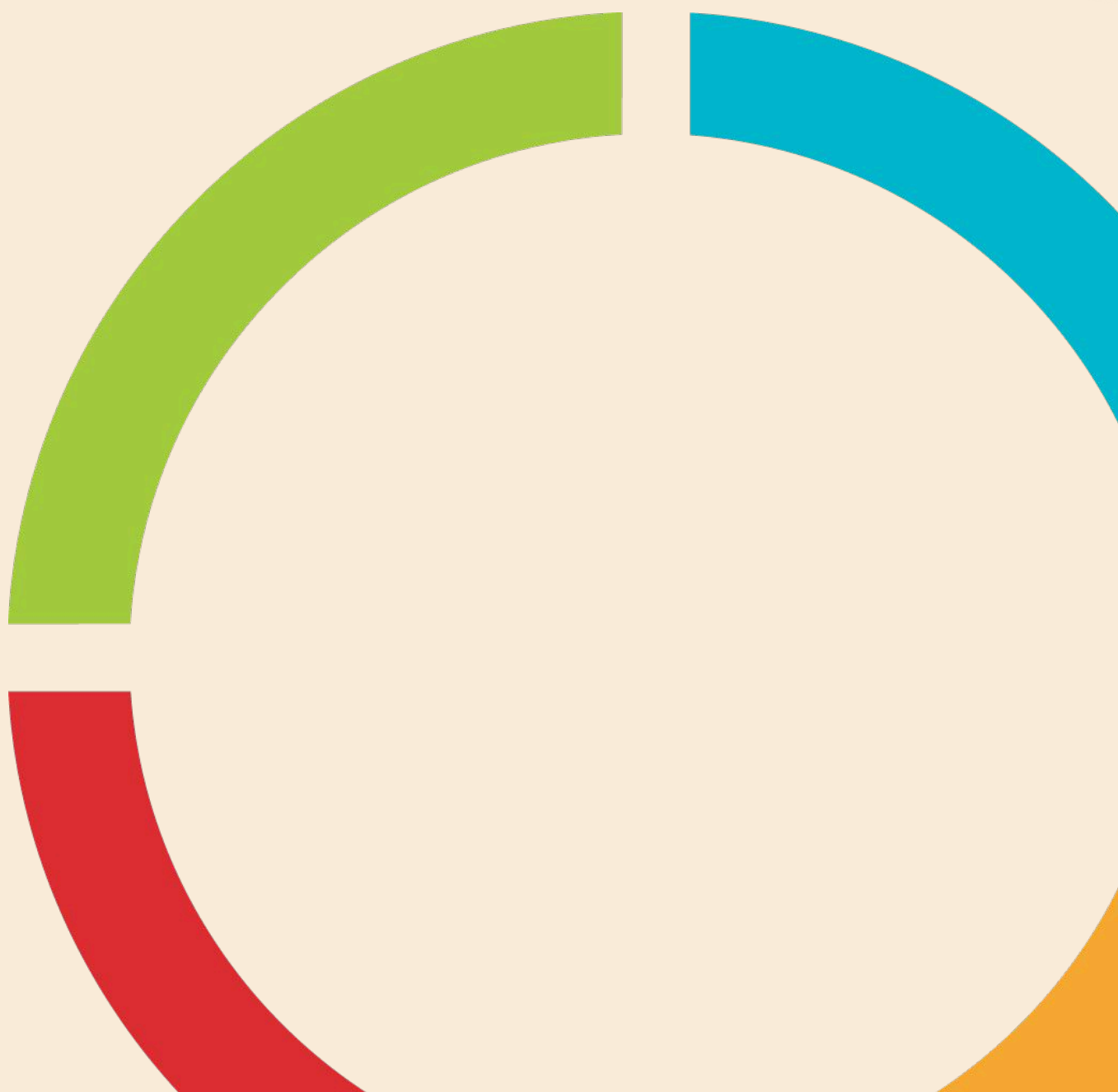


ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Building A Stronger Community

Overtown Children & Youth Coalition is empowering the next generation through collective impact and community partnerships.

overtowncyc.org












Our Mission

Through a collective impact model, Overtown Children and Youth Coalition (OCYC) serves as the backbone to support Overtown's anchoring organizations to empower all the community's children and youth to reach their full potential.



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Executive Summary

As we reflect on the 2025 calendar year, I am deeply grateful for the unwavering commitment of Overtown’s anchor organizations, coalition members, and service providers who consistently deliver high-quality, life-changing services to the children, youth, and families of our community. Your leadership, compassion, and collaboration remain the foundation of OCYC’s collective impact. Together, you embody the spirit of Overtown, “rooted in resilience, dignity, and an unshakable belief in one another.”

The year was not without challenges. Programmatic pressures, resource constraints, and evolving community needs tested our systems and our resolve. Yet, because of our strong bonds, shared purpose, and collective belief in the mission, we moved forward together, **not a single youth or family was denied services in 2025**. This is a powerful testament to the resilience Overtown was built upon and continues to display. When faced with adversity, our community leaned in, aligned, and delivered, proving that collective impact is not just a framework, but a lived practice.

2025 also marked a year of meaningful progress and milestone achievements. We launched OCYC’s second-term 10-year Master Plan (2025–2035), setting a clear roadmap for deepening outcomes across education, workforce readiness, health and safety, and economic mobility. This plan reflects our shared vision for a vibrant, sustainable, and connected Overtown.

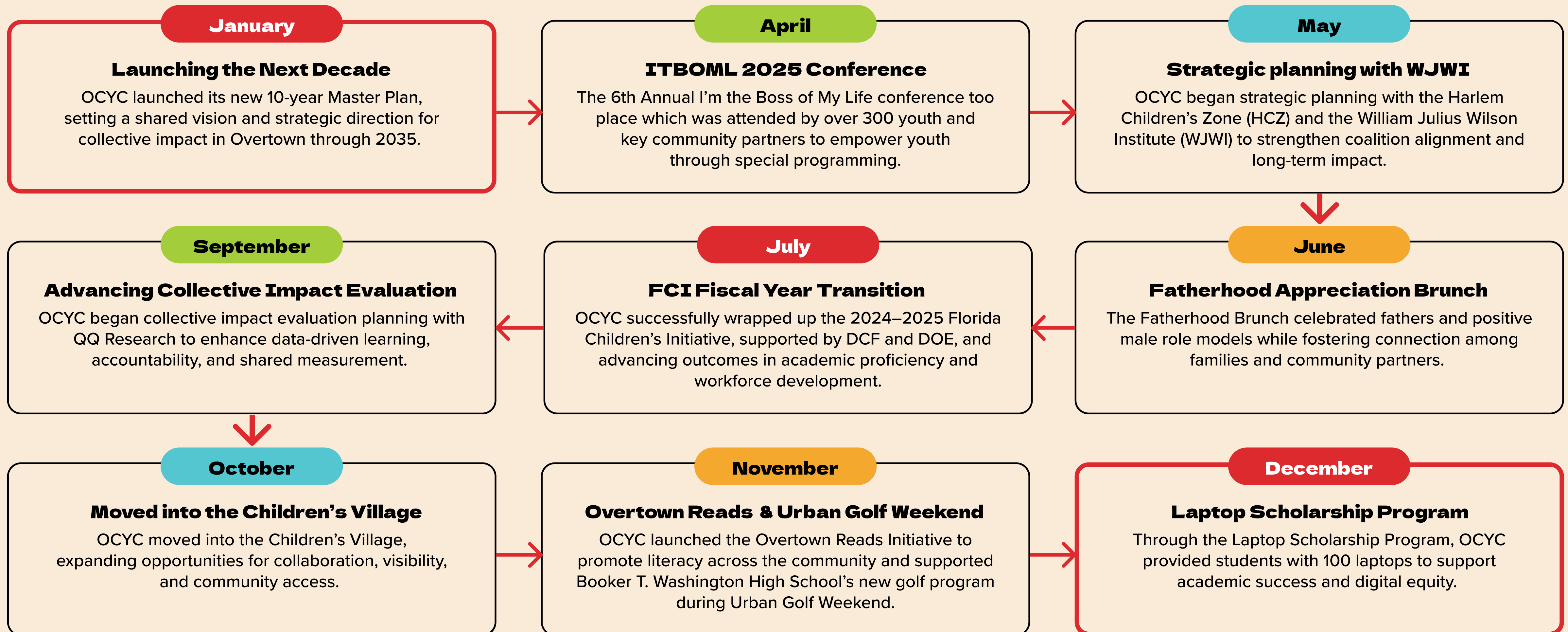
Through our strategic partnership with the William Julius Wilson Institute of the Harlem Children’s Zone, OCYC strengthened the development and implementation of our strategy priorities by grounding our work in national best practices while remaining deeply rooted in Overtown’s unique history, context, and assets. This collaboration sharpened our focus on accountability and continuous learning and clearly illuminated the critical role that high-quality data plays in achieving meaningful, community-level change. As a result, data collection, sharing, and protection emerged as a core strategic priority in 2025, fueling our purpose to make informed, ethical, and impact-driven decisions. To advance this work, we partnered with Q-Q Research to support our data team in building a robust and secure data ecosystem that not only measures outcomes and guides strategy but also safeguards the dignity, trust, and privacy of the children, youth, and families we serve.

As this Annual Report illustrates, OCYC stands strong anchored in trusted partnerships, aligned funding, and a clear strategic vision. The collective accomplishments of 2025 reaffirm that when we work together, we can weather challenges and create opportunities at scale. With momentum, clarity, and confidence, we look ahead knowing that 2026 is bright.




Anthony L. Robinson
Executive Director

2025 Year In Review



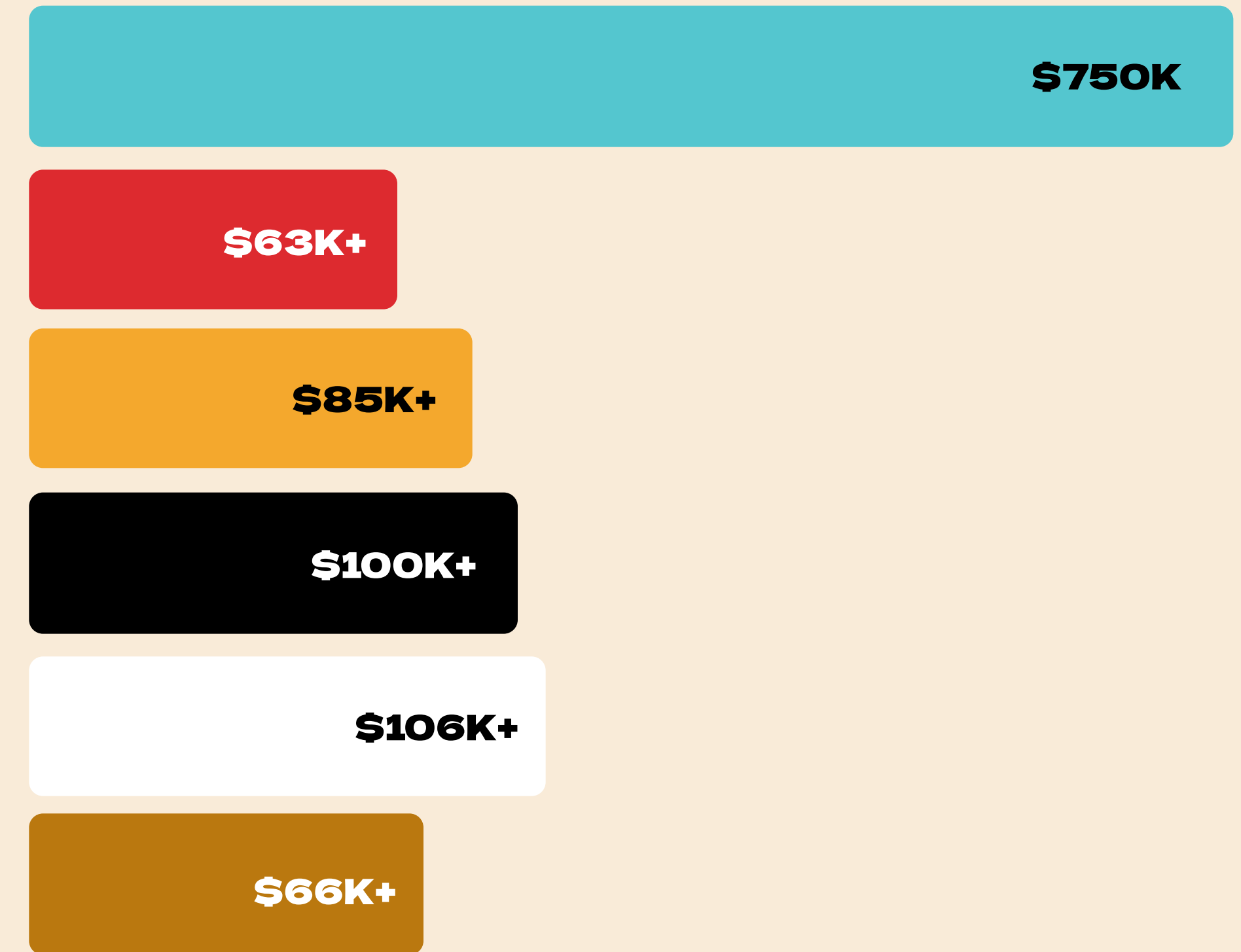
Funding Overview

\$1,071,132

OCYC's total funding for 2025



- Florida Department of Children and Families
- Department of Agriculture (DOA)
- Florida Department of Education
- Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida
- Alleghany Franciscan Ministries (AFM)
- Other Grants & Donations



Collective Action & Impact Through OCYC's Pillars

Pathway of High-Quality Programming & Support →

Community Accountability

- Guide Data Collection, Management, and Sharing
- Facilitate Equity, Inclusion, and Collaborative Decision-Making
- Strengthen Evaluation and Reporting
- Support Program, Research, and Policy Development
- Guide sustainability and capacity-building efforts

Healthy & Safe

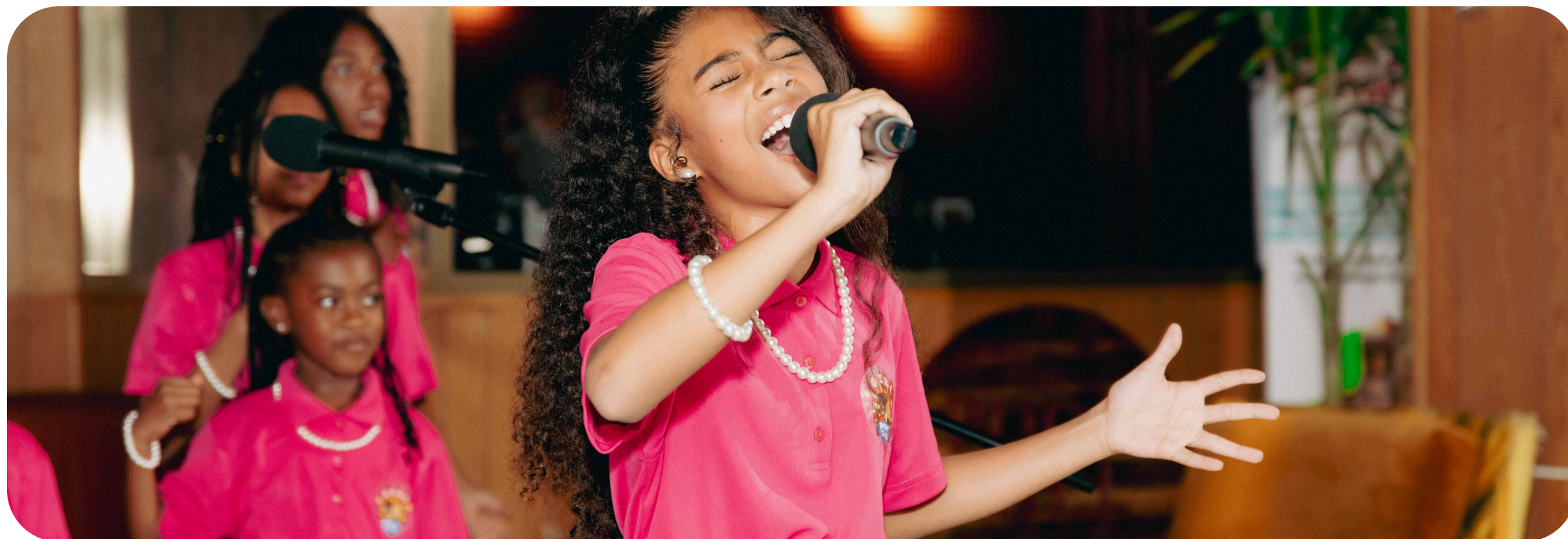
- Support maternal health and early childhood
- Maintain Social Emotional Health and Well-Being
- Improve Safety and Prevent Injuries
- Promote Active and Healthy Living
- Improve Safe and Supportive Homes and Public Spaces

Educated & Engaged

- Support Academic Success and School Engagement
- Cultivate Inclusivity and Growth
- Empower & equip families to support children's education & wellbeing
- Promote cultural appreciation & artistic enrichment
- Increase Learning and Innovation in Technology

Productive & Working

- Support post-secondary access and completion
- Invest in Work Readiness and entry
- Cultivate Leadership, Advocacy, and Civic Engagement
- Establish and engage a Youth Advisory Council
- Support apprenticeships, entrepreneurship, internships, and microbusiness



Healthy & Safe Committee

Anchoring Goal

Ensure every child in Overtown is healthy and safe—physically, mentally, and emotionally—across home, school, and community environments.

Committee Focus

- Strengthening physical, social, emotional, and mental well-being
- Promoting safe homes and public spaces
- Advancing active lifestyles, maternal health, and early childhood development
- In 2025: 12 committee meetings and 20+ unique organizations engaged



Key Initiatives & Impact



Overtown Reads Initiative (2025 Launch)

- Early literacy program supporting expecting and new parents
- Launch events at Frederick Douglass ES and Phillis Wheatley Elementary School
- **31 youth served | 55 books distributed**



DOA Program Funding (2025-2026)

- Supports physical activity, nutrition, and recreation programs
- Expands access to healthy food and wellness education for families



Booker T. Washington HS Golf Program

- Supported during Urban Golf Weekend
- Partnership with FLHAT
- Provided new golf clubs and uniforms for revived student program



Early Childhood Data Partnership

- Collaboration with University of Miami Ideas-2-Action & IDEAS Consortium
- Pilot parent and teacher surveys on early childhood outcomes
- Data refinements underway for expanded 2026 implementation

Partner Highlights

Community partners play a key role in advancing OCYC's Healthy & Safe priorities. Through targeted funding and collaboration, these organizations deliver programs that promote wellness, nutrition, safety, and youth development across Overtown.



Dru Lyfe Fitness

Program: Move 4 Health: Community Fitness & Wellness

- Led circuit training and outdoor fitness programs in Overtown parks
- Encouraged active lifestyles for youth and adults
- Supported through DOA funding via OCYC



Eatwell Exchange

- Delivered hands-on culinary nutrition classes for youth
- Taught students to prepare healthy meals using culturally relevant foods
- Built nutrition knowledge and practical cooking skills
- Supported through DOA funding via OCYC



Dr. Dunn's Garden

- Expanded community gardening and food education initiatives
- Promoted healthy eating, food literacy, and sustainability
- Increased access to fresh, locally grown foods



Optimist Club of Overtown

- Provided youth enrichment and leadership opportunities
- Supported academic growth, creativity, and social-emotional development
- Exposed scholars to learning beyond the classroom
- Supported through DOA funding via OCYC



Lotus House

- Provided shelter and wraparound services for women and children
- Supports 1,550+ women, youth, and children annually
- Strengthens housing stability and family safety



Girl Power

- Delivered evidence-based programs for girls
- Supports healing from abuse, neglect, and trauma
- Strengthens academic success, confidence, and leadership
- Supported through DCF funding via OCYC



Metro Mommy & Southern Birth Justice

- Advanced maternal health education and advocacy
- Supports pregnant and new mothers in Overtown
- Promotes equitable birth outcomes and community-based care



YMCA

- Advanced maternal health education and advocacy
- Supports pregnant and new mothers in Overtown
- Promotes equitable birth outcomes and community-based care

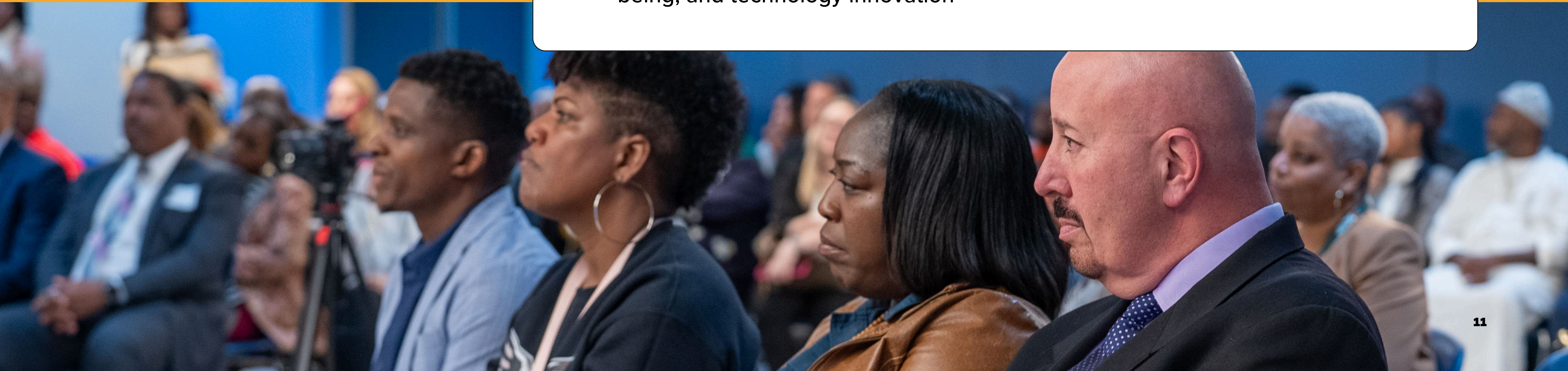
Education & Community Engagement Committee

Anchoring Goal

Advancing the goal that every child in Overtown is educated and engaged in academics, culture, and technology.

Committee Focus

- Supporting academic success, early learning, and inclusive school engagement
- Celebrating cultural appreciation and artistic expression
- Empowering families and communities to champion children's education, well-being, and technology innovation



Key Initiatives & Impact



Academic Achievement

- Reached **180 youth** through Department of Education–funded programming
- Delivered **921** mentoring sessions focused on academic development
- Elementary students showed measurable gains in literacy and math



Laptop Scholarship Program

- Awarded laptops to **103 individuals** at the annual ceremony
- **79% of recipients** received their first-ever laptop
- Recipients anticipate impact on academics, job readiness, and professional growth



Fatherhood Brunch

- Hosted event to celebrate fathers' role in their children's education and well-being
- **100% of attendees** reported satisfaction and would recommend the event
- Fathers prioritized support groups, financial assistance, and mentorship as key needs



Community Connection

- Launched Game Night and Welcome Wednesdays to deepen community ties
- Events bring together partners, families, and residents
- Programming increases awareness of available resources across the community

Partner Highlights

Our partners are at the heart of OCYC's mission. Together, we create connected, community-driven programming that supports education, mentorship, and family engagement across Overtown.



Barbershop Speaks

- Created culturally relevant spaces for dialogue and mentorship
- Supported fatherhood engagement and positive identity development
- DCF-funded through OCYC



CARE Elementary

- Delivered targeted reading interventions for early literacy
- Provided academic enrichment for elementary students
- DOE-funded through OCYC



Overtown Youth Center

- Offered academic enrichment, mentorship, and youth development programming
- Strengthened school engagement and learning outcomes
- DCF-funded through OCYC



Level Up Tutoring

- Delivered tutoring using differentiated instructional strategies
- Developed wrap-around plans involving both students and parents
- DOE-funded through OCYC



Miami-Dade County Public Schools - Overtown

- Collaborated with OCYC to strengthen academic support and family engagement
- Aligned school-based efforts with community programming

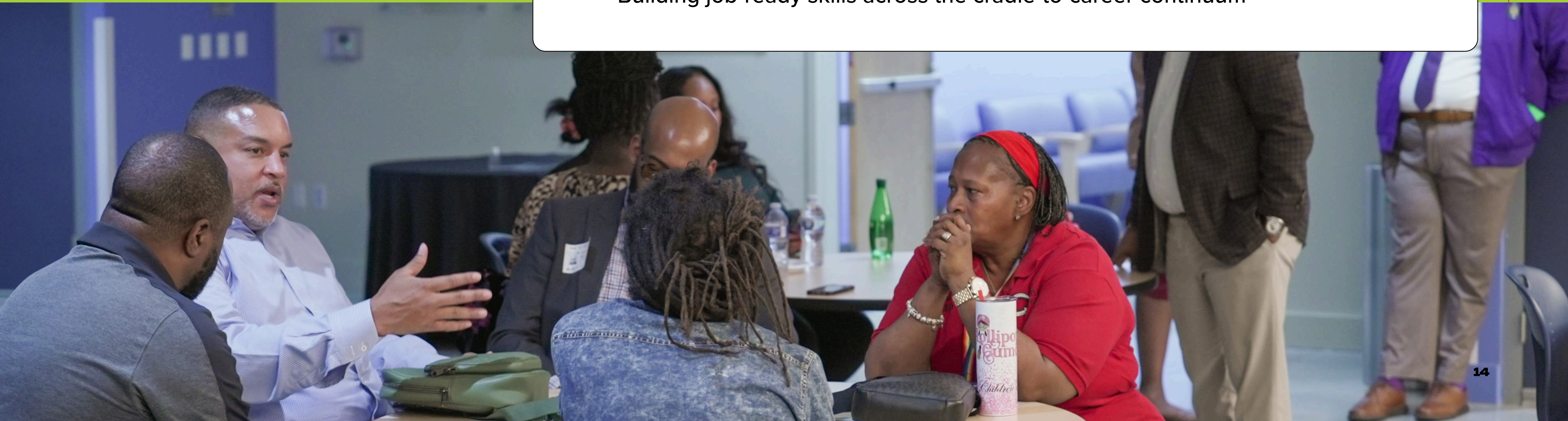
Productive & Working Committee

Anchoring Goal

Advancing the goal that every child in Overtown is prepared to be productive and working toward vocational, college, and career success.

Committee Focus

- Connecting youth and families to employment, apprenticeship, and internship opportunities
- Expanding access to college readiness and career pathways
- Building job-ready skills across the cradle-to-career continuum



Key Initiatives & Impact



Workforce Readiness & Career Programming

- **Supported 110 youth** across four partner programs focused on work readiness, career exploration, and life skills
- **86% demonstrated increased knowledge** and life skills; **100% of eligible youth** earned industry-recognized certifications
- New DCF funding cycle launched July 2025, expanding internships, apprenticeships, and work readiness programming



I'm the Boss of My Life Conference

- Hosted the 6th annual conference at the InterContinental Hotel, welcoming **321 participants**
- **85% of attendees** felt more prepared for their future careers; **95% would recommend** the event
- Brought together high school freshmen through college students for career exploration and networking



Youth Pitch Competition

- **11 students applied**; three finalists awarded first, second, and third place
- Winners received seed funding, sponsorship, and branding support from OCYC
- Finalists presented their business ideas at the I'm the Boss of My Life conference



Youth Advisory Council

- Revitalized the YAC with four active members engaged in advocacy and civic engagement
- Youth mixer in October surfaced key priorities from survey responses
- Students identified interest in government issues and the need for more practical, real-world knowledge in schools

Partner Highlights

OCYC's Employed & Empowered partners bring specialized expertise and real-world opportunities to Overtown youth — connecting them to careers, credentials, and community.



Florida Leaders in Hospitality & Tourism

- Delivered industry training and certification programs for youth
- Equipped participants with marketable skills aligned with workforce demand
- DCF-funded through OCYC



Do-Good-4-1

- Engaged youth in hands-on STEM learning through robotics and technology programming
- Supported problem-solving skills and career exploration
- DCF-funded through OCYC



URGENT, Inc.

- Provided internship and apprenticeship opportunities in film, arts, culture, and entrepreneurship
- Connected Overtown youth to real-world work experiences and career pathways
- DCF-funded through OCYC



Suited for Success

- Supported financial literacy and workforce readiness
- Provided professional attire, coaching, and career preparation resources
- DCF-funded through OCYC



Touching Miami with Love

- Offered paid internship opportunities for youth to gain professional experience
- Provided mentorship and exposure to workplace expectations
- DCF-funded through OCYC

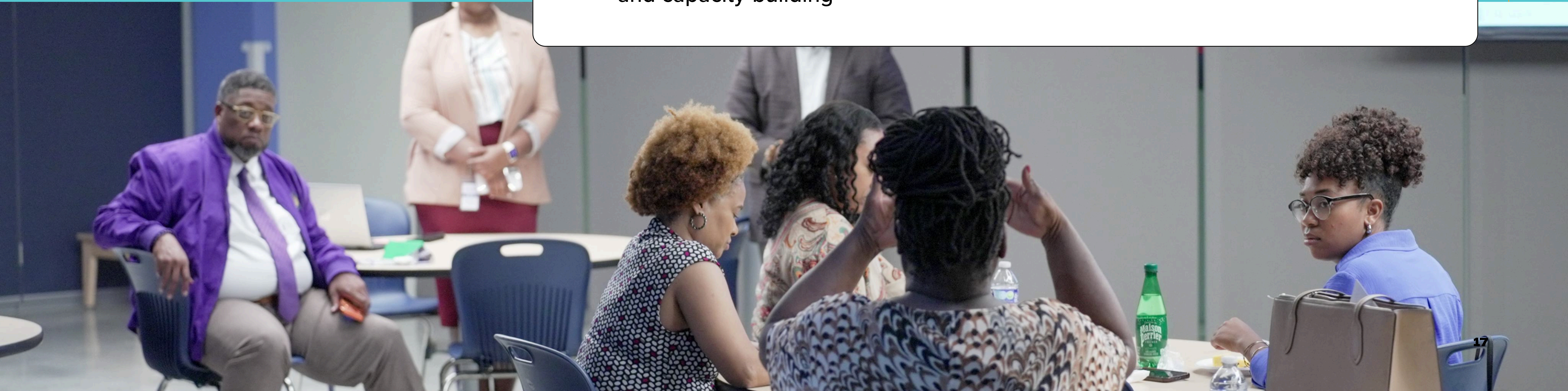
Accountability Committee

Anchoring Goal

Advancing the goal that Overtown's systems and institutions are accountable to the community by being responsive, collaborative, and effective in empowering children and youth to succeed.

Committee Focus

- Guiding data collection, management, and sharing to support collaborative decision-making
- Strengthening evaluation, reporting, and organizational learning
- Advancing program, research, and policy development alongside sustainability and capacity-building



Key Initiatives & Impact



New 10-Year Master Plan

- OCYC introduced its new Master Plan as the founding 2015–2025 plan concluded
- Streamlined pillar goals to align with OCYC's four active committees
- Defined strategies and key indicators to guide implementation, measurement, and shared learning



Collaborative Strategic Planning

- Initiated strategic planning with Harlem Children's Zone and the William Julius Wilson Institute
- Clarified OCYC's role as a backbone organization
- Identified priority areas for focus, coordination, and long-term impact



Collective Impact Series

- Launched in 2025 as an ongoing forum bringing together nonprofit leaders, educators, public sector partners, and residents
- Inaugural session, The Ripple Effect, featured nationally recognized strategist Thamara Labrousse on data sharing, community transformation, and collective action
- Continued with sessions on workforce wellness and mindfulness, and technology's role in social service delivery
- Three sessions held in 2025: August, September, and December



Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

- Launched robust evaluation efforts in partnership with QQ Research
- Developed a framework to support consistent progress and impact tracking
- Applied across each committee and the coalition as a whole



Data Ecosystem & UpMetrics

- Continued use of UpMetrics as the coalition's core data infrastructure
- New Impact Framework and Advanced Analytics features enhanced outcome tracking
- Strengthened OCYC's ability to interpret trends and communicate progress



Annual Report Methodology

This annual report draws on a mixed-methods approach that integrates quantitative and qualitative data from multiple sources to capture progress, outcomes, and community context across OCYC priorities. Data include information from OCYC-funded initiatives, OCYC-led events, and OCYC-administered surveys, including an annual partner survey highlighting programming and youth engagement during the 2024–2025 school year and Summer 2025.



Thank You

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