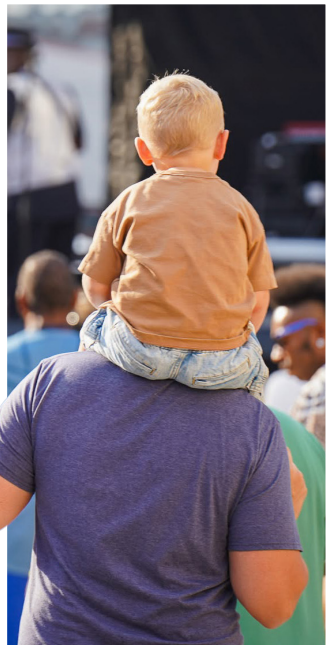








ERIE'S FUTURE DEPENDS ON

EARLY CARE

Investing in Child Care.

Strengthening Erie County.

E·C·G·R·A
ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

Annual Report 2025-2026



Presque Isle Partnership, Discover Presque Isle - Special Event Grant

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OUR MISSION

The Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA) is Erie County's impact investor. Our mission is to elevate Erie County by empowering nonprofits and small businesses through strategic investments that strengthen economic opportunity and community development.

Since its inception, ECGRA has authorized more than $97 million in local share gaming revenue investments throughout Erie County using its nationally recognized Impact Investing model.

ECGRA administers local share gaming revenue on behalf of Erie County under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Horse Race Gaming Act. These funds are reinvested into initiatives that generate lasting economic, community, and cultural impact across the county.

ASSETS

CHECKING - $29,194

SAVINGS - $2,648,016

CERTIFICATES - $18,188,133

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - $6,199,702

TOTAL ASSETS - $27,065,045

EQUITY

BEGINNING EQUITY - $22,380,690

NET INCOME - $1,195,321

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kelly S. Hess, ***Chair***

Angie Amatangelo, ***Vice Chair***

Gary J. Winschel, ***Treasurer***

Ronald G. Cleaver

Mark B. Louis

Robert S. Oberlander

Darrell A. Smith

STAFF

Perry Wood,
Executive Director

Tom Maggio, AICP,
Grants Manager

Tammi Michali,
Executive Assistant



Erie Blues and Jazz Fest - Special Events Grant

HOW DOES ECGRA WORK?

ECGRA is a public authority established under Pennsylvania law to administer local share gaming revenue in Erie County. The ECGRA Board of Directors, appointed by Erie County Council, oversees the distribution of grants and investments while serving as a leader within Erie County's economic and community development ecosystem.

Since 2011, Executive Director Perry Wood has led ECGRA's work to maximize the impact of local share gaming revenue. Under the Board's direction, the organization has developed a nationally recognized framework that leverages grants, loans, and impact investments to strengthen Erie County.

In 2014, ECGRA formally adopted its Impact Investing Policy, modeled after leading foundations across the United States. This approach enables gaming revenue to generate measurable social, cultural, and economic outcomes while also producing financial returns that help preserve these resources for future generations.

Impact investing is an intentional strategy that creates positive, measurable community outcomes while preserving and growing capital—without the use of taxpayer dollars. Through this model, ECGRA continues to invest in projects that create lasting value across Erie County.

In addition to competitive grantmaking, ECGRA supports a portfolio of "Lead Assets"—organizations that are foundational to Erie County's culture and identity. To date, these organizations have received more than $18 million in grants and endowments.

"Through its Lead Assets program, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority has made a lasting commitment to organizations that shape the cultural fabric of our region, enabling the Erie Philharmonic and our cross-discipline partners to serve as both cultural anchors and economic drivers. From subscription and educational performances on the Warner Theatre stage to concerts, classes, and community events in parks and schools across Erie County, this sustaining investment is our bedrock, providing the stability to grow, innovate, and serve our community year after year."

— BOBBY PAPE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ERIE PHILHARMONIC



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



MORE THAN $97 MILLION INVESTED IN ERIE COUNTY THROUGH LOCAL SHARE GAMING REVENUE.

It is my privilege each year to reflect on the investments ECGRA has made throughout Erie County and the meaningful impact they continue to generate. To date, ECGRA has invested more than $97 million in local share gaming revenue to strengthen communities across our region.

These investments span a wide range of sectors—from the arts and culture to public safety, small business, workforce development, and community revitalization. Together, they strengthen Erie County's economy, improve quality of life, and help build a more resilient future.

This year, we are highlighting one area where strategic investment is making a meaningful difference: **child care.**

Like many communities across the country, Erie County faces significant child care challenges, which negatively impact our local economy. Too few providers, staffing shortages, and limited capacity make it difficult for working families to access the care they need. These challenges affect not only children and families but also employers, workforce participation, and long-term economic growth.

ECGRA is helping address these challenges by investing in practical, community-driven solutions that create measurable results.

Reliable, high-quality child care supports working families, strengthens employers, and creates better opportunities for children during their earliest years of development. Research consistently demonstrates that early childhood education produces lasting educational, social, and economic benefits, making child care one of the most impactful investments a community can make.

As Erie County continues to grow, we must continue investing in the systems that make that growth possible. Child care is one of those essential systems, and this year's report highlights the progress being made through collaboration, innovation, and strategic investment.

On behalf of ECGRA, I extend my sincere thanks to our Board of Directors, staff, funding recipients, and community partners. Your commitment to strengthening Erie County continues to make these investments possible and ensures their impact will be felt for generations to come.

— PERRY WOOD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ECGRA SUPPORTS CHILD CARE

INVESTING IN CHILD CARE. EMPOWERING THE ERIE ECONOMY.

The Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority strategically invests gaming revenue into key areas of the local economic ecosystem to achieve community development and promote economic stability and strength in the region.

Access to reliable, high-quality child care is essential to a strong workforce, healthy families, and a growing economy. Recognizing the challenges facing providers across Erie County, ECGRA developed a strategic, multi-phase investment approach designed to strengthen the childcare system while creating lasting community impact.

The initiative was informed by research and local collaboration, including the Jefferson Educational Society's Early Childhood Initiative and recommendations from its 2023 Leadership Academy.

Rather than addressing a single challenge, ECGRA's strategy supports both the immediate needs of childcare providers and the long-term capacity of the industry.

ECGRA has invested $2,521,877.21 in childcare solutions throughout Erie County.

"Erie County is tackling its childcare crisis head-on by investing in early educator retention to stabilize the workforce and support working families. Through bold public funding and local collaboration, the region is creating a model for sustainable, community-driven childcare solutions."

— PENNSYLVANIA EARLY LEARNING COMMISSION 2025 STUDY

PHASE ONE | STRENGTHENING THE WORKFORCE

Awarded in Summer 2025, Phase One invested $1.5 million in Early Educator Retention Awards.

This investment focused on helping childcare providers retain qualified educators—a critical step in stabilizing the workforce and preserving access to care for Erie County families.

Early results demonstrate that supporting childcare professionals directly contributes to a stronger and more sustainable childcare system.

Feedback from local providers reinforces these results and aligns with broader statewide efforts to strengthen Pennsylvania's early childhood care workforce.

The Commonwealth-funded educator retention investments in the 2026 state budget demonstrate a shared commitment to supporting childcare professionals across Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania's 2026 budget increases funding for the Child Care Staff Retention and Recruitment Program to $30 million, providing additional resources that will benefit childcare providers, families, and employers across Erie County.

PHASE TWO | EXPANDING CAPACITY

Phase Two shifted the focus from workforce stabilization to facility growth.

Through $995,537.62 in capital investments, ECGRA supported childcare centers throughout Erie County with facility improvements, expansions, and quality enhancements that help providers serve more children and families.

PHASE THREE | BUILDING CAPACITY

While meaningful progress has been made, continued investment will be essential to meeting the community's long-term childcare needs. ECGRA's targeted funding has already helped stabilize the workforce and expand provider capacity, but additional opportunities remain to increase access for working families.

Phase Three of ECGRA's childcare initiative is designed to continue that progress. Improvements will support childcare providers seeking to construct new childcare centers to expand capacity in Erie County.

By increasing the availability of child care across Erie County, these investments will help strengthen the regional workforce, support economic growth, and create greater opportunities for children and families.

"The Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, in partnership with Erie County, is taking tangible steps and providing funding where it's needed most."

— MICHELLE HARKINS, VICE PRESIDENT, EARLY CONNECTIONS

The U.S. Department of the Treasury awarded Erie County a Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund grant, which fully or partially supports this project.



ABC 24 Hr. Care - Investing in Families

ABC CHILD CARE

ABC Child Care received a $50,000 grant to expand its facilities and help meet the growing demand for childcare following the closure of the Mercyhurst Child Early Learning Center.

"This ECGRA grant is helping us provide more, better-quality child care to the Erie community. Through renovation and expansion, we can increase our capacity to serve families in our downtown location while supporting growth at a new East Side location driven by continued neighborhood development."

— TIFFANY LAVETTE, OWNER, ABC CHILD CARE









ABC 24 Hr. Care - Investing in Families



CHILDCARE FUNDING

PHASE I EDUCATOR RETENTION AWARDS

Name	Amount
A Child's World Daycare & Learning Center	$23,683.00
ABC 24 HR Care (Her Power Inc)	$30,142.00
Annie's Bubble Care	$6,459.00
Barb's Care a Lot	$21,530.00
Barb's Family Learning Group Daycare	$6,459.00
Barber National Institute	$59,207.50
Boro Babies Child Care Center	$9,688.50
Bright Horizons at Erie	$27,989.00
Child Development Centers	
Asbury CDC	$97,889.66
Cascade CDC	$55,619.87
Century CDC	$67,702.70
Downtown CDC	$24,999.05
Elk Valley CDC	$18,862.12
Gilson CDC	$47,458.27
Roosevelt CDC	$21,218.95
Millcreek School-Age Program	$35,192.67
Corry Alliance Childcare & Learning	$9,150.25
Creative Learning Childcare	$35,524.50
Cuddle Time Daycare	$1,076.50
Eagle's Nest Group Daycare	$6,459.00
Early Connections	$11,303.25
Early Connections City Center	$16,147.50
Early Connections Harbor Homes	$6,459.00
Early Connections North East	$6,459.00
Early Connections Union City	$23,683.00
EPS Pennbriar Childcare	$16,416.63
Erie First Christian Academy	$11,303.25
Fit Kids Childcare	$10,226.75
Growing & Learning Center LLC	$43,060.00
Handled With Care Childcare Facility	$37,677.50
I Love It Daycare Learning Center LLC	$15,071.00

PHASE I EDUCATOR RETENTION AWARDS

Name	Amount
Javonne Beason	$1,076.50
Jordan's Family Childcare Home	$6,459.00
Jumpstart Early Learning Center LLC	$6,459.00
KinderCare Learning Center	$8,612.00
Little Explorers Christian Academy	$5,378.00
Lollipop U Daycare	$8,612.00
Milestones Early Learning Center	$35,524.50
Miss Julie's Childcare	$13,994.50
Miss Rose's Learning Center	$8,612.00
Montessori in the Woods	$12,918.00
My Terra Village	$4,844.25
New Horizons Early Learning Center	$10,750.00
NWIR	$16,755.25
Playway Loving Childcare Center LLC	$5,382.50
Saint Benedict Center	$67,819.50
Saint Vincent Child Care Center	$34,448.00
South Hills Child Development Center Inc	$37,139.25
St. Martin Center	$83,967.00
St. Paul's Child Development Center	$22,606.50
The Learning Ladder Early Child Care	$18,300.50
Tracy Heutsche Family Home Child Care	$4,844.25
Twinkle Time Child Care Center	$5,920.75
USCRI Erie	$10,765.00
World of Care Inc	$12,918.00
YMCA of Corry	$39,830.50
YMCA of Greater Erie	$210,896.67
Young Environment Learning Center	$26,374.25
TOTAL PHASE I	**$1,526,339.59**



PHASE II START UP & EXPANSION GRANTS

Name	Amount
ABC 24 HR Care (Her Power Inc)	$50,000.00
Annie's Bubble Care	$22,992.62
Barber National Institute	$47,185.00
Barb's Family Learning Group Daycare	$50,000.00
Barb's Family Learning Group Daycare	$25,000.00
Christian Ministries	$33,445.00
Creative Learning Childcare	$40,000.00
Early Connections	
Early Connections City Center	$50,000.00
Early Connections Harbor Homes	$50,000.00
Early Connections John Horan	$30,200.00
Early Connections North East	$13,500.00
Early Connections Union City	$50,000.00
EPS Pennbriar Childcare	$50,000.00
Explore the Possibilities	$50,000.00
Handled With Care Childcare Facility	$50,000.00

PHASE II START UP & EXPANSION GRANTS

Name	Amount
Jumpstart Early Learning Center LLC	$50,000.00
Miss Julie's Childcare	$14,574.00
Montessori in the Woods	$30,000.00
Multicultural Community Resource Center	$50,000.00
My Terra Village	$40,000.00
Playway Loving Childcare Center LLC	$30,000.00
Saint Vincent Child Care Center	$13,271.00
The Learning Ladder Early Child Care	$50,000.00
USCRI Erie	$50,000.00
World of Care Inc	$10,000.00
YMCA of Corry	$15,870.00
YMCA of Greater Erie - Elk Valley	$12,500.00
Young Environment Learning Center	$17,000.00
TOTAL PHASE II	**$995,537.62**

NET TOTAL $2,521,877.21

ECGRA AS AN IMPACT INVESTOR

Child care is just one example of how ECGRA invests in Erie County's future.

Each year, ECGRA strategically invests local share gaming revenue in initiatives that strengthen communities, expand economic opportunities, and improve quality of life throughout the county. ECGRA applies an impact investing approach that prioritizes measurable outcomes, long-term sustainability, and lasting community benefit.

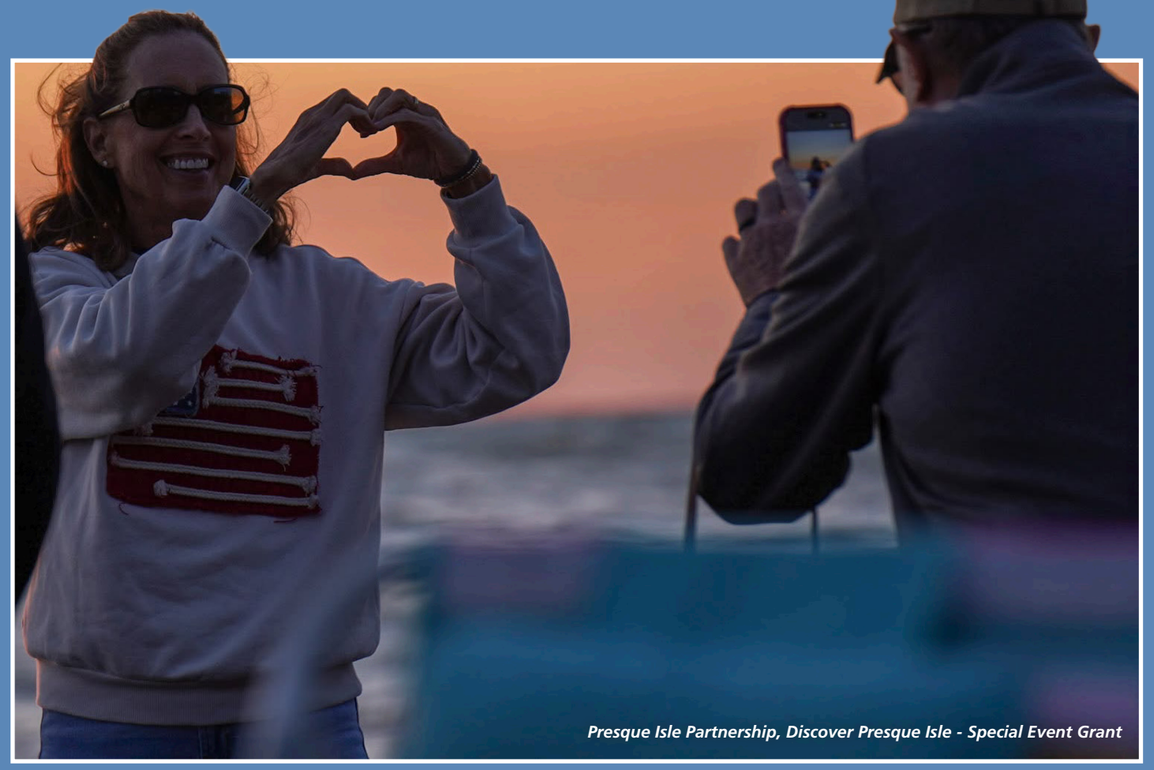
Every investment is guided by the same principle: create meaningful returns for Erie County. ECGRA's transparent grant process makes local share gaming revenue accessible; impact investing makes it meaningful.

WHAT IS IMPACT INVESTING?

Impact investing is the practice of investing resources to generate measurable community benefits alongside responsible financial stewardship.

Through grants, loans, and strategic investments, ECGRA supports projects that strengthen neighborhoods, grow businesses, improve public spaces, expand educational opportunities, and enhance the overall vitality of Erie County.

This approach allows today's investments to create lasting value while helping preserve resources for future generations.



Presque Isle Partnership, Discover Presque Isle - Special Event Grant

IT STARTS WITH PEOPLE.

Strong communities begin with opportunity.

Whether supporting childcare providers, entrepreneurs, students, artists, or first responders, ECGRA invests in people who strengthen Erie County every day.

IT STRENGTHENS PLACE.

Thriving communities require vibrant neighborhoods, welcoming public spaces, and resilient local institutions.

ECGRA invests in projects that improve the places where people live, work, learn, and gather.

IT CREATES PROGRESS

Every investment is made with the future in mind.

By supporting projects that deliver measurable results today while building long-term community capacity, ECGRA helps position Erie County for continued growth and success.



Erie Community Bloodbank, Bloodstock - Special Events Grant



Presque Isle Partnership, Discover Presque Isle - Special Event Grant



Edinboro Highland Games



Emergycare Multi Municipal Collaboration Grant Awarding

FY2025-26 COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

IN FY2025-26, ECGRA INVESTED

$10,060,717.21

THROUGHOUT ERIE COUNTY.

Those investments supported projects across five key areas that collectively strengthen communities, expand opportunities, and improve quality of life.

FIVE AREAS OF IMPACT

AREA	INVESTMENT
QUALITY OF PLACE Vibrant places help Erie County attract people, support local economies and build community pride. ECGRA invests in the cultural, recreational and community assets that make the county a better place to live, work and visit. Funds grant programs for Community Asset (Arts, Culture, & Heritage, Community Centers, Parks, Fields, & Trails), Special Events, Lead Assets, Pilot Programs, and transformative investments.	$2,179,590.19
NEIGHBORHOODS & COMMUNITIES Strong neighborhoods are the foundation of a strong county. ECGRA supports locally led projects that renew commercial corridors, address blight, improve residential blocks and return important buildings to productive use. Funds grant programs for Anchor Building and Renaissance Block initiatives.	$759,659.00
YOUTH & EDUCATION Opportunity begins with strong systems for children, students and workers. ECGRA supports initiatives that expand access to child care, connect people with education and employment, and strengthen Erie County's future workforce. Funds grants for the Child Care initiative and Summer Jobs program.	$2,754,290.98
MUNICIPALITIES Erie County's communities are stronger when local governments can solve shared problems and invest in reliable public services. ECGRA supports collaboration, public infrastructure and initiatives that build more resilient communities. Funds grant programs for Multi-Municipal Collaboration and direct payments to municipalities.	$2,350,490.54
SMALL BUSINESS Small businesses drive innovation, create jobs and build local wealth. ECGRA invests in the organizations, financing tools and partnerships that help Erie County entrepreneurs and institutions move from idea to growth. Funds grant programs for the Beehive initiatives, transformative investments, economic development and entrepreneurial support.	$2,149,900.00
	TOTAL $10,193,930.71

The following pages highlight organizations and projects that demonstrate how ECGRA's investments are creating measurable impact across Erie County.



Albion Area Fair - Special Events Grant

QUALITY OF PLACE

Creating vibrant communities means investing in the places that bring people together.

From arts and culture to recreation and placemaking, ECGRA supports projects that strengthen Erie County's identity, attract visitors, and enhance the quality of life for residents.

Recipient	Amount
Albion Area Fair	$20,777.05
Americans for Competitive Enterprise System	$1,300.00
AmeriMasala	$9,366.99
Asbury Woods Partnership	$22,828.85
Bethany Outreach Center	$13,000.00
Borough of Edinboro	$1,265.90
Borough of North East	$25,000.00
Borough of Union City	$10,000.00
Borough of Wesleyville	$19,071.00
Bridgeway Capital	$50,000.00
Burleigh Legacy Alliance	$14,750.00
CAFÉ	$15,000.00
Community Blood Bank of NWPA	$1,190.00
Community Resources for Independence	$2,975.00
Compton's Table	$425.00
Corry Higher Education Council	$35,000.00
Crime Victim Center of Erie County	$3,151.20
Dafmark Dance Theater	$10,000.00
Downtown Edinboro Arts & Music Fest	$11,133.00
Downtown North East	$13,825.00
Dr. Gertrude A Barber Foundation	$8,911.07
Edinboro Arts & Music Festival	$3,867.50

Recipient	Amount
Edinboro Legion Pool	$3,943.70
Edinboro University Foundation	$9,295.00
Erie Art & Music Festival	$15,000.00
Erie Art Company	$10,000.00
Erie Art Museum	$33,179.59
Erie Arts & Culture	$44,036.16
Erie Cancer Wellness Center	$448.21
Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre	$15,000.31
Erie County Fair At Wattsburg	$24,372.66
Erie County Veterans Memorial Park	$8,000.00
Erie Downtown Development Corporation	$50,000.00
Erie Latino Leadership Association	$1,251.84
Erie PAL	$10,000.00
Erie Philharmonic	$104,605.70
Erie Playhouse	$49,196.24
Erie Yesterday	$14,756.00
Erie Zoological Society	$173,044.40
Erie's Black Wall Street	$64,000.00
expERIEnce Children's Museum	$38,403.23
Film Society of NWPA	$8,267.53
Firefighters Historical Museum	$14,000.00
Flagship Niagara League	$49,581.01

"We're incredibly grateful to ECGRA for believing in this vision and helping us bring Film Erie: A New Era to life. We're building on a strong foundation of local creativity, filmmaking, and community support—and now we're working to grow both the culture and the industry of film in our region. Erie has already attracted national productions, and we're committed to showcasing everything our city has to offer as a dynamic destination for filmmakers, audiences, and creative professionals alike."

— JESSICA TAYLOR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FILM ERIE

Recipient	Amount
Fly Erie Fund LLC	$187,500.00
Fort Le Boeuf Historical Society	$12,000.00
French Creek Council - Scouting America	$3,467.75
Friends of the Erie County Library	$1,062.50
Girard Township	$20,000.00
Girl Scouts of Western PA	$33,000.00
Goodell Gardens & Homestead	$2,475.25
Greater Erie Economic Development Corp	$12,750.00
Greenfield Township	$1,500.00
Hagen History Center	$67,924.84
Harbor Creek Foundation	$8,000.00
Harborcreek Community Engagement Team	$600.25
Harborcreek Township	$1,396.60
Heberle's Heartstrings	$2,397.00
Holy Trinity RCC	$6,948.75
Impact Corry	$87,500.00
Infinite Erie	$177,935.01
International Institute of Erie - USCRI	$37,500.00
Jefferson Educational Society	$90,000.00
Lake Erie Ballet	$14,999.74
Lake Erie Fanfare	$2,507.50
Lake Erie Greek Cultural Society	$5,774.24
Lake Shore BMX	$25,000.00
LeBoeuf Little League	$10,000.00

Recipient	Amount
Mercy Center for Women	$1,790.31
Mercyhurst Institute for Arts & Culture	$53,089.82
Mercyhurst University	$78,890.00
Millcreek Township General Authority	$20,000.00
Millcreek Youth Athletic Association	$25,000.00
NAMI Erie County	$850.00
Nonprofit Partnership	$3,545.25
North East Arts Council	$4,000.00
North East Little League	$25,000.00
Northwestern Community Educational Foundation	$12,000.00
Performing Artists Collective Alliance	$9,000.00
Presque Isle Audubon	$1,062.50
Presque Isle Light Station	$1,289.92
Presque Isle Partnership	$14,226.25
Rhoxon Productions Incorporated	$2,500.00
Saint Patrick Church	$6,698.13
SSJ Neighborhood Network	$6,498.89
Syrian Community Center	$7,500.00
Waterford Community Fair Association	$8,223.75
Wattsburg Borough	$21,706.60
WQLN Public Media	$8,000.00
YMCA of Corry	$7,000.00
Young Artists Debut Orchestra	$16,260.20
TOTAL	**$2,179,590.19**



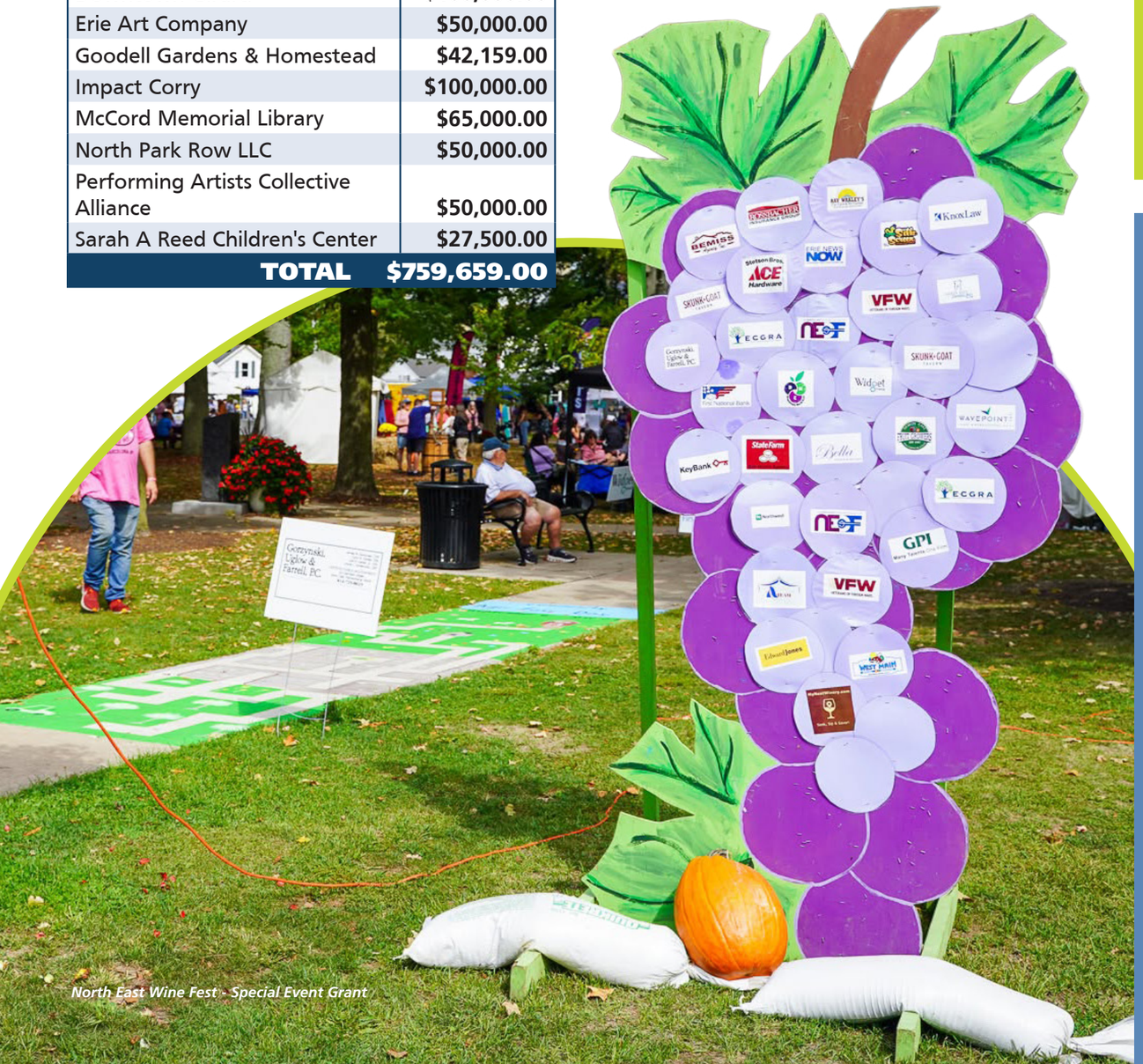
Presque Isle Partnership, Discover Presque Isle - Special Event Grant

NEIGHBORHOODS & COMMUNITIES

Strong neighborhoods are the foundation of a strong county.

ECGRA invests in projects that build community connections, expand access to resources, and create opportunities for residents throughout Erie County.

Recipient	Amount
Borough of North East	**$50,000.00**
Borough of Union City	**$225,000.00**
Downtown Girard	**$100,000.00**
Erie Art Company	**$50,000.00**
Goodell Gardens & Homestead	**$42,159.00**
Impact Corry	**$100,000.00**
McCord Memorial Library	**$65,000.00**
North Park Row LLC	**$50,000.00**
Performing Artists Collective Alliance	**$50,000.00**
Sarah A Reed Children's Center	**$27,500.00**
TOTAL	**$759,659.00**



North East Wine Fest - Special Event Grant



"For many Afghan families, Erie became a second home after leaving behind uncertainty and hardship. The Afghan Community Center is now a place where families find support, education, and opportunity. ECGRA's support sends a powerful message that every community in Erie matters and deserves the opportunity to grow and succeed."

— SAEEDULLAH TARAKY, PRESIDENT & CEO, AFGHAN COMMUNITY CENTER



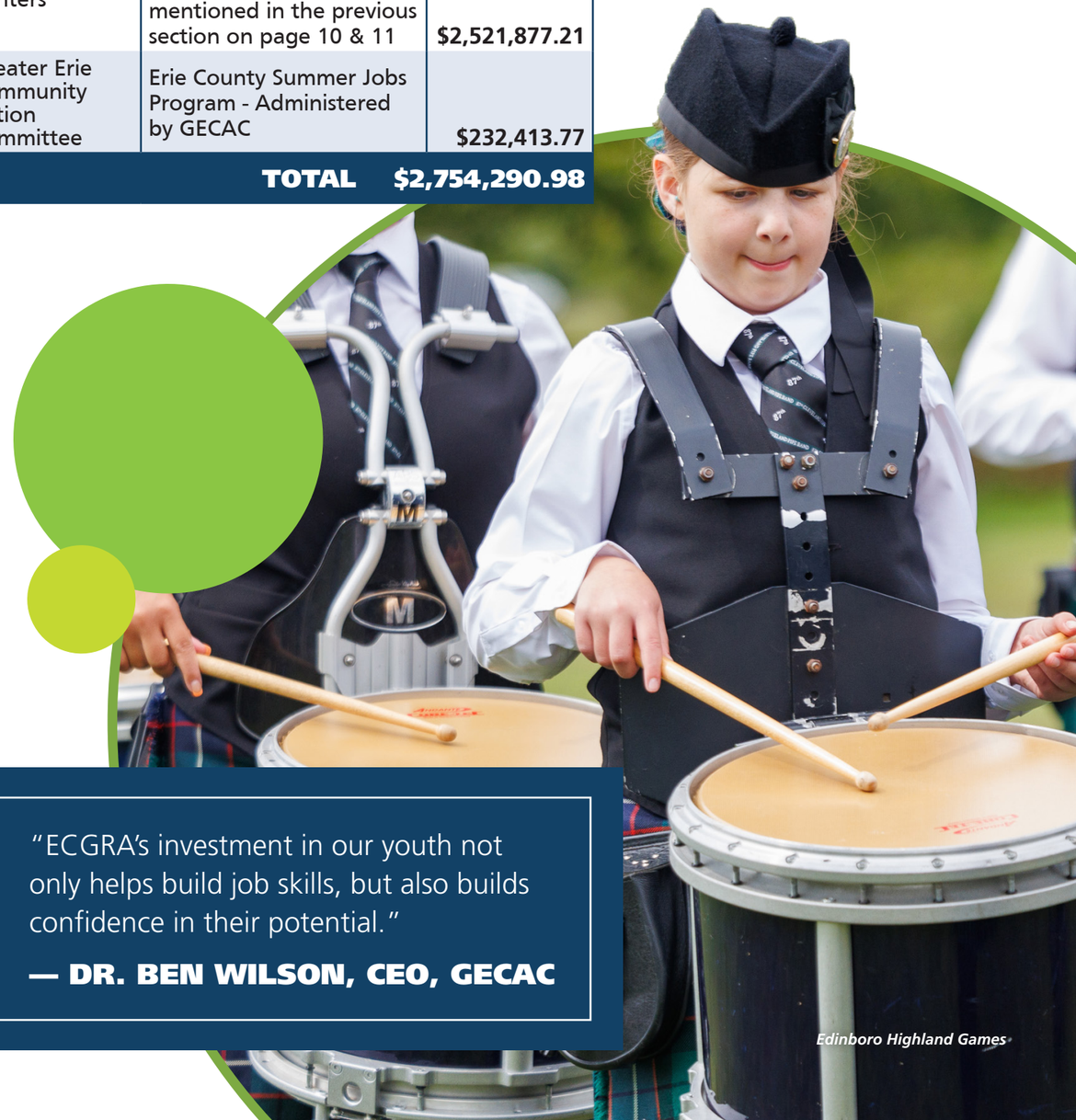
Impact Corry, new driveways and cement for Corry homeowners - Renaissance Block Grant

YOUTH & EDUCATION

Investing in young people creates opportunities that extend far beyond the classroom.

ECGRA supports programs that help children and young adults develop the skills, confidence, and experiences needed for future success.

Recipient	Category	Amount
Child Care Centers	Erie County - Investing in Families initiative. Funding to child care centers mentioned in the previous section on page 10 & 11	**$2,521,877.21**
Greater Erie Community Action Committee	Erie County Summer Jobs Program - Administered by GECAC	**$232,413.77**
	TOTAL	**$2,754,290.98**



Edinboro Highland Games

"ECGRA's investment in our youth not only helps build job skills, but also builds confidence in their potential."

— DR. BEN WILSON, CEO, GECAC

North East Wine Fest - Special Event Grant

MUNICIPALITIES

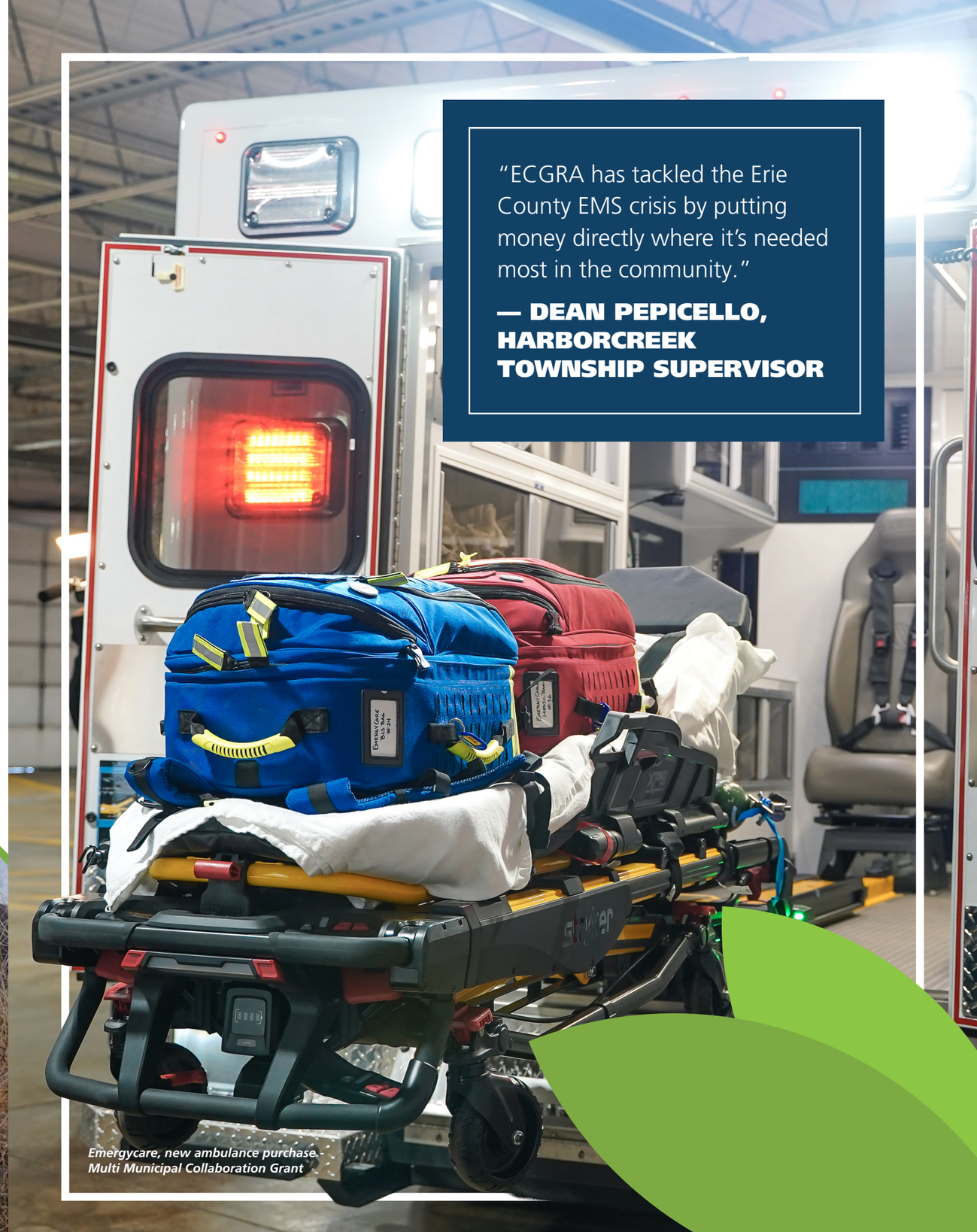
Strong communities depend on reliable public infrastructure and essential services.

ECGRA partners with municipalities throughout Erie County to support projects that improve public safety, strengthen local government, and enhance community resilience.

Recipient	Amount
Borough of North East	**$11,000.00**
County of Erie	**$669,343.97**
East County EMS	**$100,000.00**
EmergyCare	**$100,000.00**
Greene Township	**$169,343.97**
Jefferson Educational Society	**$100,000.00**
McKean Township	**$169,343.97**
Millcreek Township	**$169,343.97**
Summit Township	**$692,770.69**
Waterford Township	**$169,343.97**
TOTAL	**$2,350,490.54**



North East Marina, infrastructure repairs - Multi Municipal Collaboration Grant



Emergycare, new ambulance purchase - Multi Municipal Collaboration Grant

"ECGRA has tackled the Erie County EMS crisis by putting money directly where it's needed most in the community."

— DEAN PEPICELLO, HARBORCREEK TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR



EFI Connection, new machine loaned through ECRDA with a ECGRA Main Street Matters grant.

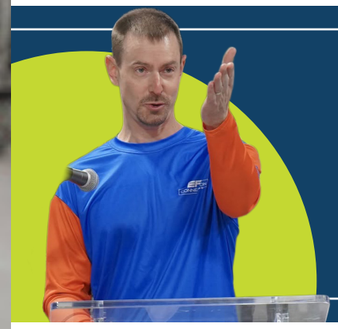
ECGRA made transformative investments in Erie County's long-term economic future. A $1.1 million Main Street Matters Grant awarded to the Erie County Redevelopment Authority expanded access to capital for growing businesses in strategic sectors, including manufacturing. Additional investments supported the construction of Gannon University's iHack Innovation Center, Mercyhurst University's Studio 26 Venture Studio, and Penn State Behrend's Competitive Manufacturing Center. Together, these projects are building the innovation infrastructure, workforce pipeline, and entrepreneurial support systems needed to drive Erie County's economy for generations to come.

SMALL BUSINESS

Small businesses drive innovation, create jobs, and strengthen the local economy.

ECGRA invests in entrepreneurs and growing businesses that contribute to Erie County's long-term economic vitality.

Recipient		Amount
Ben Franklin Technology Partners	ECGRA's investment in Ben Franklin Technology Partners helped support the TechCelerator program, providing Erie entrepreneurs with startup acceleration services.	$50,000.00
Erie County Redevelopment Authority	Main Street Matters loan awarded to ECRDA for distribution to growing businesses in strategic sectors such as manufacturing. A grant portion was also awarded to ECRDA to support outreach efforts of the loan.	$1,100,000.00
Edinboro University Foundation	Beehive Grant funding for small business development.	$83,300.00
Gannon University	Beehive Grant funding for small business development.	$83,300.00
Gannon University	Transformative investment to support the construction of the iHack Innovation Center.	$250,000.00
Mercyhurst University	Beehive Grant funding for small business development.	$83,300.00
Mercyhurst University	Transformative investment to support the construction of Studio 26 Venture Studio.	$250,000.00
Penn State Behrend	Transformative investment to support the construction of the Competitive Manufacturing Center.	$250,000.00
	TOTAL	**$2,149,900.00**



"This support allows us to modernize our operations and continue growing in downtown Erie. The new equipment will help us work more efficiently, expand our product line, and create additional jobs—all while keeping our manufacturing local. This is the type of investment Erie needs to continue growing."

— MIKE NOONAN, CEO, EFI CONNECTION



EFI Connection Press Conference

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ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY