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We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of our annual report. We apologize for any mistakes. They are not

785 Washington Avenue | Albany, NY 12206 518-438-2039 | 15love.org





Capital Region Youth Tennis Foundation





annual report

MISSION STATEMENT









To reach out in a loving, caring way to the youth of the Capital Region, especially those in the inner cities, using tennis as the media

Within that overall mission, the following seven operating themes are emphasized:

1. Stress education

2. Promote good health (emotional and physical)

3. Instill positive values

5. Support families

6. Advocate good sportsmanship

4. Foster multi-cultural relationships 7. Encourage community service

2023 Capital Region Youth Tennis Foundation Board of Directors & Staff

President: Margaret Malicki Vice President: Jonathan Jones Secretary: Jessica Dailey

Jennifer Gomez Philip Fields Wendy Fox

Robert Schmitz Raymond Walker

Executive Director: Amber Marino, Program Director: Domingo Montes, Education Director: Maxine Brisport, Director of Community Relations: Cindy Lyons **Director of Marketing:** Mia Ertas, and **Healthy Living Director:** Anjalee Modasra



FROM THE Board President, Margaret Malicki

It is with great pride I share these words with you to reflect on the 2023 performance of 15-LOVE. Let me begin with this hought---we are all related. I am not talking about the relationships that we might find on ancestry.com but rather our sincere shared interest in the youth of our region. You, me, and the many terrific people that choose to support 15-LOVE, are all connected. And while I cannot name all 7,000 participants, I know we are an "extended family" of sorts.

During the year, our Board of Directors worked to understand why our Excellence Program works well and where we might be missing opportunities. We took to the phones and spoke to dozens of participants from our earliest of days to learn what resonated with them. Like conversations were had with kids that come through our doors today. We reconnected with our extended family and it was really good.

Please know the exercise taught us much and we have grown stronger. Our board was thoroughly involved in the evaluation and engaged with alumni and participants. Plus, we reaffirmed our staff's commitment to our youth. We learned there are ways for us to have deeper impact and for this reason, in 2023 - 2024, we decided to pause thoughts on growing the number of participants in the Excellence Program. Instead, we will strive to make a more significant impact. Unpacking how we meet the demand for youth programs in our region is a terrific blessing. Your trust in our abilities is humbling. Thank you for choosing to support 15-LOVE in 2023. And I ask you to please share in my pride of this special place, which you have helped to define.

FROM THE Executive Director Amber Marino

ometimes my favorite dinner is a bunch of appetizers (little plates). It's fun, keeps it interesting, and can offer ways to share nourishment in many ways with those around the table. That's how I'm looking at 2023 in hindsight. It was the "little plates" that nade a great meal... the little things that made a great year. And, most importantly, the people we shared it with.

We take pride in paying attention to the little things when it comes to programming. A few things began during COVID that ended up being great for our kids and families, and we have continued those "little things" to this day. The first was giving a racket to each child who needed one – not a minor expense, but for the kids to have a racket to keep, that they can use to play any time, has made a world of difference to them. We also started with take-home educational kits around some of our themes like healthy living, STEM, and literacy. Our instructors (on rain days) and volunteers (my mom is now a pro) stuff thousands of individual bags with things like solar-powered, glow-in-the-dark beads to make bracelets to be seen at night on the 4th of July – but we include the science behind how the beads work. The healthy living kit in 2023 included a mini fidget spinner – they spin it to point to a different exercise on a wheel that they create. Little, but fun, engaging, nourishing.

We have two Book Giveaway events each year that are open to the community. We collect used children's books all year, along with some toys and clothes, and offer them to the community for free. That alone is a great event, but we add 2 brand new books for each child (acquired primarily through donations), and a craft for each child. In the spring, they decorate a pot and plant a flower that can be used as a Mother's Day gift. In the Fall this year, we created fabric, light-up bags that could be used as trick-or-treat bags – they required cutting, gluing, hand-stitching and loads of other preparation – but the kids' excitement over these bags was worth all the extra hours. Little, but important, special.

When rain moved our summer-ending Jamboree (a tradition since 1990!) indoors, our instructors took it upon themselves to wear fun hats and costumes and bring all the extra energy to make it special – just like they remember it from when they were young. Little, but silly, memorable.

Those are some of the "little things" that were shared with our family, around our greater table. There were countless others, but for me – one of the most special things in 2023 was that my oldest son, Ben, turned 16, giving him a choice of where to work – and he chose 15-LOVE. I dusted off my sneakers to work 3 mornings per week in a new program for us with students in the Albany School District with special needs. Ben was one of the instructors, along with two others and a bunch of youth workers and volunteers, often including my younger son, Matthew. This program required us to do things in ways we weren't used to, and to figure it out on the fly. It wasn't easy, and sometimes the answer was balloons (little things), but many teachers told us that this was their favorite activity of the week. Best part - I got to do it with my sons - to show them the ropes - to watch them grow - to hear about how this experience really affects our instructors. really affects our instructors. And, I can tell you that it is even greater than I thought – and I knew from others who came before that it was great.

Joining the 15-LOVE family is filled with all the amazing "little things" and traditions and culture that make a family great. It's all the little things that can make all the difference in a kids' life – that show them that they are cared about – that we are here for them – that this is a special place - that we will go the extra mile for them. Thank you for all you have done to make these little things happen. You made 2023 a little great!

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION | STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES **DECEMBER 2023**

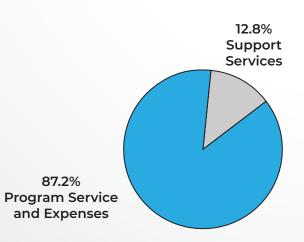
Cash \$266,759 Investments \$1,860,059 Prepaid Expenses \$16,119 Current Assets \$2,142,937

Assets

Net Property and Equipment \$377,595 **Total Assets** \$2,520,532

Liabilities \$15,824 Net Assets \$2,504,708 **Total Liabilites and Net Assets** \$2,520,532

HOW FUNDS WERE SPENT

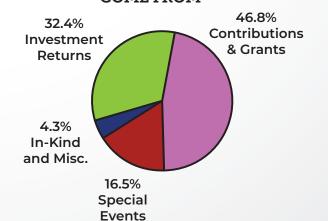


Revenues

Contributions & Grants \$362,926 Special Events (net) \$127,537 In-Kind and Miscellaneous \$33,276 Investment Returns \$250,952 \$774,691 **Total Revenue** Expenses Program Service Expenses \$459,559 Support Services \$67,339 Total Expenses \$526,898

Change in Net Assets \$245,917 Net Assets December 31, 2021 \$2,258,791 December 31, 2022 \$2,504,708

WHERE FUNDS **COME FROM**



(Not including unrealized investment loss in the investment portfolios



Schools, Community Partners, & Parks

Albany School of Humanities, Arbor Hill Community School, Blessed Sacrament, Brighter Choice Charter School for Boys, Brighter Choice Charter School for Girls, Central Park Middle School, Eagle Point Elementary School, Giffen Elementary School, Hamilton Elementary School, Howe Elementary School, Keane Elementary School, Lincoln Elementary School, Mt. Pleasant Middle School, Martin Luther King School of Excellence, Myers Middle School, New Scotland Elementary School, Oneida Middle School, Paige Elementary School, Philip Schuyler Academy, Pine Hills Elementary School, Pleasant Valley Elementary School, Sheridar Prep Academy, TOAST, VanCorlaer Elementary School, Woodlawn Elementary School, Yates Elementary School and Zoller Elementary School.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Albany Boys' & Girls' Club (multiple locations), Albany Extended School Year, Albany Parks & Recreation (multiple locations), Albany Sports Academy, Albany Tennis Club, Camp Love Joy, Camp Metro, Capital District YMCA (multiple locations), Club Fed, Fairwood Apartments Tennis Facility, Gan Israel, Hoffman Teen Center, Hope 7, Macedonia Baptist Church, Police Atheltic League (PAL), Sportime, Tri-City Tennis & Fitness, Trinity Institute, and Troy Boys' & Girls' Club.

Arbor Hill Park, Central Park, Eastland Park, Frear Park, Hoffman Park, Jerry Burrell Park, Krank Park, Lincoln Park, Michigan Avenue Park, Prospect Park, Riverfront Park, Swinburne Park, and Westland Hills Park.



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