

# JANUARY 2024

*Creating lasting change,  
one family, one step at a time*

## JANUARY 2024

January 1 – New Year’s Day

Gantan-Sai (New Year’s)  
(Shinto)

January 5 – Twelfth Night  
(Christian)

January 6 – Epiphany  
(Christian)

January 7 – Nativity of  
Christ (Armenian – Orthodox  
Christian)

January 27 – International  
Day to Commemorate  
Memory of Victims of  
Holocaust (UN)

## HAPPY 2024 FROM HSH



**H**ome Suite Hope’s Board of Directors and Staff wish everyone a Happy 2024. Thanks to an **Ontario Trillium Foundation** grant, HSH will be delivering even more for single-parent families in 2024. *More about what’s coming inside...*



## WAYS OF GIVING 2024

**H**ome Suite Hope helps move single parents and their families from homelessness and poverty to stability through education and employment.

Please find out more about HSH and how you can get involved through

[Ways of Giving 2024](#)

# PARTICIPANT UPDATE



## HOPE FOR HOLIDAYS 2023



Home Suite Hope participants and their children gathered at the Oakville Trafalgar Community Centre joined by HSH Board members, staff, mentors, Industry Council representatives and supporters for the annual **Hope 4 Holidays Celebration**. The party included catered fare and a visit by the Oakville Professional Firefighters - who happened to bring along Santa to distribute the toys donated from the **Firefighters' Annual Toy Drive!**



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

**HomeSuiteHope.org**

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

# HSH AFFORDABLE HOUSING CAMPAIGN

## JOIN HSH TO BRING MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO HALTON

**H**SH's **Home For Good Gala** in early November officially launched its affordable housing campaign.

Welcoming home Oakville pilot **Callum Wallace** whose **Flight for Hope** created

awareness and raised funds to create more affordable housing in Halton opened the door to HSH's three-pillared affordable housing plan.

We are now closer to turning dreams of stable and affordable housing into a reality for more single parent families facing adversity in Halton, said **HSH Executive Director Sara Cumming**, noting HSH encourages others to join us in this meaningful journey towards a future where housing is a fundamental right for all.

HSH has raised more than \$500,000 toward its \$1 million goal and asks others to join us by sharing our story in their networks, donating, or becoming a partner in change.

**Connect with Sara at [SaraC@HomeSuiteHope.org](mailto:SaraC@HomeSuiteHope.org) or 289.213.5787 (direct line)**

**Find out more about HSH's three pillars of affordable housing on our website at [HomeSuiteHope.org](http://HomeSuiteHope.org)**

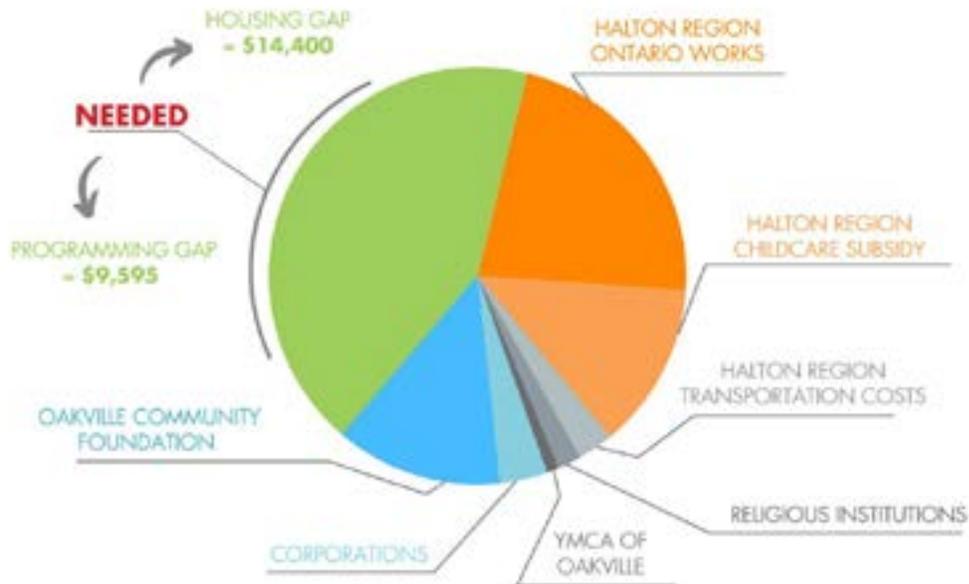
**[Read this on our website](https://www.homesuitehope.org/post/hsh-gala-success-opens-the-door-to-affordable-housing) at <https://www.homesuitehope.org/post/hsh-gala-success-opens-the-door-to-affordable-housing>**

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**THE PARTNERS IN  
CHANGE CAMPAIGN**

# 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**

# PARTNERS IN CHANGE FOR HOUSING

**L**unched 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](mailto:SaraC@HomeSuiteHope.org) or 289.213.5787 (direct line)

# FAMILY SPONSORS



Home Suite Hope is grateful to everyone who supported its **Hope 4 Holidays 2023**.

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

Many sponsored a family's (in some cases more than one) wish lists. Some sponsors wished to remain anonymous, but you know who you are and so do we: thank you.



Others donated personal hygiene and household cleaning products and gift cards and still others helped out in other ways. The **Oakville Professional Firefighters** included HSH as one of the beneficiaries of their annual Toy Drive – and brought Santa to our Hope 4 Holidays Holiday Celebration.

Thanks to **Tara and Toronto's Ruby Wow Designs** for the special gifts for our families. **Aviva Canada** in Oakville and **Euna Solutions** partnered with **Kits for a Cause** and delivered Holiday Survival Kits for each of our families. **The Halton Shoebox Project** also came through with gifts for our families.



**Engel & Völkers**, led by **Peter Kolisnyk**, was generous in donating gift cards for our holiday campaign as was the WoodGreen Foundation. Personal hygiene and household cleaning donations were donated by staff at **Integricon** holiday luncheon. Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who donated via **CanadaHelps** and for the **Winners** gift card donations.



# & DONORS



Among the generous sponsors and donors are:

**Stacey Bean, Family & Friends; Kate Fudge & Family; Sagen; SPINCO Oakville; Karen & Ray Spence; Rebecca Pointon & Family; Clarity Recruitment; Gerry Cumming; Matt & Tracy Holmwood; Brian & Tammy Cumming; Tari Gibson; Hana Carrier; Paul & Josie Angelini ; The U13BB1 Oakville Hornets; Kristi Karens & Family; Leanne Garratt &- Garratt Family; Liz Snell & Family; Jennifer Chambers & Family ; The Cahill, Forde and Herritt Families; Lisa Thompson & Paul Cumpstey; Tony & Traci Howard; Lisa Tracey & Family Tayler Lepage; Tari Gibson; Dan Cooper Real Estate Group; Mondelez Canada Team GTA; Aviva Canada; Euna Solutions; Alex Fin; Ruby Wow Designs; Halton Shoebox Project Oakville Professional Firefighters' Toy Drive; WoodGreen Foundation**



HSH also gives heartfelt thanks to all those not mentioned here by name, some of whom donated anonymously, and all those who gave of their time, talent, or financial support to help brighten this holiday for our participant families. Thank you all for sharing your holiday spirit with our single parents and their families!

# IT'S A WRAP



**T**hank you to the **Mondelez GTA Team, Dan Cooper Real Estate Group, and Kaizen Food Service Planning And Design** for helping with gift wrapping



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

# HSH: FUNDING NEWS

## HSH IS ON THE ROAD

**H**SH is on the road thanks to an **Ontario Trillium Foundation** grant.

The \$58,500 capital grant will address a community need as it helped HSH purchase a truck to offer enhanced program and service capacity and delivery, specifically to homeless single-parent led families.

Whether it be donations or our annual campaigns, HSH faces challenges when it comes to donations and deliveries - often depending on staff or community volunteers.



This grant will significantly boost our ability to serve our participants! It will be used to accept donated furniture and housewares, move equipment and materials to and from community and/or fundraising events, transport fresh produce from the community garden to HSH families - and more. This OTF Capital grant will allow HSH to divert furniture, food and gently-used items from landfill, allowing HSH to engage with donors in a more fulsome way and help create homes our families can be proud of and deserve to raise their children in.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Government of Ontario and one of Canada's leading granting foundations. OTF invests in community projects and partnerships to build healthy and vibrant communities and strengthen the impact of Ontario's non-profit sector.



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

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

# HSH: 2023 IN REVIEW

## WOMEN WELLNESS & WINE

HSH hosted this new event on March 15 at **The Oakville Club** in support of **International Women's Day**, to promote its affordable housing campaign and **Flight for Hope** - and to place emphasis on women's wellness. The successful event drew members of the community as well as HSH participants, Board members, supporters and donors.



## MUDGIRL RUN

HSH Heroines were out in force tackling the mud and more at **MUDGIRL Hamilton 2023** on June 11 in honour of all the brave warriors battling breast cancer - and HSH's Izabel, in particular, who waged and won her own battle with the disease this year.

## GRADUATION

HSH's **2020-2023 Graduation** celebrated its Homeward Bound and Homeward Bound Youth program graduates, who graduated from **Sheridan College** this year and through the COVID-19 years. The first in-person graduation event to be held in several years saw congratulations go to Home Suite Hope 2020-2023 Graduates: **Hongmei, Diamond, Nicole, Churchill, Asha Duncan-Raymond, Shenees, Candice, Jasmine, Shawna & Valedictorian Melissa.**

**Honourable mentions to Aletha, Angelika and Robin.**



# LOOKING BACK ON 2023

## FLIGHT FOR HOPE

In August, Oakville pilot **Callum Wallace** took off in his single-engine plane hoping to make history and to fundraise while increasing awareness about affordable housing. Callum returned triumphant in early October and his official welcome at HSH's inaugural gala launched the new Partners in Change for Housing initiative for HSH.



## EMPTY BOWLS 2023

Home Suite Hope's beloved signature fundraiser returned Sunday, Oct. 15 in its at-home delivery format, **Empty Bowls at Home 2023**. Once again, local restaurateurs, donors and ticket purchasers helped make it another successful edition.

## HOME FOR GOOD GALA WRAPS UP FLIGHT FOR HOPE

HSH's inaugural **Home For Good Gala** not only welcomed home pilot Callum Wallace whose Flight for Hope created awareness and fundraised for affordable housing, but launched HSH's Affordable Housing campaign.

[View the Gala Photo Album](#)



# HSH BOARD UPDATES:

## MEMBERS ATTEND H4H CELEBRATION



Many of Home Suite Hope's Board members joined the annual Hope 4 Holidays celebration - **Ted, Liz, Emma, Julianna and Kevin.**

HSH staff is grateful for the dedication and support of its Board.

## BOARD & STAFF DINNER

HSH Board members joined the staff at a holiday dinner. It was a celebration of the holiday and a chance to get to know one another better.



# HSH STAFF NEWS:

## WELCOME JOVELLE!



**Jovelle Reid** is a new graduate from the Social Service Worker program at George Brown College with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and very excited to join the Home Suite Hope team as Program Coordinator.

In her role, Jovelle will assist the team with program delivery and development, caseworker support, and overseeing community and program partnerships. Jovelle has experience in community outreach and supporting individuals experiencing mental health discord, homelessness as well as food insecurity.

With a strong dedication to creating a safe and welcoming space for whoever she supports, Jovelle is committed to aiding in the empowerment of the HSH participants to achieve their goals and reach a place of security in their lives. In her free time, Jovelle is a cheesecake enthusiast, enjoys exercising and reading short story collections.

As someone who would have wished to have a strong support network like this in my younger years, I am dedicated to working closely with the team to initiate a safe space for participants to reach a place of security. That being said, I cannot wait to meet and work with all of the lovely participants at HSH!

## 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

**H**SH welcomed numerous staff changes across 2023.

**Catherine Villasenor** returned from maternity leave and stepped into the new role of **Director of Operations**. **Nikkian Hanson-Daley** also became the **Program Manager**.

HSH welcomed new **case workers** in 2023 with **Haley Weber** and **Temisha Jacques** on staff by year's end. We congratulated **Katelyn Zaoral**, who moved into a full-time role as **Marketing & Events Coordinator**.

**Sasha McCartney Stevens** spent the year on contract with HSH as our **Life Skills & Project Coordinator**. In December, as Sasha bid farewell, HSH welcomed **Jovelle Reid** as its new **Program Coordinator**.



# STAFF HOLIDAY ADVENTURES



**H**SH staff was fortunate to be treated to a holiday dinner at **Executive Director Sara Cumming's** home followed by a workshop led by Angela at **Chocolate Tales** in Hamilton! It literally added sweet to Home Suite Hope. Staff also participated in a cookie exchange amongst themselves just before the office closed for the holidays.



# IN THE COMMUNITY:

## NEW DONORS & SUPPORTERS



### SUBSCRIPTIONS PAY OFF

Home Suite Hope was one of nine local charities to benefit from new subscriptions made to **Oakville News** in December.

### NEW SUPPORTER STEPS UP

HSH was pleased to be newly supported by the **JTC Heersink Foundation** of Burlington. Thank you to **Toge Heersink!**

## JTC Heersink Foundation



### SO GRATEFUL

Home Suite Hope was grateful to be chosen a beneficiary of the bi-annual **St. Andrew's Christmas House Tour**.

### NATIONAL MEDIA COVERAGE

Home Suite Hope was featured in the media in 2023 - from local stories to the national stage. It was recently featured on **CBC's Our Toronto**. A segment on HSH was on the weekly show that covers the stories and people the city is talking about - the segment hosted by Talia Ricci. [Watch](#)



Sheridan



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