

INVESTING IN
BRIGHTER FUTURES |

Donor Accountability Report 2018-2019





Our Vision

Investing in Brighter Futures



Our Mission

Through fundraising and community partnerships, the Children's Aid Foundation of Halton enriches the lives of children, youth and families enabling them to thrive and reach for tomorrow.



Our Values

H.E.A.R.T. -Honesty, Education Accountability, Respect, Transparency

Board of Directors

Krista Dietrich, President Marilyn Benninger, Vice President Lynn Wilson, Treasurer Gerard Herlihey, Secretary Daniel Young, Communications Sally Aitken Chris Barrett Norrie Davidson* Jennifer Gilbert Elizabeth Law* Ryan Mills Matthew Rasmussen Jodi Younger*

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Aub & Marsha Baillie Chris Barrett Richard & Lily Bellm Sarah Billings Robyn Bowman Candice Chow Tammy Davey-Wiebe Mandy Deakin Kimberley Edwards Brad Gibson Phil Grimes Jonathan Harty Jim Houghton & Michael Renken Dave Kington Steve Leyland Keith Matcham Kathleen & Doug McPhie Eddie Oliveira Greg Pace Don Pangman George Prieksaitis & Asa Sjoberg Lisa Roach Linda Roberts Chris Scott Wendy Sherren Chris Townley Lynn Wilson

*Resigned during year [†]Halton CAS staff p/t CAFH support

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Supporters,

CAFH is twenty-nine, a fantastic age. Many of us remember the first time we reached that magic number! No more days of trial and error, at least not when it comes to the basics, it's time to grow-up and spread our wings; it's time to take on the world and it's time to really focus on direction, investment and plan for the future.

This is very much how I feel about the past year at CAFH. We've been around long enough, we know what works and we know what the challenges are. Truth is we are still a secret for many in Halton and as we turn 30 it's time to shake things up.

Of course, we remain committed to raising funds to improve and enrich the lives of children and youth served by the Halton Children's Aid Society. In particular, we focus on those raised in care and those who are isolated or less privileged in the community, and especially victims of abuse and neglect.

However we continue to push the message out by participating in more promotional activity as it is really important for people to understand that without the opportunities offered to children and youth in and beyond foster care, these young people will fall through the cracks. Funding helps sustain specially designed

programs that offer opportunities to overcome significant challenges, anxieties and hardships and better prepare youth for a life of choice, hope and success. Donors invest in their community when they invest in our youth.

Speaking of donors, we are truly grateful for the support of many, generous, selfless and engaged individuals, companies and community groups. We have also been successful with grant writing and partnerships, while our incredible Stardust Gala continues to generate magical support. It's because of all this activity that the Halton Children's Aid Society is able to offer the youth it serves more vitally supportive programming than most child welfare agencies in the province. This is incredible!

Thank you for your commitment to CAFH. Your participation brings opportunity to the most vulnerable and helps prevent child abuse and neglect right here in Halton.

We hope you will journey with us into our thirtieth year and be part of a bigger and more successful Foundation as the news spreads that #InvestingInBrighterFutures is how we make a very real and meaningful impact in this community.

TINA BLATCHFORD,

3.M. Hatelford

Executive Director, Children's Aid Foundation of Halton

Board members Lynn Wilson & Gerard Herlihey, Staff Tina Blatchford & Lisa Janssen



SUCCESS STORIES

Meet our Stardust Hall of Fame Inductees!

At the Stardust gala in April, we welcomed back several youth who had previously spoken at the event. We thanked them for being so brave and eloquently sharing their stories of growing up in care and overcoming challenges to pursue their dreams of education. Proudly, we share graduation pictures of just a few of our Superstars!



AUSTIN Durham College Automotive Technical Program

Austin has such a remarkable story, which he shared at this year's Gala, we are so proud of him. Austin graduated in June and came home to Halton. That transition posed some challenges for Austin, as it's really hard to afford housing when you are on your own with a limited income. However, determined and driven, Austin believes in his capabilities and he pursued his own business, "Austin's Creations" and recently connected with the Canadian Tire Product Development Team working on a project for them. As well, he has been offered the position of residence supervisor with the Bridging the Gap program – supporting 16 – 24 year olds who are homeless. He is perfect for this role, bringing a sense of understanding and maturity, with fantastic problem solving skills. Austin is a remarkable young man.

JESSICA Ryerson University Social Work

Just prior to and while attending University Jessica was employed as the Youth Leader at Halton CAS. In this role Jessica was able to grow and flourish as a confident, professional woman, dedicating her life to helping others. Upon graduation Jessica was hired full time as a child protection worker at Halton CAS, this is where she blossomed! Eventually she decided to leave the nest and has taken positions at two other child welfare agencies since. Jessica and her partner Joey bought a home in the New Tecumseh area. Together with her horse and dog Jessica is living the dream!



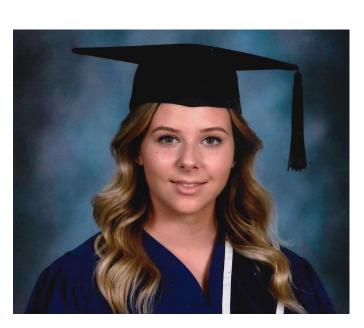


AMBER St. Lawrence College **Personal Support Worker**

From a very early age **Amber** wanted to be a Mom, she longed for a family of her own. Through many years in care Amber experienced everything Halton CAS and the CAFH could offer; summer camp, a trip to England, a wonderful ongoing relationship with her foster parents and college. Amber enrolled in the perfect program for her; a PSW must be compassionate, strong, optimistic and dare we say a little bossy! Amber is now married and living in Athens, has juggled her career between having children and is an extremely busy, happy mom of four, living the dream!

KALEY Niagara College **Dental Office Receptionist & Police Foundations**

Kaley was in care from the age of 5 and lived life to the fullest! A bundle of energy and a beautiful smile, she was always ready to perform. After her first graduation Kaley took the opportunity to travel across Canada, visiting the prairies and Rockies before settling in British Columbia. Eventually Kaley made her way back to Southern Ontario and started a family. Between babies Kaley decided to put herself back into school, and did so independently of CAFH. She recently graduated and is living in Kitchener with her partner and their three children. Busy, productive, happy and living the dream!

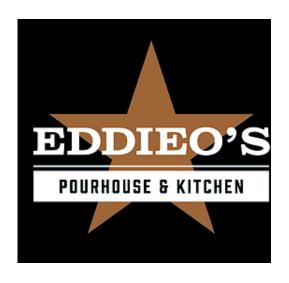




CASSIE Sheridan College **Child & Youth Worker**

Cassie graduated from Sheridan College as a child and youth worker and is the is the current Youth Leader at Halton CAS. Busily preparing activities, events and meetings for the youth in care, Cassie leads groups that are shaping the future of child welfare. Giving youth a voice is so important to Cassie who says she benefitted from these groups as she made her decision to pursue post-secondary education. Cassie is now pursuing a degree in child and youth studies at Brock University, while still working part-time with the YouthSAID group. We are very excited to add congratulations to Cassie on her recent engagement!

AWARD WINNERS



Inspiration Award

In recognition of their boundless enthusiasm and generosity, Eddie Oliveira, his family and the staff of EddieO's Pourhouse & Kitchen in Milton are the chosen recipients of the Inspiration Award for 2019.

Previous Winners:

2019	EddieO's Pourhouse & Kitchen
2018	The Petrachek Family
2017	The Oakville Community Foundation
2016	Mike Lupo / The Congregation of Hillspring Church
2015	Jim Boyle & staff of Nu Skin
2014	The Herlihey Family - Rebecca's Gift
2013	Petrina Nesbitt & Merritt Goddard - Chuckles for Charity
2012	Rotary Club of Trafalgar - Dragon Boat Committee
2011	Greg Pace & the Bikes for Kids Team
2010	The Costa Family

McPhie Award

Keith & Lyanne were introduced to the CAFH many years ago by the award's namesake Doug McPhie.

Since then they have been regular attendees at the annual Stardust Gala, often hosting a table of friends and always ramping up the bidding wars! Keith is also an official Ambassador to the CAFH and as a Partner at Ernst & Young LLP has helped increase the number of designated donations inspired by his lead.

It gives us great pleasure to recognize Keith and Lyanne's outstanding and unselfish commitment to the Children's Aid Foundation of Halton and the children and youth receiving services from the Halton Children's Aid Society. Congratulations and thank you!

Previous Winners:

2019	Keith & Lyanne Matcham
2018	Nancy MacGillivray
2017	Terry Spearin
2016	George Prieksaitis & Asa Sjoberg
2015	Reya Ali-Dabydeen
2014	Lily & Richard Bellm
2013	Ken & Pearl Moffat
2012	Tammy Davey-Wiebe
2011	Don Pangman
2010	Phil Grimes
2009	Derek Zwiep
2008	Mandy Deakin
2007	Doug McPhie





To learn more about how to get involved with the Foundation, visit https://www.cafh.ca/how-to-help.html

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

Meet Rai

We are so pleased to introduce you to the 2019 recipient of the McPhie Bursary Award, Rai.

Since the first day of Rai's involvement with the Halton Children's Aid Society he has impressed his worker with a formidable and intelligent ability to overcome significant challenges in his life. Even amidst family crisis, struggles with his educational facility and his own identity it was amazingly clear that Rai's primary focus was his educational goals. Crystal clear.

As Rai was entering the final year of high school he found himself juggling many of life's challenges, far too many for one so young. The school staff and his worker were very concerned about how he would manage due to all the stressors in his life; this was someone who couldn't be allowed to drop out. Of course, that worry was soon dispelled when they realized just how driven Rai is. He had set himself goals and he was determined to meet them.

During his last year of high school Rai participated in several extra curricular activities within his school, won several awards. a Scholarship, and the admiration of the school staff. At the Society office he also became an active member of the YouthSAID Program, helping his peers to cope with similar challenges he had faced. He also travelled to Ecuador through the Me to We program and was Master of Ceremonies for the Halton CAS Annual General meeting. He knocked his last year of high school out of the park!

Rai applied to several Universities and was accepted to each one. He chose Trent University where he will begin his journey to become a Criminal Lawyer. Rai is resourceful, resilient, determined, caring, and personable. We are all in awe of Rai's wonderful accomplishments, he is a well deserving recipient of the McPhie Award and we wish him the very best of luck on this amazing path to more success.



Pictured: Rai with Board President Krista Dietrich

"Without the support CAS gave our family, I wonder where I would be today. Through the programs funded by the Children's Aid Foundation of Halton and the personal support from so many role models I am ready to face the next chapter of my life. I thank all of you for your generous support of this organization that helped keep my family together and gave me the chance to realize my dreams!"

- Rai, McPhie Bursary Award winner



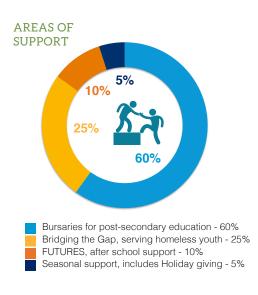
To learn more about how we're supporting youth and families in care, visit www.cafh.ca/about-us

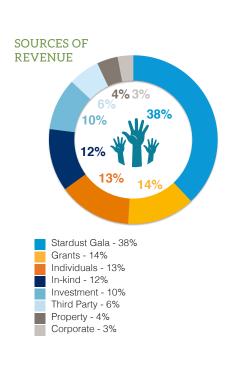
YOUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

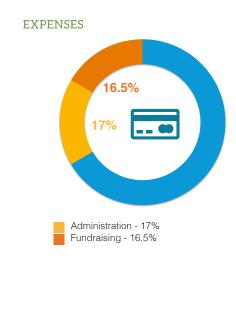














We are Proud to be an Agency Foundation Established Under the Umbrella of the Oakville Community Foundation

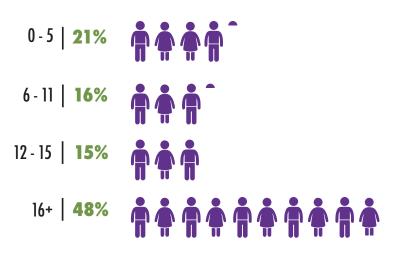
Building a legacy requires reflection, vision and a reality check. The population of Halton and the age of the youth we support are increasing. We anticipate a greater demand on bursary funds in the future, and recognize the growing operating costs that are a necessity in a competitive field. Presented with an opportunity to invest proceeds from the sale of property, the Board of Directors, with an obligation to the youth we serve and the donors to whom we remain transparent and responsible, seized the chance to plan for the future education of youth. Proudly, but cautiously, we are reaping what has been sown and growth in the fund is being directed to necessary administrative costs, meaning 100% of our treasured donors' contributions can go directly to the children and youth we support.



Halton Children's Aid Society and Children's Aid Foundation Stats



The Majority of Youth in Care are 16 or Older



98% of cases enable children and youth to remain with their families

72% of children and youth are discharged within one year of coming into care

of children and youth return to family or kin

reduction in number of children/youth in care over last five years due to concentrated efforts to find permanency options such as kinship, guardianship and adoption



youth attended post-secondary education



youth resided in the Transitions home for teenagers



youth received outreach services from Bridging the Gap's homeless program for youth aged 16 - 24



children and youth participated in the FUTURES educational, life-skills and recreational programs



brand new bikes were distributed



children, youth and families received Seasonal gifts, participated in community activities and attended special events throughout the year



youth received Life Start Kits

ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS



"Thank you to all the people who helped me to live out my dream of being the first in my family to ever go to college. Because of the Children's Aid Foundation of Halton I have a chance at making a great life for myself and the family I will one day have."

- Kaley, Bursary recipient

Transitions Home

We own a property that provides a safe haven where teenage children can live while their cases are assessed and they can return home or until suitable foster parents are identified. The home is furnished and decorated to provide a warm welcome to teens who are experiencing difficult and traumatic times. Partners in the community often help us with landscaping the gardens, painting or even donating new electronics or sports equipment so the teens can feel comfortable and relaxed in this setting. Our goal is to maintain the home in a way that makes the residents proud to call it theirs.

Bridging the Gap

Bridging the Gap is an independent community program that supports and assists youth between the ages of 16 to 24 years of age who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The program is voluntary and based on client needs. It is focused on supporting and assisting youth in obtaining housing. This may include shelter placements, supportive and transitional housing. Bridging the Gap has historically served an average of 250 - 300 youth annually in the Halton Region, but last year more than 500 were assisted.

Bursaries and Education

We believe education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty and abuse; increasing a child's self-esteem, confidence, and ability to succeed. Since post-secondary education is not funded by the government, Youth in Care rely on the Halton Children's Aid Society to pay for any post high-school education that might benefit them. Since the Halton CAS and CAFH believe strongly that education is the first step towards a brighter future they work together to make educational opportunities available to all Youth in Care of the Society. Whatever the child/youth has a passion for, that their worker feels is an attainable goal, will be strongly encouraged by our Bursary committee and funded by the CAFH.

Seasonal Program

The Seasonal Program is not just about gifts under the tree, but also supports graduation, back to school needs, Thanksgiving celebrations, etc; all the things we do year round that we often take for granted. The Halton CAS assists children and youth who have experienced significant family trauma as well as families that have serious challenges with limited resources and are unable to provide their children or youth with basic needs and gifts over the holiday season.

Sport & Recreation

We believe all children and youth should have the opportunity to run, skate, sing, learn a new activity, or simply have the chance to interact with other children and youth their age. We know from experience that encouraging children and youth to participate in organized sports and recreational activities enables them to develop important life skills, self-esteem and confidence. We provide funds to ensure children have the chance to be children and create happy childhood memories with friends and mentors.

FUTURES

The goal of the FUTURES Educational Program is to help youth receiving services from the Halton Children's Aid Society achieve their educational goals and support them as they transition into adulthood. Youth meet weekly to participate in a project-based learning series, working in teams to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, communication, social skills, academic learning, cultural awareness, and lifeskills. FUTURES also runs a summer camp. The school year and summer camp programs are divided into junior and senior divisions. During the school year, the program runs weekly and the summer camp program runs for three weeks for each division. These are memories that last forever and are experiences we want to offer children who can't imagine this fun. Emotional or behavioural difficulties often preclude them from being accepted into 'regular' summer camps so we fundraise to ensure our camp will accommodate these strong and active children and youth who need the chance to experience some real joy.

Youth in Care

Our Youth in Care are the future of this community; the Halton CAS and CAFH must act as their parents. We fund crucial programs that help connect youth to their community and better prepare them for adult life. YouthSAID and the Youth Collective Impact programs are especially planned by youth who have experienced life within the child welfare system and are working together with staff and local and provincial partners to build stronger connections for youth as they age out of the system.

Preparing for issues such as budgeting; peer pressure; healthy nutrition; first aid; applying for post-secondary programs, etc. individually or in group settings with volunteers acting as mentors, the youth are encouraged to reach for their dreams and set out on the path to success. The success of this program is helping to keep our youth in school and assisting them to overcome their emotional issues in order to graduate from high school, look towards a fresh start and a brighter future.

No one needs hope more than our youth, and youth who have experienced abuse and neglect need that hope more than ever. We've learned that introducing youth to this program in their early teens helps them through a very vulnerable time in their lives and guides them to find the hope they need.





To learn more about the programs that we support visit www.cafh.ca/our-impact.html

YEAR IN REVIEW

A resounding thank you for all the amazing events this year and cheers to the people that make them happen. The following, special events and activities gernerated over \$40,000 in cash donations and thousands more in in-kind gifts for children, youth and families.





Raising the Roof Toque Tuesday February 2019



The Preferred Network Event January 2019



Halton Regional Police Toys for Tots December 2018



Stardust Rocks Le Dome Gala **April 2019**



Home Depot, Burlington & Milton **Orange Door Campaign**

November 2018 & June 2019



Bikes for Kids December 2018



Valentine's Day Bake Sale, **Halton CAS** February 2019

Other highlights from the past year include:

- Greg Pace Bikes for Kids
- Santa's Toy Shop Roach Family Real Estate
- The Burlington Fitness & Racquet Club's Tennis Classic
- EddieO's Pourhouse & Kitchen Annual Golf Tournament
- Staff of U-Line
- Taiga Building Supplies and Staff
- Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN

- Halton CAS Wellness Fair
- ThemoFisher Scientific
- Scotiabank Marathon Krista Dietrich
- Mandy's Coffee for a Cause
- Hillspring Church Holliday Parties
- Rebecca's Gift
- Cedar Springs HRSC



Each year our community gathers in support of Halton's youth and families in need at the Stardust Gala. Thanks to our Gala committee, volunteers, donors and sponsors, the Gala has raised over \$1 million since it's beginning.

Please join us in celebrating the Foundation's 30th Anniversary this spring at the Venetian carnival themed Stardust Masquerade Ball.



To learn more about next year's Stardust Gala and to buy tickets, visit www.cafh.ca

Tribute to Norrie Davidson

In June, the Board and staff of CAFH said a sad goodbye to a long-time friend of our organization. Norrie joined the Board of Directors in 2011 and most recently held the role of Vice-President.

Norrie was very engaged with CAFH, a generous donor of her time, talent and treasures and a true leader in the Board room. We, along with many of her friends, miss her extrodinary presence and sense of humour.

At the CAFH golf tournament that kicked off our 30th year, we celebrated this exceptional woman by introducing the Norrie Davidson Team Spirit Award, to be presented to the foursome who best emulated her joie de vivre on the golf course. One of Norrie's greatest passions was golf, we know she was with us in spirit.

Rest in peace Norrie.





THANK YOU, TO OUR PARTNERS IN CARING

Without the ongoing generous support of the donors in our community, we would be unable to provide the needed programs and services for the children and youth in Halton. On this page, Children's Aid Foundation of Halton is proud to recognize those who made donations of \$500 or more between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. The staff, volunteers and Board of Directors sincerely thank each of our donors.

President's Circle

Reya Ali-Dabydeen & Christina Li EddieO's Pourhouse & Kitchen The Home Depot Canada Foundation Longo Brother's Fruit Markets Oakville Community Foundation The Rotary Clubs of Oakville, Oakville Trafalgar & Oakville West

Partners

Peter Bellm Lily & Richard Bellm Burlington Fitness & Racquet Club Brizzy Castano & Lucien Pinet Elizabeth Interiors GeoTab Inc Hadrian Manufacturing Staff of Halton CAS Larry Ker & Michelle Mazilli Jean Michel & Ann Lorrain The May Court Club of Oakville Moen Inc Pioneer Family Pools George Prieksaitis & Asa Sjoberg Raising the Roof ScotiaLife Insurance Company

Champions

Sally & Luke Aitken & Blake Macaskill Atlas-Apex Roofing Alain Baird & Krista Dietrich Marilyn & Mike Benninger Birchtree Family Medicine Tina Blatchford Brechin & Huffman LLP Brookfield Properties Inc Neil Cawse CHML Children's Fund Chum Charitable Foundation Leanne Ciancone

Aldo & Deanna Collarile Compugen Finance Rick & Suzanne Craven Staff of Credit Valley Conservation Authority Danyliw & Mann Professional Lisa & Louis Duranleau Enterprise Holdings Foundation Fairview Chrysler Freedom 55 Financial Edith Friskney Genworth Canada Jennifer Gilbert Grand Touring Automobiles Paul Grootendorst & Penny Reid Halton Honda Hamilton Community Foundation Jonathan & Diane Harty Hillspring Church HollisWealth Dave & Michelle Jamieson Stephanie & Jeff Lamont Scott Mackintosh Keith & Lyanne Matcham Kathleen & Doug McPhie Ryan & Angela Moffat National Bank of Canada Navigo Financial Solutions Ryan Neske Nidea Partners Tammy & Barry Norton Pace Performance Parkgate Financial Group Brent Pearson Matt Rasmussen Ritchie Brothers Financial Services **RBC** Dominion Securities **RBC** Foundation **RBC** Royal Bank Rogers Communications Jason & Lia Roy Samuel, Son & Co. Limited SB Partners LLP Janet Truant Dan & Ann Wiggins Williams Distinctive Gems The Wilson Family

Cory & Sarah Wilson-Side

Change Makers Linda & Ron Addis

Avante Security Inc Jennifer Baird & Chris Kim Chris & Marion Barrett Darren Beams Michael Birbari Burlington Nissan & Toyota Clive & Kerri Cawse Candace Chow & Jan Klakurka Luz Chilcott Tony & Judy Cipolla Anita & Rob Counter-Woolfenden Kathleen & Ezio Crescenzi Norm & Tracy Crook Ian & Mandy Deakin Darin & Lisa Deschamps John & Tracey DiCesare Shelley & William Drake Kimberley Edwards Fidelity PAC Metal Lorraine & Michael Forget Lynne Graham The 194 Group Gerard & Linda Herlihey Nick Janssen Frank Jasek Ken Kelertas Jeff & Deborah Laforet Steve Leyland Karen Lochead & Butch Weiler Steve McCutcheon & Kristina Shea Marilyn Medjuck Ryan & Michelle Mills The Policaro Group **Brad Saunders** Andrew Schumann & Kaley Calhoun Chris & Jenn Scott Paul Sharman Thermo Fisher Scientific Cynthia Thomson Maria de la Torre Unifor Local 707 Heinz & Shirley Vogt Scott & Candace Waterhouse

Elizabeth Williams Joanne & Rick Wolanczyk Charles & Jody Younger

Gifts were recieved:

In Honour of

Lily & Richard Bellm Shiraz Chotoo Bhanjee John Fleming Michelle McGaw Sierra

In Recognition of

Luca Cherubin-Kellogg Anthony Ford Jones' 10th birthday The CAFH Board of Directors: Sally Aitken, Chris Barrett, Marilyn Benninger, Norrie Davidson, Krista Dietrich, Jen Gilbert, Gerard Herlihey, Elizabeth Law, Ryan Mills, Matt Rasmussen, Lynn Wilson, Daniel Young

In Celebration of

Ethan's Incredible Journey

In Memory of

Leslie Blatchford Margaret Bullock Patricia Herlihey Rebecca Herlihey Gloria King

Thank you to the family and many friends of Rebecca Herlihey who gave so generously and continue to fill our hearts with love. The spirit of this young child lives on in the smiles of all those who received presents through Rebecca's Gift.







Children's Aid Foundation of Halton 1445 Norjohn Court, Unit 1 Burlington, ON L7L 0E6 (905) 635 0707 www.cafh.ca

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