

Students With Psychosis - 2025 Annual Report

Empowering students and advocates worldwide through community-building, service, and collaboration

OVERVIEW



Students With Psychosis (SWP) is an award-winning 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering students and advocates living with psychosis worldwide through community-building, service, and collaboration. In 2025, SWP strengthened its organizational infrastructure, expanded its leadership capacity, and deepened strategic partnerships to support sustainable growth and respond to increasing demand from students worldwide. We formally added service to our mission and expanded our Executive Board from four to ten members, restructuring the former singular Vice President role into three distinct positions focused on administration, management, and partnerships. To strengthen our digital infrastructure and expand access to our programs, we conducted community focus groups to inform the development of SWP's upcoming app and identify opportunities to scale our virtual programming and student support. SWP also continued to facilitate peer support programming at least twice a day, every day, for our general student and advocacy membership, along with supplementary programming and opportunities to get more involved. A defining

milestone was our continued partnership with Bristol Myers Squibb's Live Your PosSCZible campaign, which brought SWP's message and lived-experience leadership to six events across five U.S. regions and created additional opportunities for SWP members to perform at the GRAMMY Museum in Los Angeles, California. We also deepened our collaboration with One Mind through the Flourish@Work Pilot Program, contributing community perspectives through surveys and focus groups to help shape a national initiative designed to support people with serious mental illness in retaining employment and advancing their careers. SWP continued to expand its impact in medical and academic education through its longstanding contributions to the Harvard-MIT Health Sciences and Technology (HST) Psychopathology and Introduction to Clinical Psychiatry course (HT700), where we returned to teach second-year medical students using lived-experience education to deepen their understanding of psychosis. We also expanded our academic outreach through a presentation to students in Stanford University's IntroSems program, focused on challenging stigma and fostering a more informed and compassionate understanding of psychosis. At the start of the academic year, SWP was honored to serve as the keynote for the 2025 Clinical High Risk for Psychosis & First Episode Psychosis Conference at SAMHSA headquarters, where we were recognized as a leading organization at the national level. We closed the calendar year with another significant honor when the STARR Coalition named Students With Psychosis its 2025 Advocate of the Year, recognizing SWP's leadership and advocacy within the psychosis and schizophrenia community. Presented by 2024 Advocate of the Year Gorden Lavigne, CEO of the Schizophrenia and Psychosis Action Alliance, the award underscored the growing recognition of SWP's leadership and the collective impact of our community. As we closed out 2025 and looked toward 2026, SWP also formalized a new project with Mental Health America (MHA), supported by funding from Bristol Myers Squibb, to contribute lived-experience expertise to the development of digital tools for psychosis screening and education. This collaboration builds on SWP's growing relationship with MHA and represents an important step toward creating more accessible, supportive resources for people navigating a possible first episode of psychosis while strengthening a long-term strategic partnership between our organizations.

Leadership Team

Where Our Team Is Based

15 team members across 13 locations worldwide • (2) indicates two members based there



• Team member location United States 10 • Germany 1 • Italy 1 • Philippines 1 • Argentina 1 • Aotearoa / New Zealand 1

Name	Role	Location
Cecilia McGough	Founder & Executive Director	New York, USA
Emeka Chima	President, Executive Board	Maryland / Washington D.C., USA
Davy Yue	VP of Partnerships, Executive Board	Florida, USA
Kristína Janačková	VP of Management, Executive Board	Germany
Joel Luna	VP of Administration, Executive Board	Philippines
Filomena Curcio	Treasurer, Executive Board	Italy
Riwhi Kenny	Co-Secretary, Executive Board	Aotearoa / New Zealand
Kiki Cooper	Co-Secretary, Executive Board	Massachusetts, USA
Luciano Bonader	Senior Executive Board Member	Argentina
Daniel Nepveux	Executive Board Member	Texas, USA
Benjamin McAfee	Executive Board Member	Florida, USA
Alejandro Fernandez	Advisory Council Chair	California, USA
Maye Jepson	Advisory Council Member	South Carolina, USA
Bret Heinrich	Advisory Council Member	Missouri, USA
Dr. Ann Shinn	Advisory Council Member	Massachusetts, USA

2025 Outreach Events

Date(s)	Event	Collaborating Organization(s)	Location
01.15.2025	Harvard-MIT HT700 & PSIG Chapter Event	Harvard University; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Psychiatry Student Interest Group	Massachusetts, USA
01.31–02.01.2025	BMS Neuropsychiatry Customer Experience Steering Committee Meeting	Bristol Myers Squibb	Tennessee, USA
02.08.2025	2025 TEDxPSU: Paper Towns	TEDx; The Pennsylvania State University	Pennsylvania, USA
03.03–03.15.2025	2025 South by Southwest Conference (SXSW)	South by Southwest (SXSW)	Texas, USA
03.07.2025	University of Maryland School of Medicine Lunch Meeting	University of Maryland School of Medicine	Maryland, USA
03.29–04.02.2025	2025 Annual Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society	Schizophrenia International Research Society (SIRS)	Illinois, USA
04.29.2025	Together Love Self: A Series of Poetic Meditations	Humanities New York; Stony Brook University	New York, USA (Virtual)
05.17.2025	Express Your PosSCZible	Bristol Myers Squibb; GRAMMY Museum	California, USA
06.04.2025	2025 JED Foundation Gala	The JED Foundation	New York, USA
07.31.2025	Public Health Committee Informational Forum on First Episode Psychosis	Connecticut Public Health Committee; STEP Learning Collaborative; Yale University	Connecticut, USA
08.18–08.19.2025	2025 Clinical High Risk for Psychosis & First Episode Psychosis Conference	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); Bristol Myers Squibb	Maryland, USA
09.08–09.10.2025	15th International Conference on Early Intervention and Prevention in Mental Health	Early Intervention in Mental Health (IEPA)	Germany
09.13.2025	31st One Mind Music Festival	One Mind	California, USA
10.16–10.17.2025	2025 Mental Health America Conference	Mental Health America (MHA)	Washington, D.C., USA
10.21–10.22.2025	Stanford IntroSems Class + INSPIRE Clinic Didactic Hour	Stanford University; INSPIRE Clinic; Bristol Myers Squibb	California, USA
10.30–11.01.2025	2025 NAMI Texas Annual Conference	NAMI Texas; Sidney R. Baer Jr. Foundation; Bristol Myers Squibb	Texas, USA
11.07.2025	In My Mind – A Benefit Bringing Awareness to Psychosis	CALM NOLA; Bristol Myers Squibb	Louisiana, USA
11.19.2025	Education and Employment Meeting	Independence Center; Bristol Myers Squibb	Missouri, USA
12.18.2025	STARR Coalition Award Ceremony	STARR Coalition; Schizophrenia and Psychosis Action Alliance (S&PAA)	Arkansas, USA (Virtual)

Table 1. SWP events and outreach engagements, calendar year 2025.

“Participating in IEPA15 in Berlin as part of Students With Psychosis was a powerful experience. I deeply valued connecting with other lived experience scholars and advocates, and it meant a great deal to finally meet some psychosis researchers I have long admired face-to-face. Many conversations did not end with the official daily program but continued informally throughout the evenings, creating space for deeper exchange and genuine connection. Plus, there could hardly be a better location for such a vibrant conference than Berlin! Overall, the experience strengthened my confidence and made me even more certain that I want to pursue an academic path and contribute to psychosis research in the future.”

— Kristína Janačková, VP of Management

Featured Project: Live Your PosSCZible × Bristol Myers Squibb

As an extension of SWP's ongoing partnership with Bristol Myers Squibb's Live Your PosSCZible (LYP) campaign, which has included SWP members performing at the “Express Your PosSCZible” event at the GRAMMY Museum, participating in the LYP GRWM social media campaign, and filming LYP videos in New York City, SWP received a \$100,000 corporate sponsorship to organize a series of events across the United States celebrating how people living with schizophrenia are living their PosSCZible. The events included featuring poster presentations, personal testimonies, music, art exhibitions, facilitated discussion groups, LYP awards, and screenings of the “Students With Psychosis x Live Your PosSCZible” video. SWP exceeded the original scope of the initiative by partnering with six events and presenting six LYP awards, surpassing the initial goal of five events and five awards. During these campaign events in collaboration with the Sidney R. Baer Jr. Foundation, SWP also presented Sidney R. Baer Jr. Awards to SWP members Kiki Cooper and Jesse Guerrero at the SWP'24 Conference at Yale University and the 2025 NAMI Texas Conference.

Event	Location	Partner Organization(s)	Award Recipient	Date(s)	Attendance
SWP'24 Conference	Connecticut (Northeast)	Yale University + STEP Learning Collaborative + Red Rock + WMHC + Teva Pharmaceuticals + Alkermes + Sidney R. Baer Jr. Foundation	Laura Kordowski	Oct 18–20, 2024	48
Clinical High Risk for Psychosis & First Episode Psychosis Conference	Maryland (Northeast)	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)	Emeka Chima	Aug 18–19, 2025	197
Stanford IntroSems Class + INSPIRE Clinic Didactic Hour	California (West)	Stanford University + INSPIRE Clinic	Sadie Foltz	Oct 21–22, 2025	27
NAMI Texas Conference	Texas (Southwest)	NAMI Texas + Sidney R. Baer Jr. Foundation	Daniel Nepveux	Oct 30–Nov 1, 2025	365
In My Mind Benefit	Louisiana (Southeast)	CALM NOLA	Davy Yue	Nov 7, 2025	219
Education & Employment Clubhouse Meeting	Missouri (Midwest)	Independence Center	Javonne “Peace” Bowles	Nov 19, 2025	63
Approx. Attendance Total					919

Table 2. Six SWP Expo Events held as part of the BMS Live Your PosSCZible campaign, Oct 2024–Nov 2025.

Note: while the campaign is scoped to the six expo events above, the SWP'24 Conference award to Laura Kordowski took place in October 2024 at Students With Psychosis' Conference hosted at Yale University, before the start of this reporting year; the remaining five award ceremonies all took place in 2025.

“Living my posSCZible means not masking my symptoms so much and feeling accepted by others when sometimes my behaviors or actions may be misunderstood by people.”

— Laura Kordowski, Live Your PosSCZible Award Recipient

2025 Financial Overview — Eight-Year History (2018–2025)

Expenses by Category

Period	Local In-person Programming	Virtual Programming	Outreach	Media/Tech	Administration	Total Expenses
2018	(1,871.36)	-	(105.00)	-	(438.72)	(2,415.08)
2019	(1,860.71)	-	(14,378.63)	(89.63)	(741.75)	(17,070.72)
2020	(1,536.95)	(12,590.43)	(7,891.61)	(545.08)	(2,472.20)	(25,036.27)
2021	(1,402.98)	(23,277.29)	(164.82)	(3,506.60)	(1,579.80)	(29,931.49)
2022	(334.99)	(25,173.59)	(58,413.63)	(3,481.42)	(2,975.21)	(90,378.84)
2023	(10,197.78)	(45,915.34)	(73,806.85)	(5,814.60)	(2,779.65)	(138,514.22)
2024	-	(26,958.05)	(39,170.27)	(8,183.25)	(1,277.13)	(75,588.70)
2025	-	(10,000.00)	(112,637.00)	(9,398.59)	(1,191.68)	(133,227.27)

Revenue by Category

Period	Accumulated Income	Individual Contributions	Grants	Refunds	Workshop/ Speaker Fees	Membership Fees	Conference Tickets	Corporate Sponsorship	Total Revenue
2018	-	6,310.82	2,450.00	0.19	-	-	-	-	8,761.01
2019	6,345.93	11,023.14	2,000.00	70.97	-	-	-	-	19,440.04
2020	2,369.32	18,590.97	1,000.00	3,423.55	-	-	-	-	25,383.84
2021	347.57	5,103.41	35,000.00	299.47	-	-	-	-	40,750.45
2022	10,818.96	17,572.28	75,000.00	6,635.52	52,482.14	1,750.00	-	-	164,258.90
2023	73,880.06	8,649.48	17,500.00	15,718.98	12,759.83	-	4,657.22	8,000.00	141,165.57
2024	2,651.35	9,128.09	17,500.00	5,229.36	15,650.00	-	2,575.00	110,000.00	162,733.80
2025	87,318.80	1,372.65	37,500.00	424.46	7,971.50	-	-	-	134,587.41

2025 Statement of Activities

Particulars	Amount (\$)	%
Income		
Accumulated Income	87,318.80	64.88%
Individual Contributions	1,372.65	1.02%
Grants	37,500.00	27.86%
Refunds	424.46	0.32%
Workshop/Speaker Fees	7,971.50	5.92%
Total Income	134,587.41	100.00%
Expenses		
Virtual Programming	(10,000.00)	7.51%
Outreach	(112,637.00)	84.55%
Media/Tech	(9,398.59)	7.05%
Administration	(1,191.68)	0.89%
Total Expenses	(133,227.27)	100.00%
Change In Net Assets	1,360.14	

Trend, 2018–2025

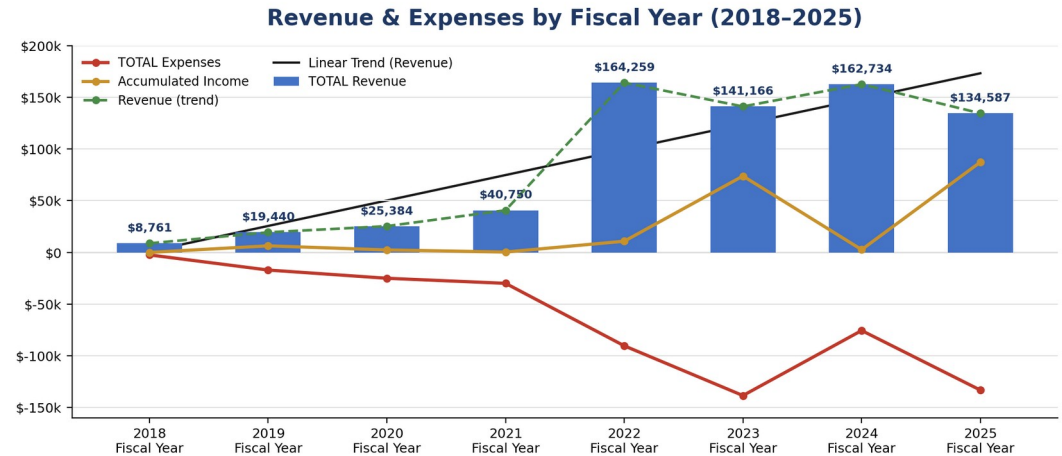


Figure 1. Revenue & expenses by fiscal year, 2018–2025.