

Another HOOTC season is almost behind us. Each season appears to hasten past faster than the last. ...a mere reflection in our rearview mirrors

As with most seasons, 2023-2024 was certainly an eventful one. Seemingly though, it feels like it was more momentous than in the past as HOOTC moved onward through 25 years of service in our community.

The needs at times seemed overwhelming and almost insurmountable. Our hearts were torn with the rising numbers of guests needing access to programming. The sheer number of those experiencing poverty at a level we've not experienced before inspiring us to strive even harder to alleviate hunger in our community.

With the number of meals and guests continuing to rise, there were significant challenges to ensuring that HOOTC had enough funding, enough volunteers, enough sites, and enough capacity to allow us to sustain and provide for those needing the essential services that HOOTC provides. We were happy to enhance our meals returning to Sit Down Dinners, adding Warming Cafes and a New Site mid season.

"Alone we can do so little;  
**TOGETHER** we can do so much." ~Helen Keller

**TOGETHER** with the support of our donors, volunteers, churches, community partners, HOOTC family and friends... we did so much.

As we reflect on the past season, and indeed on the past 25 years, we take inspiration from the vision of our founder. We are incredibly grateful for all the many compassionate hearts and hands that allowed us to take such loving care of our guests.

In the rear-view mirror we see unending kindness, commitment, dedication and support. These reflections carry us forward and drive what is the very heartbeat of our HOOTC program.

*With Warmth and Gratitude,  
Janice & Kathy*

"There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it." ~ Edith Wharton



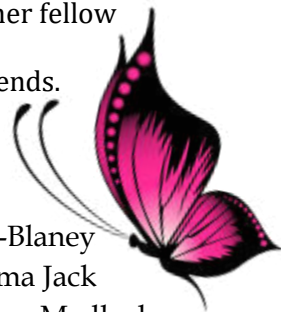
### In Loving Memory of Gwen Todd

It was with great sadness and heavy hearts that we had to say goodbye to our HOOTC Volunteer, Board Member, Fundraiser Chair, and friend Gwen Todd. Our dear Gwen suddenly and unexpectedly passed away on January 22, 2024. Gwen was a friend to many of her fellow volunteers and HOOTC staff.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband John, Gwen's family and friends.

### Donations were Lovingly Given & Gratefully Received In Gwen's Memory from:

Deborah Boucher	Kellie Battenham	Heather Chopp	Daniel, Nora, John Curran-Blaney
Angelo D'Amico	Domenic DiGiacomo & Franca Gallucci	Jeannette Emmett	Norma Jack
G & S Flint Foundation	Dave & Kathy Havill	Gayle Henderson	Bonnie Lendrum
Ann McDonald	Heidi Petre	Carolyn Poirier	Vic & Giselle Rottaris
Barbara Seldon	Alan Skea	Suzanne Todd	John Todd
Derek, Kati, Meghan & Jesse Trevorrow			



# A FEW SNAPSHOTS OF THE 2023/24 SEASON...



## SEPTEMBER SUPER CRAWL FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who helped us with this event. It was a fantastic weekend. Special thanks to the Christ's Church Cathedral for hosting us.



## SEPTEMBER BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER



Thank you to everyone who participated: donors, shoppers, volunteers, our Hamilton Hurricanes and friends. Thank you to Central Presbyterian Church for hosting us. Special Mention and Thank you to Mary G. for all the extra hard work and extra days you put into the sale.





**FIRST DAY OF MEAL SERVICE FOR OUR 2023-2024 SEASON AT ERSKINE CHURCH.**  
 Coordinator extraordinaire, Cindy, gets ready to hand out the beautiful cupcakes which were graciously donated by Gaye, one of our amazing supporters.  
 A very happy guest receives the first meal given out by our founder Sister Carole Anne.

**WATERDOWN FOOD DRIVE**  
 We were thrilled with the incredible success of our "1st" Annual Food Drive in Waterdown. Special "shout-out" to Coach Barry and the Hamilton Hurricanes who step up and help us at every opportunity. Special thanks to Fortinos in Waterdown – and their very generous customers.



# THANK YOU

Hamilton Out of the Cold could not exist without all the Community care and kindness.  
We are so grateful to each and everyone of you.



Thank you Kim Varian and Megan Nourse for including HOOTC in your Community Partners Even-



## DURAND CHRISTMAS MARKET

Thank you Adelle for the invitation!



## ST. ANN'S CHURCH, ANCASTER

Annual Coffee Drive  
Thank you Paul and the Congregation of St. Ann's.



Thank you Brenda, Doris and all the generous Women from  
"100+ WOMEN WHO CARE FLAMBORO"



ABBIE AND FRIENDS AT THE DOLLARTREE



THE DEANE FAMILY

## ST. MARGARET MARY, CWL & PARISH & CONFIRMATION GROUP



ELEMENTS CASINO



RED HATTERS



## RE-SOURCE THRIFT SHOP

Thank you Melinda and staff for your incredible financial support

## BAFFIN





## OUR BENEFACTORS

Hamilton Out of the Cold would like to thank all of the community organizations, foundations, faith based organizations, groups and individuals that have made both financial and in-kind donations to our program. We are very grateful to all of our benefactors and want to make sure that we have acknowledged everyone. If we've missed you, please let us know and we will be sure to include you in our next Newsletter.

### INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Kenneth & Sharon Alford

Anonymous

Dave & Lynda Bowen

Walter & Christine Boyd

Brenda Broer

Shelly & Howard Brown

Marty Broughton

Jim & Shirley Brownridge

Lou & Marlene Castura

Pierrette Cayen

Ivy Courtney

Janice & Brian Christie

Dan Curran-Blaney *Honouring  
Silke & Graham Flint*

Don Cumming *Honouring  
Silke & Graham Flint*

Victoria & Aaron Deanes

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Lynne DeFrancesco

Tim & Vicki Dexter

Olivia Divinski & friends

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Pricilla & John Duncan

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& Barbara Caritas

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Hazel Ryan

Lynn Savin

Nancy & Werner Scheiner

Kimiko Schneider

Mary Ann Simpson

Jennifer Scott

Barbara & Peter Stirling

Gerald & Helen Spring

Catherine Thomas

Heurtha Thomson

Angela & Frank Vanderzalm

Theresa VanFraassen

Joel Veenstra

Angelo and Anna Venditti

Marie Walsh

Tom & Patricia Weinstein

Gail Wilkinson

Syd Wilkinson

Kathleen Woods

Gaye Yachetti

Diane Zimmerman

Kathy & Khalil Zoghaib

# MEMORIAMs



Hamilton Out of the Cold was grateful to receive donations  
In Loving Memory of  
**MARY LOUISE BEECROFT**

Given by

Bovas Abraham Wendy Black Shelly & Howard Brown Lou & Marlene Castura  
Robert Crockford Tim & Vicky Dexter Darrell & Debbie McMath  
Susan Muma Dennis & Lorraine Oliver Matthew Schofield  
Shannon Stanojevic Nadia Stoffi Catherine Thomas Graham Wilson



In Loving Memory of  
**DOUGLAS MARTIN**

Given by

Sharon Burr Patricia Duxbury William Fulton  
Katherine Jackson Bonnie Leuser David Robinson  
Terry McDonald

In Loving Memory of  
**CHARLIE HOBBS**

Given by

Austen & Noble Insurance Brokers Ltd. Gloria Beattie  
Brian & Janice Christie Theresa MacKay  
Lorenzo Mostacci Gerald & Helen Spring



**In Loving Memory of....**

George Clegg, Dr. John McKenna  
Robert A. Puma, Robert Slade  
Rosemary Rankin  
Jim Elder, Marjorie Ross, Jeffrey Ross  
David Couchman  
Margaret Firth

Son Richard  
Garey Keith

**Given by...**

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Lynda & Dave Bowen  
Sheila McCulloch  
Gerry & Rosemary Okimi  
William J. Russell  
& Patricia Townson-Russell  
Angelo & Anna Venditti  
Cynthia Brown & Jim Lamontague



"I know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death. They continue to participate in every act, thought, and decision we make. Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories. We find comfort in knowing that our lives have been enriched by having shared their love." *Leo Buscaglia*,

## GROUPS, CORPORATIONS, FAITH BASED Financial and Gifts in Kind



Allen & Milli Gould Family Foundation  
 Ancaster Film Fest  
 Anderson College  
 Austen and Noble Ins. Brokers Ltd.  
 Baffin  
 Bashir Khambalia Medicine Professional  
 Burlington Reuse Thrift Store  
 Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph  
 Costco at 50 Rd. Winona & St. Catharines  
 CTRL + F  
 Durand Coffee  
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 Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra  
 Hamilton Tiger Cats  
 Harbour Collision  
 Homeless Cars  
 HPS Project Concern  
 HPL Stoney Creek, Knitting Group  
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 Mountain Young at Heart Euchre Club  
 Paradise Fields  
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 St. Johns Anglican Church Winona  
 St. Johns Euchre Club  
 St. John Henry Newman Catholic Secondary  
 School—Grade 12 BOH4MI Class  
 Sweet Paradise  
 Trinity Lutheran Church  
 TKB Hanna & Associates  
 University Bible Fellowship of Hamilton  
 Walmart Canada  
 Ward 2 Hamilton  
 100 Women Who Care Flamboro  
 100 Women Who Care Hamilton Wentworth  
 Mischa Weisz Foundation



The Mischa Weisz Foundation has been a generous supporter of Hamilton Out of The Cold for several years. Mischa Weisz was a proud father, established entrepreneur and dedicated philanthropist. His personal experiences and success inspired him to leave a legacy of community support. Before his passing in 2009 he established the Mischa Weisz Foundation to deliver on his commitment to the community.

Thank you to Mischa and The Mischa Weisz Foundation for your continued support!



# Volunteer Snapshots

*Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart.* – Elizabeth Andrew





## A Lovely Letter from one of our Coordinators:

The Lord tugs at our heartstrings. Sometimes he pulls so hard you have no choice but to follow what he wants from you. That is how Hamilton Out of the Cold has always been for me. But he helps me do his work. He pulls many more heartstrings and they have formed my team of devoted helpers. Together we work and there are always surprises along the way.

A couple of bags of warm clothing has become a store of beautiful warm used and new items for our guests. So many businesses and groups of people donate to help us feed our grateful guests. It is so marvelous to see it all come together.

In a world where there are so many troubling things, there are kind and generous people surrounding the work God has asked us to do. He is beside us when we get tired and brings us strength to move forward. I thank you God for pushing and pulling so hard. -Gisele R.



## OUR 2023~2024 HOSTS

Central Presbyterian Church  
Christ's Church Cathedral  
Erskine Presbyterian Church  
Heritage Green Seventh Day Adventist Church, Stoney Creek  
Immanuel Christian Reformed Church  
Knox Presbyterian Church, Waterdown  
MacNab Presbyterian Church  
St. Joseph Parish  
St. Stephen On The Mount Anglican Church  
Trinity Lutheran Church



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