

JUNE 2022

Pride Month

National Indigenous History
Month

June 5 – Pentecost (Christian)

June 12 – World Day Against
Child Labour (UN)

June 19 – Father's Day

June 20 – World Refugee Day
(UN)

June 21 – National
Indigenous Peoples Day

June 23 – United Nations
Public Service Day

June 27 – Multiculturalism
Day

FLIGHT FOR HOPE TOUR

Oakville's Callum Wallace will fly out of the Burlington Executive Airport in spring 2023, setting out to become the fourth Canadian in history to solo-circumnavigate the world in a small, single-engine aircraft.

His goal is to raise awareness of the need for affordable housing and \$1 million dollars for Home Suite Hope to leverage government funding to acquire affordable housing for its participants. He will launch his campaign this month. See inside for details. For more on Flight for Hope, visit www.flightforhope.com.



SAVE THE DATE: AGM & ANNUAL REPORT

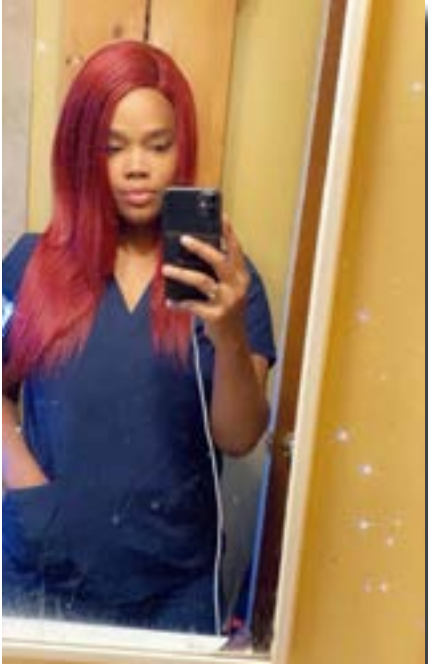


Mark your calendar!

Home Suite Hope will be hosting its Annual General Meeting 2022 Thursday, June 23. There will be a Members meeting June 23 and the 2021 Annual Report will be made available on Monday, June 27th via our mail out and online.

Look back on 2021 and catch up with what's new with Home Suite Hope.

FOCUS ON HSH PARTICIPANTS



Watch HSH's social media and newsletters for updates on our single-parent participants. Our Programs Team will be sharing updates on the accomplishments and challenges our participants face as they move through our four-year Homeward Bound Halton/Youth programs.

Some HSH participants have difficulty finding a rental unit and therefore must stay in shelters longer than needed. A common problem cited is a single income. HSH has had a participant seeking a unit since late 2021, who still hasn't had any luck.

SUCCESS STORY

Diamond Bailey, a Home Suite Hope participant, was excited to share her first day attending her co-op placement at **Post Inn Village**, a long-term care provider in Halton. Diamond is nearing the July 2022 completion of her studies to be a Personal Support Worker. Way to go!



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT STUDIES

HSH celebrates its first HomewardBound Halton Youth (HBHY) participant graduating with her GED (General Education Development) certificate. This single mom is now heading into property management studies – thanks to the **Greater Toronto Apartment Association's (GTAA) Charitable Foundation** for sponsoring this participant and her family through HSH's **Partners in Change** campaign.

Alex connected with HSH in January 2020. Since then, HSH **Case Manager Leah Burton** and the HSH team has assisted her in securing safe housing and obtaining childcare for her two-year-old daughter.

During this time, Alex has also worked with HSH staff in selecting and deciding upon a career path in Property Management after struggling to find something she is passionate about.

After deciding upon a career path, Alex applied for, and was accepted into **Conestoga College's Property and Building Administration certificate program**. She officially began the two-year program in May 2022. Thanks to HSH and the GTAA sponsorship, Alex is well on her journey to stability for her family.

"I have nearly completed my goal of earning my high school diploma and graduating, which is something I personally really wanted to accomplish... to set a good example for my daughter and become the first one in my family to graduate high school and attend post-secondary education," said Alex.

FLIGHT FOR HOPE LAUNCH

FLIGHT FOR HOPE OFFICIAL LAUNCH SET FOR JUNE 26

Home Suite Hope will join **Flight for Hope** at the Burlington Executive Airpark on Sunday, June 26 to officially launch its **Affordable Housing Advocacy Campaign** in conjunction with the launch of Callum Wallace's plan for a round-the-globe flight in 2023 to raise awareness about affordable housing and \$1 million for HSH's affordable housing plans.



Thanks to Matte PR, HSH's Katelyn Zaoral and a special thanks to Engel & Völkers Oakville for making the event come to life.

Stay tuned for an appearance by Callum on Citytv's *Breakfast Television* on Friday, June 24.

Then, on Sunday, June 26, a late morning media launch will be followed by several hours during which six pilots will provide up to 20 15-minute flights. More than half a dozen HSH single parent-led families will get in on the flight fun thanks to sponsors. The day will be a fundraiser with a pay-what-you-can invitation to those booking the flights.

For more about, or to donate to, Flight for Hope, visit www.flightforhope.

**HOME SUITE
HOPE**



HSH BOARD UPDATES

THANK YOU, NAVIA

Home Suite Hope extends a thank-you to **Navia Sharma** for her participation on its Board since 2020.

Navia has served on the HSH Board since 2020 and prior to that had been an active volunteer member of HSH's Industry Council.

Navia brought corporate expertise to her role, having experience as Vice President, Corporate Marketing and Communications and more than 20 years of leadership experience in the industrial and consumer product sectors, brand strategy, program management and business development. Navia is graduate of the University of Toronto, Trinity College and Cornell University. Thank you Navia for sharing your expertise and for your dedication and support of HSH!



CONSIDER JOINING HSH'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Home Suite Hope is seeking diverse leaders from across Halton to join its volunteer **Board of Directors**.

HSH is a non-profit organization that supports low-income, single-parent families in Halton. Our programs aim to unite a network of vital wraparound supports for families as they journey from poverty to stability, permanently changing lives for the better.



Illustration by Angel Castro

Are you an networker willing to leverage connections and resources for the benefit of the community, marketing and communications professional, strategic organizer, succession planner or do you have lived experience? Ideal candidates have a variety of skills and expertise to help set strategic direction; monitor finances; provide governance oversight and have proven interpersonal skills. Professional and lived experience are equally valuable to us. We are looking for engaged and dynamic members wanting to act in the best interest of HSH and our inspiring participants. HSH is transforming the patterns of poverty – to a legacy of empowered prosperity.

If you are passionate about making a real difference in people's lives, or know someone who may be the perfect fit, please contact us for more information or an application at info@homesuitehope.org. Applications can be found on our website at: www.homesuitehope.org or by clicking: <https://bit.ly/3aSBpbl>

VOLUNTEERS CELEBRATED

BURLINGTON MP KARINA GOULD SALUTES VOLUNTEERS

Home Suite Hope volunteers were celebrated May 26 at **Canada's Minister of Children and Social Development** and **Burlington MP Karina Gould's Volunteer Appreciation** at the Burlington Seniors' Centre.

The Volunteer Appreciation event was moved from a date in April during Volunteer Week to accommodate an in-person format - though a virtual format was also available.

HSH thanks the Burlington MP for recognizing two of its volunteers: Kinda Jazeh and Peter Kolisnyk.



KINDA JAZEH

Kinda Jazeh grew up in Syria and is an administrative assistant after studying business management there and later at Sheridan College.

Kinda didn't hesitate to step up upon learning of HSH's volunteer coordinator role at a Chamber of Commerce event.

HSH's support of single parents drew Kinda, who as a mother knows the challenges families face raising children – and what it must be like for single parents.



PETER KOLISNYK

The idea of 'teaching someone to fish' attracted Engel & Völkers Oakville real estate broker Peter Kolisnyk to Home Suite Hope (HSH). Having served as Interim Executive Director and Board Chair, led a major restructuring to put HSH on solid ground, raised \$60,000 in the Ironman Muskoka and topping that through several Sleep in Your Car events, Peter continues to be a major supporter and fundraiser for Halton's HSH.



HSH IN THE NEWS



Home Suite Hope has a great advocate, champion and leader in its Executive Director Sara Cumming. On Mother's Day, Sara welcomed a call from **CityNews** Toronto to speak about the challenges of mothering during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you missed Sara speaking about mothers being 'the unsung heroes' on the news at 6 p.m. and again at 11 p.m., catch her here: <https://toronto.citynews.ca/video/2022/05/08/mothers-are-the-unsung-heroes-of-the-pandemic/>

SPECIAL DELIVERY

The logo for Tim Hortons, featuring the brand name in a red, cursive script font.

HSH is looking forward to June 8 for a special delivery from Tim Hortons.

The **Tims For Good** program, in partnership with the local Tim Hortons restaurant owners in Oakville, are set to provide donations of coffee and baked goods to show their support of organizations and individuals that do good in their communities.

HSH is grateful to be among those being recognized with this special delivery. Stay tuned for our social media and the hashtag #Timsforgood to catch the day in real time.

UPDATE: CABIN RETREAT



CAN YOU HELP?

Home Suite Hope is offering its single-parent families a Cabin Retreat Experience in June to be hosted by Penbrook Resort situated on beautiful Deer Lake in Emsdale, Ontario.

HSH is grateful to **Penbrook Resort** (@penbrookresort) owners **Bill and Debbie McAlpine** - the parents of HSH's **Sarah Gillen's** fiancé **Taylor McAlpine**.

Planning has started, cabins assigned, menus and To Do-lists arranged. Thanks to **Navia Sharma's** donation of \$1,000 and \$600 more from the **Lions Club of Oakville**, we have raised enough to cover transportation of our families to the getaway weekend.

We are still seeking \$1,600 to cover the return trip home. For information about sponsoring families for transportation to the retreat, contact katelynz@homesuitehope.org.

MAKING MEMORIES

ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION DONATED!

A gracious donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, stepped up to donate the funds that will enable a single mom and her daughter, who is quadriplegic, to attend the Cabin Retreat. The donor provided funds for an accessible van needed for the family to get to the resort site and home again.

Thank you - the trip is already memorable due to your generosity!



STAFF NEWS



SHERIDAN STUDENTS JOIN THE TEAM FOR THE SUMMER

Kevin Jacob Stanly (at left) and **Matthew Tunney** (below) are completing the **Honours Bachelors in Game Design at Sheridan College**. Both are completing their Co-op Education summer term with Home Suite Hope.

Kevin Jacob Stanly

They will design a rapid prototype gamified Basic Life Skills to create a more interactive and inclusive curriculum for our single parents, and to inform the life skills opportunities through Sheridan College's Collaborative Life Skills Project.

Kevin is a passionate game designer and developer.

Matthew specializes in drawing and 3D modelling, and has experience using the Twine engine. "I am excited to work with all of you on this project!"



Matthew Tunney

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know Home Suite Hope offers **Life Skills** programming? HSH's **Sarah Gillen** heads up the self-paced Learning Management System (LMS) that offers modules covering important topics that range from professional and personal development, financial literacy, education, health and more.

These include modules that discuss issues such as credit cards and budgeting, how to apply to college, building confidence, email communication and online etiquette, and so much more!

Homeward Bound Halton Youth (HBHY) workshops (synchronous group workshops) have been offered bi-weekly featuring live facilitators like Stride, Halton Legal Clinic, financial advisors and have covered topics such as Knowing Your Rights as a Youth, Wise Money Management, Self-Advocacy and more. Stabilizing First Halton (SFH) Life Skills workshops (synchronous group workshops) also featured live facilitators like Stride and topics such as Time Management.

Sarah also does one-on-one meetings, working with partnering agencies to gain referrals from primary caseworkers to further support individuals with varying levels of needs and knowledge/experience with life skills such as budgeting, money management, nutrition and healthy eating on a budget.

A NEW PARTNERSHIP

HSH'S LIFE SKILLS HAS TEAMED UP WITH CAA

Home Suite Hope is celebrating a new partnership with **CAA (SouthCentral Ontario)**.

Throughout the month of May, which is Car Care Month for the CAA, HSH has been sharing CAA's May's Car Care Month videos with our single-parent participants - and on our social media.

Later in the season, CAA will be facilitating a live life skills workshop for our single parents in late August.



We look forward to working with CAA and our single parents! Safe motoring!

For more on **HSH's Virtual Life Skills**:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFFsKHd6sa0&t=3s>

In case you missed them, here are the CAA videos:

Sharing the road safely - Spring/Summer Edition: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9InjL6a_b9E&t=5s

Does your vehicle have a malfunctioning cooling system?: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4zi6LekvU5s>

All the noise about car noise: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AVp8Zrg8lQk>

How to check your tire pressure: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCp_nC2jNW4

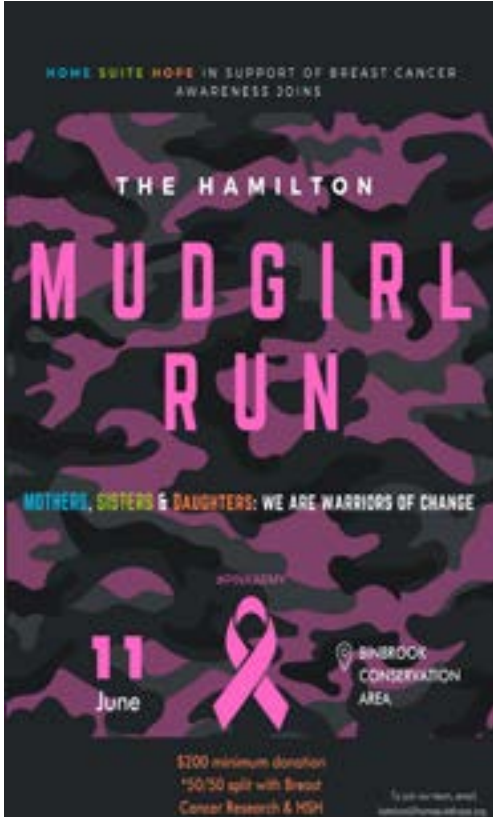
Everything you need to know about brakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D5qqGO60knU>

Replacing your windshield wipers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ORKGKeuL8g>

The Dutch Reach: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kf6qVFDFfs4>

Sharing the road safely - Winter Edition: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLjVbGzKXAU>

SPONSOR HSH HEROINES



Home Suite Hope 'Heroines' will be competing in the **MUDGIRL Run** Hamilton June 11, 2022. It's an all-inclusive, 5km (about 3 miles) race, consisting of 17-plus obstacles to overcome. The course is committed to testing strength, endurance and above all, spirit.

The event is about raising breast cancer awareness. Breast cancer most often affects the heart and soul of families – mothers. Breast cancer does not discriminate and it takes an army of support, to get those affected by it, through it. Participants of HSH programs face many obstacles to overcome on their journey from poverty to stability and HSH is there to support them.

MUDGIRL Hamilton is Saturday, June 11, 2022 at Binbrook Conservation Area.

To support the HSH teams, visit <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/home-suite-hope-shared-living-corp/p2p/MUDGIRL-RUN/>

FUNDRAISING CHORUS

IN CONCERT WITH HSH

The **Burlington Welsh Male Chorus** held a fundraising concert for Flight for Hope & Home Suite Hope on May 4 concert at the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts.

"Bringing the sound of Wales to Oakville." It was their first concert in two years!

Thank you for supporting HSH.

The BWMC sing, in keeping with the tradition of Welsh four-part Male Choirs, and performs Welsh folk songs and hymns, to opera choruses, spirituals and musical numbers. <https://burlingtonwelsh.com>



DO YOU WANT TO HELP?

LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES

Blueberry Fields Community Garden (Seasonal) - May through October

Volunteers work in the garden doing weeding, planting, harvesting, etc. spring through September.

Empty Bowls Annual Fundraiser – mid-to-late October/Bowl Painting - year-round

Volunteers help packing/serving soup on event day or paint bowls for use at the event.

Hope4Holidays Annual Holiday Fundraiser – late November to mid-December

Volunteer groups could sponsor a family by purchasing gifts for family members as outlined on a wish list from the family or help with gift wrapping gifts prior to delivery.

Calls to Action

Groups can assist with specific calls to action, as needed, to meet needs that arise ie. Collection of toiletries, cleaning supplies, gift cards.

Life Skills Facilitators

We welcome experienced individuals to create a pre-recorded video workshop for a range of essential life skills, including food literacy, financial literacy, household chores, parenting, and more!

Professional Development Day Facilitators

We welcome experienced individuals to develop a pre-recorded video or facilitate a live half-day workshop on professional development topics such as LinkedIn/Social Media platforms when job searching; how to ask for a salary and negotiate job offers/positions; how to prepare an elevator pitch; how to read your pay stub; understanding corporate benefit packages, and more!

For more on volunteering, contact volunteers@homesuitehope.org.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS

BLUEBERRY FIELDS GARDEN
May - September

- Prepare Garden
- Plant Garden
- Maintenance of garden in growth season (weeding, etc.)
- Harvest
- Garden Prep for Winter

EMPTY BOWLS 2022
Mid-to-late October

- Soup Delivery
- Event Set-up/Takedown
- Service at Event

HOPE 4 HOLIDAYS
Late November - mid-December

- Gift Wrapping

For more information on volunteering, please contact:
volunteers@homesuitehope.org

HOME SUITE HOPE

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

HALTON MPs

Home Suite Hope is very grateful for the support it is receiving from Halton's MPs.

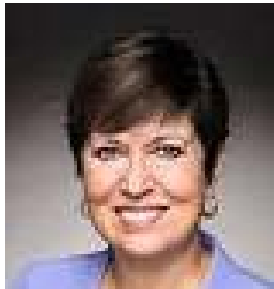
All have penned letters of support as Home Suite Hope participates in the CMHC (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation)-led Housing Supply Challenge. (Watch our Affordable Housing Campaign video: <https://youtu.be/-DV7fSjefwc>)



A shout-out to Burlington MP Karina Gould for including HSH volunteers in her recent **Volunteer Appreciation** event. This recognition is special for our volunteers, who go above and beyond in giving their time and expertise to supporting our mission in the community.

Halton's MPs have also provided **organizational support** to HSH, according to Development Director Krystal Valencia and we are truly grateful.

Thank you, (from left to right) Canada's **Minister of National Defence and Oakville MP Anita Anand**; **Oakville North-Burlington MP Pam Damoff**; Canada's **Minister of Families, Canada's Minister of Children and Social Development and Burlington MP Karina Gould**; **Milton MP Adam Van Koeverden**; and, **Halton Hills MP Michael Chong**.



Sheridan



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