

### MAY 2026

- Asian Heritage Month
- Jewish Heritage Month
- May 1 – Beltane and Samhain (Wicca/Pagan; May Day; International Worker’s Day)
- May 1 – Visakha Puja – Buddha Day (Buddhism)
- May 5 – National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (Red Dress Day)
- May 3 – Chongmyo Taeje (Confucian)
- May 10 – Mother’s Day
- May 17 – International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHO) (Fondation Émergence)
- May 18 – Victoria Day
- May 21 – World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (UN)
- May 23 – Declaration of the Bab (Baha’i)
- May 24 – Pentecost (Christian)
- May 26 – Eid al Adha (to May 30) (Islam)
- May 29 – Ascension of Baha’u’llah (Baha’i)

# MAY 2026

Lives permanently changed for the better

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING



On April 17, partners and community leaders celebrated the groundbreaking of a new affordable housing development at **17 Guelph Street in Georgetown** – an important milestone in addressing housing need in Halton Hills. The project, led by **Homestarts** in collaboration with **Home Suite Hope**, will deliver a 12-unit affordable rental building designed to support low- to moderate-income households. Pictured from left, **HSH Caseworker Haley Weber**, **HSH Executive Director Dr. Sara Cumming**, **HSH Interim Director of Operations Nikkian Hanson-Daley** and **Caseworker Dayna Ramawad** at the event.

## TICKETS TO HIGH TEA FOR HOPE

**HSH’s High Tea for Hope** is set for **Thursday, May 21** at **Narenj** in Oakville. Get your tickets before they’re sold out! Don your spring best, sample some tea and indulge in a bingo game or two. Don’t miss out!

[Purchase Tickets to High Tea for Hope](#)



# PARTICIPANT NEWS

## BOWLING WITH BOARD, IC & STAFF



**HSH** participants met up with **HSH Board** members, **Industry Council** representatives and **HSH staff** members in early April for a **Bowling Social** at Burlington Bowl that proved to be a fun adventure for all those who attended. Socials are regular events planned and hosted by the **HSH Program Team** to connect program participants with community supporters for networking, support and fun.



# HSH BREAKING GROUND

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN HALTON



On April 17, partners and community leaders gathered to celebrate an important milestone in addressing housing need in **Halton Hills** - the groundbreaking of a new affordable housing development at **17 Guelph Street in Georgetown**. Led by **Homestarts**, in collaboration with **Home Suite Hope**, the project will deliver a 12-unit affordable rental building designed to support low- to moderate-income households. Through this partnership, Home Suite Hope will secure five of the units —



comprised of both two- and three-bedroom homes — dedicated to single mothers and their children, ensuring not only access to safe, stable housing, but also the wraparound supports necessary for long-term success.

The event brought together the Mayor of Halton Hills and several members of Council, and leadership from both organizations, including the Executive Directors of Homestarts and Home Suite Hope, as well as Halton Region and MP Kristina Tesser Derksen, underscoring the strong municipal and community commitment behind the project. Once complete, the development will remain affordable over the long term and will serve as a critical piece of local housing infrastructure — creating pathways out of homelessness for families while strengthening the broader system by increasing the supply of deeply affordable units paired with supports.



# HIGH TEA FOR HOPE MAY 21



## Give the Gift of an Experience This Mother's Day

**S**kip the usual gift and give her something she'll truly remember. **High Tea for Hope** is a beautiful evening out with a meaningful purpose — the perfect Mother's Day gift for a mom, grandmother, daughter, friend, or anyone who deserves to be celebrated.

Join us for an elegant spring-inspired night of high tea, connection, bingo, prizes, and special moments, all in support of single-parent families working toward stability and independence through Home Suite Hope.

Every ticket helps fund the wraparound supports families need to move from homelessness to hope — including housing, education, and employment pathways.

**Date: Thursday, May 21, 2026**

**Time: 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM**

**Location: Narenj Oakville, 131 Kerr St.**

**Tickets: \$100**

**Dress Code:** Garden party/Spring chic  
Feel free to embrace the elegant atmosphere and  
dress up for the evening!

Seats are limited, so reserve yours early and give a gift that feels good in every way.

[Purchase tickets to High Tea for Hope](#)

# STAFF NEWS

## UW GOLDEN HORSESHOE GALA

On April 15, 2026, **HSH Interim Director and Program Manager Nikkian Hanson-Daley** and **Caseworker Dayna Ramawad**, attended the **Waves of Impact Gala** hosted by **United Way Golden Horseshoe**.

The event brought together members of the community to celebrate the collective impact of individuals and organizations who continue to show up for one another and strengthen the region. This annual gala recognized the outstanding contributions of donors, volunteers, workplaces, and community partners from across Halton and Hamilton, who together helped raise an impressive \$12 million. These funds will directly support critical programs and services for families and individuals throughout the community.

A United Way Supported Agency



## HENDERSON PARTNERS: DRESSED FOR SUCCESS



Throughout April, the team at **Henderson Partners LLP** received 'shopping lists' — sizes, job descriptions and more — for HSH participants and then set to work collecting and donating employment-related clothing items to assist our single parent clients attend job interviews and begin employment dressed for success.

On April 29, **HSH Caseworker Haley Weber** attended the Henderson offices to pick up the donations to be distributed to our single parents — and to offer HSH's deep appreciation for their efforts.

# STAFF UPDATES

## OAKVILLE CHAMBER ROUNDTABLE CHAT

**HSH Executive Director Sara Cumming** participated in a **Not-for-Profit Roundtable** hosted April 16 by the **Oakville Chamber of Commerce** and its **President & CEO France Fournier, former HSH Board Chair.**

The roundtable discussion event brought together a large group of nearly two dozen local not-for-profit leaders for a candid, peer-to-peer conversation with the goal of gaining a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities shaping the not-for-profit sector.

The event was hosted at Cogeco in Burlington.



## THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT!



**HSH Executive Director Sara Cumming** attended a community networking event hosted by the **Zonta Club of Oakville** April 20 in Glen Abbey.

Club members, led by **Service Chair Cheryle Gallant**, presented HSH with a \$4,375 cheque in support of food and transportation costs for HSH program participants. **HSH Caseworker Kennedy Apold** accompanied Sara at the event where local charities receiving funding were able to share information about their organization and its work in the community.

Zonta is an international organization that focuses on advancing the status of women and girls through service and advocacy. The organization works to empower women by promoting education, advocating for equal rights, and addressing issues such as gender-based violence. HSH is extremely grateful for the ongoing long-time support of this local service club.



# CHEERS TO VOLUNTEERS

## VOLUNTEERS DELIVER FOR MOTHER'S DAY

**National Volunteer Week 2026** in Ontario and across Canada was **April 19–25, 2026**. This year it celebrated the theme '**Ignite Volunteerism**' to highlight the power of civic participation.

That spirit was on full display once again this month as we prepared for our **upcoming Mother's Day celebrations**.

**Volunteers** are part of Home Suite Hope's daily routine - whether it's through donations, lending a hand at our fundraising events, digging into our community garden Blueberry Fields or answering our call for special requests.

HSH is fortunate to have a volunteer **Industry Council**, a group of senior executives from a variety of fields who support the professional advancement of participants in our programs. We also have dedicated volunteers who serve as HSH's **Board of Directors** to steer the fundraising, governance, finance and human resources of HSH.

Mostly recently, volunteers from across the community answered our call for volunteer drivers to deliver a special **Mother's Day treat** for our single parent moms.

The **United Way Golden Horseshoe** donated the treats and these special volunteers will be delivering them for Mother's Day.

**HSH Executive Director Sara Cumming** is also set to speak to a group of United Way Golden Horseshoe volunteers May 6 as they work on putting these special deliveries together.

Cheers to a real community effort from these volunteers and **Happy Mother's Day** to our program participants.



A United Way Supported Agency



# THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS



## RAISE FOUNDATION DELIVERS FOR HSH

**Raise Recruiting** team members, working in conjunction with **Kits for a Cause**, took time to research, purchase, pack and donate personal hygiene and household cleaning products for HSH participants.



After purchasing the goods, they packaged them into care kits and then delivered to HSH.

In 2017, Raise launched the **Meaningful Work Foundation** to increase its non-profit capacity and make giving part of the DNA. Every year, 10 percent of Raise Recruiting's profits are given to organizations that work to break down barriers to employment. Since 2019, Raise has provided almost \$1 million to 44 charities around the world that are actively working to remove barriers to work.



Raise's mission is to "connect people in meaningful work" so that it realizes its vision that one day the 20 percent of people who love their jobs will become the 80 percent — and the world will be a different place. Meaningful Work grants further support that mission.

# PROGRAM FUNDING UPDATE

## TRILLIUM FUNDING EXTENDS

### PATHWAYS FORWARD BEYOND PILOT STAGE



An agency of the Government of Ontario  
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

Home Suite Hope (HSH) is known for its signature **Homeward Bound Halton** program. This program houses and stabilizes single parents and their families as they face homelessness or precarious housing.

After stabilizing a family with housing, child care and wraparound support, it moves a single parent into a two-year diploma program through a bursary at Sheridan College and offers employment support after graduation to facilitate employment and a transition to self-sufficiency.

One of HSH's newest programs is **Pathways Forward**. This program serves single mothers and single fathers who need assistance stabilizing in housing while pursuing employment opportunities through routes other than college, such as employment, micro credentials or re-skilling.

While its pilot was made possible through a grant from the **Robert Kerr Foundation** and the **Halo Fund, a division of the Minto Foundation**, it has now received funding to continue past the pilot stage thanks to funding from the **Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF)**.

This is a Grow Grant across three years for a total \$285,400.

For more information, visit [HomeSuiteHope.org](https://www.HomeSuiteHope.org)

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## PATHWAYS FORWARD



Pathways Forward is a **one-year program** by Home Suite Hope supporting single-parent families in Halton Region to achieve stable housing, wellness, and meaningful employment.

### Who is Eligible?

- ✓ 18 years of age or older
- ✓ Single parent with up to three dependants
- ✓ Motivated to pursue employment, education or training opportunities
- ✓ Able to work in Canada or receive income supports
- ✓ Able to maintain stable housing (\*with or without a subsidy)
- ✓ \*Participants receiving a housing subsidy must live within Halton Region

### Program Outcomes

- ✓ Stable and secure housing
- ✓ Improved mental wellness and life stability
- ✓ Enhanced life and financial management skills
- ✓ Greater connection to community supports
- ✓ Increased access to employment and training opportunities
- ✓ Higher household income and long-term independence

### Program Supports

Participants in Pathways Forward receive access to a range of individualized supports, including:



905.339.2370



Programs@HomeSuiteHope.org



HomeSuiteHope.org

# FUNDRAISING UPDATES

## HOME DEPOT SUPPORTS HSH

**H**SH has just received word that it has been selected as a charity partner recipient of the **Home Depot Canada Foundation's Orange Door Project**. HSH was at an April 30 kick off for the campaign that will run across all 182 Home Depot stores in Canada. This initiative supports local charities across Canada to combat youth homelessness by providing housing and life skills programs. Customers can donate at checkout in-store or online.



The Foundation has a goal to invest \$125 million by 2030, to prevent and end youth homelessness in Canada. Its commitment focuses on enabling systemic change through investing in expanding stable housing for youth, providing quality wrap-around community supports, and increasing youth employment readiness. Despite ongoing community efforts, youth homelessness continues to be on the rise in Canada. Homeless youth make up approximately 20% of the homeless population in Canada, meaning each year at least 35,000-40,000 young Canadians have no place to call home. They need a safe place to live. They need access to support services that will help them develop positive life outcomes.



## COUNTRY ROADS TAKE ME HOME JUNE 14



### FAMILY FUN AT THE RANCH

**J**oin HSH for a family-friendly, country-themed fundraising celebration featuring live music, line dancing lessons, a southern barbecue and kids' activities.

This heartwarming community event will bring together neighbours, families and businesses - all in support of housing stability for single-parent families in need.

Watch HomeSuiteHope.org and our social media for full details to be released soon.

# HOUSING UPDATE

## HOUSING: MEETING AT OAKVILLE TOWN HALL



### Recommendation Meeting for a Proposed Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment

#### Meeting information

You are invited to attend a public meeting under the *Planning Act* to share your comments on the proposal. The purpose of this meeting is to provide a recommendation to approve the applications will be made at this meeting. You can attend the meeting online or in person.

**Meeting date:** Monday, May 4, 2026  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Council Chamber, Town Hall  
1225 Trafalgar Road

(See instructions on how to participate on next page).

The **Town of Oakville** has now scheduled the Recommendation Meeting for the **Post Residences Inc.** applications for **Monday, May 4, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.**

Thank you for your continued support of Post Residences and for the confidence you have shown in the vision for this project.

Your engagement has helped us bring forward a model that is not only 100% affordable, but also grounded in partnership, community integration, and long-term housing stability.

As we move toward this next step in the approval process, it would be very helpful to continue demonstrating the breadth of community support behind the project. Participation at the May 4 meeting as a delegate would be very valuable.

Please register at <https://www.oakville.ca/delegation-request-form/>

**Blake Hampton-Davies, HSH Board Member**

**Site location:** 1493 Sixth Line. Lands are located on the east side of Sixth Line, south of Upper Middle Road. (See the site map on next page).

**Applicant:** Post Residences Inc.  
**File No.:** OPA1515.24 and Z.1515.24  
**Ward No.:** 5

**Planner on file:** Sara Hajsaleh  
**Email:** [sara\\_hajsaleh@oakville.ca](mailto:sara_hajsaleh@oakville.ca)  
**Phone:** 905-845-6601 ext. 3273  
**Address:** 1225 Trafalgar Rd, Oakville, ON L6H 0H3

#### What is proposed?

The purpose and effect of the applications is to permit the development of a six-storey mixed-use residential building with a daycare facility on the ground floor together with surface and underground parking, and protection of the Natural Heritage System.

#### How to participate/How you can share your views

You must attend in person to speak at the meeting.

#### Read the staff report:

The report includes details of the proposal. It is made available for review on the town's website at [oakville.ca](http://oakville.ca) by searching the file number or visiting "Agendas & Meetings" the Friday before the meeting.

#### Find more information

To learn more about the planning process, visit [oakville.ca](http://oakville.ca) and search "Building, Planning & Development Guide".

To review the submission materials search "1515.24" on [oakville.ca](http://oakville.ca) for more information on the project webpage or scan this QR code:



#### Site map:



#### Review the supporting material:

The reports, studies and plans submitted by the proponent are available to review on the project webpage (For more information on the project webpage see first page).

#### Related applications:

Currently there are no other developments applications affecting the subject lands.

#### Provide written comments:

We welcome your views. To provide a written comment to be presented to Council or if you wish to be notified of the decision of the Town of Oakville on this matter, you must make a written request to the Town Clerk at the Town of Oakville, Clerk's department, 1225 Trafalgar Road, Oakville, ON L6H 0H3 or at [TownClerk@oakville.ca](mailto:TownClerk@oakville.ca). The personal information accompanying your submission is being collected under the *Planning Act* and may form part of the public record which may be released to the public.

#### Speak at the public meeting:

To speak at the public meeting, you must register and share any presentation materials in advance:

Register before noon on the day of the meeting at <https://www.oakville.ca/delegation-request-form/>; or, Contact the Clerk's Department at 905-815-8015 on the last business day before the meeting to register as a delegation and to obtain instructions on how to participate.

If you have presentation materials, submit them to the Town Clerk at [TownClerk@oakville.ca](mailto:TownClerk@oakville.ca).

All speakers have 10 minutes to present.

Please be aware that all meetings are recorded live and available on online at <https://www.youtube.com/user/TownofOakvilleTV>.

#### Watch the public meeting online:

To watch the meeting live, or to view a previously recorded meeting, please visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/TownofOakvilleTV>

#### Legal notice

You are not required to participate. However, only those persons and public bodies that submit comments or speak at the public meeting may be allowed to appeal the decision of Town Council on this proposal.

If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of Town of Oakville Council to the Ontario Land Tribunal, but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town Clerk before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted and zoning by-law amendment is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submission to Town of Oakville Council before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted and zoning by-law amendment is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a part to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

For accessibility support, please contact the planner on file one week before the meeting.

This notice was issued on April 20, 2026.

# HOMEOWNERS INVITED

## A special invitation to Homeowners and Faith Leaders!

The single mothers and their children supported by Halton Women's Place and Home Suite Hope are in need of safe secure and affordable housing. Haven to Home is an initiative focused on housing solutions for the families they serve!

By-laws in Burlington and throughout Halton Region are evolving to allow more housing on existing residential properties and faith properties!

Could your backyard or under-utilized land be a future home to one or more of our families?

Please join us in person on Monday, May 11, 2026 at Port Nelson Church 3132 South Drive in Burlington L7N 1H7 from 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM (doors open at 6:30 PM) and discover how you can benefit from these new zoning and by-law allowances!

### Homeowners:

You can now create up to three legal Additional Residential Units (ARU's) on your property! New enhancements to these allowances give you more choices than ever before. Find out how these options can be solutions to aging in place; meeting your family's affordable housing needs (rental and ownership); and/or provide homes for the families our agencies support!

You grow the equity of your property, generate positive monthly cash flow and help to create more diverse and vibrant neighbourhoods!

### A new home in a Burlington backyard!



**38 homes for seniors built on an empty parking lot!**

### Faith Leaders:

Studies suggest one third of the 27,000 faith properties in Canada could close in the next decade (SFU Renewable Cities Report). Creating multi-unit homes on your property(ies) could provide a new revenue stream and mission to grow your congregation in meaningful and sustainable ways! Join us to discover how faith groups from coast to coast have created housing on their properties and met and exceeded their expectations! Perhaps some of the housing you create will provide homes for the families we serve!

This free event is being facilitated by the Halton Faith Network on Monday, May 11, 2026 from 7-9 PM at Port Nelson Church, 3132 South Dr, Burlington L7N 1H7

Please RSVP at [HaltonFaithNetwork@gmail.com](mailto:HaltonFaithNetwork@gmail.com) or by calling 416-459-2730.

We look forward to everyone attending this innovative information session! See you there!!

# COMING UP IN JUNE

## BLUEBERRY FIELDS SET TO CELEBRATE

To celebrate its 10th Anniversary, **Blueberry Fields** - Home Suite Hope's Community Garden - which operates at the **Upper Oakville Shopping Centre**, is hosting a celebration and picnic on Saturday, June 20 from noon to 4 p.m.

HSH staff will be present at the celebration (a true community effort thanks to a Town of Oakville Community Activation grant to present the event).

HSH will be there with an information booth to help raise awareness of the garden in the community, thank volunteers and recruit more volunteers. There will be food, free seedling and seed giveaways, an activity table for children, garden tours and gardening advice.

We hope to see you there!

The garden, established and loved by the late **Ken Stockstill**, is located behind the Upper Oakville Shopping Centre at Eighth Line and Upper Middle Road in Oakville.

It is staffed by volunteers under the watchful eye of **Volunteer Coordinator Ruth Borst**.

Those interested in helping out at the garden can contact Ruth through [volunteers@homesuitehope.org](mailto:volunteers@homesuitehope.org) or request to volunteer on the shopping centre's website. Volunteers prepare, care for and then harvest the garden. Foods harvested are transported to **Kerr Street Mission** where they are available to **HSH** program participants, **KSM** clients and the community.



# HSH IN THE COMMUNITY

Light a Candle,  
Light a Way



**SPRING COLLECTION  
NOW LIVE!**

With every candle you purchase,  
\$1 is donated to support single  
parents & their children.  
Because when you light a candle,  
you light a way for someone in  
need.

HOME SUITE  
**HOPE**

&

Koa & Kind

[Join Koa & Kind's newsletter](#)



Sheridan



*CHANGING THE PATTERNS OF POVERTY TO A LEGACY OF PROSPERITY*