



# 2023 Impact Report

Supporting families in times of need.



# IN THIS REPORT

- 3** ABOUT THE HOUSE
- 4** OUR 2023 IMPACT
- 5** FINANCIAL REPORT
- 6-7** EVENTS

- 8-9** BOWKER STORY
- 10** VOLUNTEERS
- 11** DONORS
- 12** STAFF & BOARD

## LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Our mission is to provide a supportive environment with affordable and accessible accommodation for families of acute care in-patients being treated in Hamilton area hospitals.

The Mark Preece Family House has supported over 8,000 families over the last 12 years. Our guest families have travelled away from home to support their loved ones in Hamilton area Hospitals.

Together with our partners in the community we are privileged to provide safe, warm, accessible and affordable accommodations. Thanks to our donors and supporters, we are able to provide considerable savings to our families in need compared to nearby hotels and restaurants.

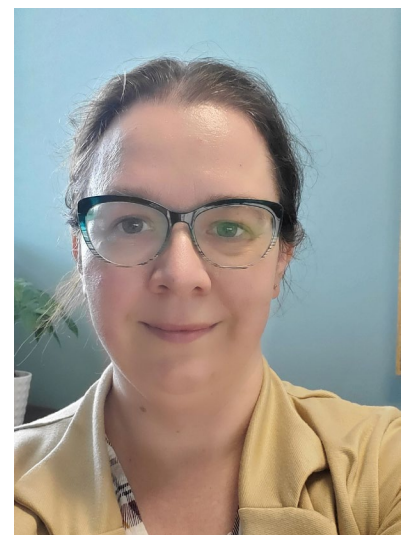
In 2023, in addition to hosting our annual Golf4Life tournament, we were able to bring back our Fall for Beer event! Those who supported these events as participants and as sponsors we thank you for supporting us in our Mission.

The hospitals in Hamilton are Centres of Excellence for a wide variety of medial procedure. Our staff and volunteers are exceptional at deliver first class accommodation in a support environment.

Your support and generosity has made it possible for us to continue to fulfill our mission and we thank you for your ongoing support.

**Russ Rowlands**  
Board Chair

**Mary Hatt**  
Co-Director





## OUR STORY

Mark Preece was a young, respected physician working in the Intensive Care Unit at Hamilton Health Sciences until his untimely death in 1997. While undergoing specialized cancer treatment in the United States, Mark's family and friends experienced first-hand the value and support of a welcoming, affordable residence during such a difficult time.

In honour of Mark, friends and colleagues worked for years to bring The Mark Preece Family House into existence. It's an honour to commemorate his life by supporting families in need, just like his who have a loved one in trauma care.

## THE ORGANIZATION

Friends and colleagues of the late Dr. Mark Preece formed the organization, Hospital Family Houses of Ontario to achieve their goal of opening The Mark Preece Family House, which opened in April 2011. The organization is incorporated and has attained charitable status.

## OUR HOUSE

More than 37% of inpatients who are cared for at the Hamilton General Hospital come from outside of Hamilton. As a regional centre for trauma, burns and cardiac surgery, more than 225 patients are air-lifted to the hospital each year.

Until we opened our doors, there had been no affordable place for patients' families to stay near their bedside. This created an unnecessarily stressful situation for those involved. It is our mandate to alleviate the extra stress and financial pressures of families finding affordable accommodations while dealing with a major health crisis.

## OUR MISSION

To provide a supportive environment with affordable and accessible accommodation for families of acute care in-patients being treated in Hamilton area hospitals.

# OUR 2023 IMPACT



577

TOTAL FAMILIES  
SERVED IN 2023



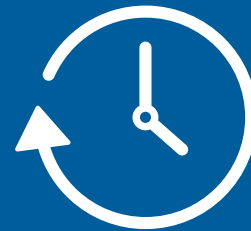
6,022

TOTAL NIGHTS  
STAYED BY FAMILIES



6.37 NIGHTS

AVERAGE STAY



266 NIGHTS

LONGEST STAY



730+ HOURS

OF VOLUNTEER  
TIME IN 2023



42% OF GUESTS

LIVE OVER  
3 HOURS AWAY

# FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial statements of Hospital Family Houses of Ontario for the year ended December 31, 2023 were audited by Pettinelli Mastroluisi LLP and are available on our website. This report should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements.

## REVENUE

During the 2022 fiscal year, the organization generated revenues of \$863,182. Excess of revenues over expenses totalled \$43,118.

## EXPENSES

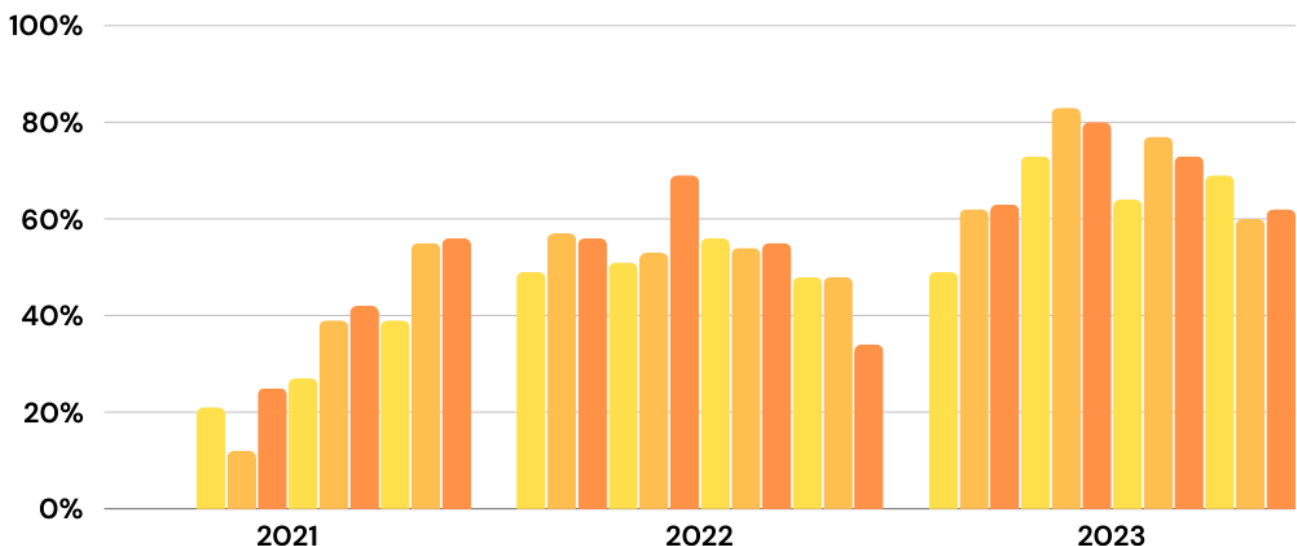
Expenditures incurred during the fiscal year totalled \$820,064.

## MAJOR FUNDRAISING

The 26th anniversary of Golf4Life was a great success and raised revenues of \$96,260 with a net income of \$73,057 after expenses. Fall for Beer returned for the first time since before the pandemic and raised revenues of \$20,016 with a net income of \$16,584 after expenses.

## OCCUPANCY RECOVERY

Occupancy for 2023 was at 68% as we continue to recover from the pandemic. This is an improvement over 2022 where occupancy was 53% and 2021 where occupancy was at 35%.



# FALL FOR BEER

After a four-year hiatus, the Fall For Beer fundraiser returned with a very successful event at Shawn & Ed Brewing Co. in Dundas. The event raised total of about \$16,500 and proceeds from the event go to fund the House's operations.

Our November event included beer and pizza from The SHED and a silent auction which included Leafs tickets, handmade items, sports memorabilia, a sunset sailing charter with Niagara Nautico, and a pair of tickets to the 110<sup>th</sup> GREY CUP in Hamilton.

Fall For Beer 2023 was a great evening of locally-harvested food and craft beers. An autumn food and beer event like Fall For Beer carries on our wonderful tradition of a fall event while making a big impact.

We are looking forward to November for the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of Fall For Beer.

PHOTO CREDIT: BETHANY LOEWEN



# GOLF4LIFE

PHOTO CREDIT: DONNA WAXMAN

The Golf4Life fundraising tournament returned for its 26th year as The Mark Preece Family House's flagship fundraising event. The tournament pre-dates the building of the House and is our longest standing fundraising event.

Many board members and volunteers have served as committee members over the years and have worked tirelessly every year to make this event successful. We wouldn't be where we are today without our Golf4Life event.



# THE BOWKERS

*We received a message in September, 2023 from former guest Iain Bowker and his wife Nicole Brooke about her progress since leaving The Mark Preece Family House in July. They gave us their permission to share her story.*

The Bowkers were in Canada for their wedding in Niagara Falls. Relatives flew in from around the world for Iain and Nicole's nuptials. Iain and his parents were told of the House and they stayed while waiting for a diagnosis, treatment, and after a month, a medical flight all the way back to Australia.

I wanted to give you an update on Nicole and how she is progressing. I do apologise for taking so long to update you after the wonderful and kind way you all looked after the family and I. Unfortunately, things did not go quite as planned once we returned to Sydney (3 x code blue and a couple of unplanned trips back to ICU among other things) and it has taken us a while to process everything. However, Nicole is doing well now and will be moving to rehab unit for a week or two once a bed opens up.







STARTING TO EXPLORE

Over the last 10 days, she has improved very quickly and spent limited time with a walker before being able to walk short distances on her own. This has led her to discovering the locations of the 'best' vending machines in the hospital and wanting to get to rehab asap.

Throughout all she has gone through she has remained positive, happy and grateful to all the support she has received and the family to the Mark Preece staff for all their kindness and support. Nicole has seen a councillor a few times a week and they have been very happy with how she is doing. The hospital when possible have given her a window bed and even her own room which when moving between floors 7-10 has meant she has had some good views that has helped with her mental state. She will be having a follow up consultation regarding her heart sometime in the next few months and they will be also keeping an eye on her lungs as one looks abnormal on the scans but is clear according to the tests and bronchoscopy.

I am hoping that she will be home in the next couple of weeks and have fingers crossed that a bed will open soon in the rehab unit.

### **September update from the family!**

Nicole came home mid/late September where she carried on doing rehab with daily physio visits. Her mom came over from the USA for a 3 week visit to help look after her and fatten her up! She started full time work in November and is lucky enough to work from home so she can take extra breaks if needed. Still a few ongoing tests and an stoma reversal operation in January, but she is very much heading in the right direction and getting stronger all the time.

*(NB - Andrew's update is written in Australian English and has been edited from its original version, which is available in the Winter 2023 newsletter.)*





## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

### **\$150,000**

Anonymous Foundation

### **\$50,000**

The Hewitt Foundation

### **\$10,001 – \$15,000**

Mr. & Mrs. David Carruth  
Fiera Capital Corporation

### **\$5,001 – \$10,000**

ArcelorMittal Dofasco G.P.

Ms. Victoria Walzak

Turkstra Lumber  
Company Ltd.

Mr. Mark Fuller

TLC Golf Tournament

Taylor Co Ltd

RBC

Bayshore Foundation

Dong Mei Chu

Mr. and Mrs. Blake &  
Susan Hutcheson

### **\$3,000– \$5,000**

Kiwanis Club of Hamilton  
East Inc.

Grigsby Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas &  
Anne Fritz

Stantec Consulting Ltd.

City of Hamilton - Ward 2

Mrs. Shelley Marr-Mouck

The Keg

Mr. Tim Craik

CCXIT Computer Services

Alinea Group

Mr. Craig Smeda

Trailcon Leasing Inc.

*To make a donation to Mark Preece Family House, visit*

**[www.markprecehouse.ca](http://www.markprecehouse.ca)**

## CURRENT STAFF

### Mary Hatt

Co-Director + Finance & Operations

### Kate Tansley *(on leave)*

Co-Director + Development & Communications

### Chris Pelletier

Communications & Development Specialist

### Lyn Kinnaird

Volunteer & Family Service Manager

### Virginia Cummings

Family Service Supervisor

### Kathryn Gammon

Family Service Coordinator

### Melissa Adams

Family Service Coordinator

### Crystal Rivers

Family Service Coordinator

### Angela Millar

Family Service Coordinator

### Ellen Newman

Family Service Coordinator

### Nicole Bertrand

Family Service Coordinator

### Jennifer Lintner

Housekeeping

### Marites Pangilinan

Housekeeping

### Nicole Phillips

Housekeeping

## 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Russ Rowlands

Chair

### Daniel Walzak

Treasurer

### Louise MacRae

Director

### Sravanti Mudunuri

Director

### David Carruth

Director

### Kaitlin Guarasci

Director

### Leigh McFadden

Director

### Jenya Tate

Director

### Yvonne Rieck

Director

### Shelley Marr-Mouck

Director

### Baldeep Virk

Director

### Melanie Dugard

Director



191 Barton Street East  
Hamilton, ON, L8L 2W7



Phone 905-529-0770  
Fax 905-529-9955



info@markpreecehouse.ca  
www.markpreecehouse.ca