

IMPACT REPORT 2023/24

Safe Families Canada | Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge

As we reflect on 2024, we are filled with gratitude for the incredible support we've received from all of you. This year has been nothing short of amazing, and we couldn't have accomplished it without your generosity and commitment to our mission.

We are thrilled to share some exciting developments from the past year. Thanks to your continued support, we were able to add a Family Coach Supervisor to our team. This role is already making a significant impact, helping us ensure that our volunteers are well-supported and matched with families in need. The ability to provide personalized guidance and training to our volunteers has strengthened our work and allowed us to serve even more families.

We've also been overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from area churches and monthly donors. Your commitment has not only helped us grow but has also created a powerful network of caring individuals who are working together to strengthen families in our community. The collective spirit of giving is inspiring, and we are deeply grateful for your continued partnership.

What a DIFFERENCE
YOU made!!

46
Active volunteers

106
Referrals

46
Families served

189
Bednights

128556
Dollars raised



Vanessa Ploc
Chapter Director



Karen Saulesleja
Family Placement



Caley Spreitzer
Family Coach Supervisor



Safe Families
Canada
Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge



In addition, we are excited to share that we have moved into new office space at Kitchener Mennonite Brethren Church. This new space will allow us to continue our work in a more efficient and collaborative environment, and we're looking forward to the opportunities it will bring in 2025.

With these new additions to our staff and infrastructure, we are stepping out in faith, knowing that with your continued support, we can meet our goal for 2025. This year, we are aiming to wrap around 55 new families, and to do that, we are working towards raising an additional \$100,000, bringing our total budget to \$230,000. Alongside this financial goal, we're also working to add 50 new volunteers, bringing our active volunteer community to a strong 96 volunteers. This is an exciting and ambitious goal, and we believe that with your help, we can achieve it. Whether through volunteering or donating, you are an integral part of making this happen.

To learn more about volunteering, please reach out to Caley at (382) 885-4355.

To partner with us financially, simply scan the QR code (don't forget to choose KW from the fund menu) or, send an e-transfer to accounting@safefamilies.ca, clearly marked for the KW chapter.

Thank you again for your unwavering support. We are so grateful to have you as part of our Safe Families family, and we can't wait to see what we will accomplish together in 2025.

With heartfelt appreciation,



Scan to donate

Chapter Director
519-503-5494

**GOALS
for
2025**

**Raise
\$230,000**

**Recruit
50
New Volunteers**

**Wrap Around
55
New Families**

A Family's Journey to Hope

The Story of B's Family

This past spring, we had the privilege of connecting with a family in need—one that reminded us of the incredible impact community can have. B's family, new to the area and without any local support, was facing overwhelming challenges. Mom, pregnant with their second child, was severely ill and unable to care for their 13-month-old daughter. Dad, doing his best to juggle the care of his family and his job, was in a heartbreaking bind: if he stayed home, he risked losing his job; if he went to work, he couldn't care for his vulnerable wife and daughter.

That's where we came in.

Through our local Public Health Unit, we were introduced to B's family and began working together to find a solution. To support dad, we arranged for a volunteer Host Family to step in and care for their daughter while he went to work. As mom's condition worsened, she was hospitalized for severe dehydration and nausea. For three weeks, we provided care for their daughter, ensuring she was safe and loved while mom received the treatment she desperately needed. This allowed dad to continue working without fear of losing his job.

But we didn't stop there. We knew that support went beyond just physical care—it was about building a network of people who cared, who could offer emotional and practical help. That's when we connected the family with volunteer Family Friends. These amazing volunteers brought meals, made regular visits, and offered the sense of community that was so crucial for a family that had been isolated. By the time Safe Families' formal involvement ended, B's family had transformed. They were no longer alone. They had real friends and extended family-like support they could turn to. And the best part? In August, we were there to celebrate as they welcomed their beautiful new baby girl into the world—a moment of joy, love, and hope for this growing family. It's stories like B's that remind us why we do this work. We are so grateful for the generous support from people like you, whose kindness and care make it possible for families to stay together and thrive. Together, we are creating communities where children are safe, and families have the support they need to flourish.

"Our spirits felt peace when we entered the Host Families home. We knew immediately it was safe and wondered if God was there. How comforting to know you are believers."

-placing dad of baby

Children **SAFE** Families **TOGETHER**

Thank You

At Safe Families, we believe that the strength of a community lies in the support it offers to those in need. This year, we have been fortunate to work alongside several generous partners whose contributions have made a significant impact on our mission to keep children safe and families together.

We are deeply grateful to **Mission Thrift**, whose donations of furniture and household items have helped create welcoming, stable homes for families in transition. Their ongoing support has been a lifeline for many families, providing them with essential items during difficult times.

A special thank you to **Chef D**, whose weekly delivery of nutritious, home-cooked meals has nourished both the body and spirit of families in our meal program. His dedication to providing healthy food with love and care has made a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve.

We are also incredibly thankful for the generosity of **The River Dali Foundation** and **The Bridgeway Foundation**. Their support enabled us to hire new staff and implement specialized training nights for our volunteers—ensuring that we continue to provide the best care possible to the families we work with.

A heartfelt thank you to the **Mo Norman Foundation** for their belief in our mission, as well as to **Better Building Solutions** and **Strong Roots Insurance** for their donations to Safe Families. Their contributions are vital in helping us carry out our work in the Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge areas, ensuring that families have the resources they need to thrive.

These partnerships reflect the heart of our community—people coming together to make a difference. We could not do this work without their generous support and the additional support of our **amazing individual** and **church donors**, and for that, we are truly grateful.

Safe Families Canada | Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge
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