







## ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Children's Aid Foundation of Halton (CAFH) was founded in 1990 as a registered charitable organization to raise funds for the children and youth being cared for by the Halton Children's Aid Society (Halton CAS). Funds raised allow the Halton CAS to provide additional services that enhance the lives of abused and neglected children and youth living in Halton.

## 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 VISION

The Children's Aid Foundation of Halton provides resources to help children, youth and families thrive.

## OUR VALUES

We value a society where every child is cherished and respected. We are committed to the HEART principles: Honesty, Education, Accountability, Respect, and Transparency

# A Message From Tina & Lisa

It's hard to believe that another year has gone by since shifting to the virtual world of, well everything.

We've recently had one or two very welcome occasions of small in person gatherings, and what a delight they have been. As of June 2021 we were still working from home but with the hope of returning to the office in late Fall.

This sense of virtual reality has been challenging. We know children and youth are still out there being helped by our colleagues on the frontlines, yet not seeing them or hearing the day to day successes and sorrows first-hand adds a surreal emotion to our work. Through this we have a renewed sense of appreciation for those who give generously to our cause. Many donors give with a sense of blind faith that the work which transpires within our charitable purpose is meaningful and life changing, they don't witness the programs, don't know the participants and rarely do they hear testimonials that thank them personally. We cannot begin to express the depth of gratitude for that kind of trust and commitment.

This past year we have needed that show of confidence more than ever. Throughout Halton there are approximately 5,000 children and youth in need who require the assistance of the Halton Children's Aid Society. For them CAFH is the difference between complete isolation or a meal at Thanksgiving; feeling inadequate or rising to the challenge of pursuing a goal; sleeping rough or sleeping soundly in a safe, nurturing space - truly life-saving and life-changing opportunities.

We know the pandemic has affected everyone, yet the variance of impact is extreme and for some the layers are numerous and shockingly traumatic.

The work of a children's aid society is essential, it was considered a

challenging field for staff before March of 2020, now we believe it is simply the calling of true angels and heroes and we are even more determined to provide resources to support their role and enrich the lives of children, youth and families in need.

Through grants made available by key-funders, contributions from local corporations and the generosity of loyal and committed individuals we have generated the highest revenue of our 31 year history! It has been a phenomenal year of support and we are truly grateful.

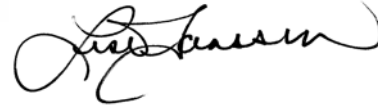
We were able to increase the financial support of specially crafted programs that meet the needs of young people in and beyond care. Now we need to sustain that support! Looking ahead, we know youth will remain under the umbrella of Halton CAS even longer, more kinship families will be relied upon to help and the charitable sector will be more competitive than ever. Our plans include more collaboration, investment management, and a commitment to instill and increase awareness of the needs of vulnerable children and youth in Halton.

Thank you for all you do in support of this cause, for your belief in the work we do and most of all, for believing in the young people whose lives you touch every day!

Sincerely,



Tina Blatchford  
Executive Director



Lisa Janssen  
Partnership & Program Development





# Board of Directors 2020 - 2021

Marilyn Benninger, President

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Mandy Deakin

Krista Dietrich

Kim Edwards

Brad Gibson

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Jim Houghton & Michael Renken

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Elizabeth Law

Keith Matcham

Austin McNeil

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Ryan Moffat

Eddie Oliveira

Don Pangman

George Prieksaitis & Asa Sjoberg

Lisa Roach

Linda Roberts

Chris Scott

Wendy Sherren

Chris Townley

Lynn Wilson

# Leadership Team

Tina Blatchford, Executive Director

Lisa Janssen, Partnership & Program Development

Juliette Prouse\*, Director of Finance



\*Halton CAS staff p/t CAFH support



# About our Programs



## Sports and Recreation

We believe all children and youth should have the chance 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 such as hockey, dance, soccer and swimming, 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 life skills. 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.



## 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, our youth in care rely on the Halton Children's Aid Society to pay for any post high-school education that might benefit them. Education is the first step towards a brighter future and we work together with the CAS to make educational opportunities available to all youth in care helped by 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.



## 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 a Life Skills program to help connect these youth to their community and better prepare them for adult life. Preparing for issues such as applying to university; budgeting; peer pressure; healthy nutrition; first aid and more; 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.

# About our Programs



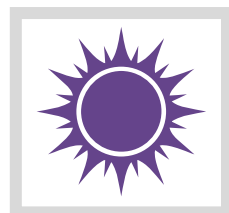
## Transitions Home

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. Our goal is to maintain the home in a way that makes the residents proud to call it their home. Happily, now that resources are available to provide teens in need with family placements, the need for this program has come to an end. Alternate uses for the property are being pursued.



## 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 serves 600 to 700 youth annually in the Halton Region.



## 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/youth with basic needs and gifts over the holiday season.



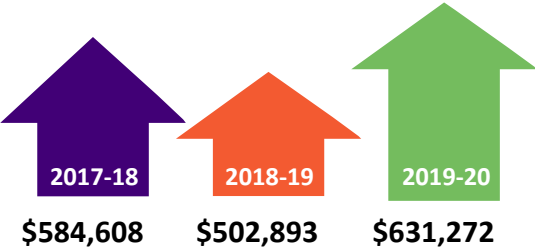
# Financial Highlights

Your contribution helps us build a strong support network. This network of services in turn strengthens our entire community and changes lives for the better.

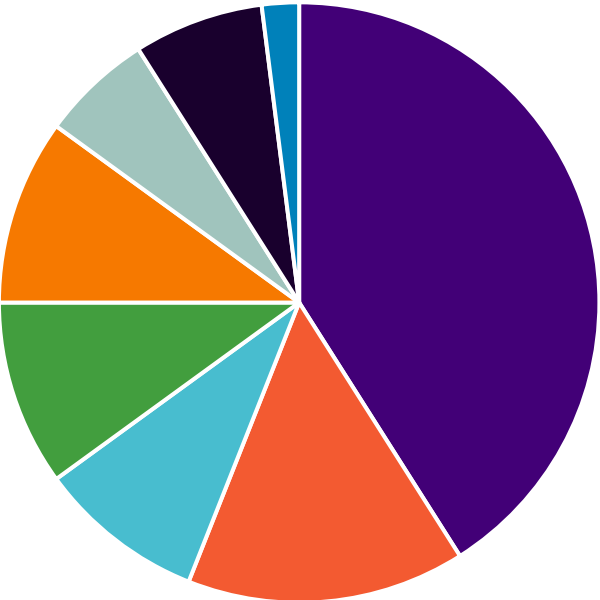
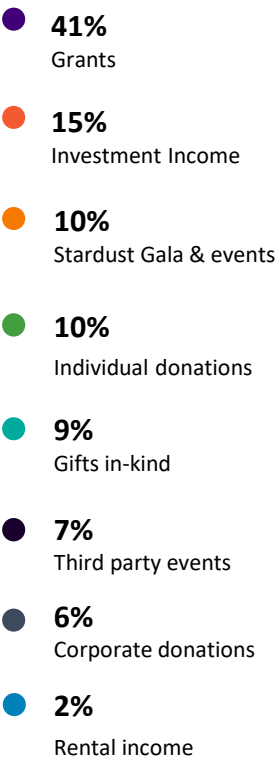
\$896,154 RAISED IN 2020 – 2021

Thanks to your generosity  
**Over \$ 6.5M**  
in support has been provided to  
Halton CAS programs to date

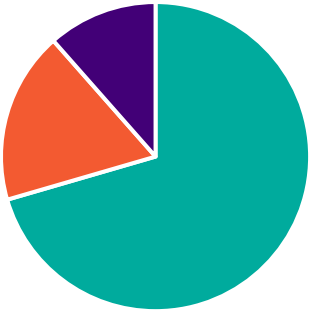
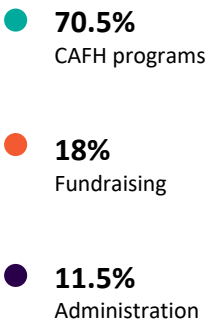
## YEAR OVER YEAR EARNINGS



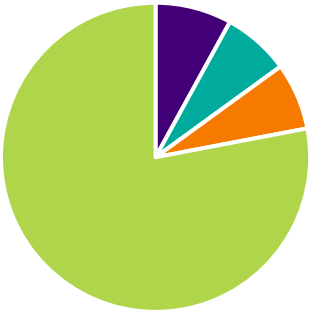
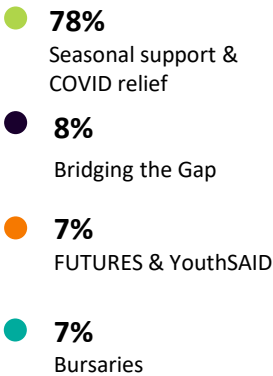
## SOURCES OF REVENUE



## HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT



## WHERE THE PROGRAM MONEY WAS SPENT



# Your Impact by the Numbers

Thanks to you, we have changed lives this year. Through the generosity of your donations we have been able to make a positive impact on individuals, families and our communities, making a difference in so many important ways. Your generosity helped:

## Halton CAS Stats:



~ 5000

Children and youth served  
in 2020 – 2021

96%



of cases enabled  
children and youth to  
stay with families

61%



of children and  
youth are  
discharged within  
one year

74%



of children and  
youth return to  
family or kin

73%



of children and youth  
in care are over the  
age of 12



21 Youth attend  
post-secondary programs



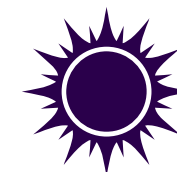
31 Youth participated in YouthSAID  
advocacy events



503 Youth aged 16-24 received  
outreach services through  
Bridging the Gap's homeless  
program



103 Children & youth participated  
in FUTURES/Youth In Care  
Day and other Seasonal  
Events and Festivities



600+ Children, youth and families  
received support from the  
seasonal program





# Inspiration Award









## The Oakville Professional Firefighters Association

Each year as we prepare for the Holiday Season, there is a feeling of nervous anticipation as we consider what might happen if we just don't receive all that is needed to support children, youth and families throughout the winter. Especially when we shifted to lockdown and needed more financial support instead of toys.

For more than a dozen years the Oakville Professional Firefighters Association has stepped up to the challenge of providing toys for the Holidays, shifting gears in recent years to recognize the need to help teens, and in these last two years they have simply been the backbone of the program, providing more than \$10,000 in gift cards and gifts each year.

Led by Kurt Merriman, who listens so well to what is needed, the OPFA representatives arrive at the loading dock and bring the Holidays to our door, year after year. Heroes don't always wear capes, or just put out fires! Thank you for your amazing dedication to our cause. Congratulations!

## Previous Winners

-  **2020**  
Uline
-  **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



## McPhie Award

### Krista Dietrich

Krista joined the CAFH Board of Directors in April 2009 having first participated on the Stardust Gala committee for several years.

Krista brings an energy and creative flare to everything she does. Once on the Board she joined the Executive committee and of course, quickly filled the seat of Gala Chair, raising the profile of the event by introducing key donors and contributors. It was inevitable that Krista would one day be CAFH President, a role she embraced with grace and a continued drive for success.

We recognize Krista's passion for the children, youth and families we serve and her willingness to bring everyone she knows to the party, this is definitely her cause. Already an amazing ambassador Krista leaves no stone unturned and has accepted the challenge of leading the Ambassadors Circle to new levels of participation. For your many years of dedication and generosity it's our absolute pleasure to recognize you with the McPhie Award. Congratulations!

## Previous Winners

- > **2020**  
Jonathan Harty
- > **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





# McPhie Award

## Chris Barrett









Chris joined the CAFH Board in October 2004 having heard so much about the work of Halton CAS and the CAFH through his young mentee Phil Grimes.

As a Past President and member of the Ambassadors Circle, Chris has been an active and vital contributor to the Board for many years, most recently sitting on the Finance & Investment committee watching over key movement in the sector. Chris has long surpassed the usual terms of service for a Board member, but his dedication to the cause and compassion for children and youth compelled us to keep him close for as long as possible.

Now Chris has graciously given up his seat so he can become more active with fellow Ambassadors in their quest to further support the needs of young people being served by the organization.

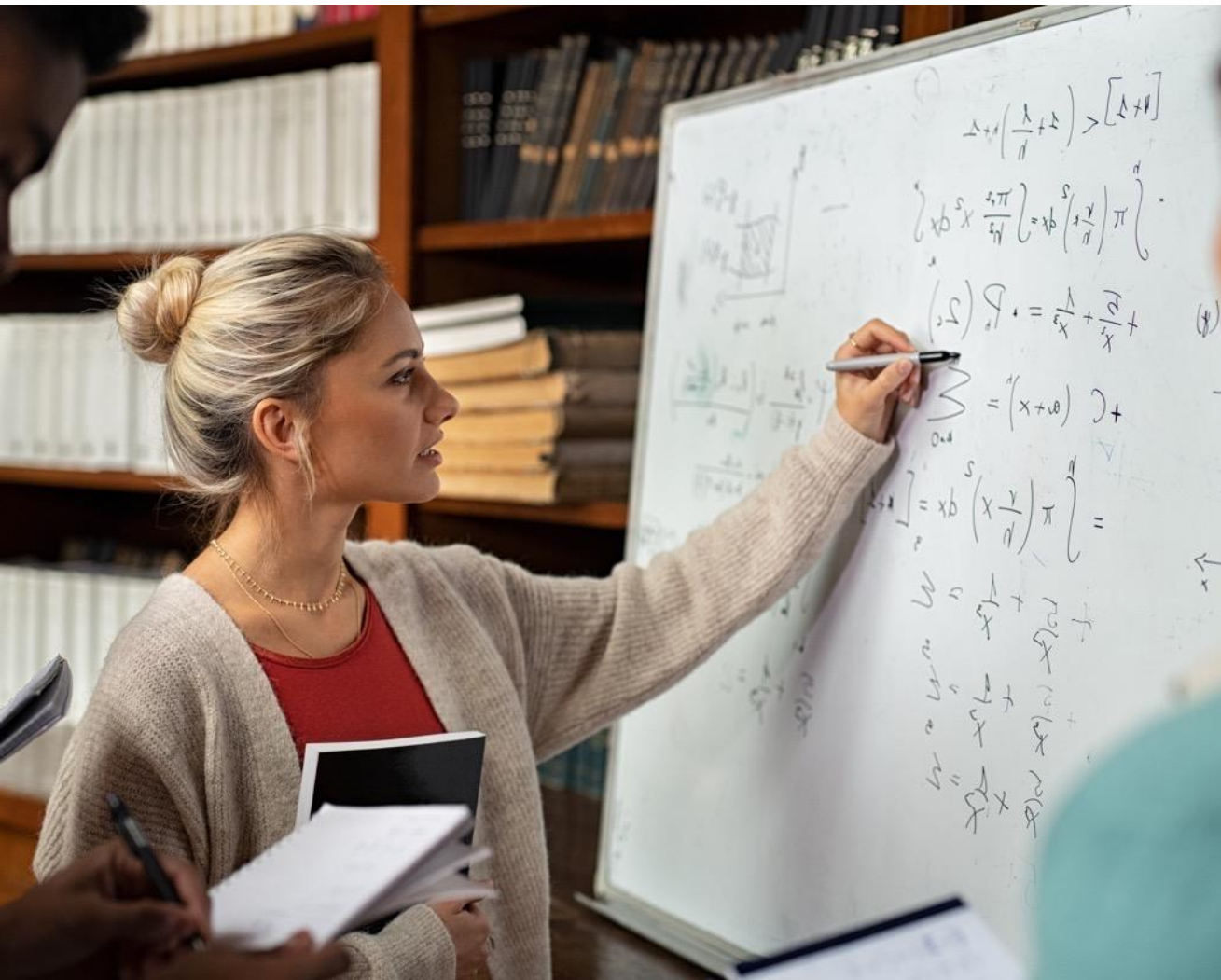
We are so very grateful to Chris for all that he has brought to our door, from top level corporate sponsors, to longtime dedicated individuals, together with his own knowledge and expertise, all wrapped up in one of the kindest and gentlest natures one could ever meet. It is our utmost pleasure to recognize Chris Barrett as a recipient of the McPhie Award. Congratulations!

## Previous Winners

-  **2020**  
Jonathan Harty
-  **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



# Success Stories



## Rani

### Elizabeth Interiors Award

Rani was chosen as the recipient of this award for a number of reasons. Firstly in recognition of the many years she has spent learning, coping and accepting her medical condition, Type 1 Diabetes. Through the support of her medical team at McMaster Hospital, school supports and family and friends Rani is doing all she needs to do to keep physically healthy.

Struggling with health concerns while being separated from family is hard enough, but Academically Rani has been able to excel at school too, often achieving honour roll marks. Rani is currently enrolled in the Financial Literacy program through FUTURES and is aspiring to attend a post-secondary institution.

Rani has shown amazing resiliency and strength throughout the many changes she has navigated over the last two years. Never complaining Rani is humble, thoughtful, kind and always positive and hopeful. Her number one wish is for her family to be well and whole again.

We have heard from many that Rani is a great example of how strong the youth in this community are and that Rani in particular, makes life better for those around her.

Congratulations Rani, we hope all your wishes come true!

# Success Stories



## Danny McPhie Award

Danny graduated in June of 2021 and has been accepted to the University of Guelph-Humber Community and Social Services program.

Danny has been living at the Community Youth Program (CYP) residence for the last 1.5 years and has overcome many obstacles, yet maintained his drive and commitment to school. Danny has gained significant conflict resolution skills throughout his time with CYP and demonstrates maturity and insight beyond his years.

Working part-time as an essential worker in a local grocery store Danny has exhibited a terrific drive for success; supporting his community and maintaining his academic achievements while managing the limitations and struggles caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, all through hard work, perseverance and a positive outlook.

Reflecting on his own personal experience Danny is pursuing a career in child welfare or the justice system in order to give back to youth in the community. We certainly believe Danny has a very positive future ahead.

Congratulations!

# Celebrating 31 Years





# Thank you for your continued support through the pandemic

Without the ongoing generous support of individuals, corporations and organizations in our community, we would be unable to provide the needed programs and services for the children and youth of Halton. The staff, volunteers and Board of Directors sincerely thank each of our corporate sponsors and grantors for their continued support during the COVID-19 pandemic.



# Thank you to our cherished donors and partners in caring

## President's Circle

Children's Aid Foundation of Canada - United Way of Halton & Hamilton - Hadley Family Foundation - RBC Capital Markets - Home Depot Canada Foundation - Reya Ali-Dabydeen & Christina Li - Oakville Community Foundation - Burlington Community Foundation - Labourers International Union of North America - Finastra

## Partners

Oakville Fire Dept - Uline Canada - Aub & Marsha Baillie - Richard & Lily Bellm - Birchtree Family Medicine - Halton Honda - Geotab - George Prieksaitis & Asa Sjoberg - Elizabeth Interiors - Fairview Chrysler - Longo Brothers Fruit Markets - Moen Inc - Reimer Family - Taiga Building Products.

## Champions

100 Women Who Care Burlington - Jennifer Gilbert - CP24/Chum Charitable Foundation, CHML Children's Fund - Diana Howard - Stephanie Lamont - Lisa & Louis Duranleau - Raising the Roof - Gordon & Dianne Franklin, Jonathan & Diane Harty - Samuel, Son & Co - Tina Blatchford - Hatch - Keith & Lianne Matcham - Marilyn & Mike Benninger - Rick & Suzanne Craven - A.W.Hooker & Associates - Xcel Construction - Bob & Maura Richardson - Ryan & Angela Moffat - Sumitra Lagoo - Hillspring Church - Krista Dietrich & Alain Baird - Oakville Y - Halton Regional Police - Creating Space Yoga - David Fuller - Janet Truant - Longrass Marketing - Pet Smart - Chris Clinning - Emad Elsayed - Chris & Jenn Scott - Black Mentorship Inc - St. Paul the Apostle Parish - The Wilson Family - Halton Quilters Guild - Scott Mackintosh - Caterpillar Financial Services - Penny Reid & Paul Grootendorst - Chris & Marion Barrett - Mary Keough - Christian Thibault - Rotary Club of Burlington Central - Doug & Kathleen McPhie - Dee & Jim Sarvinis - Henry Verbeek - Jeff Bayani - Jose Guido - Lisa & Darin Deschamps - RBC Royal Bank - Mandy & Ian Deakin - Staff of Halton CAS - Marie Walsh - Parkgate Financial - Chris & Pamela Jenkins

## Change Makers

Jeff Laforet - Credit Valley Conservation Authority - Brad Saunders - Brent Pearson - Bob Allen - Jodi Younger - Josie Wagstaffe - Dave & Michelle Jamieson - Clean Cut Energy - Elizabeth Williams - Shelley & William Drake - Joyce See - Anna Pace - Danyliw & Mann - Orange Theory Fitness - Kyle Charlebois - Alberici Constructors - Leslie Preist - Lynne Graham - Cynthia Thomson - St. Scholastica HCDSB - Kym Legge - Catch Hospitality - Sarah Keleher - Christine Solakofski - Ahmadiyya Muslim Community - Steve Beatty - Niki Sarvos - Region of Halton - HRPS Platoon #3 - Eileen Luong - Sally Aitken - Wendy Hanson - Ken Kelertas - Sheridan College - Lee Ann & David Coren - Gordon Schottlander - Kathleen Whelan - Rachel Matthews - Matt Resmussen - California Innovations - Ryan & Michelle Mills - Krista McMullen - Maria Adcock - Amir Kendric - Brian Carr - Bob & Betty Sellars - Speers Road Broadloom - Rick & Candace Freeman - Halton Regional Police Association - John & Tracey Di Cesare - Diane Fitzgerald - Hamidah Meghani - Techlantic - JoAnn Daxner - Kate Moore - Lori Szwarc - Sarah McConnell - Building Resource Inc - Martine Lewis - Julia Lombarda Balice - Nu Skin Canada - Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network - Stacey Nagle - Valerie Lush

## Gifts Received in Memory of

Evert Niezen - Rita Kroker - "Mom" - "Wally" - Wilson Francis Reading - Niki Sarvos - Gordon Brownhill - Anna Dutra - Charlie Howard - Granville Nickerson

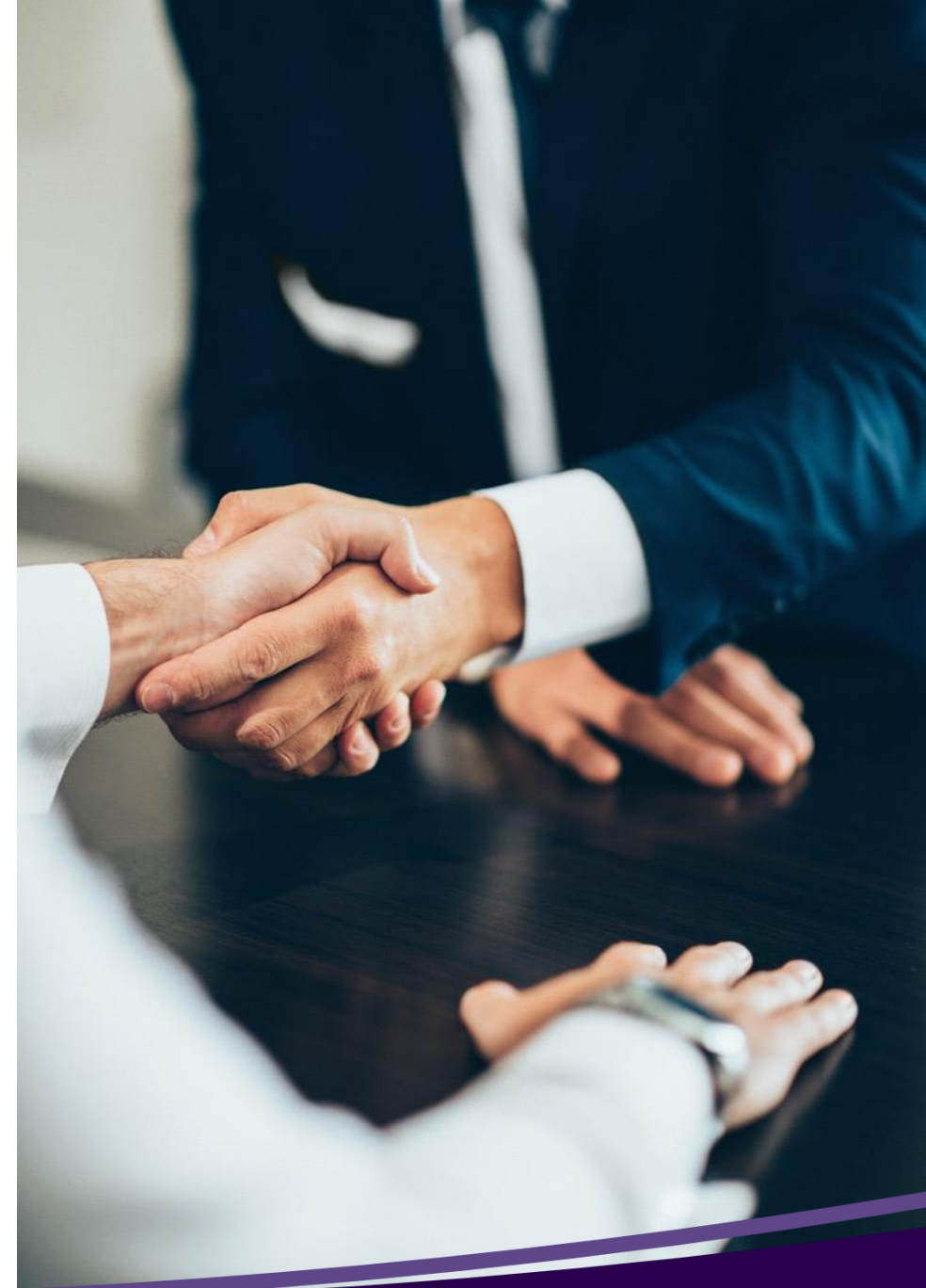
## Gifts Received in Recognition of

Elena Di Battista's Retirement - Cassie Magno Palmer - Miss Karin Buchanan - Mrs S. Jessani - Jacan Kellam - Scott & Linda McColeman - Joanne Merritt - David & Shona McLean - Lucien Pinet - Roach Family Real Estate - Tina Blatchford & Team - All parents who fostered and adopted - In honour of all children and youth in care.

# KEY COMMUNITY PARTNERS



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 needs for older youth 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 in 2013, 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 interest on 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







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[linkedin.com/company/children's-aid-foundation-of-halton](https://www.linkedin.com/company/children's-aid-foundation-of-halton)



[CAFHalon](https://www.instagram.com/CAFHalon)

**DONATE NOW**



Investing in Brighter Futures

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