

HOME SUITE
HOPE

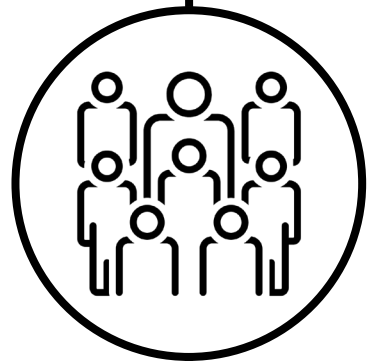
**2020
ANNUAL
REPORT**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TERRITORIES

Halton, as we know it today, is rich in the history and modern traditions of many First Nations and the Métis. From the lands of the Anishinabe to the Attawandaron, the Haudenosaunee, and the Métis, these lands surrounding the Great Lakes are steeped in Indigenous history. We acknowledge and thank the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation for being stewards of the traditional territory upon which this research and programming took place. We are in solidarity with our Indigenous brothers and sisters to honour and respect the four directions, lands, waters, plants, animals and ancestors that walked before us, and all of the wonderful elements of creation that exist.

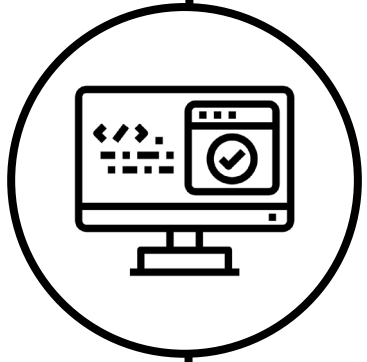
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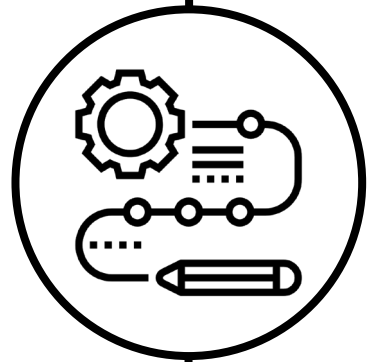
HOW MANY PEOPLE DID WE SERVE?

100 Individuals
34 Parents
49 Children
17 Outreach Clients



HOW MANY PARTICIPANTS WERE ONBOARDED INTO PROGRAMMING WITH HOME SUITE HOPE?

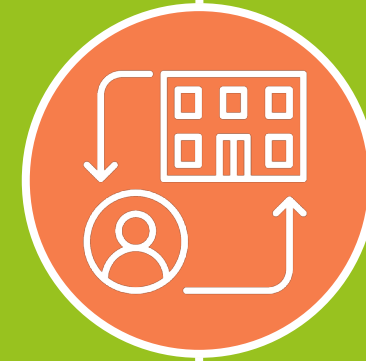
Stabilizing First (year one of HBH):
8 New Families
Homeward Bound Halton-Youth:
4 New Families
Step Forward: 5 New Families
Community Outreach: 17 Outreach Clients



WHAT PATHWAYS DID 2019 STABILIZING FIRST HALTON PARTICIPANTS PURSUE IN 2020?

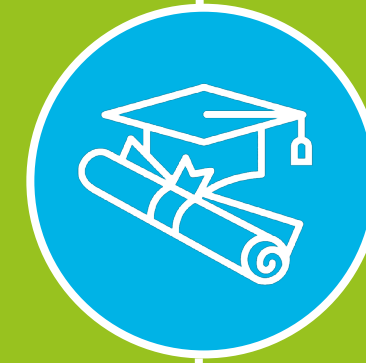
4 of the 6 participants are on track to or have already transitioned into Homeward Bound Halton

2 of the 6 participants completed the program early with increased income through employment and/or supports



HOW MANY ENTERED INTO PHASE 2-4?

3 Participant transitioned into phase 2-4 of Homeward Bound Halton



HOW MANY ACADEMIC GRADUATES?

4 Graduates



HOW MANY HOMEWARD BOUND HALTON PARTICIPANTS COMPLETED PROGRAMMING?

With the difficult and shifting labor markets as a result of COVID-19, all exiting participants were provided a program extension to ensure participants were not leaving the program with precarious housing or employment. Academic graduates continued with completing job searches and were able to complete online training to increase employability during this time.

5 Participants were in Phase 3: Intensive Job Search
100% completed online trainings to increase employment
3 of the 5 participants secured PT or FT employment

A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This marks the third year that I am tasked with writing the overview of the year at Home Suite Hope for our annual report. In 2018, we said that it was a year of transition and renewal as we overhauled every aspect of our programming to provide stronger programming, retention levels, and outcomes. We started the year 2019 renewed and focused. We grew in every way possible—Our Board, staff, number of participants, number of programs and our funding all experienced growth. The upswing was exciting, and we were well positioned for a spectacular 2020 where we predicted outstanding outcomes due to our new programming and interventions and an increase in Homeward Bound Halton participants. Then, COVID 19 hit and we went from moving full force ahead to a quick halt to batten down the hatches. Our sole focus became guarding our participants—some of the most marginalized and isolated community members—and balancing our budget the best we could against predicted losses in fundraising and donations. For Home Suite Hope, 2020 was the year of constant pivots in every element of our work.

The year started with early successes. We introduced a new element to our programming at Home Suite Hope through a one-year pilot program funded by the Halton Region. As a core part of our Homeward Bound Halton programming, we facilitate life skills classes for all participants. The Region had identified that there were individuals who had repeat bouts of homelessness who could benefit from learning life skills to help with maintaining their housing. We hired a full-time Community Outreach Worker, Trina Roiballove, who took over our internal life skills courses, including executing all group facilitations and working with high acuity community members one-on-one.

We launched our **Partners in Change** campaign to match individual and corporate donors to sponsor a family by filling the annual gap of \$9534 in funding to provide full wrap around services. We collaborated with Sharp Storytelling to produce our Journey commercial to help tell the story of our Homeward Bound Halton Program. Our volunteer pool continued to grow as more and more organizations stepped onto our Industry Council with a commitment to help our participants find employment. We were overwhelmed with applications from interested female and nonbinary leaders from Sheridan College who all signed up to mentor our participants throughout programming. In addition, a new volunteer-volunteer coordinator, Kinda Jazeh, stepped up to the plate as Sharon Richardson retired from the position to join our Board of Directors as the Chair of our HR Committee.

We also held a highly successful networking event in partnership with the Burlington Chamber of Commerce called **Adversity—Resilience—Success**. Lisa Lisson, President of FedEx Express Canada, Dr. Janet Morrison, President of Sheridan College, Karina Gould, Minister of International Development, and I spoke to a sold-out breakfast at the Burlington Convention Center about overcoming adversity. Little did we know at that moment how relevant a discussion of adversity and resilience would be in the coming weeks.

Our first stay at home order came into effect in March with all of our participants and their children's schools shutting down, and all of their case managers being sent home. Our staff quickly went into survival mode. We knew that this would be desperately difficult for our participants who live in poverty with little access to resources, technology, transportation and no social supports. We quickly worked as a team to access programs and resources to ensure that our participants were equipped with all their technological necessities so that they, and their children, could complete online schooling. We reformatted all of our programming and case management meetings to become virtual.

We had 5 participants either in job search already, or graduating from school and launching into job search throughout 2020. Due to the unstable economy and massive loss of jobs across the country, we knew that things were going to be even harder than normal for

our employment seekers. Rather than adding anxiety to our participants with a looming deadline to find employment and stop receiving our benefits, we paused employment requirements for a few months and focused instead on offering an array of virtual training opportunities to our participants to build their resumes and certifications.

It became evident that COVID-19 was causing havoc amongst not-for-profits across the country, low-income jobs mainly held by women were experiencing exponential cuts, and that with restrictions to occupancy in all of our shelters, homelessness was on the rise. We rolled up our sleeves at the Board and staff level and went to work with the Halton Region to see where we could step up to the plate. We knew that collaboration was key to getting through this pandemic. Out of these brainstorming sessions, two program shifts came to fruition. A fully Virtual Life Skills course offered through a Learning Management System (LMS) run by our Community Outreach Worker and Step Forward, a program for rapidly rehoused single mother-led families who needed connections to resources, life skills and case management. Leah Burton, part-time Intake Case Worker joined our team as our second full-time Case Manager. At the same time, our long-time employee, Catherine Lucasan was promoted to Program Manager.

We had many successes during this year of constant pivots; we were the successful recipients of an Ontario



Trillium Grant to begin a Homeward Bound Halton Youth program designed to apply our successful Homeward Bound model with modifications to address barriers that young single parents face, such as a lack of a high school diploma. We received funding from the J.P Bickell Foundation to cover the rental subsidies for a portion of the young single parents and partnered with Food for Life to provide food supports and access to food literacy courses to improve food security.

Through the tremendous support of the community, not only were we able to safeguard all of our pre-COVID participants, we increased the number of single parents actively participating in Home Suite Hope specific programming by 17 parents, and began life skills outreach either through one-on-one meetings or in group facilitations with another 17 individuals from across the Region. Despite increasingly challenging obstacles, Home Suite Hope managed to expand to house 34 single mothers under one of our 4 programs; Step Forward, Stabilizing First Halton, Homeward Bound Halton and Homeward Bound Halton Youth, and serve another 17 individuals with Life Skills facilitations.

Despite an ever-shifting reality and the cancellation of

several in person events and so many unknowns, we were able to partner with Food for Life and reimagine our much loved Empty Bowls event to be a virtual event including hand delivered soup kits from local soup, bread and dessert sponsors. Empty Bowls at Home-COVID edition sold out, bringing just over \$74,000 in ticket sales, donations and sponsorships to our Homeward Bound Halton Youth program.

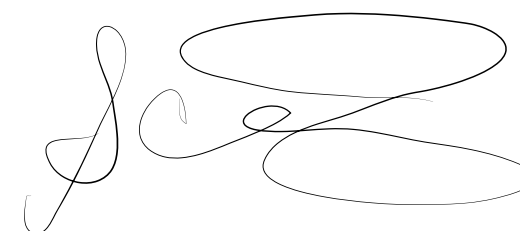
These successes were tempered by tragedies occurring daily as the death toll due to COVID-19 continued to rise, businesses continued to close down, mental health continued to decline and racial divides deepened. As a Sociologist, I have been long committed to being an ally for marginalized and racialized individuals, but the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor incited discussions around the world about racial injustices and the need for real—not performative—allyship. Home Suite Hope took this to heart and embarked on a campaign of education, training and implementation of all that Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity encompasses. We spent part of 2020 in gender, sexuality and anti-racist training to be better equipped to work alongside our diverse participants. We recognize that being a diverse organization in the racial and cultural make up of our staff and participants does not automatically equate to being

inclusive. As a result, we as a staff and the Board of Directors committed to ensuring we keep inclusivity as a driving force in all that we do moving forward.

We began the process of diversifying our Board with 70% of our members being female and 20% racialized, with a commitment to work towards a structure that reflects the breakdown of people we serve. In 2020, we welcomed Sharon Richardson, Navia Sharma and Burhana Bello-Ayorinde to the Board and said goodbye to our Past Chair Sharon Wingfelder and Director Natalie Jamison in 2021. Catherine Meagher stepped off the Board, but we are thrilled to announce that she will continue as our extremely competent Board Secretary.

In 2019, I stated that we showcased great resilience and leapt forward rather than the typical ‘bounce-back’ that typically follows adversity. I am thrilled to report that I am even more confident in our stability and longevity as an organization with life changing outcomes for all our graduates. We left 2020 in a strong financial situation and cautiously optimistic about holding steady for 2021 despite still being in the midst of an unrelenting global pandemic. Our Board met late 2020 to develop a five-year strategic plan that includes growth in the number of people served, number of government, not for profit and corporate partnerships and continued stability in finances—all goals we feel confident that we will continue to achieve with the support of our community. We continue to be committed not to offering a band-aid solution to poverty and homelessness, but to permanently changing lives for the better.

Sincerely,



SARA CUMMING, PhD
HSH Executive Director



HSH PROGRAMMING THROUGHOUT COVID 19: ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS

Despite the ongoing challenges that accompanied the surge of COVID-19 in our world, Home Suite Hope programming remained strong. Not only did our current programs continue to run, without a participant exiting early due to the impacts of the virus, but additional programs were launched; as Home Suite Hope sought to wrap-around members of our struggling community. In 2020, Home Suite Hope started the Homeward Bound Halton-Youth pilot program, the Step Forward Halton Program, and officially launched the Community Outreach, one-on-one Life Skills Training Program. Below provides a brief overview of the programs that are currently in operation at Home Suite Hope:

Stabilizing First Halton: a 1-year stabilizing program to prepare participants to pursue a pathway towards employment, education, and/or training. Includes, life skills training, intensive case management, goal-oriented service plans, a housing rental subsidy, access to subsidized daycare, and wrap-around supports and referrals.

Homeward Bound Halton (HBH): an up to 3-year program obtainable after completing Stabilizing First Halton, that includes a housing rental subsidy, life skills training, college tuition, books, professional development, mentorship and employment support. The HBH program sees education as a pathway to gainful employment, and seeks to support participants throughout their academic journey and in finding full-time employment.

Homeward Bound Halton Youth (Pilot): an up to 4-year program designed to help young parents (ages 17 – 24) finish their secondary school, attend post-secondary, learn life skills, access mentorship and employment support. Participants are also provided with intensive case management, goal-oriented service plans, a housing rental subsidy, access to subsidized daycare, and wrap-around supports and referrals.

Step Forward Halton: an up to 2-year program that provides individuals housed through the Rapid Housing Initiative with intensive case management, life skills programming, community connections, and goal-oriented service plans to maintain housing and increase one's quality of life and community engagement.

Life Skills Workshops: monthly group workshops that cover important life skills such as budgeting, healthy eating, conflict resolution and more. Life skills are open to HSH participants, as well as outside community members seeking to grow in life skills.

One-on-One Life Skills Training: individualized Life Skills Training with a Community Outreach Worker that cover topics such as managing bills, organization, and obtaining identification.

LIVES
PERMANENTLY
CHANGED FOR
THE BETTER.



A STORY OF SUCCESS: MEET CHURCHILL

I left a turbulent marital relationship in the Philippines in my late thirties. The threats, harassment, and bullying were the catalysts of change. I needed to get away and put down some roots for my children. At that time, the only opportunity I could avail was to be a Live-In Caregiver in Canada. I took the opportunity and sacrificed not being there in my children's formative years.

I also left a successful career and professional network I loved. I was a Regional Manager of a big Distribution Center. I handled onboarding and conducted training with every dealer and Branch I managed. I also facilitated both national and regional tradeshows representing the company for architectural and engineering events. I managed vendor relationships (Home Depot Pl., Ace Hardware, Handyman, and other top DIY stores) including sales and marketing activities in my area of jurisdiction.

Taking care of other people's children while leaving my children in the care of others took a toll on me emotionally. Every day, I looked forward to every chance to connect with them despite the 12-hour time zone difference, which meant I had to stay up late because that is when they are awake.

I was working for a minimum wage salary barely able to support myself here, my children overseas, and pay for my lawyer's fees. After two years, I obtained an open permit that made me eligible to work other jobs. To augment my income, I held multiple part-time jobs. I juggled between 2 to 3 odd jobs at a time so I can save to provide for my children's needs and work towards sponsoring them including paying for immigration fees, medical, and their plane tickets. I quickly realized that to improve my situation, I needed to have a Canadian solid foundation which I couldn't possibly do on my own because my international education credentials were not recognized even though I have a University Bachelors' degree and acquired units in Master's in Business Administration.

Following the immigration process, it took me 5 long years to eventually bring my children to Canada as permanent residents. The wait was agonizing. The transition to a new life in a new country and culture, coupled with years of separation, posed another set of challenges. Although I am very happy with our reunion, we faced more hardships - emotionally and financially. One of our biggest problems was not being able to find affordable housing. This led to constantly moving from one place to another and struggling to make ends meet.

During this time, I was actively involved and passionate in various causes and volunteering activities such as the former Milton Red Cross, TV Cogeco, and Halton Multicultural Center (HMC) community outreach programs. These experiences allowed me to establish a social network.

My journey with HSH began when I came across an HSH brochure during one of my visits to HMC as a volunteer. I constantly went there to look for upskilling and reskilling opportunities and housing alternatives. I was desperate to give my son a much better life beginning with a stable and safe place to live while helping him in his struggles to assimilate into a new environment. The changes were so stressful and challenging for him.

HMC was not familiar with the HSH program when I inquired. I was advised to call HSH directly. To make a long story short, I was instructed to do Academic Upgrading in Sheridan for a year or so and was later accepted into Restart Halton. After accomplishing my academic upgrading with excellent grades and attending Life Skills offered by HSH, I was finally accepted into the Homeward Bound Halton Program with full and generous supports with tuition, books, OW and a rental subsidy, mentorship, food assistance, gift cards to help stretch my budget, etc.

The HSH program afforded me the chance to attend Sheridan College and gave me a sense of community, which I would not be able to do on my own. For the first time in my life, I felt I had a real opportunity to succeed. I was able to prioritize my studies without worrying about the financial burden and focused my attention on my son, who rarely saw me for always being out at work. It took off the pressure and encouraged me to concentrate on self-development and finishing my diploma.

HSH also helped my son get an FCT scholarship for his first year and was able to enroll in Software Development Engineering at Sheridan College. He will be in his second year in the Fall semester of 2021.

It is such a life-changing blessing in our lives to be part of this program.

I am overjoyed and pleased with what I have achieved through HSH. I am very confident that my skillsets and competencies will provide me the best possible start in this new chapter of my life. I am extremely excited at the prospect of finding a new job in the field of Human Resources. One thing is for sure, I am proud to be a part of the HSH family that showered glimpses and sparks of hope ...and because of that, I am no longer the single parent who is scared and trying to figure out how to move forward every day. That leap of faith got me where I am and that is because of the people who believed in me.

My overall experiences have taught me to be resilient, steadfast, and gain a renewed positive mindset. This is a valuable program, especially during COVID. I hope HSH can help more single parents experiencing difficulties, particularly those who are at the crossroads, lost, and looking for a better future and clearer direction. They instill that elusive hope in the participants and that will impact our lives forever. The educational and financial support gave me the greatest motivation and faith and the emotional support and mentorship became my greatest strength...and for this, I will be eternally grateful.

To the sponsors, management, vital support services, volunteers, and everyone behind the program, I share my heartfelt gratitude for harnessing my potential. You helped me navigate roadblocks, kept me motivated and on track and ultimately achieve the goal of obtaining a 2-year Business Management in Human Resource diploma.



BUILDING COMMUNITY

Life Skills at the YMCA & Food for Life Donations

In partnership with the Halton Region through the Life Skills Pilot Project, life skills workshops were extended to beyond HSH participants to welcome and serve other low-income community members. Thanks to the YMCA of Oakville, meeting space was available for attendees to come together as a group to learn essential life skills. Each attendee left with a food bag donated by Food for Life filled with yummy fresh produce, meats and dairy products! When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, life skills workshops were held online to continue serving the community.

Scholarship

The 2020 scholarship recipient for the William G. Davis Scholarship went to Madeleine Griffenham-Jones, a hard-working determined young woman. Her mother, a past HSH participant and Madeleine faced many challenges over the years, but with this scholarship, Madeleine will have funds to help pay for her university education as she continues to pursue her passions in History. In catching up with the 2019 scholarship recipient, Geoffrey Gabriel Fornoles, we learned he had started school at Sheridan College and pursuing the Computer Systems Technician – Software Engineering program. He was the 2020 runner up and received a \$500 runner-up gift certificate thanks to St. Jude's Anglican Church.

Backpack Project

With help from WoodGreen Community Foundation and TJX Canada, Home Suite Hope assembled back-to-school gear for 48 children and participants headed to school in September. With the mix of online and in-person learning, backpacks were filled with an array of items to ensure both children and participants were covered. Backpacks included items such as notebooks, pens and pencils, binders, lunch bags, paper, hand sanitizers, masks, and more! Laptops and other electronics were also purchased and provided to support those completing online learning.

Virtual Socials

We may not have been able to spend time together like we normally do. But whether it was a "nailed it or failed it" competition, Paint Night, Zumba classes, a self-care tutorial or Yoga, staff and participants came together to do fun activities and enjoy each other's virtual company. After each social, the virtual platform turned into group conversations where the debate of the best movies and what was the latest binge worthy Netflix show filled the virtual room. It was a space to combat those feelings of isolation and loneliness and just enjoy yourself!

Big Donations!

Families went on a "shopping spree" thanks to the big donations received. A variety of furniture pieces such as end tables, cabinets, lamps, couches, and more were shared by St. Jude's Anglican Church. Participants that moved into their units were set with all the furnishings and other participants were able to add to their homes. Also, employees at Samuel, Son & Co.'s on Appleby Line brought in donations from the company's Cold Weather Drive. Employees delivered the items of gently-used clothes, jackets, boots and shoes, including 200 brand new sweaters! The items were unpacked and displayed in HSH's board room and participants were invited to 'shop.'

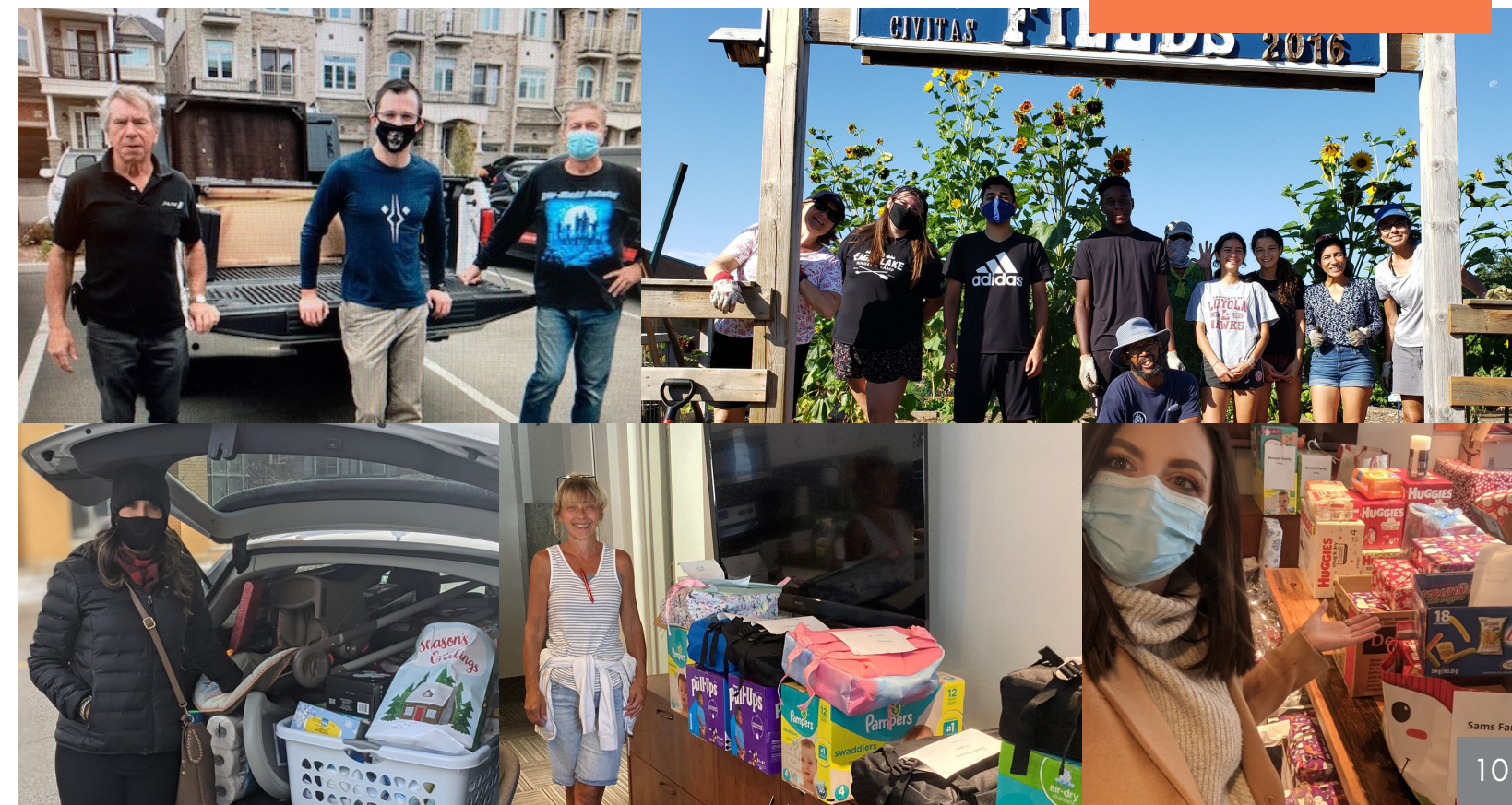
COVID-19 Supports

March came in like a lion this year bringing with it the unknown and unprecedented challenges associated with COVID-19. While HSH staff worked to migrate operations and programming online, the community rallied together to ensure that each family was well supported. Donors and community members answered the "Call to Action" to help provide COVID-19 relief. Gift cards were shared to help with obtaining

food supplies and essentials to stock up and reduce time spent on public transit, funds were provided to upgrade internet speeds and purchase laptops so participants could connect to the newly virtual world of academics and programming, children's activities were shared to help entertain children as participants continued on with their academics, and so much more! Both the Halton Region and the United Way Halton Hamilton stepped up to the plate to ensure our participants and staff were equipped with Personal Protective Equipment. Every need was filled quickly through the support of our community.

Blueberry Fields: Helping with the Harvest

Over the season of growing and harvest, volunteers came forward to tend to the garden. It turned out to be a great outdoor, socially-distanced activity option for families, friends, and corporations such as Ian Martin, Merck, and even the HSH team! The planting, weeding, tending, and sunlight proved itself to be fruitful as beautiful harvests of zucchini, potatoes, lettuce, onions, green beans, and more were collected to share with our families.





BUILDING COMMUNITY CONTINUED

Industry Council

The Industry Council relaunched with new members that represent companies such as First Canadian Title, PwC, Sagen, Fiera Capital, Sodexo, First Ontario Credit Union, WSP, Synergy Design, JTX Inc, Sheridan College, Zare Paralegal and a representative of the medical industry. The council is a group of senior executives and industry professionals that support Homeward Bound Halton participants completing their job search by finding employment opportunities and helping them get job ready. Members also went the extra mile and offered guidance for participants selecting their college course, offered career coaching, provided resources, and so much more! HSH is so thankful to have all their extra support and investment.

Hope 4 Holidays

Not even the pandemic could stop the HSH office getting filled up with presents, donations, treats and self-care goodies for all the families over the holiday season! Through the Hope 4 Holidays sponsor-a-family program, donors got creative sharing gift cards, doing online shopping, and dropping presents off at the office to ensure that all HSH families had their wish lists fulfilled. Community members also shared their generosity of donations of household items and hygiene products to help families stock up and even brought together parent presents, to encourage self-care and relaxation. Lindsay Barry of The Clorox Company also facilitated a large donation from The Clorox Company and Burt's Bees. Before Christmas Eve, staff and volunteers packed their cars to do curbside drop offs to participant's homes with all the donated presents wrapped by May Court of Oakville members and Swiss Chalet dinners with all the fixings donated by Board Member, Natalie Jamison. Participants and their children peeked outside with huge smiles on their faces and with thankful words. Santa Claus and his Firefighter Elves from the Oakville Fire Department joined our families virtually, with personalized videos for all the children in our program.

Inclusivity and Justice

With the events surrounding George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, Home Suite Hope stepped up to be an active ally, working towards inclusivity and justice for racialized individuals. A public declaration was shared with the community, stating Home Suite Hope's commitment and action. Staff and participants completed Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI) training, new sections dedicated to sharing perspectives were added into the newsletter and blog, and the organization began building future plans with action items and goals to further implement EDI values and practices.



UNITING A NETWORK OF VITAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR OUR FAMILIES.



HOME SUITE HOPE IN THE NEWS

While Home Suite Hope was busy sharing new publications of our own, including the three-part series; *Faces of HSH* and *Ways of Giving*, the community shined the spotlight on Home Suite Hope to share all the work and collaborations that had been occurring over the year.

Sara Cumming: Eradicating Systemic Poverty by Lynn Lau, Oakville News

<https://oakvillenews.org/oakville-community-news/sara-cumming-eradicating-systemic-poverty/>

Sara shares her experience as a single parent to help other single parents get an education and escape poverty and homelessness. It was by way of a stranger taking interest in her situation and encouraging her to pursue school. Now with three degrees under her belt, Sara's lived experience and research along with the programming offered at Home Suite Hope is giving single parents a chance to access life changing supports.

Homelessness to Stability: The Journey of HSH Single Parent Families

Home Suite Hope - Infomercial 2020: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zqsK3fgh-4>

HSH released a new video, Homelessness to Stability: The journey of Home Suite Hope single-parent families. The video was produced in collaboration with Sharp Storytelling and portrays how a journey through the Homeward Bound Halton program could look like for families. It is on YouTube and HSH's website.

Ian Martin: Meaningful Work Foundation 2020 Grants & Partnerships

<https://ianmartin.com/ian-martin-meaningful-work-foundation-announces-2020-grant-recipients/>

Ian Martin's Meaningful Work Foundation funded 6 grant recipients in 2020. It was awarded to those that are not only are breaking the barriers to employment, but are also supporting clients with life-saving initiatives throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Home Suite Hope was one of the 6 recipients of this multi-year partnership and was featured in this Ian Martin article.

Toy Drive 2020 Wrap Up

<https://www.oakvillepffa.com/single-post/toy-drive-2020-wrap-up>

The Oakville Firefighters had another year of a successful Toy Drive, where they were able to distribute gifts to 3527 local children and youth! Home Suite Hope was one of the organizations that received some of these gifts. Sara shares in the article, "Holidays are often the most difficult time in our families' lives.... The toy drive allows our families to experience the joy of the Christmas spirit...".

SHERIDAN: CLASS OF 2020

We celebrate the Sheridan graduating class of 2020!

Four graduates virtually "walked across the stage" at Sheridan's online convocation ceremonies. A moment many participants anticipate experiencing, especially on those long nights of working on assignments, studying, and feeling exhausted from attending classes.

We welcome graduates from the following programs:

- Electrical Engineering Technician
- Community Justice Services
- Administration Health Services
- Paralegal

With this new accomplishment under their belts, they will be entering into a year of intensive job searching, the next major milestone in the Homeward Bound Halton program. This portion of the program is focused on updating their resumes and cover letters, applying to available positions, attending interviews, and continuing in engaging and practicing professional development to secure employment.

Congratulations class of 2020!



Graduate: Jasmine Whitehouse



Sasha Gay Hanson

Community and Justice Services

Honours

I dedicate this monumental accomplishment to my mom, you're my ROCK!

Special thanks to my HSH family

I never asked for easy, just possible!

OUR FINANCES

2020 proved to be a very challenging year for everyone. The pandemic made us all rethink our lives and that was no different for us at Home Suite Hope. We re-thought how our participants would be able to access our services. Through a wonderful response from our donor community, we were able to change our programming to be on-line and outfit all of our participants with the technology to assist them cope with their new daily lives.

Donations, grants, fundraising as well as the CEWS all assisted us with financial success so that we can begin to look forward to implementing our Boards strategic plan to serve even more individuals in the coming years.

BALANCE SHEET

	2020	2019
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	324,010	200,609
Accounts receivable	6,108	7,926
Fund investment	250,000	250,000
Prepaid Expenses	2,794	2,446
	582,912	460,981
Property, plant and equipment	15,977	23,282
Investment		
Oakville Community Funds	401,495	391,188
	1,000,384	875,451
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	17,937	24,651
Deferred revenue	82,409	127,722
	100,346	152,373
Net Assets		
Internally restricted	789,000	600,000
Invested in property, plant and equipment	15,977	23,282
Unrestricted	95,061	99,796
	900,038	723,078
	1,000,384	875,451

*To reduce our environmental footprint and paper consumption, we have made our audited financial statements available on our website.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	2020	2019
Revenue		
Donations	282,280	297,625
Fundraising	20,643	64,690
Grants	502,723	317,952
Other	104,752	54,901
Sponsorship	32,500	52,000
	942,898	787,168
Expenditure		
Amortization	10,581	12,343
Fundraising	10,177	21,852
Insurance	1,277	1,277
Margaret Gardens project	-	80,186
Non-recoverable sales tax	4,319	13,852
Office and general	74,074	53,773
Participant support	461,361	327,498
Professional Fees	43,265	38,071
Volunteer Program	12,930	10,380
Wages and Benefits	147,954	121,453
	765,938	680,685
Excess of revenue over expenditure for year	176,960	106,483



AN HSH COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

In 2020, HSH undertook a new communications strategy to expand the ways we reach out to our community. The strategy included an update of our website – www.homesuitehope.org – and the spring 2020 release of a new video/infomercial developed in collaboration with Sharp Storytelling. Our social media – Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn – now feature regular posts and we continue to work on ways to boost our audience reach. HSH’s monthly newsletter grew, including more in-depth content and photos, and is delivered to a growing subscribers’ list. HSH augmented its regular newsletters with special edition publications that included the Faces of Home Suite Hope series and Ways of Giving edition. In March 2020, HSH launched There’s no place like... Home Suite Hope – a blog published weekly to its website, covering a range of subjects, from issues relating to poverty and the need for HSH’s work to highlighting the staff, participants, events and updates related to HSH.

We love getting connected with our community!

Website: www.homesuitehope.org
Facebook: @followHSH
Instagram: @homesuitehope
LinkedIn: Home Suite Hope Shared Living Corp.

HSH TRAININGS, CERTIFICATIONS & AWARDS

With the shift to the virtual world, Home Suite Hope was granted the opportunity to redirect funding to the new ways of learning and training online – and although it was a bit of a shift, we welcomed it with open arms, seeing all the great possibilities for learning opportunities.

With the funds from Oakville Community Foundation, the necessary technology such as laptops and upgraded internet speeds were purchased to ensure all the learning opportunities could be accessible to participants. Then, with the funds from the Peter Gilgan Foundation and the plethora of online learning options, participants were provided access to complete an array of life skills courses and certification trainings.

At the end, various participants completed online training for topics such as budgeting, essential cooking skills, positive parenting, stress management, coping skills and self-care, building self-confidence, and more! Participants in the job readiness and searching phases were given courses to help update skills to ensure they were able to continue building their resumes and were job ready. Some of the courses taken included WHMIS, Office Health & Safety, and Creating a Safe Workplace training.

Staff dove into training modules that included a broad range of topics from Trauma Informed Care; Harm Reduction Approach; Dialectical Behaviour Therapy; Anxiety - Practical intervention Strategies; and CBT training; to, Health & Nutrition; How to Budget / Personal budgeting; Managing Mental Health during COVID-19; as well as Social Media, Microsoft Excel; and, Grant Writing.

Home Suite Hope also incorporated purposeful Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI) training both for staff and participants. Training on gender and sexual diversity, along with anti-racism began and will continue into 2021.

HSH is so incredibly grateful for this reallocation of funding, and to all other COVID-19 supporters that provided donations, materials, and learning opportunities to our participants.

Amidst all the hard work going into the online trainings, we celebrated staff obtaining additional education credentials and were recognized with awards for innovation and contributions to the community.

Educational Credentials

Executive Director, Sara Cumming, spent the pandemic upgrading her credentials with a post-graduate certificate program from Cornell University called Women in Leadership.

Director of Development, Krystal Valencia, earned her CFRE (Certified Fundraising Executive) accreditation.

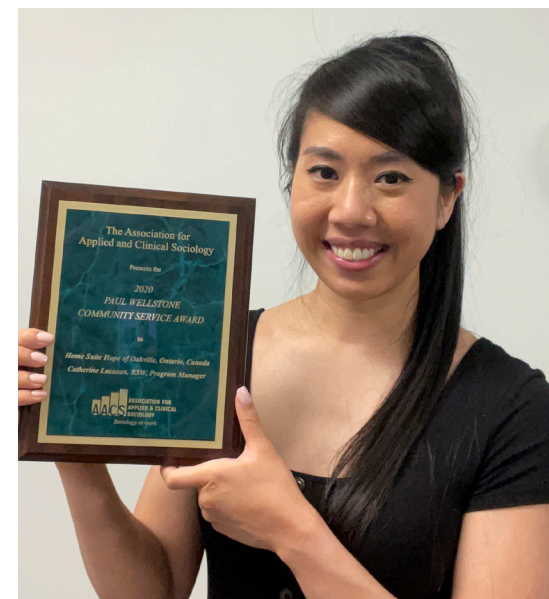
Leah Burton earned her Master’s in Social Work and was welcomed full-time as a Case Manager from her previous part-time role as Intake Caseworker.

Case Manager, Nikkian Hanson, returned to school part-time to further her education in Sociology and Social Work at York University.

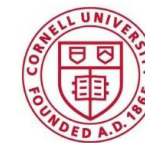
Awards and Accolades

Catherine Lucasan accepted the Paul Wellstone Award on behalf of HSH. The Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology shares this award to recognize individuals and/or an organization’s significant and noteworthy applied sociological contributions in the community served. HSH won by applying evidence-based outcomes to its programming and delivery model, and by continually revising its programming to meet its clients’ needs.

Sara Cumming was awarded the Sheridan SWITCH award and the Canadian Sociological Association Angus Reid Practitioner/Applied Sociology Award for her contributions ameliorating hardships for marginalized individuals in the community.



Cornell University

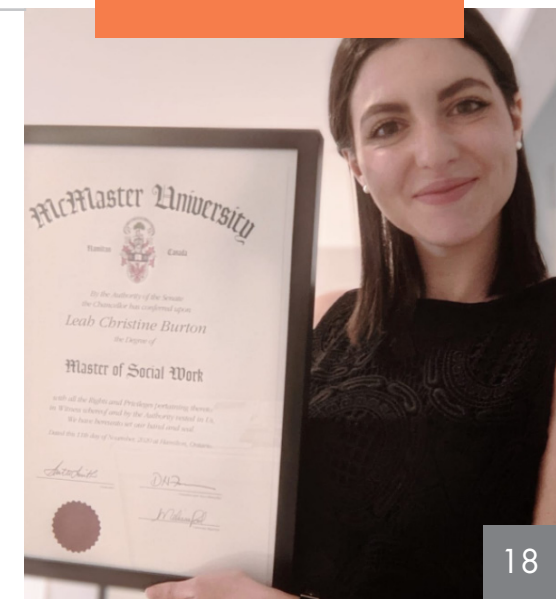


This is to acknowledge that
Sara J. Cumming, PhD
has completed the certificate program entitled
Women in Leadership

This Fourteenth Day of February, 2021
through



Dean
SC Johnson College of Business
Cornell University



THANK YOU

Thank you to all our donors, friends, ambassadors and networks that have given so generously this past fiscal year. Your continual commitment to our participants and their families through donations, grants, in-kind support and fundraisers such as Empty bowls support our families in changing their trajectories from homelessness to self-sufficiency. Every participant who comes to Home Suite Hope works hard to disrupt cycles of poverty—a quest that is only made possible through your gifts.

OUR PARTNERS:



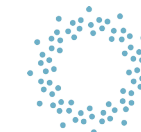
OUR 10K DONORS:



OUR 20K DONORS:



OUR 50K DONORS:



Thanks

From Unsplash



THANK YOU CONTINUED

OUR DONORS (GIFTS 1K +):

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Altruists of Oakville | French, Jodi | Perras, Bill |
| Barr, Mark & Vanessa | Garland, Lisa | Perras, Cindy |
| Belanger, Greg | Greenberg, Alan | Pierpoint, Patricia |
| Boston Pizza Foundation | Hagerman, Kurt | Richardson, Blair & Sharon |
| Bowick, Michael & Peters, Joanne | Halford, Ian | Richardson, Graham |
| Bowman, Ann | Hampton-Davies, Blake & Daniela | Scotia Wealth Management |
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| Coote, Mary | Herring, Glen & Ann | Sims, Lori |
| Cumming, Sara | Jamison, Natalie | Somers, Lisa |
| DiSerafino, Luciano & Mulhall, Stacey | Kim, Yong | St. Judes Anglican Church |
| Dobbie, Gary | Layfield, Susan | Vatcher, Ian |
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| Epstein, Michelle | Martini-Miles, Britta | WSP Canada |
| Eversana | McPherson, Debbie | Young, Elizabeth |
| Fell, Rob & Rebecca | Meaningful Work Foundation | |
| FK Morrow Foundation | Mundy, Kathy | |
| | Palmerio-Mclvor, Liana | |

For a full list of all HSH donors over \$10K+, please visit <https://homesuitehope.org/life-long-donors/>.

OUR IN-KIND DONORS:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Abaton Integrative Medicine | Cavasin, Linda |
| Adair, Avril & Family | Chambers, Jennifer |
| Alliance Dental Specialists | Christoforidis, Rebecca |
| Altruists of Oakville | Close, Celina |
| Amazon | COBS Bread Lakeshore |
| Anand, Anju | Cove Restaurant & Bar Crackpot Studio |
| Anderson, Tammy | Cumming, Taylor & Cathy |
| Angela Bruce IODE Arcena, Kristen | DeNapoli, Shirlene |
| Arcena, Kristen | Dias, Samantha |
| Baillie, Kendra | DiSerafino, Luciano |
| Barry, Lindsay | DiSerafino, Stacey Mulhall |
| Bean, Stacy & Family | Ecclestone, Ted |
| Bell, Kathryn | Engel & Volkers Oakville |
| BFF Group | Epstein, Michelle |
| Blanchard, Amy | FCT |
| Boldt, Ted & Kristine | Festing-Smith, Linda |
| Borndahl, Hilary | Food for Life |
| Boston Pizza, Neyagawa | Fournier, France |
| Burt's Bees | French, Jodi |
| Carrier, Hana | Fudge, Kate & Family |
| Catch Hospitality Group | |

- Gagne, Joanne
 Gayla Matos & Jill MacKeller
 Gillen, Sarah
 Ginter, Jaime
 Hana Carrier Fitness, Hana Carrier
 Hearn, Jean
 Henderson Partners
 Herring, Glen & Ann
 Hider, Alison
 Holmwood, Marlene
 Horvat, Rose
 Hudda, Shamira
 Jamison, Natalie
 Jones, Randy
 Kerr Street Cafe
 Kerr Street Mission
 L3 - Ladies Laughing Loudly Network
 Lang, Paula
 Lavender & Eucalyptus
 Leal, Helen
 Lenworth
 Lichtenheldt, Laura
 Longo's
 Manulife

- Mary Kay Canada & Amy Blanchard
 May Court Club of Oakville
 McPherson, Sarah & Family
 Meagher, Catherine
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 Pulis, Dr. Jessica
 Purse Project of Halton/Waterdown
 Rader, Silvano & Izabel
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 Riddler, Savannah
 Right at Home Halton, Susan Halliday
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 Thompson, Judy
 Thompson, Taniesha
 Tipping, Maureen
 TJX Canada
 Wasylenko Cobb, Tanya
 Watson, Wallace
 Williamson, Kira
 Willis, Eve & Peter
 Winterburn, Fraser
 Wishlist
 WoodGreen Community Services
 YMCA of Oakville
 Zare Paralegal, Michelle Zare
 Zonta Club of Oakville

HSH would also like to gratefully acknowledge the receipt of several donations from individuals who wish to remain anonymous. Thank you for your generosity!

BE A
PARTNER IN
CHANGE.
LIVE A LIFE OF
IMPACT.



EMPTY BOWLS AT HOME

In 2019, we relaunched Home Suite Hope's Empty Bowls event for its 11th time. The event went so well that we were all excitedly anticipating the 2020 Empty Bowls event... and then came COVID-19, a thief that has taken so much from so many people. All our third-party fundraising events had already been cancelled, organizations had cut expected funding as their profits were down, and we had a brand-new program with five young single parents ready to launch, in addition to 18 single parents in our other programs. Not having a fundraising event was simply not an option for us.

We partnered with our HBHY partner and well-known community agency Food For Life and started imagining a way to keep the spirit of the event alive. Empty Bowls At Home - COVID-19 Edition was born. Our volunteer committee was formed and hit the road running to find soup, bread and dessert donors. Our local businesses wrapped their arms around this event, providing amazing sponsorships despite this unprecedented year of loss for many. Our community members purchased tickets to the event, bought soup kits for our participants to enjoy and donated much-needed funds in the days leading up to the event. Over 40 community members and local businesses volunteered their time helping to pack boxes and deliver soups throughout Halton and Peel (even some in Ancaster, Hamilton, Lyndon and Niagara!).

Empty Bowls At Home brought in \$74,150 in ticket sales, donations and sponsorships to support our single parent-led families in the Homeward Bound Halton Youth program. We feel very fortunate to be surrounded by such a giving community who rallied together despite such significant loss for so many.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the Home Suite Hope Empty Bowls Planning Committee: Cindy Perras, Lori Sims, Sharon Richardson, Laurie Forsyth, Krystal Valencia and HSH Volunteer Coordinator Kinda Jazeh.

Thank you to the Food For Life planning team: Laura Hickerson, Meghan Richardson, Kim Calderbank and Kristen Granger.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Presenting Sponsor:



Soup Sponsors:

Kerr Street Café, Cove Bar and Restaurant, Catch Hospitality Group, Food For Life

Designer & Printer:

Yellow Robot

Bowl Sponsor:

Crack Pot Studio

Bread Sponsor:

COBS Lakeshore

Desserts:

The Sweetest Thing, Patisserie D'Or, Metro, Fortinos, Longos





A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

To the entire Home Suite Hope Stakeholder community:

When I made the commitment to assume the role of Board chair last year, we were already a few months into our shared reality of life during the COVID-19 pandemic. While no one could have predicted the enormous and protracted impact that this would have on all of our lives, we had confidence that our incredible team of employees, volunteers and other stakeholders would guide the organization and our participants safely through the crisis. Although we continue to live with uncertainty surrounding the pandemic, I am very proud to report that 2020 was a tremendous year for Home Suite Hope, as we continued to grow while navigating through unprecedented obstacles.

The most important indicator of our success is the number of lives we are able to support and transform through our programming. In 2020, Home Suite Hope increased our participants significantly, including being able to house 34 single parents and serve another 17 individuals through our Life Skills program. None of this could have happened without some incredible partnerships. We were honoured to receive an Ontario Trillium Grant that allowed us to begin a Homeward Bound Halton-Youth program; funding from the J.P Bickell Foundation covered many of our necessary rental subsidies; and our growing partnership with Food for Life provided food supports and access to food literacy courses to improve food security.

As always, we are extremely grateful to our community donors and stakeholders and your support in 2020 was truly inspiring. Nowhere was that more evident than in the incredible success of our first ever “Empty Bowls at Home” event. Formulated in partnership with Food for Life, the event was a creative response to the challenges and restrictions the community faced during COVID-19. The event sold out and delivered much needed resources for our Homeward Bound Halton-Youth program. My eldest daughter and I were just 2 of dozens of volunteers that made that event happen and the spirit of community and giving was very much alive during the entire weekend. Thank you to all of our sponsors, donors and those that purchased tickets in making “Empty Bowls at Home” such a tremendous success.

The pandemic and its economic impact was just one of the factors impacting our efforts this year. 2020 also witnessed the murder of George Floyd and the tragic and needless deaths of many others in racialized communities. Our entire Home Suite Hope staff has participated in gender, sexuality and anti-racist training to better work with our diverse participants and the broader community. The Board will be participating

in similar training prior to the end of 2021. As Chair, I was also pleased to commit Home Suite Hope to the 50-30 Challenge, committing to gender parity and at least 30% of our Board members and senior management to come from historically under-represented groups. We will continue to ensure that our Board is not just diverse, but also inclusive of all its members and the diverse backgrounds that we represent.

Our Board continues to attract some incredible talent with deep ties to Halton and the HSH community. We were pleased to welcome Sharon Richardson, Navia Sharma and Burhana Bello-Ayorinde to the Board over the past year. Catherine Meagher and Natalie Jamison are leaving the board after many years of tremendous support and we thank them for their incredible commitment to the work we do. I also want to personally thank our past Chair Sharon Wingfelder who will be leaving the Board following the AGM. Sharon oversaw a period of tremendous change during her tenure and guided the organization with professionalism, empathy and dedication. Sharon is a mentor and a friend and I know she will continue to be a valuable member of the HSH community. Thank you Sharon for everything you have done for Home Suite Hope.

No organization can effectively manage its way through turbulent and uncertain times without tremendous leadership. Our Executive Director, Dr. Sara Cumming, has provided inspirational leadership to Home Suite Hope and continues to be the driving force behind much of our success. The impact that HSH has on our participants is a direct result of the work that Sara and her team do every single day. As a Board we are incredibly honoured to support this amazing team, and as Chair my opportunity to work directly with Sara has been one of the highlights of my career. Thank you Sara and the entire HSH team for your unwavering dedication to your vital work.

In closing, I want to thank each one of our donors and stakeholders who have volunteered, sponsored and supported Home Suite Hope during these unprecedented times. Your contributions continue to make such a critical difference in the lives of our participants.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish all of you a safe and healthy year to come.

BARRIE CARLYLE
HSH Board Chair

THANK YOU, GOODBYE & WELCOME

Home Suite Hope would like to offer their sincerest goodbye and thank you to Catherine Meagher, Sharon Windfelder, and Natalie Jamison for their hard work and dedication to the HSH Board of Directors. All three of these amazing women have contributed in such astounding ways, and we are truly grateful for their support over the years. Catherine Meagher has stepped down from the HSH Board, but is staying on as our Secretary. Likewise, Natalie Jamison will be stepping down as an active board member in 2021, but hopes to stay connected through fundraising efforts. Sharon Windfelder, long time board member and previous HSH Board Chair, will also be stepping down this year and will be deeply missed.

HSH would like to officially welcome France Fournier, as our Vice-Chair and Chair of the Governance Committee. Thank you France, we are excited for all that you have to offer our board. We would likewise like to welcome Sharon Richardson, who is stepping into her new position as the Chair of the HR Committee. Lastly, HSH welcomes Mary Sheridan, who has stepped up into her role as the Chair of the Fundraising Committee. Thank you Sharon and Mary for your leadership and support of the HSH Board of Directors.

Catherine Meagher

Natalie Jamison

Sharon Windfelder

France Fournier

Sharon Richardson

Mary Sheridan

HSH STAFF TEAM 2021



Sara Cumming
Executive Director



Krystal Valencia
Director of Development



Catherine Lucasan
Program Manager



Nikkian Hanson
Case Manager



Leah Burton
Case Manager



Trina Roiballove
Community Outreach Worker



Angela Blackburn
Administrative Assistant



Izabel Rader
Bookkeeper

HSH BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021



Barrie Carlyle
Chair of Board of Directors
Member of HSH Human
Resources Committee



France Fournier
Vice Chair of the Board
Chair of the Governance
Committee



Lisa Garland
Treasurer
Chair of the Finance Committee
Member of Affordable Housing
Subcommittee



Sharon Richardson
Chair of HR Committee



Mary Sheridan
Chair of Fundraising and
Outreach Committee



Blake J. Hampton-Davies
Chair of the Affordable
Housing Subcommittee
Member of Finance
Committee



Elizabeth Young
Board Member
Member of HSH
Governance Committee

ANNOUNCING NEW MEMBERS



Sasha Hanson
Board Member



Navia Sharma
Board Member
Member of Fundraising and Outreach
Committee



Ted Ecclestone
Board Member



Burhana Bello-Ayorinde
Board Member
Member of Governance Committee

HSH would like to give a huge warm welcome to Sasha Hanson, Navia Sharma, Ted Ecclestone, and Burhana Bello-Ayorinde, who will be joining us as new board members in 2021! We are so excited to have all four of these amazing individuals join our board. We know that their knowledge and expertise will be invaluable as we seek to grow and better serve our community and participants. Thank you for joining the HSH team, we are so grateful to have you!

NON-DIRECTOR MEMBERS

- **Catherine Meagher** - Board Secretary and Member of Governance Committee
- **Lisa Tracey** - Member of Governance Committee
- **Chuck Scott** - Member of Affordable Housing Subcommittee
- **Leena Sharma Seth** - Member of HR Committee
- **Michele Whitcombe** - Member of Fundraising and Outreach Committee
- **Kellie Speakman** - Member of Fundraising and Outreach Committee
- **Peter Kolysnik** - Member of Fundraising and Outreach Committee
- **Myla Lang** - Member of Fundraising and Outreach committee

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Home Suite Hope Shared
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E-mail: info@homesuitehope.org

Website: www.homesuitehope.org

Charitable Registration Number:
85975 5308 RR0001