



St. Matthew's House
Where Hope Lives



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Annual Report



message from the
BOARD CHAIR

By the Grace of God, St. Matthew's House is a place of hope.

There is no doubt that St. Matthew's House is a vibrant and active agency that offers our friends and neighbours a welcoming place, a place where there is **hope**, a place where their needs can be met.

Each year (and each Chair) seems to be faced with new and different challenges. Last year we received from the City of Hamilton an Order to Comply for our Day Care Centre. We must relocate our Day Care to the first floor and this will require extensive renovations to 412/414 Barton Street. The safety of our children and our staff are a priority. Our 'bricks and mortar' remain a huge challenge for us.

We are moving forward with the transition that began last year and our Board continues to work on defining priorities and developing plans for fundraising and marketing towards establishing a safe and sound infrastructure. Our plans to rebuild 440 Barton Street have had to take a back seat as we figure out how to proceed with the required Day Care relocation. All this is coupled with the growing needs of our programs, and the needs of our community, while dealing with the shrinking donation dollar.

I often wonder how our staff manage. They are a wonderful, kind and efficient lot! In addition, our community partners, funders and volunteers are also owed a great deal, the least of which is our gratitude.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our past Chair, Doug Smith, for his generous leadership, his sense of humour and his patient demeanor. We are fortunate to have a terrific Board of Directors and are grateful for their commitment to our cause. Thank you Fred Hall, Fred Gosse, Mike Rehill, Jim O'Keeffe, Joe Petozzi, Debbie McGreal-Dinning, Scott Moreton, Bill Mous and a big thank you to Bishop Michael Bird for his faith in us!

Glenna Swing
Board Chair



message from the
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Building on the cornerstones of St. Matthew's House

Over the past year St. Matthew's House has continued to move forward based on four key cornerstones of the organization – Children's Services, Seniors programming, Food Security, and Financial stability. We need to continue articulating our Mission, Vision and Values on a regular basis in the context of the key components of our work.

Our Children's Services, which include ECISS and the St. Matthew's Children's Centre, continue to be well respected throughout the City of Hamilton and beyond due to the combination of excellent leadership and strong staff support.

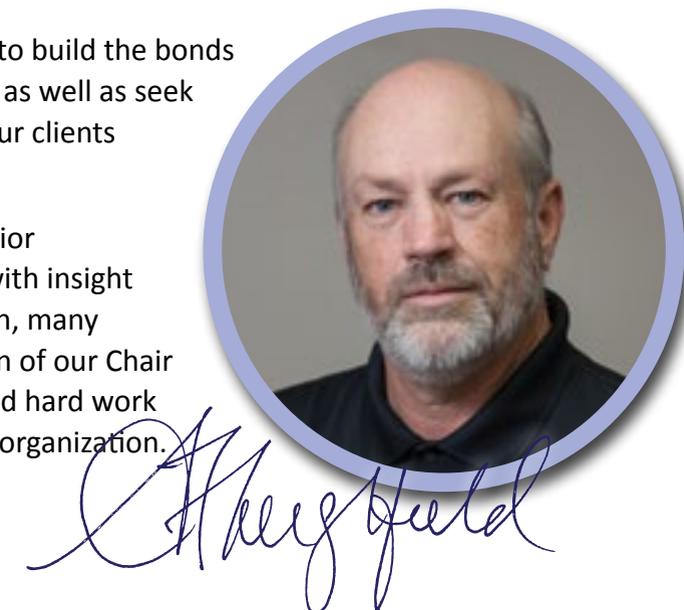
We have begun the process of coordination of intake for all our Seniors programs. This process will ensure a more seamless service for Seniors as they move between our Seniors Centres, transitional housing and home support programs.

Food Security remains a key challenge for the many people that we serve through our Food Banks and the meal programs we operate. We have been faced with increases in the number of people using the services but through the hard work of staff, no one has left without getting the support they require.

As we move forward, we will continue to build the bonds with our current funders and partners, as well as seek new funding opportunities to ensure our clients continue to get the support they need.

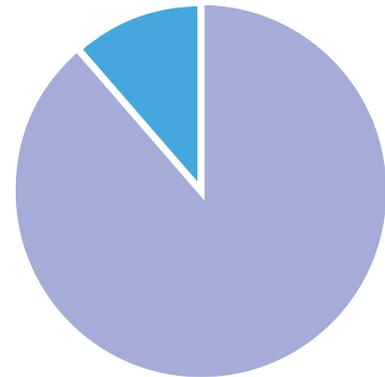
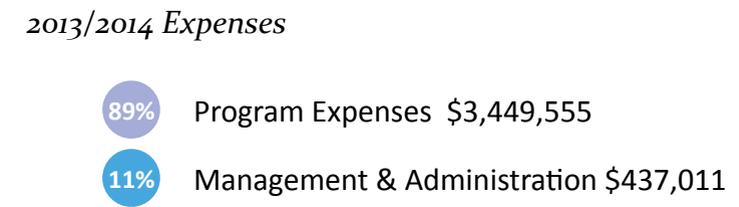
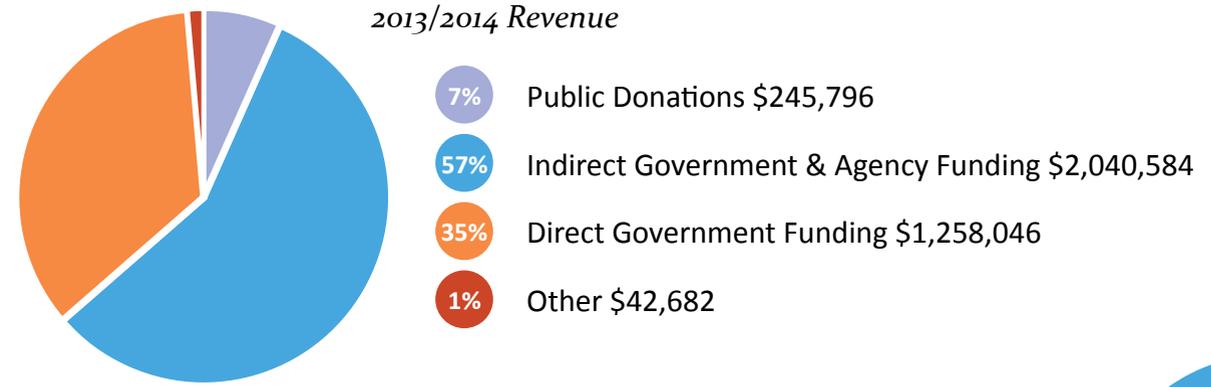
I would personally like to thank my senior management group for providing me with insight and support during the year. In addition, many thanks to our Board under the direction of our Chair Glenna Swing for their commitment and hard work providing direction and support to the organization.

Steve Leighfield
Executive Director





	32,941 1,315 8,504	people received food at our food banks nutritious meals were served to the community nutritious meals were served to seniors
	150 80	seniors maintained housing seniors obtained secure housing
	2,798	people had a festive Christmas with gifts and meals



special THANKS

A special thanks to all of our donors and volunteers who believe in the work that we do!

Funders and Grantors

- ArcelorMittal Dofasco
- Dofasco Employees Fund
- City of Hamilton
- HNHB LHIN
- United Way of Burlington & Greater Hamilton
- Hamilton Community Foundation
- Grants from donor-advised funds
- McCallum McBride Fund
- The Martin Foundation Fund
- Edith H. Turner Foundation Fund



- 34,000 lbs**
17% of all food donations came from churches
- ↑ 37%**
more meals served to vulnerable seniors
- ↑ 13%**
more people who needed help from our food bank

story of pia



Pia has the most radiant glow in her eyes when she is happy. Born with cerebral palsy and other developmental delays, she cannot speak and requires many pieces of equipment for physical support. **As is true for so many parents, she is the centre of the universe** for her parents Rocco and Carrie.

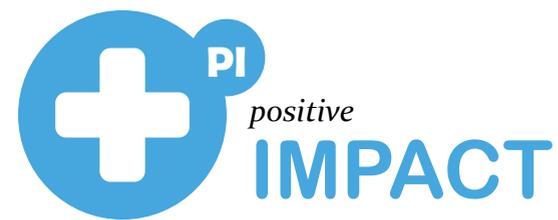
Pia is a very happy child, she enjoys others singing and reading to her, especially if they are reading a “Dora the Explorer” book. Her favourite activity is to play and to be around her friends.

All children benefit when, regardless of ability, they are supported in an inclusive environment. The children with special needs learn social skills, and learn at a rate they would not in segregated settings. But just as importantly, children without special needs learn acceptance of differences, and show an improved self-concept and growth in developing healthy social skills. **“We have seen Pia flourish over the last 3 years and the smile on Pia’s face told me everything”** said Rocco.

St. Matthew’s House ECISS Program (Early Childhood Integration Support Services) helps children with multiple disabilities through their early years. We build an individualized program to help each child with their developmental needs. **Our goal is to help all children to reach their own potential.**

Pia is now 5 years old and is in Senior Kindergarten. During the summer Rocco and Carrie had a birthday party for Pia. She is so well liked that Rocco and Carrie had a hard time finding enough little chairs for all her friends who showed up to wish her a happy birthday!

“We cannot express our gratitude enough for giving us peace of mind that from the moment we drop off Pia, we know she is safe and happy in your care.”





2013/2014

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The Rev. Fred Gosse • *Board Member*

Fred Hall • *Board Member*

Debbie McGreal-Dinning • *Board Member*

The Rev. Bill Mous • *Board Member*

Jim O'Keeffe • *Board Member*

Joe Petozzi • *Treasurer*

Mike Rehill • *Board Member*

Doug Smith • *Past Chair*

Bishop Michael Bird • *Ex Officio Board Member*

Steve Leighfield • *Executive Director*



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