

**THE CARA PROGRAM
(DBA CARA CHICAGO
AND SUBSIDIARIES)**

**Consolidated Financial Statements
and Supplementary Information**

**(Including Reports Required by
the Office of Management and Budget's
(OMB) Uniform Guidance)**

**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025
(with summarized comparative information
for the year ended June 30, 2024)**

**THE CARA PROGRAM
(DBA CARA CHICAGO
AND SUBSIDIARIES)**

Table of Contents

SECTION I

Independent Auditor's Report.....	1 - 3
Consolidated Financial Statements	
Statement of Financial Position	4 - 5
Statement of Activities.....	6
Statement of Functional Expenses	7
Statement of Cash Flows	8
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.....	9 - 23
Supplementary Information	
Consolidating Financial Statements.....	24 - 27

SECTION II

Reports Required by Uniform Guidance	
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.....	28
Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	29
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	30 - 31
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance.....	32 - 34
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.....	35 - 36



Desmond & Ahern, Ltd.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & CONSULTANTS

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of
The Cara Program (dba Cara Chicago
and Subsidiaries)
Chicago, IL

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as of June 30, 2025, and the related consolidated statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries as of June 30, 2025, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the consolidated financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the consolidated financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the consolidated financial statements as a whole. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the consolidated financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the consolidated financial statements.

Supplementary Information (cont.)

The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the consolidated financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 2, 2025, on our consideration of the Organization's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Organization's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' 2024 consolidated financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited consolidated financial statements in our report dated November 1, 2024. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Desmond & Ahern, Ltd

December 2, 2025
Chicago, IL

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
June 30, 2025 (with summarized comparative information for June 30, 2024)

<u>Assets</u>	2025	2024
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,026,499	\$ 8,819,644
Investments	2,079,430	4,039,475
Accounts receivable, net	1,191,246	1,035,657
Government receivable	2,311,850	790,686
Fee for service	-	-
Inventory	13,168	4,088
Prepaid expenses	355,927	296,806
Total current assets	18,978,120	14,986,356
Property and Equipment		
Building and improvements	8,547,497	8,520,577
Furniture and equipment	1,446,404	1,346,524
Leasehold improvements	118,012	118,012
Vehicles	1,064,893	878,393
Website	85,000	85,000
Total property and equipment	11,261,806	10,948,506
Less accumulated depreciation	(5,065,835)	(4,536,172)
Net property and equipment	6,195,971	6,412,334
Other Assets		
Investments - endowment	1,234,424	1,096,940
Accounts receivable, net of current portion	68,370	127,790
Operating lease right-of-use asset	-	11,213
Other long-term assets	45,202	52,699
Total other assets	1,347,996	1,288,642
Total Assets	\$ 26,522,087	\$ 22,687,332

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
June 30, 2025 (with summarized comparative information for June 30, 2024)

<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Current Liabilities		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 352,795	\$ 349,708
Accounts payable	409,090	287,943
Accrued payroll and related costs	885,078	857,728
Refundable advances	450,765	821,972
Accrued interest payable	4,119	4,431
Operating lease liability, current portion	-	11,417
Other liabilities	-	2,000
Total current liabilities	<u>2,101,847</u>	<u>2,335,199</u>
Long-Term Liabilities		
Long-term debt, net of current portion	<u>2,255,829</u>	<u>2,539,130</u>
Total long-term liabilities	<u>2,255,829</u>	<u>2,539,130</u>
Total liabilities	<u>4,357,676</u>	<u>4,874,329</u>
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions		
General	12,158,343	8,387,184
Net investment in property and equipment	3,587,347	3,523,496
Operating reserve	<u>3,959,000</u>	<u>3,964,000</u>
Total without donor restrictions	<u>19,704,690</u>	<u>15,874,680</u>
With donor restrictions - purpose	1,558,600	1,037,202
With donor restrictions - perpetual in nature	<u>901,121</u>	<u>901,121</u>
Total net assets	<u>22,164,411</u>	<u>17,813,003</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 26,522,087</u>	<u>\$ 22,687,332</u>

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025 (with summarized comparative information for June 30, 2024)

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions - Purpose	With Donor Restrictions - Perpetual	2025 Total	2024 Total
<u>Public Support and Revenue</u>					
Special Events					
Contributions	\$ 1,212,756	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,212,756	\$ 983,684
Ticket revenue	30,400	-	-	30,400	79,626
Auction revenue	203,175	-	-	203,175	183,277
Less costs of direct benefits to donors	(350,424)	-	-	(350,424)	(375,650)
Net revenues from special events	1,095,907	-	-	1,095,907	870,937
Government grants	4,455,521	-	-	4,455,521	3,238,293
Private contributions	8,487,634	1,806,914	-	10,294,548	13,538,266
Fee for service revenue	4,368,115	-	-	4,368,115	4,611,695
In-kind donations	209,108	-	-	209,108	175,100
Investment return, net	485,258	137,484	-	622,742	589,988
Gain on sale of equipment	-	-	-	-	2,000
Miscellaneous	8,464	-	-	8,464	22,382
Net assets released from restrictions - satisfaction of program restrictions	1,423,000	(1,423,000)	-	-	-
Total Public Support and Revenue	20,533,007	521,398	-	21,054,405	23,048,661
<u>Expenses</u>					
Program services	12,249,104	-	-	12,249,104	11,408,184
Management and general	2,753,339	-	-	2,753,339	2,642,966
Fundraising	1,700,554	-	-	1,700,554	1,543,453
Total Expenses	16,702,997	-	-	16,702,997	15,594,603
Change in Net Assets	3,830,010	521,398	-	4,351,408	7,454,058
Net assets, beginning of year	15,874,680	1,037,202	901,121	17,813,003	10,358,945
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 19,704,690</u>	<u>\$ 1,558,600</u>	<u>\$ 901,121</u>	<u>\$ 22,164,411</u>	<u>\$ 17,813,003</u>

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025 (with summarized comparative information for June 30, 2024)

	Program Services	Management and General	Fundraising	2025 Total	2024 Total
Salaries	\$ 5,407,442	\$ 1,483,664	\$ 993,838	\$ 7,884,944	\$ 7,627,869
Payroll taxes and employee benefits	1,470,299	335,501	226,916	2,032,716	1,608,515
Intern wages and benefits	2,457,644	-	-	2,457,644	2,638,370
Staff training and development	35,590	27,617	5,976	69,183	109,299
Admissions screening	84,202	174	77	84,453	77,263
Student assistance	500,820	30,910	3,273	535,003	645,368
Professional and contractual fees	434,272	341,310	157,997	933,579	281,273
Occupancy	335,711	101,730	62,092	499,533	404,885
Telephone	56,223	11,847	10,128	78,198	93,240
Insurance	191,950	12,318	7,385	211,653	173,586
Building repairs and maintenance	72,831	21,203	12,785	106,819	97,701
Equipment and software purchases	302,019	137,259	48,755	488,033	505,506
Supplies	196,806	6,816	4,770	208,392	182,719
Marketing and promotion	7,198	167	5,570	12,935	17,846
Printing and publications	470	-	10,863	11,333	21,942
Postage and shipping	1,373	658	9,930	11,961	12,515
Dues and memberships	4,111	16,277	476	20,864	11,191
Fees	98,794	27,494	48,645	174,933	166,324
Travel and meetings	179,824	30,188	18,702	228,714	242,306
Fundraising	2,247	375	3,635	6,257	5,439
Bad debt expense	-	10,000	-	10,000	20,885
Miscellaneous	4,581	9,666	6,814	21,061	18,061
Total expenses before interest, and depreciation	11,844,407	2,605,174	1,638,627	16,088,208	14,962,103
Interest	52,185	14,952	9,390	76,527	84,948
Depreciation	352,512	133,213	52,537	538,262	547,552
Total Expenses	\$ 12,249,104	\$ 2,753,339	\$ 1,700,554	\$ 16,702,997	\$ 15,594,603

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS****For the Year Ended June 30, 2025 (with summarized comparative information for June 30, 2024)**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<u>Cash Provided by Operating Activities</u>		
Change in net assets	\$ 4,351,408	\$ 7,454,058
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash used in operating activities		
Depreciation	538,262	547,552
Unrealized and realized (gains) on investments	(223,113)	(115,126)
(Gain) on sale of equipment	-	(2,000)
Noncash lease expense	(204)	(890)
Change in assets - (increase) decrease		
Receivables	(1,617,333)	113,908
Prepaid expenses	(59,121)	(124,999)
Inventory	(9,080)	2,323
Other assets	7,497	18,922
Change in liabilities - increase (decrease)		
Accounts payable	121,147	119,375
Accrued payroll and related costs	27,350	191,673
Accrued interest payable	(312)	(304)
Refundable advances - other	(371,207)	(268,028)
Other liabilities	(2,000)	1,500
Cash provided by operating activities	<u>2,763,294</u>	<u>7,937,964</u>
<u>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</u>		
Purchases of investments	(44,326)	(4,312,939)
Proceeds from sales of investment	2,090,000	-
Purchases of property and equipment	(321,899)	(495,355)
Cash (provided by) used in investing activities	<u>1,723,775</u>	<u>(4,808,294)</u>
<u>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</u>		
Payments on long term debt	(280,214)	(279,227)
Proceeds from long term debt	-	137,298
Cash used in financing activities	<u>(280,214)</u>	<u>(141,929)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	4,206,855	2,987,741
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<u>8,819,644</u>	<u>5,831,903</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u><u>\$ 13,026,499</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 8,819,644</u></u>

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 1 – Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Cara Program (dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries) (the Organization) was established in 1991 and incorporated as an Illinois not-for-profit corporation on January 5, 1999. Cara Chicago with its subsidiaries are collectively dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries. The Organization's mission is to build an inclusive economy by developing employment pathways to advance transformative individual and community success. This mission is realized through the following core programs:

Traditional Training & Placement Program is Cara's traditional services which includes a comprehensive range of training and support for motivated individuals affected by poverty and homelessness, including life-skills training, specialized job-skills training, and personalized career placement services.

Employment Retention ensures that participants of Cara have the tools needed for long-term self-sufficiency. Cara offers personal and professional coaching throughout each participant's first year of employment. These services include: regular one-on-one meetings with employed participants about on-the-job successes and challenges; and development of individual long-term goals, including goals related to housing, education, and debt repayment. As a result, over 64% or more of employed Cara participants receiving this support remain in their first job placement for at least one year. In addition to employment retention support, Cara's Career Advancement Program supports participants who have not only achieved stability in their personal and professional lives, but who also show an exceptional drive to grow in their careers. Once participants have been employed for at least six months and are established personally and professionally, they may opt in to career advancement services.

Cleanslate Chicago, LLC (Cleanslate), a wholly-owned limited liability company started in 2005, provides exterior maintenance services to customers across Chicago. The program was created as a vehicle for individuals with significant obstacles to employment - particularly individuals with criminal backgrounds – to gain on-the-job work experience and intensive support services through transitional jobs. Cleanslate is a complement to Cara and provides additional services and training opportunities for at-risk individuals. For tax purposes, Cleanslate is treated as a disregarded entity and will be included in Cara Chicago's consolidated financial statements and tax reporting. Under applicable accounting standards, Cara Chicago is required to prepare consolidated financial statements with Cleanslate.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 1 – Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

TCP Staffing, LLC (TCP Staffing) dba Cara Connects, a wholly owned limited liability company started in 2011, was created to manage employment of individuals in the transitional jobs aspect of Cara Chicago. Cara Connects employs participants who are working transitional jobs for Cleanslate and Cara Chicago as well as select companies outside of the enterprise. In 2013, Cara Connects expanded to be a contract staffing firm dedicated to sourcing quality candidates to fulfill critical entry-level positions within Chicago's growing job market by providing temporary and temporary to permanent opportunities.

Cara Works, LLC a wholly owned limited liability company started in 2018, was organized to further the charitable purpose of Cara Chicago by serving as employer of record for workers employed in transitional jobs through other social enterprises.

Through management agreements with Cleanslate and Cara Connects, Cara Chicago provides certain management, administrative and financial services, use of certain personnel employed by Cara Chicago and office space to Cleanslate and Cara Connects. The direct costs of each Organization are kept separate along with an allocation of shared costs based on usage. Management service fees of \$110,700 were billed in total to Cara Connects and Cleanslate, for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Consolidated Financial Statements

The accompanying financial statements reflect the consolidation of the financial statements of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago, Cleanslate Chicago, LLC, TCP Staffing, LLC dba Cara Connects, and Cara Works, LLC collectively doing business as (dba) Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries (the Organization). All material inter-organization accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Basis of Accounting

The consolidated financial statements of the Organization have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting and, accordingly, reflect all significant accounts receivable, payable, and other liabilities in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") and applicable to non-profit organizations.

Basis of Presentation

As required by the generally accepted accounting principles for Not-for-Profit accounting, the Organization is required to report information regarding its consolidated financial position and activities according to two classes:

Without donor restrictions – Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions. Such gifts include gifts without restrictions, including an investment account designated by the Board to function as restricted and restricted gifts whose donor-imposed restrictions were met during the fiscal year.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 1 – Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

With donor restrictions of net assets – Net assets subject to donor-imposed restrictions which will be met either by actions of the Organization or the passage of time. Items that affect this net asset category are gifts for which donor-imposed restrictions have not been met in the year of receipt. Restrictions that have been met on net assets with donor restrictions are reported as net assets released from restrictions. If a restriction is fulfilled in the same time period in which the contribution is received, the Organization reports the support as without donor restrictions. Also included in this category are net assets subject to donor-imposed restrictions to be maintained permanently by the Organization, including gifts and pledges wherein donors stipulate that the corpus of the gift is to be held in perpetuity and that only the income be made available for programs.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of the revenues, expenses, gains, losses and other changes in net assets during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of bank deposits in federally insured accounts. The accounts may at times exceed the federally insured limit of \$250,000. The Organizations have never experienced any such losses in these accounts.

For purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, the Organization considers all highly liquid debt instruments, if any, purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Interest paid during the year ended June 30, 2025 was \$76,527. Taxes paid during the year ended June 30, 2025 were \$1,191.

Investments

The Organization's investments are reported at fair value. Realized and unrealized gains and losses and any investment fees incurred are reflected in the Statement of Activities. Investment transactions are recorded as of the trade date. Interest and dividends are recorded when received.

Accounts and Government Receivable

Accounts and government receivable consist of both unconditional promises to give by donors, amounts due from governmental agencies, and fees for services (non-exchange). Unconditional promises to give are recorded in the year the promises are made, either unrestricted, or restricted for the subsequent period. Conditional amounts due are not recognized until they become unconditional, that is, when the conditions on which they depend are substantially met. Unconditional promises to give and government receivable are carried net an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$28,225 at June 30, 2025.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 1 – Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

Accounts and Government Receivable (cont.)

The Organization's accounts receivable related to services provided to its clients typically are provided with payment terms of 30 days. The Organization has tracked historical loss information for its accounts receivable. The Organization does not accrue interest on past due accounts.

Management has reviewed all outstanding receivables based on historical loss information of its relationship with their clients and has determined expected credit losses for trade receivables held at June 30, 2025. The composition of the receivables at that date is consistent with that used in developing the historical credit-loss percentages (i.e., the similar risk characteristics of its clients and payment term practices have not changed significantly over time). However, management has determined that the current and reasonable and supportable forecasted economic conditions have improved as compared with the economic conditions included in the historical information. To adjust the historical loss rates to reflect the effects of those differences in current conditions and forecasted changes, management estimated the loss rate to be an average of 4% of receivable balance related to fees for services receivable. Management developed this estimate based on its knowledge of past experience for which there were similar improvements in the economy. Accordingly, the allowance for expected credit losses at June 30, 2025 totaled \$30,000. Accounts receivable are written off only after all collection attempts have failed and are based on individual credit evaluation and the specific circumstances of the client.

Prepaid Expenses

Prepaid expenses are expenses paid for in advance such as insurance and monthly subscriptions that will be recognized as an expense over time when incurred.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost. Acquisitions of property and equipment in excess of \$5,000 and those items which substantially increase the useful lives of existing assets, are capitalized. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets, which are:

Building and improvements	40 years
Leasehold improvements	2 - 5 years
Furniture and equipment	5 years
Vehicles	5 years

Depreciation expense for the year ended June 30, 2025 was \$538,262.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 1 – Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

Net Assets Released from Restrictions

Net assets were released from restriction by incurrence of expenses satisfying the restricted purpose or by occurrence of events specified under the terms of the agreement.

Support and Revenue

The Organization recognizes contributions when cash, securities, or other assets; an unconditional promise to give; or a notification of a beneficial interest is received. Conditional promises to give – that is, those with a measurable performance or other barrier and a right of return are not recognized until the conditions on which they depend have been met. Conditional promises as of June 30, 2025 were \$11,100,385. The Organization received \$355,000 of these conditional promises which was recorded as a refundable advance at June 30, 2025. The Organization reports gifts of cash and other assets as restricted support if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

The Organization reports gifts of land, buildings, and equipment as without donor restriction support unless explicit donor stipulations specify how the donated assets must be used. Gifts of long-lived assets with explicit restrictions that specify how the assets are to be used and gifts of cash or other assets that must be used to acquire long-lived assets are reported as restricted support. Absent explicit donor stipulations regarding how long those long-lived assets must be maintained, the Organization reports expirations of donor restrictions when the donated or acquired long-lived assets are placed in service. During the year ending June 30, 2025 no such gifts of land, buildings, or equipment were received.

The Organization recognizes contract revenue at an amount that reflects consideration to which the Organization expects to be entitled to in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. The Organization provides various job and life skills training programs, which is based on performance reporting. Due to the nature and varying performance obligations of these contracts, the timing and methods of recognizing revenue from these contracts will vary. All contracts recognize revenue in accordance with ASU No. 2014-09.

For performance reporting contracts, a customer pays the agreed upon amounts after the completion and submission of specified deliverables or services in the contract. For these contracts, the Organization will allocate the transaction price of the contract to the specific performance obligations based on the contract. The Organization recognizes revenue when the performance obligations are met and delivered to the customer. The remaining \$95,765 in refundable advance relates to money received for future special events and will be recognized when the event has occurred.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 1 – Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

Government Grants

A portion of the Organization's revenue is derived from cost-reimbursable federal and state contracts and grants, which are conditioned upon certain performance requirements and/or the incurrence of allowable qualifying expenses. Amounts received are recognized as revenue when the Organization has incurred expenditures in compliance with specific contract or grant provisions. These expenditures are subject to audit and acceptance by the granting organization and, as a result of such audit, adjustments could be required.

Amounts received prior to incurring qualifying expenditures are reported as refundable advances in the consolidated statement of financial position. The Organization did not have any amounts related to government grants recorded in refundable advances at June 30, 2025.

Contributed Services and In-Kind Donations

Contributed services are required to be recognized if the services received (a) create or enhance non-financial assets or (b) require specialized skills, are provided by individuals possessing those skills, and would typically need to be purchased if not provided by donation. The Organization received donated services meeting the above criteria for pro-bono legal advisory services in the amount of \$137,108 during the year ended June 30, 2025. Fair market value was determined by actual billable hours and the law firms hourly rate donated to the Organization.

The Organization received a significant amount of donated services from unpaid volunteers who act as mentors and provide other assistance to participants. No amounts for these volunteer services have been recognized in the consolidated statement of activities or consolidated statement of functional expenses because the criteria for recognition under GAAP has not been satisfied.

In-kind donations were recognized at fair value in the consolidated financial statements during the year ending June 30, 2025. In-kind donations received consisting of donated equipment in the amount of \$72,000.

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of providing various programs and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the consolidated statement of activities and the consolidated statement of functional expenses. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited.

Directly identifiable expenses are charged to the specific program or supporting service. Expenses related to more than one function are generally allocated to program expenses and supporting services on the basis of periodic time and expense reviews made by management.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 1 – Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

Income Tax Status

Cara Chicago was granted an exemption from federal income taxes by the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to the provisions of Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). The tax-exempt purpose of the Organization and the nature in which it operates is described in the first paragraph of Note 1. The Organization continues to operate in compliance with its tax-exempt purpose. Cleanslate Chicago, LLC, TCP Staffing, LLC dba Cara Connects, and Cara Works, LLC are single-member LLC's. For tax purposes, Cleanslate, Cara Connects, and Cara Works are treated as disregarded entities and are included in Cara Chicago's consolidated financial statements and tax reporting.

The Organization's annual information and income tax returns filed with the federal and state governments are subject to examination, generally for three years after they are filed. The Organization has adopted the requirements for accounting for uncertain tax positions and management has determined that the Organization was not required to record a liability related to uncertain tax positions as of June 30, 2025.

Subsequent Events

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America establish general standards of accounting for, and disclosure of, events that occur after the balance sheet date but before financial statements are issued or are available to be issued. The Organization has evaluated subsequent events through December 2, 2025, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. No subsequent events have been identified that are required to be disclosed as of that date.

Note 2 – Financial Assets and Liquidity Resources

The Organization provides various program services in which it receives city, state, and federal reimbursement as well as significant contributions both with and without donor restrictions. The organization manages its liquidity and reserves by adhering to the following principles: operating within a stable and balanced budget, maintaining board designated funds to meet near term operating needs, and maintaining sufficient reserves beyond near term to provide reasonable assurance that programming is continued, and obligations will be adequately discharged in the future. In addition to financial assets available to meet general expenditures over the next 12 months, the Organization anticipates collecting sufficient revenue to cover general expenditures not covered by donor-restricted sources.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 2 – Financial Assets and Liquidity Resources (cont.)

The Organization regularly monitors the availability of resources required to meet its operating needs and other contractual commitments. For purposes of analyzing resources available to meet general expenditures over a 12-month period, the Organization considers all expenditures related to its ongoing activities as well as the conduct of services undertaken to support those activities to be general expenditures.

As of June 30, 2025, financial assets and liquidity resources available within one year for general expenditure, such as operating expenses, were as follows:

Financial assets at year-end:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,026,499
Investments	2,079,430
Accounts receivable	1,249,471
Government receivable	2,311,850
Total financial assets to be used within one year	<u>18,667,250</u>
Less amounts not available to be used within one year:	
Restricted by donor with purpose restrictions	(1,558,600)
Restricted by donor with perpetual restrictions	(901,121)
Allowance for doubtful accounts and credit losses	<u>(58,225)</u>
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	<u>\$ 16,149,304</u>
Additional liquidity resource:	
Unused line of credit	<u>\$ 2,000,000</u>

Note 3 – Investment Income

Investment income consists of the following components for the year ended June 30, 2025:

Interest and dividends	\$ 399,629
Unrealized gain	176,573
Realized gain	46,540
	<u>\$ 622,742</u>

Investment securities are exposed to various risks including interest rate, market and credit risk. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the value of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the consolidated statement of financial position.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 4 – Fair Value Measurements

Generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) define fair value as the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

When determining the fair value measurements for assets and liabilities required to be recorded at fair value, the Organization considers the principal or most advantageous market in which it would transact and considers assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, such as inherent risk, transfer restrictions, and risk of nonperformance.

GAAP also establishes a fair value hierarchy that requires the Organization to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The hierarchy consists of three levels:

Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2: Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices for identical or dissimilar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets, or liabilities.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

Following is a description of the valuation methodology used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodology used at June 30, 2025:

U.S. Treasury Notes: Notes issued by the U.S. Treasury, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association and the Federal National Mortgage Association. The fair values of U.S. treasury bonds are based on quoted market prices in active markets and are included in the Level 1 fair value hierarchy. The market for U.S. treasury bonds is an actively traded market given the high level of daily trading volume. The fair values of U.S. agency bonds are determined using the spread above the risk-free yield curve.

Mutual Funds: Valued at quoted market prices. These investments held by the Organization are funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These investments held by the Organization are deemed to be actively traded and therefore classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 4 – Fair Value Measurements (cont.)

The following summarizes that classification of investments at June 30, 2025, by classification and method of valuation in accordance with the above definitions:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
U.S. Treasury Notes	\$ 2,079,429	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,079,429
Mutual Funds				
Equity funds	740,655	-	-	740,655
Bond funds	493,770	-	-	493,770
	<u>\$ 3,313,854</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,313,854</u>

Note 5 – Accounts Receivable

At June 30, 2025, accounts receivable made up of contributions and pledges are reflected in the consolidated statement of financial position as follows:

	Endowment	General Operating	Total
Due within one year	\$ -	\$ 1,191,246	\$ 1,191,246
Due in 1-5 years	-	68,370	68,370
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,259,616</u>	<u>\$ 1,259,616</u>

Note 6 – Operating Leases

The Organization assesses whether an arrangement qualified as a lease (i.e., conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration) at inception and only reassesses its determination if the terms and conditions of the arrangement are changed. Leases with an initial term of twelve months or less are not recorded on the statement of financial position.

The Organization has three leases under non-cancellable operating lease arrangements. These leases which expire at various dates and require monthly payments ranging from \$5,400 to \$10,500. Two of the three leases expired during the year ended June 30, 2025 and were not renewed. The remaining lease has an initial term less than twelve months expiring August 2025, therefore, no operating lease right-of-use asset and lease liability are recorded at June 30, 2025.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 6 – Operating Leases (cont.)

The leases provide for minimum annual rental payments. The agreements generally require the Organization to pay certain costs such as common area maintenance charges, insurance, utilities, and repairs.

The Organization has made the election afforded in the guidance under ASC Topic 842 which allows the use of the risk-free discount rate for these leases, which is based on the borrowing rate for the United States Federal Government for a period comparable to the lease terms.

Operating lease expense included in the consolidated statement of activities for the year ended June 30, 2025 was \$131,841. Cleanslate Chicago, LLC paid Cara Chicago lease expense of \$120,000 for the year ended June 30, 2025 that was eliminated during consolidation.

Note 7 – Line of Credit

The Organization has a \$2,000,000 revolving line of credit agreement with a bank that expires June 25, 2027. Interest is payable monthly at various rates calculated using the CME Term Secured Overnight Financing Rate plus 2.5%. The current effective interest rate at June 30, 2025 was 6.84%. There was no outstanding balance due on the line of credit at June 30, 2025. The line of credit is collateralized by the Organization's cash and equivalents held at that same bank.

Note 8 – Long Term Debt

Long-term debt consists of the following at June 30, 2025:

Cara

2.65% loan payable to Bank of America, due July, 2031 with interest and principal of \$16,128 payable monthly. All remaining principal and interest at due date will be paid as a one-time balloon payment at maturity. The loan is secured by a primary lien on commercial property located at 237 South Desplaines, Chicago, IL, with a net book value of \$4,501,347 as of June 30, 2025.

\$ 1,865,126

2.75% loan payable to Wintrust Bank, due January 28, 2032 with interest and principal of \$8,601 payable monthly. The loan is secured by essentially all of Cara Chicago's assets. Cara Chicago will lease this building to Cleanslate Chicago, LLC. All payments between entities will be eliminated during consolidation.

620,067

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 8 – Long Term Debt (cont.)

Cleanslate

Ford Credit has multiple term loans secured by vehicles. Interest ranging from 0% to 6.5%. Monthly payments totaling \$6,006, including interest.

Due at various dates through September 2026.

	123,431
	<u>2,608,624</u>
Less current portion	(352,795)
Net long-term debt	<u><u>\$ 2,255,829</u></u>

The total interest incurred and expensed for the year ending June 30, 2025 was \$84,948.

Future anticipated principal loan payments are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>
2026	352,795
2027	364,136
2028	296,750
2029	296,750
2030	296,750
Thereafter	1,001,443
	<u><u>\$ 2,608,624</u></u>

Note 9 – Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions

Net assets consist of the following as of June 30, 2025:

Without Donor Restrictions	
General	\$12,158,343
Investment in property and equipment, net of debt	3,587,347
Operating reserve	3,959,000
	<u><u>\$19,704,690</u></u>

Cara's Board maintains operating reserves for use in emergencies to sustain financial operations in the unanticipated event of significant unbudgeted increases in operating expenses and/or losses in operating revenues. Cara's current goal is three months of the annualized operating expense budget which is projected to be approximately \$1,320,000 per month.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 10 – Net Assets With Donor Restrictions (Purpose and Time)

Net assets with donor restrictions are available for the following purposes at June 30, 2025:

With Donor Restrictions	
Contributions - Future Periods	\$ 45,870
Cleanslate Ward by Ward	68,499
Inclusive Employment Program	682,970
Public Safety Task Force	185,935
Cara Plus	202,599
Training Program	16,176
Compensation Program	23,248
Endowment - Purpose	333,303
	<u>\$ 1,558,600</u>

Note 11 – Net Assets With Donor Restrictions (Perpetual Endowment)

The Organization accounts for endowment net assets by preserving the fair value of the original donation as of the gift date to the donor-restricted endowment fund absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result, the Organization classifies as endowment net assets (1) the original value of gifts donated to the permanent endowment, (2) the original value of subsequent gifts donated to the permanent endowment (3) accumulations to the permanent endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument at the time the accumulation is added to the endowment fund and (4) net appreciation/(depreciation) on each fund.

The remaining portion of the donor-restricted endowment fund that is not classified in perpetual in nature restricted net assets is classified as purpose restricted net assets until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the Organization in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by Illinois Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA).

The Organization considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

1. The duration and preservation of the fund.
2. The purposes of the Organization and the donor-restricted endowment fund.
3. General economic conditions.
4. The possible effects of inflation and deflation.
5. The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments.
6. Other resources of the Organization.
7. The investment policies of the Organization.

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 11 – Net Assets With Donor Restrictions (Perpetual Endowment) (cont.)

It is the policy of the Organization to manage the endowment fund in a manner that will, at a minimum, preserve and maintain the real purchasing power of the principal while allowing for annual distributions to the operating budget.

The Organization's investment policies specify that funds be maintained in but not limited to equities, fixed income, private equity, public/private real estate, hedge funds, and other alternative investments. The Board of Directors meets regularly to ensure that the objectives of the investment policy are being met, and that the strategies used to meet the objectives are in accordance with the investment policy.

The Organization's endowment spending policy determines the distribution of the investment earnings of these funds absent any donor specifications to the contrary. This spending policy calculated the amount annually distributed from the Organization's endowment fund. Under the current endowment spending policy, 3 to 6 percent of the average fair value of donor-restricted marketable securities at the end of the trailing 12 quarters is appropriated to support current operations, representing an appropriation of current year total investment return. No amounts have been spent or released as of June 30, 2025.

Changes in endowment net assets composition by type for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 are as follows:

	Purpose Restrictions	Perpetual in Nature	Total Endowment
Donor restricted endowment funds	<u>\$ 333,303</u>	<u>\$ 901,121</u>	<u>\$ 1,234,424</u>
	Purpose Restrictions	Perpetual in Nature	Total Endowment
Endowment net assets, beginning of year	\$ 195,819	\$ 901,121	\$ 1,096,940
Contributions	-	-	-
Investment return			
Interest and dividends	44,329	-	44,329
Net appreciation (realized and unrealized)	93,155	-	93,155
Endowment net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 333,303</u>	<u>\$ 901,121</u>	<u>\$ 1,234,424</u>

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025

Note 12 – Retirement Plans

The Organization has a 401(k) defined contribution plan for the benefit of substantially all its employees, allowing both employee and employer contributions. All employees are eligible after one year of service and are immediately fully vested in the employer match. The employer match is dollar for dollar on the employee's contribution up to five percent of their salary. Employer contributions are reviewed annually by senior management and approved by the Board of Directors as part of their approval of the annual budget. Cara Chicago contributed \$136,464 and Cleanslate contributed \$25,002 to the 401(k) plan during the year ending June 30, 2025.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING SCHEDULE OF FINANCIAL POSITION
June 30, 2025

	Cara Chicago	Cleanslate Chicago, LLC	Cara Connects	Consolidated
<u>Assets</u>				
Current Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 12,637,712	\$ 230,486	\$ 158,301	\$ 13,026,499
Investments	2,079,430	-	-	2,079,430
Accounts receivable, net	489,326	701,920	-	1,191,246
Government receivable	2,311,850	-	-	2,311,850
Inventory	-	13,168	-	13,168
Prepaid expenses	354,281	(3,642)	5,288	355,927
Total current assets	17,872,599	941,932	163,589	18,978,120
Property and Equipment				
Building and improvements	8,547,497	-	-	8,547,497
Furniture and equipment	1,293,141	153,263	-	1,446,404
Leasehold improvements	118,012	-	-	118,012
Vehicles	-	1,064,893	-	1,064,893
Website in progress	85,000	-	-	85,000
Total property and equipment	10,043,650	1,218,156	-	11,261,806
Less accumulated depreciation	(4,158,371)	(907,464)	-	(5,065,835)
Net property and equipment	5,885,279	310,692	-	6,195,971
Other Assets				
Investments - endowment	1,234,424	-	-	1,234,424
Accounts receivable, net of current portion	68,370	-	-	68,370
Other assets	45,202	-	-	45,202
Due from (to) related party	(1,042,032)	65,071	976,961	-
Total other assets	305,964	65,071	976,961	1,347,996
Total Assets	\$ 24,063,842	\$ 1,317,695	\$ 1,140,550	\$ 26,522,087

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING SCHEDULE OF FINANCIAL POSITION
June 30, 2025

	Cara Chicago	Cleanslate Chicago, LLC	Cara Connects	Consolidated
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>				
Current Liabilities				
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 296,750	\$ 56,045	\$ -	\$ 352,795
Accounts payable	390,994	17,530	566	409,090
Accrued payroll and related costs	567,572	160,073	157,433	885,078
Refundable advances	450,765	-	-	450,765
Accrued interest payable	4,119	-	-	4,119
Total current liabilities	1,710,200	233,648	157,999	2,101,847
Long-Term Liabilities				
Long-term debt, net of current portion	2,188,443	67,386	-	2,255,829
Total long-term liabilities	2,188,443	67,386	-	2,255,829
Total liabilities	3,898,643	301,034	157,999	4,357,676
Net Assets				
Without donor restrictions	17,705,478	1,016,661	982,551	19,704,690
With donor restrictions - purpose	1,558,600	-	-	1,558,600
With donor restrictions - perpetual	901,121	-	-	901,121
Total net assets	20,165,199	1,016,661	982,551	22,164,411
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 24,063,842	\$ 1,317,695	\$ 1,140,550	\$ 26,522,087

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Cara Chicago			Cleanslate Chicago, LLC	Cara Connects		Consolidated			
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions - Purpose	With Donor Restrictions - Perpetual	Without Donor Restrictions	Without Donor Restrictions	Eliminations	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions - Purpose	With Donor Restrictions - Perpetual	Total
Public Support and Revenue										
Special Events										
Contributions	\$ 1,212,756	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,212,756	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,212,756
Ticket revenue	30,400	-	-	-	-	-	30,400	-	-	30,400
Auction and raffle revenue	203,175	-	-	-	-	-	203,175	-	-	203,175
Less costs of direct benefits to donors	(350,424)	-	-	-	-	-	(350,424)	-	-	(350,424)
Net revenues from special events	1,095,907	-	-	-	-	-	1,095,907	-	-	1,095,907
Government grants	4,455,521	-	-	-	-	-	4,455,521	-	-	4,455,521
Private contributions	8,487,634	1,806,914	-	-	-	-	8,487,634	1,806,914	-	10,294,548
Fee for service revenue	159,450	-	-	3,942,964	298,040	(32,339)	4,368,115	-	-	4,368,115
Subcontracted work from related party	-	-	-	1,782,436	-	(1,782,436)	-	-	-	-
Management fees	110,700	-	-	-	-	(110,700)	-	-	-	-
Rental income	120,000	-	-	-	-	(120,000)	-	-	-	-
In-kind donations	137,108	-	-	72,000	-	-	209,108	-	-	209,108
Investment return	485,258	137,484	-	-	-	-	485,258	137,484	-	622,742
Miscellaneous	2,281	-	-	6,183	-	-	8,464	-	-	8,464
Net assets released from restrictions - satisfaction of program restrictions	1,423,000	(1,423,000)	-	-	-	-	1,423,000	(1,423,000)	-	-
Total Public Support and Revenue	16,476,859	521,398	-	5,803,583	298,040	(2,045,475)	20,533,007	521,398	-	21,054,405
Expenses										
Program services	6,777,554	-	-	5,287,057	280,493	(96,000)	12,249,104	-	-	12,249,104
Management and general	4,468,853	-	-	144,261	14,700	(1,874,475)	2,753,339	-	-	2,753,339
Fundraising	1,775,554	-	-	-	-	(75,000)	1,700,554	-	-	1,700,554
Total Expenses	13,021,961	-	-	5,431,318	295,193	(2,045,475)	16,702,997	-	-	16,702,997
Change in Net Assets	3,454,898	521,398	-	372,265	2,847	-	3,830,010	521,398	-	4,351,408
Net assets, beginning of year	14,250,580	1,037,202	901,121	644,396	979,704	-	15,874,680	1,037,202	901,121	17,813,003
Net assets, end of year	\$ 17,705,478	\$ 1,558,600	\$ 901,121	\$ 1,016,661	\$ 982,551	\$ -	\$ 19,704,690	\$ 1,558,600	\$ 901,121	\$ 22,164,411

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Cara	Cleanslate	Cara Connects	Total Program	Combined Management and General	Fundraising	Total
Salaries	\$ 3,622,462	\$ 1,678,114	\$ 106,866	\$ 5,407,442	\$ 1,483,664	\$ 993,838	\$ 7,884,944
Payroll taxes and employee benefits	969,984	487,929	12,386	1,470,299	335,501	226,916	2,032,716
Intern wages and benefits	-	2,311,777	145,867	2,457,644	-	-	2,457,644
Staff training and development	35,590	-	-	35,590	27,617	5,976	69,183
Admissions screening	84,202	-	-	84,202	174	77	84,453
Student assistance	450,199	49,265	1,356	500,820	30,910	3,273	535,003
Professional and contractual fees	434,272	-	-	434,272	341,310	157,997	933,579
Occupancy	314,323	21,388	-	335,711	101,730	62,092	499,533
Telephone	49,124	7,099	-	56,223	11,847	10,128	78,198
Insurance	44,245	136,851	10,854	191,950	12,318	7,385	211,653
Building repairs and maintenance	63,660	9,171	-	72,831	21,203	12,785	106,819
Equipment and software purchases	236,497	65,522	-	302,019	137,259	48,755	488,033
Supplies	19,783	177,023	-	196,806	6,816	4,770	208,392
Marketing and promotion	3,678	3,520	-	7,198	167	5,570	12,935
Printing and publications	-	470	-	470	-	10,863	11,333
Postage and shipping	1,354	19	-	1,373	658	9,930	11,961
Dues and memberships	3,436	675	-	4,111	16,277	476	20,864
Fees	27,977	67,753	3,064	98,794	27,494	48,645	174,933
Travel and meetings	53,691	126,033	100	179,824	30,188	18,702	228,714
Fundraising	2,247	-	-	2,247	375	3,635	6,257
Bad debt expense	-	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
Miscellaneous	4,581	-	-	4,581	9,666	6,814	21,061
Total expenses before interest, and depreciation	6,421,305	5,142,609	280,493	11,844,407	2,605,174	1,638,627	16,088,208
Interest	46,103	6,082	-	52,185	14,952	9,390	76,527
Depreciation	262,146	90,366	-	352,512	133,213	52,537	538,262
Total Expenses	\$ 6,729,554	\$ 5,239,057	\$ 280,493	\$ 12,249,104	\$ 2,753,339	\$ 1,700,554	\$ 16,702,997

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements

**REPORTS REQUIRED BY
THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND
BUDGET (OMB) UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Contract Number	Passed Through To Subrecipient	Disbursements or Expenditures
U.S. Department of Agriculture				
Pass-through Illinois Department of Human Services				
State Administrative Matching Grants for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025)	10.561	FCSDG00244	-	524,304
Total Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Cluster			-	524,304
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			-	524,304
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services				
Pass-through Illinois Department of Human Services				
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025)	93.558	FCSDG06194	-	167,614
Pass-through Chicago Department of Family and Social Services				
Community Services Block Grant (January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024)	93.569	177534	-	45,414
Community Services Block Grant (January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025)	93.569	177534	-	76,674
Total Community Services Block Grant			-	122,088
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			-	289,702
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development				
Pass-through Chicago Department of Family and Social Services				
Community Development Block Grants/Entitlement Grants (January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024)	14.218	177397	-	49,750
Community Development Block Grants/Entitlement Grants (January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025)	14.218	177397	-	54,500
Total Community Development Block Grants/Entitlement Grants Cluster			-	104,250
Total U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development			-	104,250
U.S. Department of the Treasury				
Pass-through Chicago Department of Family & Support Services				
SPRING Forward: Re-entry, Employment and Housing Navigation Pilot Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (July 1, 2023 - December 31, 2025)	21.027	234171	- (1)	1,862,111
Total U.S. Department of the Treasury			-	1,862,111
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			-	2,780,367

(1) Audited as a major program

See independent auditor's report and notes to consolidated financial statements

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Note 1 – Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the “Schedule”) includes the Federal grant activity of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries (the “Organization”), under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2025. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of *Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*. Because this schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Organization it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net assets or cash flows of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in *2 CFR Part 230 – Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations (OMB Circular A-122)*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowed or are limited as to reimbursement. Negative amounts shown on the SEFA represent adjustments or credits made in the normal course of business to amounts reported as expenditures in prior years. The Organization has not elected to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Note 3 – Sub-Recipients

The Organization did not provide any federal awards to sub-recipients during the year ended June 30, 2025.

Note 4 – Other Matters

Amount of non-cash assistance	None
Amount of insurance	None
Amount of loans	None
Amount of loan guarantees	None



Desmond & Ahern, Ltd.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & CONSULTANTS

**Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in
Accordance with Government Auditing Standards**

To the Board of Directors of
The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago
and Subsidiaries
Chicago, IL

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the consolidated financial statements of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as of June 30, 2025, and the related consolidated statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 2, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the consolidated financial statements, we considered the Organization's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of consolidated financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Organization's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Desmond S. Akers, Ltd

December 2, 2025
Chicago, IL



Desmond & Ahern, Ltd.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & CONSULTANTS

**Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each
Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control
Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance**

To the Board of Directors
The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago
and Subsidiaries
Chicago, IL

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025. The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

10827 S. WESTERN AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60643-3206 • PHONE 773-779-4720 • FAX 773-779-8310

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of The Cara Program dba Cara Chicago and Subsidiaries' internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Desmond & Ahern, Ltd

December 2, 2025
Chicago, IL

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Section I – Summary of Auditor’s Results

Financial Statements

Type of auditor’s report issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

• Material weakness(es) identified? _____ yes X no

• Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? _____ yes X no

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? _____ yes X no

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:

• Material weakness(es) identified? _____ yes X no

• Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be weakness(es)? _____ yes X no

Type of auditor’s report issued on compliance for major programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance under 2 CFR section 200.516 (a)? _____ yes X no

Certification of Major Programs

Assistance Listing

Number(s)

21.027

Name of Federal Program or Cluster

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B Programs: \$750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? X yes _____ no

CARA CHICAGO AND SUBSIDIARIES
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

None

Section III – Financial Statement Findings – Prior year

None

Section IV – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

None

Section V – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs – Prior Year

None