

# About Our Foundation



## OVERVIEW

# Community Foundation of Mississauga

***Community means so many things to so many people, and the world to us. In all we do and all we say, we are all for community.***

We are the Community Foundation of Mississauga and community vitality has been our purpose, promise and passion since 2001 when we started connecting donors to community needs and opportunities. Together, we help build strong and resilient places to live, work and play.

Inclusive. Innovative. Forward-looking. Vital. This is our vision for our community.

In our vision, our community is able to include, and offer opportunities to, everyone. It has the knowledge and ability needed to help shape its own future. We are ready to address pressing problems like hunger, unemployment and housing. And all our citizens are able to benefit from the best our community can offer: the arts, recreation, health care, education, safe and inclusive neighbourhoods and a healthy environment.

### **Our community foundation does three key things to build community vitality:**

- Vitality takes long-term resources for long-term solutions—so we work with donors to build endowment and other funds that ensure vital futures for communities.
- Vitality comes from all corners of a community, so we grant funds to the widest possible range of organizations and initiatives.
- Vitality needs leadership, so we bring people together from all parts of our communities to stimulate new ideas, build participation and strengthen community philanthropy.

## Facts about the Community Foundation of Mississauga

We were established in 2001 by a dedicated group of leaders who believed in and were committed to building community vitality.

We have almost 60 unique Funds representing a broad range of philanthropic interests.

We have grown to over \$20 million in assets under management.

Our cumulative granting to a wide range of local charities grows each year and now almost \$8 million.

**For more information or to get involved visit**  
[www.CFofM.org](http://www.CFofM.org)



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## Ten reasons people choose community foundations.

### one

We are a **local organization** with deep roots in the community, and part of a nationwide movement whose support we build and share.

### two

We bring donors to the table as **community builders**, working closely with them to align their philanthropic vision with the community's needs.

### three

We identify **long-term needs** and opportunities and invest in solutions that let our communities guide their own future.

### four

We take a broad and inclusive view of what a community is, and **provide grants** to the widest possible range of organizations and initiatives.

### five

We provide highly **personal and flexible service**, accepting a wide variety of assets and offering donors maximum tax advantage.

### six

We build **permanent funds** and those that can respond to immediate needs, helping our communities ensure vital futures.

### seven

We **multiply the impact** of gift dollars by pooling them with other gifts.

### eight

We believe that diversity is strength, so we **bring the entire community together** to stimulate new ideas, build participation and strengthen community philanthropy.

### nine

We are **transparent and reputable stewards** of community resources, committed to being accountable, accessible and responsive.

### ten

We build **community vitality** – the unique and essential spirit that flourishes when people believe their community holds possibilities for everyone.

## Our Foundation in Action

*Just like any business, charitable organizations have general administrative and overhead costs. It was important for me to provide Interim Place with unrestricted support that serves their best interests.*

GARY REAMEY

### Funding for 'essential expenses' leads to long term sustainability

Interim Place says, "Operational dollars are the most difficult to secure, but are essential to ensure programs and services are delivered to the women and children that we serve. Gary's long-term commitment not only provides operational funding, it also lends credibility to the sustainability of our organization as we reach out to the community at large for donor support."

### Our approach

Many organizations are working for better communities, but a few important factors make our approach stand out:

#### We bring donors to the table as community builders

We help them formulate and realize their philanthropic goals, matching their interests and concerns with community needs and organizations. We help them find innovative and responsible ways to give their investments lasting impact.

#### We take the broadest view of what a community is and what it needs to succeed

That's why our grants support everything from shelter, sustenance and care for those most in need, to recreation, the arts, and the environment.

#### We take the long-term view for our communities

We identify long-term needs and opportunities and invest in sustainable solutions, helping our communities become resilient, resourceful, and ready for the future they want.



We are members of Canada's community foundation movement, represented by more than 180 community foundations from coast to coast. [www.cfc-fcc.ca](http://www.cfc-fcc.ca)