



Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Foundation

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



To all our friends and supporters,

As we celebrate another successful year for the Foundation in 2024, it is important to remember that the needs of our community continue to grow. As you read this report, you will see that the Foundation continues to make great strides in supporting our community, but the need keeps getting greater.

Over the last year, management and the board have successfully dedicated themselves to growing financial support for Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Foundation. The success we have had in support of the Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society (KHCAS) reflects the strong support of the community and our donors. We continue to be dedicated to better the lives of children and families who live in the Peterborough, Lindsay, and Haliburton regions.

Some highlights in 2024 include sending 135 kids to summer camp to discover nature, meet new friends, learn new skills, and become more confident. Our bursary program, continues to grow, providing over \$195,000 in financial support in 2024 for youth working towards achieving their educational goals and life dreams. Also, this past year, our Santa's Sleigh Holiday Gift Program continued to exceed our expectations with over 950 children and families able to fulfill their holiday wishes.

One area the organization can be proud of is our ability through incremental donor support, to provide grocery and gas gift cards to help families who are struggling with the rising costs of living. While we wish this level of support was not required we are happy we could gain donor support to meet this emerging need.

Looking forward, as the needs of our community grow, I am confident that the unwavering support of our donors and community partners will continue to provide the necessary resources and create a nurturing environment for children and youth to thrive and realize their full potential.

On behalf of the board of directors and staff of the Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Foundation, I extend our sincere appreciation for your ongoing support.

With thanks,
John Bardawill 

WHO WE ARE | BOARD MEMBERS

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| John Bardawill, Chair | Babin Joy | Melissa Graham-MacDonald |
| Sandra Levy, Vice Chair | Carla Gorman | Phillip Jolicoeur |
| Doug Robinson, Treasurer | Colin Elsby | Susan Oliver |
| Lee Hays, Past Chair | Jessica Gordon | Tracy Culleton |



*absent Colin Elsby, Susan Oliver

WHAT WE DO | MISSION STATEMENT

Engaging and collaborating with communities to support and invest in essentials and life-enriching experiences for children, youth and families involved with the Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Foundation is located on the Treaty 20 Michi Saagiig Territory and in the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations, which include: Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Alderville, Scugog Island, Rama, Beausoleil and Georgina Island First Nations. The Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Foundation respectfully acknowledges that the Williams Treaties First Nations are the stewards and caretakers of these lands and water in perpetuity, and that they continue to maintain this responsibility to ensure their health and integrity for generations to come.

2024 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BACKPACKS

We provided 137 customized backpacks filled with pencil cases and school supplies to ensure that the children and youth involved with the Kawartha Haliburton Children's Aid Society started the school year off right, feeling included and self-confident.

BURSARIES

Our bursary program provides much needed financial assistance so youth can pursue education, gain life skills and be ready for the workplace. In 2024, we provided over \$195,000 in bursary support for youth working towards achieving their education goals and reaching their life dreams.

CAMP

Every summer, the Foundation covers the cost of one week of overnight camp or two weeks of day camp. In 2024, we sent 135 kids to summer camp to discover nature, meet new friends, learn new skills and foster self-confidence.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT FUND

We aim to help develop children's self-esteem and confidence by funding their participation in extracurricular activities such as sports, art and music lessons, as well as courses such as first aid or drivers' education. In 2024, we supported youth with over \$35,000 in funding for these activities.

CHILD SAFETY EQUIPMENT FUND

In 2024, we provided 21 Health Canada Safety Standard-approved cribs and 20 other baby safety items such as strollers, gates and monitors to families that did not otherwise have the financial means to purchase these items.

COMFORT KITS

We provided over \$20,000 in funding towards comfort kits, which are backpacks filled with comfort and essential items for children removed from home and placed in out-of-home care. Kits include items such as personal care products, school supplies, bedding, baby care products and technology.

GIFT CARDS

We provided \$15,000 in grocery and gas gift cards to help families that were struggling with the rising costs of living.

KINSHIP SUPPORT FUND

We doubled our impact and provided \$20,000 to help offset costs involved with the responsibility of taking on the care of a family member.

SANTA'S SLEIGH

Every year, we invite community members to choose a child, or sponsor a family and purchase gifts or gift cards in order to fulfill their holiday wishes. In partnership with our donors, we helped make the holidays brighter for over 950 local children, youth and families.

SWEET DREAMS

Every child deserves a warm and comfortable night's sleep. In 2024, through the help of our dedicated volunteer, Carolyn Mills, the Foundation was gifted over 330 cozy pairs of pajamas to distribute to children in need.

YOUTH LIVING INDEPENDENTLY

The Foundation provided \$58,000 in gift cards to youth 16+ who are transitioning to living on their own. These gift cards help with necessities like groceries, clothing and personal care products.

2024 CONDENSED FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUE		
Donation revenue	\$542,304	(83%)
Grant revenue	\$83,424	(13%)
Miscellaneous	\$25,849	(4%)
Total	\$651,577	
EXPENDITURES		
Program and service costs	\$510,000	(74%)
Salaries and benefits	\$132,642	(19%)
Office/professional & marketing	\$47,761	(7%)
Total	\$690,403	
OTHER INCOME		
Investment income	\$60,297	

This information should be read in conjunction with the audited Financial Statements at December 31, 2024.



2024 marks the 35th year of making the holidays brighter for local children and youth who are involved with the Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society, through the Santa's Sleigh Holiday Gift Program. We invite the community to choose a child's gift suggestion from our tree and then shop for that gift in order to fulfill the child's holiday wish. Each year, the Central Lakes Association of Realtors and East Peterborough Lions Club put in many volunteer hours at Santa's Sleigh, helping to put smiles on the faces of local children each holiday season.

Pictured here is Jessica Hill from the Central Lakes Association of Realtors and Carrie Truman Executive Director of KHCf

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS

BACKPACKS

In 2024, we transformed our back-to-school backpack program. We provided 137 fully personalized backpacks, so students started the school year off right, with the supplies they both needed and wanted! We included all the typical supplies but also filled the backpacks with things like indoor shoes, lunch bags, thermoses and water bottles. The bigger kids who needed them got locker locks, organizers and scientific calculators. We even had haircut vouchers, free pizza coupons and snacks. Moving to individual backpack requests, allowed us to provide backpacks and supplies that fit with each student's specific personalities and needs.

"Backpacks mean parents don't have to decide between paying household bills or purchasing school supplies. Children walk into school with brand new shoes to show off and a backpack filled with supplies, which helps them start each year with promise and excitement."

- Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society
Child Welfare Worker

YOUTH TRANSITIONING TO INDEPENDENCE

We want to ensure that youth feel supported and do not slip into homelessness as they take the big step towards independence in transitioning from the care of Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society to living on their own. It can often be a struggle as youth make this transition as they lack the family safety net that can be critical for success at this stage of life. To help provide support, we distributed allotments of gift cards to assist with groceries, household items and personal hygiene products to youth aged 16+ who are transitioning to living on their own. In 2024, we provided \$58,000 in gift card support making a significant difference in the lives of these youth as they take this major steps towards independence.

"As a worker it is helpful to give youth the gift certificates to give them an extra financial boost. These gift certificates provide them opportunity to buy extra food, needed clothing and even a special treat for themselves."

- Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society
Child Welfare Worker

Peterborough

1100 Chemong Road
Peterborough, ON K9H 7S2

Lindsay

42 Victoria Avenue North
Lindsay, ON K9V 4G2

Haliburton

73 Victoria Street
Haliburton, ON KOM 1S0

705-743-9751 x1317

1-800-661-2843 x 1317

carrie@k-hchildrensfoundation.com

www.khcas.on.ca/foundation

[instagram.com/khchildrensfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/khchildrensfoundation)

[linkedin.com/company/khchildrensfoundation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/khchildrensfoundation)

[facebook.com/khchildrensfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/khchildrensfoundation)

