

Durham Children's Aid Foundation Awards [Call for Nominations](#)

Sharon Clark Volunteer of the Year Award

[Honouring the heart behind the work](#)

The Sharon Clark Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes an exceptional volunteer whose compassion, reliability, and dedication reflect the enduring spirit of Sharon Clark, Founder of Sharon's Kids and the inspiration behind Holiday Hope.

In the 1970s, while working at General Motors, Sharon sparked a movement by suggesting that employees give their holiday gifts to children in need instead of each other. That simple idea grew into Sharon's Kids the foundation of what is now Durham Children's Aid Foundation's Holiday Hope program, bringing dignity and joy to more than 1,000 children and youth each year.



This award honours volunteers who embody that same belief that kindness and community can change lives. Nominees may contribute through events, mentorship, family support, or in-kind coordination, but all share Sharon's unwavering spirit of generosity and care.

Who can be nominated:

Any active DCAF or DCAS volunteer who gives their time, talent, and energy to support children, youth, or families.

Heart of the Community Awards

[Recognizing those who stand beside us.](#)

The Heart of the Community Awards celebrate the donors, companies, and community partners whose generosity and leadership strengthen the mission of the Durham Children's Aid Foundation.

These awards honour those who go beyond giving and rally their teams, inspire others, and make a difference for children, youth, and families across Durham Region. Whether through sponsorships, donation drives, volunteerism, or advocacy, recipients reflect the best of what it means to give back with purpose.

Past honourees have included corporate partners, service clubs, and grassroots groups whose efforts have supported Durham Children's Aid Foundation. Each demonstrates that when the community comes together, every child has a chance to thrive.

Who can be nominated:

- Corporate and community partners
- Service clubs, youth, or employee groups
- Individual donors or advocates making a measurable impact

Call for Nominations

Please Include:

- Award category
- Nominee name and contact information
- Your name and relationship to the nominee
- Short description (250–300 words) of their contributions and impact

Deadline: October 17, 2025

Email nominations to: Jacqueline.Vieira@durhamcaf.ca