



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2019-2020



# HELP FIGHT CHILD HUNGER IN HAMILTON

Food4Kids Hamilton, like many others in our community, faced unexpected challenges during the past year. We began the year with a clear view of the months ahead, only to be faced with the need to adapt to unprecedented times. We saw extraordinary kindness, spirit, positivity, and heartfelt support from our community during a critical time of need in Hamilton.

As we look back at 2019 and 2020, we are reminded that your dedication and generosity ensured we could continue to support the children who need us most. We knew that as times got tougher, we could count on our community to come through with hope, love and support.

We hear from our families that the support they receive from Food4Kids Hamilton is essential to the well being of their children and it is a privilege and an honour to serve our community. We thank you for standing with us as we help to ensure no child in our community goes hungry.

*Stacy Eftimovski*

Board Chair

*Cathy Haan*

Executive Director





## MISSION:

To provide healthy food for children from at-risk, low-income or disadvantaged homes with limited or no food during weekend periods or during the summer months.

## MANDATE:

- **We believe** child and youth hunger is a community responsibility and by working together we can provide a solution-based program that addresses and responds to child hunger in our shared community.
- **We believe** that alleviating the effects of poverty and hunger strengthens our community, providing children with opportunities to grow, excel and thrive.
- **We believe** in facilitating programs in a non-stigmatizing, impactful and inclusive manner ensuring dignity of all participants.
- **We believe** in collaborative partnerships with volunteers, community members, schools, businesses and funders to collectively support children and families.
- **We believe** that by maintaining the highest standards, we can ensure positive outcomes for children and their families through leadership, transparency, accountability and diligent stewardship of community resources.



## GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

**PROVIDE** packages of nutritious food for children with little or no access to food during weekend periods or during the summer months;

**FOCUS** on schools located in low-income and marginalized neighbourhoods with poverty rates in excess of 40% to reduce barriers for those most in-need;

**CONDUCT** public education and community-awareness initiatives designed to develop an understanding of child hunger;

**PROVIDE** leadership as the primary resource for weekend and summer food distribution for at-risk children engaging community partners;

**MAINTAIN** a high standard of service through best practices and annual evaluation methods;

**DEVOTE** extensive resources to recruit, train, retain and recognize volunteers to facilitate the program.



HAMILTON

HALTON

MISSISSAUGA

GUELPH

NIAGARA



## OUR COMMUNITIES:

Following one year of operation, Food4Kids Hamilton began receiving calls from other communities within Ontario wishing to replicate the program model allowing us to expand our reach and service to children in other communities.

In four years, 4 additional chapters emerged in Mississauga, Halton, Guelph and Niagara.

## OUR PROGRAMS:

**WEEKENDS WITHOUT HUNGER, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN:** Provides packages of healthy food for children aged 4-14 years with limited or no access to food each weekend. Referrals are received from schools aware of children and families struggling with food security. Volunteers package food each Wednesday and volunteers deliver food to schools before the start of every weekend. At the school, the food package is quietly tucked into the child's backpack and when the child arrives home and opens their backpack, a healthy food supply awaits them.

**WEEKENDS WITHOUT HUNGER, SECONDARY SCHOOL YOUTH:** Graduating into High School does not mean youth are no longer living in poverty, and experiencing hunger. Referred by office and teaching staff, secondary students considered the most impoverished in school receive a package of food for the weekend. There are currently 81 students in the 2019-2020 school year secondary school program. Food4Kids currently facilitates a high school program in Cathedral Secondary, Glendale Secondary, Westdale Secondary, Sir Winston Churchill Secondary and Wilma's Place. We are eager to grow this program and have plans in place to support an additional 5 secondary schools

**GROCERY CARD PROGRAM/ 2020 SUMMER PROGRAM:** In response to Covid-19 and the initial school closure that was announced on March 12, 2020 Food4Kids Hamilton implemented a grocery card program model. Every child and youth registered in the program received a \$25 grocery card, every 2 weeks throughout the duration of the school closure, including during the summer months. Students learning from home will continue to receive a grocery card every two weeks.





## PROGRAM EVALUATION OUTCOME:

During the early summer months of 2020, a survey was conducted with 100 families registered in the program. Each family was contacted directly via telephone and asked a series of questions.

- The 100 families contacted represented 178 children in the program
- 100% were receiving their grocery cards
- 100% found the gift cards helpful and were able to use them
- 72% were not accessing food banks; 28% continued to access food banks
- A large percentage of caregivers expressed difficulty in keeping their children occupied and managing on-line schoolwork. Many also indicated that, with being at home, their children were constantly eating, and the grocery cards were so appreciated.
- The majority of respondents indicated that the grocery cards were sufficient and nothing else was needed from Food4Kids.

## PROGRAM SERVICE AND DELIVERY PRIORITIES:

1. Fully realize the need for our services in Hamilton by identifying the true number of students that are suffering from food insecurity.
2. Increase our school network to include all schools that need our support.
3. Maintain the current number of children in our Weekends Without Hunger program and consistently respond to a wait list when necessary.
4. Evaluate our current program service and delivery methods, implement improvement where necessary.
5. Continue to pivot and adapt as required due to changing circumstances.

## GRANT INITIATIVE:

During the 2019–2020 fiscal year, we received support through the **Ontario Trillium Foundation Grow Grant** initiative. This grant covers the period from April 1, 2020 to April 1, 2022. During this two-year timeline, 75 youth in 5 secondary schools are to be supported through Food4Kids in the first year and an additional 75 youth in 5 new secondary schools in the second year. By April 1, 2022, 150 youth in 10 secondary schools is the goal to achieve by Food4Kids Hamilton.

A project-based action plan has been developed for the activities associated with this grant and all objectives during the 2019–2020 fiscal year were met.

# A BIG THANK YOU!



Photo by Bre King @brellkeedogs

**The past year has been unpredictable, full of curves and uncertain for us all.** In the midst of this, we have heard from schools that children stop attending class on Fridays because their household has run out of food for the week. We have heard from parents that their children are ashamed to go to school because they do not have a lunch to bring. We have heard from social workers that there are more families in need.

**Our program mandate has always been that no child should go hungry and that each child registered in our program has a healthy supply of food to take home for the weekend.** In a year that has been a struggle for all, the Hamilton community has jumped through hoops to make sure that our program is sustained and children do not go hungry. From individual and company donations to third party online fundraisers and in-store sales, we are absolutely blown away and speechless by the support we have received. Our dedicated and loving volunteers have been by our side to support in any and every way they possibly can. Even with school closures and city closures, they have stepped up in unimaginable ways. Our program truly could not run without the support and kindness we receive from this community on a daily basis. **With grateful hearts, we thank you all.**

## **VOLUNTEER STATS:**

From September 2019 to early March 2020: **15-18 volunteers** participated in each weekly pack, whether this was a community group or an organized business group.

During these 6 months, **17 different groups** came to pack, and opposite weeks were scheduled with community volunteers.

Some businesses include **Tandia, Hamilton Police, Union Gas, ScotiaBank, Meridian Credit Union, CFF Stainless, St. Michael's School Staff** and **ArcelorMittal**.

**20-23 volunteer drivers** delivered food bags to schools every week.



## FUNDRAISING HEROS:

Since 2015, the **Hamilton Firefighters for Charity (HPFFA)** hockey tournament has raised funds for our kids. With no event this year, the HPFFA Charity and our amazing friends at **Tandia Financial Credit Union** partnered again and provided us with a \$15,000 donation! **Together they have raised \$95,000 since 2015 for Food4Kids Hamilton!**



The Hamilton Tiger-Cats Football Club and Forge FC Hamilton launched the **'Hamilton Proud' mask campaign** to benefit Food4Kids Hamilton. **Sales of the limited edition 'Hamilton Proud' masks raised \$30,000 for Food4Kids Hamilton.**



In the Spring, **Scharringa Greenhouses** in Waterdown donated 400 hanging plants to Food4Kids for **Flowers4Mom**. This was a great opportunity for us to give to our community, engage our amazing volunteers and make mom's very happy on Mother's Day weekend. With a \$40 donation our volunteers delivered a plant to the porch of your choice. It was a busy weekend for us and 400 plants were successfully delivered. **Thanks to our community effort, 100% of the funds raised purchased grocery cards for our kids.**



An amazing and inspiring morning, **The Power of One Breakfast Gala** was a **huge success** in November of 2019. Some of the best Chef's in Hamilton provided incredible food and fun for all 475 attendees.



# STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>DONATION REVENUE</b>		
Donations	763,998	551,653
Grants	232,375	49,540
In-Kind Food Donations	89,106	46,279
Fundraising	372,583	279,547
Interest Income	7,156	6,505
	<b>1,465,218</b>	<b>933,524</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Amortization	4,343	4,485
Bank Charges and interest	1,910	4,889
Fundraising	9,364	18,743
In-kind food costs	89,106	46,279
Insurance	3,334	3,027
Office and General	19,183	6,065
Professional Fees	15,983	23,848
Program costs	581,381	444,938
Promotion	4,026	15,548
Rent	38,790	37,965
Repairs and maintenance	442	8,024
Telephone and utilities	4,415	5,882
Travel	2,483	4,117
Wages and benefits	217,495	224,785
	<b>992,255</b>	<b>848,595</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES BEFORE DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS</b>	<b>472,963</b>	<b>84,929</b>
<b>DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(90,000)</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>472,963</b>	<b>(5,071)</b>

Year ended August 31





## 2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stacy Eftimovski, *Chair*  
 Joel Tanner, *Vice-Chair*  
 Tony Italiano, *Treasurer*  
 Priya Bhatia, *Director*  
 Jenn Hudder, *Director*  
 Dale Shaughnessy,  
*Director*  
 Paul Hamilton, *Director*  
 Jason Urban, *Director*  
 Brian Humphrey, *Director*

### STAFF:

Cathy Haan  
 Nancy Phelan  
 Alex Zaccheo



# THANK YOU!

## WE COULD NOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU.

Food4Kids is funded through donations or one-time grants. We are grateful for the unconditional giving of individuals, groups and businesses entrusting our agency with their donations, knowing the difference their support will make.

To each and every donor, our thanks and assurance, your support fuels a collective effort ensuring no child goes hungry in our shared community.

- Alectra Utilities
- Boston Pizza, Main West
- CFF Stainless
- CHML Children's Fund
- City of Hamilton
- Dave Andreychuk Foundation
- Food4Kids Ontario
- Forge FC
- Foundation for Human Development
- Gowling WLG
- Hamilton Bulldogs Foundation
- Hamilton Community Foundation
- Hamilton Firefighters Local 288 Assistance Fund
- Hamilton Police
- Hamilton Tiger Cats
- HotRun Inc.
- IKEA Canada
- IRC
- John Deere Canada
- KPMG
- Mercury Food Service
- Michelangelo's Banquet Centre
- Modo Yoga Hamilton
- Mohawk College Financial Services
- Mondelez International
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Ottawa Street BIA
- Patrick McNally Foundation
- PepsiCo
- PSI ADK
- RBC
- Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation
- Samuel & Sons
- Scotia Bank, Hamilton
- Sisters of St. Joseph
- SMPL Design
- Sydney Woods Purple Butterfly of Hope Foundation
- Tandia Financial Credit Union
- Tastebuds Student Nutrition
- Taylor Leibow
- The Sprott Foundation
- Tim Horton Store Owners: Smile Cookie Campaign
- United Way Hamilton Halton
- Valery Homes
- Westside Church