



The Guelph Community Foundation awards \$32,000 to help send over 600 kids to camp this summer

April 4, 2018 – for immediate release

A lot of kids in our community can't afford to go to summer camp. We know that early leadership skills are formed as a result of exposure to day camp programs. We believe that cost should not be a barrier to children who could benefit from the experience that camp can provide. *Together, we can make a difference in the lives of hundreds of kids in our community.*

The Grants Committee at The Guelph Community Foundation has announced the recipients of the *2018 Kids to Camp Grant Program*. Nineteen area camps were selected to receive a total of **\$32,000** in grant dollars this summer. This will provide registration assistance for approximately 629 area kids!

"Research tells us that if a child feels like they belong within their community, that connection allows them to learn better, feel healthier and feel that their life has purpose" says Cyndy Moffat Forsyth, Chair of the Grants Committee at GCF. "For some kids, the summer camp experience is their only exposure to belonging and connectedness", she explains.

The camps selected for grants in 2018 believe in the powerful impact that the camp experience can have on children and youth. They focus on providing a sense of belonging, building confidence, encouraging physical activity, promoting a respect for the outdoors and an exposure to art and music. The Guelph Community Foundation would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for the many donations received, and to the following funds for their continued support of the Kids to Camp program: *The Bonnie Ewen Fund, Camp Discover Fund, The Guelph Community Foundation Children & Youth Fund, The Hugh & Lorna Guthrie Fund, The Griffith & Violet Morgan Fund and The Nestle Waters Canada Kids to Camp Fund.*

Congratulations to the recipients of The Guelph Community Foundation *Kids to Camp* grants for the summer of 2018:

- Art Gallery of Guelph
- Big Brothers Big Sisters North Wellington
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Centre Wellington
- Camp Quality Canada
- Canadian Diabetes Association
- Community Resource Centre of North & Centre Wellington
- Creative Encounters with Science
- Everdale Farm Camp
- Focus on Nature
- Guelph Dance
- Guelph Humane Society
- Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition
- Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis
- Muslim Society of Guelph
- Portage Ontario
- Rainbow Programs for Children
- Shelldale Better Beginnings Better Futures
- Sunrise Therapeutic Riding and Learning Centre
- YMCA-YWCA Guelph

About The Guelph Community Foundation:

The Guelph Community Foundation is a charitable public foundation whose purpose is to provide leadership in promoting community philanthropy and to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Guelph and surrounding areas. The Foundation pools the charitable gifts of many donors and fund holders into permanent, income-earning endowments. Income from the endowments supports a wide range of charitable programs and activities. Total funds under administration are \$14 million with over \$10 million in permanent endowed assets. Since inception, over \$4.2 million has been distributed to over 950 charitable initiatives.

The Guelph Community Foundation's office is located at 46 Cork Street East in Guelph. For more information about The Foundation, their reach and impact within our community please visit <http://www.guelphcf.ca>

For more information about the Kids to Camp program at The Guelph Community Foundation, please contact:

Lianne Carter, Marketing & Communications Director

Tel: 519-821-9216 or email lcarter@guelphcf.ca

Ishita Ghose, Grants Manager and Financial Administrator

Tel: 519-821-9216 or email ighose@guelphcf.ca