







PROVIDING A CARING SPACE, TOGETHER

This past year has taught us a certain level of resilience as we navigated our way through year two of the pandemic. It has been a challenging time for many, and especially for our Lighthouse families who were not only grieving the death of loved ones, but also dealing with all the other stressors that accompanied COVID-19.

At Lighthouse, we held out hope that one day, we would return to a "new normal" and be able to be back in our "home" offering in-person groups. That day came in September when we opened our doors and welcomed our youth. Although this was short-lived due to another brief lockdown, we were able to bring everyone back, including children aged 3 – 19, in March 2022. Moving forward, we will continue to offer both in-person and on-line groups so that families can access our programs however they wish.

During this past year, you rallied behind us and supported grieving families. For this, we are eternally grateful. And although all our fundraising events were held virtually, you showed up for Lighthouse by shopping our online auction, cycling, running, or walking for our Run4 Lighthouse or making generous donations. It is thanks to you that we weathered the second year of this pandemic and were able to provide a caring space for children and their families to process their grief.

We are proud to demonstrate in this impact report the profound difference you have made in the lives of grieving children and families. This impact is made even more meaningful with the unwavering support of our Board, our volunteers and generosity of so many individuals, corporations, and foundations. Thank you for your unwavering support. Your kindness has enabled the Lighthouse to continue to be a beacon of light and provide grieving children a safe space for connection and caring.

With gratitude,

Lisa Norton, Board Chair, and Anne Smith, Executive Director of Lighthouse





Land Acknowledgement

Lighthouse is situated on the Treaty lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and the Huron-Wendat. We honour the Haudenosaunee, Métis, Attawandaron, and Huron-Wendat peoples of Halton and Peel, who lived on these traditional territories and continue to have presence here. Lighthouse gratefully acknowledges these nations for their guardianship of this land.

OUR MISSION

To help children, youth and their families who are grieving a death, find a sense of belonging, connection and understanding from others experiencing a similar loss.

AT LIGHTHOUSE, YOU ARE NOT ALONE

LOOKING BACK AT 2021

- Second year of online programming for Lighthouse with a return to in-person groups for youth and their caregivers, with COVID safety policies and protocols
- Launched The Beacon Podcast—and hosted seven episodes—to understand how diverse communities express and explore grief, and how we can better support them
- Saw an increase in service-related inquiries, intakes, and consultations
- Hired a Community Engagement & Outreach Manager to facilitate greater access and utilization of Lighthouse grief support within Lighthouse and multicultural communities
- Launched the Grief Reflections awareness campaign during Children's Grief Awareness Month in November
- Successfully pivoted for a second year, to a virtual platform for our Signature events, Run4Lighthouse and Bid & Buy
- Co-hosted the 1st Annual Canadian Children's Grief Symposium with two other agencies, in collaboration with Canadian Alliance for Grieving Children & Youth
- Signed a partnership agreement with the Halton District School Board to better enable Lighthouse to offer crisis response supports to students and staff
- Established the Lighthouse Diversity, Equity, & Inclusivity Committee to identify and eliminate racism, oppression, and discriminatory barriers at Lighthouse
- Collaborated with talented Lighthouse supporters on incredible third-party fundraising initiatives



CREATING COMMUNITIES OF CARING



Multicultural Outreach

In aiming to fulfill our vision, that 'no child should have to grieve alone', Lighthouse has strengthened our focus and outreach initiatives to increase Multicultural engagement. Some of the 2021 highlights include:

- Added Board members representative of diverse communities with whom we are building relationships
- Launched The Beacon Podcast, focusing on multiculturalism, and speaking with guests from diverse communities to build greater awareness and understanding of how these communities express and explore grief, and how we can better support them
- The Community Engagement & Outreach Manager continued engaging with multicultural communities, to build relationships, explore partnerships, and to facilitate and pilot culturally-relevant grief services

Enhancing Community Capacity

In 2021, Lighthouse signed a formal External Agency partnership with Halton District School Board that will better enable Lighthouse to:

- Offer crisis response supports to students and staff in the wake of a death within the school community
- Facilitate referrals
- Collaborate on the provision of grief support to children and youth from multicultural communities

Every November, for Children's Grief Awareness Day, Lighthouse continues to raise a voice and spread awareness for children's grief, through various community-focused initiatives, such as monument lighting, local partnerships, educational opportunities, and community art projects.



Advocacy and Education

In 2021, Lighthouse was one of three lead agencies to co-host the First Annual Canadian Children's Grief Symposium, in association with Canadian Alliance for Grieving Children and Youth. This set the foundation for year two, where participants will have the opportunity to explore and learn about children's grief within the following areas of focus:

- Foundational concepts
- Advanced practices
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Types of loss



Events Are At The Heart Of Our Fundraising

All our fundraising events in 2021 pivoted once again to a virtual platform, but our amazing communities helped make each of them a success. Fundraising events are the basis of our funding, and these events would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors, donors, and event participants. Event sponsorship enables 100% of net proceeds to directly benefit families at Lighthouse.



2021 BY THE NUMBERS

Services within Lighthouse

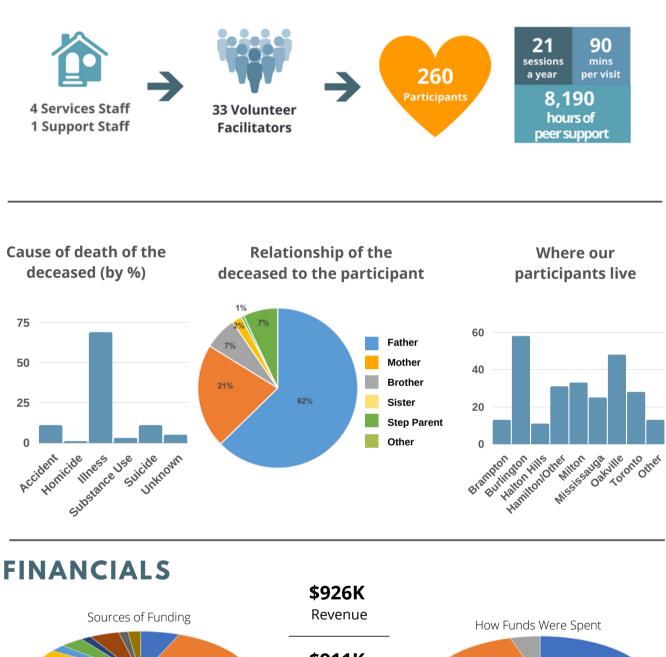
Corporate

Planned Giving
United Way

Interest

Other

Grants







MAJOR GIFT DONORS 2021

"Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference."

- Kathy Calvin

Thank you to all our donors who bring hope to our Lighthouse families

VISIONARIES

+ \$25,000

Ian and June Cockwell United Way Halton & Hamilton Realtors Care Foundation Paul and Susan Finkbeiner

CHAMPIONS

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Beutel, Goodman & Company Ltd. RBC Foundation Jim and Rachel Williams Eve and Peter Willis Allison Ide and Alison Marshal The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation The Larry & Gerry Wilson Family Fund+

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\$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous Donor **Encore Market Management Kevin McMurray** Arbor Memorial Foundation **Oakville Community Foundation** Sandra Hurl-Smith and Kris Smith Manulife Bank (Waterloo) Scott and Heather Morrison Maarten and Marcia Jansen Stephanie Hart Two Sevens Capital Cynthia and Robin Das Megan Hagarty Smith and Geoff Smith **Taxcan Holding Corporation** Meridian Paul Whitehead **Fleck Family Foundation** The Shawn Cavanagh Charitable Trust

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\$500 - \$999

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THANK YOU!



We are so grateful to everyone who made financial contributions to Lighthouse in 2021. Your support allows families in our communities to receive free grief support at a time in their lives when they are at their most vulnerable. Financial support includes all individual donations, private family foundations, donations via funds held within community foundations, corporate donations, third party fundraisers, service clubs and event sponsors.

We would also like to acknowledge the businesses who have sponsored or donated gifts and services in-kind to support our fundraising events and initiatives. And to all the amazing volunteers who generously give their time and talents throughout the year, none of this would be possible without your support. Thank you!



"When my kids' father died, everything changed. The challenges were with my kids understanding the death, and the school not being helpful. Lighthouse has been very welcoming and helpful for myself and my children. My children love it there."

ASHLEIGH, LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY





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