

**20  
24**

# **YEAR IN REVIEW**



**[WWW.GLOWINGHEARTSCHARITY.ORG](http://WWW.GLOWINGHEARTSCHARITY.ORG)**

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"I just wanted to touch base with you in regards to my child's assessment and say thank you! The team at Lakeview were amazing. They were able to confirm and validate the things I have been seeing in NAME for so many years. To be told, I'm not crazy truly makes me feel sad yet relieved all at the same time. I hope now, NAME can get the help she deserves through school. None of this would have been possible without you and the amazing things you are doing with Glowing Hearts. Know that you truly are an angel here on earth and helping others is truly your calling. Sending you a huge hug from NAME and I." -*Parent of Psychoeducational Assessment Recipient*

"Thank you for your continued support in helping to raise our children, and grow beautiful minds :)“ -*Parent*

"Glowing Hearts is best at identifying the true needs of families and addressing them, more actively and pragmatically than any other charity or support I've come across." -*Community Organization*

"I wanted to let you know that at our year-end meeting, the boys' teachers have assessed them at grade level! (Very low end of it) but much better than a few years behind! Tara is a miracle worker! They have made tremendous progress and even the school said their reading levels went up quicker than normal" -  
*Parent*

"Serving those who are really in need. Glowing Hearts is a frontline on the ground organization that truly serves the community." -*Community Organization*

Thank you so much for funding this amazing opportunity for families. Accessing social services has become extremely difficult over the past few years, with severely backed up wait lists, not to mention the huge financial barrier for many families. I am thanking you not just for my own family, but for every child and family who needs and deserves access to counselling and support. The need for access to these supports is greater than ever due to the mental health toll that COVID has had on all of us, especially our children. Bless you for supporting families in your community.” -*Parent of a Child Who Received Counselling*





Greetings Glowing Hearts Community!

As we look back on the past year at Glowing Hearts Charity, I am deeply grateful for the steadfast support and generosity of our community. Your dedication has been crucial in advancing our mission, and I am excited to share the meaningful impact we've achieved together over the last year in this 2024 Year in Review.

As many of you know, we are in the process of updating our strategic directions and after very careful consideration, we have made the difficult decision to discontinue our Backpacks for Youth program in 2025.

We understand how important this program has been to the community and to the young people we serve, but we promise this decision was not made lightly. Being completely run by volunteers, except for our summer students covered by a Canada Summer Job grant, we need to ensure that the programs we run are sustainable for our team, resources, and funding, while providing the level of service and long-term impact that our youth deserve and that better align with our mission of disrupting the cycle of poverty by providing programs that reduce barriers and support the mental health, growth, and development of school-age children and youth in Simcoe County.

We are, however, very excited to share that this change will allow us to expand our much-needed hygiene product program and will allow us to launch our life-changing program, Calm H.O.M.E.S. (Healthy, Organized, Manageable, Educated, Spaces) that will focus on addressing mental health and clutter.

We sincerely appreciate your support and look forward to filling gaps in services in the community.

On behalf of the entire board and all of us at Glowing Hearts Charity, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks for your unwavering commitment and belief in our mission. Together, we are making a real difference.

Sarah Fleming  
Managing Director & Board Chair  
Glowing Hearts Charity

# OUR BOARD



**Sarah Fleming**  
Managing Director  
& Board Chair



**Karen Johnson**  
Treasurer



**Jeannie Mills**  
Secretary



**Jenn Williams**  
Director



**Judy Cathcart**  
Director



**Michael Baumtrog**  
Director



**Tara Banks-Paine**  
Director



**Divya Awasthi**  
Director

# MISSION

To disrupt the cycle of poverty by providing programs that reduce barriers and support the mental health, growth, and development of school-age children and youth in Simcoe County.



# VISION

All school-age children and youth in Simcoe County have access to resources and opportunities to reach their full potential.

# VALUES

## CARING

We respect and care deeply about those we serve, see the potential in all children, and are committed to providing dignified access to our programs.

## INCLUSIVE

We value and embrace each other's individuality and encourage and respect all forms of diversity.

## TRANSFORMATIVE

We demonstrate the courage and curiosity to challenge the status quo in everything we do to meet the ever-changing needs of our community.

## ACCOUNTABLE

We are responsive to our clients and the community, acting responsibly, with integrity and transparency.

## COLLABORATIVE

We build relationships and work with community partners to foster a kinder, more compassionate community to enrich young people's lives.



# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



Since the summer of 2021, well over 5300 different children and youth have accessed one or more of our programs!

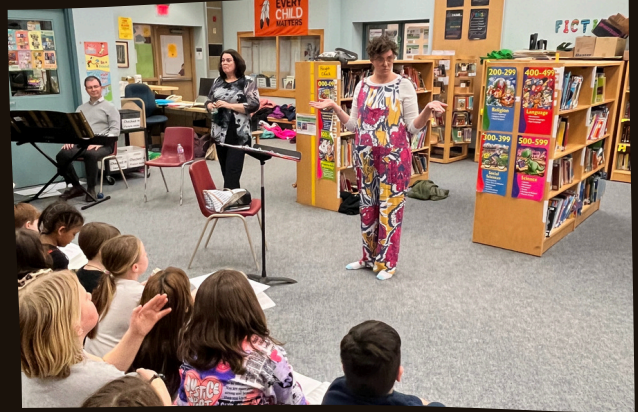


**151** children and youth participated in our Simcoe Youth Choir, ukulele, guitar, and violin programs.



# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

- Our choir director was invited to participate in Music Care training with the Simcoe County District School Board.
- With great thanks to our partnership with the Reflection Centre, all children/youth and their parents/guardians who requested mental health counselling received timely access to the support they needed.
- **10** new clients received psychoeducational assessments, bringing the total to **30** completed assessments to date.
- Where logistically possible, our **30** assessment clients have been receiving ongoing support, such as through tutoring and behaviour support services.
- These **30** families have accessed our Food That Fuels program, allowing them to receive a fresh produce box once per month on an ongoing basis.

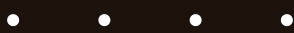


# 2024

# HIGHLIGHTS



- We engaged in many community events, including Home Runs for the Hungry, the Barrie Wellness Fair, the Barrie Santa Claus Parade, and the Rotary Club of Barrie Charity Fair.
- We held our 1st Annual Glowing Hearts Charity Golf Classic at National Pines Golf Club and raised over \$21,000, and our 2nd Annual Online Auction raised \$6806! Our 2nd Annual Golf Classic is booked for June 9th at Vespra Hills Golf Club. Save the date!
- We participated in the Charity Insights Canada Project (CICP-PCPOB) every week all year long.
- CommunityVotes Simcoe County Award Non-Profit 2024 Platinum Winner.
- CommunityVotes Simcoe County Award Community Organization 2024 Platinum Winner.



# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



- **2760** personalized backpacks filled with water bottles, school supplies, and lunch bags for primary-grade students, were packed and delivered to students in need across Simcoe County.
- We engaged **32** local businesses and organizations to support the community through our Backpacks for Youth School Supply Drive.
- **Hundreds and hundreds** of backpacks and school supplies to local organizations including Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions, Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Child & Family Services, the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka-Immigrant & Youth Services, Empower Simcoe, and Catulpa.



We supported the following community organizations with school supplies for their clients:

- Alliston Mutual Assistance Group
- Barrie Area Native Advisory Circle (BANAC)
- Catulpa Community Support Services
- Child & Youth Advocacy Centre Simcoe Muskoka
- Clearview Youth Centre
- Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Child & Family Services
- Elizabeth Fry Society Simcoe Muskoka
- Empower Simcoe
- Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre
- New Path
- Ontario Works
- Orillia Native Women's Group
- Redwood Park Communities
- Samaritan House
- Simcoe County District School Board
- Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions
- Township of Clearview - Youth Centre
- YMCA Simcoe Muskoka

We were fortunate to have **2 Canada Summer Jobs** grant students on our team and **3 college co-op students**.

# VOLUNTEER-RUN

We are thankful to have more than 100 volunteers who assist in various ways as opportunities arise. Many of these amazing individuals volunteer on a regular basis.



Our volunteer Managing Director & Board Chair won the 2024 Women in Business Award for Community Impact



# WHAT'S NEXT?

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**We will finalize and share our strategic plan.**

**We are launching a pilot program aimed at addressing mental health and clutter, called Calm H.O.M.E.S. (Healthy, Organized, Manageable, Educated, Spaces) on March 17th, 2025.**

**We will continue to provide psychoeducational assessments and follow-up supports such as tutoring and behaviour support services. We will provide coverage for additional supports, such as occupational therapy, as needed.**

**Children, youth, and their parents will continue to be able to access free mental health counselling.**

**We will continue to offer a variety of music programs and will be introducing an early years music program.**

**Our Simcoe Youth Choir will be performing with the Mini Pops in May, and will continue to participate in community events when possible.**

**We will continue to provide fresh produce for low-income families.**

**We will be expanding our hygiene products program.**

**Glowing Hearts Charity will continue to transform the lives of Simcoe County families by collaborating with community partners and maximizing the impact of donor dollars by continuing to be volunteer-run.**

# 2024 YEARLONG SPONSORS

Georgian International  
SimcoeIT Solutions  
Simcoe County Elementary Teachers'  
Federation  
Tyler's Tree Services

# 2024 SUPPORTERS

## **PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE**

Doane Grant Thornton Foundation

## **SCHOLAR**

AlectraCares  
Barrie Colts Foundation  
Barrie Legion 147  
William Coleman  
iA Financial Group  
Jack Garner Foundation  
Kempenfelt Rotary Club  
Pavlik Foundation  
RBC Foundation & Community Fund  
Rotary Club of Barrie  
Starbucks Foundation Charitable Fund, held at Vancouver Foundation

## **GRADUATE**

Anonymous (1)

24 Good Deeds

Divya Awasthi

Shelley Black - Mortgage Alliance Customized Mortgage Strategies

Rodney Burns

Busch Systems

Domenic D'Addio

Ecclesiastical Insurance

Flynn Canada Ltd - Barrie

GroupHEALTH Benefit Solutions

Hydro One Employees' & Pensioners' Charity Trust Fund

NFP Canada Corp.

Peloton Capital Management

Penetanguishene Lions Club

Rotary Club of Wasaga Beach

Dr. Jacqueline Rynard

Starbucks Foundation

Trooper Pet Veterinary Services

Tyler Prescott

## **HONOURS**

Anonymous (5)

Advocis Simcoe-Muskoka

John Ewen

Sarah Fleming

Lisa Hutchinson

Krishna Karki

Metro 178 (in memory of Anthony Perkins)

Jeannie Mills

Modern Music Barrie

Carrissa Sadowski

Simcoe IT Solutions

St. Bernadette Catholic Elementary School

Superior Home Health Care

Trish Beesley Photography

## DONORS

Anonymous (66)  
Anonymous (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
Anonymous (in memory of Kathryn “Kate” Parsons)  
Chris Allen  
James Anderson-Sinclair Sports Medicine  
Frank Astri  
Attitude Print  
Jessica Avery  
Mary Ann Barlow (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
In Memory of Susanne Bennett  
Judy Blaney  
Annette Bourassa  
Stephanie Brady, Assisting You Social  
Jennifer Burgin  
Su Cadogan  
Michelle Castano  
Tom Coon  
Sharon Clarke  
Donna Cochrane  
Danaj Family  
Ewen Boyd LLP  
Dr. Jessica Day - Blue Haven Wellness  
Laura Facca  
Tracy Fernandes (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
Don Fleming  
Forest Bathing with Beth  
Elizabeth Fornasier  
Jeff Garner in honour of Brian Sullivan  
Christine Gauthier  
Jennifer Gignac  
Lesley Goode (in honour of Pamela & Brad Ross)  
Karen H.  
Peter Hayden  
Roberta Hochman  
Aaron Kell-North Barrie Market  
Kempenfelt Windows & Doors  
Shawn Klis  
Sharon Knoblauch  
Keith Lindsay  
Andrew MacAdam  
Bruce MacGillivray - Instant Imprints Barrie  
Pam McCloskey  
Dalton McGugan (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
Samual McKee (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
Doug McKenzie (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
Meghan Miller  
Mahb Molla  
Paul Morrison  
Amy Moylan  
Clinton Nesbitt in (in memory of Carrie Nesbitt)  
Newman Accounting  
Richard Newton  
Maria Nicoletti  
Paula Oake (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
Peter Pereira (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
Paul Perkins (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
Joanne Potts (in memory of Carrie Nesbitt who loved music, especially children’s choirs)  
Lesley Prestwich  
Cheryl Quinn  
Kim Redmond  
Lee Rinkoff  
Erroll Rowe (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
Rachel S.  
Oneib Saeed  
Yvette Sebastian  
Brenda Simpson  
Stephanie Simpson  
Adam Smith  
In Honour of the Staff at Steele Street P.S.  
Dave Stewart  
Lydia & David Stoneman (in memory of Tony Perkins)  
Nicola Switzer  
Sally & Andrew Telford  
Matthew Thompson  
Tottenham Chiropractic  
Nancy & Craig Truscott  
Phil von Kaufmann  
Western Financial Group  
Catharine Webster in honour of Isla & Archer  
Jenn Williams  
Gisele Winton Sarvis



# Glowing Hearts Charity

A yellow heart graphic with a textured, brushstroke-like appearance, positioned behind the word "Hearts" in the charity's name.

**FOCUSED ON PREVENTION BY  
TAKING A HOLISTIC,  
PROACTIVE APPROACH.**

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