



# LAURI ANN WEST COMMUNITY CENTER



Report to the  
**COMMUNITY**

2023  
2024



# Dear Neighbor,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your invaluable contributions to the Lauri Ann West Community Center. Thanks to your support, we have celebrated another successful year of operation—marking 40 years and counting. Our organization thrives because of the unwavering support from our local community, and we deeply appreciate your continued dedication.

While our members reside in different municipalities, it is our goal to provide a space where we can all live, grow, play and unite as one community.

This past year was filled with lots of activity here at the Center. We celebrated a milestone anniversary of our organization. As part of the anniversary, we honored the individuals and groups that helped to establish our organization and we celebrated our legacy. While our building looks much the same as it did at our grand opening over eight years ago, what is happening inside has certainly changed. Over the last year, we have made significant progress and improvements in the Center including:

- An increase in the number of visitors to the Center.
- Expanded our community-based offerings.

- An increase in the number of families we serve through our Arts & Enrichment After School Program (A&E).
- Increased options for group exercise.
- Invested in building and capital equipment improvements to support this increased demand.

We are proud to present this annual report to you. We hope it offers valuable insight into our activities and that you continue to enjoy everything that the Lauri Ann West Community Center offers to our community.

If you have thoughts about where you feel we can improve or if you would like to become more directly involved with the Lauri Ann West Community Center, please feel free to contact us.

Best regards,



**Mark Rothert**  
Executive Director



**Sandy Garcia-Tunon**  
Board President

## Our Staff



**Mark Rothert**  
Executive Director



**Michelle Drum**  
Director of Finance, HR, and Administration



**Amy Berman**  
Programs Manager



**Kari Grimsby**  
Administrative Assistant (Programs)



**Theresa Wright**  
Group Ex Manager



**Cassie Conti**  
Personal Training Manager



**Ray Killian**  
Facilities Manager



**Jason Lai**  
Member Experience and Communications Manager

## Board of Directors April 1, 2024- March 31, 2025

**Sandy Garcia-Tunon**, President  
**Barbara Gray**, Vice-President  
**Terry Dunlap**, Treasurer  
**Tom Wiese**, Secretary

**Cassie Eccles**  
**Keith Fenton**  
**Gabrielle Ferry**  
**David Heiner**  
**Jacki Herzog**

**Jay Kararincic**  
**Erich Klatt**  
**Scott Oehrle**  
**Kevin Romango**  
**Andy Trageser**



## Vision

We unite and inspire community.

## Mission

The Lauri Ann West Community Center builds connections, expands horizons and impacts lives by providing a safe place for all to learn, play and grow.

## Values

**Collaboration** – Working actively together with others

**Accepting** – Creating a safe place for everyone

**Respect** – Appreciating and valuing similarities and differences

**Ethics** – Acting with honesty and integrity in all that we do

**Service** – Making everyone feel welcome and appreciated

## Inclusion

The Lauri Ann West Community Center strives to create a safe and inclusive environment that celebrates and respects the unique contributions of everyone.





# Financial Stewardship

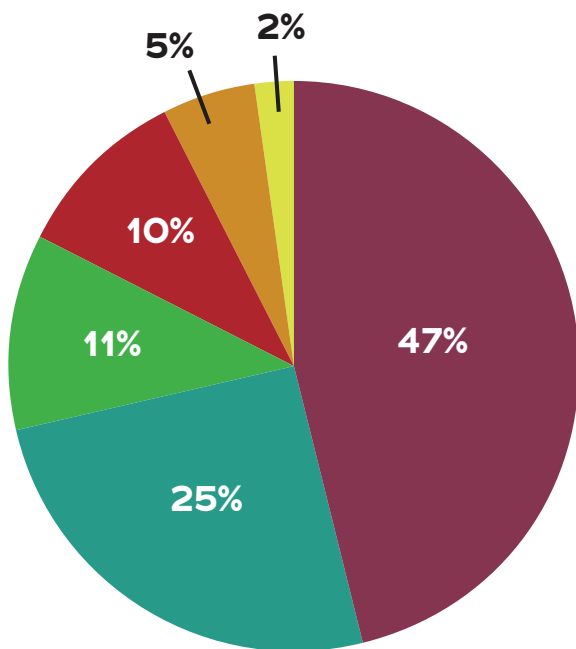
Lauri Ann West Community Center is a vibrant community asset that has seen a tremendous increase in activity over the past year. During this time we have worked to control increased operating costs, while providing superior value and service to our members. This includes increasing the number of group exercise classes by 25%, significant investments in new fitness equipment, hiring of additional staff, and continuing to maintain the highest standards of cleanliness.

All of these changes have been made possible because of our rigorous attention to fiscal responsibility. Our commitment to maintaining a dynamic and engaging environment is evident in every aspect of our operations. Our budget process is a collaborative effort, crafted by our dedicated staff and approved by each operational committee and our full Board of Directors. The Finance Committee plays a crucial role in ensuring our financial health, including overseeing an independent audit of our finances each year.

Our annual budget is not just about balancing numbers; it includes a plan for strategic surplus funds, which are earmarked for our ten-year capital plan. This forward-thinking approach guarantees that necessary maintenance and future purchases are funded ahead of time, ensuring our facility stays modern and welcoming for all members and visitors.

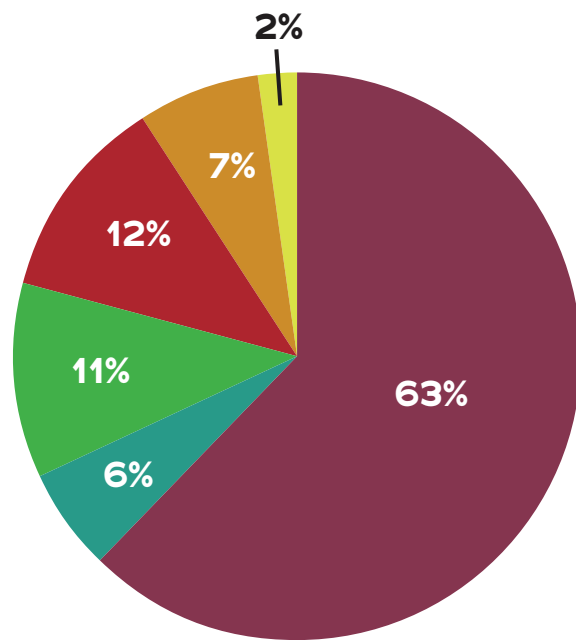
While membership comprises the largest portion of our revenue, our Arts & Enrichment After School Program (A & E), summer camps, and programs continue to grow in proportion.

## 2024 Budgeted Revenue



- Memberships
- A&E/Programs
- Health & Wellness
- Development
- Township
- Rentals

## 2024 Budgeted Expenses



- Salaries & Benefits
- Maintenance
- Building Utilities
- Operations
- Leases & Fees
- Insurance

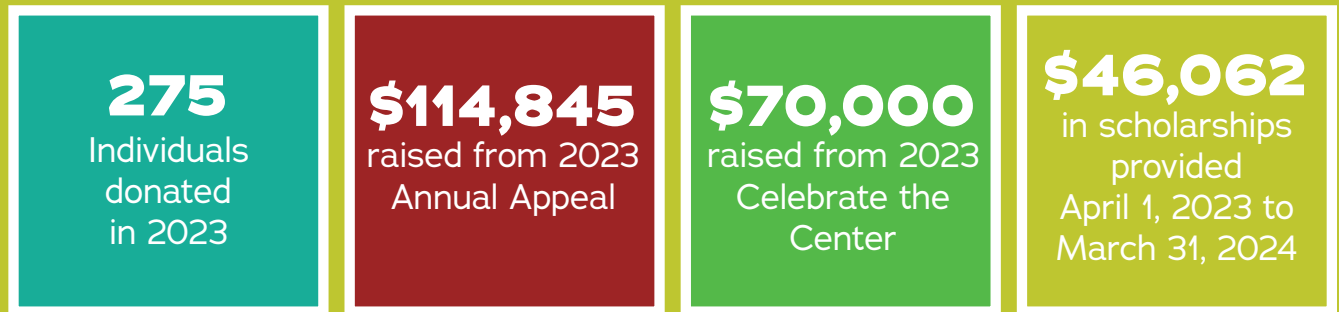
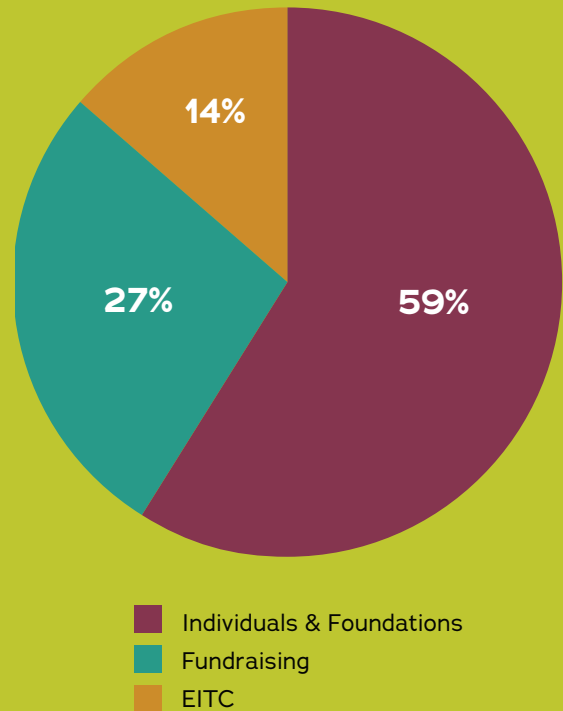


## Legacy of Philanthropy

Lauri Ann West Community Center has a long history of support from the generous members of our community. We are deeply grateful for the grants and donations from individuals, corporate entities, foundations and other organizations. Equally important are the countless volunteers who assist at events, participate in operational committees, maintain our grounds, help with summer camp, or serve on our Board of Directors.

Our “Celebrate the Center” fundraiser and Annual Appeal help us sustain our daily operations. Additionally, contributions from local businesses through the Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program allow us to invest in our unique Arts & Enrichment After School Program (A & E).

## 2024 Budgeted Development Sources



## Municipal Partnership

We are grateful for our municipal partner, the Township of O’Hara. The Township provides support to us via direct funding as well as in-kind support. O’Hara’s in-kind services totaled \$85,830 and included snow and trash removal, landscaping, and grounds maintenance. Our collaborative relationship also includes Township police conducting safety classes and daily visits to the building and grounds. In addition, we partner with O’Hara to offer community events such as free movie nights.

“I love the ability to walk into an inviting, friendly environment after a day of work and decompress.”

Heather Blocksidge

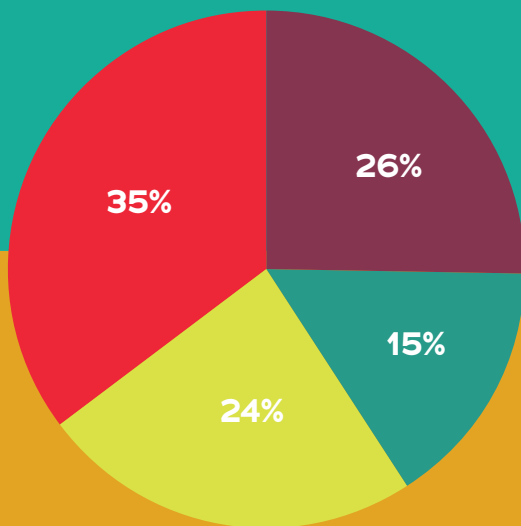


# Membership

At the Lauri Ann West Community Center, we are committed to providing an environment that allows everyone to be themselves, and we value and celebrate each person. The Center is always buzzing with activity! A visit might reveal high school students playing pick-up basketball, young children learning how to play chess or attending a camp to gather clues to find the mythical creature Bigfoot, parents working out, or enjoying a game of pickleball, and seniors enjoying a Silver Sneakers class.

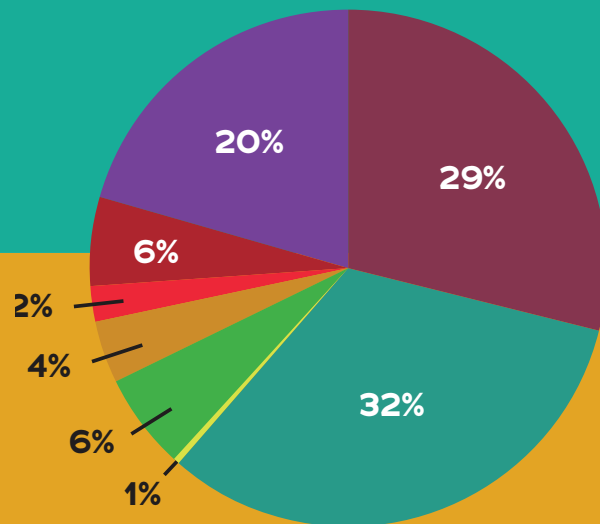
Each member comes to the Center for their unique reasons, and our staff is dedicated to getting to know them personally to ensure a positive experience. Our team at the Welcome Desk works tirelessly to maintain a safe and welcoming atmosphere, and is at the ready to answer questions and receive feedback.

### Active Members by Age



■ <= 19 Years Old     ■ 20-39 Years Old  
■ 40-59 Years Old     ■ 60+ Years Old

### Active Members by Municipality



■ Fox Chapel     ■ O'Hara  
■ Sharpsburg     ■ Oakmont  
■ Indiana     ■ Blawnox  
■ Aspinwall     ■ Other

“What I love about Lauri Ann West Community Center is the mix of members from old to young, children to seniors...it truly is a community!”

John Denny





# Pickleball & Open Gym

## Pickleball

Over the last several years, pickleball has been reported by industry experts as the fastest-growing sport in the United States, and this trend continues at the Lauri Ann West Community Center. We have seen a significant increase in interest among our members and the local community. As a community center, we strive to create an environment for players of all skill levels. To accommodate everyone, we have established different levels of play:

- Beginner
- Social
- Competitive
- Reserve Your 4

**4,397 pickleball visits  
in the first half of 2024**

Up 20% over the same time in 2023

## Open Gym

The Dunlap Family Gymnasium provides a versatile space for various activities, including group exercise, open gym sessions, pickleball, and our Arts & Enrichment After School Program (A & E). Our goal is to offer students a safe and enjoyable place to play basketball after school and provide gym time on weekends for students and families to engage in pick-up games and socialize with friends and neighbors.

Balancing the demand for group exercise, pickleball, open gym, and other program sessions can be challenging due to the shared nature of this space, however, our leadership is dedicated to optimizing the space to meet the needs of all our members. We continuously seek ways to maximize the use of this valuable resource as demand grows.



# Celebrate the Center

In celebration of the 40th anniversary of our organization, we hosted an extraordinary “Celebrate the Center.” Chaired by Suzanne Alexander, Amanda Carvelli and Libby Ernharth, the evening was dedicated to recognizing the countless volunteers, staff, community leaders, and donors who have helped make the Center a cornerstone of our community.

A special tribute was given to Sue Golier and Gretchen Montgomery, the visionary women whose dedication and determination led to the creation of a community center on this property. .

Held on September 22, 2023, the event was a resounding success, raising over \$70,000. Attendees enjoyed a beautiful evening filled with local food, drinks, and live music by Asphalt Rodeo. Proceeds from the evening will support the newly established Sue Golier Memorial Speaker Series and the Gretchen Montgomery Scholarship Fund for 2024.



Photos courtesy of Maya Tuttle; Mayabee Photography









# Fitness

Lauri Ann West Community Center is known for the variety of options to exercise and maintain physical health. There is something for everyBODY!

## Group Exercise

Unlike many fitness centers, our group exercise classes are included in the monthly membership fee, so attending is no additional cost. We currently offer 58 group exercise classes, including:

- Spin
- Yoga
- Bootcamp
- Essentrics
- Zumba
- Pilates
- And more!

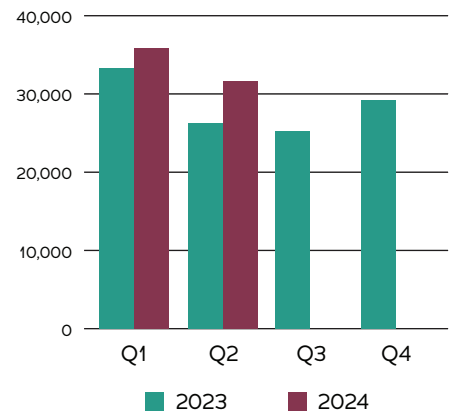
## Fitness Center

Our fitness center is a bustling hub for members of all fitness levels. In the first half of 2024, we welcomed members and visitors totaling 65,734 visits to the fitness center. Whether someone is just starting on a fitness journey or is a seasoned health enthusiast, our facility has something for everyone.

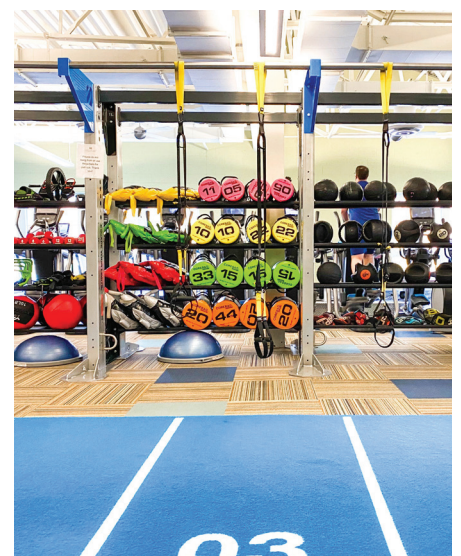
## Personal Training

Demand for individualized personal training continues to grow at the Center. To keep up with demand we hired additional trainers and through the first half of 2024 have served 281 clients with 2,503 hours of training.

### Fitness Center Visits Per Quarter by Year



**2,503**  
Hours  
of personal  
training in the  
first half  
of 2024







**58**

Group Exercise classes  
offered each week

**117,684**

visits to the center in 2023

**30% increase**

over 2022



“We chose LAWCC because it was a great local option for our whole family. For me, the excellent personal training keeps me coming back. The personal trainers are professional and engaging, and have helped me make great physical progress.”

Alex Lang



# Arts & Enrichment

**The Arts & Enrichment After School Program (A & E)** is offered to elementary students through a partnership with the Fox Chapel Area School District and ABC Transit. This program caters to students in grades K-6, providing a balanced mix of learning, play, physical activity, and outdoor time (weather permitting).

The A & E program incorporates a STEM curriculum, alongside art activities, and group projects, fostering creativity and curiosity. This hands-on, active approach to learning boosts self-confidence and encourages exploration. It also allows children to pursue their individual interests, such as reading, building toys, and imaginative play.

Certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, the A & E program ensures that all instructors meet state qualifications regarding education, experience, clearances, and continued education. The program undergoes annual inspections of its physical rooms, staff, and student paperwork, maintaining strict student-to-teacher ratios to ensure a high-quality learning environment.



**93**

Students serviced in 2023-2024  
30% Increase over 2022-2023

**6**

classrooms with 1-2 teachers per  
room

**12.1 or lower**  
student/teacher ratio



# Summer Camp

Each summer the Center comes alive when we host our summer camps! In 2024, we hosted 193 campers who enjoyed a mixture of sports, STEAM discovery, activities in the gym and outside time in the sunshine. There were lots of arts & crafts, as well as imaginary play! Each day brought new adventures, and each week had a different theme that kept the students excited and engaged. Special presentations by organizations such as the Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium, Fox Chapel Volunteer Fire Department and the Township of O'Hara Police Drone demonstration were informative and entertaining. Visitors to the Center thoroughly enjoyed the energy the campers brought to the building each day including the miniature golf course and carnival which the campers envisioned and constructed on their own.

A special thank you to Jane Siddons Herrmann of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices for sponsoring the Kona Ice Truck every Friday throughout the summer. Our campers absolutely loved it!



**193**  
Students attended  
summer camp  
in 2024





# Programs

The Lauri Ann West Community Center offers 4-6 week workshops designed to help children and adults learn new skills or explore topics of interest. These introductory courses are taught by our knowledgeable staff members or outside experts in various fields such as tennis and calligraphy.

In the past year, we provided some of our most beloved programs, including kids' basketball and tennis, along with new offerings like bridge, rug hooking, and Mah Jongg.

One of our wonderful, long term partners, the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, enables us to offer ballet classes to our members ages 2-99.





# Community

Lauri Ann West Community Center strives to be the heart of our community by sponsoring events and activities that provide opportunities for members and non-members to learn, play and grow. Some of these offerings include:

- Breakfast with Santa
- Trunk or Treat
- Cruisin' at the Center sponsored by Chip Ganassi Racing
- Thursdays on the Patio
- Sue Golier Memorial Speaker Series
- Coffee with Jen Swab from Foxwall EMS
- Celebrate the Center
- Outdoor Pickleball Courts
- The Aspinwall Everyday Gourmet Cafe' at the Lauri Ann West Community Center

In addition, we continue to support our partnerships with local organizations in an effort to support their missions and provide service to our community. Some of these partners include:

- Allegheny River Trail Park
- Band Together Pittsburgh
- Cooper-Siegel Community Library
- Fox Chapel Area Adult Education
- Fox Chapel Area School District
- Fox Chapel Garden Club
- Fox Chapel Area Newcomers Club
- Fox Families Care
- Fox Chapel Rotary Club
- Second Harvest Community Free Fridge
- Township of O'Hara







# LAURI ANN WEST COMMUNITY CENTER

Lauri Ann West Community Center primarily serves the six municipalities that comprise the Fox Chapel Area School District including:

- O'Hara Township
- Indiana Township
- Borough of Fox Chapel
- Borough of Aspinwall
- Borough of Blawnox
- Borough of Sharpsburg

The Center is open 7 days a week for over 90 hours a week, 360 days of the year. During 2023-2024 we averaged over 10,000 visits per month.

**You Belong Here!**

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Pittsburgh, PA 15238  
412-828-8566

[www.lauriannwestcc.org](http://www.lauriannwestcc.org)

