

**A Year
of BIG**
Possibilities

2025-2026 Impact Report



Dear Friends,

This year, the Children's Museum of Richmond experienced one of the most transformative chapters in our history.

At our Downtown location, years of planning became visible as construction began on the first comprehensive renovation of our exhibits in more than 25 years.

But even in a year of tremendous change, our purpose remained constant.

Despite a significant portion of our Downtown Museum being under renovation and a reduced attendance threshold for the year, CMoR remained open every operating day, welcoming more than 249,000 children and caregivers to learn through play at both museum locations and throughout the community. Thousands of students experienced hands-on field trips. Families gained greater access to the Museum through scholarship memberships and Museums for All. Books found their way into homes and classrooms. Caregivers practiced simple ways to build school readiness skills into everyday life. And our staff, volunteers, partners, donors, and members helped make it all possible.

FY26 showed us that growth is about more than changing our physical spaces. It is about strengthening how we serve families, removing barriers to participation, and creating meaningful opportunities for children to play, connect, and learn.

As we continue to Dream Big, we're carrying this momentum into an exciting new chapter for CMoR.

Thank you for being part of what comes next.

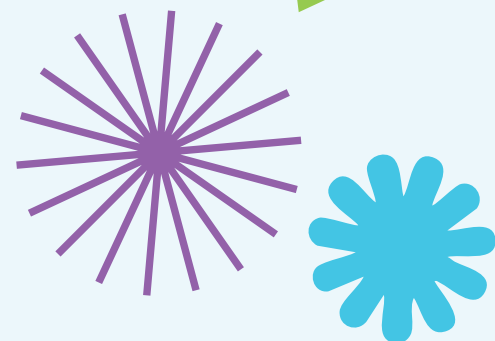
With gratitude,

Danielle Ripperton

Danielle Ripperton
Executive Director

249,164

total attendance



Big Dreams Came True

In February, construction began on the first comprehensive transformation of CMoR Downtown's exhibits in more than 25 years.

Four months later, the first new spaces opened to children and families.

New exhibits introduced more ways to climb, splash, create, explore, and discover, along with caregiver signage designed to make the learning behind the play more visible.



"We have been members of the Children's Museum for several years and enjoy it! The most recent renovations are amazing and the museum feels so much brighter and open. Looking forward to Phase 2."

Where Play Took Us



Six Bricks. Lots Of Possibilities.

CMoR trained Peter Paul Development Center’s entire after-school team to use LEGO Six Bricks activities, and provided sets for every classroom.



Everyday Moments Matter.

At Sacred Heart Center, caregivers participating in Abriendo Puertas practiced The Basics by counting, grouping, and comparing while designing their own Stan.

CMoR also shared practical tips with caregivers through twice-monthly Spanish-language Radio Poder segments and partnered with VCU Occupational Therapy to provide developmental screenings and kindergarten readiness resources.



640+ People

LEGO Build to Give filled CMoR Chesterfield with families building LEGO hearts during a day of free admission.



39% Increase

From January through March, field trips to CMoR Chesterfield increased 39% over the previous year. For some students, the experience included another milestone: their first long bus ride, or even their first visit to Chesterfield.



Framed: Step Into Art™

Framed: Step Into Art, a traveling exhibit from the Minnesota Children’s Museum, opened Downtown in January and remained with CMoR through the end of summer, giving families an immersive way to interact with art.

Access in Action

35,110 Museums for All visits

780 scholarship family memberships

1,066 Sensory-Friendly Night participants

37% of field trip classes received scholarship support

Access Beyond Admission

CMoR was recertified as a VisitAble Advocate in FY26, building on our commitment to creating welcoming experiences for children and families with disabilities.

Books for Every Child

17,214 books distributed through the Book Bank

Books traveled to children, families, schools, nonprofit partners, and educators throughout the region.

25 teachers

900+ books



At CMoR’s sixth annual Teacher Book Giveaway, 25 educators selected more than 900 books to bring back to their classrooms.

Powered by People

Volunteers gave their time throughout FY26, supporting programs, special events, community outreach, and the every-day work of welcoming families to CMoR.



426 volunteers

3,236 hours



Meet Stan



40 Feet Long. 14 Feet Tall. One Very Big New Friend.

Stan the T. Rex made CMoR Downtown his home in September 2025, quickly becoming a larger-than-life part of the Museum experience.

Annual Operating Donors

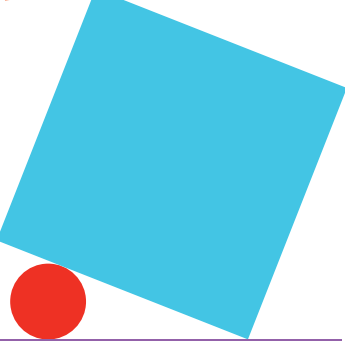
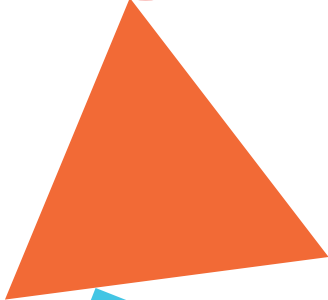
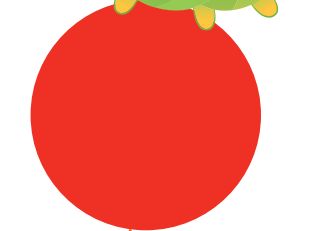
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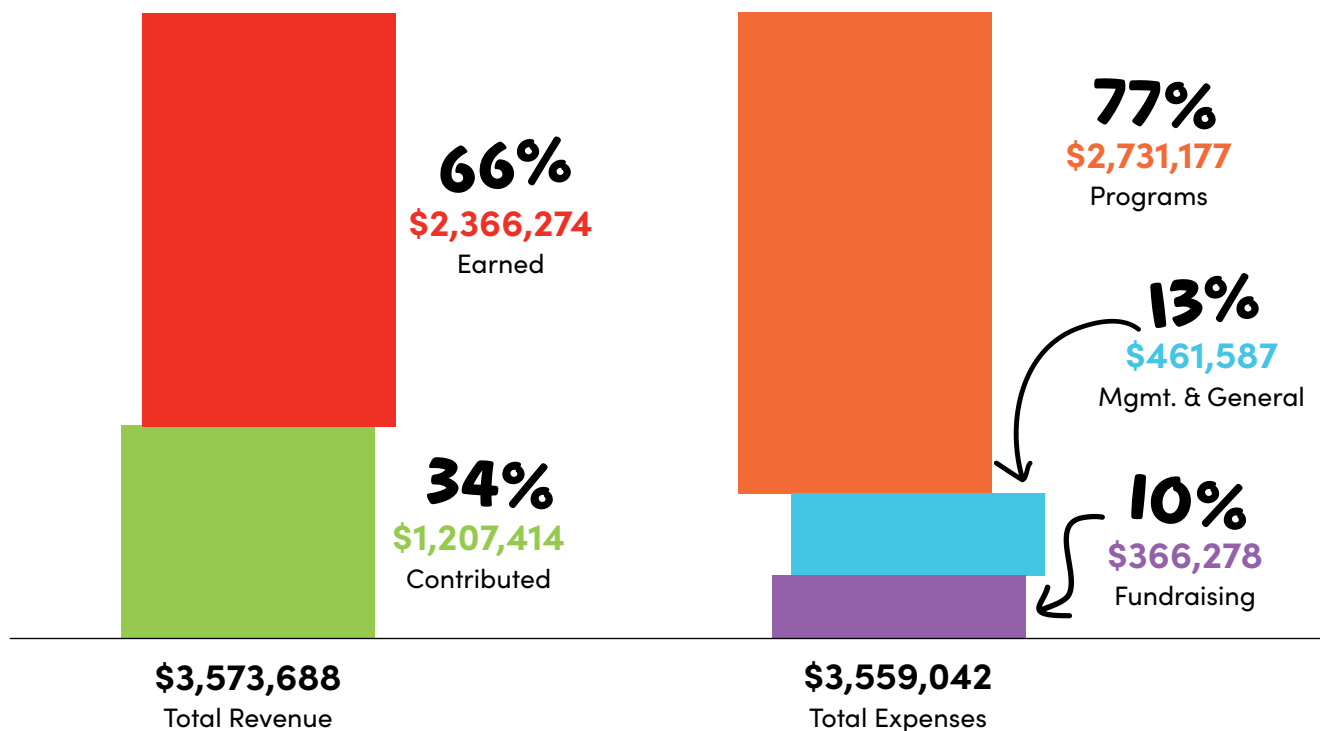
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Our deepest thanks to all donors this past fiscal year (July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026), including those who supported CMoR through round-up donations and books to the Book Bank! We worked diligently to provide a comprehensive list; however, if there is an error, please accept our deepest apologies and notify us at development@cmorva.org.

FY26 Financials



(7/1/2025–6/30/2026) These figures are unaudited and only contain annual operating figures; as soon as the audit is complete, it will be publicly posted on the Children's Museum of Richmond's GuideStar listing.



Mission

To inspire growth in all children by engaging families in learning through play.

Locations

Downtown

2626 West Broad St.
Richmond, VA 23220
(804) 474-7000

Chesterfield

6629 Lake Harbour Dr.
Midlothian, VA 23112
(804) 474-7000

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Children's Museum of Richmond (CMoR)

