





Message from the  
**Chair of the Board**

**The next 50 years**

Since the fall of 2011, our agency has undergone a major transition. As the new order has now had an opportunity to become established, the results are becoming quite apparent: We are ready for the future! If I may borrow a phrase from one of our great supporters: OUR STRENGTH IS PEOPLE. The loyalty and dedication to this agency shown by our staff, employees, volunteers and donors has enabled us to adjust, overcome many challenges, and emerge stronger. Strength is a necessity as demand for our services continues to grow and as our programs continue to evolve and expand.

As the management and personnel have become established, our bricks and mortar remain a challenge. With our aging infrastructure, and the growing needs of our programs, new and renewed space is now needed to keep up with the needs in our community. In the coming years, our Day Care will be made accessible in accordance to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. We have plans to relocate

this program to the ground floor of our existing building at 414 Barton Street East.

In December 2011, we purchased a building on 440 Barton Street East (also affectionately known as the Moose) with the intent of relocating some of our programs to a larger venue. Unfortunately, those plans came to a halt when an accidental fire caused significant damage to the building. I am happy to announce that the building will be restored to pre-fire condition in the coming year. All of these changes, plus a facade make-over, will greatly improve our visual presence in the community.

The Fall of 2013 marks the end of my term as Chair of the Board. Of course there are too many people to name here to whom I owe a great deal of thanks. It has certainly been interesting! I am confident that the future of our agency has never been more promising and I am anxious to watch our progress into the next 50 years.



Message from the  
**Executive Director**

Over the past 50+ years, there has never been a question about the commitment of St. Matthew’s House (SMH) to support clients and provide services to people who are in need in Hamilton. Most of our experiences have been very positive, but at times we’ve faced some difficult challenges. Regardless of our challenges, our staff and Board remain very resilient and continue to focus on meeting the needs of this community.

Courageous decisions have been made in the last year including hiring key staff members to provide direction to the organization. Going outside of the traditional ranks to hire new staff took courage with an understanding that SMH could look outside the box and have success. Despite our best intentions, the Manager of Social Services (Jeremy Young) and I would not have been able to move the organization forward without the support of key managers like Angela Dauda, Sue Lepore and Paul Chittillapilly. Their passion and knowledge of the organization has encouraged and supported my transition to St. Matthew’s House.

As we begin to clarify our operations as an organization it is important to work together in a

supportive, encouraging manner. While we try to eliminate external silos, it is as important to work on our internal silos too. We are beginning to see more cooperation and supportive work among all parts of the organization. The Food Bank committee of ECISS (Early Childhood Integration Support Services) raised \$2,238 and 942 pounds of food for our Food Banks. This shows we are working hard to get together!

Major thanks must go to the community partners, funders and volunteers who have stuck by St. Matthew’s House. You have been responsible for allowing us to get our feet back on the ground and allowing us to see what needs to be done and with whom we can work. As you know, we are prepared to do our part to make this community better.

As a final comment, all of the elements that we have had to put together over the past year have galvanized us. All the tears, laughter, joy and frustration have shown that people care and will make this work. As an organization we will show a focused approach moving forward, emphasizing the positive principles - Yes We Can – We are St. Matthew’s House.



29,026

people received food at the food bank



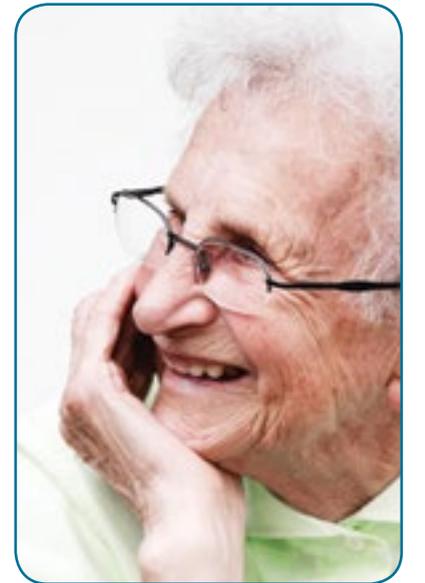
## SENIORS WILL NOT BE ISOLATED

*I couldn't find a reason to live.*

That was the case for Dolly, an 84 year-old senior living alone, depressed with suicidal thoughts.

Since Dolly came to St. Matthew's Drop-In Centre, she became more out-going. Almost every day she came to the Seniors' Centre for a hot lunch and socialized with friends made at the centre. St. Matthew's House was able to improve her quality of life by providing many small but very important things to make her life a little easier. In her words, *"Honey, I could go on for hours on the little things they do that don't mean much to you. But when you're my age, they mean a lot."*

St. Matthew's House strives to not only provide basic needs, but also help to enrich and improve lives for the seniors living in our community.



1,464

seniors did not become homeless



St. Matthew's House  
*Where Hope Lives*

2,000

seniors had an outlet for community participation and recreational activities

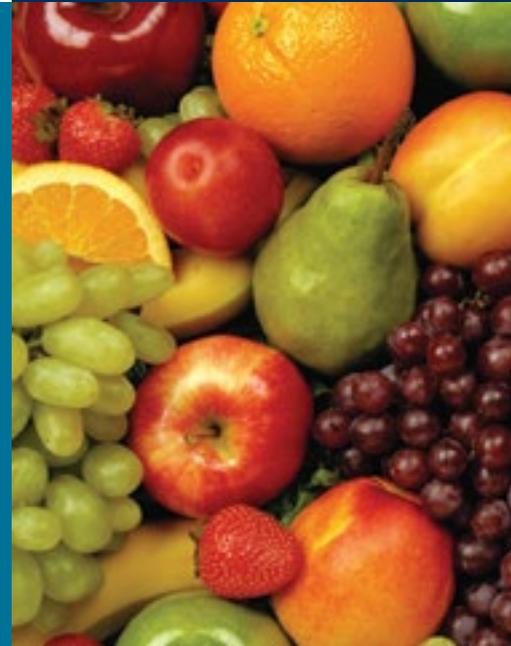


6,212

nutritious meals served to seniors

2,942

people had a festive christmas with gifts and meals



## EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM



St. Matthew's House offers a variety of social services to many local families and individuals. Last year, we served **29,026** individuals who received emergency food provisions through our two Food Banks. We have improved our customers' access to fresh nutritious foods, vegetables, dairy products, meats, etc. via our walk-in cooler/freezer unit purchased this past year.

The Christmas Families Program ensured that **876 families representing 2,942 individuals** had a happy Holiday Season and were able to celebrate their families with gifts and special seasonal meals. This could not have been achieved without the commitment and support of our staff members, the many regular volunteers and a truly generous community.



## CHILDREN OF ST. MATTS

### Early Childhood Integration Support Services (ECISS)

*Imagine a child who has a seizure disorder, gastric tube, oxygen monitor, visual impairment, hearing loss, autism, down syndrome or any other developmental disability. Now imagine this child going to preschool...what would it take to make this experience fun, exciting and successful?*

These are just some of the examples of the children served by the Early Childhood Integration Support Services (ECISS). All children are welcomed and embraced into early learning and care centres with the help and support of the staff of ECISS. This past year, more than **300 children** and families received support and care in over 80 early learning and child care centres. Resource Teachers and Support Facilitators worked tirelessly with child care staff to adapt the curriculum to ensure equal opportunities for all children. More than **144 children** were supported through the Transition to School process in the spring.

In the end, it is the aspiration for endless possibilities for all children that sustains us in the pursuit of quality early childhood education. Each member of the ECISS team, including Support Facilitators, Resource Teachers, Field Supervisors and the Administrative Assistant all work diligently to achieve one goal: *the successful inclusion of all children within our community.*

### St. Matthew's Children's Centre (SMCC)

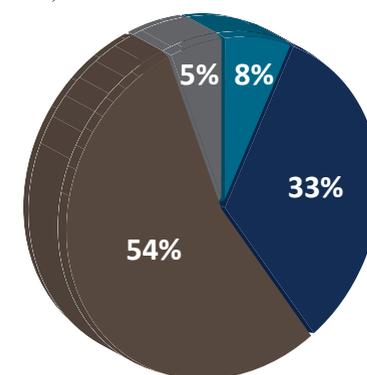
Last year, SMCC provided high quality day care services to **68 children** in the Hamilton community.

**Raising the bar** is an accreditation program for all licensed childcare services in Hamilton. It is a voluntary program to promote and support observance of community standards in childcare program. SMH is proud to report we have once again exceeded the standard of **Raising the bar.**

The focus on staff training last year helped us **successfully implement the program Save the Day for Play.** Our staff was mentored by the staff from Affiliated Services for Children and Youth (ASCY) to observe, document and implement program plans in all classrooms, based on their observation of the children engaged in play.

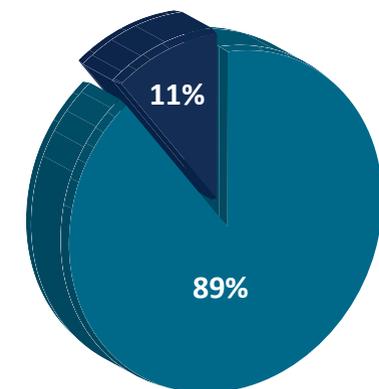


## 2012/2013 FINANCIAL SUMMARY



Revenue

- Public Donations (1) \$294,217
- Indirect Government & Agencies Funding \$2,132,434
- Direct Government Funding \$1,299,763
- Other \$208,359



Expenditures

- Program Expense (2) \$3,604,853
- Management & Administration \$435,387

(1) Includes non tax receipted donations (i.e. from churches) and non-cash gifts  
(2) Includes non-cash gifts

**Chair**

I. Douglas Smith

**Vice Chair**

Glenna Swing

**Treasurer**

Joe Petozzi

**Ex Officio**

The Right Reverend Michael Bird

**Members**

Joshua Dockstator\*

John Ellis

The Reverend Fred Gosse

Fred Hall

Scott Moreton

The Reverend Bill Mous

Jim O’Keeffe

Michael Rehill

**Executive Director**

Steve Leighfield

*\* resigned during the year*

# *Where Hope Lives*

## **St. Matthew’s House**

414 Barton St East  
Hamilton, ON L8L 2Y3

Tel: 905-523-5546

Fax: 905-523-5553

Email: [admin@stmatthewshouse.ca](mailto:admin@stmatthewshouse.ca)

Twitter: [@SMH\\_Hamilton](https://twitter.com/SMH_Hamilton)

*Funding support provided by:*

