





FONDATION DR CLOWN

ANNUAL REPORT 2025 2026

The photos in this report were taken by beneficiaries and friends of the Foundation, staff and artists, or by the following photographers and creators: Nathalie Choquette, Samuel Tessier, Laëtitia Clouzot, Malika Benkirane, Christina Esteban, Angie Dupuis, Catherine Desautels

TABLE OF CONTENTS

04 **Introduction**
Message from the Chair and the Executive Director
The Year at a Glance
Our Mission

08 **Where We Are**
Expanding Our Impact
Different Settings, Different Approaches

10 **Team & Governance**
Our Team of Professional Artists
The Leaders Behind Our Mission
Stronger Behind the Scenes

16 **Our Expertise at Work**
The FAC: From Curiosity to Career
Research & Innovation
Knowledge Sharing

22 **Outreach**

24 **Philanthropy**
Corporate Partners
Our Campaigns
Young Professionals Circle
Community Supporters

34 **Financial Statements**

35 **Looking Ahead**



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This past year showed just how far the Dr. Clown Foundation has come. Guided by a deeply human mission, we keep growing our impact while building the solid footing we'll need for years to come.

This year, we delivered **1,833 service days** through **98 programs** designed for children, seniors and people in vulnerable situations.

Our Board of Directors continued to hold itself to the highest standards of rigour, ethics and sound management. Its 20 members, all leaders in Quebec's business community, serve on eight specialized committees and generously offer their skills, time and networks to the Foundation's mission. Thanks to them, our donors and partners can count on strong, trustworthy governance.

Over the years, the Foundation has grown thanks to a remarkable community: passionate artists, a dedicated staff, committed volunteers, generous donors and loyal partners. Each of them, in their own way, has helped fill a hospital room with laughter, let a parent breathe a little easier and given a child the chance to just be a kid again, if only for a moment.

On behalf of the Board, and above all on behalf of the thousands of children and families we serve, thank you for keeping this mission alive. Together, let's keep bringing joy for the next 25 years.

This year, thanks to the remarkable dedication of our **64 therapeutic clowns** and their gift for reaching people, we made more than **156,300 meaningful connections** with children, seniors and people in vulnerable situations in **nearly 100 facilities across Greater Montreal and Greater Quebec City**. We also welcomed our latest group of new noses, who are already making their mark in the field.

It was also a year of major investment in our ability to do more. **New technology** has improved the donor experience, streamlined our processes and made our operations more efficient, while laying the groundwork to expand our services. These changes leave us well prepared for the challenges ahead and ready to reach even more people.

At the same time, **the Foundation's reputation keeps growing** well beyond the settings where we work. Rising interest in our expertise and approach is building our credibility in Canada and abroad, a testament to the know-how we've developed over nearly 25 years.

We couldn't do any of this without a whole community of dedicated people. On behalf of the thousands of children, seniors, loved ones, healthcare workers and caregivers who benefit from our services each year, thank you for keeping this vital mission alive.

Together, let's keep humanity at the heart of everything we do.

Alexandra Bégin
Chair of the Board of Directors



Valérie Caron
Executive Director





THE YEAR AT A GLANCE



1,833
service days



156,334
meaningful connections



95
facilities served



64
therapeutic clowns



343
training registrations

Bringing joy

to those who need it most

The Dr. Clown Foundation is dedicated to improving the well-being and quality of life of as many individuals as possible. Therapeutic clowns create meaningful connections with people in healthcare and educational settings, providing them with moments of compassion, play, and laughter that help strengthen their resilience. The Foundation shares its expertise with those wishing to enhance their interpersonal and artistic skills.

Since 2002, the Dr. Clown Foundation has been developing a relationship-based approach focused on improving that is focused on improving the quality of life of hospitalized children, students in specialized schools, patients of all ages, and seniors in long-term care facilities.





Listen to her story
(in French)

Anoushka's Story

Anoushka was diagnosed with a brain tumour while she was still in a refugee camp in Botswana. She arrived in Canada fighting for her life. When she woke up in a hospital, far from home, she was convinced there was no room left for joy in her life. **One day, as she was singing in the hallway, the Dr. Clowns joined in.** From then on, she looked forward to their weekly visit.

Today, Anoushka has recovered. She dreams of becoming a musician, to remind everyone that "you can always dream, even after a tragedy."

EXPANDING OUR IMPACT

In 2025–2026, **eight new facilities** opened their doors to our therapeutic clowns in Greater Montreal and Greater Quebec City, helping us **increase our service days by 10.6% over the previous year**.

Every new facility on our map means we can reach more people.



Locations are approximate. Some facilities fall into more than one category.

DIFFERENT SETTINGS, DIFFERENT APPROACHES

The Dr. Clowns

In pediatric hospitals, rehabilitation centres, specialized schools and pediatric palliative care units, our therapeutic clowns meet everyone from babies just a few weeks old to children, teens and adults. Their goal never changes: to give everyone back a piece of their childhood.

The Dr. Clowns visited 31 facilities and provided 926 service days in 2025–2026.



La Belle Visite

In long-term care homes and palliative care units, our therapeutic clowns meet people cut off from the world by loss of independence, isolation or cognitive decline. When words fail, music, eye contact and the clowns' presence take over.

La Belle Visite served **64 facilities** and provided **907 service days** in 2025–2026.



Mission Dr Clown

This show is the only one of our services that reaches children in mainstream schools, as part of their everyday lives rather than a place of care. Piloted last year, the show took off thanks to donations from Fondation René Malo and Fondation Magnolia, and made its public debut during Journées de la culture in September 2025.

From January to May 2026, **756 students** in Montreal, Longueuil and Granby attended the show.



OUR TEAM OF PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS

Serving people of all ages in so many different settings takes a well-trained, well-supported artistic team.

On December 15, 2025, we welcomed our new noses (the name we give to our new recruits): six in Montreal and one in Quebec City, plus one artist returning to the team. They started visits in February, bringing our roster to 64 artists.

A launchpad for seriously funny careers

This year, we tied our hiring process to the ***Therapeutic Track*** **at the Faculté d'art clownesque (FAC)**, our clown arts school. The intensive program included several supervised visits in real care settings, so our new noses were ready from day one. Future cohorts won't always line up with a hiring round, but the program will keep doing what it was built for: training the next generation of therapeutic clowns, here in Quebec and beyond.

Year-round support for our artists

Peer Mentorship

Every new nose spends at least 35 service days working alongside an experienced artist before being paired with a peer.

Specialized Coaching

At least once a year, an artist-mentor with specialized expertise (like palliative care, autism or geriatrics) joins each artist on a visit and offers feedback.

Psychosocial Support

Six times a year, artists meet in small groups to share and debrief, guided by our two psychosocial co-directors.

Professional Development

Our artists received 45 hours of in-house artistic and psychosocial training this year.

Learning from international experts

Every two years, we invite a guest expert to lead an intensive workshop. This year, French master trainer **Christine Rossignol-Dallaire** spent three days with our artistic team.





Véronic's Story

In 2020, Véronic Rodrigue's two-year-old daughter, Anaïs, was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. When Véronic first walked into the Montreal Children's Hospital, she wondered if she'd stumbled into a party. It was Dr. Queen, who soon made Anaïs laugh for the first time in a long time. **That laugh kept the little girl going, all the way to remission.**

Véronic made her daughter a promise, and in 2025, she kept it: she signed up for our very first Introduction to *Therapeutic Clowning* course. In December, she joined the team as one of our seven new noses. Now she's the one bringing joy to families like hers.

Listen to her story (in French)

THE LEADERS BEHIND OUR MISSION

Expertise in the field needs strong leadership behind it. **Twenty business leaders from across Quebec sit on our Board and serve on eight committees.** They bring their know-how and their networks to help the Foundation grow, run smoothly and reach more people.

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	HIGHLIGHTS
Governance	 Élyse Lemay	*Keeps our governance sound and compliant, and builds a strong group of Board members.* This year, it focused on protecting our brand, revamping how we recruit Board members and building a pool of future candidates.
Finance	 Antoinette Noviello	*Makes sure our finances stay healthy, keeping a close watch on performance, risks, budgets and the accuracy of our financial reporting.*
Human Resources	 Marie-Josée Lavoie	*Looks after our people and our culture, and makes sure the Foundation has what it needs to grow.* A new organizational chart was approved in July 2025.
Fund Development	 Dominique Fortier & Derek Derouin	*Finds new sources of corporate support and helps our major events raise more.* This year, it also reached out to the English-speaking community, for both the Bal Imaginaire and Board recruitment.
Investment	 Eric Laberge	*Manages our investments with an eye on returns, risks and our investment policy, to keep the Foundation financially strong for the long term.*
Agility	 Martin Parent	*Aims to make us the most agile nonprofit around: a smoother user experience, a new CRM and the target of cutting the administrative share of our work by 15%* (see page 14 for details).
Strategic Planning	 Vicky Wistaff	*Keeps our 2024–2027 strategic plan on track, from goals and performance indicators to risks and opportunities, and is leading work on our next plan for 2027–2030.*
Communications & 25th Anniversary	 Valérie Sapin & Nicolas Laflamme	*Advises management on our 25th anniversary campaign, which aims to make the Foundation better known, get our stakeholders more involved and grow our revenue.*

2025–2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Alexandra Bégin, Chair
Head, Global Marketing Strategy
CAE



Vicky Wistaff, Vice-Chair
VP Advisory Strategy and Performance,
Personal Banking | National Bank



Antoinette Noviello, Treasurer
VP, Finance
Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton



Martine Coulombe, Secretary
Founder, Business Strategy and
Transition Consulting | Elva Conseil



Alex Dassa
VP, Strategy, Transformation
and Business Value | Coveo



Derek Derouin
Partner, Chief Technology
and Data Officer | Brio Management



Jean-Philippe Doyon
Chief Financial Officer
Armoires Cuisines Action



Dominique Fortier
Client Service Director
PwC Canada



Marie-Noëlle Gagnon
Chief Talent Officer
Cirque du Soleil



Melissa Holland
Co-Founder
Dr. Clown Foundation



Olivier Joyal
Executive VP, Quebec and Canadian
Client Program Leader | WSP



Eric Laberge
President
Medavie Blue Cross



Éloïse Laflamme
Associate
Fasken Martineau DuMoulin



Nicolas Laflamme
Director
TACT



Marie-Josée Lavoie
Senior VP, Talent and Company Culture
CAA-Quebec



Élyse Lemay
Strategic Legal Counsel and
Head of Practice | iA Financial Group



Frédéric Mantha
VP Artificial Intelligence and Data
Beneva



Martin Parent
VP, Operations
AGA Benefit Solutions



Frédéric Renaud
VP, Strategy, Analytics and
Performance – Wealth Management
and Life and Health Insurance | Desjardins



Valérie Sapin
VP Commercialization,
Québec Blue Cross

STRONGER BEHIND THE SCENES

In 2025–2026, we replaced much of our patchwork of software and Excel files with just two tools: **Zeffy** for transactions and tax receipts, and **Zoho One** for all internal management.

We also eliminated processing fees on individual donations, so more of every gift now comes straight to us.

$16,200+

saved on donation software

$7,000+

saved in processing fees on online donations (over 7 months)



Working Smarter

The savings are only part of the story. The new tools also gave us a chance to rethink how we handle our day-to-day work: communicating with facilities, scheduling, artist billing, donations and tax receipts. In terms of program management, for instance, we can now plan around availability further in advance, which means more time in the field.



2025–2026 ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

In July 2025, the Board approved a new organizational chart, which led us to create the position of Director of Administrative Services. The role contributes to the planning, delivery and follow-up of all our accounting and administrative work, so that resources are well managed and the operations behind our mission run smoothly.



Valérie Caron
Executive Director



Martin Goyette
Financial Development Director



Liliane Correia
Director of Administrative Services



Elsa Fourez
Programs and Operations Director



Janney Deveault
Development and Outreach Advisor
(Quebec City)



Nathalie Choquette
Program Coordinator



Melissa Holland
Co-Founder and Artistic Co-Director



Maxime Lee Larose
Artistic Co-Director



Marion Fauconnier
Co-Director,
Psychosocial Services



Josianne Avoine-Blondin
Co-Director,
Psychosocial Services



Amy Éloïse Mailloux
Communications and Marketing Director



Eliane Caya
Marketing and
Social Media Coordinator



Audrée Gourde
Outreach Advisor
(maternity leave)



Patricia Bonnot
Outreach Advisor
(maternity leave replacement)



Marie-Lou Leduc
Outreach and Events Coordinator



Julie Deschênes
Accounting Technician

THE FAC: FROM CURIOSITY TO CAREER

For us, therapeutic clowning is first and foremost a profession, one we practise with rigour and care. The **Faculté d'art clownesque (FAC)** exists to share our artistic and interpersonal know-how and to train the next generation of clowns in Quebec and beyond.

This year, FAC activities drew **343 registrations** (231 in Montreal and 112 in Quebec City), filling 83% of available spots. Many participants kept coming back: since 2024, 41% have taken more than one course with us.

New this year: we ran **two groups for *Introduction to Therapeutic Clowning***, a course that lays the artistic and psychosocial groundwork for performing artists who want to work with vulnerable populations. Of 66 applicants, 24 were accepted, and seven of them now work for the Foundation.

Discovery Track
Acts 1 to 4
For anyone who wants to step out of their comfort zone, try a new art form and, above all, have fun!

Professional Track
Clown 1 to 4
For anyone who wants to develop their own clown persona. Admission by application.

Therapeutic Track
Introduction
For anyone with solid clowning experience and a desire to make a difference. Admission by application.

Caregiving with a Light Heart *Workshop*
For anyone who wants to bring therapeutic clowning tools into their work supporting others.
Offered as a shorter, three-hour workshop since 2025–26.



Of 110 respondents to our year-end survey, 89.8% gave their instructors top marks and 85% plan to keep learning with us.

FAC Quebec City: more to offer than ever before

This was a big year for our **Quebec City campus**.

In October 2025, we opened a new studio, made possible by Jojo et ses Clowns. Our programming kept growing too: **the campus welcomed its first two Clown 1 groups**, in December 2025 and April 2026, launching the Professional Track in Quebec City.

FAC – Quebec City	2024–2025	2025–2026
Discovery Track	5 groups | 44 registrations	7 groups | 71 registrations
Professional Track	—	2 groups | 16 registrations
Caregiving with a Light Heart	1 group | 12 registrations	2 groups | 25 registrations

Preparing the next generation of performers

In March 2026, we introduced the FAC to second-year students at the **Conservatoire d'art dramatique de Québec**, presenting therapeutic clowning as a serious career path for emerging artists.



LAUNCHING THE INNOVATION LAB

In 2025–2026, we launched the Foundation's Innovation Lab. Its job: to take the challenges and opportunities that come up in the field, tackle them with the help of an interdisciplinary team and turn the answers into guides, training and tools everyone can use.

The Lab is co-led by Artistic Co-Director Maxime Larose and Psychosocial Co-Director Josianne Avoine-Blondin. It received a **$40,000 budget** for its first year: $20,000 from the **Germaine Gibara Fund** and $20,000 from a generous donor.

Starting with the artists

To kick off the season in September, we invited all our artists to pitch ideas to the Lab. They submitted 24 proposals, and five projects got under way during the year, in collaboration with specialists from different fields:

- **Best practices in social pediatrics**: a guide developed with the expertise of Dr. Sanja Stojanovic to better support children whose living conditions put their safety, health and development at risk.
- **Being a good resident**: easy-to-share materials that help staff, families and the people we visit understand what therapeutic clowns really do.



- **Injustice in the field**: a written guide, created with the help of a psychoeducator and a liaison officer, that names the difficult situations artists face in facilities and offers different ways to handle them.
- **Clowning in general hospitals**: the start of a consultation phase on how the Dr. Clown approach could be adapted for adult patients in general hospitals.
- **Supporting our peer mentors**: a project requested by the mentors themselves, to define a role whose expectations and limits weren't always clear.

This first year was about identifying what could be improved. The resulting guides and training will be released over the next few years.

OUR HEALTH EXPERT COMMITTEE

We rely on a group of health specialists with a simple mandate: to tell us honestly what they see. Together, their expertise covers every setting where our artists work.



Dr. David Lussier
Geriatrician | Institut universitaire de gériatrie de Montréal (IUGM)



Dr. Suzanne Vobecky
Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon
Montreal Children's Hospital



Dr. Louis Roy
Palliative Care Physician
Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus



Gaïd Gaillard
Clinical Director
Yaldei Developmental Center



Daniel Geneau
Neuropsychologist | SEPEC Advisory Services in Psychogeriatrics, Teaching and Consulting



Vanessa Harton-Dickner
Psychoeducator | Hôpital en santé mentale Rivière-des-Prairies



Anne Dubé
Assistant Director, Multidisciplinary Services, Operations | CIUSSS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal



Dr. Sanja Stojanovic
Pediatrician, Clinical Director | Atlas & Mihawoso Social Pediatrics Centres



Dr. Mélissa Généreux
Medical Advisor, Estrie Public Health Department Full Professor | CIUSSS de l'Estrie – CHU de Sherbrooke



Frédérique Laurier
Manager and Consultant
Frédérique Laurier, services conseil



Michèle Sirois
Expert in geriatrics, therapeutic clown, speaker and trainer

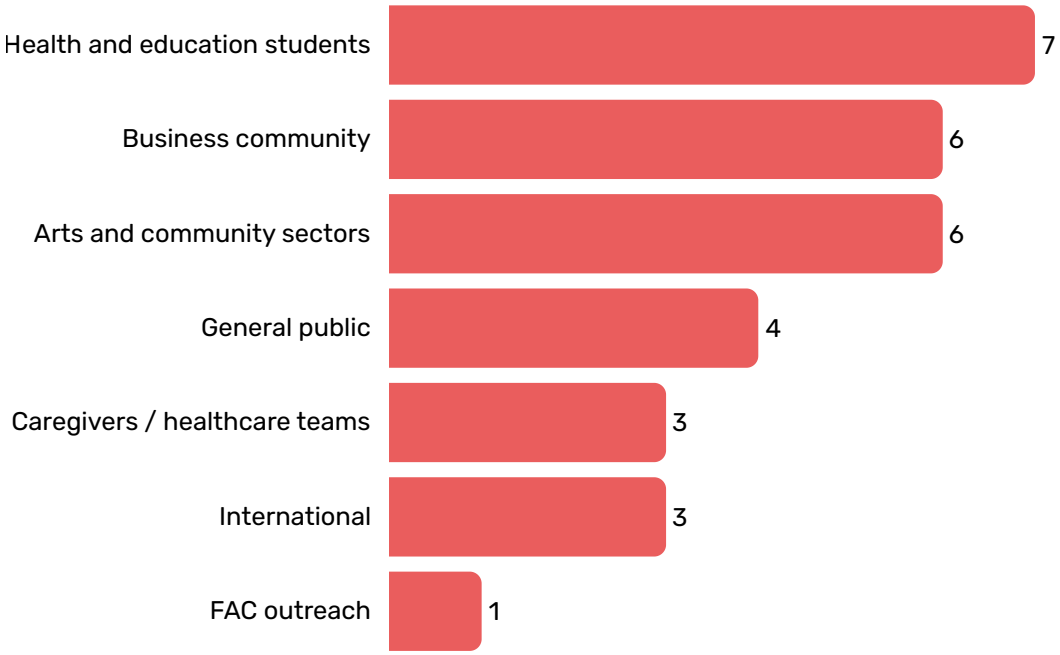


Florence Vinit
Co-Founder, Professor, Psychologist & Sexologist | UQAM and private practice



PASSING ON WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

In 2025–2026, we gave **30 talks, workshops and presentations** outside our regular programs to audiences as varied as nursing students, hospital teams, psychologists, artists, corporate employees and professionals from around the world.



Training tomorrow's care providers

Our artists visited CHU Sainte-Justine three times, in February, April and May, to meet nursing students from **Cégep du Vieux Montréal**.

They also gave four talks to special care counselling students at **Cégep de Chaudière-Appalaches**, on its Sainte-Marie and Saint-Georges campuses.

Each visit had the same goal: **to introduce therapeutic clowns as members of the multidisciplinary care team.**

FOR THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES

We also met with teams already working in the field:

- a lunch-and-learn at the **CIUSSS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal** on communicating with seniors living with cognitive decline,
- a session at the **MUHC** on preventing psychosocial risks,
- and a presentation at the **UQAM Psychological Services Centre's** conference, to an audience made up mostly of psychologists.

On the international stage

From March 11 to 13, 2026, we were in Lausanne for the **Healthcare Clowning International Meeting**, where we gave two talks.

Melissa Holland and Valérie Caron presented *Clowning in social pediatrics*: focus on refugees, immigrants and First Nations communities, sharing lessons from a one-year pilot project with an Atikamekw community on how therapeutic clowns and social pediatrics teams can work together. Co-founder and UQÀM professor Florence Vinit led *Clowning and trauma: safety, play, and nervous system regulation*.

In April, we teamed up with the **Festival des clowns de Montréal** to organize a Clownférence: a day of conversations, panels and playful exploration. Four of our artists spoke on the panel *Joy as an Act of Resistance, Resilience and Rebellion.*



Tools for every setting

We also gave six talks in **corporate settings**, showing how therapeutic clowning tools can foster empathy and stronger workplace relationships. Hosts included KPMG, Cloutier Groupe Financier, AGA Benefit Solutions, Medavie Blue Cross, Desjardins Financial Security and the Air Canada Foundation.

From September 26 to 28, 2025, we opened both our studios to the public for **Journées de la culture**, with discovery workshops in Montreal and Quebec City, a talk on the La Belle Visite approach and a performance of Mission Dr Clown.

CLOSE-KNIT COMMUNITIES

Our social media channels share joy, lightness and connection with every post, and tens of thousands of people view and interact with them every week.

All our platforms gained followers this year, but **our biggest growth came from video**. **Our videos were viewed 78,200 times, up from 19,200 last year**: a fourfold increase. The reason is simple: since July 1, 2025, we've been producing and posting far more videos, helping our stories reach more hearts.

Facebook
30.9k followers (+ 19%)

LinkedIn
3.1k followers (+ 30%)

Instagram
6.6k followers (+ 29%)

YouTube
78.2k views (+ 307%)

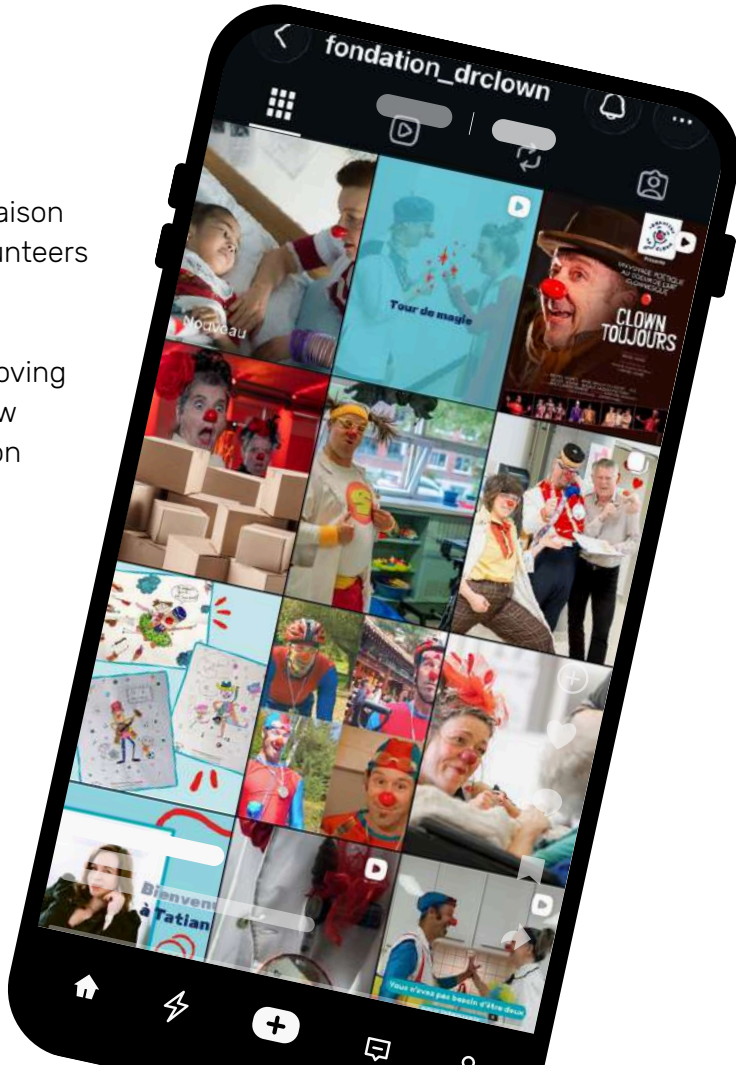
Building relationships through our newsletter

Our subscribers aren't strangers: they're donors, liaison staff in our partner facilities, FAC participants, volunteers and other friends of the Foundation.

This year, we found a better way to reach them. Moving from Courrielleur to Zoho means we can now follow these relationships over time and send each person content that's more relevant to them.

6,355
subscribers (+ 9%)

246k
emails sent



BUILDING BRAND FAMILIARITY

Posting the same thing everywhere means speaking to no one. Since July 2025, each platform has had its own content plan, tailored to its audience.

Instagram led the way, building on a strategy we began in 2024. YouTube saw the biggest change as we ramped up our video production. And having a content creator on board every month means we can now post on a regular schedule.

Launching our blog

Launched in summer 2025, the Foundation's blog gives **a platform to voices that had no place in our communications before**. First came testimonials, from a hospitalized patient and from artists describing their practice. Then came profiles, like Véronic's story, and tributes to artists who have been with the Foundation for more than two decades. Next, we put our approach into words, with our first article on the five values of therapeutic clowning. Finally, the blog acts as an extension of our media appearances. After our interview on the Maux à Mots podcast, for example, a follow-up article covered what we didn't have time to say on air.



Demystifying therapeutic clowning in the media

This year, the Foundation appeared on **TV and radio, on two podcasts and in several print publications**. What changed wasn't the amount of coverage, but what it was about. The media no longer invite us just to share a touching visit; they now call on us to explain and demystify our practice. For example:

- *Des clowns thérapeutiques afin de briser l'isolement chez les aînés* on Noovo Info (in French)
- *Le clown, cet artiste guérisseur* in Reflet de société (in French)
- *Clowns thérapeutiques* on the Maux à Mots podcast (in French)

And in nearly every case, it was our artists who stepped up to the mic.

ALLIES WE COULDN'T DO WITHOUT

At the Dr. Clown Foundation, we're lucky to have so many generous donors behind us. Their support keeps our mission going and helps us launch new projects that bring our services to more people. **Thank you!**

JOY Club • $100,000 and over

Fondation Famille Michel Fournelle

coveo MC

Fondation Grace Dart Foundation

Couche-Tard MC

HONESTY Club • $50,000 to $99,999

Fondation Air Canada Foundation

Fondation Sandra et Alain Bouchard

Croix Bleue MD du Québec

Fondation Magnolia

Banque Nationale

Fondation J.-Louis Lévesque – Depuis 1961

OPENNESS Club • $25,000 to $49,999

Fondation famille Lemaire

Fondation Famille Jean-Guy Desjardins

LIGHTHEARTEDNESS Club • $10,000 to $24,999

Fondation K.M.P. Folla

Fondation Charles Cusson

Fraternité des policiers et policières de Montréal

SIMPLICITY Club • Up to $9,999

- Fondation Carmand Normand
- Fondation Benjo
- Fondation Hylcan
- Fondation Lise et Richard Fortin
- Fondation Blain-Favreau
- iA Financial Group
- Fondation Bon Départ
- Fondation Ellipse
- Fondation Maurice Tanguay
- Sandoz
- Montreal Automobile Dealers Corporation
- Laval Rocket
- Fondation René Malo
- Fondation Bourassa-Savaria
- Fondation Lise et Giuseppe Racanelli
- Fondation Jacques et Michel Auger

THEY GO THE EXTRA MILE

Some of our corporate partners organize their own fundraisers, rallying colleagues, clients and suppliers around our mission. Along with raising funds, these events introduce us to new audiences and bring people together for a good cause.

The Couche-Tard Golf Classic

Couche-Tard's much-anticipated golf tournament **broke its own record once again** at its 28th edition. A great show of commitment from a longtime partner.



$70,500 in donations

Grilling for a good cause

Police officers from across Quebec rallied to raise funds for the therapeutic clown program we offer at CHU Sainte-Justine's Centre de réadaptation Marie-Enfant (CRME). Their efforts culminated in a barbecue at the CRME in September.

$14,000 in donations



In the holiday spirit with Benjo

The **Fondation Benjo Christmas Brunch** is a festive fundraiser held in the magical setting of the Fairmont Le Château Frontenac.

In 2025, the event took place in the hotel's ballroom, raising funds for Dr. Clown visits in the Quebec City region.

$7,000 in donations



Bringing humanity to financial services

Cloutier Groupe Financier's 2026 Ralliement brought together financial services professionals around living benefits, a field where emotions run especially high. Martin Goyette, our Financial Development Director, was invited to close the event with his talk *Des outils relationnels drôlement utiles* (Seriously Useful Tools for Human Connection), offering financial security advisors a new way to approach these sensitive conversations.

Afterward, the organizers invited the audience to donate to the Dr. Clown Foundation.

$4,150 in donations

Giving Their Time

This year, **60 volunteers**, from corporate teams to community members, gave their time to the Dr. Clown Foundation. They helped out at our benefit events, with administrative tasks and at external events like the Laval Rocket game (in support of the Ella, petite étoile fund).



BAL IMAGINAIRE

The Bal Imaginaire is our biggest fundraising event of the year. On May 26, 2026, we brought our partners, donors and artists together for one evening at Marché Bonsecours.

For the second year in a row, **KPMG** and **TD Wealth Management** teamed up as honorary co-chairs, represented by Stephan Drolet, Managing Partner, Quebec, at KPMG, and Suzanne Tremblay, Vice President and Regional Head at TD.

Mathieu Riel, an actor, creator and one of the Foundation's own therapeutic clowns, served as the evening's artistic director. The evening was hosted by Richard Turcotte, and its highlights included a pop-up choir of nine of our artists, put together in just half a dozen rehearsals.

Two auctions helped make the night a huge success: a silent auction that opened a week before the event, and a live auction to close the evening. All net proceeds go to our mission.

$736,511 raised

presented by



TRICOTÉS SERRÉS



Every February, Tricotés serrés invites our community to support our work with seniors for an entire month.

The 2026 edition was the first run entirely on Zeffy, our new donation platform, which meant easier giving, automatic tax receipts and a newsletter that followed the campaign from start to finish. **Fondation Magnolia** pledged to match donations up to $10,000. Mission accomplished: more visits for seniors!

$23,200 raised

L'ENCAN DES FÊTES

For ten days, our online holiday auction showcased items donated by partners from all around the province: outings and activities, local finds and gourmet treats. It was a win-win format, supporting local creators and businesses while funding our artists' visits with children and seniors.

$5,544 raised





RALLYING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PHILANTHROPISTS

Nose-it-Forward, our Young Professionals Circle, is a committee that works alongside the Dr. Clown Foundation's Board. Its members, young professionals from business and healthcare, volunteer their time, skills and creativity to support our projects.

For the third year running, the Circle hosted **Confetti**, a benefit evening full of surprises, performances and great company. A total of 260 guests came together for our cause on February 19, 2026. Thanks to ticket sales, sponsorships from **Domrex Pharma** and **La Presse**, donations and a raffle, the night raised $62,000, well above its $50,000 goal.

The 2026 edition also marked the start of a new collaboration with medical uniform brand **Garde-Malade**, one of some twenty ambassadors who helped spread the word about the event.

DOMREX PHARMA

LA PRESSE

$62,000 raised



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS CIRCLE NOSE-IT-FORWARD



Nicolas Laflamme, Co-Chair
Director | TACT



Éloïse Laflamme, Co-Chair
Associate
Fasken Martineau DuMoulin



Nicolas Laprise, Treasurer
Director, Operational Excellence, Underwriting | Desjardins



Sabrina Ross
Director, Plan Sponsor Services
AGA Benefit Solutions



Louis Karl Fouquette
Project Assistant, Earth Sciences and Environment | WSP



Adriano D'Angelo
Account Director | Maple



Kelly Cleary-Lethiecq
Executive Director | Team All In



Karina Poliquin
Pediatrician



A TRIBUTE TO KARINA POLIQUIN

Some people leave a lasting mark on our hearts. Dr. Karina Poliquin was one of them. Her involvement in the Circle was a model of dedication to children and families in care settings.

After her passing, a community that admired her deep humanity and her desire to do good came together to raise funds for the Foundation in her memory. **Together, they raised more than $9,000.**

Thank you, Karina, for being a shooting star for the Foundation and for everyone whose life you touched.

THOSE WHO GIVE BACK

Some of our most heartfelt support comes from people who simply decide to help. They give their time and creativity, and rally those around them. We are deeply grateful to each of them!

JOJO ET SES CLOWNS

Since 2021, the family of Jolyane, known as Jojo, has turned their grief into generosity, giving hospitalized children in the Quebec City region the same moments of joy Jojo shared with her clowns. Through Yule log sales, the Mont-Dons challenge and their annual cornhole tournament, the Jojo et ses Clowns fund has raised nearly $200,000 over the years.

$57,115 raised



ELLA, PETITE ÉTOILE

In Ella's memory, her mother's colleagues created a fund that, every March 31, her birthday, brings our therapeutic clowns to children at the Montreal Children's Hospital.

Each year, their campaign lets family and friends keep her star shining through a fundraiser for the Foundation.

$3,832 raised



A LOVE STORY

Touched by the support our therapeutic clowns gave her daughter Kaissy during her fight against leukemia, Anick Coulombe is still raising funds seven years later so other families can get the same support.

She used to raise funds by running, but an injury has kept her off the road. That didn't stop her: this year, she sold gift baskets for the Foundation instead.

$1,300 raised



A TENDENCY TOWARD GENEROSITY

Anouk, a devoted and courageous mother, met our therapeutic clowns during an ordeal no parent should ever have to face. Once again this year, she chose to give back in memory of her child, so other families can receive the same precious support.

Over the holidays, she held a big raffle for the Foundation through her business, Scrapbook Tendance.

$5,185 raised



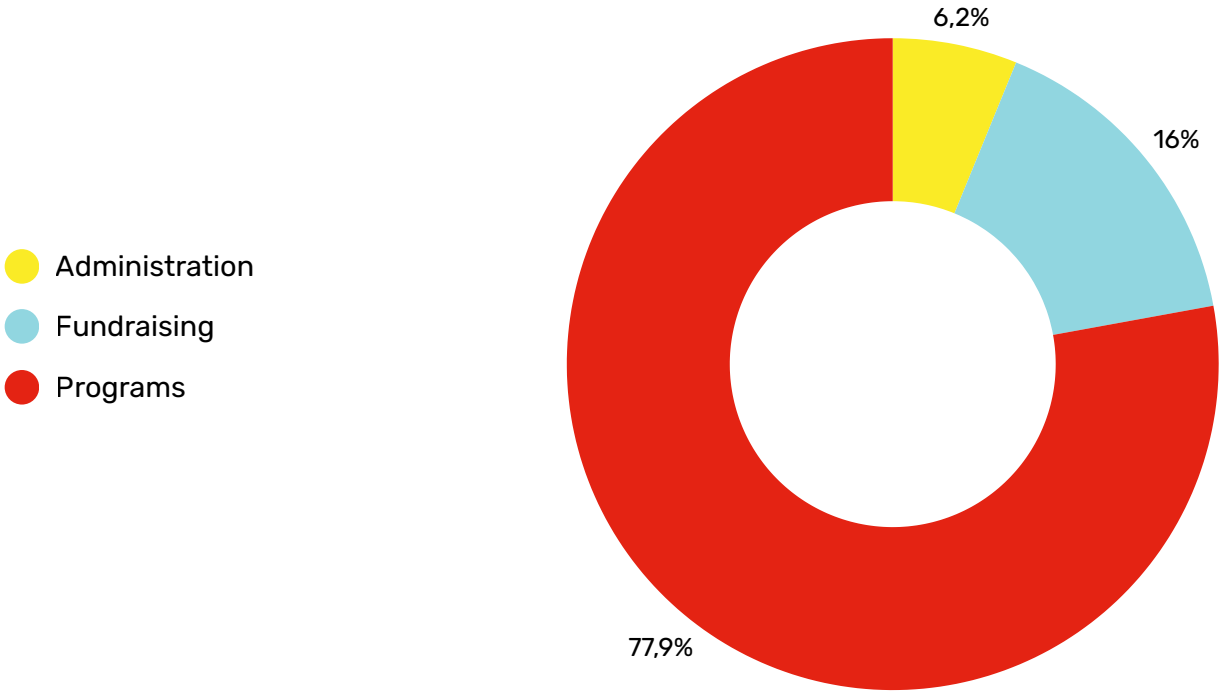
Aurélie's Story

Ella was a little ray of sunshine who loved to sing and laughed out loud when the clowns blew bubbles in her hospital room. After she passed, her mother Aurélie's colleagues found a way to support her through this painful time: they created a fund in Ella's memory.

Every March 31, on Ella's birthday, the Ella, petite étoile Fund brings the Dr. Clowns to the Montreal Children's Hospital for a special visit. A shooting star goes by too fast. Ella's comes back every year.

Listen to her story
(in French)

EXPENSE BREAKDOWN



Fiscal year ends June 30

Revenue	2026	%	2025	%	2024	%
Program service revenue	$679,155	21.6%	$630,688	23.3%	$563,614	23.8%
Fundraising events*	$683,610	21.8%	$601,636	22.2%	$500,104	21.2%
Donations, grants and other	$1,775,954	56.6%	$1,474,076	54.5%	$1,300,304	55.0%
Total	$3,138,719	100%	$2,706,400	100%	$2,364,022	100%

Expenses	2026		2025		2024	
Total	$3,144,085		$2,690,908		$2,359,301	
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses	($5,366)		$15,492		$4,721	
Net Assets	$325,901		$331,267		$315,775	

Investments	2026		2025		2024	
Germaine Gibara Fund	$787,257		$722,584		$641,710	

**Amounts raised at events may be subject to accounting adjustments depending on the type of donation.*

Back in 2002, we believed something few people did: that clowns belonged in hospitals and care homes, working alongside nurses and doctors to bring warmth, lightness and joy to people going through hard times.

Today, that belief has grown into a respected, well-structured practice. It keeps evolving through our visits in the field, the expertise we continue to build and our growing presence in the public eye.

If these pages show one thing, it's that our practice now reaches far beyond hospitals and long-term care facilities. We share our therapeutic clowning expertise through the wide range of courses at both campuses of the Faculté d'art clownesque, as well as through talks at CEGEPs, universities, businesses and conferences. And as it grows, it now resonates on the international stage, among our peers.

The year ahead marks our 25th anniversary. We'll also be developing our 2027–2030 strategic plan and continuing the work we've begun on innovation, structure and growth. Our goal hasn't changed: to make a bigger difference for those who need it most.

In the coming months, we'll unveil a Foundation that has grown in expertise and maturity, and that, like our Dr. Clowns, always has another trick up its sleeve.

Thank you to everyone who makes this journey possible.

The Dr. Clown Foundation team



Dr. Clown Foundation
5800 Saint-Denis Street, Suite 502
Montreal, Quebec H2S 3L5
fondationdrclown.ca
514 845-7628

Follow us on social media!