

equal play

Playing as One

Annual Report 2025

Note from our founder



Carolina Mori
Founder and director

“ Children with disabilities could not play with their peers without disabilities. So, we built something where every child belongs.“

Equal Play began with one family and one question. I went looking for a club where my two sons could play football together. My eldest was diagnosed with Down syndrome. Every answer was the same. He could join a separate team specifically for children with a diagnosis, while his brother played somewhere else.

So we built something different. Equal Play goes into ordinary clubs and grows inclusive teams from within, where children with and without a disability or special support train and play together, in the same kit, as teammates.

2025 was the year that idea became a real organisation with real teams. We partnered with eight clubs across four team sports, ran our first inclusive summer camp, and brought sector representatives together for the first time at our Inclusive Sports Café.

Children who might have played apart became teammates. Parents of children with disabilities felt welcome in clubs for the first time. And we were honoured to receive the national INC Award in the Sport & Vrije Tijd category for the quality of our work.

I am grateful to everyone who believed in it, and proud of where we go next.

About this report

Our first annual report, covering 1 January to 31 December 2025.

Stichting Equal Play is an ANBI registered foundation, established in January 2025 and registered with the Dutch Chamber of Commerce under number 96342463. We build inclusive teams inside mainstream sports clubs, so that children with and without a disability play together as teammates, at the club closest to home.

This report describes what we built in our first year, the difference it made, and where we are heading. Financial figures are drawn from our 2025 annual financial statements and ANBI publication.

Our Mission

To enable children aged 6 to 12 with and without disabilities to build real and lasting friendships, while they grow up together, play and belong in their own neighbourhood.

Our Vision

A generation of young children growing up together, regardless of disability.

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2025 highlights

In our first year, children with and without a disability trained and played together every week, families found a club where they belonged, and the work was recognised nationally.

8
MAINSTREAM CLUBS BUILDING INCLUSIVE TEAMS

285
CHILDREN REACHED ACROSS TEAMS, CAMPS AND EVENTS

4
TEAM SPORTS
Football, hockey, baseball and wheelchair handball

65
CHILDREN AT OUR FIRST SUMMER CAMP

60%
OF CHILDREN WITH A DISABILITY OR SUPPORT NEED

95
CHILDREN PLAYING EVERY WEEK

€82k
INCOME IN OUR FIRST FINANCIAL YEAR

AWARDED
INC Award
NATIONAL WINNER, SPORT & VRIJE TIJD 2025

30+
TRAINERS AND VOLUNTEERS SUPPORTED

Our approach

Inclusion happens inside the club, on the same field, as part of the same team. We work with a mainstream club to build one mixed team for children aged 6 to 12, then support it so every child can take part. Four things make the model work.



01
One Team

Children with and without a disability wear the same kit, train together and play as full members of the same club, never a separate group.



02
Inclusion facilitator

An experienced facilitator supports the club trainer on the pitch during every session, so every child can take part.



03
Adapting the game

Trainers adjust field size, rules, equipment and roles so every child can take part and develop at their own level.



04
Roving coach

A roving inclusive coach visits every team to keep quality and confidence high, and shares what works from one club to the next.



On the pitch

We play as one

Eight clubs, four team sports, and around 95 children playing every week as full members of their club.

Inclusive teams

Children with a disability, playing in our inclusive teams.

60%

Children with and without a disability, playing every week as registered club members.

95

The expert support on the pitch provided by Equal Play made inclusion possible every week.
- Abdulla Rahimi (Coach RVC Celeritas)

Every team trains weekly as a full part of its club, led by the club's own trainers and supported on the pitch by an experienced inclusion facilitator. The composition is the heart of the model: more than half of our weekly players have a disability or additional support need, which keeps every team truly mixed. Teams train in a clear, predictable structure of warm up, skills and small games, so every child knows what to expect and can move smoothly between activities.

Club	Town	Sport
RVC Celeritas	Rijswijk	Football
DSV Concordia	Delft	Football
VV Nunspeet	Nunspeet	Football
MHC Zoetermeer	Zoetermeer	Hockey
Hockey Club Ypenburg	Den Haag	Hockey
Hockeyclub Wateringse Veld	Den Haag	Hockey
Blue Birds	Delft	Baseball
HV Quintus	Westland	Wheelchair handball



In the community

We belong together

Belonging grows off the field as much as on it, through the programmes and events that bring families together.

Programmes and events

Around the weekly teams, we run programmes and events that build friendships and a sense of belonging, from a summer camp to seasonal celebrations and a gathering for the whole sector.



KING'S DAY - APRIL

Our inclusive team at RVC Celeritas celebrated King's Day alongside the club's mainstream teams.



CAMP ONE · JULY 2025

Our first inclusive summer camp welcomed 65 children over two days at Hockey Club Ypenburg, close to half of them with a disability.



INCLUSIVE SPORTS CAFÉ - NOVEMBER

Our first Inclusive Sports Café for Haaglanden held at MHC Zoetermeer, brought more than twenty participants from families, sports clubs, municipalities and knowledge partners.

> For the first time, my child felt at home in a real club alongside everyone else.
> *- Maryam Satter (Parent)*



SAMEN SPORTEN TRAINING - NOVEMBER

Our first train the trainers 'samen sporten' was held at Hockey Club Ypenburg, with representatives from the KNHB, and four Equal Play partner clubs participating.



SINTERKLAAS - DECEMBER 2025

A shared Sinterklaas party brought 40 children from several Equal Play inclusive teams together in December.



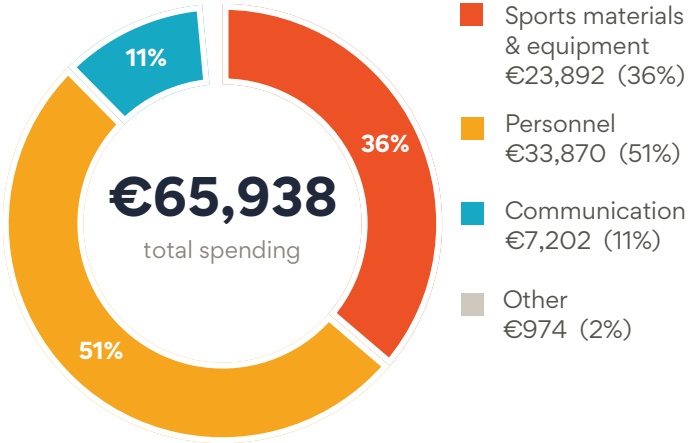
Our organisation

We grow the movement

A healthy first year, a foundation run with care, and momentum that is already carrying us into 2026.

Financial overview

A healthy first year.



2025 was our first financial year. The figures below come from our 2025 annual financial statements and the statutory ANBI publication for the year ending 31 December 2025, which remains the formal financial disclosure.

We closed the year with income of €82,270, expenditure of €65,938 and a positive result of €16,332. The surplus mainly reflects grants received in advance for projects that were still running at year end, so those funds were earmarked for ongoing work rather than freely available.

Our work in 2025 was made possible by a broad and growing base of partners. Grants and contributions came from Stichting het Gehandicapte Kind, Fonds 1818, the Municipality of Den Haag, the Municipality of Zoetermeer, and, for Camp One, from Old Grand Dad, Jeugd Vakantieloket, Stichting Zonnige Jeugd, Uniek Sporten and Fonds Gehandicaptensport, alongside support from NOC*NSF and our partner clubs. This diversified base gives us a stable footing to grow from.

Helping clubs raise funds

Beyond building inclusive teams, we also help our partner clubs raise the funds that keep inclusion going. In 2025 we supported clubs to secure extra financing through channels such as NOC*NSF and Zwaluwen Jeugd Actie, so that adapted equipment, facilitation and additional support can be paid for locally and sustained over time.

INCOME BY SOURCE

Source	€
Other nonprofit funders	48,722
Government subsidies	33,548
Total income	**82,270**

BALANCE SHEET, 31 DECEMBER 2025

Assets	€
Liquid assets	8,029
Receivables	5,467
Tangible fixed assets	2,836
Total assets	**16,332**

Equity & liabilities	€
Earmarked fund	16,332
Free reserve	-
Total equity & liabilities	**16,332**

No loans, no long-term liabilities, no profit motive, and no remuneration to founders or board.

Governance and lessons

A young foundation run with care and the lessons that shape how we work.

Core team of professionals

6

Active volunteers across all our programmes and events

50+

Stichting Equal Play is an ANBI registered foundation, established in January 2025 and registered with the Dutch Chamber of Commerce under number 96342463. Our board of five brings expertise across inclusion, safeguarding, sport, care, business, fund management, legal, quality, risk and finance. Day-to-day delivery sits with a core team of six professionals, supported by more than 50 volunteers. Board members receive no remuneration for their board duties

Board member	Role
Belen Valerio Martínez	Chair
Adriana Salazar	Secretary
Liliana Ruiz	Treasurer
Anselm Iwundu	Board member
Carolina Mori	Director, Board member

LESSONS FROM OUR FIRST YEAR

Our first year taught us that inclusion is both practical and deeply human. A few lessons stand out.

Recruitment takes time and trust. Reaching families of children with a disability took more outreach than expected, and direct parent networks such as WhatsApp and Facebook groups worked best.

Clubs rely heavily on volunteers, so protecting trainer capacity is essential. Having a fixed inclusion facilitator at training makes a large difference to both children and trainers.

And inclusive teams are as much about social connection off the field as sport on it, so small gatherings and club moments matter.



In November 2025, Equal Play won the national

INC AWARD

for the Sport & Vrije Tijd category.

Outlook 2026

The momentum is already here

GROWING THE GAME

2025 built the foundation, and the momentum has carried straight into 2026. Within eighteen months of starting, Equal Play is expected to grow to more than fifteen clubs across the Netherlands, reaching around 400 children with over 150 playing every week as registered club members.

In March 2026 the inclusive teams of DSV Concordia and RVC Celeritas will play the first inclusive youth football match in the Netherlands.

Equal Play together with the KNHB and Special Olympics Play Unified will organise a joint clinic and tournament in the summer of 2026, and Equal Play's 2026 edition of Camp One is expected to register 100 children with and without disabilities.

We are also expanding the range of sports. Having built across four team sports in 2025, we are growing to six, adding athletics and korfball to football, hockey, wheelchair handball and baseball. This widens the door so that more children can find an inclusive team in a sport that suits them.

A new project is on the way. Home Team, developed together with Kinderpostzegels, is expected to launch. Home Team brings kids with and without disabilities together off the pitch, to establish friendships beyond the sports club.

Our funding base is set to broaden too. Alongside our existing partners, we are working towards new support from NIKE, the Johan Cruyff Foundation and the Municipality of Utrecht, from the teamwear company Deventrade with brands such as Stanno, Reece, Derbystar and Select, and from the advertising partner JCDecaux, among others. A wider base of committed partners is what will let us reach more children in more neighbourhoods.

Our long term ambition is simple. Every neighbourhood should have at least one club with an inclusive team, so that every child can play close to home, with the friends and neighbours they already know. Reaching that ambition means continued work with municipalities, clubs, federations and philanthropic partners, and 2025 gave us the proof that it works.

Thank you

Our first year was made possible by many people.

To the children who showed us what it means to play together. To the parents who trusted us. To the trainers, coaches, volunteers and inclusion facilitators who adapted, learned and kept showing up. To the clubs that opened their doors. And to the municipalities, federations, knowledge partners and funders who made the work possible.

You helped us build the beginning of something much bigger.

Thank you.

