

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026



## Because Children are Citizens

*Serving children, families and the community since 1972.*



**JASPER PLACE**  
Family Resource Centre

### **Our Vision**

**All children are valued citizens, who are supported by thriving families, while actively contributing to healthy communities.**

### **Our Mission**

**JPFRC is a place of belonging where children, families, team members, partners and our surrounding communities, co-imagine, co-develop, and model leading practices in early learning and care and family support.**

## **Dear Families, Team Members, Board Members, Funders and Community Partners,**

The 2025–2026 year has been one of reflection, refinement, and renewal for Jasper Place Family Resource Centre. Guided by our commitment to be a value driven organization, we revisited and refreshed our vision and mission statements, ensured their alignment with our strategic direction, and positioned them as foundational in the development of our teams and programs.

Throughout the year, we focused on advancing the priorities identified in our strategic plan—enhancing our organizational identity, deepening community relationships, and contributing to sector leadership. Our efforts have been effective through critical reflection, intentional planning and thoughtful advocacy.

We have taken steps to strengthen our leadership structure, including the introduction of a new position and the co-development of legacy documents that will sustain our evolving organization. Together, these efforts bring our mission statement to life in continuing to serve children, families, and the community with intention, care, and innovation.

We are proud of the progress made this year and are pleased to share highlights of our work and impact in the pages that follow.

**CORE VALUES**

**RELATIONSHIP**

**COMMUNITY**

**INCLUSION**

**LEARNING**

# THE WORK OF OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our valued volunteer Board of Directors ensure the Centre's vision and mission are brought to life through the lens of the Centre's core values.

Board work over the past year has focused on actions outlined in our strategic plan. The plan has **four focus areas**; these form the pillars of this annual report

A very big thank you to our Board of Directors for their time, expertise and authentic care for Jasper Place Family Resource Centre and the children and families we serve.

## 2025-2026 Board of Directors

Board Chair	- Andy Mikula
Vice Chair	- Ashima Samaru-Jurf
Treasurer	- Beau Cotey
Secretary	- Brianne Vereschagin
Director	- Nelgee Laminta
Director	- Heather Mangan
Director	- Brennan Sekulic
Director	- Jarret Esslinger
Director	- Larissa Megalos

## Saying Farewell

A heartfelt farewell to the following Board Members. Jasper Place Family Resource Centre thanks you for your service in making a difference in the lives of children and families.

- Beau Cotey – 7 years of service
- Brianne Vereschagin – 7 years of service
- Andy Mikula – 2 years of service
- Larissa Megalos – 1 year of service

## Interested to serve?

We are always looking for new board members with diverse areas of lived experience and expertise.

[Join our Board of Directors – Jasper Place Family Resource Centre \(jasperplace-cfrc.com\)](https://jasperplace-cfrc.com)

## FOCUS AREAS

1  
**ORGANIZATIONAL  
IDENTITY**

2  
**ORGANIZATIONAL  
RESILIENCE AND  
EXCELLENCE**

3  
**STRENGTHENING  
RELATIONSHIPS WITH  
COMMUNITY**

4  
**SECTOR EXCELLENCE**

# FOCUS AREA 1

## ORGANIZATIONAL IDENTITY

We clearly and concisely communicate and share how we contribute to the community

JPFRC is recognized as a values-driven organization

### Vision mission refresh

Board and team members have worked collaboratively over the year to refresh our vision and mission statements. The aim is for these foundational statements to align with the work we are doing and the long term outcomes we are striving for. With the support of an outside consultant, we took input provided by our participants and team members about the work we do and developed draft statements that then went back to team members for further consultation and refinement. It is important to JPFRC that our program participants see themselves in these statements. It is important that the statements bring meaning and propose to the work of our team members. Our refreshed vision and mission statements proudly share the difference that JPFRC is working to make in the community and how we intend to make this difference.



### Vision

*All children are valued citizens supported by thriving families while actively contributing to healthy communities.*

This statement conveys a future state where all children are recognized as important people, vital contributors to the well-being of a community and that the family is at the center.

### Mission

*JPFRC is a place of belonging where children, families, team members, partners and our surrounding community, co-imagine, co-develop and model leading practices in early learning and care and family support.*

This statement conveys the how JPFRC will work to achieve this future state. It is focused on inclusion, shared responsibility and continuously moving forward.



### Leadership Competencies

As part of the development of a leadership succession plan the leadership team is working to define the competencies of leadership at JPFRC through the lens of our values; relationship, inclusion, community and learning. This process is also informing a refresh of job descriptions. This document will be completed in the fall and shared with team members for input.

# FOCUS AREA 1- CONTINUED...

## Coming in 2026-2027

We are excited to share that our professional association – Alberta Early Childhood Educators Association AECEA has developed guiding principles for ethical practice. These principles align with the values of Jasper Place Family Resource Centre. We will be working closely with AECEA in the coming year to formally adopt the guiding principles and to connect them to our daily practice.



[Guiding Principles for Ethical Practice in Early Childhood Education in Alberta | AECEA](#)



## A few comments from families accessing our early learning and child care programs

The values driven identity of the Centre begins with children and their families at the center of all we do. Our efforts are informed by the children and families we serve.

"...We feel so welcome and like a part of a community, and we value that so much..."

"...We do not have family here so our village is small and so daycare is a very important and impactful part of our lives and I could not be happier. I know she is loved and cared for and I could not be more thankful for this."

"We feel incredibly welcome at the centre. Our entire family enjoys pick up and drop off. Our child has made excellent friendships and connections with staff which we greatly appreciate."

"Amazing experience and an amazing community. We couldn't love being a part of it more!"

"This is our last year at Jasper place and we're incredibly thankful and lucky to have been supported by such a passionate, caring group of educators!"

"We will be forever thankful as we know the early years are the most critical. Our child was truly in the place they were meant to be, with a team that nurtures their strengths, encourages them to grow, and helps them feel safe to be their authentic self."

# FOCUS AREA 2

## ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE AND EXCELLENCE

**JPFRC structure, policies and processes support a vibrant organizational culture and drive performance**

**JPFRC has a strategic, sustainable financial system**

A board subcommittee is gathering data and modeling scenarios that support long-term sustainability of the Centre. This work will continue into the coming year. If you have expertise in the area. We welcome you to reach out about joining this committee.

### **Introduction of optional supplemental fees**

Our Board of Directors have worked intentionally to build an annual budget that both aligns with the Centre's vision, mission and values and supports a sustainable, high quality program. To continue to retain, adequately remunerate and support well-prepared early childhood educators, the foundation of quality in our program, the difficult decision was made to instate an optional, supplemental fee to cover a portion of our nutrition program costs effective September 1, 2026.

The costs of operating a high quality early learning and care program continue to rise, the funding from Federal and Provincial governments has not kept pace. This has had a direct impact on the programming we offer.

We consider the practice of providing a family style meal, where all children and educators sit together, sharing the same, nutritious food as an important part of our quality program that supports our image of children as citizens within a community.

It is vital that, as a value driven organization, JPFRC is an equitable, inclusive place of belonging for all families, and as such, the board has developed a charitable fund to support families unable to cover the additional cost of the nutrition program.

Jasper Place Family Resource Centre continues to advocate for an adequately publicly funded system of high quality Early Learning and Child Care that is accessible and inclusive for all.

**Thank you to the volunteers that made our 2025 Casino possible.**

**This years Casino proceeds were \$81,163.48**

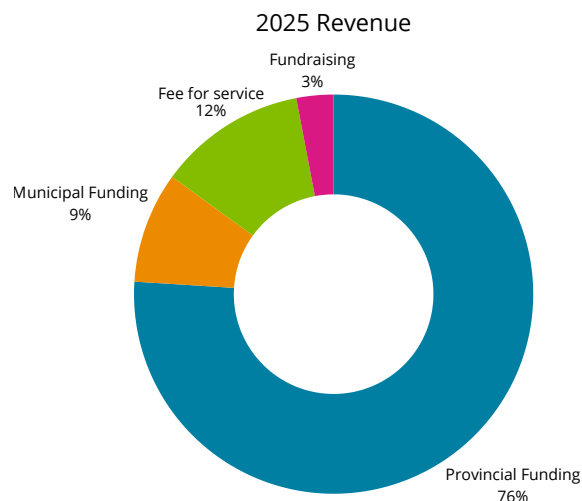
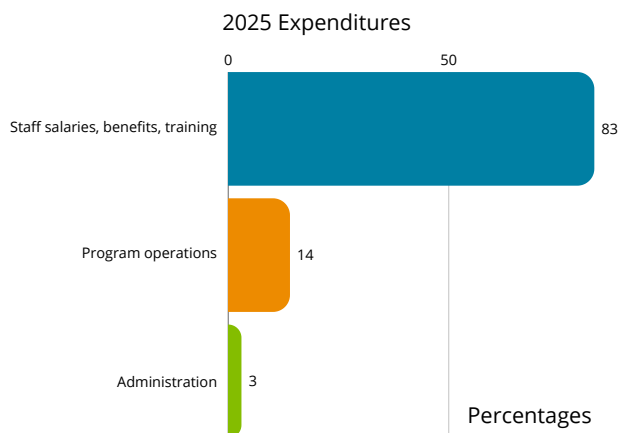
**2027 Casino dates will be announced in February.**

### **Fundraising**

Fundraising is an important source of revenue for Jasper Place Family Resource Centre. Funds raised help us to make capital improvements that support our quality programming. Our AGLC Charitable Gaming License for Casino's is a key source of fundraising.

# FOCUS AREA 2- CONTINUED...

## 2025 FINANCIALS



### Thank you to our Funders

The City of Edmonton-Family & Community Support Services  
Government of Alberta Children's Services  
Alberta Education  
Canada Summer Jobs



### JPFRC is an employment destination of choice

#### Continuously improving our team members experience with us

A 3-year, team member experience improvement plan, developed from team member feedback is ensuring our team members feel valued, supported, engaged and proud of the work they do.

Focus in the past year has been; revision of human resource and operational policy to align with Centre values, development of leadership opportunities and building authentic connections with one another.

Focus in the coming year is the creation of a team member psychological safety model, defining and documenting pedagogical mentorship at JPFRC and refining job descriptions for alignment with values.

# FOCUS AREA 2- CONTINUED...

## Leadership development and succession planning

JPFRC is piloting an acting program director program within our ELCC programs. This pilot is enabling emerging leaders to learn new skills and to participate in the co-development of leadership competencies. We are also excited to share the development of a new position - Operations Director. This position supports the day-to-day functioning of all programs and is a step in our leadership succession planning.

## Learning together in communities of practice

Learning is generative and impactful when experienced in a practice of relationship. Our teams gather monthly in communities of practice to research, share knowledge and build understanding.

Here are a few topics teams explored.

- Access Supports and Participation-shared expectations
- Wellness in the workplace
- Setting Healthy Boundaries
- Supporting one another in Pedagogical Documentation practices

## Life-long learning

Ongoing professional development for our team aligns with the value of learning at JPFRC. Listed, are some of the trainings our team participated in over the year through program in-services days and self-initiated opportunities.

- The Neurorelational Framework-practices of engagement
- The Resiliency Scale Masterclass
- Family Violence Protocols
- FLIGHT: Alberta's Early Learning and Care Framework
- Mental Health First Aid for Youth

## Honouring team member commitment to children and families

When team members are cared for, engaged and committed to our work over time, it benefits everyone.

Over 10 years		Over 20 years	Over 30 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Gale O'Hara</li><li>● Susan Watmough</li><li>● Lynn Fauchon-Shydowski</li><li>● Katie Sharp</li><li>● Stephanie Basker</li><li>● Carman Ede</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Kanwal Khalil</li><li>● Andrea Hansen</li><li>● Rhonda Peppel</li><li>● Ngan (Emy) Nguyen</li><li>● Fariba Shafieizadegan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Pam Gudmundson</li><li>● Paulina Reye</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Adine Shuchuk</li><li>● Sherie Balaban</li></ul>

# FOCUS AREA 3

## STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY

The community is engaged and invested in JPFRC's work and those we serve.

JPCFRS is trusted and sought out for leading practices, knowledge, and partnerships

### Research work with MacEwan University

Educators with our Cabrini ELCC Program are participating alongside professors and research assistants at MacEwan University on Two research projects: one on Exploring Multimodal Literacies in Early Childhood Settings with Community Partners and one on the Use of Technology as a Multimodal Literacy in ELCC Settings. We look forward to sharing the results of this research with our community.

### Sharing our learning

We are proud that our early childhood educators shared their experience and learnings in two public presentations this past year: the AECEA conference and the MacEwan Play Exchange Conference. These experiences are both an opportunity for the professional work of our ECE's to be acknowledged and to give back to our sector.

The Centre formed a research and presentation community of practice in 2025-26 that brings together team members from all programs with an interest in developing research questions that support their ongoing learning with the potential to be shared publicly with the larger sector.

### Continuous implementation of research based practice

All programs continue to access evidence based theory to inform everyday practice. This includes:

- FLIGHT: Alberta's Early Learning and Care Framework
- The Pyramid model for supporting social and emotional development
- Trauma Informed Care
- Family Resource Network Standards of Practice



### Supporting our efforts

Jasper Place Family Resource Centre values the support of community volunteers and the experience of practicum students in working towards our vision and mission. Supporting students with learning field placements helps to ensure a strong and committed future workforce.

We worked with **67** volunteers- supported **64** students in their learning through practicum experiences

# FOCUS AREA 3- CONTINUED...

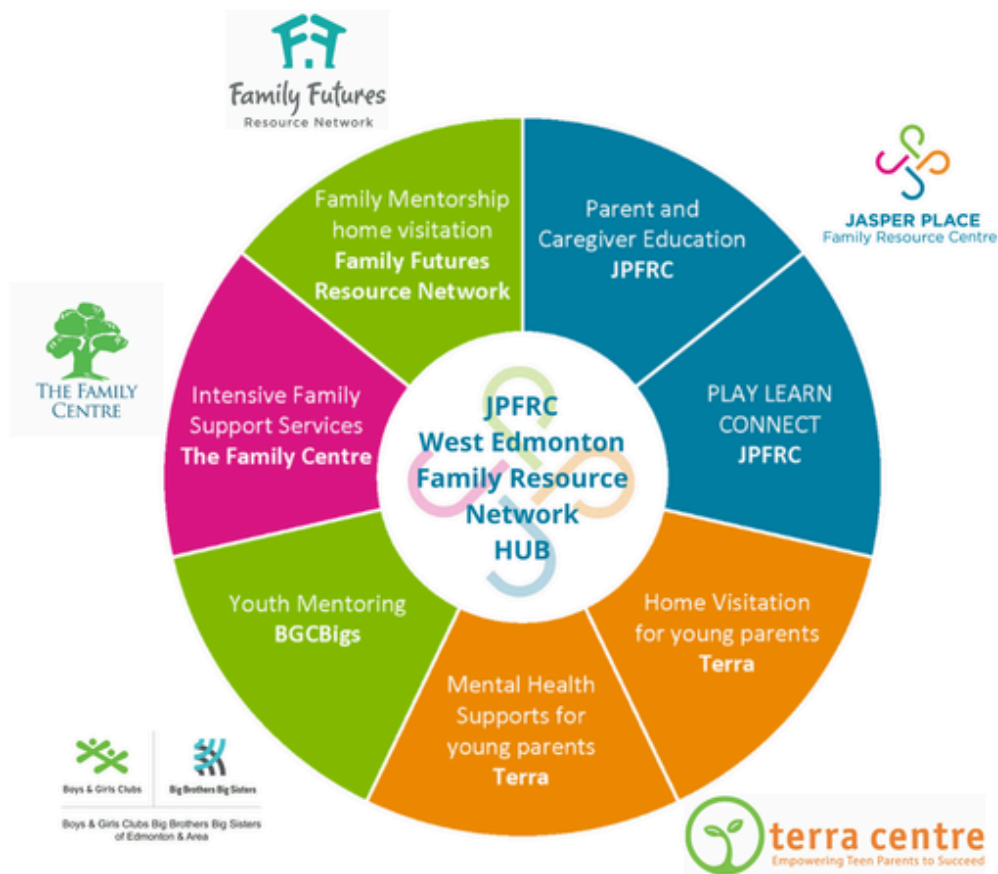
## Coming in 2026-27

JPFRC is successful in two granting opportunities through the Edmonton Community Foundation. These grants support projects that will improve outdoor play opportunities in ELCC. The projects focus on creating curriculum for both early childhood educators and parents of young children about the importance of outdoor play for children's well-being and support the development of naturalized play space for our ELCC program and families in the community.



## Better able to serve children and families through collaborative partnership

Jasper Place Family Resource Centre is proud of the many, intentional collaborative partnerships we develop and nurture in the spirit of achieving our mission. Below is a diagram of the partners we are formally connected with to form the West Edmonton Family Resource Network.



# FOCUS AREA 3- CONTINUED...

**Our Programs are easily accessed.  
Thanks to 30 community partners.**

## A few comments from our agency partners

"JPFRC aligns with our agency's values. Any person I have worked with has been so supportive and kind."

"We appreciate and value our collaborative relationship with WEFRNH."

"We feel very fortunate to work alongside JPFRC.....our experiences with JPFRC are second to none, truly how they could be used as a model for the rest."

"Collaboration is easy due to shared organizational and staff values, it is clear that Hub staff have a genuine care for those we serve and internal/external staff."

"Thank you for being such a great partner and helping to support our programs! Together, we have been having a significant impact on the community."

"They have always been friendly, welcoming and open to collaboration between agencies."

## New partners we began working alongside this past year

- **Jasper Place Wellness Centre**-to provide family support services
- **Paige the Cleaner**-to supports coats for kids and families
- **Variety Alberta**-supporting inclusion practices
- **Parent Care**-supporting bereaved parents



# FOCUS AREA 4

## SECTOR EXCELLENCE

**We work collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure an equitable, accessible future for all children and families**

**JPCFRS advocates for high-quality Early Learning and Care**

### Advocacy Policy

Our Board of Directors has developed a governance advocacy policy that provides direction for how JPCFRS will engage in advocacy work centered in the Centre's values.

Jasper Place Family Resource Centre is strategically collaborating with the following groups in collectively advocating for High Quality, Inclusive Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC)

- The Council for Early Learning and Care (CELC)
- The Childcare Association for Resources to Administrators (CAFRA)
- Child Care Now Alberta
- Alberta Early Childhood Educators Association (AECEA)
- Alberta Early Learning and Care Leaders Caucus

### Key advocacy messages

- Quality Early Learning and Child Care benefits everyone
- Quality ELCC is inclusive for all children
- Early Childhood Educators are the cornerstone of quality child care

### Striving for equity and inclusion in our programs

With the introduction of optional, supplemental fees to support our ELCC nutrition program, the board has established a charitable fund that aligns with our value of inclusion in ensuring this new fee does not exclude any family from participation.

The Centre applied for and received the Provinces ELCC Inclusive Spaces Grant. Funds enabled accessibility features to be added to our Cabrini program and equity building equipment and materials to be purchased for both programs.



# FOCUS AREA 4- CONTINUED...

## The impact of our work in the lives of families

Highlights of our programs and services within the focus areas of our strategic plan culminate in the impact Jasper Place Family Resource has in the lives of families.

Our **2** early learning programs provide high quality care and learning for over **130** children

**451** Parents and caregivers were connected to community resources and supports

**1953** children and caregivers participated in our **172** Family Resource Programs

We hosted over **300** people at various family events

We facilitated the Brain Architecture Game for **463** college students

**1981** people were supported to access basic needs

**58** under resourced women were supported in having a healthy pregnancy



# FOCUS AREA 4- CONTINUED...

## 99% of our participants report their children experiencing increased social and emotional learning

"It has provided a safe and fun place for my children to come play. They love being able to experience different ways of playing. They are able to interact with other children and develop skills to make new friends."

"My child has had opportunities to practice making new friends."

"My child has had opportunities to practice problem solving."

"...an incredible space for my children to learn new skills, make new friends, and work through things like separation anxiety"

"It's such a positive and supportive place where he's getting socialization skills and developing relationships."

## 97% of our participants report improved networks of support

"The positive and welcoming environment has been wonderful. To be able to get out and socialize with others"

"The moccasin making helped me be intentional and present...I have more social connections and resources available"

"Taking care of me to be more present for my kids...it helped me in tough times when I didn't know what to do."

## 99% of our participants feel more confident in their parenting role

"The program has made me a more patient and empathetic parent and it's given the kids lots of opportunities to meet new friends and to grow and develop in positive ways"

"I know more about how my child is learning and developing...I have been able to create engaging experiences using recycled and reused materials, low cost but lasting fun!"

"I learned new ways to incorporate interactive play, opportunities to learn skills around problem solving, coping with being a parent of multiple young children"

***Thank you to the board, team members, families, children, community partners and funders for your continued support.***

**ADINE SHUCHUK  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

