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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Hamilton Community Foundation Announces \$1 Million in New Grants**

Grants support quality of life programming across the city

Hamilton Community Foundation today announced new grants totalling \$1,060,122 to local charities.

More than 100 grants are supporting a wide range of projects across the community, including the arts, health care, housing, education, the environment and recreation. It also includes scholarship and bursaries supporting students in the arts.

The bulk of the grants – some \$345 thousand -- are from the Edith H. Turner Foundation Fund, which focuses in part on meeting the needs of families and family members of all ages. This includes nutrition, stable housing, child and youth enrichment activities, literacy and educational success, job and skills training and support for seniors.

The grants announced today include financial assistance for:

- Reading tutors and food skills programs at Neighbour to Neighbour's mountain programs.
- A leadership development program for youth in three public housing complexes.
- Back to school program for newcomer women that helps them gain their GED
- A program to support employment for at-risk youth with job counselling, experience and wraparound supports such as bus tickets and food cards.
- A program where volunteer engineers work with clients to design and build customized assistive devices when no commercial solution is available

"While there are many encouraging signs that Hamilton is moving forward economically, these are still very challenging times for far too many people in our community," says Matt Goodman, Vice- President, Grants and Community Initiatives. "One way HCF is working to address these challenges is supporting programs that tackle the underlying issues, such as education, that will improve quality of life for everyone in our city."

Last year Hamilton Community Foundation gave grants of \$6.4 million. Since it was founded in 1954, HCF has made close to \$81 million in grants to charities.

**Backgrounder attached:** List of grants from Edith H. Turner Foundation Fund

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**CONTACT:**

Matt Goodman, Vice-President, Grants & Community Initiatives, 905-523-5600 x 259

Grace Diffey, Vice-President, Community Relations, 905-523-5600 x 260; cell: 905-518-4641

*Hamilton Community Foundation is Ontario's first community foundation, celebrating 60 years of driving positive change in Hamilton. We do this by helping people give in a way that has meaning to them and impact in the community, providing grants and financing to charitable organizations and initiatives and bringing people together to address priority issues that affect Hamiltonians.*

Organization, program and description	Grant amount
<p><b>Art Forms - Youth Art Studio</b> - <i>"Youth Community Arts Development"</i>            SPONSORSHIP BY SPRC            Support for a project coordinator over an 8 month period. The organization provides training in a range of performing arts to at-risk, street-involved and homeless youth.</p>	\$15,000
<p><b>Art Gallery of Hamilton</b> - <i>"Art Without Barriers Summer Camp"</i>            Support to operate their summer camp program for children. They work with local schools and community organizations to target children and youth at-risk. Nutritious meals and a take-home art-kit are included.</p>	\$5,000
<p><b>Breakfast for Learning</b> - <i>"Student Nutrition Programs and Education"</i>            Support to assist with funding Hamilton based school nutrition programs.</p>	\$10,000
<p><b>City Housing Hamilton</b>  <i>"Educational Enrichment for At-Risk Youth"</i>            Support to offer a leadership development program for youth living in 3 public housing complexes.</p>	\$15,000
<p><b>City Kidz Ministry</b> - <i>"Leadership Development for Inner City Youth"</i>            Support is for a leadership development program for youth who have come through the children's programs offered at City Kidz.</p>	\$4,000
<p><b>CNIB</b> - <i>"Confidence, Skills &amp; Opportunities for Blind or Partially Sighted Kids"</i>            Support for the services provided to assist children and youth who are visually impaired. Services include: basic white cane skills; navigating their neighbourhood; technology; kitchen and eating skills; and personal care. There are currently 56 children/youth on the caseload.</p>	\$5,000  Edith H. Turner Foundation Fund (\$4,700) Kenneth Boothe Young & Marie Catherine Young Fund (\$300)
<p><b>Culture for Kids in the Arts</b> - <i>"After School Arts Program 2015"</i>            Support for their After School Arts Program. This program provides school age children 6 to 12 years of age the opportunity to receive training in the arts during their after school programs. Culture for Kids works closely with a number of community organizations who provide after school programming.</p>	\$15,000
<p><b>Dundas Valley School of Art</b> - <i>"Community Art Experience Program"</i>            Support to provide hands-on art workshops to children and youth who are clients of Big Brothers/Big Sisters. The workshops will take place one day a month at the DVSA.</p>	\$16,000
<p><b>Dundas Youth Chaplaincy</b> - <i>"Routes Youth Centre"</i>            Operating support over two years to serve vulnerable and marginalized young people of Dundas.</p>	\$7,500
<p><b>Elliott Heights Baptist Church</b> - <i>"Larch After School Program"</i>            The Larch After School Program supports children from 8 to 14. The program works closely with the school and parents and provides academic support based on individualized learning plans. Families are also assisted to access resources to cover costs related to school such as backpacks, field trip costs, uniforms, etc. The program operates out of a CityHousing Hamilton community house located on the east Mountain.</p>	\$20,000
<p><b>Fit Active Beautiful (FAB) Foundation</b> - <i>"FAB Girls 5K Challenge"</i>            FAB is a 12 week running program for girls in Grades 6, 7, and 8 in challenged Hamilton neighbourhoods.</p>	\$7,260

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<b>Glendale Secondary School - "Nutrition Initiative"</b> Support to offer a food preparation program for at-risk students attending Glendale Secondary School.	\$3,000
<b>Hamilton Community Foundation – Youth Advisory Council</b> 2014 Granting	\$4,000
<b>Hamilton Festival Theatre Company - "Education Initiative"</b> The Hamilton Festival Theatre Company (Hamilton Fringe Festival) is being supported for a child/youth educational component to their program.	\$5,000
<b>Hamilton Music Collective - "An Instrument for Every Child"</b> Support for both the ongoing provision of the Instrument for Every Child program as well as expanding the program to the Eva Rothwell Centre and St. Brigid's. They will also be working with Living Rock and City Kidz to develop an ongoing concert series for youth.	\$10,000
<b>Hamilton Out of the Cold Program Coalition Inc. - "Stepping Up For Those in Need"</b> Support to offer community dinners in the Rolston neighbourhood.	\$5,000
<b>Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra (2000) Inc. - "The Seniors' Symphony Experience"</b> Support to perform and bring orchestral music to seniors in Hamilton.	\$6,000
<b>Hamilton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra - "Young Musicians in Need"</b> Support to subsidize the cost of membership in the orchestra for students who could otherwise not afford to participate.	\$5,000 Edith H. Turner Foundation Fund (\$3,000) Note-Able Music Fund (\$2,000)
<b>Hamilton Wentworth Chapter of Native Women Inc (cob as Native Women's Centre) - "Healthy Lifestyles Coach"</b> Support to hire a Healthy Lifestyle Coach who will provide promotion, education and training for health, wellness and nutrition to women, children and youth who are currently residing at Honouring the Circle.	\$20,000
<b>Interval House of Hamilton - "The Hero's Journey Program"</b> Support to provide the "Hero's Journey Program" designed to support children who are victims or witnesses to violence.	\$13,500 Edith H. Turner Foundation Fund (\$10,000) Arthur and Helena Lemon Fund (\$3,500)
<b>Learning Through The Arts - "Learning Through the Arts"</b> Learning Through the Arts provides artists educators in the schools to work with teachers on curriculum based arts instruction. The program is currently in nine high need schools.	\$15,000
<b>Living Rock Ministries - "Rock Resources"</b> Support for the Rock Resources program which provides employment coach counseling, experience participating in work crews, and wraparound support such as bus tickets and food cards.	\$15,000
<b>Neighbour to Neighbour Centre (Hamilton) - "Community Food Skills and Engagement Program"</b> Support for a variety of initiatives geared to increasing access, skills and knowledge related to nutritious food. Strategies include an enhanced community garden in the Roston community, piloting indoor school food growing kits and training, consultation services to other community garden sites and a community kitchen drop-in.	\$10,000

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<p><b>Neighbour to Neighbour Centre (Hamilton) - "Reading Tutor Program"</b>  This is a volunteer based in-school tutoring program for children who have been identified as having difficulties with reading.</p>	\$15,000
<p><b>Queen Victoria School - "Culture, Caring, Citizenship and Community" SPONSORSHIP BY HWDSB</b>  Support for a range of programs designed to assist at-risk children/youth including Girls ONLY, Cooking Club, Film Club, Eco-Team, Homework Club, Social Justice Club, Snow Angels, and more.</p>	\$7,600 Edith H. Turner Foundation Fund (\$3,910) Alice Jean Ainsworth Memorial Fund (\$3,690)
<p><b>St. Joseph Immigrant Women's Centre - "Back to School Moms"</b>  Support to offer a program to newcomer women which will help them to get their GED. The program offers free, on-site childcare and anticipate serving 20-24 women.</p>	\$15,000
<p><b>St. Leonard's Society - "WAVE After School Program Computer Upgrade"</b>  SPONSORSHIP BY ROTARY CLUB OF HAMILTON SUNSHINE FUND  The Rotary Club of Hamilton in partnership with the WAVE After School Program and the St. Leonard's society GreenBYTE is seeking funding to improve the efficacy, accessibility and sustainability of the WAVE After School Program's existing computer lab located within the Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre.</p>	\$16,450
<p><b>Start2Finish - "Hamilton Running &amp; Reading Clubs"</b>  The Start2Finish program provides physical activity, character building and literacy support to children in grades 1 to 6. It is a national program currently active in 3 Hamilton schools (Prince of Wales, Dr. Davey and Bennetto). The program operates for 2 hours one afternoon per week from October to June and provides physical activity followed by a character building component and snack time. The next 45 minutes are devoted to improving the children's literacy skills.</p>	\$5,000
<p><b>Tetra Society of North America - "Tools for Tykes - Hamilton Chapter"</b>  The Tetra Society of North America brings together skilled volunteer engineers, designers and technicians with children, adults and seniors with disabilities to help them achieve greater independence within the community. Working one-to one with clients, volunteers design and build customized assistive devices when no commercial solution is available. The grant application is for the Hamilton chapter.</p>	\$3,000
<p><b>Threshold School of Building - "Neighbourhood Home Improvement Program"</b>  In the Neighbourhood Home Improvement Program, recipients of EI receive training in construction/renovation work. They then put the training to use in making repairs/renovations to pre-approved low-income homeowner properties located in the inner city.</p>	\$15,000
<p><b>Victorian Order of Nurses Ontario Branch-Hamilton Site - "Meals on Wheels"</b>  Support to subsidize the cost of meals from the Meals On Wheels program.</p>	\$10,000
<p><b>Welcome Inn Community Centre of Hamilton - "Inspiring Education"</b>  Proposal will provide children and youth who are participants in the LAF Program, Adventures in Art Program and Youth Drop-In, the opportunity to receive guidance and exposure to post-secondary opportunities.</p>	\$10,000

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<p><b>Wesley Urban Ministries</b> - <i>"LIVE Program"</i>  Support to expand their Multicultural Outreach Worker Program to 2 additional sites (Wesley Day Program and Riverdale).</p>	\$5,000
<p><b>Westmount Secondary School</b> - <i>"Grit: Workshop Series for Grade 10 Students At-Risk"</i>  SPONSORSHIP BY HWDSB  Supports a program to build resiliency with at-risk Grade 10 girls in Westmount Secondary School.</p>	\$1,800
<p><b>YWCA Hamilton</b> - <i>"Transitional Living Program"</i>  This initiative will assist women living in the transitional housing of the YWCA to acquire training and certification in food handling. They will also be preparing meals for the women in residence.</p>	\$10,000