



2015/2016  
Annual Report

*The Big Book of Gratitude!*

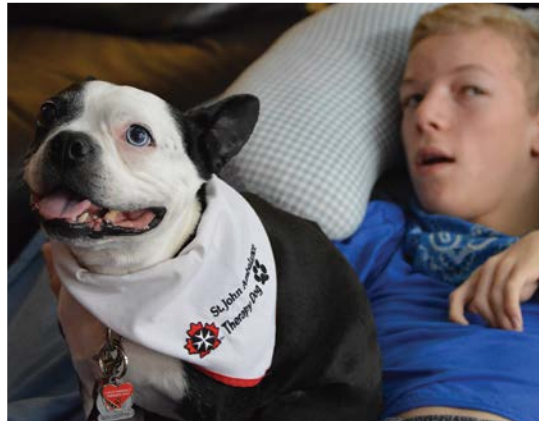


*A Home Away from Home* 



Owned and Operated by The Cedarbrook Society  
Charitable Registration No. 88852 4840 RR0001





# OUR GUARDIANS

Message from The Darling and Eagen Family



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Each and every year when I sit down to write a note about The Darling Home for Kids, I feel an enormous sense of pride.

There have been so many wonderful changes since we first became involved with this special Home in 2007, and I would like to pay tribute to those who have made them happen.

Our Board of Directors has created an excellent strategic plan for the organization, one that has been implemented successfully and renewed constantly as changes take place. It is a living document and guides our thinking and planning. I am so thankful for the support and dedication of our Board.

Kristin Horrell, and our professional staff, have made this Home a very special place for families and children. Laughter, joy, friendship, care, and love fill this Home every day, no matter what the challenges may be. We persevere and go above and beyond to help families in our community. Thank you to this special team!

Our growing volunteer group dedicates time, energy and ideas to the many

events, activities, and physical needs of the building and our beautiful grounds. Gardening, painting, walkway repairs, special projects- they help us raise money and keep The Darling Home for Kids in great shape!!

Through the generosity of our donors, we have built an amazing wheelchair accessible playground, sculpture garden and kids clubhouse, and we have provided special programs to our children such as pet, art and music therapy, as well as a wonderful program for siblings.

The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services have been invaluable supporters of our organization. We are enormously thankful for their funding support, and guidance over the years.

It is indeed an honour to be involved with this very special place, and with the many people who help us contribute to the well-being of families who entrust their children to our care.

Thank you so very much.

Michele Darling, and her family Michael, Daniel and Ryan Eagen



Mike Eagen and Michele Darling.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Kristin Horrell and Petrina Nesbitt.

*“Because of your support, we have accomplished great things. Significant and profound things, as well as small moments of brilliance that we see in our children each and every day.”*

When we try to put into words our incredible achievements over the past year, we could begin to list our hours of service, number of families, and other tangible accomplishments. But sometimes the greatest things cannot be measured – they can only be felt.

Instead of counting the many children we have provided care for, we will focus on just one. His name is Ryder, and during his short life he benefited from all three of our core programs. Every donor, volunteer, stakeholder and friend to our organization, has had an impact on him in ways that can only be felt.

Ryder first came through our bright red doors in 2012 for respite care, providing his grandparents, who were his primary caregivers, a much needed break. Shortly after engaging with us, Ryder became a resident of the Home, where he lived for two and a half years until he was discharged. This year, his family reached out to us as Ryder was nearing the end of his life. His grandfather reflected that as he drove behind the ambulance up our long and winding driveway, he felt that his grandson was coming home - to a familiar place where he could spend his last days. Ryder’s experience reinforces why our combination of programs is so unique and essential. In every part of this young child’s life, The Darling Home for Kids was there to support him and to support his family.

That is our organization’s mission, and that vision is realized in countless experiences throughout the year. We have accomplished great things. Significant and profound things, as well as small moments of brilliance that we see in our children each and every day.

We thank all of our supporters who share our passion for improving the lives of medically complex children and their families. These supporters include our government funding partners, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. From charitable foundations to our monthly donors, our event sponsors, corporate partners and individual contributors, we are thankful for the ongoing generosity of our donors and supporters. Our continued appreciation to our Guardians, Michele Darling, Michael Eagen and their sons Daniel and Ryan, for their incredible legacy of giving to our organization.

We also thank and appreciate all of our volunteers who work tirelessly to make our organization as bright and vibrant as it can be. From the success of our events, leadership on our Board of Directors, to the maintenance of our Home, volunteers continue to leave their mark.

Please enjoy reading the pages to come, as we celebrate all that we have accomplished, both measured and felt.

Sincerely,

Kristin Horrell and Petrina Nesbitt



# An Incredible Year Thanks to You!



68

68 families received care this year, including **17 new families**

40,000

Over 40,000 hours of service were provided across our respite, palliative and residential programs

3

3 new children were welcomed to the Home in the fall, when our residential program was expanded

540

Over 540 sessions of therapeutic programming were provided to our children, including Art Therapy, Recreation Therapy, Music Therapy, Pet Therapy, Hydrotherapy, and Reiki

8,200

Over 8,200 hours of service were contributed by our dedicated volunteers





13

13 corporate volunteer groups rolled up their sleeves to help keep our Home a warm and welcoming space for our children and families, contributing 1,281 hours of service over 18 days



\$310,000

Generous donations from individuals, corporations and foundations totalled over \$310,000 and allowed us to fill our Home with the smiles and laughter of the children who visited us

\$341,000

Donors and volunteers raised over \$341,000 through our annual Golf Tournament, Comfort & Joy Gala, Wheels Event and Community Fundraisers



\$38,000

7 Executives in our inaugural Adopt a Wish Executive Challenge helped to raise over \$38,000 towards items on our Wish List

\$8,000

16 Monthly Donors made a world of difference by contributing over \$8,000, providing consistent, reliable resources to help care for our medically fragile and technology dependent children



# THE CEDARBOOK SOCIETY

The following is summarized information from the organization's audited financial statements.

## Summarized Statement of Operations

	2016	2015
Revenues		
Government funding	\$1,104,267	\$1,073,448
Fundraising	274,059	267,636
Donations	386,450	321,061
Other	42,059	42,117
Designated revenue	52,212	67,626
	<u>1,859,047</u>	<u>1,771,888</u>
Expenses		
Salaries and related benefits	1,245,604	1,172,569
Home operations	193,448	183,169
Fundraising	91,624	101,119
Office and sundry	77,794	70,522
Designated expenditures	52,212	67,626
Insurance	27,747	30,765
Taxes	15,317	10,467
Professional fees	13,468	6,835
Interest and bank charges	11,212	9,689
Telephone	5,371	8,978
	<u>1,733,797</u>	<u>1,661,739</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses from operations	<u>125,250</u>	<u>110,149</u>
Capital items		
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	148,227	138,876
Amortization of capital assets	(205,314)	(199,763)
Capital maintenance fund spending	-	(3,180)
	<u>(57,087)</u>	<u>(64,067)</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses	<u>\$ 68,163</u>	<u>\$ 46,082</u>
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 3,260,959	\$ 3,214,877
Excess of revenues over expenses	68,163	46,082
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 3,329,122</u>	<u>\$ 3,260,959</u>

Our auditors Grant Thornton LLP, have audited and issued an opinion on the complete financial statements of The Cedarbrook Society. A complete set of the audited financial statements, as well as the auditors opinion, is available by request.



# THE CEDARBOOK SOCIETY

The following is summarized information from the organization's audited financial statements.

## Summarized Statement of Financial Position

	2016	2015
<b>Assets</b>		
Current		
Cash	\$ 526,760	\$ 383,276
Short term investments	1,260,868	1,177,626
Accounts receivable	179,077	59,777
Prepaid expenses	4,388	6,901
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,971,093	1,627,580
Capital Assets	5,588,132	5,463,194
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 7,559,225	\$ 7,090,774
<hr/>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 305,384	\$ 120,736
Deferred revenue	673,456	638,917
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	978,840	759,653
Deferred capital contributions	3,251,263	3,070,162
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,230,103	3,829,815
<hr/>		
<b>Net assets</b>		
Invested in capital assets	2,336,868	2,393,032
Stabilization fund	300,000	273,000
Unrestricted	536,254	501,427
Capital maintenance fund	156,000	93,500
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,329,122	3,260,959
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 7,559,225	\$ 7,090,774
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Our auditors Grant Thornton LLP, have audited and issued an opinion on the complete financial statements of The Cedarbrook Society. A complete set of the audited financial statements, as well as the auditors opinion, is available by request.

# OUR CARING STAFF

Olivia Leja



Olivia helps Alex battle in a water fight



*“Thank you to the staff for going above and beyond. When our son is at The Darling Home for Kids he is being well taken care of so I can get the rest and rejuvenate to keep going when he is home.”*

When asked to write a few words on behalf of the frontline staff about our appreciation for the volunteers and donors who make The Darling Home for Kids possible, I was instantly nervous and excited! Nervous because I hope that I can do you all justice, and excited because I have such a HUGE appreciation for all of you!

Volunteers, I have been in your shoes. I know that your job can be challenging, our house can be chaotic and hectic, loud and busy, but it is filled with love. I know that you are all a part of DHK because you genuinely care about the kids that come through our doors. I have seen the smiles, giggles and cuddles you have shared with the children and I guarantee that those are the things the children will remember. I think of the different times where you have shown your compassion by comforting a child who is feeling homesick by reading a familiar story, with a warm hug, or working during the holidays and bringing joy and happiness to every

child that is in the Home. You all work so incredibly hard to make sure that our kids are safe, while also having a great time during their stay. Thank you for all of the amazing work that you do!

To the donors, thank you for making it all possible! With your help, we are able to provide our amazing kids with a spectacular experience! Without you, we would not have beautiful features like the sensory garden and the Snoezelen room, as well as our therapeutic programs which include music, recreation, art and pet therapy. These opportunities enrich the lives of our kids and gives them an outlet to express themselves.

In the end, we are all working to create great memories for the kids who visit the Home, and we wouldn't be able to do so without the contributions from all of you. On behalf of the DHK frontline staff, thank you.

Olivia Leja  
Personal Support Worker

# 2015-2016 STAFF AWARD RECIPIENTS



Laurie helps little Piper defy disability.

*"Amazing place to work, and I feel proud about what I do at DHK."*

-DHK Nurse

*"So many of the people that work at DHK care so much about the kids and their well being. It is a very supportive and caring environment."*

-Personal Support Worker

## The Darling Award

Laurie LeBlanc

The Darling Award recognizes a staff member who is passionate about the organization and our children and families. This staff member embodies our mission and vision and will do whatever they can to provide our children with an oasis of comfort and joy.

## Family Impact Award

Kaylee Best

The Family Impact Award recognizes a staff member who establishes a positive rapport with families and ensures that The Darling Home for Kids is an extension of a child's own home. Always greeting families with a smile, this staff member is genuinely interested in getting to know each family we service.

## The Butterfly Award

Selina Towner

The Butterfly Award recognizes a staff member who has a spirit of transformation and change. This staff member advocates for process improvements that will make a difference in each child's experience at The Darling Home for Kids.

## Children's Champion Award

Olivia Leja

A true champion for our children and families, The Children's Champion Award recognizes a staff member who understands the incredible impact that each moment can have on a child's life. Advocating for our kids, this staff member demonstrates a commitment to making each day a great day.

# PARENT TESTIMONIALS

*"From the moment we walk in the door the staff welcome us by name and engage our son with conversation and comfort. The staff are amazing and make us feel very comfortable!"*

*"I would like to thank you for the mercy hands you gave me taking care of my baby."*

*"I would like to thank all the nurses and support workers at DHK. It's such a wonderful place and wonderful people. It's such a good experience for me and my daughter. We are so thankful for being part of DHK, you are all Angels."*





# SIGNATURE EVENTS



Thursday, November 5th, 2015  
Burlington Convention Centre

## FUN FACT:

- The 17th Annual Comfort & Joy Gala "An Evening in Wonderland" hosted over 300 guests and raised over \$147,000 for The Darling Home for Kids.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Thursday, November 3rd, 2016  
Burlington Convention Centre

**CLICK TO LEARN  
MORE ABOUT OUR  
COMFORT & JOY GALA**

## 17TH ANNUAL COMFORT & JOY GALA

### Presenting Sponsor:

- TD Bank

### Gold Sponsor:

- Interac

### Silver Sponsors:

- Bayshore Home Health
- Brookfield Residential
- CIBC Mellon
- David Bowker & Blythe Ward
- The Darling/Eagen Family
- The Petrus Fund (a fund held within the Oakville Community Foundation)

### Diamond Sponsors:

- The Morren Group
- The Dool Team of RBC Dominion Securities

### Sweetheart Sponsors:

- Acura of Oakville
- Reunion Island Coffee
- Rosehaven Homes

### Print Partner:

- Wellington Printworks Inc.

### Design Partner:

- Synergy Design

### Photography Partner:

- Sherry Prenevost Photography

### Audio-Visual Partners:

- Roger Lapworth / Party Rockers Entertainment

### Media Partner:

- West of the City

### Raffle Sponsors:

- Knar Jewellery
- WestJet
- Molly Maid International Inc.

### 2015 Committee:

#### Co-Chairs:

- Petrina Nesbitt
- Marion Quinlan

#### Members:

- Elaine Blaylock
- Kriss Bush
- Marjorie Corcoran
- Lana Harvey
- Mary Horrell
- Maureen Lush
- Ann McCoomb
- Liana Palmerio-McIvor
- Cindy Perras

#### Event Manager:

- Geraldine Cabral – Shake It Up Events



# SIGNATURE EVENTS

## 18th Annual CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

To benefit The Darling Home for Kids

Tuesday, July 21st, 2015  
Greystone Golf Club



### FUN FACT:

- Thanks to our generous supporters, this year's tournament raised \$45,000 to help fund the operations and programs available for children and their families at The Darling Home for Kids

**CLICK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT**

## 18TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

### Presenting Sponsor:

- K-G Spray-Pak Inc.

### Open Sponsors:

- The Darling/Eagen Family Lunch Sponsor

### Legends Sponsors:

- Cargojet – Golf Ball Sponsor
- Dufferin Aggregates Volunteer Sponsor

### Classics Sponsors:

- Colosseum Online Inc. Score Card Sponsor
- The Hart Datoo Wealth Management Group Frozen Treat Sponsor
- Kempen Capital Management Golf Cart Sponsor
- The Meehan Team Beat the "Pro" Sponsor
- RBC Water Bottle Sponsor
- Skygrid Construction Putting Contest Sponsor

### Print & Design Partners:

- Synergy Design
- WSI Sign Systems Ltd.





# A SOCIAL CAMPAIGN



*"When I was contacted by The Darling Home for Kids to participate in the first ever Adopt A Wish Executive Challenge, I jumped at the opportunity. The Home is very close to my heart and the work they do is phenomenal. The money helps pay for much needed equipment or therapists, and the joy in the child's face when they participate in these activities is so worth it."*  
- Kelly Gray

## ADOPT A WISH EXECUTIVE CHALLENGE

The Darling Home for Kids launched its first Adopt A Wish Executive Challenge last September. This unique and exclusive opportunity challenged seven executives from local corporations who were inspired by the Home's vision and wanted to make a difference in their local community. Each executive selected a list of wishes and they engaged others to help them raise the funds needed to grant these wishes for our children at the Home. Collectively, these executives pledged to raise

\$34,475, however, the results of their efforts realized \$38,845!

The funding will go towards purchasing items such as linens, arts and crafts supplies, Snoezelen equipment, a photography session for our children, USB keys for our family legacy photos, a new waterfall pump, 11 sessions of art therapy, 7 sessions of recreation therapy, pet therapy, music therapy, and 23 weekends of core programming for our children!

### Adopt A Wish Executive Challenge Participants:



Crystal Paulitzki  
**FlagHouse  
Canada**



David Gallinger  
**Gallinger Ford  
Lincoln**



Kelly Gray  
**Sofina Foods**



Jean Crescenzi  
**Colosseum  
Online Inc.**



Kevin McDonald  
**Novus Canada**



Rachel Bibby  
**Schneider Electric**



Chris Swartz  
**Wolseley Canada**



# COMMUNITY EVENTS



## FUN FACT:

- The surrounding communities truly embraced the Home's vision, cumulatively raising over \$183,000 this year, through various fundraising events – a testament of their generosity and unwavering support.

*"We continue to be impressed by the quality of care that The Darling Home for Kids is able to deliver. Every time we visit, we marvel at the Home's ability to look after the needs of the children while ensuring that the Home continues to radiate warmth and comfort. As stewards of our patrons' charitable giving, we take great comfort in knowing that our donations contribute to The Darling Home's ability to look after our communities most deserving children and their families."*

- Kieran Young & Laurence Applebaum  
Co-Chairs, Children's Impact Foundation

## \$50,000 +

- 5th Annual Wheels for The Darling Home for Kids

## \$20,000 - \$49,999

- 16th Annual Monte Carlo Inns Charity Golf Tournament & Spa
- Chudleigh's Employee Sales
- Mattamy (Monarch) Limited Charity Golf Tournament

## \$5,000 - \$9,999

- Acton District High School Youth In Philanthropy Initiative
- Children's Impact Foundation Rogers Cup VIP Event
- Modatek Systems Charity Golf Tournament

## \$1,000 - \$4,999

- 13th Annual PGI Mechanical Services Memorial Charity Golf Tournament
- Crescent Hill Gallery Opening Night Reception
- Halton County Law Association Annual Charity Golf Tournament
- Hillcrest United Church Community Fundraising
- Intertek Health Sciences Inc. Employee Fundraising
- Jennifer Young's Mini Golf Tournament
- "Life by Chocolate!" - Henry Franc's 11th Annual Backyard BBQ
- Line O'Flaherty's Firefighter Fundraising Dinner
- Modatek Systems Employee Cup Sales
- MollyCake 2015 Green Egg Program
- The Monte Carlo Inns 6th Annual Teddy Bear Toss
- The New Mummy Company & Auld Enemy Charity Football Match
- P. J. Dermody Insurance Brokers Golf Challenge
- Street Classics Show & Shine Association & Cruise
- Zumba-thon - Party for Piper

## Up to \$1,000

- The 2015 GTA AM Tour
- Acton District High School Me 2 We Project
- Campbellville Community Charity Sale
- Darlene's Journey Book Sales
- Daughters of Knox Community Fundraising
- Halton Standard Condominium Corp. No. 596
- Hitherfield School Community Fundraising
- Kids2Kids Community Fundraising
- Knox Young People Community Fundraising
- Lolë of Oakville Community Fundraising
- Nassagaweya Presbyterian Church Community Fundraising
- TOPS ON 1866 Milton Holiday Exchange
- Violet, Tabatha, and Claire Baratto Hot Chocolate Sales



## CURRENT DONORS & FRIENDS

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR 2015-2016 DONOR LIST](#)

*"Having been connected with The Darling Home for Kids for a very long time, we are pleased to be involved in supporting them however we can. We believe strongly in what they do and stand for in the community, and as such, it is an honour for us to contribute to a worthy cause and hope that it will continue to benefit families in the area for years to come."*

-Tom Hitchman, President, Naylor Building Partnerships Inc.

## The Darling Home for Kids appreciates its loyal donors.

Our donors' overwhelming generosity - both from individuals and organizations is second to none. They are instrumental in providing the support the Home needs to stay current with the most cutting edge technology available in the industry and for helping to provide care where care is needed for medically complex children.

Generous donations from individuals, corporations, and foundations totalling over \$310,000 allowed us to provide over 40,000 hours of service to 68 families across all of our programs.

The Darling Home for Kids would like to recognize and thank the donors and sponsors who have made gifts during the fiscal year - April 1st, 2015 to March 31st, 2016.





# Changes to OUR MAJOR DONOR WALL



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW  
OUR MAJOR DONOR LIST](#)

The following organizations and individuals are Major Donors who, through their giving between April 1st, 2015 and March 31st, 2016 have been added or elevated to another category on our Major Donor Wall at The Darling Home for Kids.

## Leaders (\$50,000 - \$99,999)

- Chudleigh's
- The Stephen C. Goodrich Foundation

## Benefactors (\$25,000 - \$49,999)

- The Alastair and Jennifer Murray Foundation
- Frank Doracin and Elizabeth Harding
- Franc Family and Friends Annual Summer Party
- The J.P. Bickell Foundation
- Susan Roth and The Henslow-Brown Foundation

## Builders (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

- Denihan Ownership Co. LLC
- David Gallinger
- Bryan and Ann Marshall
- Robert and Paula Massaar
- PGI in Memory of Ryan Ioannou 2011
- Rexall Foundation
- The Toskan Casale Foundation

# OUR PROMISE TO DONORS

*The Darling Home for Kids values its donors without whom our work would not be possible.*

Thanks to the generosity of supporters like you, The Darling Home for Kids is able to maintain the financial and operational independence, that allows us to provide care to medically fragile children and a much-needed rest for their families. As our children and their families experience great life challenges, we will remain strong and unwavering in our care for them and in our commitment to our mission.

Because of your trust and investment, our fundraising team is dedicated to providing the highest standard of stewardship to our supporters. We aim to bring you closer to the reality of our work through our publications, mailings and updates on our website, and through social media. We will invite you to participate in our signature events to celebrate with us in our communities.

We are committed to:

- Timely, appropriate acknowledgment of your gifts
- Honouring your request for the use of your gift
- Providing proper recognition for your gift
- Managing your gift with the utmost integrity
- We will not send constant appeals or share personal data with other organizations
- Providing timely financial statements, annual report and, when applicable, customized Donor Impact Reports
- Providing ongoing stewardship of gifts
- We welcome your feedback, ideas and suggestions on how we can improve. Please call us at 905-878-7673 or email [mjackson@darlinghomeforkids.ca](mailto:mjackson@darlinghomeforkids.ca)



Dedicated members of our Board of Directors

# 2015-2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CLICK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT VOLUNTEERING ON OUR BOARD AND SUBCOMMITTEES

*"I began volunteering at The Darling Home for Kids as a Board Member and Treasurer during the completion of Phase 1. It was the exciting fulfillment of a dream when the Home was opened. The people on the Board are a committed, enthusiastic group with varied skills who work well together. I was honoured to be asked to become the Vice Chair this year. The Darling Home for Kids is an inspiring place positively focusing on what the children can do. I am pleased to be able to participate in ensuring the successful future of the Home"*

--Elaine Blaylock

## Guardian

Michele S. Darling & her family, Michael, Daniel, and Ryan Eagen

## Chairperson

Petrina Nesbitt,  
*Retired*

## Vice Chairperson

Elaine Blaylock, CPA  
*Certified Management Accountant*

## Treasurer

Bryce Anger, CPA, CA  
*Controller, Central Technology Services Inc.*

## Directors

Karen Chow  
*National Stakeholder Relations  
Gilead Sciences Canada, Inc.*

Michele Darling  
*Chairman and Founder  
The Halo Foundation*

Karen Fields  
*Partner  
Crawford Chondon & Partners LLP*

Steve Hart  
*Wealth Advisor  
BMO Nesbitt Burns*

John McLaughlin  
*President and Corporate Director  
Tall Oak Management*

Lana Palmer  
*Healthcare Consultant*

Craig Podrebarac  
*Vice President, Legal  
UPS Canada*

Michelle Scott  
*Executive Director  
The Grocery Foundation*

Glen Tennison  
*President & CFO  
Dane Creek Capital Corp.*

*Ex Officio:*  
Sheelagh Kemp  
*Medical Director, The Darling Home for Kids  
Physician, Sick Kids*

# 2015-2016 VOLUNTEER & DONOR RECOGNITION AWARD RECIPIENTS



*Our 9th Annual Volunteer and Donor Recognition Event for The Darling Home for Kids was an incredible celebration of volunteerism and philanthropy. We honoured over 200 volunteers and 19 groups who gave selflessly of their time over the past year, as well as countless donors whose generosity enabled the organization to raise just over \$700,000. There was truly a lot to celebrate!*

## Award of Excellence - Community Leader

- Lana Palmer

## Rising Star Award

- Shalon Lewis

## Big Heart Award

- Maureen Socha

## Angel of the Year

- Deena O'Hare

## Youth Impact Award

- Violet, Tabitha, and Claire Baratto

## Helping Hand Award

- Jean Crescenzi

## Community Fundraiser of the Year

- Zumba-Thon (Party for Piper)

## Social Fundraiser of the Year

- Jimmy Brennan
- Chris Swartz (in Honour of Riley Dobson)

## Award of Excellence - Volunteer Leadership

- Elizabeth Harding
- Steve Hart
- Petrina Nesbitt
- Marion Quinlan

## Foundation Partner of the Year

- Children's Impact Foundation
- Susan Roth and The Henslow-Brown Foundation

## Corporate Team of the Year

- UPS Canada

## Award of Excellence - Sponsorship, Commitment and Leadership

- TD Bank

## Community Partner of the Year

- Mattamy Homes

## Corporate Partner of the Year

- Naylor Building Partnerships Inc.
- Tandia





# HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

## THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteers and donors continue to be the pillars of our organization. They create a solid foundation that our families depend upon to ensure our programs are there when they need us the most. Our volunteers provide comfort and care to our children, help us maintain our beautiful home, and are champions for our fundraising efforts. Our donors give generously so that we can offer therapeutic programs, invest in equipment and capital upgrades to the building, and ensure that the bright red doors of our Home remain open for every child who comes to stay with us.

Last year, 208 individual volunteers donated over 8,200 hours of service. Thirteen corporate groups rolled up their sleeves to help keep our Home a warm and welcoming space for our children and families, contributing 1,281 hours of service over 18 days. All of our dedicated volunteers made a difference in helping to fill our Home with smiles and laughter for children who visit The Darling Home for Kids.



[CLICK TO VIEW 2015-2016 VOLUNTEERS](#)

*"The Darling Home for Kids is a warm and welcoming home that relies on volunteers! The staff and organization respect and welcome with open arms your willingness to help in the many areas of the Home. The children attending the home melt my heart and I always feel their love - I never want to leave them!"*

-Deb Hill, Frontline Volunteer



[CLICK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES](#)



# HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

*Continued*

*"The best Friday evening I've had in years, beats going out for dinner! Thank you all so much for what you do for these children, I WILL be going back!"*

-Bill Hodder, RBC Corporate Volunteer

CLICK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GROUP VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## VOLUNTEER GROUPS

This past year, **19** groups volunteered their time at The Darling Home for Kids, including **5** groups who volunteered on more than one day! Their energy and enthusiasm made a huge impact on the Home. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteer groups!

- Alcon Canada
- Bank of Montreal
- BD
- Beta Xi Group
- Cummins Eastern Canada
- CYAN Youth in Action
- Dufferin Aggregates
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Life Technologies
- RBC
- Martindale Gardens Retirement Home
- SAP
- St Joan of Arc Catholic Secondary School
- Softchoice
- Tandia
- The Monte Carlo Inns
- UPS
- York Muay Thai
- We Are One World





## LOOKING TO OUR FUTURE

*“As the Clinical Manager, I am blessed to see the incredible impact that our programs have on families. I am reminded of a child who came to us first in our respite program, and became our resident. He had the sweetest little face and would wiggle to let us know how he was feeling. He would let out giggle-sighs as we laid him to bed, and kick his arms and legs as if he were making an angel in the snow. His family felt safe knowing he was in good hands, and they were free to just be his family again instead of being his nurse and doctor all rolled up into one. It is because of our donors that this peaceful, serene home was there for this young child and his family.”*

–Sharleen Sun, Clinical Manager

From the expansion of our residential program to the continued growth of our volunteer program, from the success of our Adopt a Wish Executive Challenge to the renovation of our medication room, this year has been one marked with incredible accomplishments. But just as we celebrate all that we have done, we turn to the year ahead with anticipation as we know that the needs of our families are vast and we have only begun to scratch the surface.

As an organization we continue to have ambitious dreams. We want to achieve great things, and know that we can with the support of our donors, volunteers and friends. So what are some of these lofty goals?

Together we can ... **increase the impact of our programs.** With the expansion of our residential program, we know there are additional children who need our support. We know it is only a matter of time until our residential program is operating at full capacity.

With your support we can ... **be a resource for families.** When a child is first diagnosed, parents often feel lost with no where to turn. With our expertise, we can be a resource to these families with access to online materials, family networking, and a compassionate ear.

We want to ... **clearly define our niche.** With so many families who need respite, it is becoming increasingly important to remain ever focused on our mission, and continue to maximize the unique services we provide to children with complex medical needs.

Collectively we can ... **increase our profile and engage more people.** Each year the awareness of our Home grows in the community and we want this to continue over the next year. The more people who know of the work we do, the more funds we can raise, and the greater impact we can have.

We can only do great things with the support of great people.

Our children reach for the stars in all they do. Whether that is taking their first step when they are 12 years old with the support of equipment, or learning to say “yes” using only their eyes – our children are the best examples that ANYTHING is possible! But just like our children, we cannot do this alone. We need the support of those around us who lift us to greater heights. We hope that people will continue to be inspired by the work we do and join us in bringing comfort, care and joy to children with medical complexities.



*Thank you!*



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