gain on the disposal of assets held for resale

Deferred contributions related to tangible capital assets

EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES

2026
\$

2025
\$

914,939

927,222

5,341,212

4,823,515

3,601,061

3,368,814

451,055

379,118

179,000

171,963

156,900

449,113

204,326

281,697

10,848,493

10,401,442

7,493,061

7,494,160

853,781

890,641

273,094

187,879

1,052,199

814,239

140,586

126,878

240,586

342,015

10,053,307

9,855,812

795,186

545,630

98,408

1,292,529

—

(510,912)

(75,899)

(678,485)

22,509

103,132

772,677

442,498



SUN YOUTH

7501 Saint-Laurent Blvd.
Montréal, Québec H2R 1W9

514-842-6822
sunyouth.org
info@jas-sy.org

