



ANNUAL REPORT

FY
2024
2025

Empowering **Lives.**
Transforming **Futures.**

projectfocusfoundation.org

ANNUAL REPORT



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

This year was one of growth, reflection, and bold steps forward for Project Focus.

For more than a decade, our organization has been committed to serving individuals with developmental disabilities by building pathways to education, independence, and meaningful community participation. In the past year, that commitment took a significant step forward with the creation of Focus Day School, a private elementary school designed to meet the needs of students in grades 3–6 with developmental and learning disabilities.

The opening of Focus Day School represents more than a new program. It represents our belief in starting early, staying consistent, and surrounding students and families with support that evolves as they grow. It also strengthens our ability to provide a full spectrum of services from childhood through adulthood within one connected ecosystem.

Beyond the classroom, this year brought meaningful progress across all of our programs. Focus Academy continued to thrive as a tuition-free public charter school. Focus Forward expanded opportunities for young adults to build life and employment skills. Additionally, we have a vision of a new program, Focus Future, and have made progress toward creating an integrated campus. New partnerships, including collaboration with MOSI, opened doors to hands-on learning and workforce experiences.

What is equally important is the growth of our governance and leadership. The formation of our first-ever Advisory Council brought new voices, expertise, and guidance to our mission, strengthening our foundation for the future.



None of this would be possible without the unwavering support of our families, educators, staff, partners, donors, and community leaders. Your belief in Project Focus fuels every milestone we reach and every life we touch. As it stands, our combined programs serve over 160 students and young adults in the Tampa Bay area.

As we look ahead, our vision remains clear: to build inclusive communities where individuals with developmental disabilities are empowered to learn, work, and thrive.

Thank you for standing with us.
With gratitude,

Clayton Clemens

Clayton Clemens
Executive Director
Project Focus Foundation

OUR STORY

In 2012, a small group of parents of children with special needs were struggling to find schools that made their children feel valued, supported, and prepared for success. By partnering with academic and therapeutic professionals alike, the dream of Focus Academy became a reality in the heart of Temple Terrace, Florida.

What started as a flagship program has now become a tuition-free, Florida Public Charter School that offers a Transition Program with a modified Exceptional Student Education curriculum for students with developmental disabilities in grades 6-12 and beyond.

As students advanced, so did the organization's commitment to supporting them beyond the classroom. Thus, the Project Focus Foundation was born. Our foundation funds the expansion of other Focus-branded programs in addition to Focus Academy, such as Focus Day School, Focus Forward, Focus Cafe, Focus Employment Training Program, and Focus Future.

Today, Focus Academy and its affiliated programs serve 160+ individuals from childhood through adulthood across Tampa Bay.



MISSION

We endeavor to improve the lives of students and young adults with disabilities by providing financial support for innovative and transformative programs that help individuals reach their greatest potential. We are dedicated to the principle that every individual is capable of making a meaningful and unique contribution to society.



VISION

We envision that through the resources of innovative programs and community support, persons with disabilities will be empowered to work toward a full and promising future in their education, employment, and life experiences.



CORE VALUES

Dignity – Every individual is valued and respected

Inclusion – Building communities that welcome all

Empowerment – Fostering independence and self-determination

Innovation – Embracing creative approaches to education and support

Community – Connecting individuals to each other and the broader Tampa Bay area

A NEW BEGINNING: FOCUS DAY SCHOOL OPENS ITS DOORS

Building a Strong Foundation for Lifelong Success

In August 2025, Project Focus Foundation opened the doors to Focus Day School, a new private, non-profit 501(c)(3) elementary school established specifically for young students in grades 3–6 with developmental and learning disabilities for the 2025-2026 school year.

This milestone represents years of listening to families, educators, and the community. It reflects a growing need for high-quality educational options for younger students, and a belief that when support begins early, outcomes improve dramatically.

Focus Day School extends Focus Academy's commitment to meeting students where they are by building confidence and nurturing strengths during the most formative years of learning.

Focus Day School is designed to serve students during a critical window of development. Located steps from the Focus Academy campus in Temple Terrace, the school will allow students to grow within a familiar, supportive environment as they move through each stage of their education.

Beginning with grades 3–6, Focus Day School will add one grade level each year, ensuring continuity and stability for students and families. The school operates as a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and is an approved provider for

the Step Up For Students FES-UA scholarship, helping make access possible for families across Tampa Bay.

The heart of Focus Day School is an individualized, strengths-based academic model. Small class sizes allow educators to tailor instruction to each student's needs, while integrated supports address social-emotional development and overall well-being.

Students benefit from a holistic approach that includes:

- Individualized academic instruction
- A strengths-based learning framework
- Integrated arts and drama therapy
- Mental health-informed practices
- A supportive, nurturing school environment

Together, these elements create a place where students are encouraged to learn, express themselves, and develop confidence in who they are.



OUR PROGRAMS



Focus
DAY SCHOOL

Elementary Education
Grades 3–6

Focus Day School is a private, non-profit elementary school

opening in August 2025 for students with developmental and learning disabilities. The program features small class sizes, individualized instruction, and a strengths-based academic model that supports both academic and social-emotional growth. Integrated arts and drama therapy helps students build confidence and self-expression during critical developmental years.



Focus
Academy™

Public Charter School
Grades 6–Age 22

Focus Academy is a tuition-free Florida public

charter school serving students from middle school through transition programming. The school includes Middle School, High School, and Transition programs, offering academics, social skills development, and integrated therapies. Students work toward academic achievement while developing the independence needed for adult life.



Focus
Forward™

Adult Day Training | Ages
22–30

Focus Forward is a Level 3 Life Skills Development Adult Day Training program for young adults with developmental disabilities. As a Medicaid Waiver provider, the program offers daily skill-building activities, community engagement, and employability training designed to support independence, confidence, and meaningful participation in the community.



Focus
Café

Work-Based Learning

Located inside the Temple Terrace Family Recreation Complex, Focus Café is

a fully functioning café staffed by students in the Focus Academy Transition Program. Participants gain hands-on experience in customer service, inventory management, and point-of-sale operations, building real-world job skills in a supportive, public-facing environment.



Focus
Employment
Training Program

The Focus Employment Training Program helps prepare individuals for workforce

success through vocational rehabilitation services and community-based training opportunities. Participants develop essential employment skills, explore career pathways, and gain experience through partnerships with local employers across Tampa Bay.



Focus
Future

Focus Future represents Project Focus's long-term vision for an integrated campus: a "community

within the community." This future development will bring together education, workforce training, supportive housing, and commercial partnerships in one connected environment, expanding opportunity and independence for individuals with developmental disabilities.

YEAR IN REVIEW

This past year marked a period of meaningful growth for Project Focus that was defined by expanded programs, new partnerships, and a major step forward in our long-term vision. Each milestone reflects the collective effort of students, families, educators, partners, and supporters working together to build a more inclusive future.

Focus Day School Announced

Project Focus and Focus Academy publicly announced the launch of Focus Day School, a new private elementary school for students in grades 3–6 with developmental and learning disabilities. Opening in August 2025, the school represents a critical expansion of early educational support.

Focus Future Vision Released

Project Focus unveiled its long-term Focus Future vision, an integrated campus designed to bring education, workforce training, and supportive living together in one connected community.

MOSI Partnership Announced

Project Focus launched a new partnership with the Museum of Science & Industry (MOSI), creating hands-on job training and workforce development opportunities for students and young adults.

Focus Forward Holiday Cards

Students in the Focus Forward program designed and sold handmade holiday cards through community partners, showcasing creativity, entrepreneurship, and real-world skill development.

Tampa Glow Row

The community came together for Tampa Glow Row, a fitness-based fundraising and awareness event celebrating inclusion, wellness, and connection.

12th Annual Gala – Moonlight & Martinis

Supporters gathered for Project Focus's signature fundraising event, raising critical funds to support programs across education, life skills, and workforce development.

Focus Day School Opens

Focus Day School officially opened its doors, welcoming students and families to a new learning environment focused on individualized instruction, confidence-building, and early intervention.



ONGOING EVENTS

Campus Coffee Events

Regular Campus Coffee gatherings strengthened connections between families, supporters, and the Project Focus community.

Annual Golf Tournament

The annual golf tournament at Temple Terrace Country Club brought together supporters for a day of fundraising and fellowship.

Partners in Progress Breakfast

The third annual Partners in Progress Breakfast highlighted community collaboration and shared commitment to inclusion.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & PARTNERS



Clay Clemens
Executive Director



Eric Isenbergh
Board President



George Radka
Board Member



Ildes Sotelo
Board Member



Katie Molloy
Board Member



Carole Dell
Board Member



Stephen Cassell
Board Member



Chave Johnson
Board Member

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Commissioner Josh Wostal –
Hillsborough County

Councilman Luis Viera – City of Tampa

Leroy Moore – Sr. Vice President/COO,
Tampa Housing Authority

John Nertney – Chief Financial Officer,
Alliant Partners

School Board Member Patti Rendon
Hillsborough County School Board

Dr. Eric Eisenberg – Sr. Vice President,
USF Community Partnerships

Eileen Pope – Senior Vice President
of Community Development, Bank of
America

Mayor Andy Ross – City of Temple
Terrace

Christian Leon – Executive Director,
Patel Family Foundation

FINANCIAL REPORT - FY 2024-2025

Category	Amount
Contributions, Gifts & Grants	\$237,193
Fundraising Events (Net)	\$74,574
Inventory Sales (Net)	\$1,198
TOTAL REVENUE	\$312,965

Category	Amount
Program Services	\$187,408
Administration (Management & General)	\$51,701
Fundraising	\$0
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$239,109

Metric	Value
Program Services	\$187408
Total Expenses	\$239109
Program Expense Percentage	78.38%

Total Assets	\$242,401
Total Liabilities	\$4,310
Net Assets	\$ 238,091

FOCUS FUTURE & LOOKING AHEAD



Building a Community Within the Community

At Project Focus, we believe that individuals with developmental disabilities deserve more than programs—they deserve a place to belong, thrive, and grow.”

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Focus Future is our long-term vision for an integrated campus that brings education, workforce training, community space, and supportive living together in one connected environment. Designed to foster independence while strengthening community ties, the campus will support individuals from adolescence through adulthood in a setting built around dignity, opportunity, and inclusion.

The Focus Future campus is envisioned as a vibrant hub where learning continues beyond the classroom, job skills are developed through real-world experience, and individuals can live with greater independence while remaining connected to the support they need.



Campus components:

1. The Lawn: Central green space for performances, celebrations, and community gatherings
2. Focus Academy Facility: State-of-the-art middle/high school and transition program
3. Workforce Training Center: Vocational rehab, commercial partners (grocery, market, café)
4. Performing Arts Theater: 400-seat venue for drama, dance, and community events
5. Supportive Living Residences: Apartment-style units for independent and supported living

LOOKING AHEAD: 2026 PRIORITIES



Key Goals for the Year Ahead

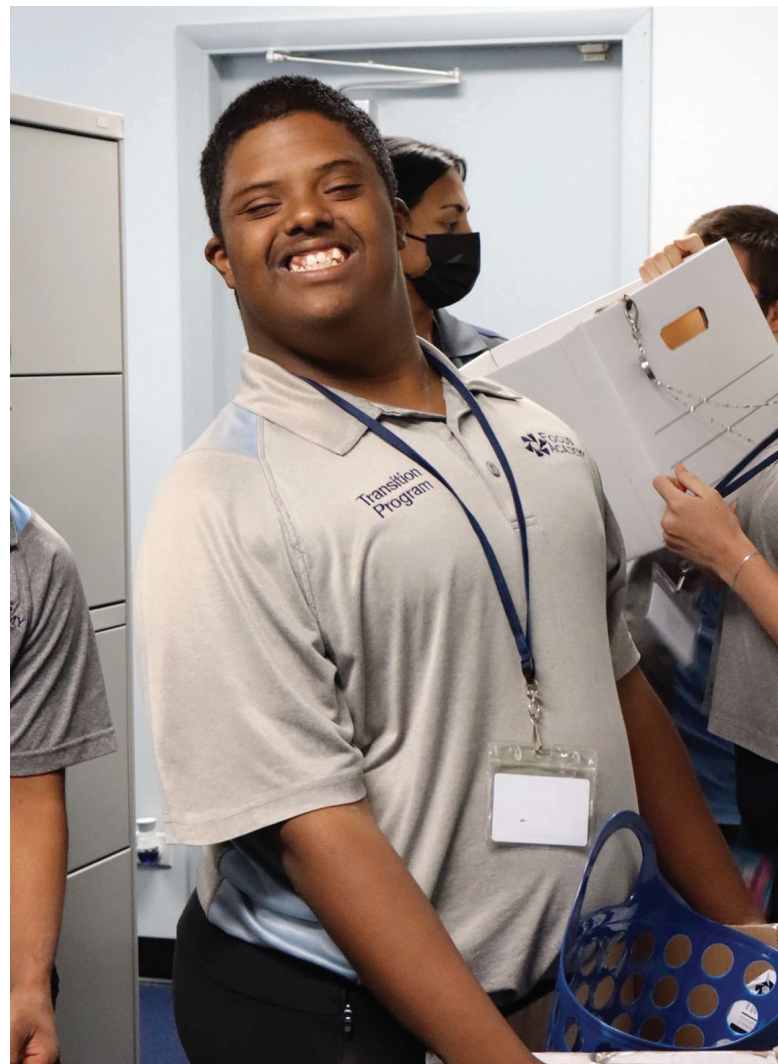
- Expand Focus Day School enrollment and add the next grade level
- Deepen partnerships, including expanded workforce training opportunities through MOSI and other community collaborators
- Advance Focus Future campus planning and site selection
- Grow capacity within Focus Forward to serve more young adults
- Begin planning for a capital campaign to support long-term campus development

Each goal represents a step toward a more inclusive future: one where individuals with developmental disabilities have access to education, employment, and community throughout their lives.

JOIN US IN SHAPING WHAT COMES NEXT

The vision of Focus Future cannot be realized alone. It will take partners, supporters, advocates, and community leaders working together to bring this vision to life.

Whether you are a donor, collaborator, or champion for inclusion, we invite you to walk alongside Project Focus as we build pathways to opportunity and create spaces where every individual can thrive.





Empowering Lives. Transforming Futures.

CONTACT US



Project Focus
304 Druid Hills Road
Temple Terrace, FL 33617



Phone: 813.443.5558
Email: info@projectfocususa.org
Website: projectfocusfoundation.org



501(c)(3) Charitable Organization
EIN: 32-0590027
FL Registration: CH63399