



2025

Soccer Without Borders

ANNUAL REPORT





Our Mission

Our mission is to use soccer as a vehicle for positive change, providing underserved youth with a toolkit to overcome obstacles to growth, inclusion, and personal success. We envision a more inclusive and equitable world through soccer, where all youth reach their inherent potential.

[Learn more about our mission, values, and culture](#)



[The 2025 Annual Report is best experienced on our website. Click here to view the online version](#)

Annual Report 2025

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Welcome Letter

Dear SWB Community,

Thank you, for being there for Soccer Without Borders (SWB), and for the youth and communities we work with.

2025 will go down in history as a year when SWB's mission and organizational resiliency mattered more than ever. It was a year when the safety of the populations we serve and the nonprofit sector were challenged. Those most vulnerable, throughout many communities in the USA, experienced reduced support to ensure physical, socio-emotional, psychological and economic safety.

SWB met these challenges by working closely with partners across our communities, including:

- Youth and their families
- Community service providers
- Schools
- Local philanthropy
- Peer organizations
- Experts providing guidance around digital security, document retention, public relations, sanctions and subpoena policies

Together, these partnerships help ensure that amid uncertainty, we continue to operate in communities and that young people have a space where they are safe, can access mentorship, play, community support services, and truly belong.

This annual report showcases our success in sustaining our mission impact during tough times by providing places that despite current hardships, kids are always welcome and after playing, leave SWB spaces, smiling.

It is in SWB's DNA to:

- Care
- Give the benefit of a doubt
- Believe
- Forgive
- Educate and Empower
- Elevate others while maintaining healthy boundaries
- Control what we can control and we let go to watch young people take flight
- Model how to move in this world while doing these

We bring together when everywhere else is tearing apart.

It is in this spirit that in 2025 SWB released our 2026 - 2030 Strategic Plan.

From 2005-2025, SWB implemented our model, standing on the pillars of soccer, education and community and we expanded and formalized it, simplified and strengthened it and then prepared for strategic growth. SWB managed an executive director transition and focused on preparing for growth while also increasing our organizational resiliency in challenging times.

Over the next 4 years SWB will be amplifying our proven methods and anchoring our leadership as an active collaborative partner in the broader movement for sport to drive positive change. After a one-year process of working with various stakeholders from our board to staff to donors, we are focusing on four strategic priorities.

Strategic Priority One - Delivering High Quality Youth Services

“Sport changemakers believe that sport is a unique means to learn, build identity and enhance the lives of individuals, shifting the mindset from becoming ‘better athletes’ to ‘better people’ and fostering the values of a good citizen - empathy, leadership, teamwork, and agency - particularly for youth. By prioritizing the educational, health, and social development outcomes of sport, the developed identities activate the agency of the individuals.”

- ASHOKA (Sport for Changemaking)

SWB will continue to enhance the lives of underserved youth by

- Providing a lifelong affinity for physical, mental, and emotional wellness through soccer
- Promote a sense of self-efficacy and agency that benefits self, family, and community
- Provide exposure and guidance to employability skills - formalizing this area of programming

Strategic Priority Two - Increasing Access to Quality Free, Fun, Competitive (FFC) Play

"It's time to take back youth sports from a system that has prioritized profit over well-being. Travel leagues have overtaken recreational leagues, specialization has replaced multisport play, and winning has come at the expense of fun."

- Kevin Martinez, VP of Corporate Citizenship at ESPN

SWB will create and support increased opportunities for free, fun, competitive play through:

- Operating soccer leagues
- Build the capacity and share knowledge with organizations and initiatives who want to do the same
- Incubate emerging league play

Strategic Priority Three - Improving Quality & Access to Inclusive Coach Education

According to Million Coaches Challenge, less than 1/3 of the 6+ million youth sports coaches are trained in positive youth development. "Coaches that reported participating in training in areas of youth development reported making a significantly greater impact on helping their athletes become role models in their communities (91%) as compared to those without training (77%)."

SWB will increase improve the quality and access of inclusive coach education by:

- Disseminating SWB's Coach Frameworks and Methodologies to as many coaches as possible;
- Create and continue to refine coach education trainings and resources;
- Integrate SWB's Coach Education content into various training certifications.

Strategic Priority Four - Aligning SWB Outcomes to Systems Change

"Sport changemakers are working to integrate social and human aspects of sports among clubs, athletes, and fans, going beyond the barrier separating performance sport and social change."

- ASHOKA (Sport for Changemaking)

SWB will improve the social determinants of health for newcomer youth and girls through:

- Increasing representation and access to paid professional opportunities as well as destigmatizing the need and use of mental/behavioral health supports
- Partnering with research institutions to validate sport-based youth development methods
- Identifying the intersectionality of sport and social inequities/structural violence and supporting youth-led social change.

20 years ago SWB was created by youth for youth. Today, we are leaders in the broader movement for sport to drive positive change. SWB's next chapter, anchored by this plan, will empower newcomer youth and marginalized girls to lead that change, sustainably and with authenticity.



With Solidarity and Gratitude,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "J. Tepper".

Jennifer Tepper
SWB Executive Director

Who We Serve

Soccer is often called the world's game for its ability to bring people together across differences. At SWB, the young people we serve arrive with their own stories, strengths, and lived experiences. Our programs are designed to be places of belonging, where youth feel supported not only as players, but as whole people. By centering safety, care, and connection, we create high-quality youth spaces where participants can build confidence, develop agency, and thrive on and off the field.

FY2025 By the Numbers:

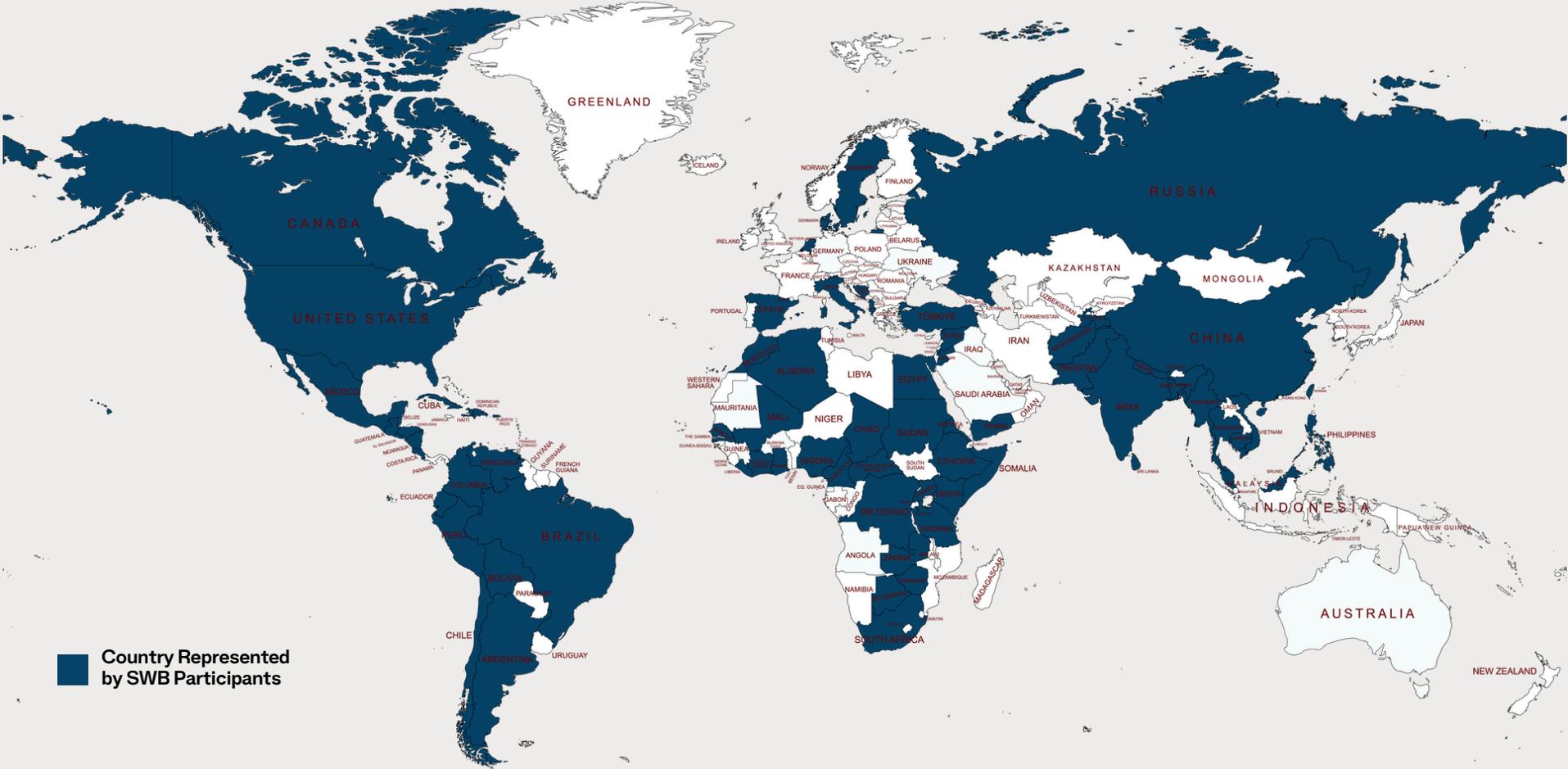


Countries Represented by SWB Participants

Soccer's power to unite is unmatched, bringing together people from all walks of life. The SWB community reflects this beautifully, connecting participants worldwide through the universal language of play.

Top Languages Spoken at SWB:

- 1. English
- 2. Spanish
- 3. Swahili
- 4. Luganda
- 5. Dari
- 6. Arabic
- 7. French
- 8. Kinyarwanda
- 9. Tigrinya
- 10. Lusamia



People & Culture

On and off the field, our staff and volunteers bring SWB's values to life through the way they show up for youth and one another. Guided by a shared commitment to belonging, our team works with care, authenticity, and accountability. We invest in people who reflect the communities we serve and who are equipped to create safe, supportive environments where young people can learn, grow, and feel supported.

FY2025 By the Numbers:



What We Do

Through year-round programming, SWB delivers high-quality, youth-centered services designed to support the whole person. We focus on creating consistent, welcoming spaces where young people can access play, connection, and support. By removing common barriers to participation, including cost, transportation, and equipment, we ensure access to safe, fun, and meaningful opportunities on the field and beyond.

TEAM Programs

TEAM is a "Spanglish" acronym that stands for "trabajando en equipo aprendemos más" or "working as a team we learn more." Our TEAM programs are our most comprehensive programs. Combining soccer, education, and community-building more than 36 weeks/year, each is uniquely tailored to meet the unique needs of the specific community and fill in gaps where there aren't other service providers. Whether school-based or community-based, TEAM program activities include soccer practices and games, tutoring, homework support, English language instruction, team-building trips, leadership groups, mentoring, and social-emotional learning to support each participant to reach their goals on and off the field.



Camps & Clinics

Our soccer camps and clinics are a condensed version of a typical SWB season or practice session, but often with extra surprises! Each camp has a specific purpose. Whether it be outreach to new communities, introducing soccer for the first time, supporting different age groups beyond our TEAM programs, or something else, all are designed to support the whole person. Our range of activities usually starts with soccer, but can also include art, dance, music, cultural celebrations, yoga, and more. Additionally, summer and school holidays can be an isolating and challenging time, especially for newcomer youth who may experience language loss when away from school. Our summer camps and clinics combine soccer with English language instruction and academic support to keep youth engaged in learning and connected to a community of teammates throughout their time off.



Leagues & Tournaments

Our leagues and tournaments are not about lifting trophies. Rather, they are designed to strengthen community cohesion, teach social-emotional skills, and raise awareness and knowledge about specific social issues. Creating our own leagues emerged as a priority as many of our participants and teams either couldn't access existing leagues due to transportation barriers and regulations for foreign-born players or, in the case of our girls' teams in Nicaragua and Uganda, because no leagues for girls existed.



Program Outcomes

SWB's programs are designed with intention and shaped by years of experience working alongside youth and communities. Grounded in an evidence-based Theory of Change, our approach centers young people and focuses on creating consistent, supportive environments where they can build skills, confidence, and connection.

Across our programs, soccer is paired with educational support and community-building experiences that prioritize whole-person youth development. These trauma-informed practices guide how we show up each day and how we measure what matters.

The outcomes below reflect FY25 youth survey data and highlight how participants experience SWB across three core areas: Belonging, Contribution, and Agency.



Belonging

Safety and belonging are essential basic needs. This means that in order to optimize education outcomes and personal goals, we must first make sure that youth feel safe, welcomed, and experience belonging. The data presented provides evidence of positive development, as demonstrated by responses to socio-emotional learning (SEL) themed surveys.

Connected to relationships skills, social awareness and self awareness domains of social-emotional learning skills. Leads to gender, racial and ethnic equity.

FY25 Youth Survey Results

92.5% reported making new friends at SWB

91.0% reported making friends from other cultures

89.8% reported trusting coaches and instructors



Contribution

Team sports present endless opportunities to practice leadership skills. At SWB, we create opportunities for participants to develop their leadership through captainships, refereeing, coaching, public speaking, mentoring, service projects, and more.

Connected to self awareness domain of social-emotional learning skills. Leads to gender, racial and ethnic equity.

FY25 Youth Survey Results



Agency

Agency – the sense of control that one feels in their life – is an essential outcome of our Theory of Change. To address this, as part of our holistic, evidence-based approach, we provide participants with academic and language support, college preparation, leadership development, and life-skills workshops.

Connected to self management, self awareness and social awareness domains of social-emotional learning skills. Leads to equity and community cohesion.

FY25 Youth Survey Results



*Learn about the survey methodology on our website: soccerwithoutborders.org/annual-report-2025

Stories of Impact

2025 uplifted, inspired, and reminded us of soccer's transformative power. These stories highlight the voices of our participants, the strength of our coaches, and the collective spirit that fuels Soccer Without Borders. Together, they illustrate the impact of creating spaces where everyone can thrive.

From breaking down barriers to building lifelong connections, these stories reflect the incredible resilience of our youth and the power of community. They serve as a testament to what is possible when opportunity, mentorship, and joy come together to create change.



Guiding Our Work Through a New Strategic Plan

The launch of our new [Strategic Plan](#) marked an important moment in how we advance our mission through soccer, education, and community. Informed by lived experience and years of learning, the plan outlines four priorities that guide our work: delivering high-quality youth services, expanding access to free, fun, competitive play, strengthening inclusive coach education, and aligning youth outcomes with systems change. Together, these priorities establish a clear framework for how we turn our values into action.

More than a roadmap, the Strategic Plan shapes how we show up each day, guiding decisions across programs and partnerships to ensure youth experiences remain intentional, consistent, and rooted in long-term impact.



Five Years of Advancing Gender Equity Through Equal Play Effect Africa

Over five years, we co-led Equal Play Effect Africa alongside Common Goal, Women Win, and a broad network of regional partners working to advance gender equity through football. Together, partners across the continent strengthened coaching pathways, organizational leadership, and local systems that support girls and women to participate and lead within their communities.

In 2025, this collective work was documented through the [Equal Play Effect Africa Five-Year Impact Report](#). The report captures how shared frameworks, peer learning, and long-term collaboration have contributed to measurable, systemic progress, offering evidence that a coordinated, locally driven approach to equity in sport is working.



Building Lasting Capacity Through adidas Breaking Barriers

After six years of collaboration, we look back on the impact created through the adidas Breaking Barriers program, delivered in partnership with Common Goal and Women Win. Together, the program worked with 15 organizations across Europe, reaching more than 100,000 girls and supporting over 150 coaches committed to advancing equity through sport.

Partners developed open-access academy courses, research, professional development grants, and practical tools to strengthen inclusive and resilient programming, with learning that continues to inform how organizations support girls' leadership and opportunity through sport.



SWB Bay Area Honored with United Nations Global Citizen Award

In 2025, our Bay Area team was recognized as one of five recipients of the Global Citizen Award from the United Nations Association’s East Bay Chapter. The award honors organizations whose work reflects a commitment to human rights, social progress, and global connection.

This recognition highlights the impact of the Bay Area team’s daily work alongside newcomer youth. By creating welcoming teams and safe, consistent spaces to learn and play, the program supports young people as they build confidence, leadership, and a sense of belonging on and off the field.



Soccer, Music, and Community Uplifts SWB Colorado Girls

An SWB Colorado girls’ team was recognized through a collaboration that brought together soccer, music, and community. The initiative highlighted the players’ leadership, resilience, and shared love of the game, reflecting the inclusive and global nature of soccer.

In partnership with Colorado-based folk-rock band The Lumineers and Common Goal, a limited-edition jersey helped elevate the girls’ experiences while generating direct support for youth programming in Colorado. The collaboration demonstrated how creative partnerships can strengthen belonging and expand opportunities for girls to lead on and off the field. [Learn more](#) about the collaboration and the youth it uplifted.



Growing Access to Year-Round Programming in Baltimore

SWB Maryland expanded its middle school programming in Baltimore with increased support from Family League, whose investment grew from \$30,000 to more than \$150,000 in 2025. That growth allowed the team to strengthen existing middle school programming while also expanding summer opportunities through the K-8 International Summer Academy.

With more consistent access across the school year and summer months, young people had additional opportunities to stay connected, build relationships, and grow within a supportive team environment. The expansion reflects a shared commitment to ensuring more youth in Baltimore can find belonging and opportunity through SWB.



Emerging Leaders Shine at the National Youth Summit

This summer, emerging young leaders from SWB came together across regions to learn, connect, and lead. Three participants from SWB Massachusetts traveled to Erie, Pennsylvania to take part in the inaugural Youth Leaders Summit, joining more than 100 peers from across the country for workshops, relationship-building, and project-based learning.

For the attendees, the experience created space to share perspectives and explore solutions to challenges they face in their own communities. Juliana, one of the participants, shared that keeping an open mind helped her connect with others and engage deeply in conversations about shared issues, turning learning into action alongside peers from different backgrounds.

US Program Highlights



SWB Bay Area [Visit @swbbayarea on Instagram](#)

Through in-school, after-school, weekend, and summer programs, Soccer Without Borders Bay Area (formerly known as SWB Oakland) is a crucial resource to newcomer refugee and immigrant youth across Alameda and San Francisco Counties. As leaders in social inclusion and getting girls in the game, and as active participants in the Bay Area sports-based youth development community, SWB Bay Area also hosts free, intentional leagues where under resourced youth from other organizations can play. SWB Bay Area also leads trainings for coaches to build more equitable program spaces for youth.



Growing Youth Leadership in the Bay Area

SWB Bay Area saw record numbers of youth step into leadership roles this year, reflecting the hub's strong pipeline from participant to alumni, volunteer, and staff. Young leaders contributed across the program as referees, coaches, camp counselors, and media contributors, helping support leagues, camps, and storytelling efforts.

Several referees earned official licenses, and 23 youth served as summer camp counselors leading activities for their peers. Alumni continue shaping the future of the program as well, with two alumni teams competing in the GG5 league, a boys UPSL program, and five alumni serving on staff as coaches and program leaders.



New Indoor League Expands Access for High School Girls

SWB Bay Area launched Copa Unidas, an indoor high school league designed to create more flexible opportunities to play. The league runs for both boys and girls and was created with youth input, recognizing that some players cannot participate in traditional weekend leagues due to work, family responsibilities, or other barriers.

Held weekly on Tuesday evenings, the league brings together teams for regular matches followed by semifinals and finals at the end of the season. For girls in particular, Copa Unidas offers another opportunity to stay connected to the game, helping expand access to soccer for players who may have had fewer opportunities to play in the past.



Sierra Experience Deepens Leadership and Connection

SWB Bay Area partnered with All Gateway Mountain Center to bring high school participants to Lake Tahoe for the Sierra Experience, a nature immersion program focused on outdoor exploration, environmental education, and personal growth. About 30 boys and 30 girls took part in separate trips, offering youth who show consistent participation and leadership a chance to deepen their connection to the program.

Participants explored mountaineering activities and environmental education, along with moments like sledding and sharing stories around the campfire. For many, it was their first time seeing snow, strengthening connections across teams and building a deeper sense of community within SWB.

FY2025 By
the Numbers:



109,999

Total Contact
Hours at SWB
Bay Area



94%

High School
Graduation Rate



2010

Activities Held at
SWB Bay Area



SWB Colorado [Visit @swb_colorado on Instagram](#)

Through in-school, after-school, weekend, and summer programs, Soccer Without Borders Colorado supports newcomer and immigrant youth to overcome barriers to participation in sport, to gain a sense of belonging, and to build social capital. SWB delivers year-round programs and intentionally-designed tournaments across the Denver Metro Area and Weld County, as well as summer programs to support specific newcomer populations. SWB actively participates in the Colorado sports-based youth development community, partnering to ensure that every youth has a safe environment to play, learn, and grow.



SWB Colorado Girls Take the Stage at Women’s Foundation Luncheon

SWB Colorado youth stepped into leadership at The Women’s Foundation of Colorado’s annual luncheon, where SWB was recognized as a grantee spotlight. Participants engaged attendees by inviting them to share their wishes for the future of women’s sports and reflected on their own journeys through the program.

They also took the stage to introduce keynote speaker Abby Wambach in front of more than 1,800 attendees, gaining a meaningful opportunity to share their voices publicly and represent their community.



Building Leadership Pathways for Colorado Youth

Manil, an SWB Colorado alumnus and current coach-mentor, shared his journey in the blog [When One Door Closes, Another Opens](#) reflecting on how a supportive team environment restored his love for the game and opened new pathways for leadership. After nearly walking away from soccer, SWB became the place where he found belonging and, later, the confidence to guide others.

His story reflects a broader commitment to youth leadership across Colorado. This year, 61 participants served as Youth Leaders, contributing more than 203 hours to programming and helping shape sessions, mentor younger players, and strengthen the culture of connection that defines SWB.



Expanding Girls’ Programming Across Denver Metro

SWB Colorado continued to grow its girls’ programming with the launch of the Denver Metro GG5 Middle School League in Spring 2025, aligning with a shift from co-ed to gender-split middle school programming. The expansion created more intentional spaces for girls to build skills and strengthen community through the game.

In partnership with Aurora Public Schools, SWB Colorado hosted its first-ever summer camp in East Aurora, reaching 80 participants, including 42 Afghan girls. For the first time in the organization’s 15-year history, a summer camp served more girls than boys, and the camp has since become an entry point for Afghan youth to join school-year programming.

FY2025 By the Numbers:



33,626

Total Contact Hours at SWB Colorado



100%

High School Graduation Rate



693

Activities Held at SWB Colorado



SWB Maryland *Visit @swbbaltimore on Instagram*

Based in Baltimore City, Soccer Without Borders Maryland directly serves newcomer refugee and immigrant youth in Baltimore City and County through out-of-school-time programs during the school year and summer. Participants include large numbers of Eritrean, Congolese, and Syrian youth, as well as Salvadoran, Ecuadorian and Guatemalan students. Some students have been in the country for weeks, others for years, and together they make up a dynamic community of youth, each with their own unique story. With a focus on English language development on and off the field, SWB Maryland supports newcomer youth grades K-12 to build a sense of agency, belonging, and contribution.



Launching the GG5 League in Maryland

SWB Maryland launched its GG5 Middle School Girls League after listening closely to youth feedback about the need for dedicated spaces where girls could grow and compete together. Since its creation, participation has grown significantly, with the league now fielding eight full teams and increasing from 30 girls in the previous co-ed format to 62 players in the spring season.

The league has also created leadership opportunities within the program, with high school participants serving as referees and mentors during games. The shift has helped build a positive, empowering environment for middle school girls while strengthening the pipeline into SWB's high school programming across the Maryland community.



Strengthening the Alumni Coach Pipeline

SWB Maryland continued to build its alumni leadership pipeline with the addition of Coach Semira to the coaching team. Semira first joined SWB in 2012 through the K-8 summer program alongside her siblings, later participating in middle school programming and continuing through high school graduation in 2023.

In 2025, she returned as a contracted coach during the ISA summer program and now serves as a coach within SWB's middle school programming. Her journey from participant to coach reflects SWB's long-term investment in youth and the power of creating pathways for alumni to lead the next generation.



Expanding High School Opportunities for Boys in Maryland

In 2025, SWB Maryland launched its first in-house High School Boys League in response to limited league opportunities for high school boys in Baltimore. The new league created consistent access to competition and community, ensuring that older participants could continue building confidence, leadership, and a deeper sense of belonging through the game.

The team also visited Gettysburg College for a day of play and learning alongside collegiate athletes, including a Q&A conversation about balancing school, sport, and future goals.

FY2025 By
the Numbers:



41,174

Total Contact
Hours at SWB
Maryland



93%

High School
Graduation Rate



643

Activities Held at
SWB Maryland



SWB Massachusetts [Visit @swbboston on Instagram](#)

Through in-school, after-school, weekend, and summer programs, Soccer Without Borders Massachusetts supports newcomer and immigrant youth to overcome barriers to participation in sport, to gain a sense of belonging, and to build social capital. SWB delivers year-round TEAM programs and intentionally-designed leagues across Eastern Massachusetts, as well as summer programs in cities such as Springfield to support specific newcomer populations. SWB actively participates in the Massachusetts sports-based youth development community, partnering to ensure that every youth has a safe environment to play, learn, and grow.



Girls Club Builds Confidence, Strengthens SEL in Chelsea

SWB Massachusetts launched Girls Club in Chelsea, creating a dedicated space for girls to strengthen social-emotional skills such as self-management, social awareness, and responsible decision making. The program offers time to reflect, connect, and build confidence together.

During one session, participant Luz led an activity focused on self-confidence and self-love. Girls wrote down their stressors, symbolically let them go, and filled decorated envelopes with affirmations from their teammates. The project reflects SWB’s commitment to helping girls grow as leaders both on and off the field.



Women’s Sports Summit Inspires the Next Generation

During the Summer, SWB Massachusetts hosted a Women’s Sports Summit designed to inspire and empower young girl athletes. The event brought together leaders in sport, including Boston University Women’s Soccer Head Coach Megan Burke, UMass Amherst player Nia Hislop, SWB Co-Founder Mary Connor, and Jammy Torres, Manager of Fan Experience for Boston Legacy FC, Boston’s new NWSL team.

Panelists shared their journeys through the game, from falling in love with soccer to navigating challenges on and off the field. The goal was simple: to show young girls that they belong in this space, and that their dreams are worth chasing.



Competing with Character in Middlesex Youth Soccer League

SWB Massachusetts teams once again participated in the Middlesex Youth Soccer League (MYSL), where weekly matchups give participants the chance to apply both their technical skills and social-emotional learning in real time. Game days are competitive and high-energy, creating space to practice teamwork, sportsmanship, and managing emotions under pressure.

Five teams advanced to the playoffs, with the Chelsea middle school girls earning first place in their division and the U16 boys finishing as runners-up in the Massachusetts Tournament of Champions. After every match, win or lose, teams close in a circle, celebrating the positives with shoutouts to one another and leaving as a family no matter what happens on the field.

FY2025 By the Numbers:



35,763

Total Contact Hours at SWB Massachusetts



100%

High School Graduation Rate



679

Activities Held at SWB Mass

International Program Highlights



Fútbol Sin Fronteras [Visit @fsfgranada on Instagram](#)

Fútbol Sin Fronteras Nicaragua (FSF) uses soccer as a way to build leadership, improve educational outcomes, and strengthen social-emotional skills for girls, ages 5-20. At FSF, sport, education, and leadership development go hand-in-hand. There are many factors that cause a girl in Nicaragua to drop out of school, including domestic responsibilities in the home, a financial need to work in the market/informal economy, unplanned pregnancy, and a lack of visible pathways and encouragement for women to enter the workforce and pursue a career. FSF addresses these barriers through holistic, long-term programming and a future-focused culture that invites girls to "dream big" and imagine their future.



Copa de la Paz Brings Community Together

Fútbol Sin Fronteras hosted its annual Copa de la Paz, welcoming more than 400 participants, families, and community members to celebrate girls' soccer in Granada. Rooted in the spirit of the International Day of Peace, the tournament created a visible platform for girls to showcase their growth, teamwork, and leadership.

Families filled the sidelines in support, reinforcing the strong connection between players and their broader community. More than a competition, Copa de la Paz served as a reminder of how sport can promote respect, inclusion, and collective pride across Granada.



U15 Girls Represent Granada in League Play

FSF's U15 girls stepped onto a larger stage as they prepared to represent Granada in the Apertura youth championship. With support from the local municipality and community partners, the team received new uniforms, marking an important moment of recognition and visibility for the players.

Wearing their city's colors was about more than competition. It reflected the girls' commitment, teamwork, and pride in representing their community, reinforcing the role of sport as a space where young people build confidence and show what they are capable of achieving together.



Dream Champions Promote Equity and Leadership

Through the Champion of Dreams initiative, FSF participants engaged in challenge-based activities exploring nutrition, dedication, gender equity, and menstrual health. In partnership with Grupo Bimbo and Fundación Selección Colombia, the program combined learning and play to help girls reflect on habits, confidence, and fairness both on and off the field.

Teams advanced by demonstrating collaboration, focus, and shared responsibility, reinforcing values that extend beyond competition. The initiative continues to equip girls with tools to think critically, lead with confidence, and advocate for themselves and others in their communities.

FY2025 By
the Numbers:



11,784

Total Contact
Hours at FSF



523

Total Participants
at FSF



283

Activities Held
at FSF

FSF Programming Note: While much of what makes FSF special remains unchanged, recent developments in the global regulatory environment required us to thoughtfully adjust how support for the program is structured. These changes affected some of the behind-the-scenes administrative processes, but they did not alter the core of what FSF is or the impact it creates.

FSF continues as a locally led initiative in Granada, supported by donors and champions around the world. The same experienced coaches, the same commitment to holistic support, and the same belief in the power of sport continue to guide the work forward. Thanks to your partnership, FSF is able to serve girls across Nicaragua with care, consistency, and a legacy of transformation that carries on.



SWB Uganda [Visit @swbuganda on Instagram](#)

Through daily programs for out-of-school youth participants, community activities during school holidays, and youth-led soccer leagues, Soccer Without Borders Uganda is a crucial resource to urban refugee youth in Kampala. As leaders in social inclusion and getting girls in the game, and as active participants in the East Africa Common Goal Community, SWB Uganda also works to build the capacity of partner organizations and coaches to build more equitable program spaces for youth.



Advancing Girls' Leadership Through the Uganda Girls League

The Uganda Girls League (UGL) continued to grow across five regions, bringing together dozens of teams in safe, inclusive spaces where girls can play, lead, and build community. The league remains a cornerstone of SWB Uganda's commitment to expanding access and opportunity for girls through sport.

This year, women coaches from all five UGL hubs gathered in Kampala for a weeklong No Means No Worldwide training focused on violence prevention and self-defense. Coaches are now certified to deliver the curriculum within their communities, equipping girls with tools to recognize risk, set boundaries, and advocate for their safety. The training strengthens the league's impact beyond the field, reinforcing that empowerment and protection go hand in hand.



Coaching Boys Into Men Promotes Respect and Equity

Boys in SWB Uganda began their journey through the Coaching Boys Into Men program, a 12-week initiative developed by Futures Without Violence that blends sport with guided conversations on gender equality, youth rights, respect, community norms, and mental health. Led by male coaches, the program uses structured on-field discussions to challenge harmful norms and redefine strength as accountability and care for others.

Participants started with baseline reflections and surveys, marking the first step in a process designed to support growth and positive change. Through consistent dialogue and mentorship, the initiative reinforces SWB's commitment to building safer, more equitable communities on and off the field.



Recognizing 24 Graduates of the Global Girls Project

In partnership with St. Paul Primary School, SWB Uganda recognized 24 girls who completed the three-month Global Girls Project, a leadership program designed to help participants examine and respond to challenges within their communities. Through community mapping and facilitated discussions led by women staff, the girls identified child marriage as a critical issue affecting young people around them.

At the certificate ceremony, participants shared their commitment to raising awareness and speaking out against the practice, with parents and community members present in support. The program reflects SWB Uganda's investment in equipping girls with the confidence and leadership skills to advocate for change beyond the classroom and the field.

**FY2025 By
the Numbers:**



128,785

Total Contact
Hours at SWB
Uganda



3164

Total Participants
at SWB Uganda



1779

Activities Held at
SWB Uganda

Scaling Our Impact

Sport has the power to bring people together, but only when it is designed with intention. When grounded in care, inclusion, and lived experience, soccer can create belonging, strengthen agency, and support the social, emotional, and developmental growth of young people.

Over time, these practices extend beyond individual programs. At scale, they influence how sport is delivered, who has access, and how success is defined, helping counter isolation, exclusion, and inequity across communities.

Drawing on nearly two decades of on-the-ground experience with newcomer youth and marginalized girls, SWB shares its proven frameworks, tools, and methodologies with coaches, educators, and organizations around the world. Through training and knowledge-sharing, we work alongside partners to strengthen inclusive practices, elevate quality, and expand the impact of sport as a force for positive change.

89
Peer Organizations That Have Received Training by SWB

30
Countries Where SWB-Led Trainings Were Held

43,850
Youth Impacted by SWB-Trained Coaches & Leaders (Estimate)

667
Coaches Who Have Received Training by SWB



SWB in the Community

Community has always been at the heart of our work. Throughout the year, supporters came together through local fundraisers and creative initiatives to help support experiences that matter for the youth we serve. Each effort reflects the power of community to show up for young people in meaningful ways. Together, they strengthen the mission and help maintain spaces where young people can grow and belong.



New NWSL Partnership Strengthens Youth Opportunity in Colorado

SWB Colorado strengthened its local partnerships through collaboration with Denver Summit FC, Colorado's new NWSL expansion team. The partnership reflects a shared commitment to investing in girls' sports, community connection, and pathways for young people to see themselves represented in the professional game.

As the first gift through Denver Summit FC's new [303 Community Fund](#), SWB Colorado received a \$10,000 contribution supported by Denver Summit FC and CommonSpirit Health. The support highlights how local investment in women's sports can extend beyond the professional level to strengthen youth programs and expand opportunity across the community.



SWB Bay Area Girls Design Custom Kits with Bay FC

SWB Bay Area partnered with Bay FC of the NWSL and youth organization Design FC to create a unique opportunity for middle school girls in the Bay Area to see their voices reflected in the game. Together, the partners worked alongside players to design custom kits that celebrated the girls' identities and creativity, unveiling them during a special moment at a Bay FC home match.

The collaboration highlighted how intentional partnerships can elevate youth voice and expand access to meaningful experiences in sport. By connecting professional players, young designers, and communities on and off the field, the initiative reinforced SWB's commitment to belonging, representation, and creating pathways for girls to lead confidently through soccer.



Growing Community Support Through Small Goals Big Change

Small Goals Big Change (SGBC) tournaments continued to bring communities together through soccer and shared purpose. Across Massachusetts, Maryland, the Bay Area, and Colorado, SGBC gave local communities a chance to rally around SWB and support youth through our shared love for the beautiful game.

In 2025, the series reached a new milestone with the first-ever Small Goals Big Change tournament in Brooklyn, marking SWB's first SGBC event outside one of our program locations. Together, tournaments across all locations raised a combined \$94,000 to help sustain free, year-round programming that supports belonging, well-being, and opportunity for young people on and off the field.



Team SWB Takes on the NYC Marathon

Team SWB took on the 2025 TCS New York City Marathon, bringing together runners from across the country to represent Soccer Without Borders on one of the world's biggest stages. United by a shared commitment to youth and belonging, the team showed what it looks like to move together toward something bigger than the finish line.

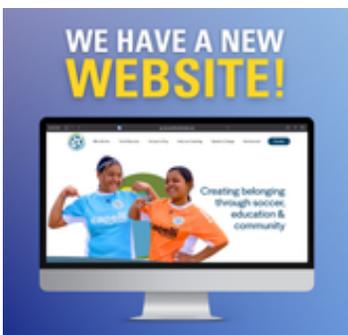
Beyond the miles, Team SWB collectively raised more than \$60,000 to support free, year-round programming that creates consistent spaces for young people to connect, grow, and build confidence. The marathon served as a powerful reminder that when individuals come together around a shared purpose, community support can go the distance.



Communities Coming Together Through Peer-to-Peer Fundraising

Sometimes the most meaningful support starts with one person inviting others to care. This year, SWB launched new peer-to-peer fundraising tools that allow supporters to create their own campaigns and bring their communities into the work in personal, creative ways.

From birthdays and races to team challenges and community goals, these fundraisers make it easy for people to turn everyday moments into support for youth. By sharing why SWB matters to them, supporters help strengthen the network behind our programs and expand opportunities for young people to belong, grow, and thrive on and off the field.



Strengthening Engagement Through a Website Refresh

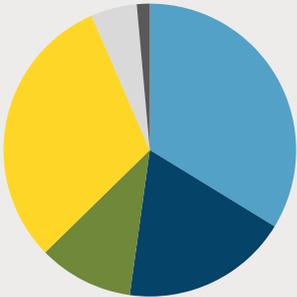
SWB launched a refreshed website designed to reflect the priorities of our Strategic Plan and the full scope of our work across programs, partnerships, and systems-level efforts. With clearer navigation and updated storytelling, the site brings greater focus to how we support young people through soccer, education, and community, while making our impact easier to understand and explore.

More than a visual update, the refresh strengthens how our global community connects with SWB's mission and direction. By creating a more accessible and intentional digital space, the website supports shared learning, alignment across regions, and new pathways for supporters and partners to engage in advancing opportunity for young people on and off the field.

FY2025 Financials

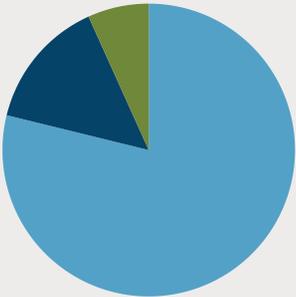
As a Platinum Level participant on Candid: Guidestar, Soccer Without Borders upholds the highest level of transparency and integrity in our financial systems. In FY25, we continued our trend of reinvesting prior year surplus funds into expanded services and greater depth of programming on the ground, while maintaining a healthy reserve to ensure stability through uncertainty. In the last 8 years, SWB has invested nearly \$25 million into free, holistic youth development programming for underserved youth.

Revenues



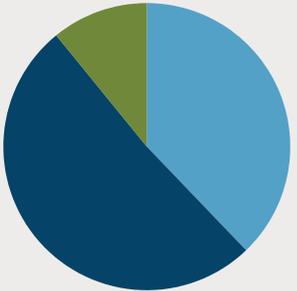
Total Revenues:	\$6,046,665
● Foundation & Corp.:	\$2,040,271
● Government:	\$1,115,748
● Individual:	\$634,134
● *Earned/Events:	\$1,862,164
● In Kind:	\$307,924
● Other Revenue:	\$86,424

Expenses



Total Expenses:	\$6,137,246
● Direct Program:	\$4,837,728
● Administrative:	\$885,141
● Fundraising:	\$414,377

Assets



Total Ending Net Assets:	\$3,713,765
● Unrestricted:	\$1,405,043
● Board Restricted:	\$1,904,584
● Donor Restricted:	\$404,138

Liabilities

On November 4, 2021, Soccer Without Borders purchased 3700 Eastern Ave, Baltimore, Maryland, USA to serve as a Youth Hub for local SWB Maryland participants and as organizational headquarters. The long-term liability of \$186,482 represents the mortgage principal at fiscal year-end.

Total Liabilities:	\$465,900
Current:	\$279,418
Long-Term:	\$186,482
Total Liabilities & Net Assets:	\$4,179,665

August 1, 2024 - July 31, 2025: These financials were independently audited by Han Group LLC.

*Note: Due to advice from our auditors this year, many state and local government contracts were reclassified as exchange revenue and are now reflected as Earned Income.

Our Boards

Our Board of Directors serves as the governing body of the organization and our advisory boards bring their individual and collective expertise to support our leadership teams.

Board of Directors

Christopher Grecco	(President) Founder, Element Market Research
Julio Chow-Gamboa	(Secretary) Founder and Principal Consultant, Llegamos Consulting
Andrew Coleman	(Treasurer) Co-CEO and Co-Founder, LQ Digital
Toaha Ahmad	Technology Management Leader, Microsoft
Dino Bovell	Vice President, Business Affairs, NBC Universal
Charlie F. Bustin	Partner, Douglas C. Lane & Associates
Erin S. Cook	Founder, authentic
Rick Eichmann	Managing Director, Secretariat
Warshan Hussin	(SWB Alumnus) Operations Manager, LAZ Parking
Leila Milani	Global Policy & Programs Director, Futures Without Violence
Adaobi Okafor	Director of Finance, Trees for the Future
Martha E. Saavedra	Retired Professor of African Studies, University of California Berkeley
Michael Sack	Senior Fellow, Jobs For The Future
Karishma Sheth	Chief Program Officer, EveryMind
Evan Whitfield	Principal Attorney, Chicago Mosaic Law, LLC

National Advisory Board

Calen Carr	On-Air Host, Major League Soccer
Ann Cook	Associate Head Coach, Penn State Women's Soccer
Naomi Girma	Professional Soccer Player, Chelsea FC & USWNT
Greg Lalas	Chief Marketing Officer, United Soccer League
Simon Levett	Retired Accountant, W-League Franchise Owner
Jeff McIntyre	Founder & President, Ruffneck Scarves
Bill Price	President & Founder, Driva Solutions
Melissa Roth	Vice President & General Counsel, Global Rescue
Chris Sonntag	Head of Partnership Marketing, Chicago Fire FC

Regional Advisory Boards

Bay Area

Javier Ayala-Hill
Omsri Bharat
Bridget Brennan
Andrew Coleman
Neha Desai
Katy Nagy
Patricia Merino Price
Ashley Pritchard
Sosina
Teweldebrhan
Mike Woitalla

Maryland

Sergio Flores
Trey Greiser
Eloise Grose
Runit Kumar
Lindsay Monti
Daniel Solomon
Matthew Warner

Colorado

Yoni Dobie-Geffen
Zach Kilimann
Afshin Sarvestani
Sarah Stangl Keras
Shawn Stein
Lisa Taylor
Jasper Verlaan

Masachusetts

Abdoulaye Balde
Allison Horwitz
Alanna Hughes
Natasha Hussain
Gabrielle Krause
Saf Momen
Daniel O'Connor
Shalini Patel
Amanda Tan
Mercedes Valdes
Taylor Willey
Candida Yanez

Our Partners

In the face of complex challenges, no person, program, or organization can drive change alone. Local, national, and global partnerships with aligned organizations makes our work more impactful and sustaining. We are grateful for all of our outstanding partners whose resources, expertise, and contributions enable us to better accomplish our mission every day.



Regional Partners

Bay Area

Alameda County Behavioral Health Services, Albany-Berkeley Soccer Club, Bay Area Community Resources, Bay Area Wilderness Training, Bay FC, Castlemont High School, Center for Healthy Schools and Communities, City of Oakland, East Bay Asian Youth Center, First Congregational Church of Berkeley, Fremont High School, Frick United Academy of Language, Girls Inc., Golden Gate Women's Soccer League, Goodwin Family Memorial Trust, Greenway Golf/Corica Park, Hayward Promise Neighborhoods, Hayward Unified School District, Hellman Foundation, Hobbs Academy, International Rescue Committee, La Familia, Mill Valley Soccer Club, Oakland Fund for Children and Youth, Oakland High School, Oakland International High School, Oakland Kids First, Oakland Public Education Fund, Oakland Roots and Soul Foundation, Oakland Technical High School, Oakland Unified School District, Olympic Club Foundation, Refugee & Immigrant Transitions, Ruidsdale Newcomer Continuation HS, Safe Passages, San Francisco International, San Francisco United School District, Tennyson High School, The Westly Foundation, ThriveWire, Thurgood Marshall High School, University of California San Francisco, Urban Promise Academy, Youth Empowerment Program (YEP)

Maryland

Abell Foundation, Alonso Family Charitable Fund, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Baltimore City Community College, Baltimore County Public Schools, Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, Baltimore Kickers, Baltimore Ravens, The Charles Crane Family Foundation, Enterprise Mobility Foundation, Family League of Baltimore City, France-Merrick Foundation, Goldseker Foundation, Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Henry and Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg Foundation, JMI Equity, Joseph and Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds, L.A.C.E.S., Leveling the Playing Field, Lois and Philip Macht Family Philanthropic Fund, Maryland State Arts Council, New York Life Foundation, Ravens Foundation, Richman Foundation, T. Rowe Price Foundation, Under Armour, University of Maryland Foundation, Inc., Washington Spirit

Nicaragua

BIMBO, Boreiko Family Foundation, Bristol Link UK, Federación Independiente de Granada, FENIFUT - Fútbol Federation of Nicaragua, Girls' Rights Project, Fundación selección Colombia, Global Rescue, Granada FC, Thomas H. Pope Memorial Fund, Together Women Rise, U.S. Department of State-Sports United, U.S. Embassy in Managua

Colorado

Adams 12 Five Star Schools, Angus Held Foundation, Aurora Public Schools, Colorado Health Foundation, Colorado Office of New Americans, Colorado Rapids, Colorado Refugee Services Program, Colorado Soccer Foundation, Credit Union of Colorado, Denver Summit FC, El Pomar Foundation, Greeley-Evans School District 6, Kaiser Permanente, Lutheran Family Services of the Rocky Mountains, Rose Community Foundation, The Colorado Trust, The Denver Foundation, The Weld Trust, United Way of Weld County, University of Denver, Weld Community Foundation, Women's Foundation of Colorado, Women's Fund of Weld County

Massachusetts

Anna B. Stearns Charitable Foundation, Boston After School & Beyond, Boston Athletic Association, Boston Scores, Boston Spurs Supporters' Club, Chelsea Healthy, Chelsea Public Schools, CHESS Foundation, City of Boston, City of Chelsea, Clark University, The Donald McKay School, East Boston Family Engagement Network, Everett Public Schools, Everett Youth Works Coalition, Falmouth Road Race Charity Program, FIFA World Cup Boston 26, Framingham Public Schools, FundPlay Coalition, Itzkowich Family International Philanthropy, Jewish Family Services of Western Mass, Kids in Need of Legal Defense, Lingzi Foundation, Lynn Public Schools, Mario Umana School, MIRA Coalition, Merriam Family Foundation, Mexican Consulate in East Boston, NeighborHealth/Let's Get Movin', Nesworthy Charitable Trust, New American Association of Massachusetts, New Balance Foundation, New England Revolution, Procter & Gamble, Robert and Joan Dircks Family Foundation, Roy A. Hunt Foundation, Soccer Unity Project, Somerville Public Schools, Tickets 4 Kids, United Way of Massachusetts Bay, Wellington Management Foundation

Uganda

Common Goal, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Dorothea Haus Ross Foundation, East Africa Philanthropy Network, Federation of Uganda Football Association (FUFA), FIFA Foundation, Futures Without Violence, Global Girl Project, Kids Play International, MAD Sisters, Moving the Goalposts, Premier League Premier Skills, Raise Chess Academy, Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa, The Swedish Post Code Lottery Foundation, University of Denver

Our Supporters

Every donation (no matter how big or small) is more than a gift—it's an investment in a more inclusive future. The MVPs on this list contributed \$500 or more in FY2024, helping us break down barriers and expand opportunities for newcomer youth. Their belief in our mission makes a lasting impact on and off the field.

5 Ryan Foundation	Fidelity Charitable	Lois and Philip Macht Family Philanthropic Fund	The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore
Alex Styduhar	Francis McGrath	Lois Schonberger	The Bettinger Family
Alice and John Sherman	Frank Vega	Madeline Foundation	The Colorado Trust
American Online Giving Foundation, Inc.	General Catalyst	Mara Decker	The Columbus Foundation
Andrew and Tina Coleman	GGWSL	Marianne and Tim Davis	The J.M. Kaplan Fund
Ann Goethals	Girls Rights Project	Marissa C. Wesely	The James B. Mintzer Foundation
Anonymous	Google	Marsh & McLennan Companies	The Nyce Family Foundation
Anson Dorsey	Greater Cincinnati Foundation	Martha Saavedra	The Signatry
Arnold & Porter	Greater Kansas City Community Foundation	Mary Connor	The Sports Lawyers Association
Ashley Fisher	GWBD Charitable Foundation	Mary Jane Evans	Toaha Ahmad
Bank of America Charitable Foundation	Helen McKenna	McKinsey & Co Corporate Matching	Tom Pope Memorial Fund
Becky Poskin and Lucas Richardson	Jacob Haar	Michael Vogelsong	U.S. Charitable Gift Trust
Benjamin Tulchin	Jaime Garcia	Milton and Mary Fujii	Vanguard Charitable
Beyond Sport Foundation	James Boehm	Mirnahill Foundation	William B. and Anngenetta G. Tyler
Bibiana Valdes Hernandez	James M. & Karen C. Bustillo and the Bustillo Family Charitable Fund, Inc.	Monica Martin de Bustamante	
Carmelita Reyes	James Suvak	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lurie	
Chan Zuckerberg Employee Match	Jason Almiro	Nathan Cummings Foundation	
Charities Aid Foundation America	Jeffrey Butler	Nicholas Graham	
Charlie Bustin and Heather Heinz	Jennifer Tepper	Nicolas Carballal	
Chris and Lenie Richardson	Jennifer Wolfsberg	Nigus Solomon	
Chris Grecco	Jewish Community Federation	Patricia Merino Price	
Christof Lindenmayer	Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Kansas City	Paul Llewellyn	
Christopher Gervasi	Joe & Lynn E. Poskin Charitable Foundation	Paul Roma	
Christopher Guarino	John & Jennifer Isenberg Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Kansas City	Raymond James	
Church Skiles Charitable Foundation	John Bermatz & Joseph Marek	Reedy Simons Family Philanthropic Fund	
Collin Burks	Jose Reina	Richard Eichmann	
Connie Downing	Joseph Mocera	Robert Sass	
David Greene	Julie and Brad Morgan	Ron Yehoshua	
Davin White	Julio Chow-Gamboa	Ruth and Caroline Keyes	
Deborah Leland and John Hunter	Just Wish Foundation	Sarah Chehresa	
Debra McCarron	Justine Oppenheim	Schwab Charitable Fund	
Denis and Danielle Boyle Giving Fund	Kelly Family Foundation	Semana Gol & Paz	
Detroit City FC	King Baudouin Foundation	Solberg Manufacturing Charitable Fund at Schwab Charitable	
Dido Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation	Kitty Resor	Stanley Antolak	
Dino Bovell	Krause Group	Stefan K. Viragh	
Drew Batkin	Langford Fund	Steven & Marta Ketchel	
East Bay Community Foundation	Laureus Sport for Good Foundation	Sue Meade	
Edward Miguel	Laureus USA	Sunny Bunch Family Foundation	
Edwin Carmona-Cruz	Leila R. Milani	Susan Golbe	
Elisabeth Morris	Lenny Gucciardi	Susan Varian	
Elizabeth Zelljadt	Linda Graham	T. Rowe Price Charitable Giving	
Emory Chan	Lindsay Monti	Talmadge Family Charitable Fund	
Enterprise Holdings Inc.	Lisa & Sean O'Rourke	Tammy Reder	
Eric Fenster		The Alonso Family Charitable Fund	
Ethan and Ryan Hawke			

In the Media



(April 2025) Coach Rafa Barrios Brings SWB to the Spotlight on Fox Deportes



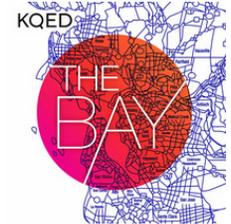
(April 2025) Sport, displacement and disability: how sport rebuilds communities and scales impact



(May 2025) As safe spaces shrink, immigrant youth find solace in "the beautiful game"



(July 2025) Oakland's Soccer Without Borders navigates 'perilous' times



(July 2025) For Immigrant Youth, Local Soccer Leagues Are a Rare Safe Space



(July 2025) Fear of ICE raids keeping kids from participating in soccer nonprofit program



(August 2025) Bay FC and Soccer Without Borders Unveil Custom Kits for Middle School Girls' Team



(September 2025) Baltimore nonprofit uses soccer to help immigrant and refugee students feel safe



(September 2025) Soccer Without Borders aims to help immigrant kids



(September 2025) Programa utiliza el fútbol para conectar con la comunidad



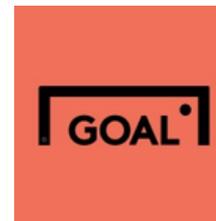
(October 2025) Diversity is our power! Soccer Without Borders unites immigrant teens in Boston



(October 2025) How a Bay FC star is building the future of women's soccer in Oakland



(October 2025) Amid ICE crackdown, immigrant children find solace on East Boston soccer fields



(November 2025) Ho Hey!' - The Lumineers & GOAL mark the indie folk icons' 20th anniversary with limited-edition soccer jersey collaboration for a very good cause



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Soccer Without Borders
3700 Eastern Ave
Baltimore, MD 21224 USA
(857) 264-0097

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organization (EIN) 20-3786129



soccerwithoutborders.org
info@soccerwithoutborders.org