

*Grateful  
for our donors.*

We are very grateful to everyone who chose to give to St. Matthew's House over the past 12 months. Whether you are one of the 900+ donors who gave directly — or one of the many who donated through your parish — we thank you! We are equally grateful for all the in-kind donations received from individuals and organizations alike. Piles of food and other supplies flowed in throughout the year, helping the families and individuals we serve.

St. Matthew's House received numerous cash donations, ranging from \$20 to more than \$2,000. Every single donor is appreciated and valued. No matter the amount, every contribution is considered significant when it comes to providing hope and a lifeline to the many lives we impact.

Donor giving represents a crucial component of our overall budget and enables us to continue providing hope to those whose lives would otherwise be so much less bright.

To all of our donors, we give our most humble and hearty thanks.

**John Watts - Chair, Fund Development Committee**

## Grateful to be a donor

When I was asked to write a little something about why I choose to donate to St. Matthew's House, I thought, "that's easy". There are so many reasons it makes good sense to give to St. Matthew's House. Most importantly, my money helps people right here in my own city, my own community, my own neighbourhood. St. Matthew's House has committed leadership including an active board of directors, productive committees and progressive, hardworking management and staff. And their strategic plans demonstrate both vision and pragmatism, which bodes well for the future of the organization. In my mind St. Matthew's House truly is a place where hope lives.

**Ellen Morris - Monthly Donor & Fund Development Committee Member**



We are so *grateful.*

**The theme for this Impact Report is GRATITUDE.** In crafting this message, we have grateful hearts for this organization and the people in it. Our services represent such critical phases in the human experience — the beginning of learning and life, and the era where we have wisdom. Between Child Care and Seniors programs, we have the chance to witness the best and most challenging parts of the spectrum of life.

The gratitude we feel for our partners and funders know no bounds. Their support allows our work to have impact and longevity. We are grateful for the announcements of funding that will assist community-based organizations in providing practical support that helps low-income and otherwise vulnerable seniors age in place.

We are so grateful for a childcare program that saw an 83% attendance rate throughout the pandemic. St. Matthew's House Childcare Services is honoured to support families who trust us and collaborate with us for an optimal experience for their little ones. The feeling of gratitude for creative ideas is very strong. The launch of the Virtual Seniors' Centre — where people gather for friendly faces, great conversation, wellness tips, entertainment — makes us feel grateful for community.

We are grateful to be brave. Brave in recognizing that we, as an organization and as a Board of Directors, have much learning and growth to undertake to ensure we are working and living with the values of equality, diversity and inclusion. We know we need to do more. Having courageous conversations and humbling exchanges shows us the vital need to learn more and be better. Our gratitude goes to our employees who are helping us get started. Our hope and intention is for everyone affiliated with St. Matthew's House to feel safe, supported, protected, valued and understood.

Our gratitude extends to the strategic planning process. The Strategic Plan Sub-Committee is carefully crafting a process for a fulsome Strategic Plan that will not only support St. Matthew's House now but will plan for a future that we envision to be targeted in scope, broad in impact and loving in its intention and attitude.

Most of all, we are grateful to every person involved with St. Matthew's House for keeping everything moving forward during the COVID-19 pandemic. Being able to carve out a moment like this — after the year that we have been through — and share it with the people we love, in the community that we love, is a gift. Each day we are back at working our mission. In this moment of time, we savour the beauty of our spirits and the ability to stand together on behalf of those who struggle. It is in these moments that our gratitude fills us up and allows us to continue to fight another day.

Gratefully,

*Executive Director*

*Chair of the Board*



To learn more about our vision and values, please visit [www.stmatthewshouse.ca/about-us](http://www.stmatthewshouse.ca/about-us)



# Gratitude that knows no bounds.

There are so many ways to say “thank you” and if we listed them all, it still wouldn’t express how grateful we really are for the response to the Adopt A Family Holiday Program. As we are trying to navigate these uncertain times, we saw a bright light shine for the holiday season of 2020.

Families and seniors reached out to us for some joy this year and the donors and supporters of St. Matthew’s House overwhelmingly responded with love and generosity. Together as a community, we supported more than 700 seniors and families. Parents, children and seniors were given the opportunity to celebrate with plenty of gifts and a holiday meal at a time when so many didn’t know if it was going to be possible.

Each year, the thoughtfulness and generosity of donors surpasses every expectation and goal. Even though the holidays in 2020 looked a little different, because of our donors and supporters, their families, co-workers, parish and friends, the St. Matthew’s House Adopt A Family Holiday Program made the magic of the holidays brighter for so many in our community.

## Adopt A Family Holiday Program Highlights



**727**

Households



**1,390**

Children



**520**

Families



**207**

Seniors



**17**

Emergency Christmas  
Eve Appointments

## Green is the colour of gratitude

A very exciting initiative was launched that will have our community feeling grateful for new and special places to gather. St. Matthew’s House was chosen by the Green Cities Foundation to be the FIRST #GreenMyCity project in Hamilton. Launched by a tree-planting celebration and a ‘big dig’ of the parking lot, the transformative #GreenMyCity project will have a healthy, sustainable green space complete with a green playground, community garden, log structures, creative and active spaces, community gathering spaces and greenery. One of the many lessons of the pandemic is the absolute need for safe, green, open spaces for all citizens and all ages.

Green Cities Foundation exists to connect plants and people for a greener, healthier urban climate. Native and hardy plant species planted in the busy Barton East corner will create a buffer zone for healthy, sustainable green space in a dense urban environment, manage air pollution and contribute to energy savings. Partners in the enterprise are Green Cities Foundation, major sponsor RBC Insurance, St. Matthew’s House, the Hamilton Community Foundation, the Anglican Diocese of Niagara, Barton Village BIA, Beautiful Alleys, the City of Hamilton, the Golden Horseshoe Chapter of Landscape Ontario and the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association membership.



*The #GreenMyCity project was launched with a tree planting ceremony and big dig in the parking lot of SMH. Children of Childcare Services shared in the start of something very special.*

# Childcare Services *shine with gratitude.*

This has been a year like none other, yet despite the many challenges we faced, we are grateful...

...for the ordinary miracles that happen in all of our classrooms, every single day.

...for children who, by example, show us how to live life in the moment, and force us to stop our busyness to appreciate the simple things in life.

...for families, who - despite the pandemic and positive test cases - continue to trust us with their children, knowing the team does their utmost to maintain a healthy and safe environment.

...for the childcare team members who understand the importance of developing authentic relationships with children, their families and one another.

...for our partners at Affiliated Services for Children and Youth (ASCY) and the City of Hamilton, who provided our team with an abundance of professional learning opportunities, at a time when we most needed a positive distraction from the day-to-day challenges of the pandemic.

...for the ongoing support of our colleagues at Community Living Hamilton and the Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre.

...for the expertise of our community colleagues at Hamilton Public Health Services, who helped us navigate through positive test cases and outbreaks and answered our endless questions about how to ensure we care for children and staff members in the best way possible.

At a time when many childcare programs are experiencing low enrolment, our program has flourished. We attribute this success to the dedication and commitment of every member of the childcare team, who have worked tirelessly to ensure children have the opportunity to learn and grow in a safe and loving environment. Sincere thanks to each of you!



***“The team at St. Matthew’s cares for our child with the same love and respect as the rest of our family. We are grateful that our child is part of a safe, engaging, and dynamic environment. Each person on the team leads with their hearts; they fall in love with and invest in each child. Our child has not seen her [extended] family in a year; the team at St. Matthew’s have been her family. They have provided the love and community that we feared would be missing during the pandemic. We are so grateful for everyone at St. Matthew’s.”***

**Joanna Barrotta, Parent**



*Children at St. Matthew's Childcare Services learn through indoor and outdoor activities, experiencing tactile and structured learning through play and co-operation. Safety and health were paramount during this most challenging year.*





## Grateful for new beginnings for seniors

St. Matthew's House Seniors Support Services Team persevered throughout this last year, in spite of the pandemic and ensuing lockdowns. The Team worked tirelessly to improve the daily lives of vulnerable seniors (55+) living in Hamilton - whether the senior was facing eviction, homelessness or other personal crises.

For many St. Matthew's House is their last hope — meaning we stick with it no matter how complex or dire the situation. One memorable success story of the HOPES (eviction prevention) team starts with a client who, because of their hoarding disability, was confronting a \$20k fine from the fire department and was on the verge of eviction. Things went from bad to worse as a result of the pandemic and a broken leg. Our HOPES Navigator worked tirelessly getting the place cleaned up, negotiating with the fire marshal, and implementing daily empowerment strategies with the client, short-circuiting the potential eviction and avoiding the fine - just one week before Christmas. We are happy to report that three months after the crisis was averted, the client remained successfully housed!

Our Seniors First Response Team continues to deliver food to “legacy” food clients (clients receiving multiple donations every month) and many new clients too. With each delivery they have the opportunity to check in to see what else the client might need. Our Seniors Crisis Worker is also on the job responding to the influx of crises identified through the emergency food program. They ferret out issues around food, income and social supports in order to better understand, and then address, the root cause(s) of the food insecurity.

Last winter, the Seniors in Kitchens team (SinKs), in conjunction with Food For Life and City Housing Hamilton, successfully launched a mobile market. The newly branded delivery van ran for two weeks, bringing much needed fresh fruits and vegetables directly to City Housing Hamilton seniors' buildings in the lower city. Sadly, pandemic restrictions placed the program on hold - but this didn't stop the team from moving forward with its mission. SinKs, with the help of McMaster Occupational Therapy students, shifted gears, designing and implementing a Virtual Senior Centre (VSC). Presently there are 32 people registered. The Seniors Food Security Coordinator provides entertainment, meaningful connections, nutrition advice, and yummy food demonstrations to isolated seniors. The Seniors Crisis Worker is on hand to observe participants and identify any needs they may reveal. The virtual centre is a work in progress and could turn out to be an invaluable program, even after pandemic restrictions are lifted. Isolation among seniors was a growing problem before COVID and will no doubt persist long after it subsides.



### Seniors Highlights



**25,708**

Total meals provided to individuals



**96**

Total accumulated interactions via SinKs Mobile Market



**15,565**

Total accumulated pounds of fresh food from Food for Life



**2,912**

Individuals served

# Financial Results

## Statement of Operations



For the year ended March 31, 2021      2021      2020

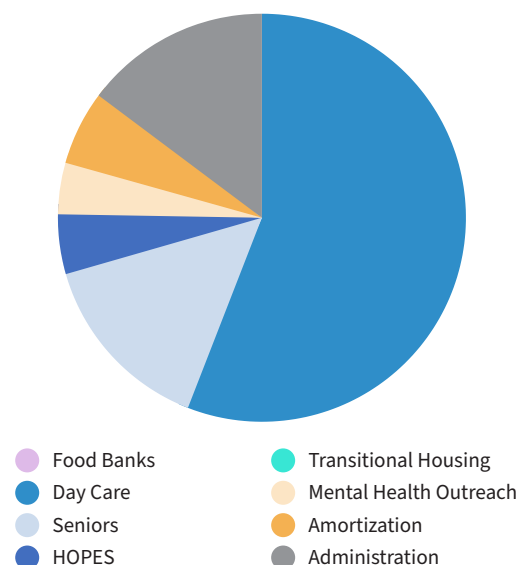
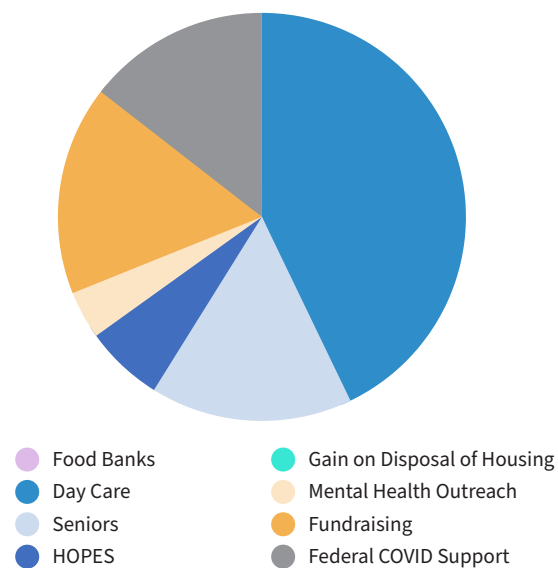
### REVENUES

Food Banks	0	36,486
Day Care	1,057,172	1,094,096
Seniors	395,300	168,970
HOPES	153,351	154,682
Gain on Disposal of Housing	0	305,532
Mental Health Outreach	94,098	56,619
Fundraising	409,736	415,597
Federal COVID Support	357,337	0
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$2,466,994</b>	<b>\$2,232,982</b>

### EXPENSES

Food Banks	0	222,139
Day Care	1,104,310	1,096,803
Seniors	289,081	261,912
HOPES	93,321	133,829
Transitional Housing	0	3,345
Mental Health Outreach	80,508	45,331
Amortization	116,247	123,680
Administration	291,739	259,661
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,975,206</b>	<b>\$2,146,700</b>

<b>Excess of Revenues over Expenses</b>	<b>\$491,788</b>	<b>\$86,282</b>
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Given the unprecedented year and unusual funding opportunities that have occurred because of it, the Board has approved the following allocations of the surplus to the following purposes:

- Operating reserve: \$100,000
- Capital fund: \$100,000
- Angela Dauda Child & Family Fund: \$25,000
- Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Fund: \$25,000

Once-only funding is being set aside for worthwhile programs of the St. Matthew's House initiatives.

# Board of Directors 2020–2021

David Savage, Chair  
Kathryn Anderson  
James Andrew  
Bishop Susan Bell  
Brent Bentham  
Mary Burnett

Bryan Powell  
Christine Moon  
Rev. Bill Mous  
Lil Scime  
John Watts  
Elizabeth Wensley

## Staff List for Fiscal Year 2020–2021

### Administration

Renée Wetselaar,  
*Executive Director*  
Shani Doherty,  
*Executive Assistant*  
William Harrison,  
*Director of Finance*  
Madeleine Bond,  
*Development Coordinator*  
Andrea Cowan,  
*Administrative Assistant*  
Justin Drury,  
*Logistics Coordinator*

### Childcare

Janis Webster,  
*Manager, Childcare Services*  
Andrea Topic,  
*Supervisor, Childcare Services*  
Aalamjeet Kaur, RECE  
Akassi Boa, RECE  
Azra Khan, RECE  
Afroza Kazi, RECE  
Clara Muraca, RECE  
Connor Van Deventer, RECE

### Seniors Support Services

Colleen Jones,  
*Manager, Senior Social Services*  
Heather Campbell,  
*Manager, Senior Social Services  
(until August 2020)*  
Nozwelo Maseko,  
*HOPES Navigator*  
Emily Alton,  
*Analyst, Seniors Support Services*  
Athena Harris,  
*Seniors Crisis Worker*

Enza Guddemi, RECE  
Ivana Kicic, RECE  
Philomena Ramm, RECE  
Tammy Williams, RECE  
Kisha Joseph, RECE  
Kelsey Dexter, RECE  
Lori Petrella, RECE  
Tiffany Rose, RECE  
Mandy Price, RECE

Amanda Thompson,  
*HOPES Program Coordinator*  
Brett Aston,  
*Mental Health Outreach*  
Andrew Matthews,  
*Mental Health Outreach*  
Karen Burson,  
*Seniors Food Security Coordinator*  
Emiko Guoti,  
*Seniors First Response Team*  
Claudia McPhail,  
*Seniors First Response Team*

Clelia Forte, RECE  
Tiffany Johnson, RECE  
Grace Mastai, RECE  
Nicole Marson, RECE  
Danielle Hammann, RECE  
Elisha Watson, RECE  
Myriah Hussey, RECE  
Dali Faruzel-Rayner, RECE  
Iwona Piasek, Childcare Cook

## Volunteers, Committee Members and Friends

Barbara Busing  
Ellen Morris  
Arlene Luke  
Shawn Duggay  
Kathy Vaughan

Tara Vaughan  
Tony Cupido  
Steve Swing  
Michael Elliott  
Gillian Hendry

Robert Gibson  
Val Kerr  
Jody Beck  
Doug Nagy

To stay up-to-date, follow us on social media:



@SMHhamilton



@SMH\_Hamilton



# Thank you to our funders & partners



## Help St. Matthew's House

Consider a donation to help St. Matthew's House foster resilience for our clients and our community.

Online: [www.stmatthewshouse.ca/donate](http://www.stmatthewshouse.ca/donate)

By Mail: 414 Barton St E, Hamilton, ON L8L 2Y3, 905-523-5546 Ext.230

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