



**PARK STREET  
EDUCATION**



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

# **2025**

# Message from Board Chair and Executive Director



2025 marked a year of meaningful growth and renewed momentum for Park Street Education. We are proud of the strength of our partnerships, the dedication of our educators and the expanding reach of our programs. What began as a response to urgent educational gaps has evolved into a sustainable, relationship-driven model grounded in trust, mentorship and measurable impact. Our governance has strengthened alongside our growth.

With the addition of new Board members and the continued commitment of our supporters, we are building the foundation necessary for long-term stability and scale. On behalf of the Board, thank you to our donors, partners, educators, and families. Your belief in our mission makes this work possible, and we look forward to deepening our impact in 2026.

**Mark Harrison**

Co-Founder & Board Chair

At Park Street Education, we believe learning cannot happen without belonging. While academic progress matters, the true measure of our impact is reflected in something deeper: students gaining confidence, rediscovering motivation, and feeling a genuine sense of connection and belonging. Our Whole Child approach remains at the heart of everything we do, ensuring that every student feels seen, supported, and capable. As we look ahead, we are focused on thoughtful growth: expanding our Financial Confidence programming, strengthening partnerships across Canada and refining how we measure impact to better reflect the real changes we see in students' lives. In every session, our goal remains the same - to help young people believe in their potential and move forward with confidence in school and beyond.

**Karen Stern**

Executive Director



# Land Acknowledgment

Park Street Education respectfully acknowledges that our work takes place on the traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples across Turtle Island. While our programming is delivered virtually and reaches youth nationwide, we recognize the enduring presence, contributions, and stewardship of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples. We are committed to learning from Indigenous communities and to advancing equity, respect, and reconciliation through education.

## About Park Street Education

Park Street Education is a national Canadian charity providing free, virtual, year-round after-school programming for students in Grades 4–12. We exist to support students whose access to education has been shaped by systemic barriers, including poverty, housing instability, trauma, and disrupted schooling. Our programs go beyond traditional tutoring. We take a Whole Child approach, supporting academic learning alongside confidence, connection, and emotional wellbeing. Through small-group classes, peer-to-peer programs, and one-to-one tutoring, students are met with consistency, care, and educators who are trained to teach through a trauma-informed, culturally responsive lens. Our goal is not only to help students keep up in school – it is to help them believe they belong there.



# Theory of Change

At Park Street Education, our work is grounded in a clear and intentional Theory of Change that guides how we design programs, support students, and measure impact.

## If we understand

the unique challenges our Park Street youth experience — including educational and socio-emotional barriers



## ....and build

inclusive, accessible programs and partnerships that create consistent, supportive and non-judgmental learning environments,



## ....while equipping

youth with the tools, skills, and confidence to engage meaningfully in their learning and with their peers,



## ....then we have

helped create individuals with resources and capacity for personal growth



## ....which will create

a generation of confident, resilient, and empathetic individuals prepared to navigate life's challenges, break cycles of inequity, and build stronger communities.





**Both my son and daughter have been part of Park Street since 2023 and they have benefited immensely – both academically and personally. Their self-confidence and public speaking skills have improved significantly. Their understanding of French, STEM, and global citizenship has also grown and school grades improved.**

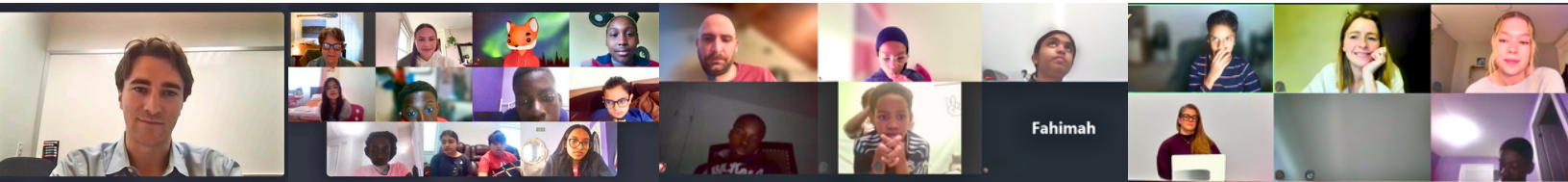
## **Meet Isra and Uzayr**

**The sessions provide them with a safe space to express their ideas, opinions, and feelings. The instructors are amazing and supportive. As a parent, I can't thank Park Street enough—the team, instructors, and funders—for putting together such a fantastic program.  
THANK YOU!**



# 2025 Impact Highlights

In the second half of 2025, Park Street began refining how we measure impact. As our programs grow, we are strengthening our data systems and student surveys to better capture confidence, enjoyment, and long-term engagement. The data here reflects our current measurement approach and marks an important step in building a stronger, more consistent evaluation framework.



**90%**

of students reported feeling very confident by the end of term (up from 50% at the start)

**80%**

of students reported feeling very motivated (up from 75% at the start)

**70%**

of students strongly enjoyed their subject (up from 52% at the start)

**352**

total enrollments across programs and terms

**210**

unique students served

**15**

referral partners nationwide

**100%**

teacher retention

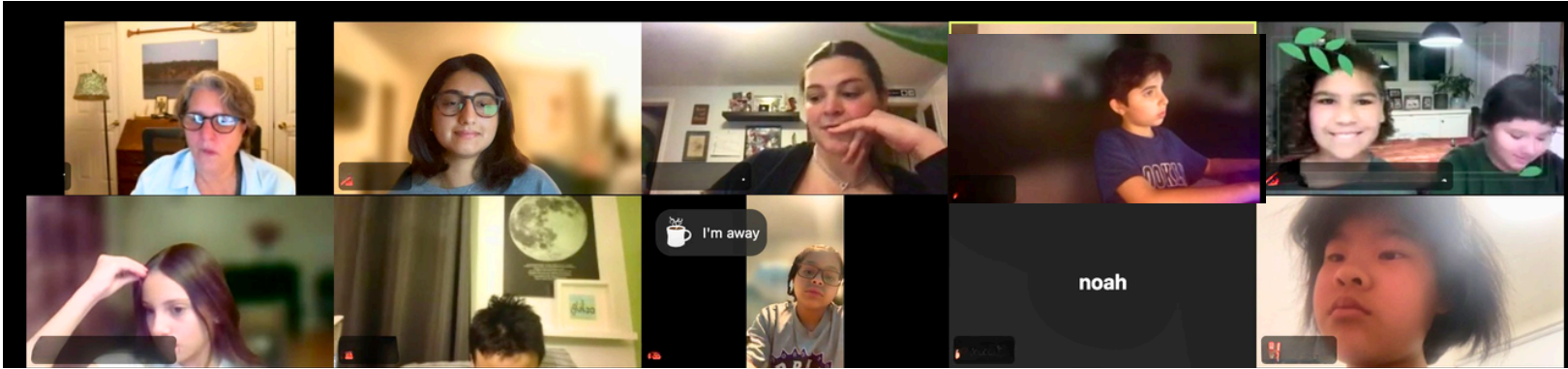
**15**

core teacher and facilitator

**77.8%**

of students enrolled in Fall term continued into the next term

# Year in Review



## Launched Innovative Programs

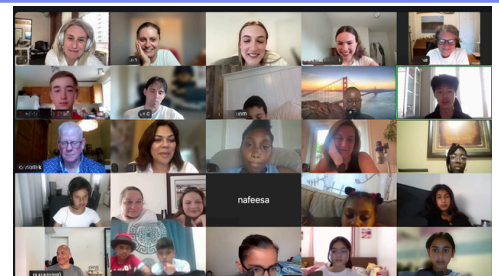
This year, Park Street Education launched innovative programming through a three-week virtual Digital Literacy Summer Camp and continued these offerings into the Fall term due to strong student engagement. The program included courses in Journalism Journeys, Amazing AI, and Social Media Savvy which explored topics like misinformation, AI ethics, digital wellbeing and identity online. Our Financial Confidence program launched as a pilot in Fall 2025, offered hands-on sessions in budgeting, saving, and everyday financial decision-making for youth.

## Expanding Community Reach & Referrals

This year, Park Street expanded partnerships beyond Ontario, strengthening relationships with Big Brothers Big Sisters in Regina and Winnipeg, and welcoming Stepping Stone Shelter in Guelph and MACCA as new referring partners.

## Student Showcase & Impact

Our Celebration of Learning and Alumni Workshop brought students together to reflect, showcase projects, and reinforce belonging.

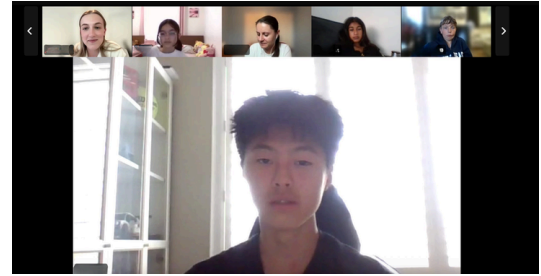


## New and Deepened Partnerships

We are deeply grateful to the partners who strengthened our work this year, including TD Bank, MiQ, CIBC, ScotiARISE, RBC Foundation, The Jackman Foundation, Bickle Wilder Foundation, Honda Canada Foundation, George Lunan Foundation, and The Marion Ethel Kamm and Frederick John Kamm Charitable Foundation.

## Guest Speakers

Students engaged with speakers across law, healthcare, entrepreneurship, advocacy, and service – connecting classroom learning to lived experience.

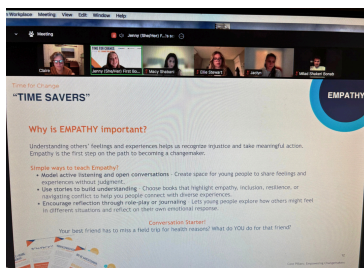


## Teacher Sessions & Professional Development

Ongoing professional development, including trauma-informed training and literacy-focused sessions with First Book Canada, ensures educators are equipped to build trust and unlock meaningful progress.

## Successful Fundraising Campaigns

Our Keep Kids Learning fundraiser and Giving Tuesday campaign strengthened year-round programming. Park Street was also honoured to serve as the charity partner for SponsorshipX's 20th Anniversary Changemakers Summit.



## Financial Literacy Month – Fidelity Panel

During Financial Literacy Month, Park Street joined Fidelity Investments Canada for a national panel featuring Rob Carrick. The conversation highlighted why financial confidence matters for young people and provided an opportunity to share how students are building real-world money skills.

## The Case for a National Literacy Strategy

Park Street proudly joined organizations across Canada in signing The Case for a National Literacy Strategy, reinforcing our belief that literacy is foundational to equity, opportunity, and lifelong learning.

# Our Approach and Programs



At Park Street Education, academic growth goes hand-in-hand with social-emotional development, confidence and connection.

Our **Whole Child framework** ensures students learn in safe, supportive, and engaging environments, where every program integrates academics with mentorship, wellbeing, and a strong sense of identity and belonging.

## Key Elements

- **Academic Support:** Small-group and 1:1 tutoring that builds skills, critical thinking, and confidence.
- **Social-Emotional Learning (SEL):** Opportunities to reflect, share, and develop resilience, empathy, and self-regulation.
- **Mentorship:** Consistent relationships with caring adults who model trust, encouragement, and accountability.
- **Wellbeing:** Trauma-informed practices that foster psychological safety and positive routines.
- **Identity & Belonging:** Spaces where students feel seen, explore who they are, and connect meaningfully with peers.

Our **Core Programs** included:

- **Peer-to-Peer Programs:** Group-based activities that foster confidence, empathy, and connection, including Adjusting to a New School and KICK — Kindness Is Cool Klub.
- **1:1 Academic Tutoring:** Personalized support for mastery, persistence, and confidence in high school subjects.
- **Financial Confidence:** Practical money skills like budgeting and saving, launched with RBC Foundation support.
- **STEM:** Hands-on exploration of technology, health, and innovation, with courses like Amazing AI.
- **English:** Reading, writing, and media literacy development through programs like Journalism Journeys.
- **French:** Interactive language learning that builds foundational skills in a supportive peer setting.

# New Board of Directors

We know that real change happens when experience, empathy, and purpose come together. We're excited to announce the expansion of our Board of Directors. They are new members of our community who bring not only deep professional experience, but a personal belief in our mission. From tech and finance to nonprofit leadership, higher education, and parent advocacy, our new board members share one thing in common: a commitment to helping more young people learn, grow, and thrive, no matter their background.

- **Mark Harrison** – Founder, MH3 Collective
- **Anika Chhabra** – CEO & Co-founder, Root & Seed
- **Chuck Phillips** – Senior VP, Woodview Management
- **Jacqueline Sue** – Director of Finance & People, Palette Skills
- **Farhan Zia** – Director of Strategic Initiatives, Toronto Metropolitan University
- **Patricia Handy** – Executive Assistant, Wellesley Institute
- **Dr. Andre De Freitas** – Higher Ed Strategist, Founder of EdVisingU
- **Chris Taylor** – AVP Capital Management & Treasury, Definity
- **Sheila Howe**: Educator
- **Richard Legaspi**: Global Risk and ESG, TD Bank

We are proud and grateful to have an inspiring group helping guide the future of Park Street. With their insight, we'll continue to grow our reach, deepen our impact, and make sure every student we serve feels seen, supported, and set up to succeed.



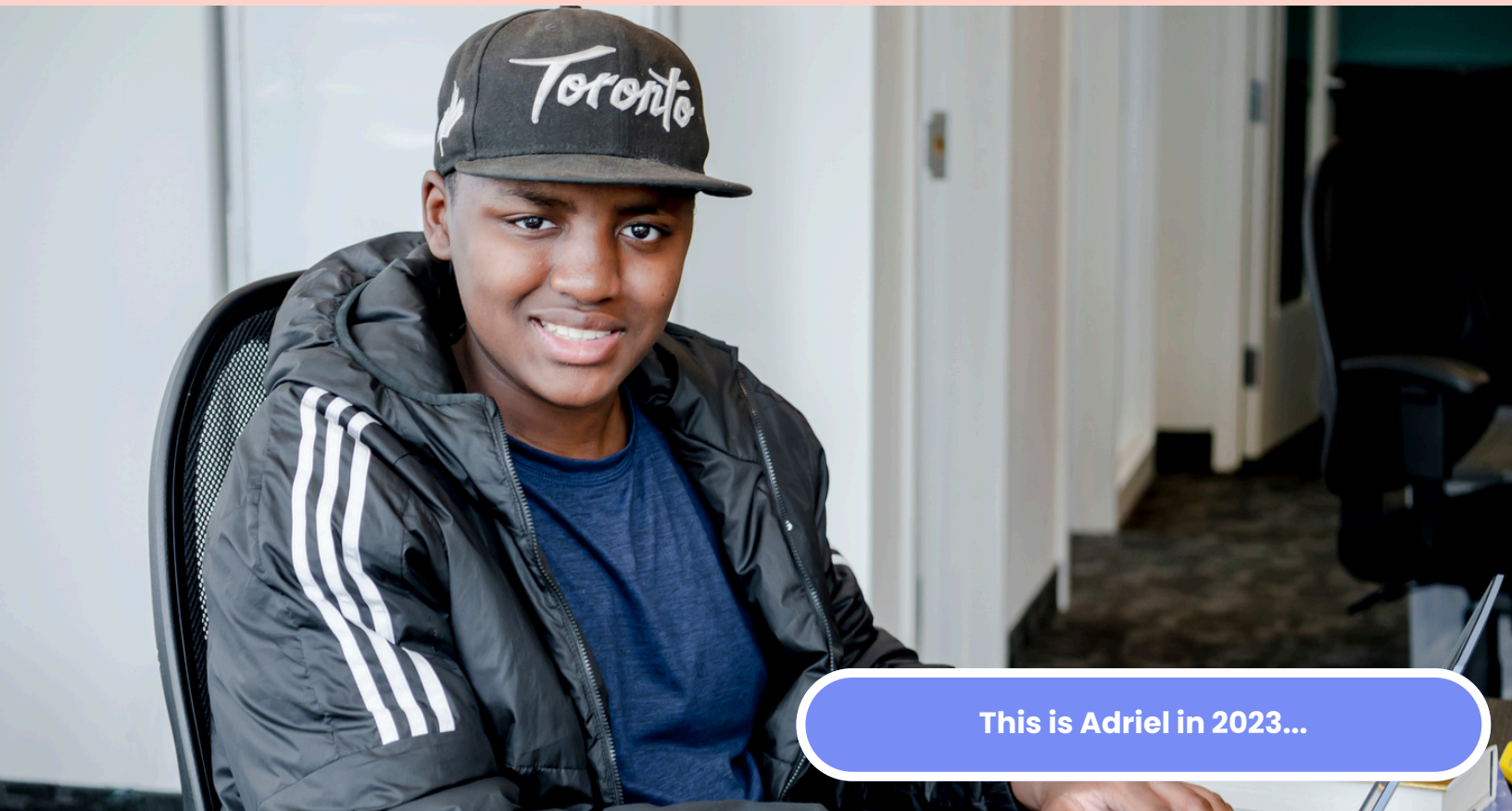
# Community Spotlight: Student

My name is Adriel, and I'm a high school student who's been part of Park Street Education's programs for the past few years. I'm writing this letter because Park Street has made a big difference in my life, especially when it comes to how I feel about learning science and math.

Before I joined, I wasn't very confident in those subjects. Sometimes I didn't understand what was happening in class, and it made me feel like maybe I just wasn't a "science kid." But through Park Street, I met tutors who explained things clearly, encouraged me to ask questions, and helped me feel proud of what I could do.

One of my favourite memories was learning about the human body in a STEM class. We talked about the heart and lungs, and I got to do a mini-project where I explained how exercise affects them. It made me realize science is actually connected to real life and I'm good at it.

Park Street didn't just help me with school. It helped me believe in myself more. I feel more confident speaking in class now and even want to help other students someday, like the tutors helped me. If another student is thinking about joining, I'd tell them it's more than just tutoring, it's a place where people believe in you!



This is Adriel in 2023...

# Community Spotlight: Parent

My name is Pat Handy and I am both a parent of a Park Street Education student and a proud member of the organization’s Board of Directors. My son Adriel was first introduced to Park Street Education during the pandemic. What initially drew me to the program was its accessibility – free, virtual, and intentionally inclusive for families like mine navigating systemic barriers. But what truly stood out was the care and consistency of the tutors, and the way the programming blended strong academics with emotional wellbeing.

Adriel’s confidence in science and math grew term over term. I watched him shift from feeling unsure about his abilities to actively engaging in class, asking thoughtful questions, and sharing what he learned at home. He especially loved learning about biology and electricity in a way that felt hands-on even through a screen.

As a parent and leader, I’ve come to see educational equity not just as a policy goal, but as a lived reality that can change a young person’s life trajectory. Park Street’s trauma-informed, culturally responsive approach ensures that students like Adriel aren’t just catching up, they’re moving forward with pride and purpose.



And this is Adriel in 2025... he grew a little!

# Community Spotlight: Teacher

I'm Milad and I'm a teacher at Park Street. Teaching at Park Street has fundamentally reshaped the way I understand my students and, ultimately, the way I teach. Coming to Canada in 2017 after completing all my schooling in Iran, I assumed my university students shared the same highschool foundations I grew up with.

It wasn't until I began teaching Math and STEM at Park Street in 2022 that I truly grasped how different their educational experiences were. What I gained at Park Street went far beyond curriculum insight, the development sessions and the deep focus on students' emotional needs changed me as an educator.

They helped me see learning through a more human lens, and that shift has made me a better professor at the university level. Today, I see STEM education as a three-sided system: high school, university, and industry. My work with highschool students helps me understand my undergraduates; my university teaching is enriched by the realities of industry; and being part of this dynamic cycle keeps me connected to the evolving needs of the next generation.

I feel privileged to stand at the intersection of high school, university, and industry and Park Street has been a major reason I've become a more responsive, empathetic, and effective educator.



# Community Spotlight: Partner

Since 2020, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto has been a foundational community partner of Park Street. Together, we have supported more than 70 families by providing free, virtual academic and wellbeing programming to children and youth who benefit from consistent, trusted support. Parents and caregivers consistently describe the learning environment as safe, supportive, and confidence-building—spaces where students can learn at their own pace and feel good about themselves.

*“My children really enjoyed the Park Street program. It gave them a safe space to learn at their own paces and feel good about themselves.”*

*“My kids really enjoyed the program staff.”*

From the BBBST team, the demand has been just as clear. Parents regularly ask whether Park Street programming will continue, citing the positive impact it has had on their children’s confidence, engagement, and motivation to learn.

*“I often get emails from parents and guardians asking if we will continue to offer the Park Street Education program. Parents often talk about it being beneficial to their children.” — BBBST Staff Member*

This partnership reflects what is possible when mentorship and education work hand in hand: trusted relationships, meaningful learning, and young people supported to grow with confidence and curiosity.



# Financial Summary (Unaudited)

In 2025, Park Street Education continued to grow responsibly, strengthening both our financial position and our ability to deliver high-quality programming. Our funding model remains partnership-driven, while the majority of our resources are directed toward programs that directly support students.

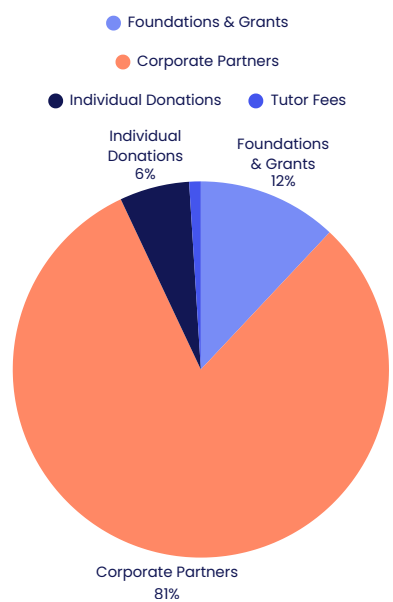
<b>\$232,695.08</b>	<b>\$217,158.41</b>	<b>\$15,536.67</b>
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**Total Revenue**

**Total Expenses**

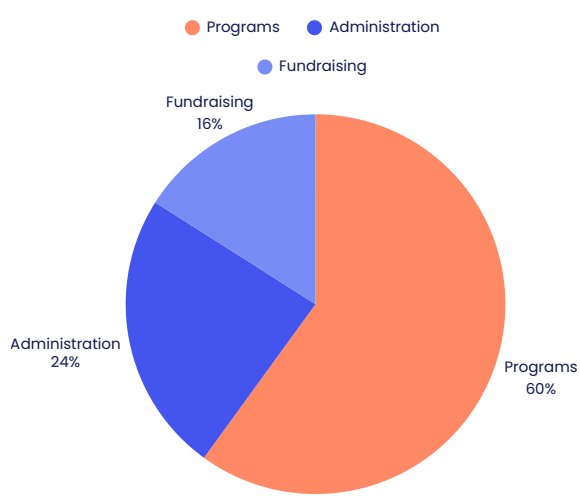
**Net Surplus**

### Where our funding comes from



Our funding is primarily driven by strong corporate partnerships, complemented by foundation support and individual giving.

### How we invest our resources



The majority of our expenses are directed toward program delivery, ensuring students receive consistent, high-quality support.

### Key takeaways

- Investing in students: 60% of expenses directly support learning, confidence and wellbeing.
- Powered by partnership: 81% of revenue comes from corporate partners who believe in our mission.
- Growing with intention: A positive net surplus enables us to expand access while maintaining stability.

# Looking Ahead to 2026

## Park Street Education Our Fundamental Pillars & Focus for 2026



Park Street Education's FY26 strategy focuses on strengthening our impact, credibility, and long-term sustainability across five core areas:

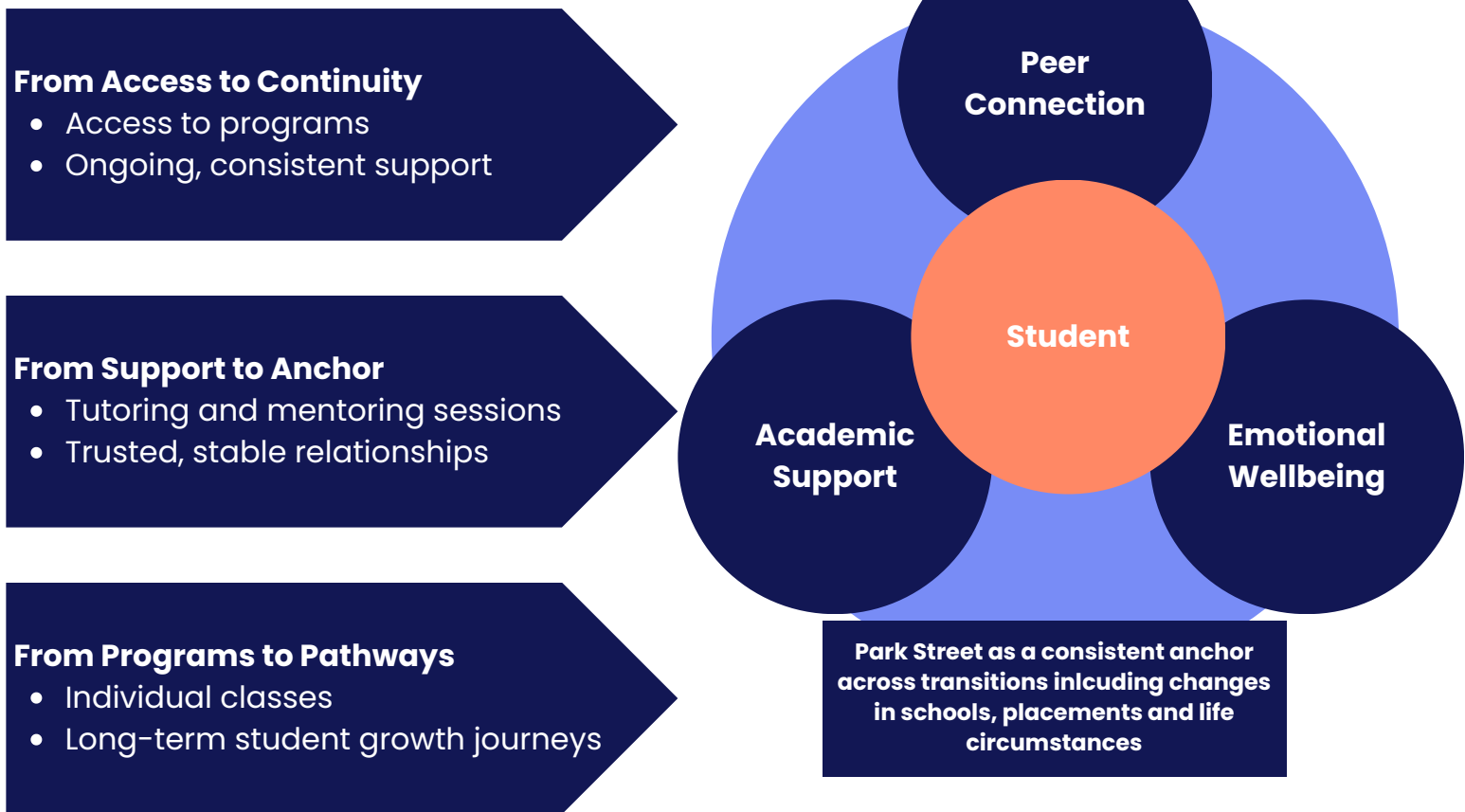
### Key Priorities

- **Clarity & Insight:** Strengthening how we measure impact through an evidence-based framework and improved evaluation practices.
- **Programming:** Delivering high-quality, trauma-informed learning experiences that build confidence, belonging, and academic progress.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Expanding collaboration with community, academic, and corporate partners to increase reach and deepen impact.
- **Brand & Storytelling:** Strengthening how we communicate our impact to build visibility and deepen relationships with stakeholders.
- **Financial Sustainability:** Diversifying revenue, strengthening governance, and building a stable foundation for long-term growth.

Through these priorities, Park Street Education will continue expanding access to transformative learning opportunities for underserved youth across Canada.

# Deepening Impact: A Focus on Youth in Care

In 2026, Park Street Education is deepening its impact by focusing on students who face the greatest barriers to educational stability. This includes expanding our work with youth connected to the child welfare system, where disruption, mobility, and lack of consistent support significantly impact learning outcomes.



## Why Youth in Care

- Frequent moves disrupt learning
- Loss of 4–6 months of progress per transition
- Lower graduation rates and engagement

## Our Focus in 2026

- Consistent tutors and peer groups
- Relationship-first, trauma-informed model
- Cohort-based learning for stability

**Park Street Education is evolving from short-term academic support to a long-term, relationship-driven model that provides stability and continuity for students who need it most.**

# Thank You For Your Support!

## Thank You to Our Donors & Partners

We are deeply grateful to our donors and partners for making this work possible. Your generosity allows Park Street Education to provide free, trauma-informed programs that support students academically and emotionally. Because of you, young people learn in spaces where they feel safe, supported, and confident.

Thank you for believing in our students and in the power of education to create lasting change.



### CONNECT WITH US

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