



Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Foundation

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



To all our friends and supporters,

In a year of economic challenges, the KHCF community continued to generously support the Foundation and our Mission in 2025.

As we celebrate another successful year for the Foundation, the affordability needs of our community continue to grow. To meet that need, the Foundation in 2025, took a number of steps to strengthen its fiscal management and maximize the funds raised. Specifically, the Foundation instituted an enhanced investment strategy to enable long-term financial sustainability for the organization.

The success we had in 2025 reflects the strong support of our community and donors. We remain dedicated to empowering the lives of children and families in the Peterborough, Lindsay, and Haliburton regions.

Some 2025 highlights include:

- Sending 126 kids to summer camp to discover nature, meet new friends, learn new skills, and become more confident.
- With our bursary program, we provided over \$171,475 in financial support in 2025 for youth working towards achieving their educational goals and life dreams.
- Our Santa Sleigh holiday program continued to grow and exceeded expectations, with over 1,000 children and families able to fulfill their holiday wishes.
- We supported 75 youth in their participation in activities such as sports, art, music lessons, first-aid training, driver's education, and more.
- Our Kinship Fund offsets the extra costs associated with caring for a family member, and in 2025, we supported 36 children in Kinship care with gift cards.

As the needs of our community grow, I am confident that the ongoing 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

Sandra Levy, Vice Chair

Doug Robinson, Treasurer

Babin Joy

Brittney Evelyn

Carla Gorman

Heather Sago

Mikel Rutherford

Phillip Jolicoeur

Rebecca Gower

Susan Oliver

Tracy Culleton



*absent Mikel Rutherford

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.

2025 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CAMP

Each summer, the Foundation funds one week of overnight camp or two weeks of day camp for children in our community. In 2025, 126 children attended summer camp, where they explored nature, formed new friendships, learned new skills, and gained confidence.

YOUTH LIVING INDEPENDENTLY

The Foundation distributed \$41,000 in gift cards to support youth aged 16 and over transitioning to independent living. This support helped with everyday necessities, including food, clothing, and personal care products.

BURSARIES

Through our bursary program, youth receive vital financial assistance to pursue education, develop life skills, and prepare for the workplace. In 2025, we provided over \$185,000 in bursary support, helping young people move closer to achieving their education goals and life dreams.

SWEET DREAMS

Every child deserves a warm and comfortable night's sleep. In 2025, with the generous support of our dedicated volunteer, Carolyn Mills, the Foundation received over 332 cozy pairs of pajamas to provide comfort to children who need it most.

SANTA'S SLEIGH

Each year, community members are invited to choose a child or sponsor a family by purchasing gifts or gift cards to help fulfill holiday wishes. In partnership with our generous donors, we helped make the holidays brighter for 1,000 local children, youth, and families.

COMFORT KITS

We invested more than \$19,500 in comfort kits to support children entering out-of-home care. These backpacks are filled with essential and comforting items, including personal care products, school supplies, bedding, baby care items, and technology.

GIFT CARDS

To help families manage the rising costs of everyday life, we provided \$10,000 in grocery and gas gift cards.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

By funding extracurricular activities and skill-building courses, we help children grow in confidence and self-esteem. In 2025, 75 youth received support to participate in sports, art and music lessons, first-aid training, driver's education, and more.

CHILD SAFETY EQUIPMENT

In 2025, we helped families create safer environments for their babies. We provided 23 Health Canada Safety Standard-approved cribs and 19 other essential safety items, including strollers, gates, and monitors.

KINSHIP SUPPORT

The Kinship Fund aims to help offset some of the extra costs associated with caring for a family member. In 2025, we supported 36 children in kinship care with gift cards.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BACKPACKS

We provided 210 customized backpacks filled with pencil cases and school supplies to help children and youth start the school year feeling prepared, included, and confident.

2025 CONDENSED FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUE

Donation revenue	\$519,096	(85%)
Grant revenue	\$69,629	(11%)
Miscellaneous	\$24,255	(4%)
Total	\$612,980	

EXPENDITURES

Program and service costs	\$488,800	(71%)
Salaries and benefits	\$149,643	(23%)
Office/professional & marketing	\$35,140	(6%)
Total	\$633,583	

OTHER INCOME

Investment income	\$73,819
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This information should be read in conjunction with the audited Financial Statements at December 31, 2025.



We are proud to celebrate an amazing milestone: 15 years of the Sweet Dreams program, spearheaded by volunteer extraordinaire Carolyn. Through this program, Carolyn collects and provides cozy pajamas to children supported by our Foundation, as well as several other charities in our community.

For fifteen years, her kindness and effort have brought warmth, comfort, and a sense of security to so many children when they need it most. These pajamas are more than a gift; they are a reminder that our community cares.

Thank you, Carolyn, for helping create comfort, hope, and countless sweet dreams.

Pictured here is volunteer extraordinaire Carolyn Mills.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS

THE LASTING IMPACT OF SUMMER CAMP

We believe in the powerful impact that even just a week at summer camp can have on children. It provides a sense of belonging, builds confidence, promotes respect for nature, and encourages outdoor physical activity. Children involved with the Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society are fully funded to attend two weeks of day camp or one week of overnight camp, allowing them to discover nature, meet new friends, learn new skills and become more confident in themselves. Camp helps to foster feelings of inclusion and belonging in children and builds their self-confidence. The Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Foundation has supported over 5,740 kids in attending summer camp.

"The Foundation was able to get a six-year-old boy into camp last minute. Despite having been through a lot in his little life, he is incredibly resilient, hopeful, and positive. When I dropped him off, I was worried he would be anxious, but he was SO excited and he couldn't wait to "make new friends". At pickup, the camp counsellors said he did so well and he couldn't stop talking about how much fun he had and all the new friends he has made. I'm so grateful."

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

REMOVING BARRIERS TO SUPPORT CHILD DEVELOPMENT

The Child Development Program helps remove financial barriers so children can fully participate in activities that support their growth, confidence, and sense of belonging. This program covers registration fees, supplies and equipment for sports, arts, cultural, and recreational activities. Examples include hockey, soccer, swimming lessons, dance, music lessons, Scouts, and more. Support is also provided for courses and certifications such as first aid, babysitting and driver education. Participation enables youth to gain confidence and build important life skills.

"A family I am working with has never had the opportunity to engage in extracurricular activities. The smiles on the children's faces when they heard they were going to be attending swimming lessons was priceless. They were so excited. What a great experience for them and great skills for them to learn too."

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

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