



**2023-2024**

# Annual Report



**DURHAM**  
Children's Aid Foundation

# Greetings

## Chair, Board of Trustees

Dear supporters,

As I reflect on the fiscal year 2023/24, I filled with a strong sense of pride and appreciation. The Durham Children's Aid Foundation has undergone significant transformation this year, with new leadership and a renewed focus on our mission to support vulnerable children, youth, and families throughout Durham Region.

We welcomed Julie Van Hartingsveldt as our new Executive Director this year, and her leadership has provided the Foundation with new energy and strategic vision. Julie has worked diligently to streamline our processes, form partnerships, and increase the effectiveness of our programs. Her focus on innovation and operational efficiencies has enabled us to broaden our reach while remaining committed to the community we serve.

**Thanks to the generosity of our donors, sponsors, and volunteers, we've been able to raise vital funds through events like the Fore the Future Golf Tournament and initiatives like the Holiday Hope Campaign, which continue to bring joy to families in need. I'd also like to thank our key corporate sponsors, including GM, RBC, and many others, for their continued support, which has been key to our success.**

Looking ahead, I am confident that the Foundation will continue to grow and experience positive change. With the dedication of our team, the support of our board, and the generosity of our community, I am confident that we will continue to make a long-term difference in the lives of those in greatest need.

Thank you for your unwavering support for the Durham Children's Aid Foundation. Together, we are making a difference.



Becky Cameron  
Chair, Board of Trustees





# Greetings

## Executive Director

Dear friends and supporters,

It is an honour to reflect on our incredible year at Durham Children's Aid Foundation. 2023/24 was a year of growth, transformation, and innovation, all driven by our mission to empower Durham Region's most vulnerable children, youth, and families.

This year marked the 55th anniversary of GM Canada's Sharon's Kids campaign, which raised more than \$168,000 to help families in need. In total, we provided essentials to 709 children and 183 youth through the Holiday Hope program, which remains a pillar of our community efforts. Our other programs, such as the Bursary Program, provided funds to youth, allowing them to pursue postsecondary education and vocational training. These initiatives demonstrate our continuous commitment to supporting young people on their journey to success.

***This year's accomplishments would not have been possible without the tremendous support of our donors, corporate partners, and volunteers.***

As we look ahead to 2025, I am excited about the opportunities that await us. With our dedicated team and board, we will continue to improve our programs, broaden our reach, and make a greater difference in the lives of children and families in our community.

Thank you for your ongoing support, trust, and collaboration. Together, we are creating a brighter future.

Sincerely,

*Julie Van Hartingsveldt*

Julie Van Hartingsveldt, MA, CFRE  
Executive Director, Durham Children's Aid Foundation



## Strategic Priorities for 2025

As we enter 2025, Durham Children's Aid Foundation is focused on innovation, collaboration, and sustainable growth, with a strong commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) at the heart of our efforts. By fostering these values, we will continue to serve vulnerable children, youth, and families in Durham Region, ensuring that every individual we support feels valued and empowered.

### Program Growth and Enhancement

We will enhance programs ensuring they remain responsive to evolving needs.

### Revenue Diversification

We will diversify revenue streams through digital fundraising, corporate partnerships, and grant opportunities, reducing reliance on traditional methods and ensuring our approach reflects the values of inclusivity and community-centered impact.

### Strengthening Partnerships

We will nurture existing community partnerships and build new ones to maximize the impact of our programs.

### Enhancing Donor Engagement

We will strengthen relationships with donors through meaningful updates, appreciation events, and flexible giving options like monthly donations.

### Digital Transformation

The launch of our new website and giving platforms will enhance our online presence, streamline donations, and increase community engagement.

2025 will be a year of growth and impact, as we work to build a brighter future together.





# Highlights

## 2023-2024 Year in Review



In May 2023, Durham Children's Aid Foundation raised over \$368,000 through the Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign.



We proudly support initiatives like Youth Pride Durham as part of our ongoing commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), ensuring all youth feel valued, respected, and supported in our community.



We committed \$65,000 to provide children with enriching camp experiences, offering them opportunities to learn, grow, and create lasting memories in a supportive environment. These programs give kids the chance to build confidence and friendships, setting them up for success.



We awarded \$167,500 in bursaries, empowering 41 youth to pursue post-secondary education and vocational training, helping them build brighter futures and achieve their dreams.



Our Fore the Future Golf Tournament raised close to \$50,000 supporting programs for children and youth. This signature event brought together community members and corporate sponsors, driving our mission forward and making a lasting impact on families in Durham Region.



RBC made a generous donation to our Mentoring for Success Program, helping create lasting mentor relationships for children and youth in care.

*\*These are just a few of the many highlights from this year. We are incredibly grateful for all of the generous gifts, donations, and partnerships that help us make a difference in the lives of children, youth, and families. Thank you for your unwavering support!*

# Highlights

## 2023-2024 Year in Review



In 2023, our Holiday Hope Program provided support to over 709 children and 183 youth, thanks to the incredible generosity of our community. Together, we raised over \$600,000, delivering much-needed hampers and gifts to families in need, ensuring joy and hope during the holiday season.



Sharon's Kids, started by GM employee Sharon Clark in 1968, has been a beloved part of our Holiday Hope Program for over 55 years. Thanks to GM Canada and the community, Sharon's legacy continues to bring joy and support to hundreds of children and families each holiday season.



GM Canada and its Camaro for Kids Dealer Contest raised an incredible \$95,250 for our Holiday Hope Program. This generous contribution, along with support from GM employees, helped bring joy and essential resources to children and families across Durham Region, continuing their long-standing tradition of community impact.



The Oshawa Generals' Nickelodeon Night raised funds through a jersey auction and puck drop in support of Durham Children's Aid Foundation. The event brought the community together, creating awareness and supporting local children and youth.

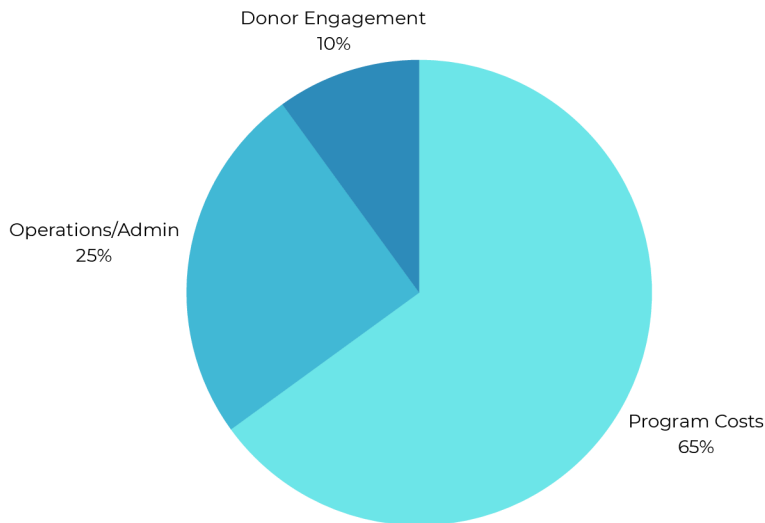


Thank you to Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities for supporting our Mentorship Program and to everyone involved in our Ski and Snowboard Club, which over the past two years has fostered friendships, adventure, and plenty of poutine! Your contributions make a real difference for the children and youth we serve.



A special thank you to Aspect Retail Logistics, whose employees have chosen Durham Children's Aid Foundation as the beneficiary of their fundraising efforts.

# Financial Overview



## Program Expenditures

- Holiday Hope Program
- Emergency Funding Requests
- Mentoring for Success
- Bursaries for Post-Secondary Education
- Camps for Kids

## Total Funds Raised

\$912, 450

## Your Impact

Thanks to your contributions, we supported:

- 709 children and 183 youth through Holiday Hope.
- Awarded \$161,500 in bursaries to 37 youth.
- Provided camp experiences and mentorship opportunities.

## Board of Trustees

Becky Cameron, President • Lori Casselman, Vice-President •  
Jaclyn Bannan, Treasurer • Kristy Brown, Secretary • Mark Bachman • Anisha  
Julian • Robert Kiefer • Patricia Milburn • Kristina Moreau • Ruth Nyaamine •  
Joseph Oladeji Oladimeji • Karen Saunders •  
Kevin VanKampen

## Foundation Team

Julie Van Hartingsveldt, Executive Director  
Leslie McLean, Associate Director  
Jackie Vieira, Office and Program Manager





*Together We Thrive*

# Empowering Every Child's Journey

Charitable Registration Number: 85426 0940 RR0001

## Our Priorities



**Compassion in Action**  
Family and Child  
Assistance (Urgent Needs)



**EmpowerED Futures**  
Skills and Education  
Support



**Camps for Kids**  
Camps and Recreation



**Holiday Hope**  
Holiday Observance  
Celebration Support



**Human Trafficking**  
Prevention and Recovery  
Support

## Our Story

Established in 2004 as a registered charity, we provide support to over 4500 children, youth, and families annually.

## Our Vision

Our vision is for a community in which every child, youth, and family thrives in happiness, surrounded by opportunities and unwavering support.

## Our Mission

As the foundation, we partner with Durham Children's Aid Society to empower children, youth, families, and underserved members of our community.

Our approach involves strategic fundraising, embracing diversity, and ensuring access to life-changing opportunities.