

IMPACT REPORT

2024-25



The Center is the only Coachella Valley organization dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of all LGBTQ+ individuals.

From the McDonald/Wright Building in Palm Springs to The Center Coachella, the Scott Hines Behavioral Health Clinic and the Community Food Bank, The Center focuses its work on ending isolation and loneliness, connecting people to resources and community, and enriching the individual and collective experiences that contribute to LGBTQ+ people's health and happiness.



OUR VISION

Thriving lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people, living authentically in supportive inclusive communities.

OUR MISSION

Creating vibrant community by helping LGBTQ+ people along their way.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Ending Isolation & Loneliness

Connecting People to Resources & Community

Enriching Our Individual & Collective Experiences

CORE PURPOSE

Making Meaningful Connections



From our CEO

Hello, Community Members,

Every day at The Center, we are reminded of the incredible power of connection. This past year, that power showed up in remarkable ways with more than **85,000 engagements** across the Coachella Valley. That's 85,000 moments of support, discovery, conversation, compassion, and community. And each one mattered.

For some, those engagements mean finding emotional stability during a difficult time. For others, it means access to food, care, or resources that make daily life possible. And for many, it is simply the comfort of being welcomed, seen, and valued. Every single interaction—big or small—creates ripples of impact. Some change the course of a life. Some help save a life. All of them strengthen the fabric of our community.

This is the magic we talk about so often: the magic of people showing up for one another. The magic of meaningful connections made every day in our buildings, in our programs, and out in our neighborhoods. It's the magic you make possible through your support, your generosity, and your belief in the importance of community.

This Impact Report offers a window into what that magic looks like in action.

Thank you for walking alongside us—and, as always, we're here for you.

Mike Thompson
CEO



Our Impact:

In one year, The Center counted more than 85,000 individual interactions across all sites and programs. This includes our classes, support groups, youth hangouts, social events, and every time someone comes through our front doors seeking resources or a safe, affirming space.

All of The Center's activities work to reduce isolation and loneliness. Programs and social events provide LGBTQ+ people with safe environments for meeting others with similar experiences who understand their challenges, reducing feelings of loneliness and building lasting friendships.

The Center provides affirming mental health services through group therapy programs and counseling available to individuals, couples, and families. All are tailored to the specific needs of LGBTQ+ individuals and aim to reduce anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts.

The Center connects people to resources and educational programs. Our locations are hubs connecting individuals to needed services like healthcare, legal assistance, housing support, and employment opportunities. Educational programs enrich individual lives and increase understanding of LGBTQ+ issues within the community and broader public.

The Center strengthens families and personal relationships with programming and resources, in English and Spanish, that break down barriers, foster understanding, and help families accept and support their LGBTQ+ loved ones.

The Center supports positive youth development with peer support groups, counseling, social activities, and leadership opportunities. Young people gain self-confidence while learning to navigate coming out, handling discrimination, and growing as their authentic selves.



Creating Safe Spaces and Vibrant Community

The Center is meeting the unique needs of a large and varied LGBTQ+ population with programs and supportive spaces that align with our mission of creating vibrant community by helping LGBTQ+ people along their way, including support around food insecurity and behavioral health, and specific programs for youth and family, seniors, women, and transgender and gender expansive individuals.



By the Numbers

85,407

Total Center Engagements

29

New Programs

516

David Bohnett CyberCenter Uses

164

Community Collaborations

2,582

Community Referrals

Scott Hines Behavioral Health Clinic

By the Numbers

6,413

Total Clinic Engagements

310

Unique Clients

177

New Clients

2,076

Group Therapy Participants

Addressing the Need

LGBTQ+ people often face unique behavioral health challenges compared to the general population, such as higher rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts. The community needs supportive behavioral health services that acknowledge their unique experiences and affirm their strength.

The Center's Scott Hines Behavioral Health Clinic offers individual, couples, family, and group therapy. Services are available on a sliding scale based on income to make sure everyone can access care.

Our Impact

The clinic's affirmative approach to therapy helps clients navigate social interactions, build meaningful relationships, and improve their overall quality of life. Outcomes include reduced anxiety, isolation, and stigma around mental health issues.



The Center's Community Food Bank

Addressing the Need

One in seven Coachella Valley adults has had to cut the size of meals or skip meals because they couldn't afford food, according to a 2022 HARC survey. That equates to 48,670 food insecure residents.

While The Center's Community Food Bank serves all residents, Feeding America notes that LGBTQ+ adults are disproportionately affected by food insecurity.

Our Impact

The Center's Community Food Bank provides fresh and free food through its weekly distribution, including produce, protein, dairy, baked goods, and pantry items to food insecure community members. A Community Health Worker assesses all new clients to determine if additional services are needed, ensuring we are connecting people to the resources that will help them thrive.

By the Numbers

223

Tons of Food Distributed

64,662

Pounds of Donated Food

15,937

Total Households Served

35,464

Total People Served

Community & Social Engagement

Addressing the Need

The Kaiser Family Foundation study “Community Centers as Important Venues for LGBTQ Health Promotion” found that LGBTQ centers, with their safe spaces and social support, are essential to improving health outcomes, reducing feelings of isolation, and fostering a sense of community.

Our Impact

Programs for seniors, women, trans* and gender expansive people, and youth and families raise visibility for these populations and create affirming spaces and opportunities for meaningful connections between participants with similar experience who otherwise may feel lonely and isolated.

Participants gain a greater sense of belonging through programs that improve mental health and encourage an active lifestyle. They are likely to form bonds and look out for one another, strengthening the community’s overall resiliency.

By the Numbers

9,580

Palm Springs
Program Participants

4,131

Outreach Event Attendees

262

Community Workshop
Participants

2,052

Special Program Participants



The Center Coachella

Addressing the Need

The 2016 Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) report of more than 600 Eastern Coachella Valley young people identified that their top wishes for the community include LGBTQ+ friendly spaces, information and services, as well as mental health support.

The Center Coachella is dedicated to being a safe and affirming space for LGBTQ+ young people living in the Eastern Coachella Valley with opportunities for social engagement and after-school drop-in activities. Spanish-language family programs provide community and culturally competent support to the parents and guardians of LGBTQ+ young people.

Our Impact

The Center Coachella is creating opportunities for LGBTQ+ young people to express their identities, connect with peers, and find support and acceptance, significantly reducing isolation and loneliness. Seeing happy and successful LGBTQ+ adults help youth build self-esteem and envision a positive future for themselves.

Family members gain support and practical advice from others with similar experiences. Supportive families become advocates for the wider LGBTQ+ community, working to make schools and other community spaces welcoming for everyone.



By the Numbers

570

Coachella Program Participants

363

Youth Participants

462

Outreach Event Attendees

Volunteers

Addressing The Need

Volunteers report higher levels of life satisfaction and well-being compared to non-volunteers, according to a study published in the Journal of Happiness Studies. Volunteers are critical to The Center's effective programming and outreach, and our programming is heavily dependent on volunteer facilitators. Volunteers are critical to The Center's effective programming and outreach, and our programming is heavily dependent on volunteer facilitators.

Our Impact

For Individual

Volunteers at The Center experience a sense of purpose and a boost in self-esteem, which help reduce stress, improve mental health, and increase general well-being. Volunteers also gain expanded social networks and build lasting relationships, sources of support and a greater sense of belonging.

For The Center

Our volunteers provide valuable services at no cost, allowing The Center to allocate more resources to our core programs and services and increasing our capacity to achieve our mission.

For the Community

Volunteers help The Center address the broad and diverse needs of our community, which enhances its overall well-being. The sense of community among volunteers extends beyond The Center, creating support networks and goodwill that create a thriving, vibrant LGBTQ+ community.

By the Numbers

10,000

Volunteer Hours Last Year



Revenue Raised Over the Years:

FY 2025 = \$4,709,070

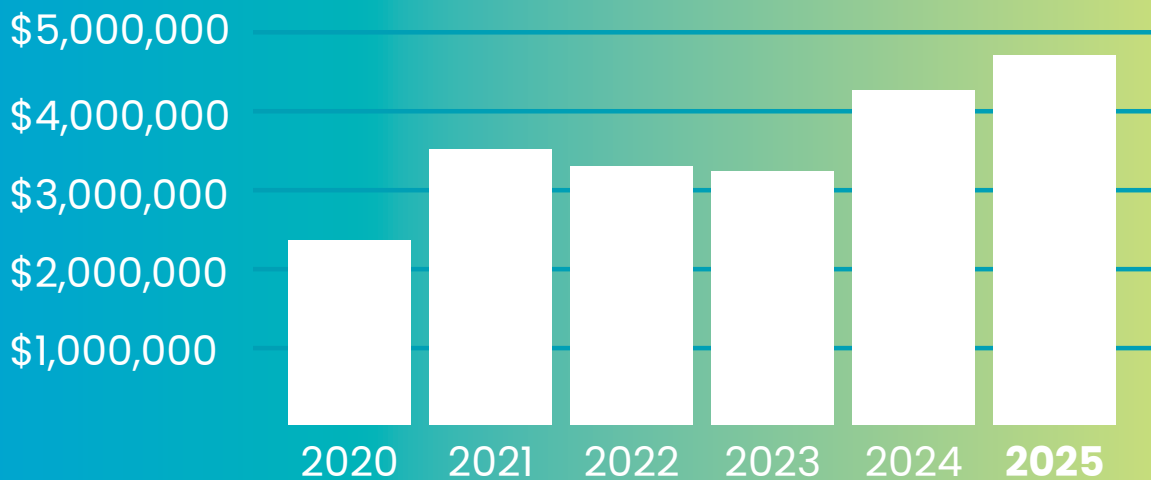
FY 2024 = \$4,289,553

FY 2023 = \$3,240,877

FY 2022 = \$3,282,402

FY 2021 = \$3,505,113

FY 2020 = \$2,343,390



The Center's impact is only possible with the generous support of our donors and members.

THANK YOU!