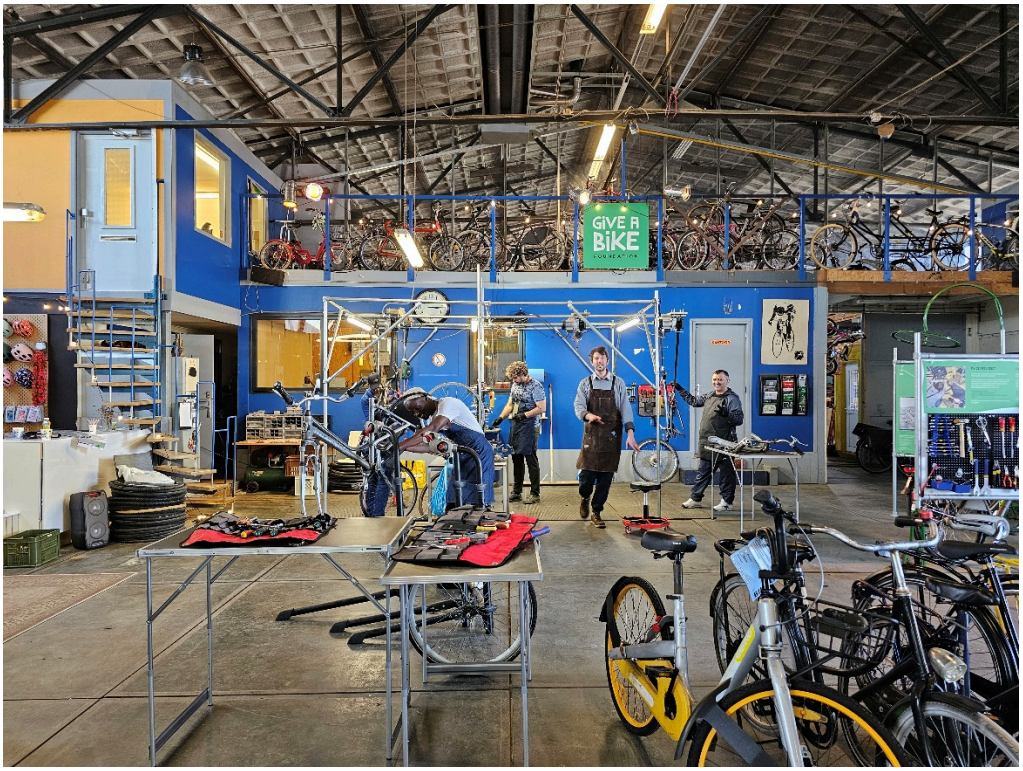
GIVE A BIKE FOUNDATION

Annual Report 2025



“Year of Growth”

🚀 2025 Highlights

A Year of Growth, Collaboration, and Impact

2025 was one of the most exciting years in the history of Give a Bike Foundation. Together with our volunteers, partners, and supporters, we expanded our workshop, strengthened key collaborations, and helped hundreds of people experience the freedom and opportunities that come with access to a bicycle.

🌟 By the Numbers

🚲 **503** bicycles refurbished to high safety standards

🤝 **640** bicycles distributed through social projects

🏠 **174** bicycles provided through **Fietsbank Rotterdam**

🌍 **416** bicycles distributed together with **BikeFlip** and **Stichting Meedoen**

👥 **30** dedicated volunteers supporting our mission

👨‍🔧 **15** participants joined our Bicycle Mechanic Training Programme

🎓 **5** participants successfully completed the full six-month Training Programme and received a Give a Bike Certificate

🔧 **Workshop capacity expanded from 2 to 8 professional repair stations**

🏛️ **5** public events, exhibitions, and community activities organised

♻️ **Hundreds of bicycles saved from disposal and given a second life**

❤️ **Countless stories of increased independence, confidence, and opportunity made possible through cycling**

1. Organizational Profile & Governance

Stichting Give a Bike (KvK #67248306) is a not-for-profit foundation based in Rotterdam. Since our founding in 2016, our mission has been to let everyone experience the freedom of cycling. We work at the intersection of sustainability, social inclusion, education, and community building, believing that the bicycle is more than a means of transport: it is a vehicle for opportunity, empowerment, and positive change.

As we look ahead to 2026, Give a Bike is proud to celebrate its 10-year anniversary

Our work is structured around four core goals:

1. **Collect, refurbish, and donate bicycles** given to us by individuals, businesses, schools, housing corporations, and public organizations. We donate them through social projects to people in need in the Netherlands and abroad.
2. **Train and educate people**, particularly those with a distance to the labor market, in bicycle mechanics, repair, and practical workshop skills, helping them build confidence and improve their employment opportunities.
3. **Promote sustainable mobility and the circular economy** by extending the lifespan of bicycles through reuse, repair, education, and public engagement.
4. **Empower people through self-reliance and hands-on learning** by promoting do-it-yourself (DIY) bicycle maintenance and repair. Through initiatives such as **Open Bike Works**, we provide tools, workspace, guidance, and spare parts, enabling people to maintain their own bicycles, save money, gain practical skills, and become more independent while strengthening community connections.

Board and Director

- **Chairman: Maikel Paul Louwerse**
- **Secretary: Mindert Harmen Oving**
- **Director (Full Power): Martin Trčka**

During 2025, Treasurer Dignus Jacob Marinus Moelker stepped down from the board. The foundation would like to thank Dignus for his valuable contribution and support over the years.

At the end of 2025, the position of Treasurer remained vacant. The foundation is actively seeking a new board member with financial expertise to strengthen its governance and support the continued growth of the organization.

All board members serve on a voluntary and unpaid basis. They provide strategic oversight and help ensure that the foundation continues to achieve its social, educational, and environmental objectives.

2. Mission and Core Principles

Give a Bike Foundation promotes cycling as a sustainable, accessible, and socially empowering mode of transport. Our mission is to use the bicycle as a tool to improve individual well-being, reduce environmental impact, and create opportunities for people who need it most.

Our Core Values:
- **Social Impact**: We give bicycles a second life - supporting low-income families, newcomers, and those experiencing social or financial difficulties in the Netherlands as well as abroad.
- **Education**: We train volunteers, students, and people with a distance to the labor market in bicycle mechanics, repair, and project skills - helping them gain confidence and new career opportunities.
- **Sustainability**: We actively contribute to the circular economy by collecting and reusing bicycles and parts, minimizing waste, and promoting cycling as a low-carbon transport solution.
- **Community Building**: Through various collaborations with local businesses, organizing events, workshops, and our pop-up bicycle museum, we bring people together around shared stories, cycling history, and hands-on learning.

Context: Sustainability & Mobility Poverty
In the Netherlands, more than 1 million bicycles are discarded every year, many of which are still repairable. At the same time, mobility poverty is a growing issue - especially in cities like Rotterdam - where some families can’t afford reliable transportation, affecting access to work, education, and social life.

At Give a Bike, we see the bicycle as a powerful solution to a number of problems. By collecting, repairing, and redistributing used bicycles, we promote circular use of materials, reduce waste, and provide people with practical tools to move forward - literally and socially.

3. Key Activities in 2025

2025 was a year of growth and collaboration for Give a Bike Foundation. Through partnerships with Municipality Rotterdam, educational institutions, social organizations, and businesses, we expanded our impact across bicycle refurbishment, vocational training, cultural heritage, and community engagement.

Fietsbank Rotterdam

In partnership with the Municipality of Rotterdam and Fietsbank Rotterdam, Give a Bike **refurbished 503 bicycles** according to ANWB safety standards, providing safe and reliable mobility for residents across the city.

Through the Fietsbank project, 174 of these refurbished bicycles were distributed to people who otherwise might not have access to affordable transport. Throughout the year, we gradually increased the number of bicycles distributed through our workshop, growing from 5 bicycles per week to 10 bicycles per week. This expansion enabled us to reach more individuals and families while improving the efficiency of our operations.

Access to a bicycle often means access to work, education, healthcare, social activities, and greater independence. By extending the lifespan of existing bicycles and putting them back into use, the project also contributes to a more circular and sustainable Rotterdam, reducing waste while creating meaningful social impact.

Bicycle Mechanic Training Program

Our partnership with **Stichting Mano** continued to grow in 2025 through the development of a structured six-month Bicycle Mechanic Training Program for people with a distance to the labor market.

During the year, **15 participants** joined the program and gained hands-on experience in bicycle repair, workshop organization, customer service, bicycle safety, and technical problem-solving. Participants worked alongside experienced mechanics and volunteers while contributing directly to social bicycle projects.

At the end of the program, **5 participants successfully completed** the full trajectory and received a Give a Bike certificate, recognizing their newly acquired skills and commitment. Beyond technical knowledge, the program helps participants build confidence, improve employability, and strengthen their social participation.

Tour de Freedom and Museum Development

In 2025, Give a Bike continued to develop **Tour de Freedom**, its travelling pop-up bicycle museum, celebrating the rich history of cycling and its role in promoting freedom, equality, sustainability, and social change.

Originally launched during the Tour de France Femmes Grand Départ in Rotterdam, the exhibition highlights the important contribution of bicycles to the emancipation of women during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in the Netherlands. Alongside historical displays, visitors could experience our mobile Bicycle Kitchen, where we offered repair station, maintenance advice, and conversations about cycling culture and empowerment.

An important part of our long-term vision is the creation of a growing collection of unique and historic bicycles. Throughout 2025, we continued to expand this collection with special models that illustrate the technological, cultural, and social development of cycling. These bicycles form the foundation for future exhibitions and educational activities, helping preserve and promote inspiring cycling heritage.

Collaboration with Reinwardt Academy

In early 2025, Give a Bike partnered with third-year Cultural Heritage students from Reinwardt Academy in Amsterdam to imagine the future of our travelling museum.

Students developed nine creative exhibition concepts exploring themes such as cycling heritage, activism, infrastructure, and culture. Projects including *Night Riders*, *Homo Velocipedus*, *Fight for Your Right to Bike*, and *Bicycle Monuments* demonstrated how cycling stories can inspire new audiences and preserve cultural heritage in innovative ways.

The concepts were presented during the Dutch Fiets Expo and provided valuable inspiration for the continued development of Give a Bike's museum program.

Activation with Rotterdam Centraal District

Tour de Freedom was presented twice at Rotterdam Centraal District, bringing cycling history and practical repair skills directly into one of the city's busiest public spaces.

Visitors explored the important role bicycles played in the emancipation and independence of women during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in the Netherlands while also taking part in hands-on activities at our mobile Bicycle Kitchen. Around 25 participants learned practical bicycle maintenance and repair skills, helping them become more confident and independent cyclists.

Following the success of these events, the activation at Rotterdam Centraal District is set to become a recurring initiative, with Give a Bike aiming to organize two editions each year, one in spring and one in autumn. By combining cycling heritage with practical bicycle maintenance education, the project continues to inspire people of all ages and promote sustainable, accessible mobility.

BikeFlip & Stichting Meedoen

Give a Bike became actively involved in a collaboration between BikeFlip and Stichting Meedoen, supporting the distribution of refurbished bicycles to **children and teenagers, primarily between the ages of 8 and 18**, from families with limited financial means in Rotterdam.

For the first time, our workshop welcomed large groups of clients collecting bicycles through an organized distribution program. Managing these collection days required careful planning and coordination while providing an opportunity to connect directly with families.

Between January and August 2025, **416 bicycles** were distributed through this collaboration, helping young people gain reliable access to school, sports, friends, and other daily activities.

At the same time, Give a Bike proudly hosted the **BikeFlip Rotterdam Concept Store**, where around **40 families** received a BikeFlip children's bicycle. We are delighted to support BikeFlip's innovative subscription model, built around a simple idea: **children grow, but bicycles do not**. By allowing families to exchange bicycles as children grow, the organization extends the lifespan of bicycles, reduces waste, and makes cycling more affordable and accessible.

Corporate Engagement

Workshops continued to play an important role in Give a Bike's mission throughout 2025, creating opportunities for people to learn, collaborate, and contribute to positive social change.

One highlight was our collaboration with the TCC Foundation, whose participants helped build bicycles while raising funds during their cycling journey to Amsterdam. These initiatives demonstrated how bicycle repair can bring people together, strengthen teamwork, and support meaningful social causes.

Workshop Development

One of the most rewarding aspects of 2025 was the continued organic growth of the Give a Bike workshop. Rather than following a fixed blueprint, we have embraced a simple philosophy: **making the workshop a little better, more welcoming, and more efficient every single day.**

This approach has led to many small improvements that together created a significant transformation. During the year, the number of professional repair stations increased from **2 to 8**, enabling us to welcome more volunteers, trainees, and community members while improving the flow and quality of our work.

Beyond expanding our repair capacity, we continued to develop the workshop into an inspiring and inclusive space where people can learn new skills, share knowledge, and connect with others. We also expanded our collection of historic and special bicycles, laying the foundation for future museum exhibitions and educational activities.

Today, the Give a Bike workshop is much more than a repair space. It is a growing community hub where sustainability, craftsmanship, education, culture, and social impact come together under one roof.

4. Our Team & Community

Behind every bicycle refurbished and every project delivered is a dedicated community of volunteers, professionals, partners, and neighbors who believe in the power of cycling to create positive change.

In 2025, Give a Bike Foundation was supported by **nearly 30 volunteers**, together with a small number of freelancers and professionals who contributed their expertise in bicycle mechanics, education, project coordination, and organizational development.

We were delighted to welcome several new volunteers through **Nieuwe Gevers**, a platform that connects skilled professionals with social organizations. Their knowledge and commitment have strengthened our organization and helped us continue growing.

Building a positive team culture is an important part of our philosophy. Each working day begins with a short morning briefing to align priorities, share knowledge, and ensure everyone is working towards the same goals. We also organize regular team meetings, shared lunches, and sporting activities, recognizing that strong relationships are just as important as technical skills.

Our workshop is part of the vibrant **Schiehavenhallen** community, where collaboration and mutual support are part of everyday life. We are grateful to work alongside inspiring neighbors and partners who help make our mission possible.

A special thank you goes to **Buurman Rotterdam**, whose support with transport and the use of a van has enabled us to collect donated bicycles across the region. We also appreciate the generosity of **AAP Noot Brood**, which regularly supplies bread for our team and volunteers, and **De Veldfabriek**, which provides oat milk that helps keep our coffee table welcoming and sustainable.

Many other organizations and entrepreneurs within the Schiehavenhallen community contribute in their own way, often exchanging skills, services, and support. Whether through practical assistance, shared resources, or simply helping each other out, these collaborations demonstrate the strength of local community networks.

Together, they make Give a Bike more than a bicycle workshop, they help create a place where sustainability, craftsmanship, friendship, and social impact come together every day.

5. The Difference We Made in 2025

Give a Bike Foundation continued to create meaningful social, educational, and environmental impact through the power of bicycles. By combining bicycle refurbishment with training, community engagement, and circular economy principles, we helped improve mobility while promoting sustainability and inclusion.

One of the year's most significant achievements was the increase in bicycle refurbishment, growing from **135 bicycles in 2024 to 503 bicycles in 2025**. Through the Fietsbank Rotterdam project, **174 bicycles** were distributed to people experiencing poverty. In collaboration with BikeFlip and Stichting Meedoen, a further **416 bicycles** were provided to children and teenagers from families with limited financial means, helping them access school, sports, and everyday activities.

Our environmental impact extended beyond refurbishment. Hundreds of donated bicycles were collected from private individuals, businesses, housing corporations, and public organizations, preventing valuable materials from being discarded and giving them a second life. Every bicycle repaired and reused contributes to a more circular economy and reduces unnecessary waste.

Education remained a central pillar of our work. Through the Bicycle Mechanic Training Program developed with Stichting Mano, participants gained practical skills and valuable work experience while contributing directly to social bicycle projects. In addition, our volunteers, trainees, and community members shared repair knowledge through workshops and public events, encouraging self-reliance and demonstrating that many bicycles can be maintained and repaired rather than replaced.

Throughout the year, our travelling pop-up museum **Tour de Freedom** and our community activities engaged visitors with stories about cycling history, sustainability, and social inclusion. Together, these initiatives helped raise awareness of the important role bicycles play in creating healthier, more connected, and more inclusive communities.

These achievements were made possible by the dedication of our volunteers, partners, donors, and supporters, whose commitment continues to drive the mission of Give a Bike forward.

6. Outlook for 2026

As Give a Bike celebrates its 10-year anniversary in 2026, we will continue expanding our social, educational, and environmental impact while further strengthening the organisation and its role within the Rotterdam community.

Our key priorities for the year include:

- **Launching Open Bike Works**, a community DIY bicycle workshop where anyone can learn to repair and maintain their own bicycle. Held twice a month, the initiative provides access to workspace, tools, guidance, and spare parts, promoting self-reliance, affordability, and sustainable mobility.

- **Further developing and improving our Bicycle Mechanic Training Program** in collaboration with Stichting Mano and other partners to support newcomers and other people who would like to become bicycle mechanics.

- **Increasing our refurbishment capacity to more than 60 bicycles per month**, enabling us to support projects such as Fietsbank Rotterdam while re-starting our collaboration with Stichting Betuwe Wereldwijd (Tools4Change) and other social initiatives.

- **Strengthening our role as a community hub** by welcoming new partners and activities. We are excited to collaborate with **Fietsschool 010**, which provides cycling lessons for adults as well as children, helping participants gain confidence, independence, and access to everyday opportunities through cycling.

- **Expanding our corporate workshops and team-building workshops**, allowing companies and organizations to contribute to social impact while learning about bicycle repair, sustainability, and the circular economy.

- **Continuing to develop our travelling pop-up bicycle museum, Tour de Freedom**, by working with partners who share our ambition to uncover forgotten stories from cycling history. Through unique bicycles, personal narratives, and interactive exhibitions, we aim to shine a light on inspiring people, social movements, and innovations that deserve to be remembered and shared with new generations.

- **Professionalizing Give a Bike Foundation** by improving administrative processes, strengthening internal systems, and building a sustainable organizational structure that supports future growth and creates employment opportunities for new talent. In 2025, our collaboration with four students from **Erasmus University Rotterdam** as part of their Learning by Doing course resulted in the delivery of a timely report titled “Generating Organizational Structure and Roadmap for Future Growth”, which lays out our next steps towards professionalization.

Our long-term ambition is to transform the Give a Bike workshop into a vibrant center for bicycle repair, education, heritage, volunteering, and community engagement, a place where people from all backgrounds can learn new skills, share knowledge, and experience the positive impact that bicycles can have on individuals and society.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to a simple but powerful belief: **every bicycle repair is an opportunity created, every skill shared strengthens a community, and every person empowered through cycling helps build a more sustainable and inclusive future.**

7. Financial Overview 2025

Give a Bike Foundation remains committed to operating in a transparent, responsible, and cost-effective manner. Every Euro received is invested in creating social and environmental impact through bicycle refurbishment, education, and community projects.

Income	
Source of Income	Amount (€)
Donations	7,806
Bicycle Sales	65,734
Workshops & Educational Activities	1,689
Total Income	75,229
Expense Category	Amount (€)
Workshop Management	22,343
Bicycle Repair Education	7,715
Other Personnel Costs	5,738
Materials & Tools	13,105
Rent & Operating Costs	13,991
Office Supplies & Administration	9,149
Travel & Public Transport	1,125
Commercial Costs (hospitality, promotion & gifts)	1,489
Total Expenses	74,656

Financial Result	
Summary	Amount (€)
Total Income	75,229
Total Expenses	74,656
Net Result	+572
Bank Balance	
Balance	Amount (€)
Opening Balance (1 January 2025)	6,281.71
Closing Balance (31 December 2025)	1,481.37

Financial Governance

All members of the Board serve on a voluntary and unpaid basis. The foundation works with a small number of self-employed professionals (zzp'ers) and is primarily powered by a dedicated team of volunteers.

Give a Bike maintains its financial administration using professional accounting software and is committed to transparency and accountability. Financial records and supporting documentation are available for inspection where required by relevant authorities or funding partners.