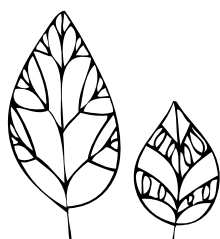


*Everyone Contributes, Everyone Gains*



**CLYDESDALE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**  
Annual Report 2024/25





# contents

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Chairperson's report	3
Placement Support report	5
Community Development report	12
Annual Review	23
Managing Director's report	24
Finance & Commercial Manager's report	26
Woodcraft Manager's report	27
Awards, grants & funding	28

# chairperson's report

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with deep gratitude and admiration for the incredible people who make our work at CCI possible.

To our dedicated Board members – thank you for your unwavering commitment, wisdom, and vision. Your guidance has been instrumental in helping us grow and adapt in a rapidly changing world. It's a privilege to work alongside such a passionate and forward-thinking group.

To our tireless staff and incredible volunteers – you are the heart of our organisation. Every day, you bring empathy, energy, and excellence to everything you do. Whether you're supporting people directly or working diligently behind the scenes, your efforts are felt in every life we touch. Your compassion uplifts those around you, and your dedication continues to inspire everyone in our community.

To the volunteers who gift us their time, talents, and spirit – thank you. Your generosity is a powerful force for good, and we are honoured to have you as part of our CCI family.

At the centre of our work are our participants, their families and supporters. Your courage, your stories, and your journeys are what fuel our purpose. On behalf of the entire organisation, thank you for trusting us, for walking with us, and for reminding us every day that when we come together, real change is possible. You embody our belief that everyone contributes, everyone gains, and every person deserves the chance to thrive.



We are also deeply grateful to all those who support us – through grants, donations, partnerships, and shared resources. Your belief in our mission allows us to continue expanding our reach and impact. A significant portion of our funding also comes from our own social enterprises, which not only help sustain our work but demonstrates the powerful connection between purpose and sustainability.

Every contribution – large or small – helps us create a community where inclusion, opportunity, and hope are not just ideals, but everyday realities. In uncertain times, your support means more than ever. With your help, we can continue building a future where everyone feels seen, supported, and empowered.

From all of us at CCI, thank you for walking this journey with us.

Lorna Laidlaw  
Chairperson



## Financial Update For Year 2024/25 – Summary of Income & Expenditure

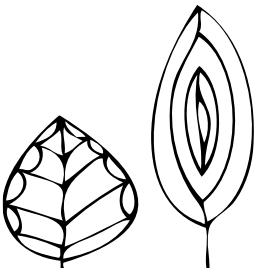
CLYDESDALE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES LTD – HEALTH, INCLUSION AND TRAINING		£
Income		
Revenue Grants Received		382,090
Trading Sales (Tearoom, woodworking horticulture and other activities.),		459,637
Social Care		114,660
Donations and Other Income		48,769
Total income		1,005,156
Expenditure		
Trading Expenditure		1,034,900
Capital (Depreciation)		6,264
Total Expenditure		1,041,164
Charity Unrestricted Surplus		-36,008



### Charity Surplus

The Charity, after the above deficit, has unrestricted funds of £257,760 as at the end of March 2025. This represents only 28% of our annual running costs therefore we must continue to actively seek income from our Funders and Benefactors, and also from all our internal trading activities to maintain the support given to our participants. Full details of our financial position is in our Accounts which will be available after our AGM later this year. Thanks must be given to all our Trustees and Employees for their hard work during this difficult trading year.

Andrew O. Walker  
Treasurer





# placement support report

At CCI it is all about what you can do, not about labels of stigma or discrimination. Our participants talk about how much it means to feel included; to be part of the banter, to have someone ask how they are doing.

No one loses sight of what we're about at CCI, everyone pitches in together to get the jobs done. People regain skills, getting up and out to catch the bus in the morning, to learning new complex skills such as following recipes or building something from scratch. It is about improving wellbeing on many levels. Being part of CCI is to actively contribute to your community.

Coming to CCI gives a purpose, a reason to embrace the day, to make living worthwhile. *"I go to bed excited about what tomorrow will bring. I never thought I'd feel that way again."*

## Craft group

The Craft Group are active across several CCI groups, working together to bring a creative and personal touch to a range of projects.

Our café always has a seasonal display of wall hangings and window decorations. Down in the nature trail you will find Miniville, an eccentric hamlet of gnome houses painted by the group. Sewing skills have been honed in making lavender pouches to put in giftboxes for the Botanics. Sparkling table displays were made for the CCI Christmas lunch.

Throughout the year new designs have been developed for greetings cards, which you can buy in our shop. Not to mention that everyone at CCI receives a handmade birthday card! People like to take photos of what they have made, *"My kids are not going to believe that I made this!"*

*"For someone to buy your stuff, that really matters. I think, wow, I must have made a good job of that. I find it hard to like what I do because I've been criticised most of my life. If I had seen this place when I was a teenager I can see that my life might have gone a different way."*



## Woodwork group

The workshop continues to make a diverse range of products; planters, birdhouses, log shelters and so much more.

This year customers have been bringing in more items of furniture to be restored. Participants are gaining enough skills to be confident to pick up pieces from charity shops to restore themselves.

*"I've really enjoyed learning pyrography. I love all the designs and what you can do with piece of wood. I like using the machinery too. A great project was making raised bed for wheelchair users, I was amazed by that. You don't see many businesses thinking to do it, but it makes such difference to people to be able to do a bit of gardening."*



## Horticulture group

The new hedge at the sensory garden was a fantastic achievement involving everyone. The hard work was getting the old hedge out. We have also welcomed community payback assistance at the sensory garden who have really contributed to the upkeep.

We had a trip out to Grow '73 helping to package seeds for distribution and keep the Bee Line flowing.

We have produced hundreds of plants for the market garden from seeds, bulbs, cuttings and plant division giving the participants a good insight to propagation.

Supplying the kitchen and soup dragons with vegetables, fruit & herbs is also a vital piece of our contribution to Langloch Farm.

Our Tuesday group do a relaxation session when we can fit it in and during the winter months we have cooking sessions enjoyed by all.

To support Clyde Valley Orchard Group (who make wonderful juice) we apple pick in the various orchards down the valley and help with the pressing

The botanic's front garden and polytunnels are also maintained by the gardening groups who tirelessly give of their time to help make all this possible. Thank you Catherine

*"It's interesting to learn about different plants, and how to put them in a garden. It's helped me a lot coming to CCI. I'm more confident and settled now."*

## Environmental group

The group have been working across several community sites. The tasks are varied, mainly general landscaping by cutting back shrubs and clearing groundcover. Then laying woodchip to suppress the weeds. It takes a fair

bit of graft and energy. Our young people enjoy being part this group.

*"Didn't think I'd last more than a few days, but I've stayed for two years. I'm really proud of myself for committing to coming here. I leave everything else."*

*I was nervous at first, but everyone was friendly and showed me what to do. It's cool.*

*It's a great experience if you like being outdoors and want to do that in the future. You can learn a lot here about plants and what to do to look after them.*

*CCI is like family to me. I've met a lot of people who have helped me. Lots of people say CCI is nice, and it actually is."*



## Maintenance group

They look after the general site maintenance at CCI which ranges from cutting grass, looking after the nature trail and anything which needs to be repaired. This year the group were involved in the conversion of our millshed into four distinct areas; the Women's Shed, Botanics, a music studio and a room space.

*"It was a joined up effort, everybody had a job to do, there was no standing around. It was very fast moving and exciting. I helped to put up partitions walls. Also putting*

*insulation into the floor cavities, then putting the chipboard flooring on top. I never realised how tricky it was to put down carpet tiles, we used them to soundproof the music studio."*





## Café

This is how the public often discover CCI. Our participants work alongside the staff team. It is a fast paced environment, everyone moving seamlessly between taking orders, serving food and coffees, to clearing tables for the next customers.

*"As a parent of a disabled son, I've been genuinely moved by the positive impact Clydesdale Community Initiatives (CCI) in Lanark has had on Euan's life – particularly through his experience working in the community kitchen. The structure, support, and encouragement he's received there have helped him grow in confidence and develop real, practical skills he's proud of, and which he now uses to good effect in his own kitchen."*

Before joining CCI, he lacked confidence in the kitchen and often felt unsure of what he was capable of. But since becoming involved in food preparation and baking as part of the team, he's not only learned how to follow recipes, measure ingredients, and work safely, but he's discovered a real enjoyment for cooking. The staff supported him at his pace, giving him space to learn while always being on hand for guidance.

The most amazing part is how transferable those skills have been at home. He now bakes regularly for the family – something that used to feel out of reach. He's taken ownership of it, proudly sharing his bakes and even trying new recipes on his own.

It's given him a new sense of independence and self-worth, and we've seen a real boost in his overall wellbeing.

CCI has offered so much more than just work experience – it's helped my son find confidence, creativity, and pride in something he enjoys. We are so grateful for the inclusive, nurturing environment CCI provides. It's made a lasting difference to his life – and to ours as a family"



## Botanics

Always popular with our customers, the group makes soaps, lip balms and body scrubs using herbs grown at CCI. Room sprays are the latest addition to the range. The group are involved in the whole process; from sowing seeds to harvesting the flowers, making the products, then packaging them up for sale in our shop. Some products are made for celebration days during the year such as Valentine's Day, Mother's Day or gifts for teachers.

*"It's nice to see it all on display in the shop and on Langloch Facebook page. I never thought I'd see myself making soap, but I love it. Especially cutting up the soap, it's like a big block of cheese!"*

## New shoots group

This group is for people who are taking their first steps in building new routines. There is a mix of activities designed to build confidence and skills. As well as CCI tasks, there are opportunities to try mindfulness techniques to ease anxiety, nature walks and learning creative skills.

*"I'm beginning to relax and understand people. I was very isolated. Still hard to change my sleep pattern for the one day, but I feel it's worth it. I look forward to coming. It's the one place I can be myself."*



## Soup dragons

Every Tuesday our Soup Dragons tempt our tastebuds with new recipes and old favourites. It's always a talking point! We often use vegetables and herbs grown here at CCI.

*"I look forward to Tuesdays when we do the soup. I'm learning new skills in following recipes and trying new ingredients. I love cooking, and like showing others how to prep the veg. We got a compliment from Niall today who said if our soup was in the café it would sell out! And sometimes people have seconds, which is great too."*



## Community Project With Woodwork

At CCI we are often involved in joint projects. Stonehouse Hospital wanted to create a sensory garden for their patients. We were approached through NHS Lanarkshire Green Health Partnership to build the benches, raised beds and arbour. Then Larkhall Community Growers did the planting. This project links to Bee Line to Nature too, an initiative encouraging biodiversity.

Alex Trotter is part of the woodwork team who built and installed the garden features. He met Princess Anne who opened the sensory garden. She remarked on how sturdy they were and was interested to hear how they were built.

*"I've really enjoyed learning pyrography. I love all the designs and what you can do with a piece of wood. I like using the machinery too. A great project was*

*making raised beds for wheelchair users, I was amazed by that. You don't see many businesses thinking to do it, but it makes such difference to people to be able to do a bit of gardening."*



## Craft Group Work With Artist

This bench is the conclusion of an extensive Covid Memorial Project between the CCI craft group and community artist, Kathryn Hanna. The project explored the experiences of people during Covid. The group also worked with a poet, Giovanna MacKenna to express their thoughts on how they would like to remember that time. The Craft Group designed the bench, then the woodwork team brought their ideas to life.

*"It's good knowing that people have somewhere to sit to reminisce. What it could mean to people to have this, because Covid was such a trying time."*



Total sessions delivered: 1961

Total sessions attended by participants: 6037

Total hours of volunteering: 22,264



Participant Outcomes

CCI’s asset-based approach provides opportunities for vocational skills development, building networks of support and social connections, developing self-management skills to improve mental health and build personal resilience and for many, taking steps towards further or higher education, training and employment.

This year’s participant outcomes demonstrate the commitment and success of all our participants, with 22 actively engaged in, or working towards employment and 26 engaged in further education & training. A further 18 participants have volunteered in the wider community and 25 participants have attended wellbeing activities. This high level of vocational and community engagement is contributing greatly to the very upbeat atmosphere of CCI.

Many participants have taken important steps towards independence or have greatly improved their self-managements skills to make improvements in their mental health and general wellbeing. Others have stepped up to more demanding roles within CCI or out in the community. At CCI participants’ successes are recognised and celebrated on a daily basis. We will always encourage participants to develop at their own pace and to use the 5WW to improve their health and wellbeing along the way.

We would like to thank all our volunteer mentors for their commitment to supporting participants with higher support needs. Their support greatly increases inclusion and skills development. Thanks also to our volunteer helpers who assisted in the running of the groups, growing areas and market garden and thank you to our amazing Soup Dragons! Finally, a big thank you to every single participant and volunteer for their truly incredible overall contribution this year!

Partner Agencies

We would like to take the opportunity to thank our partner agencies for all the support they have provided to our participants and to CCI. This year we have worked closely with the following agencies: NHSL Community Mental Health teams, Social Work & Education Services (SLC), AspireWorks (SLC), Skills Development Scotland, Connect2 Renewables Employability Initiative (SLC), Healthy Valleys, Supported Employment Team (SLC), NHS Community Links Team, RTWS, Clydesdale Women’s Shed and the Clydesdale Foodbank.

“I have been a volunteer at CCI for the past 3 years. In this time, I have grown in confidence and have been able to make plans for the future. I have been learning to drive and have applied to a university course that I will be starting next year. I would not have been able to do this without the support of the people at CCI. I have learned so many new skills and met many incredible people.”

“I have been volunteering at CCI for many years first in the workshop and then as a mentor. I am also a health walk leader in Hamilton and Lesmahagow. Volunteering at CCI and running health walks helps me with my own mental health. It keeps a smile on my face. I feel very excited about my future at CCI as I have been asked by CCI to run a health walk in Lanark. I thank CCI for giving me this opportunity.”

“CCI gave me a place to hibernate when I was scared and broken. It gave me a crutch when I was healing. It is now giving me a supportive hand for my future.”

“Ever since joining CCI, I have come a long way in building up my confidence and self-esteem. I have found CCI to be full of caring, supportive and helpful people, who have made it a lot easier for me to develop my skills. I now look forward to every Tuesday, where I feel that I am contributing to a worthwhile cause. This makes me feel proud of what I am doing, which further boosts my confidence. I want to thank everyone who has helped me during my time at CCI.”



PATHWAY TO PROGRESSION		
Employment	10	Full-time/part-time/self-employed/job offers
Pathway to Employment	12	Skills Development Scotland (careers advice) SLC Supported Employment Team Roots To Work South Rural Energy Academy Venture Trust’s Youth Employability Programme Dayforce work placement (Breaking Barriers Enable Works) Pets at Home job placement The Phone Doc work placement David Livingston Centre work placement RAF Careers Mentor
Further & Higher Education and Training	26 individuals (48 courses taken overall)	Full-time college (NCL Hosp & Pro Bakery/IT & Digital/Construction) Countryside Rangers NQ Training Strathclyde Uni Science course (Breaking Barriers – Enable Works employability programme) Adult education classes (IT & Digital Skills SVQ, reading & numeracy, Nat4 Maths) CCI Child Protection & Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Training CCI mentor training/networking workshops Dementia Awareness training ‘Strength & Balance’ Walking Leader course Disability Awareness workshop Neurodivergent training Autism Awareness Training online (accredited) Construction training OU online courses Food hygiene course LAMH PC Building course Alternative therapy teacher training Circle dance teacher training course
CCI Mentors	23	13 Volunteer mentors 10 Volunteer helpers
Volunteering In the community * Progressed to other volunteering placements via 5 Ways to Wellbeing Project.	18 (This figure does not include the 5 Ways to Wellbeing Project taster sessions. See report on 5 Ways to Wellbeing.)	High Mill Gardening Project Chatelherault Country Park Lanark Women’s Shed Walking group leader (Hamilton and Lesmahagow) Lanark in Bloom * LAMH Recycling* Kilbryde charity shop* St Mary’s lunch Club* Debra charity shop St Andrew’s Hospice charity shop Local hair salon Trust Jack Foundation Machan Trust School breakfast club CCI – internally progressed to community projects, café, market garden, NHS project, video making
Wellbeing classes, groups and workshops	25	5 Ways to Wellbeing workshops (10 for Zen mindfulness/journaling, expressive art & guided relaxation, Pranic Breathwork/Healing) * NHS Stress Control classes The Wise group Advocacy service The Clydesdale Counselling & Human Development Project Hear For You Clydesdale
*5 Ways to Wellbeing Project		Esteem Clydesdale NHS Counselling CCI Mindfulness sessions Gaming groups Archery club Wishaw Wellbeing Hub art class Walking groups Weight loss group Gym Ballet classes
Other progression	13	Lanark Guildry Award for outstanding achievement & skills Health Walk Leader & nominee for Paths for All Volunteer Awards Presented art exhibition at Langloch Farm Driving lessons/Independent travelling/independent accommodation



## Five Ways to Wellbeing

At CCI everything we do is underpinned by the Five Ways to Wellbeing model. This is an approach which everyone can include in their everyday lives. It is about making positive changes which become new habits, improving wellbeing.

**Connect** Build supportive relationships  
**Be Active** Go outside  
**Keep Learning** Try new opportunities  
**Take Notice** Appreciate the small things in life  
**Give** Make a difference to someone

We have expanded our approach with CCI participants by offering taster sessions to volunteer with other community groups and organisations. We tapped into our networks and partnerships to match the interests of participants to what is available locally.

We broadened our offer to the public, offering drop in sessions to try volunteering by joining one of our groups. The aim was to give people a sense of what might be involved in volunteering, including the benefits of learning new skills, meeting new people and contributing to the wider community of CCI.

During the year we held a range of events to showcase how we implement the Five Ways to Wellbeing at CCI. We delivered workshops to highlight different activities that can help to improve wellbeing, such as mindfulness, yoga and creativity.

*"I'm not arty, but I really enjoyed the painting. It felt very freeing. There were no rights to it. No wrongs. No pressure. I loved what I made, it's hanging in my living room. I'm now looking into doing art therapy. Without this workshop I wouldn't have thought of it."*

CCI participant at Wellbeing Festival



External Events: attending a range of health and community events with our Participants to highlight the benefits of volunteering		
Events included	Public engaged	CCI participants
Green Health Week, CLiC Health Improvement, Woodstock Patient Participation Group Health Fayre	459	29
<b>Highlight</b>	CCI hosted a Volunteering Festival. There were 13 organisations and groups. Thirty nine members of the public signed up to volunteer.	

Internal Events: hosting events with a focus on improving mental health and wellbeing		
Events included	Public engaged	CCI participants
World Mental Health Week, Mindfulness, Brew Monday, Two Open Days	214	103
<b>Highlight</b>	CCI held a Wellbeing Festival. There were 16 organisations and groups with an Information stand. We held 11 workshops on different aspect of wellbeing.	

Community Drop Ins: opportunities for the public to volunteer with us		
Groups included	Public engaged	CCI participants
Horticulture, Gardener's Den, Craft. Woodwork	152	64
<b>Highlight</b>	A focus of our Wellbeing Festival was to encourage the public and CCI participants to try new activities such as nature connection, yoga and expressive art. These taster sessions were attended by 78 members of the public and 28 CCI participants.	

External Taster Sessions: Our participants trying new volunteering opportunities in communities		
Community groups included	Total Visits	CCI participants
Clydesdale Community Foodbank, LAMH Recycle, Breeze Radio	9	25
<b>Highlight</b>	One of our participants has gone on to volunteer weekly at the Clydesdale Foodbank. It is a huge leap for his independence and being part of his local community.	

# community development report

## Environmental, Conservation & Heritage Works



Within the period of 2024/2025 a total of 59 participants took part in environmental improvement works which took place across over 60 sites across Lanarkshire. These activities enabled participants to learn and use skills in landscaping, path laying, strimming, grass cutting shrub maintenance as well as biodiversity and natural wildlife habitat preservation.

Within South Lanarkshire and in some sites in north Lanarkshire, the team were involved in carrying out several tasks including: woodland management and maintenance, willow dome and arch management, tree planting, path building, path clearance, slabbing, building and repairing steps and fences, installing raised beds, apple picking, strimming, grass cutting, planting on train stations, building and installing new play equipment within our site in Langloch Farm and the growing and harvesting of fruit and veg on various sites as part of our ongoing commitment to the Clydesdale Food Growing Network.

A new orchard was established at the Cleghorn Roman Encampment/Hutter's site and it's hoped the fruits of the trees grown here can add to Clydesdale Orchard Group's apples for juicing.

The team also took part in the planting of 600 cell-grown native saplings at Lochwood.

Our assistance with shrub, bed and border maintenance across various sites in Clydesdale continue as part of our involvement with Clydesdale Housing Association.



Clyde Valley Orchard Group
Abington (CHA site)
Nature Trail and Playpark at CCI
Blackwood Estate Community Association – Lochwood
Lanark Moor Sensory Garden
Wallace Garden
Biggar (CHA sites)
Lesmahagow (CHA sites)
Braidwood (CHA site)
Cleghorn Roman Encampment
Clydesdale Housing Association
Houston's Willow Plantation
Carluke (CHA sites)
Carnwath (CHA site)
Symington (CHA site)



Schools & Community Groups



Several schools and community groups have been welcomed to make use of our facilities here at Langloch Farm and our engagement continues across schools involved in our NHS growing projects, train stations and within their own schools. We had several school children attend events we have held both onsite and offsite also. Our Green Festival saw lots of children involved in planting herbs and making wormeries.

We also worked alongside youngsters from Kear Campus on tree planting projects at Lochwood and St Thomas Primary School in Wishaw to build compost bays and raised beds.





## Clydesdale Food Growing Network

Food growing continues to be an important venture here at Langloch Farm and across our other partner sites. Between 2024/2025 the Clydesdale Food Growing Project produced a total of 2324 kilos of fresh fruit and vegetables. Just over 1020 kilos were donated to the Clydesdale Foodbank to distribute to foodbank recipients, well over 1000 kilos went to the Clyde Valley Orchard Group to produce their apple juice and over 300 kilos was used by our staff in our onsite tearoom and participants. Some of the sites involved in the food growing network include:

Forth Eco Polytunnel
Lanark Grammar School
Mungo Foundation
CCI Gardener's Den Community Beds (including Healthy Valleys, Covey and Lanark Grammar School)
Lanark Moor Sensory Garden
Larkhall Community Growers
Rotary Club Lanark – Cargill House
6 x NHS Garden sites
Clyde Valley Orchard Group



## Gardener's Den Swap Shop

The Circular Economy flourishes thanks to our Community Swapshop. It is incredible to see the number of items that pass through this polytunnel. Items large and small from packets of seeds to garden furniture. Tools, pots and gardening books all in between. We also have regular donations of clean, empty glass jars that others can pick up to use for when they are making jams and chutneys. This past year saw an astonishing 7250 kilos of goods passing through our swap shop which vastly reduced the amount of waste sent to landfill. With people becoming more aware of our project, this past year also saw the largest growth in our CCI Gardeners Den Facebook page with members now sitting at 1022 and is still growing! The Den continues to hold drop-in gardening sessions, focussing on permaculture methods like composting, no-dig, soil health and other methods which are complimentary to the environment. It also ran workshops as part of the five ways to wellbeing this past year. The Gardener's Den group also supports the running of the Garden Centre due to their knowledge and experience of all the plants.





# Bee line to Nature



Our involvement with this collaborative project continues into its third year. This exciting project is in partnership between 3 other partners to raise awareness of Climate, Nature and Health.

The 4 anchor organisations are: Larkhall Community Growers, Healthy and Active in East Kilbride, Langloch Farm at CCI in Lanark and Grow 73 in Camglen.

We have been engaging with the unengaged, in nature-based programmes, focussing on protecting and expanding green and natural spaces that matter to them and making a significant contribution to the aim of creating a deeper connection with nature to engender a change in people's behaviours and greater care for the environment.

The project is funded by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund.

Lots of activities have taken place across all 4 localities this past year. Activities include 'Moth Trap' monitoring, bulb planting, seed sowing and festivals to raise awareness to promote behaviour change. Behavioural changes are monitored by carrying out surveys with all involved.



# Adopt-a-Station

We are ever grateful to the ScotRail adopt-a-station programme for continued support to work across many sites in Lanarkshire. Where possible, we worked alongside schools and community groups to plant the barrels and planters with perennial and nectar producing plants, thus continuing our Bee line to Nature theme across the stations to further the creation of the pollinator highways for insects, bees and butterflies and create a food source for birds. This year saw us add an additional train station to our list of 8 to make a total of 9 now. Groups who worked alongside us now include:



Wishaw	St Aidan's Nurture Group
Whifflet	NHS Coathill patients
Carfin	Taylor High School
Blantyre	CCI volunteers
Coatbridge Central	Coatbridge High School
Holytown	Taylor High School
Sunnyside Coatbridge	Coatbridge High School
Coatdyke	Albion Rovers Buddies
Lanark	Lanark in Bloom



# Net Zero at CCI

CCI is delighted to have been awarded funding from SP Energy to deliver significant NetZero outcomes both directly in carbon reduction and indirectly through behaviour change among individuals and groups who will benefit from NetZero education and awareness raising activities.

We were able to have around 40 PV panels installed across the roofs of our tearoom, workshop and the new John Cunningham Creative Centre.

We also created a climate challenge trail within our grounds here and produced a leaflet to educate the public about the practical steps they can take to reduce their carbon footprint.



Together for a greener Clydesdale





## NHS Lanarkshire Green Health Partnership

Our work across the Lanarkshire hospital gardens continues to return many positive benefits for the inpatients, outpatients, staff and volunteers who join us each week.

This past year we worked with NHS Occupational Therapy staff, inpatients, outpatients and volunteers across the many hospital gardens we attend. We finished adding elements to the King George V garden in Wishaw and painted the new fence. As part of Mental Health Week, we took part in an event that had over 300 visitors. We also took part in 'no mow May' and let the grass grow at this site while mowing paths through to the picnic benches and seating areas. Kirklands hospital saw an increase in both inpatient and outpatient volunteers and the work there included installing a new compost bay and bug hotel. Coathill hospital garden saw all of the timber items being painted and refreshed. The volunteers here helped promote the Bee Line to Nature message by planting pollinator friendly plants and bulbs. Volunteers at Airbles Rd Dementia Garden helped build planters, paint fences, weed areas and even grow a bumper crop of vegetables. As part of Green Health Week, we held an open day at this garden to promote the 5 ways to Wellbeing. We planted and harvested vegetables at the Kello Hospital garden and these vegetables were given to the Clydesdale Foodbank.

We were delighted to have built a new garden in the Udston CAMHS unit which will officially open later this year. Across all of the hospital sites including Wishaw King George V, Kirklands, Kello, Coathill, Airbles Rd dementia garden and Airbles Rd extension garden, an astonishing 162 kilos of food was produced and distributed to the Clydesdale Food bank. 40 kilos of apples grown at Coathill were pressed into juice and one of our volunteers even baked pies to share with the other volunteers.

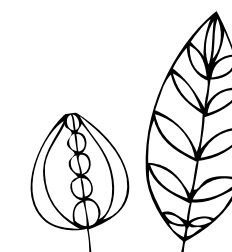
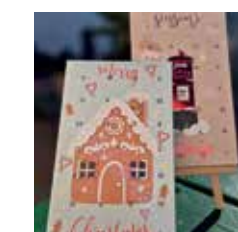


## Social Enterprise Activities



## Botanics

Botanics continues to make our ever-popular range of soaps, lip balms, sugar scrubs and seasonal wax melts. A new partnership New Lanark Gift Shop was established and they now sell Langloch Farm Botanics products. Making their order kept the team very busy. The group also got to deliver the products to their new shop at New Lanark and were excited to see how they were being displayed there. Our partnership with the craft group continues well, with them making the pouches for our 'Langloch Lavender' and also helping wrap our products with creative tags. The two new Room Sprays that were developed last year are proving to be very popular and comments from customers have been very encouraging with most of them grateful to have found a spray that contains essential oils and not artificial fragrance. The team only use essential oils in the production of all products that touch skin. The team also sow, grow and harvest all the herbs grown for the products. Introducing new Advent Calendars containing wax melts really challenged the team last year due to the footery process involved but they are determined to give it another go this year using a slightly different approach. They also introduced making eco-soy wax candles inside vintage china teacups which were a hit with customers. Other products under development include a new pillow spray to aid sleep, and also a sample box of soaps in a postable box so keep your eye out in our gift shop for these items coming soon.





## Garden Centre

We were so excited to have officially launched the opening of our new little garden centre last year. This has proved to be very popular indeed. Having locally grown plants ready to pick up when visitors come by, makes CCI at Langloch Farm more of a destination day out. Of course, we have always grown our own herbs, herbaceous perennial, shrubs from cutting and annual plants here on site with the help of our horticulture groups, but the addition of buying in locally grown plants from Clyde Valley Plant Wholesalers has really made 'Langloch Plants' a place where people can source plants grown for a Scottish climate.

As well as the Gardeners Den, a variety of different groups all get to help in this area.

The addition of plant pots and other sundries has also proved popular with customers and so much so, we hope to soon expand this garden centre area to include a covered area so that more items can be offered to our visitors. This will also provide more space for woodcraft items to be displayed to encourage linked sales.



## Adult Learning Classes

Our site still welcomes the public for a variety of classes held here at our premises. This past year, Needle Felting was introduced and the workshop was fully booked. Most of our other workshops book up very fast and include: Pyrography, Soap-making, Basket-making, Silver Jewellery, Stained Glass, Landscape Art, Crochet and Lampshade making. Our Christmas wreath-making workshops are always fully booked and last year over 110 wreaths were made by attending participants. Other workshops that proved popular were the hanging basket and Spring Planter workshops. We try wherever possible, to only put on workshops we have been asked for by the public and are always looking to expand on workshops being offered.



## Partnership activities

Our whole ethos here at CCI is to work alongside others to make a contribution to our community. On our site based here at Langloch Farm we give space to several local groups to run their own activities and also work together with us on some of their projects.

This past year we have hosted the following groups:

Lanark in Bloom – we give them space here to grow all the lovely plants and flowers that brighten up the streets of Lanark. They also grow food to donate to the foodbank.

Lanark Woman's Shed – they have a cabin here where they run workshops and sessions in woodwork, furniture upholstery and needlecraft activities. They also work alongside our workshop to deliver monthly Repair Workshops.

Friend's Shed – this was a group run in partnership with CCI for adults with learning disabilities and their carers.

Clydesdale Orchard Group – producers of the most delicious fresh apple juice made from locally picked apples and pressed, bottled and pasteurised right here on site.

Grateful Shed Guitar Group – we facilitate this group to meet here one day a week on our premises to learn and practice guitar. They are a regular feature at our Music Festival.



We also have a close working relationship with external organisations Healthy Valleys, VASLAN and Borders Biscuits and work on the following projects together:

Clydesdale Handy Folk – this is a service we deliver with Healthy Valleys and a team of volunteers, to carry out small repairs in the homes of vulnerable people

VASLAN – together with Healthy Valleys, we plan, organise and run quarterly meet-ups with other Clydesdale based groups to share information and enable learning from shared experience.

Borders Biscuits – we have a strong working relationship with Borders and have been working with them to establish the John Cunningham Creative Centre which will be used to house a music rehearsal studio and several other creative pursuits.

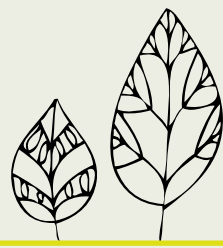
This past year we also had Siemens join us as part of their CSR days and they helped with re-fitting our Mill Shed.

CCI also helps make Lanimer Lorries when asked to and tries, where possible, to collaborate with many local groups who ask for assistance.





# annual review



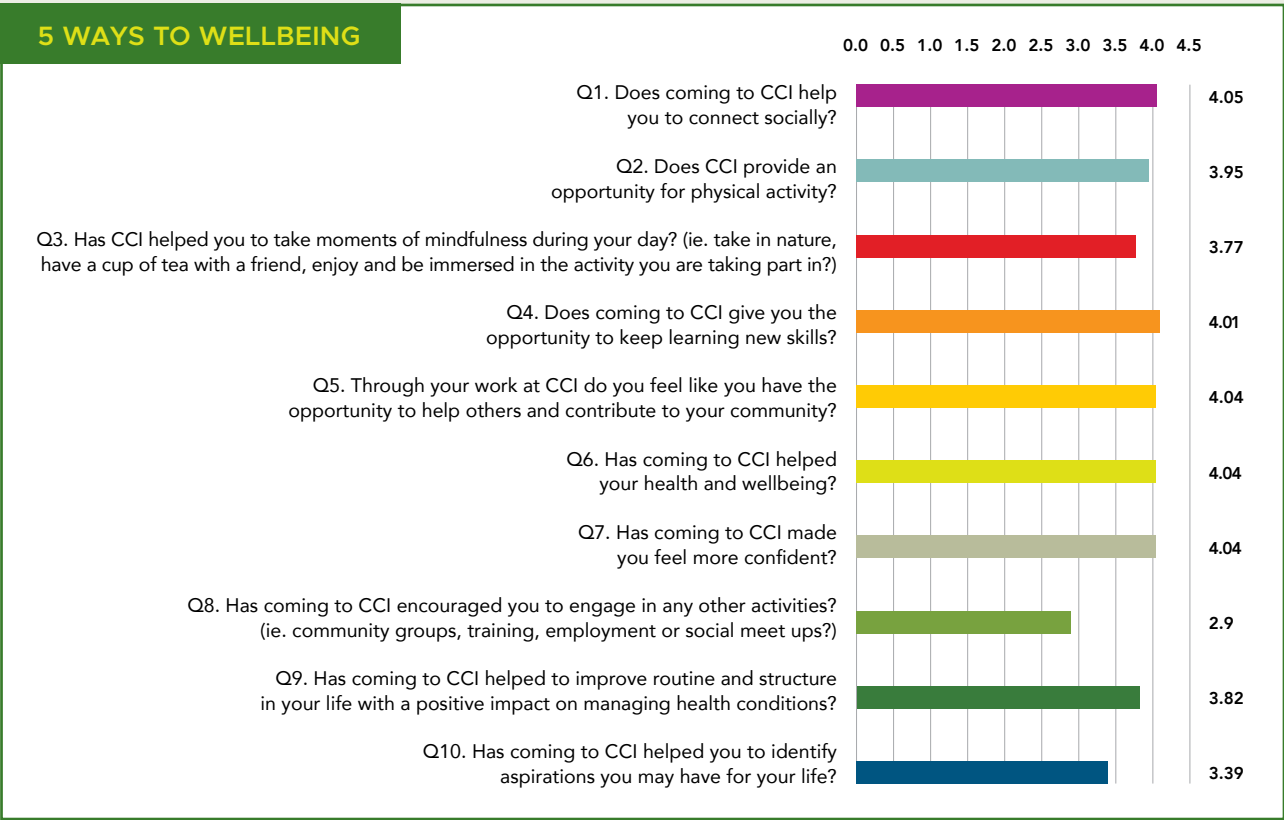
We work closely with our participants through regular focus groups and one-to-one reviews to gather valuable feedback and ensure we are providing support where it's needed most. This year's reviews took place between February and March 2025 and included individual sessions with our Placement Support Workers, alongside the completion of our '5 Ways to Wellbeing' questionnaires. These tools provide a valuable snapshot of participants' current health and well-being, helping us monitor progress, measure our impact and identify areas where we can offer even more effective support.



The 2025 results closely mirror those of the previous year, demonstrating consistency in our impact and service delivery. Once again, the data shows a strong positive effect on participants' overall health and well-being. There has also been a modest increase in engagement with activities outside of CCI. This positive shift can be attributed to our continued efforts in this area, including the successful rollout of our external volunteering taster sessions.

We understand that stepping into new environments beyond CCI can naturally take time and confidence. While progress in this area has been gradual, we're encouraged by an increase in engagement with external activities. We're also seeing a small but positive increase in the number of participants reporting greater confidence through their involvement at CCI.

Overall, the remaining results have stayed steady, with consistently high levels of positive feedback. This reflects the ongoing dedication of our staff and volunteers and highlights the continued benefit participants experience through their engagement with CCI.



# managing director's report

I am sure you have noticed, the news out there is not good; wars, recessions, social tensions, public service perma-crisis, mullets and taches making a comeback, it all feels quite grim. Despite a population wide sense of alarm, globalisation is only picking up momentum leading to power, wealth and status being sucked, vortex like, into ever higher echelons.

We can eulogise the small and the personal as much as we like but the reality is that to be small and local is to be vulnerable, to live with the grating paradox that while the rich and powerful increasingly flaunt their disdain for rules and process, individuals and small organisations are subject to increasing regulation and compliance.

And yet, being small and local is also the hope, it is the small and local that will keep alive the shared values of a friendly, fair and honest community, while we wait on the big institutions of state to get their act together. Because the algorithms don't work at the level of community, where people have real relationships with real people; messy, unpredictable, evolving relationships with people with different outlooks, priorities and interests. The people we play football with, sing with or buy our fish fingers from are people we would probably never come across in our social media feeds.

So CCI is proud and insistent in our small, local character and we remain even more committed to our mission, that everyone should be supported to make a contribution to their community.

Being small and local does not mean that we are risk averse and set in our ways, it is essential not only for our mission, but also for our ongoing sustainability that CCI are constantly looking for opportunities to respond to the needs and interests of our participants and our wider community that support us.

As you can see throughout this report our team continued to innovate and develop across all of our activities, our Langloch site is constantly being refreshed, our woodcraft social enterprise developed new products, our environment team won and delivered new contracts, our community gardeners started new partnerships, our placement support team establishing new progression pathways, our community development team expanded the range of workshops available to the public, our market garden is growing, our botanics are marketing new products, our craft team are finding new customers. Of course, some things do need to stay the same including our Tearooms well deserved reputation for amazing soups and fabulous cakes!

We undertook a major refurbishment of our Big Shed to create the John Cunningham Creative centre, a piece of work undertaken almost entirely by our Langloch volunteers, supported by teams from Borders Biscuits, to create new arts and craft workshop spaces available to the whole community, including a music studio for community use. This project will set us up for future partnerships with a whole range of organisations and communities for years to come.

We never stop, we can never stop, we are too small and too local to be able to stop, this is why we already have advanced plans to open a new farm shop and will be developing our market garden in the current year.



We can only celebrate the achievements of a small, local organisation like CCI by acknowledging the huge contribution of our volunteers, staff, board, community partners, funding partners, supporters and customers. Our board quietly lead our strategy and provide the essential advice that guides our decision making, our staff team show levels of commitment, energy and passion that drive the day to day experience of CCI, we are blessed with brilliant operational partners from both the community and public sectors with the Clydesdale Women's Shed and the Community OT team at Pather deserving particular mention. Our funders continue to be supportive even in these stricken times and we are particularly grateful to our personal and corporate champions who support us financially.

As always, the greatest thanks for CCI's continued success goes to our participants, all of whom face their own challenges but come to CCI to learn new skills, share their craic with us and work hard all year. It is because of their desire and commitment to making a contribution to their community that CCI works. They are the small and local that we can rely on and trust no matter how scary the big bad world gets.

**Niall McShannon**  
Managing Director



# finance & commercial manager's report

Word of mouth is a wonderful thing! In 2024/25 we have seen a huge increase in visitors to Langloch based on the recommendations of others.

Our Social Media engagements have also surpassed levels which we never thought we would see and still continue to grow. Online reviews to date have been extremely positive and have also attracted visitors who may not normally have come along.

This increase in footfall to the site benefits all areas of our commercial operations including our workshop, garden centre, botanics and of course our tearoom and gift shop but above all, the buzz around site instills a sense of pride for staff and participants alike. We really are very lucky to work in such a beautiful environment and I have to say a huge thanks to all our teams who work tirelessly to ensure that the site is kept in top notch condition and work in all weathers to keep on top of the maintenance. Also thank you to all our customers old and new for their ongoing support across all our ventures.

Next on my list of thank you's goes out to our tearoom staff who constantly surprise me with their enthusiasm and hunger to bring in fresh ideas, menu items and improvements. Their dedication to providing the best experience for our participants is hugely appreciated and all our participants turn up each day with enthusiasm for the day ahead and a huge smile on their face.

Last and not least I would like to thank our admin team. We may be a small team but we are perfectly formed and I would be completely lost without the support and assistance they provide on a daily basis. As an incredibly busy team I won't say there are never any moans as that would be a lie but these are met with a sense of humour and patience (generally!) and what is achieved on a daily basis is outstanding.

So what is next for Langloch Farm? We never like to rest on our laurels and are always keen to look at new ideas both to raise much needed income but also to provide alternative opportunities for our participants. So watch this space – you never know what we will think up next. We can assure you though that 100% energy and dedication will be involved as always.

Best Wishes

**Karen Tennant**  
Finance & Commercial Manager





# woodcraft manager's report

It is fair to say that our staff team and participants are never idle and 2024-2025 was no exception.

From selling small products in our shop to, installing outdoor shelters for local businesses, making custom raised beds, building bespoke garden furniture, designing memorial benches and creating awards, in all shapes and sizes. The scope of what our team has achieved is impressive.

One of the most notable projects of our year was the installation of a new garden for the Briar Unit, at Stonehouse Hospital. (Pictured) Together with Larkhall Community Growers, we turned a barren patch of land into a peaceful space, complete with sensory elements to aid patients' recovery. The garden was a great success and was opened by HRH The Princess Royal.

We have been lucky to work on these projects, with such talented participants and this year has seen incredible personal growth for several of them; with some becoming mentors and others embarking on further education. A great testament to our staff team CCI Scotland's inclusion model.

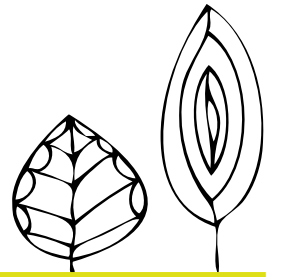
*'I've learned so many new skills and met so many incredible people. CCI is a wonderful and unique place and I'm so glad to have had the opportunity to be a part of it'*

**Woodcraft participant**

**Jo Black**  
Woodcraft Manager



# grants & funds



## Big Lottery – Contribute and Connect 23-26

Now in its second year, the Connect and Contribute Fund is enhancing confidence and building social networks among people in South Lanarkshire who are living with long-term health conditions, mental health challenges or additional support needs. This is achieved through supported engagement with our growing social enterprise ventures, including Langloch Farm Woodcraft, Langloch Botanics, the café and gift shop and Langloch Plants.

## BORDER

### Border Biscuits Foundation – John Cunningham Creative Centre

With generous support from the Border Biscuits Foundation, we have been able to refurbish and establish the new John Cunningham Creative Centre, a vibrant community hub for Lanark and the wider Clydesdale area. The new space will offer creative workshops and classes every year, engaging with members of the local community. Activities will range from tool and bicycle repair to furniture upcycling, clothing repair and a variety of arts and crafts such as stained glass, pottery, sculpture and music.



### Awards 4 All – Lanarkshire Craft Studios

Thanks to the generous support of Awards for All, we have been able to install a composting toilet next to the John Cunningham Creative Centre. This vital addition means the Centre can operate more independently, with on-site facilities making it more accessible during evenings and weekends. As a result, our Lanarkshire craft workshops can now run more frequently, helping us offer creative opportunities to the community throughout the week.



### Climate Action Fund – National Lottery Community Fund

We have now completed Year 2 of our 3 year Beeline to Nature project, funded from the National Lottery Climate Action Fund. This initiative collaborates with three partner organisations across South Lanarkshire; Healthy and Active, Grow 73 and Larkhall Community Growers. Together, we work with schools and community groups to enhance climate awareness and develop local green spaces by planting pollinator-friendly plants, fostering bee populations and promoting biodiversity.



### Community Mental Health and Wellbeing

We are grateful to have received two Community Mental Health and Wellbeing grants, supporting two unique but equally impactful projects. The first grant helped establish the Langloch Community Market Garden social enterprise, where participants grow plants, source stock, create displays and serve customers helping to build skills, confidence and connection. The second grant supported the Clydesdale Community Share Project, a partnership of four local organisations. The project involves engaging volunteers facing isolation or health challenges in meaningful tasks like furniture and clothes repairs, reuse workshops and food bank deliveries promoting wellbeing through purpose and connection.





### The Garfield Weston Foundation

The Garfield Weston Foundation supports our core project costs, including placement and volunteer support, enabling us to continue delivering vital support and services. This provides crucial funding for our projects that assist individuals with learning disabilities and ongoing mental health conditions to participate in meaningful community activities and our Social Enterprise ventures at CCI, positively impacting their health and wellbeing.



### The Hugh Fraser Foundation

We are thankful to The Hugh Fraser Foundation for their funding which has supported our Horticultural Gardener at Langloch Farm. This funding enables us to provide therapeutic gardening sessions for individuals with learning disabilities and enduring mental health conditions. Participants engage in growing plants, vegetables and herbs fostering practical skills but also contributing significantly to the overall health and wellbeing of the individuals involved.



### Integrated Care Fund (South Lanarkshire HSCP)

Through the Integrated Care Fund, our 'Five Ways to Clydesdale Community Wellbeing' project is creating new forums and supported volunteering opportunities rooted in the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing' approach. The project engages people at risk of physical or mental ill health in inclusive, community-based activities, from drop-in sessions and local events to environmental volunteering and partnership taster days, all designed to build wellbeing through connection, learning, giving, being active and taking notice.



### Lanarkshire Green Health Partnership – Greener Communities – 01/07/24 - 31/06/2026

Thanks to NHS Charities Together for continued funding for our Lanarkshire Green Health Partnership project – Greener Communities. This year round initiative facilitates weekly food growing groups across six hospital sites. The project focuses on developing green spaces while engaging inpatients, NHS staff, outpatients and volunteers in therapeutic gardening activities. Participants benefit from access to freshly grown local produce, with any surplus donated to hospital cookery groups, our CCI café kitchen and the Clydesdale Foodbank. The hospital gardening project has a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of patients, staff and volunteers alike.



### Robertson Trust

The Robertson Trust has contributed to our on-site Placement Support Workers, who offer support and guidance as volunteers step into various projects. These roles are vital for individuals who may find the transition into volunteering particularly challenging. They help participants recognise and develop their unique gifts and talents, enabling them to confidently move forward and achieve their personal goals.



### Health and Social Care Alliance – Self Management Fund

We are grateful to the Health and Social Care Alliance Self Management Fund for supporting our 'More than My Condition' project. The funding enabled us to recruit a Placement Support Worker who helped individuals with long-term health conditions engage in social prescribing and meaningful community placements. This support builds skills, confidence and wellbeing, empowering participants to better manage their conditions.



### Agnes Hunter Trust

We are grateful to the Agnes Hunter Trust for supporting the work of our Placement Support Officer within CCI's social enterprise activities. This funding has enabled us to support volunteers with physical disabilities and associated mental health challenges, offering personalised placements in areas such as the tearoom, gift shop, Langloch Botanics production and environmental work. With hands-on experience and one-to-one mentoring, participants are developing confidence, gaining valuable skills and contributing meaningfully to our social enterprises.



### SP Energy Networks Transmission Net Zero Fund

Thankful to SP Energy Networks Transmission Net Zero Fund for supporting our sustainability efforts at Langloch Farm. This funding is enabling the installation of solar PV technology to reduce our carbon footprint and energy costs, while also supporting the delivery of circular economy workshops and Net Zero education for people experiencing disadvantage. The project will empower participants through practical, hands-on activities in recycling, reuse and sustainable living, while helping CCI move towards a more environmentally and financially sustainable future.



### South Lanarkshire Council – Community Led Local Development Fund/Climate Emergency Fund/Can Do Community Challenge Fund

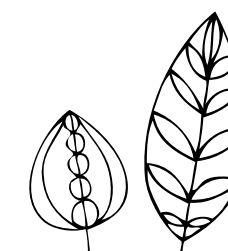
**1. Community Led Local Development (CLLD) Fund**  
CLLD funding supported the creation of the Langloch Farm Shop, a new social enterprise that connects local food producers with the wider community. The shop provides hands-on volunteering opportunities for people experiencing health inequalities, disabilities or social exclusion, helping them build skills, confidence and community connections. At the same time, the shop supports local economic sustainability through the promotion and sale of local produce.

### 2. Climate Emergency Fund

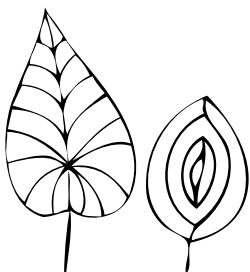
Through the Climate Emergency Fund, we are installing solar PV panels at Langloch Farm, reducing our energy costs and carbon footprint. This investment in renewable energy sup-ports our broader commitment to climate action while making our facilities more sustaina-ble for future generations.

### 3. Can Do Community Challenge Fund

Funding from the Can Do Community Challenge Fund is supporting the development of the John Cunningham Creative Centre, an inclusive creative space for local people to engage in a wide range of arts, crafts and sustainable making. Designed to reduce isolation and pro-mote wellbeing, the studios will offer recycling, repair and upcycling workshops in partner-ship with groups like the Clydesdale Women's Shed, Friends Shed and Handyfolk. The studi-os will be fully accessible and open to all, with particular support for people facing health and social inequalities.







Clydesdale Community Initiatives, Langloch Farm, Hyndford Road, Lanark ML11 9TA



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