

2016/2017 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



Mike Eagen and Michele Darling.

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As I reread the message we wrote last year celebrating the many special people and organizations that have made The Darling Home for Kids such an incredible place, I was filled with joy. It's hard to believe it has been ten years since we embarked upon an incredible journey as a family, choosing to partner with, protect and nurture such a wonderful place as the Home's Guardians.

So much has happened since we aligned with this amazing organization. We started a fundraising initiative in 2008 to expand the Home. Despite the economic downturn at that time, our donors, friends and amazing partners helped us finish the Home; expanding our gorgeous kitchen and adding a multi-purpose craft and meeting room, three new bedrooms doubling the capacity of the Home as well as a new medication room and sensory snoezelen room. We rebranded the Home, selecting beautiful butterflies as our logo, to represent the strength, fragility and transformative abilities of our children.

Our playground followed, built so it is accessible to every child and then the serene therapeutic sculpture garden; a place to sit, rest and enjoy being nestled into nature. Our clubhouse provided a place to paint and laugh and our fire pit is the perfect place for a s'mores cookout! Recently we added pathways around the grounds to allow for long walks in the fresh air along a wheelchair accessible path.

Our Home has physically transformed to meet the needs of our children and families.

Our service delivery model also evolved over the past decade as we established a formal residential program in addition to respite and palliative care. We expanded our team of professional nursing and support staff, and increased our fundraising efforts with uplifting events such as Wheels, helping increase our profile in the community and raise needed funds to keep us going!

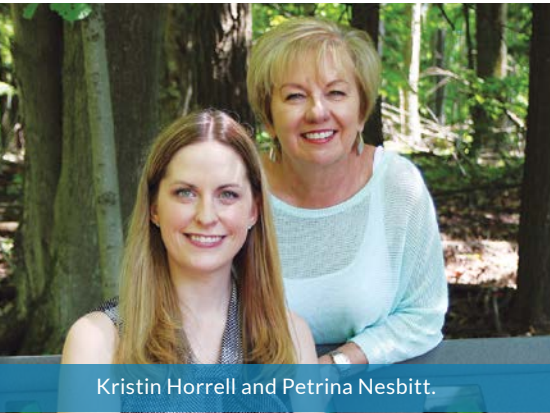
We have benefited from many friends along the way as our organization grew and our programs expanded. Donors, volunteers, government partners, staff and the Milton community all shared our passion and remained committed to helping our children thrive. We also developed strong partnerships, like the one we have with Trillium Health Partners, who share their resources to make our organization stronger. We are grateful for the help of our many friends.

It has been an amazing ten years, and I am personally looking forward to the next ten years. Our family remains committed as donors, guardians, advocates and friends. The Darling Home for Kids is truly the best and we look forward to the future with joy and excitement.

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

We congratulate and sincerely appreciate our loyal Guardians, who celebrated their 10th Anniversary with The Darling Home for Kids this year!

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Kristin Horrell and Petrina Nesbitt.

“Our Home is only possible because of our supporters who share our passion for improving the lives of children who are medically complex.”

When we built The Darling Home for Kids, we had a specific goal in mind. We wanted to create a home away from home for our remarkable children and their families. So, what does it mean to be home? Often what comes to mind is the physical place in which we reside that provides us comfort; a warm and welcoming space where we can keep things that are important to us – photos of people we love, a favourite stuffed animal (or real four-legged friend), bookshelves filled with adventures, and a cozy bed to curl up in at night. When we dig deeper into our perceptions of home, it’s about being surrounded by our loved ones and familiar traditions, and feeling safe and secure. A home is more than just a building – it’s a feeling.

In 2004 we built the first phase of our facility and Ontario’s first paediatric hospice – our building. Then came the hard work of creating a home. When we think of our residents and reflect on the past year, it is confirmation we have indeed reached our goal. Ours is a home that our kids retreat to after a day of finger painting in kindergarten, medical appointments, or trips to the zoo. It’s a space where a stuffed dog named Mrs. Corbits the First gets a seat at the kitchen table; a space where chairs are beanbags, windows are blank canvases, trails are for exploring, and stars are painted on the ceiling over beds. Here is where music fills the air, therapy dogs give wet kisses, and the smell of cookies permeates from under the kitchen door. Here, children are surrounded by the most big hearted people who care for them when they feel sick, celebrate all of their achievements, and greet each new day with them with a smile ready to take on the next wonderful adventure.

For Nicky, Alex, Trinity and WenJing, and all the children in our respite and hospice programs, The Darling Home for Kids is truly a home, and we have witnessed what can happen when children have this feeling. They stand tall and learn to hold their heads up. They get stronger and reach new heights. Some feel comforted in their final days, while others develop new skills that will last a lifetime. Many smile and giggle (A LOT). They reach for the sky and we help extend their reach!

This is only possible because of our supporters who know the importance of home, and who share our passion for improving the lives of children who are medically complex. Every donor, volunteer, stakeholder and friend to our organization, has made a positive difference over the past year.

We remain grateful to our government funding partners, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. Our sincere appreciation to our Guardians, Michele Darling and Michael Eagen and their family, for being thoughtful custodians of our children for the past decade.

Please turn the pages to follow and join us in celebrating all that we have accomplished this year. Together we are reaching for the stars for our children and families and providing an incredible oasis of comfort and joy.

Sincerely,

Kristin Horrell
Executive Director

Petrina Nesbitt
Board Chair

Together, We Have Accomplished Great Things!



63

63 families received care this year, including 11 new families

45,000

45,000 hours of service were provided across our respite, palliative and residential programs

360

Over 360 hours of therapeutic programming were provided to our children, including Art Therapy, Recreation Therapy, Music Therapy, Pet Therapy, and Hydrotherapy

10,400

Over 10,400 hours of service were contributed by our dedicated volunteers

20

20 volunteer groups rolled up their sleeves to help keep our Home a warm and welcoming space for our children and families, contributing over 1,500 hours of service over 30 days





\$371,000

Generous donations from individuals, corporations and foundations totalled over \$371,000 and allowed us to fill our Home with the smiles and laughter of the children who visited us

\$387,000

Donors and volunteers raised over \$387,000 through our annual Golf Tournament, Comfort & Joy Gala, Wheels Ride and Community Fundraisers

10

10 Wish Granters in our 2nd Annual Adopt a Wish Challenge helped to raise over \$11,000 towards items on our Wish List

\$15,000

32 members of our Kaleidoscope Community made a world of difference by contributing over \$15,000 in monthly gifts, 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

	2017	2016
Revenues		
Government funding	\$1,090,171	\$1,104,267
Donations	448,526	386,450
Fundraising	329,263	274,059
Designated revenue	81,546	52,212
Other	45,189	42,059
	<u>1,994,695</u>	<u>1,859,047</u>
Expenses		
Salaries and related benefits	1,293,877	1,245,604
Home operations	241,381	193,448
Fundraising	112,696	91,624
Designated expenditures	81,546	52,212
Office and sundry	79,037	77,794
Insurance	31,544	27,747
Taxes	14,761	15,317
Interest and bank charges	11,989	11,212
Professional fees	9,501	13,468
Telephone	5,951	5,371
	<u>1,882,283</u>	<u>1,733,797</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses from operations	<u>112,412</u>	<u>125,250</u>
Capital items		
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	186,134	148,227
Amortization of capital assets	(212,314)	(205,314)
Capital maintenance fund spending	(23,156)	0
Loss on disposal of capital assets	(31,418)	0
	<u>(80,754)</u>	<u>(57,087)</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses	<u>\$31,658</u>	<u>\$68,163</u>
Net assets, beginning of year	\$3,329,122	\$3,260,959
Excess of revenues over expenses	31,658	68,163
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$3,360,780</u>	<u>\$3,329,122</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

	2017	2016
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$106,367	\$526,760
Short term investments	1,682,847	1,260,868
Accounts receivable	144,944	179,077
Prepaid expenses	6,358	4,388
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,940,516	1,971,093
Capital Assets	5,365,757	5,588,132
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$7,306,273	\$7,559,225
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$160,360	\$305,384
Deferred revenue	699,004	673,456
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	859,364	978,840
Deferred capital contributions	3,086,129	3,251,263
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,945,493	4,230,103
Net assets		
Invested in capital assets	2,279,628	2,336,868
Stabilization fund	338,000	300,000
Unrestricted	480,652	536,254
Capital maintenance fund	262,500	156,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,360,780	3,329,122
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$7,306,273	\$7,559,225
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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OUR CARING STAFF

Stephanie Myers



The staff at DHK are all superheroes!



“For us, The Darling Home for Kids isn't just respite. It's the wonderful, caring staff, the accessible environment, the variety of activities and loving, home-like atmosphere. Since day one we have felt confident and comfortable sending our son Madden to The Darling Home for Kids.”

-Kristine (Madden's mom)

I have worked at The Darling Home for Kids as a Personal Support Worker for about 2 years. During this time I have seen wonderful volunteers and donors come through our doors. Some may come for a quick tour, others may come for the day to spruce up our Home and many frequent the Home on a regular basis. No matter the contribution, I can promise you it does not go unnoticed.

As a PSW I spend a lot of time with our front line volunteers who give up time on their weekends, week nights and summer holidays to provide a helping hand around the Home. Many days volunteers may leave exhausted after doing their 100th lap around the Home with one of our kids, participating in one of our infamous dance parties or shaving cream extravaganzas. Other days are more relaxing as we spend time in the sun, having camp fires, cuddling babies or chilling in bean bags watching Glee - which I think we have all become a little too crazy about

thanks to our wonderful Nicky. Being at The Darling Home for Kids can be an amazing and life changing experience. I know that it has been for me.

On behalf of all of the front line staff, thank you to each and every volunteer and donor. Thank you for being our eyes when we are busy, our energy when we desperately need it, and our arms when ours are full. Thank you for all your meal preparations, warm treats on Saturdays and everything you do behind the scenes that make our organization the best that it can be. Most of all thank you for the unconditional love and care that you give to our kids and support you provide to us. Your presence truly helps to make The Darling Home for Kids our home away from home.

Thank you,

Stephanie Myers,
Personal Support Worker



PARENT TESTIMONIALS

2016-2017 STAFF AWARD RECIPIENTS

“DKH means we can have a vacation somewhere where our son would not enjoy, or we could not physically bring him, knowing and trusting that our son will be taken care of and will enjoy himself too. We never had that until we found DHK! Our son is aging out and we are saddened by that but at the same time, we are grateful for having had the opportunity.”

–Kathy, Mike, Kurtis and Mark

The Darling Award Stephanie Myers

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.

Children’s Champion Award Maddison Gilmour

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.

Family Impact Award Jaspreet Kaur

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 serve.

The Butterfly Award Saraina Berry

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.

“The Darling Home for Kids is a special place because in an incredibly short period of time, my son has completely embraced the warm energy from the staff and space that DHK offers. It’s such a comfort to be able to implicitly trust the care he receives, while simultaneously being relieved from having to provide full on care at home. Through the help of DHK I am realizing I don’t have to do this alone anymore.”

–Jeanette (Joshua’s mom)

“DHK is our lifeline! Not only for Michaela getting to enjoy her home away from home with familiar friends and most importantly independence, but also for myself. I don’t know how I have done it for 16 years without you guys. And for my other children, Kyle and Meaghan, this time for us together to experience some much needed quality time that they deserve and so rarely get is priceless and so appreciated by them. Without the help of DHK our family would still be struggling, disconnected and an angry unit. Now we have bridged the scary gap of chronic life-threatening illness and are closer than we’ve ever been. Kyle and Meaghan are enjoying their sister like they used to. Thank you from the bottoms of our hearts.”

- The Choquette family





SIGNATURE EVENTS



Thursday, November 3rd, 2016
Burlington Convention Centre

The 18th Annual Comfort & Joy Gala, "A First Class Escape" hosted over 300 guests and raised over \$140,000 for **The Darling Home for Kids**.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Thursday, November 2nd, 2017
Country Heritage Park
Gambrel Barn • Milton, Ontario

CLICK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR COMFORT & JOY GALA

18TH ANNUAL COMFORT & JOY GALA

Presenting Sponsor:

- TD Bank

Bid for Good Sponsor:

- Interac

Tour Guide Sponsor:

- CIBC Mellon

Entertainment Sponsor:

- Bayshore Home Health

Departure Lounge Sponsor:

- Brookfield Residential

Registration Sponsor:

- The Darling/Eagen Family

Swag Bag Sponsor:

- RBC

Check Out Sponsor:

- Rosehaven Homes

Décor Sponsor:

- The Petrus Fund
(a fund held within The Oakville Community Foundation)

Print & Design Partners:

- Synergy Design
- Wellington Printworks Inc.

2016 Gala Committee:

Co-Chairs:

- Liana Palmerio-McIvor
- Marion Quinlan

Committee Members

- Jennifer Aubertin
- Kriss Bush
- Mary Horrell
- Carol Jurriaans
- Petrina Nesbitt
- Michelle Scott
- Erika Tu
- Jennifer Young

Event Manager:

- Geraldine Cabral - Shake It Up Events

"Being a sponsor at the annual "Comfort & Joy Gala" not only helps to support the needs of medically complex children and their families - it is also a special opportunity to host a lovely table of friends or colleagues for an evening of wonderful entertainment, food and fun!"

"The gala is extremely well run, classy and fun and offers many opportunities for the guests to participate and support the charity."



SIGNATURE EVENTS



Tuesday, July 26th, 2016
Greystone Golf Club

Thanks to our generous supporters, this year's tournament raised over \$49,000 to help fund the operations and programs available for children and their families at **The Darling Home for Kids**.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Tuesday, July 18th, 2017
Greystone Golf Club • Milton, ON

CLICK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

19TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Presenting Sponsor:

- K-G Spray-Pak Inc.

19th Hole Reception Sponsor:

- The Darling/Eagen Family

Volunteer Sponsor:

- Dufferin Aggregates

Beat the Pro Sponsor:

- Daikan Applied Canada

Frozen Treat Sponsor:

- The Hart Dato Wealth Management Group

Golf Cart Sponsor:

- Dane Creek

Putting Contest Sponsor:

- Skygrid Construction

Score Card Sponsor:

- PWC

Print & Design Partners:

- Synergy Design
- WSI Sign Systems Ltd.

2016 Tournament Committee:

Chair:

- Steven Hart

Vice Chair:

- Glen Tennison

Members:

- Evann Bush
- Jean Crescenzi
- Ryan Lawrence
- Chris Swartz
- Janice Vancso





SIGNATURE EVENTS



Presented by: 

Sunday, June 26th, 2016
Mattamy National Cycling Centre

Taking to the roads of the Niagara Escarpment, over 50 cyclists participated in **our ride with Wheels**, raising over \$60,000 to support essential upgrades to our facility, and our core programs.

CLICK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHEELS

6TH ANNUAL WHEELS EVENT

Presenting Sponsor:

- Mattamy Homes

Family Fun Pavilion Sponsor:

- Tandia

Rest Stop Sponsor:

- Richardson GMP

Rest Stop Sponsor:

- Amgen Canada

Print & Design Partners:

- Synergy Design
- WSI Sign Systems Ltd.

2016 Wheels Committee:

Chair:

- Elizabeth Harding

Honorary Co-Chair:

- Pete Pomeroy

Members:

- Frank Bon
- David Bowker
- Diana Christie
- Greg Christie
- Lori Emerson
- Marly Levene
- Ryan Oosterhoff

"Everyone worked very hard to ensure an excellent event."

"Everyone was very welcoming and encouraging no matter your skill level with cycling."

"Giving back to the community in which we work and play has always been important to me. Being able to help raise much-needed funds for The Darling Home for Kids has a special place in my heart. I hope you will take the challenge and join in on the ride!" - Peter Gilgan



COMMUNITY EVENTS



"The Greystone Golf Club 25th Anniversary Gala Committee chose The Darling Home for Kids because of a desire to help children in our local community. It is so hard to comprehend what the children and their families are going through, but our hope was that our donations would make their daily life a little brighter. It's heartwarming to know that the hard work our committee put in to such an amazing 25th Anniversary celebration was able to benefit so many wonderful people at The Darling Home for Kids!"

- Rob Townsend, ClubLink

The surrounding communities truly embraced the Home's vision, cumulatively raising over \$137,000 this year, through various fundraising events – a testament of their generosity and unwavering support.

\$20,000 - \$49,999

- 17th Annual Monte Carlo Inns Charity Golf Tournament & Spa
- Softchoice Employee Fundraising

\$10,000 - \$19,999

- Chudleigh's Employee Sales
- Greystone Golf Club Anniversary Gala

- Mattamy Homes Charity Golf Tournament
- St. Vincent Ladies Night Out

\$1,000 - \$4,999

- 14th Annual PGI Mechanical Services Memorial Charity Golf Tournament
- 2006 Winterhawks AE Blue Team Fundraising
- College of Family Physicians of Canada Employee Fundraising
- Crafters Who Care Craft Sales
- Halton County Law Association Annual Charity Golf Tournament
- Hillcrest United Church Community Fundraising

- Jennifer Young's Mini Golf Tournament
- Lakeside Logistics Employee Fundraising
- Modatek Systems Holiday Fundraiser
- The Monte Carlo Inns 7th Annual Teddy Bear Toss
- P. J. Dermody Insurance Brokers Golf Challenge
- Steve Diamond's White Party
- Street Classics Show & Shine Association & Cruise

Up to \$999

- Bishop P.F. Reding Secondary School Mystery Night
- Cambridge Winterhawks Team Fundraising
- Celgene Inc. Company Meeting Fundraiser
- C. H. Norton Public School Fundraising
- Darlene's Journey Book Sales
- Dayna Tamo Raffle Sales
- Kimberley Paulson's Around the Bay Run

- Making Waves Swim School Gingerbread Raffle
- Peekabo Child Care Centre Fundraising
- Priscilla Yates Lemonade Stand
- Sam Sherratt Public School Class Fundraiser
- SAS Institute (Canada) Inc. Potluck Fundraiser
- W.I. Dick Middle School Bake Sale



CURRENT DONORS & FRIENDS

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR 2016-2017 DONOR LIST](#)

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.

Generous donations from individuals, corporations, and foundations totalling over \$371,000 allowed us to provide 45,000 hours of service to 63 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, 2016 to March 31st, 2017.



At Tandia Financial Credit Union there is nothing we can be more proud of than giving back generously to the communities in which we work and live. Our involvement with The Darling Home for Kids has resonated with and enriched the lives of all of our staff. Being able to witness the comfort and joy the home brings to its families is inspiring. It takes a village to raise a child and these families are fortunate to have such a compassionate and wonderful home as an extension of their family. We are honoured to be able to contribute and support such a worthy cause.

Changes to OUR MAJOR DONOR WALL

"Mackenzie Investments Charitable Foundation (MICF) is a proud supporter of The Darling Home for Kids. MICF is an employee driven Foundation, with a primary mandate to help children and youth in need. This focus is exemplified in our partnership with The Darling Home for Kids. We are continually impressed by the wonderful work they do to optimize the quality of the lives of children with life-limiting or life-threatening illnesses. They not only provide much needed services and respite for the children and their families, they also provide a home. This was the feeling that I walked away with when I visited the charity last Christmas; I saw for myself first-hand the incredible work done for the children by the staff and volunteers where each task was done with care and dedication. Just seeing the smiles on the children's faces was fantastic! All children deserve to be loved and valued, and The Darling Home for Kids provides a loving and caring "home away from home" for families and their children."

-Herman Facchinelli, Board Member, Mackenzie Investments Charitable Foundation

The following organizations and individuals are Major Donors who, through their giving between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017, have been added or elevated to another category on our Major Donor Wall.

Founding Patron (\$100,000 - \$249,999)

- Mackenzie Investments

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

- Cummins Ontario Inc.
- Hoffmann-La Roche Limited
- Pat and Peter Pomeroy
- WSI Sign Systems Ltd.

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

- Bryan and Anne Marshall
- Rexall Foundation

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

- Greystone Golf Club
- Kristin Horrell and Greg Harding
- Newman's Own Foundation
- Pfizer Consumer Healthcare
- S. C. Johnson & Son, Limited
- Samuel, Son & Co., Limited
- Softchoice
- St. Vincent Ladies Night Out
- Fabrizio and Nicole Stampatori
- Tandia Financial Credit Union

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

OUR PROMISE TO DONORS



The Darling Home for Kids appreciates its loyal donors.

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 acknowledgement 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



A SOCIAL CAMPAIGN



2ND ANNUAL ADOPT A WISH CAMPAIGN

Thank you to our “wish granters” who, through their love and advocacy of The Darling Home for Kids, helped us raise over \$11,000 in support of items on our Wish List through peer-to-peer fundraising!

- Susan Cleland
- Siobhan Ewert
- Kristin Horrell
- Erin Huber
- Melody Jackson
- Shalon Lewis
- Meagan Shepherd
- Cindy Stewart
- Fatima Viana
- Jennifer Young

“My experience with the Adopt A Wish Challenge was SO much more than what I could’ve hoped for or ever expected. I made new friends, connected with old ones and became more involved with a Home I love SO dearly. In the end, I really felt as if it was a win-win. Along with raising funds, we also raised awareness for DHK and I’d also like to think that we raised some spirits too.”

-Shalon Lewis, Volunteer & Wish Granter

MONTHLY GIVING



**CLICK HERE
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
OUR KALEIDOSCOPE
COMMUNITY!**

MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE!

Members of our Kaleidoscope Community have not only helped us build our beautiful Home amidst the Niagara Escarpment, but because we can rely on their support each and every month, we can plan our critical programs confidently so that families caring for medically fragile children can be certain that our doors are open when they need us the most. Quite frankly, they give us the resources we need to fulfill our mission!

Thank you to the members of our Kaleidoscope Community, who made an incredible impact during our 2016-2017 fiscal year:

- Wendi Anzai
- Stephen Beck
- Arlene Beckett
- David Bowker and Blythe Ward
- Evann Bush
- Jason and Gayle Capp
- Greg and Diana Christie
- James and Janet Gibson
- Karen Grainger
- Andrew Guadagnolo
- Carolyn Hart
- Steven and Olivia Hart
- Kristin Horrell and Greg Harding
- Mary Horrell
- Melody Jackson
- Shalon Lewis
- Bob and Maureen Lush
- Milton Yoga Inc.
- Fran Morris
- Craig Podrebarac
- John and Michelle Scott
- Meagan Shepherd
- Jim and Lynn Sigurdson
- Dan and Wendy Smith
- Brendan Syme
- Carly Syme
- Rosemary Thompson
- John and Lesley Weatherhead
- Douglas Webster
- Bruce and Alayne White
- Jane Wilkinson
- Jennifer Young



Dedicated members of our Board of Directors

2016 -2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

"I have just completed my second year on the Board of Directors and I have found the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the children and families that the Home serves, to be personally rewarding. It's impossible to be involved in any aspect of the mission of the Home without finding your dedication increasing, as your heart goes out to those young people. It is a privilege for me to serve on the Board of Directors, which consists of a passionate group of talented individuals who are truly making a difference."

- Michelle Scott, Board Member

Guardian

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

Chairperson

Petrina Nesbitt

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

2016 -2017 VOLUNTEER & DONOR RECOGNITION AWARD RECIPIENTS

“One of the greatest things about being associated with DHK, is how quickly I see the impact of our in-kind efforts. As a business owner, I have limited resources to offer, so being able to see an immediate ROI is fantastic. But the best return I could ever ask for, is when I read stories from the client families. This is how I know DHK is doing great things – and we’re so honoured to play a small role in helping these parents and kids. And of course, meeting all the great staff and volunteers along the way have made this journey so worthwhile. I have to thank them for providing us with such inspiration to keep giving.

- Greg Carmichael, Synergy Design

Rising Star Award

- Rachel Totten

Big Heart Award

- Christine Lacombe

Angel of the Year

- Marina Atalla

Helping Hand Award

- Brian Goodwin

Corporate Team of the Year

- GlaxoSmithKline Inc.

Youth Impact Award

- Troy Underhill and the Atom AE Blue Milton Winterhawks

Community Fundraiser of the Year

- Softchoice

Social Fundraiser of the Year

- Marly Levene

Generations of Generosity

- The Christie Family

Foundation Partner of the Year

- Rexall Foundation

Community Partner of the Year

- Dufferin Aggregates

Corporate Partner of the Year

- Hoffmann-La Roche Limited

Award of Excellence - Sponsorship, Commitment and Leadership

- Brookfield Residential
- Synergy Design

Award of Excellence - Volunteer Leadership

- Kriss Bush
- Liana Palmerio-McIvor





HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Time is one of the most valuable gifts you can give a child, and The Darling Home for Kids is fortunate to have dedicated and caring volunteers who bring a smile to our children's faces.

The contributions of our volunteers are varied and their impact can be seen throughout our organization. Our volunteers provide comfort and care to our children, help us maintain our beautiful home, and are champions for our fundraising efforts. Last year, 234 individual volunteers donated over 10,400 hours of service. 20 volunteer groups rolled up their sleeves to help keep our Home a warm and welcoming space for our children and families, contributing over 1,500 hours of service over 30 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. Thank you to all of our volunteers!!

[CLICK TO VIEW OUR 2016-2017 VOLUNTEER LIST](#)



"I started volunteering at The Darling Home for Kids just over 5 years ago. During this time, I have had the pleasure of helping with administrative tasks, being a part of the Santa Claus parade float, being a member of the gala committee and my favourite, hanging out with the kids! As the gala committee co-chair for two years, I had the honour of working with an amazing group of individuals who gave so much of themselves to raise much-needed funds for the Home. I can honestly say that by volunteering at the home I have received so much more than I have given, and the joy I feel when I know I've made even a small difference is immeasurable."

- Marion Quinlan, Gala Committee/Administration Volunteer

"I am a Peer Frontline volunteer at The Darling Home for Kids. I love this volunteer experience because interacting with the kids brings me joy. Everyone is very friendly and the Home is always a positive and welcoming environment. After volunteering, I have learned that I very much enjoy interacting with children and I realized that I want to pursue a career that involves working with kids!"

- Agatha Park, Peer Frontline Volunteer



HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



VOLUNTEER GROUPS

This past year, 20 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
- AON Risk Solutions
- Bank of Montreal
- BD Canada
- Beta Xi Group
- Chudleigh's
- Cummins Eastern Canada
- CYAN Youth in Action
- Dufferin Aggregates
- Erindale United Church
- GlaxoSmithKline Inc.
- Hoffman-La Roche Limited
- PCL Constructors Canada Inc.
- Royal Bank of Canada
- SAS
- Sherwin-Williams
- Softchoice
- St. Peter Chaldean Church
- Tandia Financial Credit Union
- UPS

"It was wonderful to have the opportunity to volunteer at DHK, a truly special place. The staff was great and I especially enjoyed the tour and getting their insight into the needs of the children, the design of the facility, and the experiences they were able to share about life in the home. Many thanks to the staff for being our guides and to the children for welcoming us into their home."

- Ian, Hoffman-La Roche Limited

"It was a wonderful experience for our team to be there [at The Darling Home for Kids] and I was impressed with the planning of the event. You were fully prepared and all the tasks and activities went very smooth. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to come and help you. We are looking forward to coming next year."

- Rajesh, Bank of Montreal



CONTINUING TO DREAM

"We hope you continue to be inspired by the work we do, and continue to join us in providing essential care to children with medical complexities and their families."

The end of our fiscal year is a time to celebrate everything we've accomplished over the past year, but it's also an opportunity to look to the future - to dream bigger and brighter for our children and families. Our organization is very fortunate to have many friends and supporters that enable us to reach for the stars in all we do, and over the next year, here are the stars we are reaching for...

Expanding our support programs for families. Caring for a child with significant medical needs can be a tremendous weight on families, and for some, that weight can be unbearable. This is especially true for families facing the loss of their child, and the days, weeks and years that follow. These families need support and we want to grow our programs to help them cope. Through bereavement support, a more robust siblings program and access to a Social Worker, The Darling Home for Kids can be there when our families need us the most.

Creating a memorial space to celebrate the lives of our children. At The Darling Home for Kids, we have beautiful gardens, tranquil outdoor spaces, and therapeutic areas to enjoy. One space that we are missing is a space to honour the remarkable children who have engaged in our programs and passed away. We want to create a memorial garden and invite our families to join us in celebrating the lives of their children.

Enhance our infrastructure to maintain a solid foundation for our programs. As our programs and services grow, we need to ensure there is stability to sustain those services into the future. This includes succession planning for staff, recruitment of additional team members to help achieve our dreams and organizational goals, increasing our fundraising efforts and sources of revenue, and continuing our commitment to nurturing our relationships with our donors who enable us to raise the funds we need to meet the needs of our families.

Remain connected to our mission and vision. In everything we do, we remain ever focused on our mission to provide respite, residential and hospice-palliative care for medically complex children and their families. We are committed to making a difference in our community for these remarkable children. Through smiles that go from ear to ear, the comfort and relief on the faces of our parents, and the sense of community felt when you come through the bright red doors of our Home, our organization strives to provide an oasis of comfort and joy each, and every, day!

Thank you to our donors, volunteers, staff, and the community, for walking alongside us in this journey. Together we are accomplishing truly amazing things. We hope you continue to be inspired by the work we do, and continue to join us in providing essential care to children with medical complexities and their families.

Let the dreaming continue....

Thank you!



The Darling Home for Kids

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