

Our Vision



A world where no child is too complex to receive the love, care, and support they deserve.

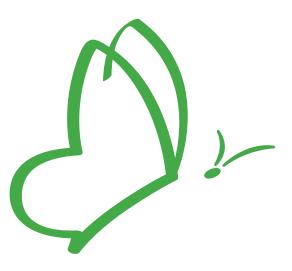
























A Message From

OUR GUARDIANS

As summer turns to fall and the leaves begin to change their colours, we take the opportunity to reflect on the true impact The Darling Home for Kids has on the children and families that we serve.

The families in our care travel great distances to The Darling Home for Kids because there simply is no other Home like this in Canada. Some are looking for support, direction, and advice on how to manage their child's care. Others are seeking a compassionate heart and a shoulder to cry on. Many are needing rest and search for a trusted space to send their child.

The past year has heightened our awareness of the challenges our families are facing. Many of us spent the past year reorganizing schedules and augmenting the way we do things. We traded certainty for change and took the necessary steps to ensure the safety of our communities and those we care for.

Every year the number of children with medical complexities is increasing. Together, with the

support of our patrons, volunteers, donors, and the dedication of our team, we can meet the growing demand for care, welcoming new children and families into our DHK family.

The power of this commitment has never been more apparent than when we successfully raised seven million dollars toward The Embrace Campaign.

Because of your generosity, our families have found a Home away from home, a community of support, and a feeling of security. Because of you, our children are thriving in an environment designed to meet their unique needs and abilities. With the help of our incredible DHK family of supporters, we can dream big and make what could have been impossible yesterday, a reality today.

Your support means the world to us!

With gratitude,

Michele Darling, Michael, Daniel, and Ryan Eagen



A Message of

GRATITUDE



Since opening our doors in 2004, The Darling Home for Kids has helped overwhelmed families find comfort and solace within our walls. In a year filled with uncertainty and hardship for so many, it has been remarkable to witness the many ways you helped make a difference. Our Annual Report is an opportunity to acknowledge the impact of your collective contributions on the lives of our children and families.

Donor support fuels our ability to provide a continuum of care for children with medical complexities. This year, you recognized the critical need for our programs and services and partnered with us in our most ambitious capital campaign to date.

We are immensely grateful to Orlando Corporation for their cornerstone gift of \$3.5M to The Embrace Campaign and to our community of supporters who generously stepped up for our children, matching their pledge. Because of you, we are challenging the limits of what is possible today and dreaming BIG for a brighter tomorrow.

We are grateful to our incredible Guardians, Michele Darling, Michael, Daniel and Ryan Eagen, for their unwavering commitment to our Home. Their generosity is matched only by the joy and excitement expressed by our amazing children who benefit daily from their support.

We are humbled to see the many ways our community rallied together to help raise funds in support of our Home. This past year, you sold bracelets, ran lemonade stands, and hosted fundraisers. You participated in our Rally, rode for Wheels, tee'd off in the DHK Classic, and volunteered your time and skills to help make our Home even better.

In these difficult times, it is a privilege to witness the many heartfelt moments, acts of compassion, and genuine commitment to our vision of a world where no child is too complex to receive the love, care, and support they deserve. We are honoured to be alongside each one of you as we work together to improve the lives of our families.

As you flip through our Annual Report, we hope you realize the powerful role you have played in helping our children create beautiful memories.

As we look ahead, we know that we can continue to count on you to dream with us!

On behalf of the children and families who rely on The Darling Home for Kids, thank you for your selfless generosity, kindness and commitment.





Kristin Horrell



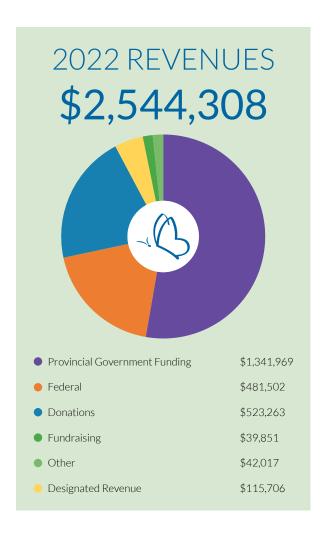
Michelle Scott
Chairperson





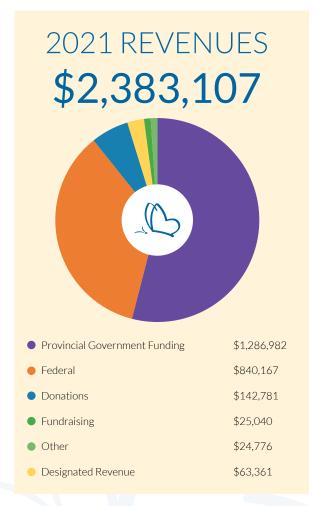


STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

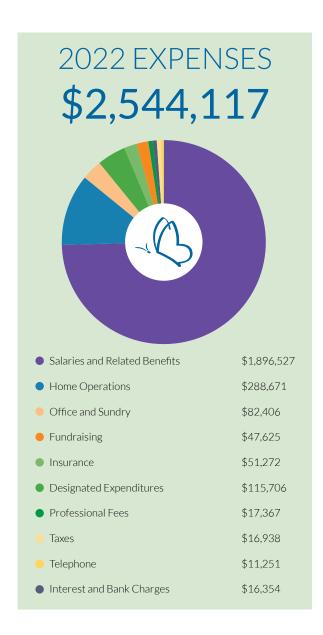




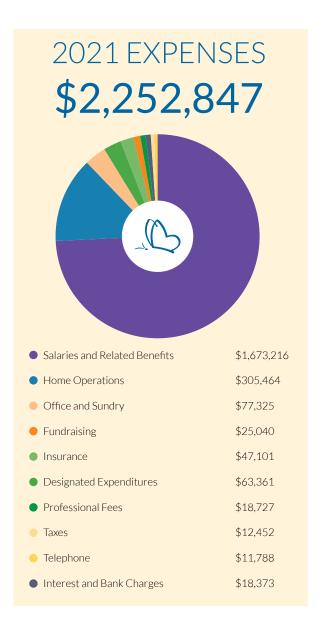






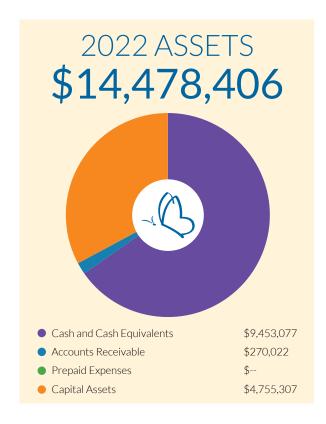




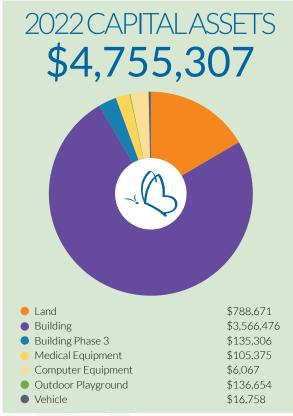


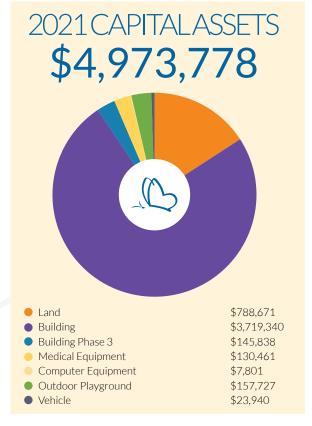


STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

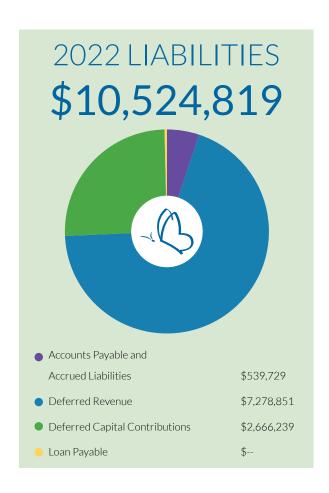




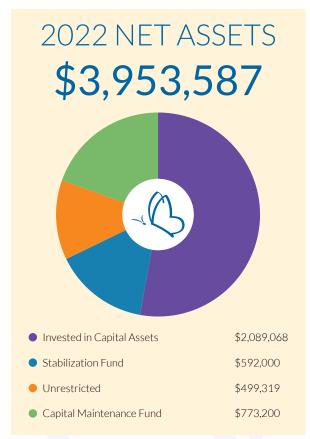


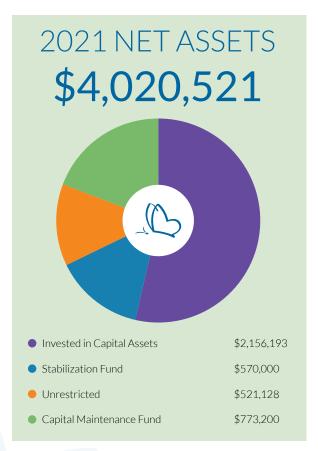






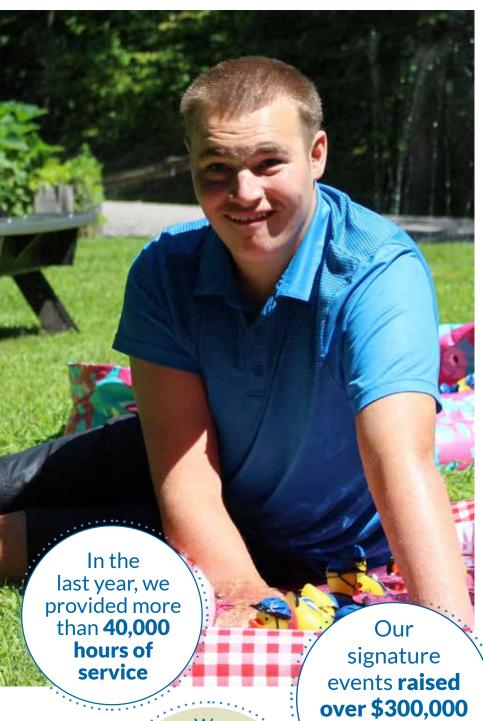






HOW YOU'RE HELPING MAKEADIFFERENCE





"Whenever Callum goes to the Home I know he is loved, stimulated and having wonderful experiences without his mama by his side. It's known as Callum's camp in our family and with all of my friends, and it's truly become a home away from home for him. I am so appreciative of the exceptional efforts that the staff make day in and day out, for the Board of Directors that never give up improving the Home and all the volunteers or those on the various committees who constantly show love for what they do and the children they serve. I feel blessed and honoured to be part of this incredible family. I am so lucky and forever changed by the compassion that surrounds me. This journey with Callum has never been easy but the support from the Darling Home along the way has been phenomenal!"

- Heidi, DHK mom

You helped raise \$7 million for The **Embrace Campaign** and over \$385,000 towards essential services

> **57** monthly donors supported our children & families

We maintain an over 90% overall satisfaction rate, as reported in family feedback



to support

our Home

OUR PROGRAMS



The Darling Home for Kids offers three core programs – respite, hospice palliative and residential – as well as therapeutic and family support programs.

RESPITE PROGRAM

In our **Respite Program**, children can stay overnight at the Home, giving their parents a much-needed break. While here, children are cared for by a diverse group of dedicated staff, including qualified nurses who provide medical support and the tender loving care these children require. During peak service times, we offer a day program and week-long stays to meet the needs of our families.



HOSPICE PALLIATIVE PROGRAM



Our **Hospice Palliative Program** provides three key services to families. Our palliative-respite service gives parents a break from the complex routines of caring for a child with a life-limiting illness. Our transition to home services help families adjust from care in the hospital to care in their own home, while our end-of-life program for children who are dying supports families throughout their grieving process.



RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

Our **Residential Program** offers extended care to children who require more support than is available to them in their home environment. In partnership with other agencies, children live at our Home full-time and receive comprehensive care.

"I get to attend to all their medical needs while they are at school, but I also get to be a part of the process of helping them learn new things, interact with peers, and grow and develop to their full potential."

- Mel, Registered Nurse



Over
27,500 Hours
of Residential
Care was
provided



THERAPEUTIC PROGRAMS



The Darling Home for Kids offers a number of **Therapeutic Programs** including music therapy, recreation therapy, pet therapy, hydrotherapy and multi-sensory Snoezelen therapy, all designed to promote well-being and offer unique experiences to children in our care.



FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM



Our **Family Support Program** offers specialized services to support the mental health and well-being of the entire family unit throughout their caregiving journey. Comprehensive services are offered to all of our families with our in-house Registered Social Worker, including an intake process, individual and group counseling and service navigation assistance. Our families face unique challenges - we strive to help them build connections with others in similar situations through our parents connect and siblings connect groups. We are also there for our families in times of transition and crises, offering emotional support and healthcare navigation as needed.



"I had a really good time at siblings connect and always look forward to getting together again. Sometimes it's hard because it feels like talking can't change anything but I like hearing about other kid's situations because it helps put mine into perspective."

- DHK Sibling

than 90 crisis counselling sessions were provided to families in need



"As a parent of a medically complex child, it's often difficult to relax when we go to events. At DHK events, we can just be ourselves because all the staff, volunteers, and other families understand the needs and challenges of bringing a medically complex child to an event. Every detail is well thought out and supportive. The activities, games, and food are inclusive and fun for our whole family. Our day-today life is hectic with medical care. appointments, and coordinating the staff that supports Nolan. We have very little time to organize family outings. Having a professional photographer to capture the day is an added bonus as well. We often hesitate to book family photos because it's a big expense and we don't know when Nolan is going to have a bad day or need to be hospitalized. We truly appreciate the efforts that the DHK staff and volunteers make to include siblings in everything that they do."

- Kerri & Mike - DHK Parents



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

At The Darling Home for Kids, our volunteers are essential. The impact of their collective efforts can be seen and felt in all that we do. Though the last year presented new challenges, our volunteers rose to the occasion, each in their own way, helping ensure that each child and family was cared for.

Sometimes it's the smallest things in life that have the biggest meaning, for our children that may be a volunteer dropping by to read a book, help paint their nails, or record a special video message when they can't be there in person. It may be a group of individuals working together to ensure the outdoor spaces are ready for play or helping raise funds to ensure more children can experience all that DHK has to offer.

We are grateful to the many individuals who give so generously of their time to ensure a better tomorrow for our children and families.



OUR DONORS



We would like to acknowledge and thank the following individuals, foundations, and corporations whose cumulative contributions have reached or exceeded \$1,000 between April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022. We would also like to thank those donors who wish to remain anonymous. We are grateful for you.

Every effort is made to ensure proper recognition of each donor unless anonymity is requested. Our apologies for any unintentional errors or omissions.

OUR GUARDIANS

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

\$1,000,000 - \$2,999,999

Orlando Corporation

\$250,000 - \$499,999

Hewitt Foundation

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Longo Family Foundation Bryan and Anne Marshall The UPS Foundation

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David Bowker and Blythe Ward The Harold E. Ballard Foundation Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd. J.P. Bickell Foundation Mackenzie Investments Charitable Foundation The Monte Carlo Hotel Motel Innternational Sargent Farms Ltd. TD Bank Group Tim Hortons

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CHANGES TO OUR DONOR WALL



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DISTINGUISHED PATRON \$500,000 - \$999,999

Hewitt Foundation

AMBASSADOR PATRONS \$250,000 - \$499,999

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LEADERS \$50,000 - \$99,999

The Fellowship of Man Charitable Foundation TD Bank Group Tim Hortons

BENEFACTORS \$25,000 - \$49,999

Aubrey & Marla Dan Foundation The Harry E. Foster Foundation Michelle and John Scott

BUILDERS \$10,000 - \$24,999

The Ben and Hilda Katz Charitable Foundation Christina Mary Hendrie Trust Jane Colling F.K. Morrow Foundation Halton Regional Police Association

The James and Patricia Bullock Family Foundation, In Memory of Patricia Bullock

Manulife Financial
John and Fran McLaughlin

E. Jeanette Power Staphesa Richards Sofina Foundation Strategic Charitable Giving

Foundation
Erik Taylor, Re/Max Realty

Specialists Inc.

Virox Technologies Inc. Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company





"The quieter moments of the pandemic enabled our Care Team to focus on our residential program and dedicate time to developing routines and activities geared towards them. We celebrated BIG events, like birthdays and holidays and little moments, like enjoying the sun on a warm day or splashing in the tub. We strive to make the most of every occasion, no matter how big or small. Staying home throughout the pandemic prompted us to embrace all the spaces in this wonderful Home; building forts in the living room, blowing up pools on the porch, taking trail walks through the forest, bringing sensory play to the bedside and holding bake-offs in the kitchen - we left no space unturned!"

– Stephanie Myers, Clinical Lead DHK



THE EMBRACE CAMPAIGN

Next year, we will begin construction to build more space for the moments that matter. The Embrace Campaign and upcoming expansion of The Darling Home for Kids means that we will have more space to serve our community. We will grow our programs and services to ensure we can be there for all families who need us, and each new space will be tailored to allow our children to thrive in an environment that best suits them.



Our Snoezelen room is a big hit for many of our kids especially those who enjoy quieter spaces to engage in sensory activities. Our current room is full of different lighting, colours, and textures that provide a soothing environment. This is a unique space and a very popular room. We often plan a Snoezelen

room rotation to ensure everyone gets a turn. Looking ahead, the larger Snoezelen

room will mean more kids can enjoy sensory play together.

Our kids require time and space to load in and out of vehicles to be transported to school, appointments, to and from respite, and at times into emergency vehicles. The new garage for our wheelchair van and extension of the parking lot will mean easier access for all our clients.

The expansion of our medication room will allow us to better accommodate the schedules of our children by increasing countertop spaces and minimizing the potential for error.

With additional bedrooms and bathrooms, we will be able to provide more respite and open more beds for our residential program. Currently, when we have a hospice end-of-life client and family in the home, we get creative by shuttling kettles and microwaves into bedrooms and blocking off wings to ensure that

> the family has the privacy and comfort that they need. The new palliative suites will have a built-in kitchenette and sleeping accommodations. This will provide families with the resources to make a cup of coffee and take some quiet time with their child without being inundated with the hustle-and-

bustle of the Home. Meanwhile, the clinical team is just a step away to help them navigate the end-of-life journey.

The new on-call suite and lounge area will ensure our Care Team staff have the rest and mental health breaks they need to continue the important and often difficult work of caring for children with such high needs.





The new meeting rooms will provide space to run our orientation and training sessions for staff without interfering withour kids' daily activities. We will have private spaces for our Social Worker to lend a listening ear to our families. This is just the beginning of the incredible impact the expansion will have on the children, families, staff and volunteers of The Darling Home for Kids.

We are grateful to Orlando Corporation, our Visionary Patron, for their significant investment in our new Home. The generosity of our donors has made this expansion and the reality of a bigger and more accessible Home possible. Our vision is a world where no child is too complex to receive the love, care, and support they deserve. Thank you for championing this vision

Written by: Stephanie Myers, Clinical Lead







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Executive Director (Retired), The Grocery Foundation



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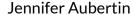
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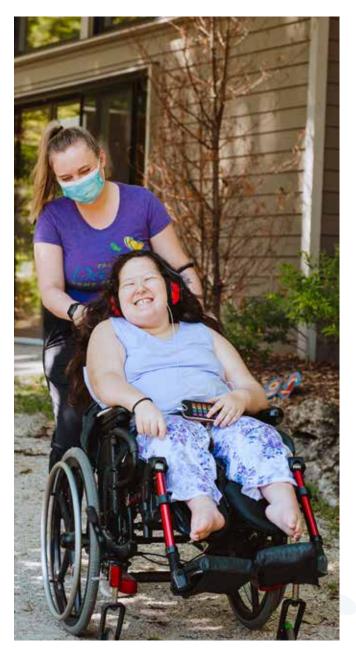




THANK YOU

Our families are unique, each with their own stories of adversity, remarkable strength, and survival - stories that we're proud to be a part of.

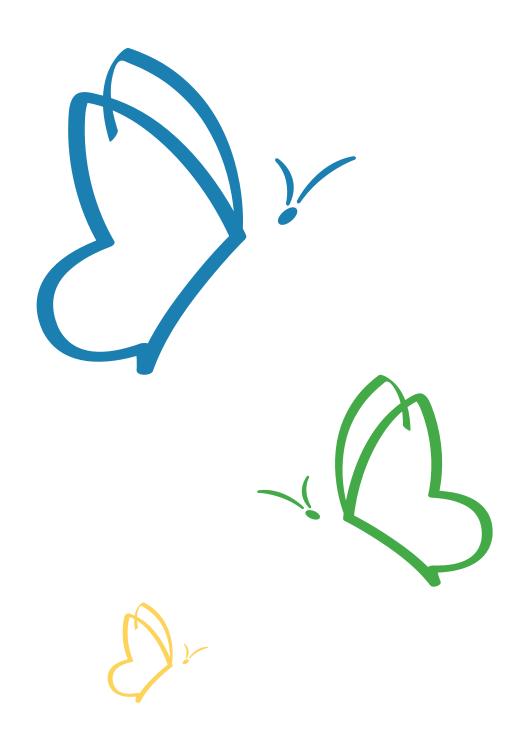
Your support has a direct impact on our children's care and enables us to be there, to celebrate our children's victories. It is because of the generosity of donors and friends like you that we're able to help them reach their full potential.













The Cedarbrook Society