

Ontario Trillium Foundation grant supports Hopewell's development of a multi-year Fund Development Strategy

Guelph, ON – On Friday, MPP Mike Schreiner met with the team at Hopewell Children's Homes ("Hopewell") to hear more about the \$58,000 Resilient Communities Fund grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) that was used to build its fund development capacity through community engagement. The project is nearing completion with benefits already being realized through enhanced relationships and increased donations to the agency.

"As the Member of Provincial Parliament for Guelph, I want to congratulate Hopewell Children's Home upon receiving the Resilient Communities Fund Grant," said MPP Mike Schreiner. "I have had the privilege of working alongside Hopewell on many occasions and am always impressed with the extent to which they go above and beyond to support people in need in our community. Hopewell creates a healthy, safe space where everyone feels at home. This grant will allow them to continue serving the people of Guelph through their many initiatives. Thank you for your great work!"

The OTF grant supported development of a 3-year Fund Development Strategy, on-site coaching and assistance to build capacity within the Fund Development team and a Case for Support that outlines Hopewell's impact in the community. Hopewell's team worked closely with KEA Canada Inc. and Write Words Ink and Company on these key pieces. This work will allow Hopewell to strategically position itself to sustain and grow its support services by building relationships with those who understand and care about Hopewell's relevance in the Guelph-Wellington community. The strategy focusses on relationship building that will focus on creating a shared vision, clear articulation of mission, creative strategies, and a solid communication plan.

"The impact of this OTF grant cannot be overstated," said Maria Zegarac, Executive Director of Hopewell. "The OTF grant allowed us to prioritize this initiative. To realize our vision of a community where all people can reach their full potential in supportive and caring environments, we must continue our outreach to the community in order to bring more support to Hopewell. On Hopewell's 40th anniversary, we are very proud of the impact we have had so far and look forward to continuing to support our community and grow the agency to have a greater impact."

Hopewell Children's Homes envisions a community where all people can reach their full potential in supportive and caring environments. We live out our mission each day by enriching the lives of individuals we support with a developmental disability with the goal of helping them to live their best life, whatever that looks like. Our supports are structured around the person and based on their needs, plans and goals. We support individuals of all ages and provide residential, respite and recreational support in the Guelph-Wellington region. Learn more about us by visiting our website or our social media channels.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations celebrates 40 years of grantmaking in Ontario and making a lasting impact in communities. Last year, OTF invested nearly \$209M into 2,042 community projects and partnerships, which included funding for the Government of Ontario's Community Building Fund. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

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