



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Over \$145,000 in Funds Granted to 30 Local Charities through Guelph Community Foundation's Community Grants Program

December 03, 2025 – The Guelph Community Foundation's board and staff are pleased to announce the *Community Grants* recipients for 2025. This year will cheerfully conclude with 30 local charities receiving a total of \$145,887.70 in funding. Each fall local charities and non-profits are invited to apply for Community Grants for funding of up to \$5,000. The Community Grants funding decisions were approved by the Foundation's Board of Directors on November 27, 2025.

Applying charities operating in Guelph and/or Wellington County must demonstrate that their application fits within the framework of our local [Toward Common Ground](#) wellbeing concepts and connects with one of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. The applications are evaluated by a volunteer committee made up of Guelph residents who are dedicated to supporting local charities that are making positive impacts in our community.

The grants provide operational and small capital funding to registered charities or non-profit organizations partnered with a registered charity. This year, we are able to fund 30 of the 71 applications we received. Each application demonstrated a clear need for funding to tackle all types of pressing issues including supporting children, youth and seniors, offering arts programming, addressing food insecurity, as well as mentorship, training and education.

The Foundation staff and Board of Directors are deeply grateful to GCF's generous donors and fundholders that enable us to provide grants to address such a wide breadth of needs. Community Grants is only one portion of the total amount of annual funding provided from the many funds held by the Foundation. For example, The Guelph Community Foundation granted \$1.2 million to Canadian charities in 2024.

We thank all applicants for taking the time to apply for this grant and for the incredible work that charities do to make Guelph and Wellington County a great place to live and work!

Congratulations to the 30 Community Grants 2025 Recipients:

Art Not Shame: Strengthening Creative Well-Being Through Equity-Centered Arts

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph: Strengthening Mentorship Capacity

COMPASS Refugee Centre: Strengthening Newcomer Settlement

Canadian Arab Women's Association: I'm Here Program

Catholic Youth Organization: Building a Fully Accessible Universal Washroom

Central Public School: School Playground Revitalization

Centre Wellington Pride: 2026 Centre Wellington Pride Community Celebration

Child Witness Centre: Enhanced Trauma-informed Support for Young Victims

Children's Reading Room: Baby Book Club Program

Church of the Apostles (St. James and St. Matthias): 2026 ReBoot Program

Community Food Equity with Dignity (FEWD): Digitizing FEWD Systems

Community Resource Centre: 2026 Summer Snax Program

Community of Hearts Lifelong Learning: Boxes of Hearts Job Readiness Program

Elora Centre for the Arts: Supportive Arts for Young Adults with (dis)Abilities

Guelph Black Heritage Society: Dream Makers March Break Camp

Guelph Community Health Centre: Promoting Resilience through Decision-Making

Guelph Food Bank: GFB Satellite Expansion Project

Guelph Wellington Seniors Association: Walking Equipment for Seniors

Immigrant Services Guelph Wellington: Distract Me Not! Program for Seniors

Kindle Communities Organization: Shelldale Block Party 2026

Lakeside HOPE House: Guelph Community Backpack Project

STEM Camp Foundation: STEM Camp Guelph Youth Initiative

Second Harvest: Delivering Good Rescued Food for Guelph

Shelldale Family Gateway: Youth Mentoring Program

The Brain Injury Association of Waterloo Wellington: Lidz on Kidz Education Program

The Grove Hubs: The Grove Guelph Youth Outreach Program

The Salvation Army Guelph: Revitalizing the Community Services Hub

United For Literacy: Unlocking Potential for Children through the Power of Literacy

Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy: Substance Use Resource Material Distribution

West Village Community Development Co-operative: Village Food Hub: A Growing Need

Many of the inspiring programs that received funding this year are focused on supporting families living with low-income who have been the most impacted by inflation and the increased cost of living. For example, Hope House Guelph's Community Backpack Project provides free backpacks and school supplies to children from low-income families so that every student can start school with dignity and confidence. The Community Grant's funding will help them purchase 250 backpacks and supply kits. Similarly, The Community Resource Centre's Summer Snax Program will receive funding to provide nutritious snacks, fresh produce, and grocery gift cards to 400 families with children living with low-income in Wellington County during the nine weeks when school nutrition programs are unavailable.

We thank our hardworking volunteer Board of Directors and Grants Committee, as well as our donors, investors, and community supporters for helping make the Community Grants Program possible each year. The staff and board are grateful to be able to make such an impact in our community, and we are excited to share the grant stories in next year's Impact Report. Stories highlighting examples of last year's grant recipients' impact in our community can be found in the 2024/2025 Annual Impact Report, available at: <https://guelphcf.ca/reports-and-financials/>. You can also email info@guelphcf.ca to receive a printed copy or pick one up from the Foundation's office.

If you are interested in learning more about how you or your family can support charities in our community, contact the Foundation at info@guelphcf.ca or visit the website, guelphcf.ca.

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About The Guelph Community Foundation

The Guelph Community Foundation is a charitable public foundation whose purpose is to provide leadership in community philanthropy and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Guelph and surrounding areas through endowments, stewardship, and granting programs. The Foundation pools the charitable gifts of donors into permanent interest earning endowments. The income from the endowments supports a range of charitable programs and activities. The Guelph Community Foundation is located at 55 Wyndham St N., Suite 4A, in the Old Quebec Street Shoppes in downtown Guelph.