

DECEMBER 2023

Empowering single parents, one family at a time. Join us at Home Suite Hope.

DECEMBER 2023

December 1 – World Aids Day
December 2 – International Day for the Abolition of Slavery (UN)
December 3 – Advent (to December 24) (Christian)
December 3 – International Day of Persons with Disabilities (UN)
December 6 – National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
December 7 – Hanukkah (to Dec. 15) (Judaism)
December 10 – Human Rights Day (UN)
December 18 – International Migrants Day (UN)
December 20 – International Human Solidarity Day (UN)
December 24 – Christmas Eve
December 25 – Christmas Day (Christian)
December 26 – Boxing Day; Kwanzaa (Dec. 26-Jan. 1)
December 31 – New Year's Eve



HOME FOR GOOD GALA

Home Suite Hope's new fundraising gala, **Home For Good**, Nov. 10 at Burlington's The Pearle Hotel & Spa celebrated history-making pilot Callum Wallace's **Flight for Hope** and launched HSH's Partners in Change for Housing campaign to create more affordable housing in Halton.

More about the Gala inside...

VIEW THE GALA PHOTO ALBUM

...TAKE OUR SURVEY

[Home For Good Photo Album](#)

We want your input for next year's signature Gala.
Please [Take the Gala Survey](#)
to help us plan for next time!



HSH LAUNCHES AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

A LETTER FROM SARA

Dear Home Suite Hope Community,

I am writing to express our deepest gratitude for your generous contribution and unwavering support at our recent Home For Good Gala. Your presence added immeasurable value to the event, and your commitment to our cause has left an indelible mark on our mission to permanently change lives for the better. Your dedication to creating positive change in our

community truly shines through, and we want to take a moment to acknowledge the profound impact your contribution will have. Thanks to your support, we are one step closer to turning dreams of stable and affordable housing into a reality for more single parent families facing adversity in Halton.

The success of the gala, in no small part, is owed to your belief in our vision. Your willingness to stand with us in our pursuit of a world where everyone has a place to call home has touched the lives of many. Your support not only provides shelter but also instills hope and resilience in the hearts of those struggling to find a secure place in the world. At Home Suite Hope, we recognize the importance of community and the power it holds to effect positive change. Your involvement in the gala exemplifies the strength that lies within a united community striving for a common goal. Your compassion is a beacon of inspiration, encouraging others to join us in this meaningful journey towards a future where housing is a fundamental right for all.

Today, we have raised \$529,763.06 in sponsorships and donations for Home Suite Hope's affordable housing campaign. Our goal is to raise 1 million dollars. Please help us reach our goal by sharing our story in your networks, donating, or becoming a partner in change. We hope that you will continue to walk alongside us on this journey in any way that you can. Below you will find my email address and personal phone number. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me to discuss how you can get involved. With sincere appreciation,



Sara Cumming, PhD
Executive Director, Home Suite Hope
SaraC@HomeSuiteHope.org or 289.213.5787 (direct line)

[Read this on our website](https://www.homesuitehope.org/post/hsh-gala-success-opens-the-door-to-affordable-housing) at <https://www.homesuitehope.org/post/hsh-gala-success-opens-the-door-to-affordable-housing>

HOME FOR GOOD GALA 2023



AT THE PEARLE HOTEL
NOV. 10!

[View the Gala Photo Album](#)



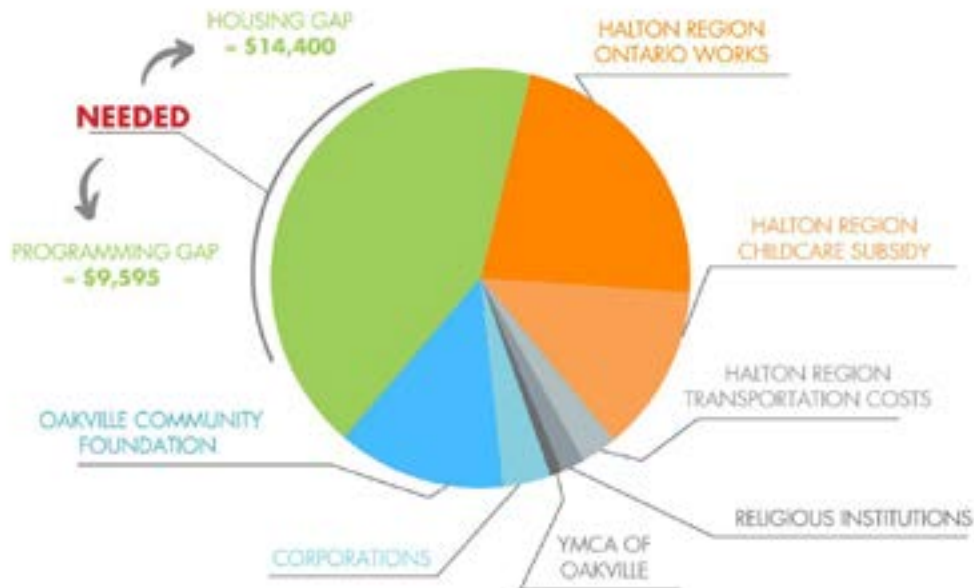
PARTNERS IN CHANGE FOR HOUSING

Launched at the Home for Good Gala, HSH's new **Partners in Change for Housing** campaign provides community members the opportunity to sponsor one of our families by supporting the gap that exists in their rental costs for a year.

**WHAT WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH:
\$14,400 PER FAMILY PER YEAR TO SPONSOR A HOME SUITE HOPE FAMILY**

To sponsor the rental gap for a family or for more information, please contact Sara at SaraC@HomeSuiteHope.org or 289.213.5787 (direct line)

THE PARTNERS IN CHANGE CAMPAIGN

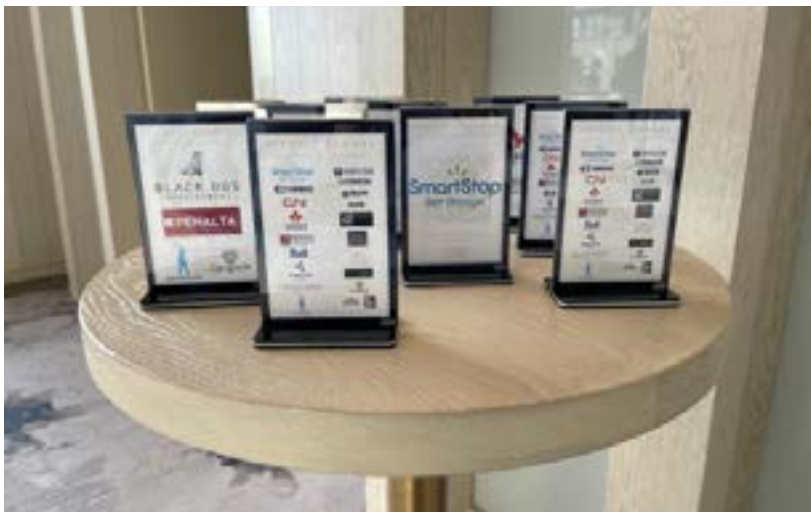


WHAT WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH TODAY

**\$9,595 PER FAMILY PER YEAR TO SPONSOR
PROGRAMMING FOR A HOME SUITE HOPE FAMILY**

**\$14,400 PER FAMILY PER YEAR TO SPONSOR
HOUSING FOR A HOME SUITE HOPE FAMILY**

HOME FOR GOOD GALA 2023



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



HSH also offers a very special thank-you to our sponsors.

We couldn't have made this new event a success without the amazing support of many sponsors, including:

- Ann's Flower Boutique, Oakville
- Bell Canada
- Brock Doors and Windows
- Buck Productions
- Claraderma
- Cornerstone Building Brands/North Star Windows and Doors
- CN
- CTI Working Environments
- DigitalVinyl.ca
- DVDJ.ca
- Fortis Group
- Fresh Kitchen + Juice Bar
- Lucy's Boutique & Alterations
- Moez and Marissa Kassam Foundation
- Nexgen Aviation Ltd.
- SmartStop Self Storage
- Yellow Robot Creative/Marking & Communications/Events



Together, we can transform patterns of poverty into legacies of empowered prosperity.

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS



...WINNERS CIRCLE



Congratulations **Mark Barr**, who won the **Keys to Affordable Housing**, and unlocked a new front door!



Susie Diamond won the **Wine Not Play** game taking home a case of **Gargoyle Wine Club** wine and a **flight** with **Callum Wallace** in his single-engine plane

TAKE THE SURVEY

Help us understand you!

We sent out a survey to understand what our community might like to see, or not see, at a future gala... to date a third of respondents hated the food, the drink options, the speeches and the games; one-third thought all of those things were 'meh' (neither terrible nor good) and the remaining third thought they were all amazing!!!!

We would like to be able to make some evidence-based decisions here at HSH so if more of you can fill out the survey we'd be so appreciative!

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)



Congratulations to **Lisa Somers**, who won the **ClaraDerma Spa package**.

PARTICIPANT UPDATE



PARTICIPANTS DAZZLED AT THE GALA - THANKS TO LUCY'S BOUTIQUE

Home Suite Hope participants were dazzling as they mingled with other guests at HSH's inaugural Home For Good Gala November 10 at The Pearle Hotel & Spa in Burlington.

The event launched HSH's Affordable Housing Campaign that looks to create more affordable housing in Halton.

Participants' gowns - in addition to fittings and alterations - were provided by **Lucy's Boutique & Alteration**. Lucy's Boutique is located in Kerr Village.

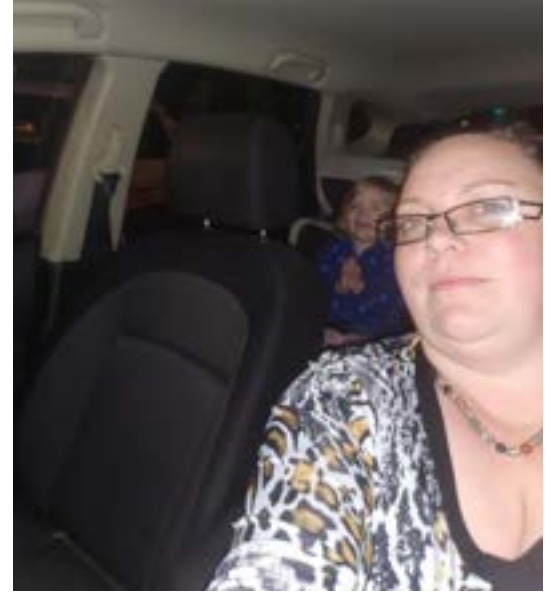
lucy's
boutique

Build a brighter future with Home Suite Hope - Break free from poverty's grip.

PARTICIPANT UPDATES

ON THE ROAD TO CHANGE

Kathleen is on track to graduate in December of 2024 from Humber College's Condominium Management Program. Ahead of that milestone, Kathleen recently obtained her licence and was able to purchase a car, which will greatly help with transportation and reduce her commute time, allowing her to spend more time with her daughter. It will also enable her to access more community resources.



SOS: HSH NEEDS YOUR HELP

While two HSH participants were able to obtain employment in their chosen field prior to graduation, we have two amazing graduates, one from **Computer Programming** and one from **Systems Technician Software Engineering**, who are currently job searching. If you have any leads, please reach out to HSH Program Manager Nikkian Hanson at NikkianH@homesuitehope.org

PARTICIPANTS REFLECT ON HSH

Home Suite Hope featured 10 participants in a new video that premiered at the Home For Good Gala. It has since been featured on our social media channels to support the need for more affordable housing in Halton.

[Watch the video](#)



Unlocking potential, transforming lives: HSH is here for families in need

HomeSuiteHope.org

Mailing Address
1-200 North Service Rd. W. #424
Oakville, ON L6M 2Y1

HOPE FOR HOLIDAYS 2023

HSH ANNUAL HOLIDAY CAMPAIGN GETTING STARTED

Home Suite Hope is holding its annual **Hope 4 Holidays 2023** campaign for the holidays.

This campaign connects HSH's single parents and their children with the community through the spirit of giving.

There are several ways to get involved:

Sponsor a Family

People have stepped up to sponsor families by purchasing and donating items on their wish lists.

View the lists, at www.homesuitehope.org. Gifts will be purchased and dropped off at our office and then volunteer gift wrappers from Mondelez GTA Team will then take over wrapping duties and the gifts will be distributed to HSH families at the annual Hope 4 Holidays celebration in mid-December where families' children will receive toys from the Oakville Professional Firefighters' Toy Drive - and a visit from Santa!

Donate Household & Personal Hygiene Items

Please consider donating much-needed household and cleaning products and/or personal hygiene products. Donations can be dropped off at our office.

Donate Grocery & Gas Gift Cards

Please also consider donating funds for our most-used gift cards for gas and groceries. Gift cards can be dropped off at our office or donated online at [CanadaHelps](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/home-suite-hope-shared-living-corp/) (<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/home-suite-hope-shared-living-corp/>) and earmarked for Home Suite Hope Gift Cards/Hope 4 Holidays.

For information, contact HSH Program Manager Nikkian Hanson at nikkianh@homesuitehope.org

Thank you for sharing your holiday spirit with our single parents and their families!



Creating lasting change, one family, one step at a time. Choose Home Suite Hope

HSH: FUNDING NEWS

HSH IN OAKVILLE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S GIVEOAKVILLE

From November 13 until December 11, Home Suite Hope is part of the **Oakville Community Foundation's GIVEOakville** campaign, an online crowd-funding platform where donors can support their favourites through one all-access platform. 100% of your donation will come to us PLUS your donation is eligible to be topped-up by the Foundation. [Donate today](https://www.theocf.org/giveoakville/home-suite-hope/): <https://www.theocf.org/giveoakville/home-suite-hope/>



HSH PARTICIPATED IN GIVINGTUESDAY NOV. 28



Home Suite Hope celebrated **GivingTuesday**, joining millions around the world participating in the global generosity movement on November 28. Supporters were able to donate on the day to HSH through CanadaHelps, but you can donate to us any day through our page at [CanadaHelps](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/home-suite-hope-shared-living-corp/impact/view/) (<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/home-suite-hope-shared-living-corp/impact/view/>)



A CALL TO ACTION

HSH's single parent families need your help.

HSH put out a **Call to Action** for **grocery gift cards**. HSH provides wrap-around support for our single-parent families as they and their children attend school. This support includes the provision of grocery gift cards, which can help with the cost of the monthly grocery bill.

With grocery bills being significantly impacted by recent inflation, this support is needed more than ever.

Please consider donating through [CanadaHelps](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/home-suite-hope-shared-living-corp/impact/view/) (<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/home-suite-hope-shared-living-corp/impact/view/>) and earmark the funds for grocery gift cards. HSH uses the funds to purchase gift cards, those for Metro and Walmart being the most used. Thank you!

HSH STAFF UPDATES:

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FORUM



HSH Director of Operations Catherine Villasenor attended a November 15 Roundtable in Stoney Creek for local non-profit housing agencies.

Hosted by Hamilton East-Stoney Creek MP Chad Collins, HSH was invited by Burlington-North Oakville MP and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Pam Damoff. Among the stakeholders invited to share their perspectives were HSH, Mission Services, Indwell, Good Shepperd, Kiwanis, New Horizons Development Group and YWCA Hamilton.

Open dialogue on key housing concerns focused on issues such as: obstacles in developing new housing in non-profit sector; meeting housing requirements in both the short and long-term; improving cooperation between various levels of government and sectors; and, opportunities and

next steps. The political representatives invited included: Burlington MP Karina Gould, Burlington-North Oakville MP Pam Damoff, MP Chad Collins, Hamilton West—Ancaster —Dundas MP Filomena Tassi and Hamilton Mountain MP Lisa Hepfner.

NIKKIAN EARNS NOMINATION

HSH Program Manager Nikkian Hanson has been nominated for **Future of Good's 2024 Young Impact Leaders Award**, presented by **RBC Future Launch**.

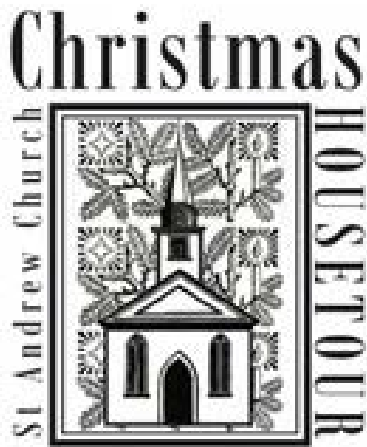
Young professionals have been navigating uncertain economic times and trying to make headway on their careers. Despite the challenges, these young leaders, aged 20 to 39, bring passion and innovation to the forefront of social change and have been doing impressive work in environmental conservation, global cooperation, and creating meaningful programs and services.



Future of Good is a fast-growing digital publication that covers stories, innovations, and trends shaping social impact in Canada across a wide array of topics — including giving and philanthropy, social finance, Indigenous innovation, global economic development, young leadership shaping social impact, the social effects of the pandemic, mental health, the business of reshaping capitalism, and more. Nikkian will find out in January 2024, if she is selected as a finalist. Congratulations Nikkian on your nomination!

IN THE COMMUNITY:

ST. ANDREW'S CHRISTMAS HOUSE TOUR



HSH is one of the beneficiaries of ticket sales from **St. Andrew Church, Oakville's 21st Biennial Christmas House Tour** on December 1 & 2, 2023.

The Tour of eight beautifully decorated Oakville homes is a much-anticipated community event in the GTA and organizers expect to sell more than 1800 tickets after the last edition sold out.

Volunteer hosts manage the homes during the weekend tours and HSH's representatives include **Board Member Emma Jarrett, Executive Director Sara Cumming, Director of Operations Catherine Villasenor** and **Caseworker Haley Weber**.

Other tour beneficiaries include Oakville's Fareshare Food Bank and Food for Life. Thank you to Lori, Sheila and the entire St. Andrew's Christmas House Tour Committee and volunteers!

INTEGRICON GROUP HOLIDAY DRIVE

HSH is grateful to **Integricon Property Restoration and Construction Group Inc.**, based in Vaughan, for hosting a Holiday Drive for Home Suite Hope.

Embracing its core value of caring, Integricon Group is committed to supporting Home Suite Hope this holiday season. Integricon Group is a one-stop provider for complete restoration of property and 24/7 Emergency Restoration.

Employees attending the firm's Holiday Lunch December 7 will be bringing their appetite, holiday cheer and a variety of household and cleaning supplies as well as personal hygiene items to donate to HSH. These items are among the most expensive on the grocery bill and are always needed. At the holidays, HSH participants receive a holiday sack filled with such items in addition to their holiday gift packages.



Thank you to everyone at Integricon for sharing the holiday spirit with HSH's single parents and their families.

IN THE NEWS: HSH IS ON CBC



Our Toronto -
November 18, 2023



Our Toronto -
November 18, 2023

Home Suite Hope was featured on **CBC's Our Toronto** on November 18.

HSH was featured on the weekly show that covers the stories and people the city is talking about - the segment hosted by Talia Ricci.

Check out the coverage.

<https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2284829251555>



Sheridan



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