



Impact Report



Helping families stay close
when it matters most.

2025

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A Message From Our Board Chair

2025 was an amazing year at the House, thanks to this community.

We served our mission, providing a safe, affordable, and accessible place to stay in Hamilton for over 700 families forced to travel here to be with loved ones receiving local care. Those families spent a combined 6,008 nights at the House. That's six thousand nights spent closer to ailing loved ones, in a comfortable and safe setting, surrounded by an empathetic community, with easy access to the comforts of home. I say this every year, but pause to consider the significance of those nights spent at the House, on the mental, emotional, and even physical well-being of our guests. That impact is made possible by you.

We welcomed our new Executive Director, Patti Majcher, who has made incredible strides to bring awareness of the House to prospective guests and referring professionals, to a wider donor base, and to the community at large. Patti came to the House with a big heart, big ideas, and the energy to chase those ideas down. She has made changes that have improved our access to grant funding, streamlined operations, and increased our average occupancy from 65% in 2024 to 69% in 2025 — this increase represents more families being able to access the support, comfort, and community the House provides. I applaud Patti's leadership and commitment to advancing our mission.

One of the year's most significant achievements was securing a 20-year lease renewal with Hamilton Health Sciences. This milestone provides long-term stability for the House and ensures we can continue serving families for decades to come. My sincere thanks to the dedicated individuals whose expertise, persistence, and passion made this possible, as well as to Hamilton Health Sciences for their collaborative partnership throughout the process. I fully believe that HHS understands the importance of our mission alongside their own.

My thanks goes out to our staff and volunteers, who are the soul of our mission; to our community of referring medical professionals who introduce our mission to new guests; to our committed network of donors and sponsors who make our mission possible; and to my fellow board members — past and present — whose insight and selfless commitment helps patch this all together. Together, we make a difference in a lot of lives.

Thank you all for being a part of this community, and I look forward to shaking hands and sharing hugs at this year's Fall For Beer!



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Rowlands'.

Russ Rowlands,
Board Chair

A Message From Our Executive Director



As I reflect on my first year as Executive Director of The Mark Preece Family House, I can't help but feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude.

When I stepped into this role in February 2025, I spent much of my time learning, listening, and gaining a deeper understanding of what makes this organization so special. It has been a privilege to get to know the families we serve, the people who make this House possible, and the incredible community that surrounds us. Every day, I am inspired by the resilience of our families and by the kindness and generosity of all of those who support them.

In the following pages, you'll read about the Waddell family who stayed at our House for 49 nights while their daughter and son-in-law received treatment after a serious accident. Their story is a powerful reminder of why this House exists. It reflects what we see every day: when families can stay together during life's most difficult moments, they find comfort, strength, and hope. That is at the heart of everything we do.

None of this would be possible without the many people who believe in our mission. To our dedicated Board of Directors, our exceptional staff, our compassionate volunteers, our generous donors, and our valued community partners...thank you. The Mark Preece Family House exists because of your support. Every warm welcome, every comforting meal, every restful night's sleep, and every moment of relief experienced by the families we serve is made possible by people who care deeply about helping others.

In a world that can often feel uncertain, this House continues to be a place of compassion, connection, and community. It's a place where strangers become neighbours, where kindness is shared freely, and where families know they are not facing difficult times alone.

On behalf of every family whose journey has been made a little easier because of you, thank you for being part of our story.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Patti Majcher'.

Patti Majcher,
Executive Director

Our 2025 Impact



702

Total Families
Served in 2025



6,008

Total Nights
Stayed by Families



8.56 NIGHTS

Average Stay



207 NIGHTS

Longest Stay



84% DIAGNOSED

in Cardiology,
Neurology/Neurosurgery,
Oncology, or Trauma



32% OF GUESTS

Live Over
3 Hours Away



When Everything Changes in an Instant, We're Here For You

A Survivor's Story at The Mark Preece Family House

While Mike and his wife, Brenda, were packing for a much-anticipated family trip, they were waiting for their daughter, Michelle, to return their call.

That call never came.

What they soon learned, was that a tragic fire sent their daughter, Michelle, and son-in-law, Matt, to the Hamilton General Hospital with life-threatening injuries.

While Michelle and Matt were in a coma, **Mike and Brenda spent 49 nights at The Mark Preece Family House**, just steps away from their daughter.

'It truly became a home away from home.'

Throughout their stay, the Waddell's found comfort not only in the House's close proximity to the hospital, but also in the kindness and support of fellow guests facing their own medical crises.

Scan the QR code to watch the Waddell family's story.





An Incredible Year of Fundraising for Families

Golf4Life & Fall For Beer in Support of the House

We were proud to host our two signature fundraising events, Golf4Life and Fall For Beer, in 2025. Both events were exceptionally well attended and highly successful, raising a combined net total of \$89,000 in support of families staying at the House during times of medical crisis.

Building on the momentum of a successful 2025 season, Golf4Life 2026 sold out for the first time in the tournament's history – a significant milestone for the event and a testament to the incredible support of our community.

We are also excited for a new chapter of Fall For Beer with an exciting venue and format change.



Save the date for our 11th Annual Fall For Beer, taking place on October 1, 2026, at the Copetown Community Centre.





Thyme for Dinner: Building Community Through Shared Meals

The Thyme for Dinner program brings people together to make a meaningful difference for families staying at Mark Preece Family House. In 2025, we increased the number of dinners served by 90%, allowing us to provide even more families with the comfort of a home-cooked meal during a difficult time.

Volunteer groups, including businesses, community organizations, families, and friends, prepare and serve dinner for 30 to 35 guests, offering comfort and relief to families who have spent long days supporting a loved one in hospital.

For corporate teams, Thyme for Dinner offers a unique opportunity to strengthen workplace connections while giving back to the community. Colleagues work side by side to plan, prepare, and serve a nourishing meal in our fully equipped kitchen, creating a rewarding team-building experience with a lasting impact.

More than just a meal, every dinner reminds our families that they are supported by a caring community during one of the most difficult times in their lives. As demand for the program continues to grow, we welcome businesses and organizations looking for a hands-on volunteer opportunity that combines teamwork, compassion, and community impact.

To learn more or schedule a Thyme for Dinner experience for your team, please contact our Development team at development@markpreecehouse.ca



Every Room Filled With *Hope*

In 2025, we relaunched our **Giving Space Room Adoption program**, and our first Giving Space partner was **The Sydney Wood Purple Butterfly of Hope Foundation**.

Room 113 was chosen with deep significance. Sydney, a talented basketball and soccer player, proudly wore #11 on the basketball court and #13 on the soccer field. Those two numbers were brought together in one space to honour her memory.

Sydney Wood was a remarkable athlete, teammate, and bright light to everyone who knew her. Sadly, on August 20, 2012, her life was suddenly cut short by an undiagnosed brain tumour. Though she is no longer with us, Sydney's spirit, strength, and impact continue to be felt throughout the community.

Through The Sydney Wood Purple Butterfly of Hope Foundation, Sydney's family honours her legacy by supporting numerous charitable organizations, including The Mark Preece Family House.

Giving Space is more than a program. It is a commitment to families when they need it most.

Through this multi-year room adoption initiative, community partners make a meaningful investment in families facing medical crises in Hamilton. Each pledge helps keep our doors open and ensures we can continue providing safe, comfortable, and affordable accommodations for families with loved ones receiving care at Hamilton hospitals.

Thanks to partners like The Sydney Wood Purple Butterfly of Hope Foundation, families can remain close to one another during some of life's most difficult moments.

*To learn more about the Giving Space Room Adoption program,
please email us at development@markpreecehouse.ca*

Financial Report

The financial statements of Hospital Family Houses of Ontario for the year ended December 31, 2025 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 vs. Expenses

During the 2025 fiscal year, the House generated revenues of **\$990,277**. Key revenue sources include general donations, community grants, signature fundraisers and accommodation rent.

Expenditures incurred during the fiscal year totaled **\$979,037**, resulting in an excess of revenue over expenses totaling **\$11,240**.

Occupancy

Occupancy continues to grow year after year. 2025 saw a **4% increase in overall occupancy** and a **5% increase in the number of families served** over 2024.



Regions Served

While The Mark Preece Family House serves families from all across Ontario and the world, our top five catchments are as follows:



Niagara	- 22%
Kitchener Waterloo	- 14%
Wellington	- 8%
Norfolk	- 5%
Brant	- 4%



Thank You to Our Donors

\$100,000+

Anonymous Foundation

\$50,000–\$99,999

Hewitt Foundation

\$10,000 – \$19,999

The Carruth Family Trust
Fiera Capital Private Wealth

Gordon Mollenhauer
Family Foundation
(Toronto Foundation)

Masonic Foundation of
Ontario
RBC Foundation

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Anonymous Donor

Congregation of The Sisters of
St. Joseph in Canada

Grigsby Family Fund (Charitable
Impact Foundation Canada)

Mark Fuller

Jaime Harper

John Heersink

Lancaster Group Inc.

Manico Investments Inc.

Val Saari

Stantec Consulting Ltd.

StoneRidge Insurance Brokers

Sydney Wood Purple Butterfly
of Hope Foundation

Michael Tesluk

\$2,500 – \$4,999

Bayshore Foundation

Blair Blanchard Stapleton Ltd.

Budds' BMW Hamilton

CCXIT Computer Services

Cornerstone Association
of REALTORS Ontario
REALTORS Care Foundation

William and Elizabeth
Huffman

Shelley Marr-Mouck

Patti and Jamie Majcher

Channy and Christa Muhn

Nora's Gift Foundation

Craig and Kim Smeda

Jacques and Lisa Tittley

Turkstra Lumber
Company Ltd.

2025 Staff

Patti Majcher

Executive Director

Crystal Rivers

Office Manager

Lyn Kinnaird

Family Service & Volunteer Manager

Virginia Cummings

Family Service Supervisor

Family Service Coordinators

Melissa Adams

Myka Adams

Mamode Ayeye

Ruby Embrey

Kathryn Gammon

Jothini Gnanavadivel

Housekeeping

Jennifer Lintner (on leave)

Marites Pangilinan

Syris St. Pierre

List reflects staff as of December 31, 2025.

2025 Board of Directors

Russ Rowlands

Chair

Kaitlin Guarasci

Vice Chair

Daniel Walzak

Treasurer

Jenya Tate

Secretary

David Carruth

Director

Melanie Dugard

Director

John MacNamara

Director

Louise MacRae

Director

Shelley

Marr-Mouck

Director

Leigh McFadden

Director

Yvonne Rieck

Director

Baldeep Virk

Director

Volunteers

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers who contributed 2,125 hours of service in 2025. Whether welcoming guests, preparing meals, cleaning, or supporting special events, your generosity, compassion, and commitment make a lasting difference for the families we serve. **Your gift of time helps make The Mark Preece Family House a welcoming home away from home, and we are deeply grateful for all you do.**



Because of you, we're here when families need it most.

As you've seen throughout this report, every overnight stay,
every shared meal, and every moment of comfort at
The Mark Preece Family House is made possible by people like you.

Join us in making sure every caregiver has a place to rest, recharge, and
feel supported during the most difficult days of their lives.

**To donate, volunteer, or learn more about how you can help,
visit www.markpreecehouse.ca or scan the QR code below.**



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