

**DeafBlind**  
ONTARIO FOUNDATION

## Collaborative

Engaging others makes us better. Each of us has something to learn and something to teach.

## Leaders

We set the standard and promote excellence in our field.

# WE ARE

## Limitless

We believe in endless possibilities.

## Passionate

We are driven to empower the people we support and to celebrate their uniqueness.

## Resilient

When faced with challenges, we adapt and grow - becoming stronger together.

# ANNUAL REPORT

DeafBlind Ontario Foundation  
2021-2022

# OUR MISSION, VISION & VALUES

**Mission:** Inspiring investment in the future of individuals who are Deaf, hard of hearing, non-verbal and deafblind.

**Vision:** Transforming lives, one gift at a time.

## Values:

### We are **Passionate**

We are driven to empower the people we support and to celebrate their uniqueness.

We demonstrate being passionate by:

- Embracing challenges and opportunities with energy and enthusiasm;
- Extending the reach of the people we support into the community, where they can achieve their goals, dreams and aspirations;
- Creating and providing unique opportunities to learn and grow; and
- Motivating and encouraging our co-workers, as well as the people we support, to challenge themselves every day.

### We are **Collaborative**

Engaging others makes us better. Each of us has something to learn and something to teach.

We demonstrate being collaborative by:

- Fostering partnerships with the people we support, their families, other community resources, government, funders and organizations with similar goals—locally, nationally and around the world;
- Committing to open communication and transparency when working with each other and our partners; and
- Supporting each other and seeking input from others for solutions that benefit all.

### We are **Leaders**

We set the standard and promote excellence in our field.

We demonstrate being leaders by:

- Constantly evolving and striving for excellence in everything we do;
- Mentoring, educating and encouraging ourselves and others;
- Generating and being receptive to new ideas;
- Advocating for people's rights, beliefs and dreams; and
- Holding ourselves accountable to the people we support, families, employees, funders and other stakeholders.

### We are **Resilient**

When faced with challenges, we adapt and grow—becoming stronger together.

We demonstrate being resilient by:

- Providing holistic services that are responsive to the ever-changing needs of individuals supported;
- Being proactive in identifying and addressing circumstances that may present challenges; and
- Learning from setbacks and being persistent and flexible in our efforts to find creative, workable solutions.

### We are **Limitless**

We believe in endless possibilities.

We demonstrate being limitless by:

- Being courageous, open-minded and creative; and
- Empowering each other to go outside the box and achieve goals and dreams.

# OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Foundation's organizational imperatives reflect the strategic themes the Board will oversee and employees will pursue in order to fulfill its mission and achieve its vision. In addition to each strategic theme, the Board and employees identified some key outcomes relative to the following imperatives:

## 1. HOUSING INNOVATION

Investment in DeafBlind Ontario Services' housing model and structure that is local and community-based, with an open approach to innovation.

## 2. SUSTAINABILITY

To build on behalf of the people DeafBlind Ontario Services serves a secure foundation for the organization's future operations with the ability to innovate.

## 3. LIFESTYLE

Development and provision of equipment/assistive devices/recreational programs for the individuals who are served by DeafBlind Ontario Services with a focus on:

- Ability to communicate more effectively
- Personal well-being as determined by enhancing their quality of life

## 4. ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

The expansion of the human resources to fulfill the Foundation's mission, with a particular focus on the team of volunteers serving the organization and the network of stakeholders who support it.

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# DBOF BOARD CHAIR REPORT

I'm pleased to share that the Board of Directors completed our first Strategic Plan for the Foundation in April 2022 to establish our strategic priorities over the next few years. Once the finishing touches are complete, we will share this plan with you.

As DeafBlind Ontario Services is poised for future growth in Ottawa, Durham and Sudbury, the Foundation will have a pivotal role in developing a housing and accommodation strategy to support this growth and demand for service. Developing a long term strategy to increase revenue, especially in the area of housing, will position the Foundation well to meet this demand. Recruitment of new board members to complement our existing skillsets will ensure these goals are met as we move forward.

The ongoing pandemic provided challenges for our ability to raise funds this year, as many fundraising opportunities specifically created for COVID-19 relief seen last year were no longer present. However, our fundraising team still came close (91%) to meeting our goal through major gifts, annual giving and events in partnership with our valued donors and supporters.

Thanks to you, our supporters, donors, sponsors and families of people supported, the Foundation's vision of "transforming lives, one gift at a time" will continue to be carried out through the strategic priorities of the Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,



Jim Dadson  
President & Chair

**Transforming lives,  
one gift at a time**

# FUNDRAISING REPORT

We're truly grateful for your ongoing and generous support in 2021-22.

Your donations and monthly pledges have proven vital in providing essential equipment and support to supported living homes and community services across the province, including wheelchair accessible vans, accessibility upgrades such as kitchen renovations, elevators, and more. Your ongoing generosity has enabled us to put these essential supports in place and helped expand their worlds.

You have truly helped to transform lives. From our hearts to yours, thank you for making a difference.

***Our final net total raised in 2021-2022 was \$371,177 or 91% of our goal***

Although DeafBlind Ontario Services receives provincial funding, it doesn't meet all the needs of people supported. DeafBlind Ontario Foundation helps to bridge that gap to provide funding for the priority needs of DeafBlind Ontario Services and the individuals it serves.

Your support made a difference in the following areas that do not receive government funding:

## Highest Priority Needs

Gifts made towards our highest priority needs provided the most flexibility on where it was needed most. It also helped build a secure foundation for the organization's future operations with the ability to innovate.

## Accessible Housing

DeafBlind Ontario Services' supported living homes provide accessible, barrier-free, affordable housing, and access to supports 24/7. They are specially designed to support the unique needs of individuals with sensory loss, making a house into a home.

Increasing prices of housing and new construction impact our ability to build new or renovate homes to be fully accessible. Housing that makes a difference in the lives of the people we support, and encourages independent living for those with sensory loss and physical challenges.

## Enriching Experiences

Assistive devices to enhance communication, equipment to increase accessibility, recreational programs to enhance quality of life and sensory excursions to explore new places all translate into meaningful life experiences.

A holistic approach to providing support services are customized to each individual's unique needs, method of communication, and goals to increase their independence and enrich their life. Your investments into these programs build a sense of confidence and give them the tools to accomplish ordinary and extraordinary things.

## Transportation

Many of the people we serve have additional physical disabilities and medical issues, resulting in transportation, mobility and accessibility challenges. Your gifts towards the purchase of a wheelchair accessible van provides opportunities to attend employment or volunteer opportunities, access health care services, and complete everyday errands.

2021-2022

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# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Dadson, President & Chair

Gwen Elling

Doug Downer

Jennifer Moore

Martha Beaumont

Martin Mazza

COMMENTS

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## FROM THE TREASURER

Treasurer: Martha Beaumont

It is my pleasure as Treasurer of DeafBlind Ontario Foundation to report on the financial results for the fiscal year that ended March 31, 2022, to volunteers, funders, donors and employees.

DeafBlind Ontario Foundation experienced positive financial results, allowing the organization to support housing programs and grow financial assets.

During the year, DeafBlind Ontario Foundation experienced an increase in investments due to a contribution made during the year as well as increase in market value. The capital assets declined in value due to the amortization expense for the year.

The revenue was maintained comparative to prior year with operating expenses slightly higher than prior year due to an increase in professional services.

On behalf of the Board, we are very grateful to all of our funding partners, donors, volunteers and employees whose continued support and commitment to our Organization has provided us with a solid financial position. This solid financial footing allows us to continue to provide housing and recreational programs, devices and equipment to individuals supported by DeafBlind Ontario Services.

# SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Position Year Ended March 31,	2022	2021
	\$	\$
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash	951,607	491,664
Accounts receivable and prepaid expenses	12,826	6,152
Due from DeafBlind Ontario Services	41,608	405,711
Investments	783,667	668,153
Capital assets	1,941,943	2,032,325
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,731,651</b>	<b>3,604,005</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	152,074	139,905
Mortgage loans	749,856	785,047
Deferred revenue	673,926	598,308
Unamortized restricted transfers	888,722	938,095
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2,464,578</b>	<b>2,461,355</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>1,267,073</b>	<b>1,142,650</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>3,731,651</b>	<b>3,604,005</b>

Statement of Revenue and Expenses Year Ended March 31,	2022	2021
	\$	\$

<b>Revenue</b>		
Fundraising and donations	259,795	279,136
Contributions from DeafBlind Ontario Services	-	628,497
Amortization of restricted capital contributions	746,692	718,074
Other	165,094	196,216
	474,262	1,153,222
<b>Expenses</b>		
Operating	201,407	174,679
Amortization of capital assets	90,382	90,382
Fundraising Activities	31,110	32,924
Interest	26,940	27,587
	349,839	325,572
<b>Excess/(Deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>\$124,423</b>	<b>\$827,650</b>

The above was summarized from the draft audited financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2022. The complete audited financial statements are available on our website at [www.deafblindontario.com](http://www.deafblindontario.com).



# OUR IMPACT

Ben's journey to independence started with setting a goal, developing the skills and building the confidence to move into his own apartment.

Working with a Direct Support Professional (DSP) helps Ben to express himself in his preferred method of communication, American Sign Language (ASL), so that he can develop more meaningful social connections.

Over 1.3 million or 5% of Canadians aged 15 years and over have a hearing disability. In Ontario, 563,350 or 4.19% people aged 15 years and over have hearing disabilities.

Individuals who are Deaf, hard of hearing, or non-verbal, may use a visual language like ASL to help facilitate communication with the world around them using visual images in place of words.

For Ben, this means he was able to pursue his interest in learning how to make candles out of beeswax and start his own business selling candles at local farmers markets.

It also meant that with his increased ASL skills, he could build the confidence needed to move from his family's farm to Peterborough and adapt to living on his own.

With this increased independence, Ben was also able to pursue his interests in going to the movies, exercising at the local YMCA and learning more about history, one of his favourite hobbies.

According to Ben, learning about how people lived in the past and the kinds of challenges they faced, helps to teach ways of dealing with problems today.

Now that Ben has become more comfortable living on his own and feels a sense of connection with his community, he hopes to combine his love of history with his interest in travel to learn more and explore significant historical locations.





# DONORS

DeafBlind Ontario Foundation is fortunate to enjoy a number of valuable partnerships in the community. We gratefully acknowledge the generous support given to us by:

## Foundations:

- Canada Gives
- The Catherine & Maxwell Meighen Foundation
- The Charles Norcliffe Baker and Thelma Scott Baker Foundation
- J.P. Bickell Foundation
- Landmann Family Fund, c/o KWCF
- The Oakes Foundation
- The Oakville Foundation for Intellectually Handicapped People
- Robert Campeau Family Foundation
- The Victor & Rhoda Shields Charitable Foundation
- Whitearn Foundation

## Corporations:

- 107.5 KOOL FM
- Accessibil-iT
- A. F. Sandy Forbes Insurance Broker
- Andrew Van Pelt Electric Ltd.
- Anjac Construction
- Ayr Animal Hospital
- Ayr Farmers Mutual
- Barrie 360
- Bell Media
- BLG Foundation
- BlueSky Communications Inc.
- BNI Business Elite
- BNI Ontario South West
- Bradford Family Dentistry
- Brayford Sod Farms
- Canadian Red Cross
- Chesterville Record
- Crate Designs Furniture Ltd.
- Cyclone Solutions
- Davidson Works Mechanical
- Electrical Elite Inc.
- Energy Surfaces Inc.
- Ephatha Fashion
- Gary's Service & Towing

- Giant Tiger
- Gregor Homes
- H.S.P. Consultants
- ICOR Technology
- Jeff Smith Plumbing-Heating Ltd.
- MacEwen Petroleum Inc.
- MacNeil & Dodd Pharmacy
- Magna International
- Metroland Media
- Morrison CPA Professional Corporation
- National Mah Jongg League Inc.
- Needham Promotions Inc.
- Neighbor
- Open Plan Architects
- Pam Bechard, Royal LePage RCR
- PayPal Giving Fund Canada
- PEAK Investment Services Inc.
- The Printing House
- Priority Mechanical Services Ltd.
- Provox Inc Covidcamera.com
- Resident Care Pharmacy
- The Review
- ROCK 95
- Silver Linings Healthcare
- Snyder Construction
- South Simcoe Police Association
- Starboard Communications Ltd.
- TD Commercial
- Town of Georgina
- Trayvino Wine Company Ltd.
- Voll's Contract Flooring
- Western Fire Protection Inc.
- Xpertek Construction Ltd.

- Rotary Club of Barrie
- Rotary Club of Newmarket
- The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Charitable Foundation
- Russell Lions Club
- Quota International of Peterborough

## Individuals \$50,000+:

- Watson, John & Josie

## Individuals \$5,000+:

- Webster, Albert & Joan

## Individuals \$1,000 - \$4,999:

- Barber, Bryant & Jean
- Brogan, Steve & Natalie
- Dadson, Marny
- Dixon, David
- Feltmate, Peggy
- Gagnon, Lise
- Hooton, Doug & Barb
- Keyes, Karen
- Kosiw, Jim
- MacNeil, Patrick & Linda
- Molnar, Ken & Susan
- Momtahan, Parham & Kathy
- Moore, Jennifer
- Morris Dadson, Jim & Anne
- Simpson, Lorraine
- Spruyt, Roxanna
- Watkinson, Brian & Rebecca
- Webster, Bruce & June
- Willsie, Mark & Susan
- Willoughby, Jocelyn

## Service Clubs:

- 100 Women Who Care Burlington
- Knights of Columbus St. Joseph's Council No. 6361 Charitable Welfare Trust

## Individuals \$500 - \$999:

- Barker, Tiffany
- Beaudoin, Barrett
- Beaulieu, Tim
- Beaumont, Martha
- Bechard, Pam
- Boychuk, Rick
- Brouillet, Terry & Danielle
- Coughlan, Juliette
- Coutu, Raymond & Nicole
- Dash Addi, Osnat
- Eldridge, Erin
- Elling, Gwen
- Flinn, Tim & Kim
- Ford, Julia
- Ikhlaq, Ahmed
- Gaylord, Steven
- Grant, Stephanie
- Madho, Karen
- Manahan, Susan
- Mazza, Martin
- Mesko, Amanda
- Nevett, Sarah
- Paget, Greg
- Parsons, Laura
- Patterson, Kelly
- Peters, Jasmine
- Pettapiece, David
- Phillion, Leni
- Piggott, Annette
- Qahir, Virji
- Quinn, Josie
- Smith, Sandra
- Thorne, Kitty
- Veldhuis, Tracey
- Wookey, Sue

## Individuals \$250 – 499:

- Adcock, Maria
- Alford, Christine
- Bakshi, Gulshan
- Becker, Ewald & Karen
- Benton, Sue
- Bierhals, Andrea
- Brogan, Michael
- Brooks, Brenda
- Bryanton, Betty Ann
- Bylykbashi, Kim
- Cassidy, Daniel
- Colterman, Barb
- Crombie, Bertha
- Day, Doug & Phyllis
- Dee, Betsy
- Dee, Roberta

- Despres, Helene
- Downer, Doug
- Eldridge, Ashleigh
- Fairley, Beth
- Fatijewski, Fiona
- Fazakas, John & Nancy
- Fransky, Dennis & Janet
- Gabay, David & Diane
- Gaudet, Suzanne
- Hodgson, Pat
- Halman, John & Jackie
- Jones, Alida
- Kanwal, Kanwaldeep
- Langdon, Sarah
- Lam, Alice
- Lennon, Sylvia
- Lockyer, Wendy
- Mahoney, Sean
- Marren, Sam
- Macauley, Nick
- Mackinnon, Brent
- Needham, David & Elizabeth
- Noble, Dan & Kathy
- Parsons, Lillian
- Patton-Markser, Terry
- Pettipas, Margaret
- Plank, Doug & Susan
- Plumridge, Daryl
- Quinton, Marlene
- Roberts-Guerrette, Tiffany
- Robillard, Taylor
- Schmalz, Michael
- Schnarr, Michelle
- Vardy, Michele
- Wall, Candace
- Watson, Paula
- White, BJ
- Youm, Chun Goon
- Young, Alyssa
- Young, Tina
- Fatijewski, Fiona
- Flinn, Tim & Kim
- Ford, Julia
- Fransky, Dennis & Janet
- Gagnon, Lise
- Gaudet, Suzanne
- Gaylord, Steven
- Halman, John & Jackie
- Hooton, Doug & Barb
- Kelliher, Charles & Dietrich, Michelle
- Kosiw, Jim
- Levy, Carl
- Moore, Jennifer
- Morris Dadson, Jim & Anne
- Porteous, Judy
- Scopazzi, Peter
- Smith, Amber
- Webster, Bruce & June
- Willsie, Mark & Susan
- Willoughby, Jocelyn
- Youm, Chun Goon

## Friends with Vision (Monthly Giving Program):

- Beaumont, Martha
- Beaulieu, Tim
- Becker, Ewald & Karen
- Benton, Sue
- Brogan, Steve & Natalie
- Downer, Doug
- Edidi, Olabanji
- Elfar, Mohamed
- Elling, Gwen
- Fairley, Beth

# OUR IMPACT

“She is my angel, my special girl... We have a deep bond and always have,” says Joan, also known as Nanny by her granddaughter, Reilly. “I was there the day she was born... and when she got sick.”

At three months, Reilly developed flu-like symptoms and was rushed to SickKids in Toronto. Where she was diagnosed with Pneumococcal Meningitis, a bacterial form of meningitis, a serious infection of the thin lining that surrounds the brain and spinal cord. Just a few weeks after Reilly became sick, the vaccine for meningitis was approved in Canada.

As a result, Reilly sustained significant losses, including profound hearing and vision loss. Deafblindness is a combination of hearing and vision loss that is unique to each person. It can impact access to information, communication, and mobility.

At seven months, Reilly was one of the youngest in North America to receive a cochlear implant, a small electronic device that stimulates the cochlear nerve, used for hearing. However, being so young, it was challenging to keep the external part of the implant on Reilly’s head. “She would roll around and the external piece would pop off, or she would pull it off... We tried everything including using headbands or scarves to fix it to her head. It was a battle,” says Joan.

Reilly was two when the family discovered that she has some vision. “Her Papa brought home some LED lights; when we plugged them in, Reilly began to move towards the light.”

Affectionately referred to as ‘Smiley Reilly’, Joan notes that Reilly is the happiest person in spite of everything she has overcome. “Reilly welcomes all with a

beautiful smile, she is very affectionate, expressive, and she loves hugs.”

Hugs are very important to Reilly, as she communicates through the sense of touch. Intervenors are professionally trained to act as the “eyes” and “ears” of the individual with deafblindness through the sense of touch.

Reilly first received Intervenor Services when she was five at W. Ross Macdonald School for the Blind.

“After Reilly got sick, her Papa, Mother, and I wanted to ensure she had the best quality of life and care; as she will need this support to live as independently as possible,” says Joan.

Reilly attended W. Ross Macdonald for 15 years and moved to one of DeafBlind Ontario Services’ locations in Innisfil last October. “We are relieved to have found another loving home for Reilly. It puts the entire family at ease that her life will continue to be enriched.”

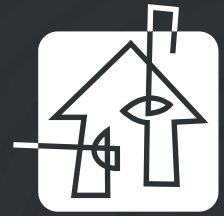
“Reilly’s move to her new home was a seamless transition. She fit right in with our team of intervenors. It feels like Reilly always

belonged here... Her happy soul lights up everyone around her and you can’t help but giggle when she giggles. Reilly has brought unexpected light to everyone at our location in Innisfil during a difficult time with the pandemic,” says Tellie, an intervenor at DeafBlind Ontario Services.

DeafBlind Ontario Services is committed to providing a high quality of life for people with deafblindness; this commitment is ingrained in their values.

“Every small leap and bound gives our family hope for a better quality of life and future for Reilly,” says Joan.





**DeafBlind**  
ONTARIO FOUNDATION

# Transforming lives, one gift at a time

**DeafBlind Ontario Foundation**  
2021-2022

17665 Leslie Street, Unit 15  
Newmarket, ON L3Y3E3  
1.855.340.DBOS (3267)  
[deafblindontario.com](http://deafblindontario.com)

