



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



CHINATOWN YMCA 華埠青年會

ANNUAL REPORT 2024 – 2025

Dear Friends,

Throughout our long history, the Chinatown YMCA has prioritized youth leadership development, health and wellness for all, and ensuring our space is where everyone can Be themselves, Belong in community, and Become their best.

This past year brought its share of challenges, but through it all, we've remained committed to providing essential services to our community. Our programs are expanding and thriving. By offering more financial assistance than ever, we're making sure that cost is never a barrier to participation. This work is only possible because of you—our generous donors, dedicated volunteers, and supportive foundation and city partners.

As we close out this past year, our community is navigating uncertainty – from a citywide budget deficit to proposed school closures and potential cuts to essential services. In the face of these challenges, we remain focused on growth and resilience.

Looking ahead, we are excited to share what's next:

• **RESIDENCE CAMP RETURNS**

For the first time since 2019, we're bringing back our beloved weeklong sleepaway camp—a tradition for over 70 years. This experience gives youth the opportunity to explore the outdoors, build confidence, and form lasting friendships.

• **EXPANDED GROCERY PROGRAM**

As food insecurity remains a pressing concern, we will more than double our reach, providing fresh, locally sourced groceries to over 300 households.

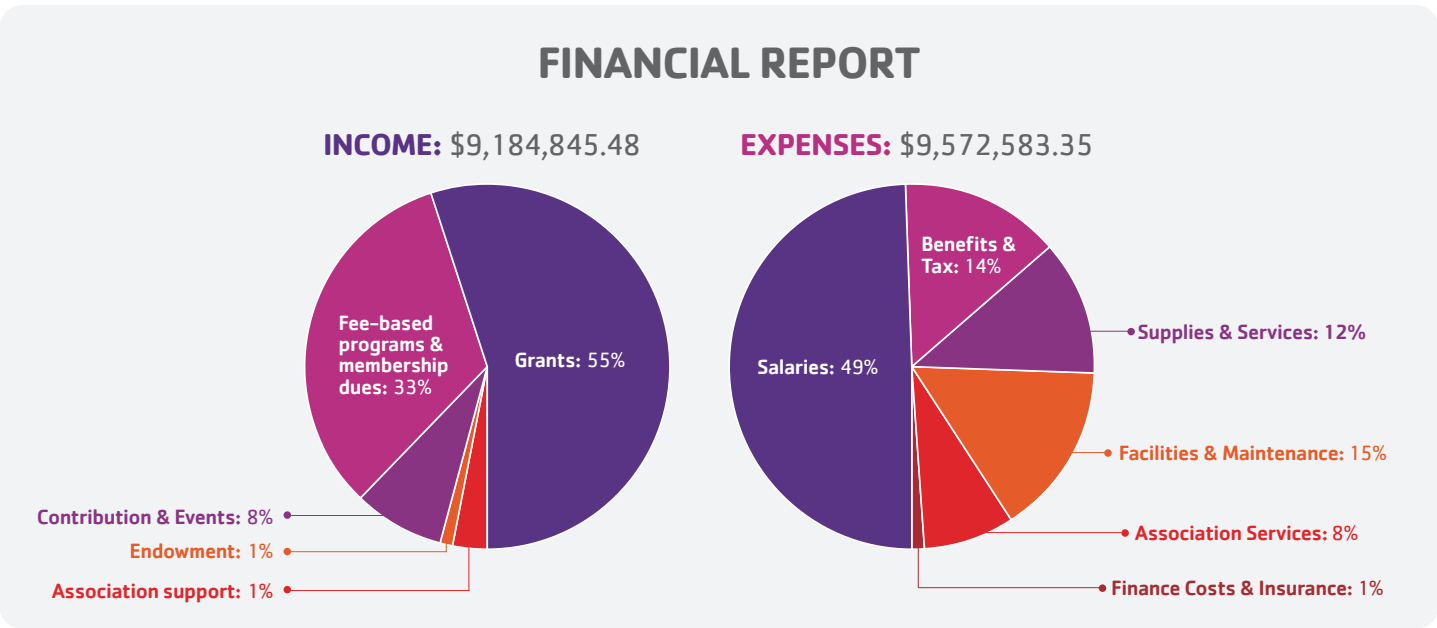
• **POOL AND LOCKER ROOM RENOVATIONS**

As the only pool in Chinatown, we are committed to renovating and refreshing our aquatic facilities to better serve the community—especially youth developing the essential life skill of swimming.

Thank you for including the Chinatown YMCA in your giving of time, energy, and resources. We truly cannot do this work without you.

ANDY CHU

Executive Director, Chinatown YMCA



Chinatown Community At A Glance

Approximately 15,000 residents call the 20 square iconic blocks of Chinatown home.

This vibrant and historic neighborhood, though rich in culture and tradition, faces significant daily challenges



LIMITED ACCESS
TO OPEN SPACES



LANGUAGE
BARRIERS



FINANCIAL
CONSTRAINTS



70% OF RESIDENTS
ARE IMMIGRANTS



71% OF RESIDENTS
HAVE LIMITED
ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Navigating social services, accessing resources, and finding jobs can be daunting tasks.
Financial stability remains a constant struggle for many.

Chinatown Family Income Overview:

\$26,500

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

UNDER
\$20,000

ANNUAL INCOME OF NEARLY 40% OF RESIDENTS

These factors compound the difficulties residents face in achieving a healthy and prosperous life.

The Chinatown YMCA serves as a vital lifeline, offering programs and services designed to address these specific needs and challenges.



EDWIN & MARGARET LEE TUNG LOK EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER

Since opening in November 2021, the Edwin & Margaret Lee Tung Lok Early Childhood Learning Center has steadily grown and is now proudly **3.5 years old**. We provide high-quality care for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, with a focus on nurturing emotional bonds between children, families, and peers. Our safe and supportive environment helps children reach their full potential.

Enrollment continues to rise year over year, with nearly 50 children enrolled this summer—just shy of our full capacity of 57. We serve families from across Chinatown, Downtown, North Beach, Nob Hill, Telegraph Hill, Civic Center, and the Tenderloin. **Approximately 90% of our children are from low-income households and are dual language learners, underscoring the importance of culturally responsive early education.**

In response to the evolving needs of our community, **we are excited to launch our bilingual curriculum in September 2025**. This new program will support language development in both English and children's home languages, promoting cognitive growth and school readiness. We believe this effort will further the mission of the Chinatown YMCA and expand our impact across the neighborhoods we serve.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

In a community where only 5% of the land is open space—compared to the citywide average of 23%—access to safe, engaging environments is essential. This is especially critical for the 12% of residents under 18 in Chinatown.

Our youth enrichment programs provide vital spaces for children to learn, grow, and connect.



THESE PROGRAMS PROMOTE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, CREATIVITY, AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING, WHILE ALSO FOSTERING:



YOUTH ENRICHMENT:

Art, Basketball, Swim Lessons, Tutoring, Little Chefs, Coding



SUMMER PROGRAMS:

Day Camp, Resident Camp, Power Scholars Academy, Middle School Adventures



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

6 program sites, Academic Support, 500 students daily

By bridging gaps in access, language, and affordability, these programs help level the playing field for immigrant and low-income families. Children are encouraged to celebrate their cultural identities, building confidence, self-esteem, and a sense of belonging—while developing into the next generation of community leaders.

TEEN LEADERSHIP

Our teen initiatives empower young people to build practical skills, deepen community ties, and explore their own leadership styles through service, creativity, and wellness.

SOMANYDYNAMOS

This year, **30 teens** participated in **SOMANYDYNAMOS**, our flagship leadership development program. Through hands-on projects—like designing an obstacle course for our Neighborhood Halloween Street Fair, serving at community dinners, and leading activities on Healthy Kids Day—they built confidence and purpose. The program encourages youth to recognize their value and responsibility as active community contributors.

I-WORKS

I-Works employed 11 teens who supported our afterschool programs by tutoring and mentoring younger students. In addition to gaining valuable job experience, participants attended weekly workshops on:

- Resume writing
- Goal setting
- Stress management
- Communication and workplace etiquette

They also connected with career speakers from the private sector, helping them envision and plan for their futures.

TEEN CULINARY ACADEMY

More than just a cooking class, the **Culinary Academy** teaches life and leadership skills through food. Twelve teens learned foundational culinary techniques—from mother sauces to perfect broths—while also building skills in planning, communication, and hospitality. As they grew more confident in the kitchen, they grew more confident in themselves.

GOAT (Greatest of All Time)

Our **GOAT** program supports teens who aren't involved in sports by offering group fitness and wellness opportunities. With 35 graduates this year, participants worked out with personal trainers, set fitness goals, and encouraged each other to build healthy habits. Survey feedback confirmed what we suspected: teens are more likely to stay active when they're supported by peers and having fun.



HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMMING FOR SENIORS

Our health and wellness programming provides meaningful opportunities for over 300 seniors to stay engaged and thrive supporting their:

- **SOCIAL CONNECTION**
- **EMOTIONAL HEALTH**
- **MENTAL WELL BEING**
- **PHYSICAL CONDITION**

From weekly lunches and field trips to intergenerational programs, self-defense workshops, and digital literacy training, we create spaces where seniors feel supported and empowered.

Participants gain new skills, enjoy enriching experiences, and form lasting friendships – reminding all of us that it's never too late to try something new.



BE, BELONG, BECOME

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