



**Holland Bloorview**

Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation

2024–2025

# Impact Report





## Land Acknowledgement

As we reflect on 2024-2025, we are reminded of our commitment to truth and reconciliation, which is based on partnership and respect for the many ways of knowing, giving, and healing.

We acknowledge Tkaronto (Toronto), a Mohawk word meaning, “the place in the water where the trees are standing.” We live and work on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee-speaking nations, including the Huron-Wendat, Seneca and Mohawk. The legacy of this meeting place, where people have gathered for 15,000 years, informs our work to decolonize the healthcare system and philanthropy. In the spirit of truth and reconciliation, we are committed to building a better future by supporting decolonized research, and pediatric disability care that is inclusive of all children.

**Chi Miigwetch, Nia:weh, Merci—Thank you.**

## A message from our CEO and Board Chair

For the last 125 years, Holland Bloorview has created a world of possibilities for children and youth with disabilities—and 2024-2025 was no exception. Thanks to donors like you, we made record impact through philanthropy.

You helped us make this milestone year, filled with innovation and progress, even more special. From kicking off a year-long celebration of Holland Bloorview's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, to winning awards for our anti-stigma campaigns, to launching our first donor impact award, this was truly a year to remember.

Together, we made critical strides in dismantling national systemic barriers to inclusion—making an unparalleled impact for people with disabilities beyond our walls across Canada. On International Day of Persons with Disabilities, we announced the largest philanthropic investment in disability in Canadian history. Led by Holland Bloorview and the Rick Hansen Foundation, the historic \$30 million gift from The Slaight Family Foundation to 11 partner organizations is expanding access to care for the eight million Canadians living with disabilities.

Your support and financial commitment to our mission and values continue to have a high return in our research institute. The Bloorview Research Institute leveraged donor funding to raise an additional \$1 million to bring cutting-edge technology and research out of the lab and into clinical care.

More than ever before, it's vital to create a bright and meaningful future for kids and youth with disabilities. And we're grateful for our community of donors who have helped us grow our annual fundraising by 89% over the past decade. Because of you, transformative research impacts families' lives in ways never thought possible. Personalized client-centered care helps kids and families feel seen, heard and supported. And, after getting their start at Holland Bloorview, the next generation of developmental pediatricians [are filling critical gaps in care across the country and beyond.](#)

We are determined and hopeful for the future. Together, we can continue to model excellence in pediatric care for 9,876 children and their families.

**Thank you for your unwavering support.**



**Sandra Hawken**  
*President and CEO*  
Holland Bloorview Kids  
Rehabilitation Hospital  
Foundation



**Jason Smith**  
*Chair, Board of Directors*  
Holland Bloorview Kids  
Rehabilitation Hospital  
Foundation

# Building an Inclusive World, Together





## Inaugural Champion of Possibility: David Coriat

At this year's Evening of Possibility, we had the privilege of presenting the inaugural Holland Bloorview Champion of Possibility Award to David Coriat in recognition of his visionary support. As a renowned business leader and philanthropist, David is Holland Bloorview's top fundraiser and the inspiration behind many generous gifts. His partnership and client-centered advocacy was instrumental in fueling our anti-stigma work, transitions program and The Coriat Fund for a Barrier Free Future. As a former client family, he has been a steadfast supporter, mentor, friend and champion. Thank you, David, for being a true Champion of Possibility.

## A recipe for Capes for Kids success

In their third year, OMERS Ventures and OMERS came together for the best bake sale on Bay Street and a unique collaborative art activity in support of Capes for Kids. Laura Lenz and Deb Barnes, two Holland Bloorview parents, brought their teams and sons, Nolen and Charlie, together to heroically fundraise over \$17,000. Kapow!



# 24–25 highlights from our donor community

## Spirit Halloween



Spirit Halloween and Spirit of Children have supported Holland Bloorview since 2012 and raised over \$1,000,000 for Child Life programs and inpatient experiences, helping to make the hospital less scary for kids and youth.



## Graydon Hall Nursery Schools



## Jackman Avenue Public School

## The Estate of Ronald & Marjorie Charette



## The Law Foundation of Ontario

Gave a gift of \$44,000 towards the On-site legal clinic.



## Maria Cruz, Monthly donor

“Holland Bloorview does a lot of great stuff for kids with disabilities, and I want to help them to help as many kids as possible.”  
– Maria Cruz

## The Lillian Meighen and Don Wright Foundation

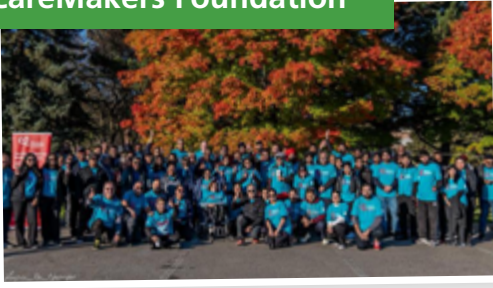


Contributing over \$600,000 since 1999, The Lillian Meighen and Don Wright Foundation honours Mary Louise Dickson pictured by this “magical” room.



## Prime Quadrant

### The Petro-Canada CareMakers Foundation™



Awarded a \$150,000 grant to support our Client and Family Centred Care programs which provide mentorship, training, resources and more to our family caregivers.

### Wendy's

"Supporting this incredible organization has been a deeply meaningful experience for our entire team." – Kathryn and John Chayka, JKC Restaurants



### Stephanie Charal *Capes for Kids fundraiser*



### Markham Pickleball Club

### John and Ingrid Bajc

### Neil and Chrisula Selfe

"The awareness and conversation generated about the importance of supporting kids with disabilities is the best part of Capes for Kids." – Neil Selfe



[Click here to see the 2024-2025 Donor List.](#)

## Year by the numbers

# 9,876

clients served

# 64,555

 outpatient visits

# 56%

 of clients we serve have 3 or more diagnoses

# 39 days

average length of inpatient stay

# 1,195

number of families accessed the Family Support Fund

## Research

# 5

 Hospital-University Endowed Chairs

# 3

 Canada Research Chairs

# 46

 Scientists and Investigators



# Stories of Impact

## A landmark gift to support disability care and inclusion.



The Slight Family Foundation's historic \$30 million donation is the largest philanthropic investment in disability in Canadian history. This gift is supporting 11 disability organizations across Canada in an unprecedented multi-pronged drive to expand access to care for the eight million Canadians living with disabilities, address ableism and create a more inclusive and equitable society. The \$10.5 million donation to Holland Bloorview will help us address the profound gaps in access to care, support, programming, equipment, employment and technology experienced by children and youth with disabilities and their families.

## For Zayna, personalized care meant everything.

Imagine a world where baking cookies becomes a therapy session and where Bollywood dancing is part of rehabilitation. For 13-year-old Zayna this was reality after an adverse reaction to chemotherapy left her paralyzed on the left side of her body.

While Zayna received various therapies to help regain movement, her care team personalized her sessions with activities and exercises that catered to her interests. No longer was rehabilitation just about standard exercises and movements; it was about incorporating her favourite things into her day-to-day. Today, Zayna is cancer free and walks independently.



## Self-expression and empowerment at Spiral Garden.

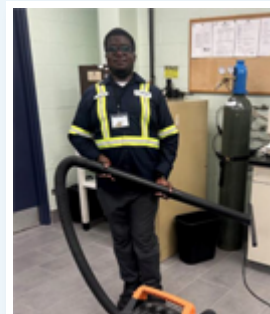


In the Daphne Cockwell Spiral Garden, kids and youth are inspired by nature and each other to create works of art that stretch the imagination, leaving lasting feelings of self-empowerment. Using clay, paint, woodworking, gardening, and the environment around them, campers have long spent their summers making artwork. During Spiral Garden's 40th year, **170 kids** with and without disabilities expressed themselves through art and play.



## **Kickstarting career success with Isaiah and Annie.**

Holland Bloorview's Employment Pathways programs connect youth with disabilities to the world of work. Along with 69 youth who participated in Holland Bloorview Employment Pathways programs in 2024, Isaiah and Annie kickstarted their careers through Ready to Work. Isaiah got his first summer job with the international chemistry company, BASF, where the best part was meeting new people, working with others and having a variety of tasks. And as a budding chef, Annie grew her culinary and communication skills through a paid summer job with Lane Four Consulting.



## **Shaping the future of pediatric disability care, from Ontario to New Brunswick.**



In Canada, there are 850,000 children living with disabilities or developmental differences—yet there are only 150 developmental pediatricians who specialize in this area, with a number set to retire over the next few years. As home to the largest developmental pediatrics training program in Canada, Holland Bloorview is filling these critical gaps. A proud Maritimer, Dr. Kennedy became one of New Brunswick's first developmental pediatricians after her time as a developmental pediatrics fellow at Holland Bloorview 20 years ago. Everything she does in her practice is informed by her experiences as a fellow, she says.

## **A gift leads to groundbreaking autism research.**

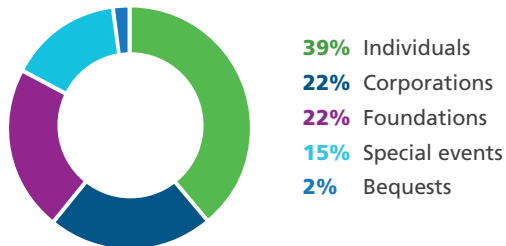
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects 40,000 Ontario children—yet it remains poorly understood and difficult to diagnose. There is a very long waiting list for autism diagnosis in Ontario, with thousands of kids experiencing anxiety, sleep problems, social difficulties and emotion management issues associated with ASD as they wait for assessment and care. Dr. Melanie Penner, a developmental pediatrician and clinician scientist at Holland Bloorview, is working to change that. The wait time for diagnosis at Holland Bloorview is 336 days—and this is among the shortest wait times in the province. Long-time donor, Mary Davie, has contributed \$700,000 since 2021 to make groundbreaking research in autism diagnosis and delivery possible.



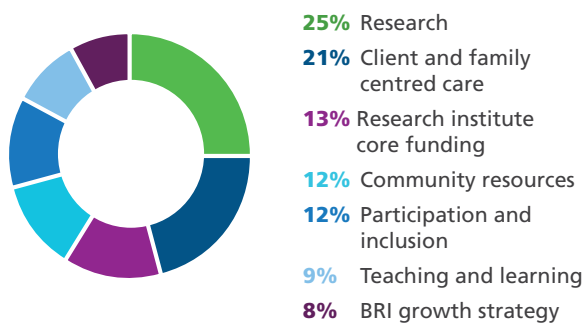
# Financials

## Holland Bloorview Foundation

Where do foundation funds come from?

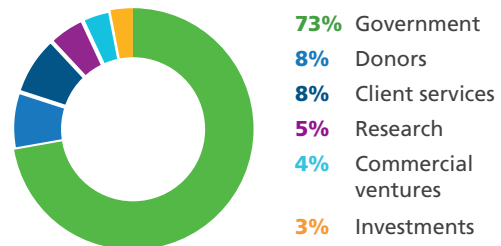


How do we grant foundation funds?

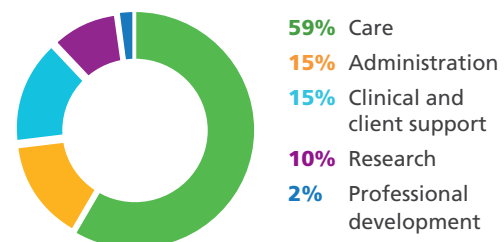


## Holland Bloorview Hospital

Where do hospital funds come from?

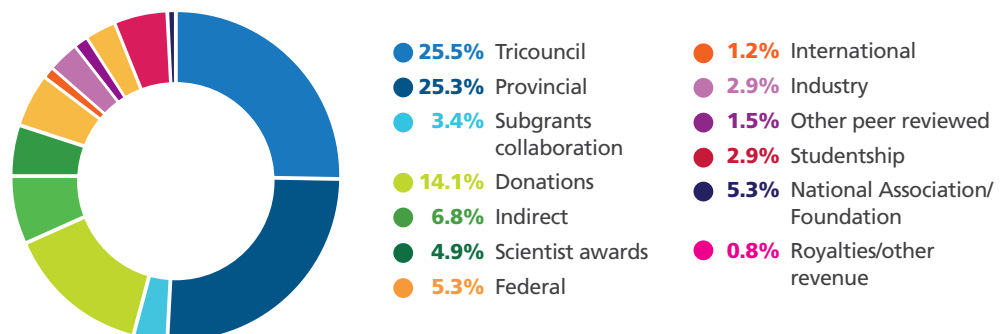


How do we spend hospital funds?



## Bloorview Research Institute

Where do research funds come from?



Want to learn more about the hospital's work?  
[Read the Hospital 24-25 Impact Report.](#)



# **Holland Bloorview**

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Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation

**Thank you for  
supporting another  
fantastic year at  
Holland Bloorview!**

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