



Our Children, Our Hope
Annual Report 2009-2010

Message from the President



In this past year of economic uncertainty the giving spirit of those around us was undiminished. Our donors responded in record numbers to rising needs. Our volunteers came through with extra hours in support of programs and activities, and Foundation staff generously offered to forego an annual salary increase.

Growth in giving directly translates into growth in support for the children and families we serve in our community. Since 1986, the Foundation has experienced significant growth in the following areas:

- » The Adopt-a-Family program has grown by 275%
- » The number of scholarships awarded to youth pursuing post-secondary education has risen by 300%
- » Endowment funds designated for scholarships gifts have grown 400%.

The life changing work that we do would not be possible

without the efforts of my colleagues - our talented and dedicated Board of Directors. For the members who've served with me, I'd like to this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks for the energy and commitment they have brought to the organization.

I'm very grateful to be surrounded by so many extraordinary people whose wisdom, faith, and determination sustained the organization and made possible the following considerable accomplishments this year:

- » 198 families received Emergency Grants to meet critical needs
- » 93 youth were awarded scholarships for post-secondary education
- » 50 children received special recognition awards for academic and personal achievement
- » 940 families (nearly 2,000 individuals) received Christmas presents, and other support through our Adopt-a-Family program
- » 400 families and 200 youth gratefully accepted Christmas food vouchers

- » 25 children benefitted from Sacramental Preparation grants or spiritual development care packages
- » 222 children participated in a summer camp experience
- » Over 400 youth received help transitioning from foster care into independent living through the services of the Pape Adolescent Resource Centre (PARC)
- » 60 youth received Start-up kits to support their transition to independent living
- » 30 youth participated in our new Youth Initiative.

The steadfast support of donors, staff, volunteers, and Board members makes possible the continued growth of the Foundation. Because of them, hundreds of children and youth are given the gift of hope and opportunity every year.

Sincerely,

Peter Barnicke, President

VISION

The Hope for Children Foundation supports brighter futures for children and youth in need of protection, to strengthen their families, and to help them realize their hopes, dreams and potential.

MISSION

The Hope for Children Foundation raises funds to support programs that strive to create strong and healthy futures for children, youth and families served by the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto.

WE VALUE:

- » Empowerment
- » Independence and Self-sufficiency
- » Self-worth and Confidence
- » Positive Outcomes for Individuals and Communities



Some of our Board members pictured above, L-R: Henry Tang, Mary Bowyer (Executive Director), Erin O'Brien, Mary Catherine O'Brien, Eric Leopold, Andrea Stairs, Peter Barnicke, Diane Drotos, and Anne McNeely.

Board of Directors

- Peter Barnicke
President
- Diane Drotos
Vice-President
- Eric Leopold
Secretary-Treasurer
- Daniel L. Bain
- Franca Bianchini
- Anne C. McNeely
- Erin O'Brien
- Andrea Stairs
- Maureen Spillane
- Henry Tang
- Beverly G. Williams

Staff

- Mary L. Bowyer,
CFRE
Executive Director
- Patricia Ward
Community
Development
Officer
- Stephanie Baker
Development
Assistant

Emergency & Enhancement Grants

The majority of families served by the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto (CCAS) struggle to survive on an annual household income of less than \$16,000. For these families, providing daily necessities like baby formula, diapers, and groceries is an ongoing challenge. Finding enough money for eyeglasses or a trip to the dentist is next to impossible. A pair of skates or music lessons for a child? Completely out of reach.

The Hope for Children Foundation's Emergency and Enhancement Grants give CCAS child welfare workers the means to respond to an urgent family crisis or a child's wish list. Even the smallest gesture of support can change a life and make the future seem just a little bit brighter. — Chantel, CCAS service recipient

Education Advocacy

Children in care deserve the same opportunity to succeed in the classroom as other children, but because many have unique needs, they often experience more barriers to success.

The Foundation's support for the Education Advocacy program fosters collaboration between parents, social workers and teachers in supporting these children. By providing advice, creating customized school programs, arranging for tutoring and facilitating communications with school staff, an Education Advocate can work to support and inspire students towards academic advancement.

Last year, the Education Advocacy program supported the needs of almost 600 children and youth in over 100 schools across the Greater Toronto area.



Scholarship Program

“We must invest more in education and youth in particular. We must...invest in the Torontonians of tomorrow.” - Report, Toronto’s Vital Signs 2009, Toronto Community Foundation

“I am so proud to receive this scholarship and I can’t wait to begin my studies. Thanks for making my dream come true!” - 2009 Scholarship recipient

In August, nearly 100 youth came one step closer to achieving their educational aspirations when they collectively received scholarships valued at more than \$195,000.

This year’s annual scholarship event was held at the University of Toronto’s Hart House and hosted by CBC Radio Two Host and Producer Andrew Craig. Craig was truly impressed by the talent, character and courage of our youth and their determination to succeed both academically and personally.

The Foundation’s Board continues to identify and secure new sources of funding for our scholarship program. New partnerships with generous local families, educational institutions and corporations will ensure that our youth have access to post-secondary education or training.

Since 1986, the Hope for Children Foundation has awarded more than \$2 million in scholarships and special achievement grants. For more information about our Scholarship Program or to donate, please contact us at 416-395-1634.



2009 Hope for Children Foundation Scholarship Recipients



Youth in Transition Programs

Most teenagers look forward to their 18th birthday, eager to take the first step on the path to adulthood and independence. For youth leaving care, their personal journey to independence often occurs without the social, emotional and financial support other teenagers can take for granted. To assist these youth, the Foundation provides the following supports:

Starting-up a New Home

The Hope for Children Foundation eases the transition for youth settling into their own home for the first time by providing start-up kits that include beds and linens, dishes, cutlery, cleaning and laundry supplies, tool and first aid kits. This year the Foundation helped 60 young people transform that first space of their own into a place they can truly call home.

Youth Mentoring Youth

Whenever our new scholarship recipients are asked how the Foundation might further support their post-secondary education, most of them request guidance and mentoring to help them find their way through the system.

In response to these requests, the Foundation launched a new youth initiative last fall providing additional support, direction and encouragement. This includes special events held throughout the academic year which focus on resume building, time management, and financial assistance. The program also pairs new students with returning scholarship recipients, who act as mentors and role models for the new scholarship students.

PARC: home away from home

The Pape Adolescent Resource Centre (PARC) provides a place for youth leaving care to connect with other youth and form relationships with supportive adults. PARC also assists with practical concerns like housing, employment and educational opportunities.



Summer Camp Experiences

Most children eagerly anticipate the long sunny days of summer, when they can play games and participate in sports, and maybe even attend camp. But, for many children, summer means passing the days on crowded city streets, with few places to run, roam or explore. This year, funds raised by the Hope for Children Foundation gave 200 children the opportunity to take on new challenges, gain new skills, and make new friends at summer camp.

Sending children to summer camp gives them room to spread their wings and to experience joy, laughter, and fun in ways they may have never done before. Outdoor activities like swimming, canoeing, and hiking help promote physical fitness and team building. Engaging in arts and crafts, singing songs, and roasting marshmallows by the campfire helps to foster healthy self-expression. Being a part of the close-knit camp community helps children build self-confidence and trust.

A safe, healthy and happy summer can, and often does, change a child's life forever.

Christmas Dreams Come True

Christmas 2009 was another record-breaking year for our Adopt-a-Family program, serving over 900 families and 2,600 children who saw their wishes come true on Christmas day.

Thanks to the support of 500 family and corporate employee groups, the children received warm clothing, toys and other gifts, and donations of food items and food vouchers made it possible for families to share special holiday meals together.

Giving generously every year since 2001, the Adopt-a-Family donors embody the true spirit of Christmas, bringing joy to the children and families served by the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto.



I always make sure that Christmas is a family day. I get the kids involved in the cooking and baking with me. But, finding money for winter clothes and gifts is a challenge. I'm so grateful to the Foundation for coming through with boots and snowsuits for my two boys."

-Stacey, Mother and CCAS Service Recipient

Community Events

Corporate Golf Tournament a Hole-in-One!

Foundation supporters gathered at the Eagles Nest Golf Club for our 19th Annual Golf Tournament. It was a resounding success, raising over \$40,000. All tournament proceeds support the Hope for Children Foundation's Scholarship Program, providing the equivalent of 20 post-secondary scholarships for our youth.

Rated the #1 public golf course in the GTA by SCOREGolf magazine, Eagles Nest provided the perfect setting for a fabulous day of golf. Our special guest, Hockey Hall of Famer Dennis Hull teamed up with a lucky foursome, and after finishing the 18th hole, everyone was treated to a delicious dinner. We thank our golfers, volunteers, committee and Board members who worked so diligently to make this exciting annual event such a success.

Special thanks goes to our sponsors: Herbal Magic, Polaris Realty, DTZ Barnicke, Astra Zeneca, Morneau Sobeco, Canada Auto Parks, Upper Great Lakes, Tridel, and Colliers.

HFC Team Makes a Mark at the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon

Whether they were walking, running, or cheering from the sidelines, the Hope for Children Team made a strong showing at this year's Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon.

Over 170 friends, family members, staff and community members came together to make this year's event our most successful ever, raising over \$40,000!

The momentum has been building since 2007 when the Foundation first got involved in the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon. In our first year, we raised an amazing \$17,000, and last year, we saw donations jump to \$30,000, an increase of 76 per cent!



Summary of Financial Statements as at March 31, 2010

Revenue	General	Restricted	Endowment	Total
Donations	\$259,851	\$206,378	\$68,240	\$534,469
Fundraising and other	\$322,649	\$11,550	\$74,267	\$408,466
Total	\$582,500	\$217,928	\$142,507	\$942,935
Expenses				
Grants in aid	\$421,712	\$162,089	\$54,000	\$637,801
Fundraising, transfers out(in) and other costs	\$3,197	\$54,320	\$16,619	\$74,136
Excess (deficiencies)	\$157,591	\$1,519	\$71,888	\$230,998
Fund Balances (beginning of year)	\$83,226	\$374,302	\$427,299	\$884,827
Net Administrative	-\$250,594	\$0	\$0	-\$250,594
Total	-\$9,777	\$375,821	\$499,187	\$865,231
Administrative Expenses 2008-09				
Administration	-\$415,594			
Less grant from CCAS	\$165,000			
Net Administrative	-\$250,594			

Externally Endowed Scholarship Funds

With the generous support of our donors, the Hope for Children Foundation has established a number of endowed scholarships at the institutions listed below. Many of these funds have been matched by the Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS).

St. Mike's College, University of Toronto		George Brown College		Seneca College	
Matthew O'Brien Memorial Scholarship	\$314,985	Koehler Family Scholarship	\$660,618	Koehler Family Scholarship	\$ 216,000
Odette Catholic Children's Aid Bursary	\$377,763	Maurice Conway Memorial Scholarship	\$244,763		
Marianna Korman Scholarship	\$55,760	Marianna Korman Scholarship	\$32,595	Humber College	
		Simon Fiandaca Memorial Scholarship	\$103,885	Raymond Francis Keating Scholarship	\$25,000
Ryerson University		McLaughlin College, York University			
Simon Fiandaca Memorial Scholarship	\$79,795	Social Justice Award	\$24,844		
Maeve's Scholarship	\$19,948				

Total externally endowed capital (unaudited) \$2,155,956



 *HOPE for*
CHILDREN
FOUNDATION

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