



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



# FIGHTING HUNGER TOGETHER

## CHILD HUNGER IN ONTARIO

Over the last year, we have witnessed both triumphs and challenges that have tested our resolve and resourcefulness in unprecedented ways. Still, it has also demonstrated the strength of our commitment and the resilience of our organization. At Food4Kids Ontario, we continue supporting Chapters to feed more than 3,660 children every weekend – 52 weeks a year.

It is hard to believe that we should have this much poverty in a country like Canada, with so many resources.

A recent report from Children First Canada lists their ‘*Top Threats to Childhood in Canada*,’ which includes poor mental health, systemic racism, discrimination, and poverty. An alarming statistic includes one in four children across Canadian provinces living in households without enough access to food due to financial constraints in 2022. This statistic means that 1.8 million children under 18 were affected by food insecurity, a marked increase from the 1.4 million in 2021.

This number is no surprise to us at Food4Kids as we have seen an average rise of 27% in need in each of the communities in which Food4Kids operates. The truth is that we need more funding to expand programming quickly enough not to allow children to go hungry.

We couldn’t do this vital work without our community. Whether you are an individual, group or corporate donor, along with all our dedicated volunteers, you ensure our program is successful. Simply put, you allow us to continue to feed kids!

To our founding sponsors, The Grocery Foundation and The Sprott Foundation, who have been there each step of the way. They have enabled us to continue to feed children, and through their increased funding, we have expanded programming to Muskoka and Toronto.

The generous support from RBC Foundation, Cogeco, TD and Mawer Investment Management Ltd. has impacted the lives of so many children. We now support seven Chapters in Halton, Hamilton, Guelph, Mississauga, Muskoka, Niagara and Toronto.

With continued and increased support, we are confident that the coming year will bring new opportunities for growth and further strides in fulfilling our mission. Together, we will ensure that no child goes hungry and that every child has the chance to reach their full potential.

*Ryan Strang*  
Board Chair

*Gayle Kabbash*  
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 Chapters in Ontario to grow capacity, increase reach, and build strength.
- Help Food4Kids Chapters 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 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.

## 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.



### 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. Since the pandemic, we have distributed grocery gift cards to our families during the summer. The number of families needing our support had grown, and we did not want to leave anyone out. Some of our Chapters also provided a bounty of healthy foods, including proteins, dairy, fruits, and vegetables.

## OUR COMMUNITIES: IMPACTING THE LIVES OF 3,664 CHILDREN

 FOOD4KIDS	Year Established	Weekends without Hunger
Guelph	2018	420
Halton	2014	1,030
Hamilton	2012	1,425
Mississauga	2018	288
Niagara	2018	501
<b>TOTAL SERVED</b>		<b>3,664</b>

**BECAUSE OF YOU,  
WE HAVE ACHIEVED SO MUCH.**

**257**

Schools  
facilitating  
Food4Kids  
programs

**3,664**

Children received  
nourishment each  
week

**\$2,092,457**

Food costs only in 2022-2023

[www.food4kids.ca](http://www.food4kids.ca)

# STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	2022 \$	2023 \$
<b>DONATION REVENUE</b>		
Donations	930,617	702,112
In-kind food and promotion donations	—	12,289
Interest Income	4,085	17,355
	<b>934,702</b>	<b>731,756</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Bank charges	1,342	1,561
Funds to partner agencies (Note 5)	342,825	584,096
Insurance	1,664	1,582
Marketing, promotion and fundraising	40,590	12,861
Office and general	7,240	5,691
Professional fees	7,430	17,297
Rent	3,000	3,000
Travel	551	1,070
Wages and benefits	83,922	85,277
	<b>488,564</b>	<b>712,435</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>446,138</b>	<b>19,321</b>

Year ended August 31





## **2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Ryan Strang, Chair**

**Christian Kokorian, Vice-Chair**

**Stephen Testa**

**Chris Paolini**

**Sonia Boyle**

**Krista Wright - until May 24, 2023**

**Greg Mallia - until July 7, 2023**

**Saman Al-Rawee - until June 22, 2023**

**STAFF: Gayle Kabbash, Executive Director**

# **THANK YOU!**

## **WE COULD NOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU.**

Food4Kids Ontario is funded through donations or one time 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 donor, our thanks and assurance that your support fuels a collective effort ensuring no child goes hungry in our shared community.

- **Benevity**
- **CIBC**
- **Cogeco Connexion**
- **Colleges Ontario**
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- **Fastenal Canada Ltd.**
- **Giant Tiger Foundation**
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- **Ontario Association of Foundation Specialists**
- **RBC Foundation**
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- **The Sprott Foundation**
- **Toronto Dominion - Ready Challenge Grant**

