



ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



Despite the uncertainty resulting from Covid-19, Food4Kids programs continued to flourish. Within 2 hours of learning schools would be closed due to the pandemic, a system was developed to ensure children involved with Food4Kids would not go without. A grocery gift card distribution system ensured seamless transition allowing families to access food directly. Where a family was unable to visit a grocery store due to mobility issues or illness, food bins were delivered directly to their homes.

We worked diligently to ensure we could not only continue to feed the 2,200 children registered for our program, but to expand to meet the growing need. At year end, 2,830, a net increase of 630 children received a consistent food supply from Food4Kids affiliates. More than 47,500 grocery cards were distributed providing \$1,018,750 within a 24-week period.

The ability to act quickly and so inclusively was made possible by a caring network of individual, group, community, and corporate grants. From children donating their allowances to local and national corporate call-for-proposals, cities, regions, the province, and country came together to help feed children going without. Despite the severity of the crisis experienced, we were not alone, and we were supported.

The front-line work was conducted by affiliates in Hamilton, Halton, Guelph, Mississauga, and Niagara. Their dedication, tireless outreach and commitment must be recognized. Phone calls, home visits and emails maintained consistent contact with schools and families ensuring the need was being met. We are proud of this selfless giving during such a difficult time.

As we enter the 2020-2021 year, we do so with hope and confidence. We have demonstrated our resiliency and commitment addressing the crisis with plans to not only maintain service levels, but to expand to more schools and more children.

As we look back on all that you have contributed and all that you have made possible this year, we thank you for your confidence in our leadership and ask that you continue to stand with us as we help ensure no child will worry about how they will be fed.



Kelli Bugden
Board Chair

Lena Bassford
Executive Director



VISION:

An Ontario where no child goes hungry.

MISSION:

To provide healthy food for children from at-risk, low-income or disadvantaged homes with limited or no food during weekend periods or during the summer months.

MANDATE:

- Provide resources and support for existing Food4Kids agencies in Ontario to grow capacity, increase reach, and build strength.
- Help Food4Kids agencies to find, track, and share impact.
- Oversee the development of new and emerging Food4Kids programs within Ontario.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

PROVIDE packages of nutritious food for children with little or no access to food during weekend periods or during the summer months;

FOCUS on schools located in low-income and marginalized neighbourhoods with poverty rates in excess of 40% to reduce barriers for those most in-need;

CONDUCT public education and community-awareness initiatives designed to develop an understanding of child hunger;

PROVIDE leadership as the primary resource for weekend and summer food distribution for at-risk children engaging community partners;

MAINTAIN a high standard of service through best practices and annual evaluation methods;

DEVOTE extensive resources to recruit, train, retain and recognize volunteers to facilitate the program.



HAMILTON

HALTON

MISSISSAUGA

GUELPH

NIAGARA



OUR COMMUNITIES:

Following one year of operation, Food4Kids Hamilton began receiving calls from other communities within Ontario wishing to replicate the program model allowing us to expand our reach and service to children in other communities.

In four years, 4 additional chapters emerged in Halton, Mississauga, Guelph and Niagara.

Food4Kids Ontario was established in 2016 to oversee chapters and ensure structures were in place to ensure safe and impactful programs. Generous funding received through founding sponsors, The **Grocery Foundation** and the **Sprott Foundation** provided start-up funds to begin program implementation and expansion.

OUR PROGRAMS:

WEEKEND FOOD PROGRAM: Provides packages of healthy food for children with limited or no access to food each weekend. Referrals are received from schools aware of children and families struggling with food security. Volunteers package food each Wednesday and volunteers deliver food to schools each Friday morning. At the school, the food package is quietly tucked into the child's backpack and when the child arrives home and opens their backpack, a healthy food supply awaits them. 2,840 children served.

SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM: Summer is typically a time for camp, vacations and having fun. For our kids, ensuring they have enough food to eat is their greatest focus. Providing food for these children becomes even more critical, since school snack or breakfast programs are not available during the summer months. We addressed this issue by developing a summer food program, **the first of its kind in Canada.** The children received a bounty of healthy foods including proteins, dairy, fruits and vegetables, along with a weekly feature recipe card to make a simple nutritious meal.





IMPACTING THE LIVES OF **2,840 CHILDREN**



	Year Established	Weekends without Hunger
Guelph	2018	202
Halton	2014	784
Hamilton	2012	1,330
Mississauga	2018	233
Niagara	2018	291
TOTAL SERVED		2,840



BECAUSE OF YOU,
WE HAVE ACHIEVED SO MUCH.

171

Schools
facilitating
Food4Kids
programs

2,840

Children provided
nourishment within
the Weekends
without Hunger
Program

47,500

Grocery gift cards distributed
during pandemic (March
2020–August 2020) totalled
\$1,018,750.

**Over. One. Million.
Distributed.**

www.food4kids.ca

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	2020 \$	2019 \$
DONATION REVENUE		
Donations	818,384	430,721
Government Grants	13,054	119,700
	831,438	550,421
EXPENDITURES		
Advertising and promotion	20,662	18,815
Bank charges	557	521
Consulting fees	-	10,057
Funds to partner agencies (Note 4)	551,849	393,699
Insurance	1,656	-
Office and general	6,560	3,835
Professional fees	6,741	7,013
Rent	3,000	-
Travel	722	2,492
Wages and benefits	60,539	51,282
	652,286	487,714
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	179,152	62,707

Year ended August 31





2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kelli Bugden

Katherine Power

Charlie Difalco

Shaun McKenna

Ryan Strang

Erica Lamont

STAFF: Lena Bassford

THANK YOU!

WE COULD NOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU.

Food4Kids Ontario is funded through donations or onetime grants. We are grateful for the unconditional giving of individuals, groups and businesses entrusting our agency with their donations, knowing the difference their support will make.

To each and every donor, our thanks and assurance, your support fuels a collective effort ensuring no child goes hungry in our shared community.

- 4Site Retail
- Benevity Fund
- Breakfast Clubs of Canada
- Cogeco Cable
- Community Food Centres of Canada
- Giant Tiger Foundation
- Lunan Foundation
- Ontario Teachers Insurance Plan
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Paypal Foundation
- Pepsico Foundation
- RBC Foundation
- Sprott Foundation
- Suncor Energy



MAKING A DIFFERENCE



“At 11 years of age, he weighed 300 pounds. His mother worked weekends. Alone and isolated, he ate high carbohydrate foods donated through the local food bank. His mother did her grocery shopping at the Dollar Store, the only food they could afford. He was excited when he received food packages from Food4Kids, containing fruits, vegetables and healthy foods. He was keen to eat only the food provided in the food packages. After 11 months, this child lost an amazing 100 pounds! What an incredible success story.”

– School Principal

“He was in my office almost every day for behavioural issues in the classroom as well as fighting and bullying in the schoolyard. Once he became involved with Food4Kids, he was not in my office again. Our interaction was a high five in the hallway. The issues dissipated. He was simply chronically hungry.”

– School Principal

“The issue of hunger became a reality check one quiet afternoon. Three children, brothers and sisters, entered the school office disclosing they were so hungry and needed food. While reluctant, they shared the only food they had to eat at home was dry dog food. Upon investigation, it was not the parent being neglectful; she simply could not afford food for her children.”

– School Principal

“I was one of the children who could have benefitted from the Food4Kids program growing up. We would sometimes go three days without food, and I cannot describe the physical and emotional pain. I will support this charity for the rest of my life, so that another child does not have to experience what I did.”

– Volunteer

